



CBMNet

CROSSING BIOLOGICAL MEMBRANES NETWORK, A BBSRC NIBB



The University
Of
Sheffield.

UNIVERSITY of York



Membrane Transporters for Industrial Biotechnology and Bioenergy

The Funding

Dr Laurence Humphrey is an early career scientist, with 7 years academic and industrial research experience in microbial genetics, synthetic biology and metabolic engineering. He most recently worked at ReBio Technologies, where he was involved in engineering microorganisms that transform renewable feedstocks or industrial by-products into high value biofuels and biochemicals.

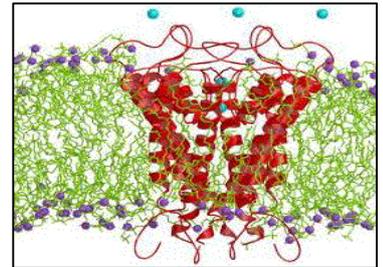
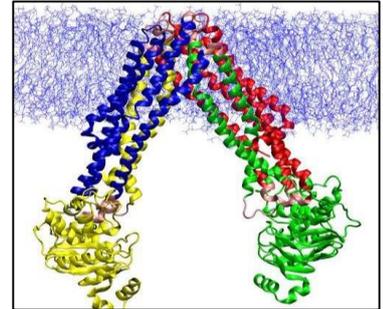
As a CBMNet member, Laurence Humphrey applied for funding to attend the Microbiology Society CBMNet sponsored event 'Membrane Transporters for Industrial Biotechnology and Bioenergy (IBBE).

The funding covered the cost of Laurence's accommodation, event registration and travel.

The Event

The CBMNet Membrane Transporters for Industrial Biotechnology and Bioenergy event took place March 20th – 22nd 2016 in Liverpool. It consisted of a 1.5 day session with talks from academia and industry, as part of the Microbiology Society's Annual Conference, followed by a half day workshop aimed at developing new collaborations between delegates to go on and apply for funding opportunities.

Dr Humphrey unfortunately was made redundant just before the event. Therefore, he saw this event not only as a chance to update his scientific knowledge of the role transporters play in IBBE, but also to network with key academics and industrialists working in the field.



CBMNet Early Career
Researcher Grant

The Outcomes

“Before attending this meeting I think it's fair to say that myself and my colleagues at ReBio less often considered membrane transporters when attempting biosynthesis of novel compounds, focussing more on carbon flux and metabolic pathways. Attending this meeting alerted me to the processes used by other companies in similar positions, as well academic developments.

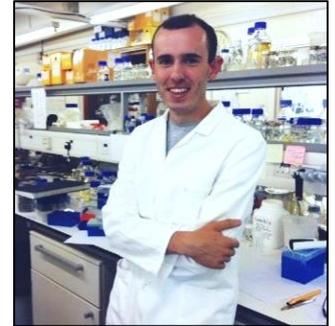
If I were still in an industry position I would've no doubt left the meeting with an increased focus on the importance of engineering membrane transporters and would also be keen to reach out to academics for potential collaboration. If I continue my career in industry I think this is something that will remain true.”

The Future

“Personally, I most benefitted from the opportunities to network with academic and industry professionals, particularly during the coffee breaks and at the CBMNet organised dinner.

As a result of the CBMNet ECR grant I have new contacts at 4 industrial biotechnology organisations that may have career opportunities for me in the next 12 months. The networking opportunities also gave me an opportunity to gain new perspectives on industrial biotechnology from different positions and companies in the UK as well as abroad.”

Laurence Humphrey, former ReBio Technologies employee



This grant was funded through the Crossing Biological Membranes Network (CBMNet) by the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC)

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