

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Full conference programme released – Nanotechnology: Towards Reducing Animal Testing

Scientists from all over the world will meet in London on 28th and 29th May 2008 to discuss how nanotechnology can contribute towards reducing testing on animals. The application of nanotechnology is currently revolutionizing medicine and this two-day conference, the first of its kind in Europe, will examine the role nanotechnology could also play in improving or refining the development of alternatives to animal testing whilst maintaining safety.

Animal testing is costly and there is a great deal of research on finding viable and effective alternatives (new methods that refine existing tests by minimizing animal distress, reducing animal usage, or replacing whole animal tests). Despite large reductions in animal testing since the early 1980s due to improved in vitro methods, levels remain high (over 3 million procedures in 2006) and results cannot always be extrapolated to humans.

Presentations from:

Dr Sandra Coecke, IHCP-ECVAM; Samantha Dozier, PETA; Béatrice Schaak, CEA Grenoble - DSV/ iRTSV; Dr Kelly BéruBé, Cardiff University; Dr J Malcolm Wilkinson, Kirkstall Ltd; Professor Ken Donaldson, University of Edinburgh; Dr John Haycock/ Professor Sheila McNeil, University of Sheffield; Dr. Fanqing Frank Chen, Lawrence Berkley National Laboratory; Dr Anna Price, European Commission JRC; Dr Katy Taylor, BUAV; Ulrich Krühne, Teknologisk Institut; Peter Ertl, Austrian Research Centers (ARC) GmbH; Dr Antonio Garcia, Arizona State University; Dr Nirmala Bhogal, FRAME; Dr Rosemary Gibson, Health & Safety Laboratory; Professor Shervanthi Homer-Vanniasinkam, Consultant Vascular Surgeon, Leeds General Infirmary Professor of Translational Vascular Medicine, Leeds Medical School; Arianna Ferrari, Darmstadt University of Technology; Dr Andy Bennett, FRAME.

Sessions will cover Toxicology and Drug Design; Tissue Engineering, Other Novel Models and Testing Strategies; Imaging and Diagnostics; Regulatory and Legal Issues.

For further information please contact Gemma McCulloch, gemma.mcculloch@nano.org.uk, on +44(0)1786 458020. Alternatively please visit <http://www.nano.org.uk/events/ionevents.htm#animals>.

About the Institute of Nanotechnology

The Institute, a registered charity, was one of the first organisations to raise awareness of nanotechnology and its applications, and is now a world leader in the field. It disseminates information through its website, www.nano.org.uk; organises events for industry on a variety of topics; supports new start-ups; and is involved in EU-funded projects. For more information on the Institute and its activities, contact Dr Mark Morrison, Institute of Nanotechnology, Tel: +44 (0) 141 303 8444; or email: mark.morrison@nano.org.uk