

CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS

CBTBR well represented at conferences in the 3rd quarter of 2009

Staff and students had the opportunity to present recent work from the Wits node at a number of top international conferences.

Team member, Bavesh Kana, presented a talk at the Third Congress of European Microbiologists, hosted by the Federation of European Microbiological Societies (FEMS), and held in Gothenberg, Sweden, in July 2009. He and co-director, Valerie Mizrahi, attended the Gordon Research Conference on Tuberculosis Drug Development held in Oxford in August. Valerie served as Discussion Leader for the session on *Targets for New Treatments for Tuberculosis*. After the conference, Bavesh was invited to Imperial College London where he presented a talk on the resuscitation-promoting factors of *M. tuberculosis*. Team member, Digby Warner, presented a talk at the International Society for the Biology of Actinomycetes (ISBA) 15 Conference, held in Shanghai in August.

In a particularly exciting development, two students from the Wits node were selected to present short talks on their research at the Gordon Research Conferences that they attended in Europe. Monique Williams, a Percy Fox Foundation Postdoctoral Fellow, presented a talk entitled, "*Analysis of molybdopterin cofactor biosynthetic genes in mycobacteria*" at the 6th GRC on Molybdenum & Tungsten Enzymes, held in Lucca, Italy, and doctoral student, Atica Moosa, talked on "*The metabolism of vitamin B₁₂ in Mycobacterium tuberculosis: role of alternate B₁₂ cofactors*" at the GRC on Vitamin B₁₂ and Corphins, held in Oxford in August.

Valerie Mizrahi presented a talk entitled, "*Target identification and validation*" at the CSIR/ICS-UNIDO Workshop on the Advanced Design and Development of Potential Drugs Against Tuberculosis held in Pretoria in August.

Paul van Helden presented a talk entitled "TB Transmission between Wild and domestic Animals in South Africa" at the 49th Interscience Conference on Antimicrobial Agents and Chemotherapy held in San Francisco on 12-15 September 2009. He also presented a talk entitled "TB Dogmas" at the University of California, Berkeley in September.