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**To:** bstpoffice@aol.com,

**Subject:** RSB Member Organisation Newsletter: August 2021

**Date:** Fri, 27 Aug 2021 12:05

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### Update contact information



# RSB Member Organisation (MO) Newsletter: August 2021

Dear Ms Newband

Please see below the MO newsletter for August. We are reviewing the content and format of this newsletter, and I thought it might be helpful to provide below a brief summary of recent and current work, carried out with and on behalf of Member Organisations, individual members and the bioscience community as a whole. Please let me know if you have any comments as to the content and format of information that you would like to receive in this newsletter.

As ever, please feel free to share this throughout your networks, and please contact **Beth Morgan** if you have anything you would like us to include or promote through relevant channels.

#### Recent and current RSB work

- Submission of two science **policy consultation/ inquiry responses** - animal sentience (July 2021) and environmental principles (June 2021).
- Collaboration with the Institution of Environmental Sciences (IES) and the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM) to produce a webinar on links between COP26 and COP15, and nature based solutions (May 2021).
- **The Natural Capital Initiative** hosted discussion event **Proof for Life – where next for the evidence linking nature and health?** with **panellists** drawn from across health and environment science (more below).
- Our second Policy Lates event of the year: 'Translating potential into progress: COVID-19 vaccines', chaired by Professor Sheila Graham FRSB, Chair of the Biochemical Society and Professor of Molecular Virology, MRC University of Glasgow Centre for Virus Research (May 2021).
- We are currently working on our messaging and communications with policy makers in the lead up to the Spending Review, COP15 and COP26. Please email the **policy team** with comments or queries.
- Our third Policy Lates event of the year: 'Rethinking our Food System' is now **open for bookings** (Oct 2021) – more information below
- **Parliamentary Links Day** took place online in June, with the theme of Science and Climate Change
- MO representatives can still exclusively book to attend our **MO Twilight Event** and hear from Professor Dame Ottoline Leyser CBE FRS FRSB, CEO of UKRI, Professor Patricia Kuwabara FRSB (chair of the RSB college of organisational members), and Dr Mark Downs CSci FRSB (RSB Chief Executive)
- Our regular **COVID-19 bulletins** continue – and anyone can sign up to receive these by creating a **mySociety** account. We continue to work to keep our listings of resources on our

**COVID-19 webpages** up to date

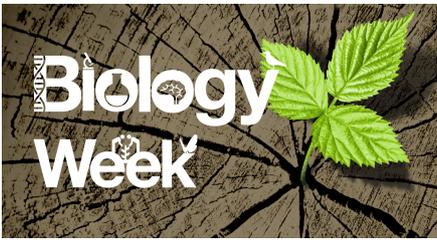
- The RSB **Policy Resource library** can be accessed by anyone, and MOs can add additional policy resources to the library, by emailing the **science policy team**.

Best wishes

Mark

**Mark Leach AMRSB**  
**Associate Director**

## RSB Updates



[Read more RSB news...](#)

## Biology Week 2021

This year's **Biology Week** will be taking place from 2nd – 10th October 2021, and will be showcasing the important and amazing world of the biosciences. Find out more about how you can get involved on our [website](#); this could include highlighting your public events taking place during Biology Week, or sharing an update about the week with your members.

## Exact Editions climate crisis digital resource page

Exact Editions has partnered with more than 50 magazine publishing partners, including *The Biologist*, to create a collection of freely-available articles about topics related to the climate crisis such as pollution, activism and climate politics. Access to all content is free and unlimited via the [Exact Editions website](#).

## Where next for the evidence linking nature and health?

Watch the most recent panel discussion from the **Natural Capital Initiative** where the expert speakers discuss the question 'where next for the evidence linking nature and health?'. The full event is now available on the [NCI YouTube channel](#).

