

Newsletter



Coronavirus (COVID-19)



Dear Readers,

It has now been six months since the start of the Coronavirus pandemic. It has had an impact on both our personal and professional lives, but we have now adjusted to a new way of living and working to minimise the spread of the virus. We hope that you and your loved ones have transitioned well to this way of life. As always, if you need anything, including just someone to talk to or supply you with essentials, do get in touch with us.

Regards,
The Genever Lab

Back in the lab

In order to reduce the spread of the virus, the University shut down all lab activities for three months. During that period, we stayed in touch by video calls and we focused on analysing the results we had obtained before the pandemic. During lockdown we managed to attend online conferences including the ISEV2020 international meeting and the GSEV/UKEV joint meeting. It was great to have the opportunity to hear pioneers in their field giving amazing talks despite the lockdown!

Following University guidance, we resumed lab work at reduced capacity in mid-June. We now have to book our time in the lab in advance, follow social distancing rules and wear face coverings at work. The Biology department has been great in providing us with hand sanitiser stations and reusable face masks, and the lab spaces have been re-organised to maximise capacity in preparation for the new students joining the lab. It did take an adjustment period to get used to these odd times we live in and figure out the best way forward. We still need to work from home whenever possible.

News on our students and postdocs

- David has successfully passed his PhD viva and officially started working as a postdoc in the lab. Well done Dr Kuntin!
- Our final year PhD student, Andy, gave a great talk at the TCES virtual seminar series. He is now finishing his lab work to focus on his thesis write-up.
- Alasdair, Alison, and Savvas have submitted abstracts to the TERMIS conference for talks. Best of luck to all!
- Amy joined us in the lab. Amy will be spending the next few months with us doing her Masters by Research. Welcome Amy!
- Paul Souter is in the process publishing a paper from his PhD work with us in the journal of Scientific Reports.

Staying in touch

Unfortunately, this year we have not been able to organise a Lab Visit Day, but it would still be great to hear from you. We always value your opinions and input. They help us stay on track and tailor our research to what actually matters! Please do get in touch if there is anything you would like to share or discuss. We are looking forward to another cake and science session hopefully next year!

With Christmas creeping up on us, we hope you all have an enjoyable time, despite the pandemic.

Signing off with a wave, The Genever Lab



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