



# NCBES OPERATIONS NEWSLETTER - July 2018

## Issue 4

Dear Colleagues

Welcome to the 4<sup>th</sup> issue of our Newsletter.

To emphasize one of the items below, I am very pleased to say that after much effort from NCBES staff and a team headed by the Bursar we now have the BSB store fully operational once more, with more than 250 stocked items. These items are “*Rotational*” stock and replace the previous “*Consignment*” stock. An exception to this general rule is the NEB freezer, which we have retained as Consignment stock. Consignment means that the stock is owned, and is the responsibility of, the supplier; whereas we own the Rotation Stock. For items of Rotational Stock it is imperative that these items turnover frequently. Therefore, the Stores Team have been instructed not to process separate orders for Rotation Stock. The NEB freezer is currently only minimally stocked, so please advise Liam of any additional items you would like to have included as consignment stock.

Please note the revised Unit Safety Policy (see link below) and, in particular, the H&S Organisation structure for the BSB. It is critical that we are all familiar with this document.

Once more I’d like to encourage you all to forward any news worthy items to Gerardine Moloney.

Finally, I’d like to express my gratitude to Rachel O’Dea, as lead organiser, as well as Eleni Chrysostomou, Enrico Bagnoli, Pietro Marchese who put so much effort into ensuring the recent Summer Barbeque was so highly successful.

Best wishes

NOEL

### Facilities Updates:

- **Compressors:** The recent breakdown to the compressors has now been repaired and both compressors are now functioning again
- **Biosafety Cabinets:** Issues with the recurrent problems with some BSCs is being addressed by the Buildings & Estates Office in the coming months with a view to a long term solution

- **Autoclaves:** The new back-up steam generators have now been installed to help with the loading on the original Steam Generator which was causing so many breakdowns this year
- **DI Water System:** The recent leaks to the DI Water System on the Ground Floor have now been repaired by Apleona
- **Cold Rooms:** The issue of air quality/flow in some Cold Rooms leading to the emergence of some mould, is being addressed by both Apleona & B&E. We expect to have this finalised by mid-September
- **LN2 Production:** The demand for LN2 outweighs the production. The situation is becoming serious and unstable. A Working Group to look at this problem will be set up in September and all interested parties should ensure that they are represented. Contact Liam for details
- **Fridge Freezers:** There have been increasing reports of Fridge/Freezer failures in recent weeks due to the fact that they are getting old. Please ensure that you are aware of the University's policy on insurance cover for loss of materials – there is a policy limit of €2,500! It would be prudent to get alarms and service contracts in place for valuable samples

## Health & Safety

- Unit Safety Policy is available on <http://ncbes.nuigalway.ie/health-and-safety/> .

## Procurement/Stores updates:

- *NEB Freezer stock:* The current NEB stock list is a minimal starting list that can be expanded to include any NEB reagents supplied and kept at -20oC that you feel would have an adequate turnover, e.g. any NEB enzymes, kits, markers that you use frequently enough to ensure adequate turnover.

Note that items in the NEB freezer are 'consignment' stock that tend to be supplied by Brennans with a longer expiry date than items ordered separately. Also, separately ordered items come with significant delivery charges, whereas consignment stock does not. Therefore, you might also want to consider taking advantage of the NEB freezer by preferentially ordering enzymes, etc, via our NEB freezer programme. Please inform Liam and the Stores Team of any required additions to the NEB freezer.

- *Internal Stores:* Following on from the successful completion of Phase 2 restocking of stores we are delighted to confirm that the attached expanded list of General consumables, Restriction Enzymes, Modifying Enzymes & Polymerases and Ladders & Markers are now stocked and available to requisition from stores once again. All orders should be emailed to: [BSBstores@nuigalway.ie](mailto:BSBstores@nuigalway.ie)

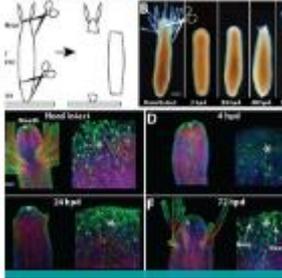
## Events

- Booking the BSB Atrium for all events  
For both insurance and H&S reasons it is important that all events in the Atrium (e.g. displays, social functions, etc) must be booked using the Apleona ticketing system. Note that non-ticketed events will be cancelled. The Building & Estates Office have informed us that tables and chairs must not be removed during lunchtimes as this is in breach of the commercial services agreement in place with Tog Sos management

## Research News:

Congratulation to Uri and Elaine on their recent successes:

- Professor Uri Frank from the Centre of Chromosome Biology at NUI, Galway has received an Investigator Award through the SFI-HRB-Wellcome Partnership, for his research into “Mechanisms that induce dedifferentiation to drive regeneration in the absence of stem cells”. Further info on: <http://ncbes.nuigalway.ie/news-events/>



- A study carried out by Dr Elaine Dunleavy in the Centre for Chromosome Biology at NUI Galway, has uncovered an unexpected new link between genes that normally function in energy production, and male fertility. Results from the research were published on 13 July 2018 in the renowned scientific journal, Nature Communications.



*The Operations Team.*