

**Report of the visits
to the University of Edinburgh and the University of Glasgow
(Scotland, Great Britain)**

Representatives of the Romanian Academy, of the Romanian Academy of Medical Sciences and of the University of Medicine and Pharmacy “Carol Davila” in Bucharest visited the University of Edinburgh and the University of Glasgow, during 20 to 27 June, 2015. The visit was organised with the support of the Romanian Consulate in Edinburgh, represented by Mr. Mihai Delcea, Minister plenipotentiary, and of Mrs. Diana Sişu, Coordinator, International Relations Desk, University of Edinburgh.

The Romanian delegation was composed of Academician Victor Voicu (Secretary General of the Romanian Academy), Prof. Dr. Irinel Popescu, corresponding member of the Romanian Academy, President of the Academy of Medical Sciences, Prof. Codruţ Sarafoleanu and Assoc. Prof. Florin Popescu, University of Medicine and Pharmacy “Carol Davila” in Bucharest.

The purpose of the visit was the identification of fields of common interest in scientific research (basic and clinical) and in the field of human resources development.

Within this context, the Romanian delegation made presentations of the institutes they represented, as well as the subordinated basic and clinical scientific research networks that can be involved in short and medium term partnerships with the University of Edinburgh.

High profile personalities in the scientific research and in the clinical activity of the University of Edinburgh and University of Glasgow participated at the discussions. Among them, we mention the followings:

- Anna F. Dominiczak OBE MD FRCP, FRSE FMEDSci, Regius of Medicine, Vice-Principal and Head of College of Medical, Veterinary and Life Sciences;
- Professor Tom Evans, International Lead and Professor of Molecular Microbiology;
- Alex Bennet, ENT Consultant, Honorary Senior Lecturer, University of Edinburgh;
- Hillary Critchley, Professor of Reproductive Medicine and Head of School of Clinical Sciences;
- John Iredale, Professor of Medicine and Dean of Clinical Medicine;

- Phillipa Saunders, Professor of Reproductive Steroids and Director of Postgraduate Research for the College of Medicine and Veterinary Medicine;
- Sir John Savill, Head of College of Medicine and Veterinary Medicine. TBD;
- Mike Capaldi, Commercialisation Director of the Edinburgh BioQuarter, Place TBD;
- Jeremy Bradshaw, Professor of Molecular Biophysics, Assistant Principal Researcher Development, Director of International Postgraduate Student Recruitment in College of Medicine;
- Lubna Hadoura, Consultant, Paediatric otolaryngology and Dr Essam Hadoura, Consultant Obst&Gyn, Honorary Senior Lecturer, ENT surgeons from Kirkaldy Hospital;
- Stuart Forbes, Professor of Transplantation and regenerative Medicine, Consultant Hepatologist Scottish Liver Transplant Unit;
- Stephen Wigmore, Professor of Transplantation Surgery and Honorary Consultant Surgeon;
- Gabriel C. Oniscu, MD, FRCS, Consultant Transplant Surgeon, Honorary Clinical Senior Lecturer, NRS Career Research Fellow;
- Aziz Sheikh, Professor of Primary Care research & Development;
- David J Webb MD DSc FRCP FRSE FFPM FmedSci FBPhS FBHS, Christison Professor of Therapeutics and Clinical Pharmacology, Director, Scottish Translational Medicine and Therapeutics Initiative (STMTI), Lead Clinician, Edinburgh Hypertension Excellence Centre, President-Elect, British Pharmacological Society, Chair, NIBSC Scientific Advisory Board; and Non-Executive Director, MHRA;
- Michael Eddleston, Professor of Clinical Toxicology & Lister Prize Fellow. Director of the National Poison Information Service-Edinburgh.

The Romanian delegation visited several departments of the University of Edinburgh and met several personalities involved in specific activities coordination, among which Prof. John Iredale, dean of the Faculty of Medicine, Prof. Jeremy Bradshaw, Deputy of the Research-Development Department, University of Edinburgh, Prof. Garden Charles, Head of the Regenerative Medicine Center of the University.

As well, the Romanian delegation visited the Clinical Sciences Department and the Research and Education Department of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine (Roslin Institute).

On the 22nd of June, the delegation visited the University of Glasgow having talks on topics of common interest and mutual acquaintanceship regarding the scientific research potential. The University of Glasgow was represented by

Tom Evans, professor for molecular microbiology, Prof. Christian Delles, Institute of cardiovascular disease, Dr. Patrick Mark, Department of renal disease and renal transplantation, and Prof. Patrick O'Dwyer, surgeon.

Prof. Irinel Popescu had scientific meetings with the representatives of the Transplantation Department, among which Prof. James Garden, Prof. Stephen Wigmore, Prof. Stuart Tobles and Dr. Gabriel Oniscu can be mentioned.

Prof. Codruț Sarafoleanu and Assoc. Prof. Florin Popescu discussed with Prof. Aziz Sheikh (primary care research & development), on topics of endoscopy, allergies, immunological tumors and upper respiratory diseases, etc.

On Friday, 26th of June, Acad. Victor Voicu was invited to participate in a special scientific session, 13:30 hrs – 17:30 hrs., in the field of experimental, clinical and molecular pharmacology from the related departments of the University of Edinburgh. The meeting was coordinated by Prof. Michael Eddleston, professor in pharmacology and toxicology. Prof. David Webb, elected president of the British Pharmacological Society, also participated with a communication during that session. Eighteen short high-level scientific communications were delivered in order to highlight the fields of scientific interest in the pharmacological departments of the universities.

At least part of the mentioned subjects will constitute future fields for cooperation between the Romanian Academy, the Academy of Medical Sciences and the University of Medicine and Pharmacology “Carol Davila”, on one side, and the University of Edinburgh, on the other side. One of the fields of great interest consists in approaching the aspects related to pharmacology and toxicology oximes vs. TK / TD correlations of the OP compounds.

This important visit of the representatives of the three Romanian institutions will lead to the conclusion of a framework document for cooperation in the field of scientific research, continuing education and human resources development. A short- and a medium-term partnership is foreseen, for carrying out research projects of great significance for the involved institutes.

(Attached: Program of the pharmacology scientific session chaired by Prof. Michael Eddleston)