## RSB President announced as President Elect of Biochemical Society

RSB strategic partner the Biochemical Society recently announced at its AGM that RSB President, Professor Dame Julia Goodfellow CBIol FRSB, has been named as its President Elect. Professor Goodfellow will take office in July 2022, subsequent to the conclusion of her term as RSB President next May. We congratulate her on this new role, and thank her for her significant contribution to the RSB over the last four years.

## The latest from *The Biologist*

Highlights from the latest issue of *The Biologist* are now free to read and share online.

We are also looking for RSB members and Fellows to tell us more about their labs or research groups as part of *The Biologist's* 'lab unlocked' series – which so far has looked at [Dr Parvez Alam's](#) biomimetics group at The University of Edinburgh and [Professor Petra Oyson's](#) work within the UK's Defence Science & Technology Laboratory at Porton Down. Contact [tom.ireland@rsb.org.uk](mailto:tom.ireland@rsb.org.uk) if you would like to get involved.

## RSB Opportunities to share



Upcoming opportunities you may wish to share with your members or staff.

[View all RSB events...](#)

## Policy internships

Two UKRI policy internships at the RSB in 2022 will soon be open to applicants funded by **AHRC**, **BBSRC**, **EPSRC**, **ESRC**, **MRC**, and **NERC**.

Further details on these three month roles are on the **UKRI Policy Internships Scheme** webpage. Applications will close on **4th October 2021**. Please feel free to forward on this opportunity.

## Training courses

Members of Member Organisations can access exclusive discounts to our training courses, please get in touch with Cara Froggatt at [training@rsb.org.uk](mailto:training@rsb.org.uk) to enquire.

### Leadership in a Laboratory Environment

**Date: 7-8 September 2021**

A course for those in, or aspiring to, a leadership position.

### Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning

**Date: 13-14 September 2021**

An introduction to computational biology, machine learning and artificial intelligence.

### Programming for Biologists

**Date: 27 September – 8 October 2021**

An introduction to programming for biologists using Python.

## Policy Lates: Rethinking our food system

This free online event, chaired by Dr Simon Doherty FRSB FRCVS, will take place on Monday 4th October at 18:30. The panel of expert speakers will discuss the complex development of food policy nationally and internationally. The discussion will chart the balancing act this involves, bringing in needs for food security, reversing biodiversity loss and achieving net zero greenhouse gas emissions targets. Register to attend via the [event page](#) and direct queries to Harriet McAra at [events@rsb.org.uk](mailto:events@rsb.org.uk) or on 020 3295 3445.

## Higher Education Bioscience Teacher of the Year Award

Now open for nominations, **the award** aims to identify the UK's leading bioscience higher education (HE) teachers, recognising the invaluable role they play in educating and inspiring the next generation of biologists. If you know a bioscience lecturer who deserves recognition for their passion and ideas, encourage them to [submit an application](#) before **30th November 2021**.

## External Opportunities



Activities shared by RSB  
Member Organisations (MOs)  
and partners

[View all MO events...](#)

## The Biochemical Society Awards 2023

Nominations for **The Biochemical Society's annual awards 2023** are now open. The awards celebrate excellence and achievement in both specific and general fields of science. For the first time, The Biochemical Society Award is open to individuals and teams. Nominations are sought for candidates or teams who have demonstrated an outstanding impact in the field of virology and vaccinology. To nominate an outstanding bioscientist, visit the **Biochemical Society's website** for further information. Nominations for the awards will close on **31st January 2022**.

## CaSE responds to the Government's Innovation Strategy

The **Campaign for Science and Engineering** (CaSE) has responded to the publication of the Government's Innovation Strategy and its People and Culture Strategy. Read the **response** and the recommendations that CaSE set out earlier in the year.

## Report on Equity in STEM workforce

Last month, the All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) on Diversity and Inclusion in Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) published the 'Equity in the STEM workforce' report following an eight-month inquiry and over 85 submissions of evidence from the sector. Visit the **British Science Association's website** to read the full report and a summary of the recommendations.



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