

## **Report on BPSI Spring Symposium – 20<sup>th</sup> March 2017**

### **The Biophysics of Infection and Immunology**

The BPSI Spring Symposium had as its theme *The Biophysics of Infection and Immunology*, and drew together internationally-recognised expertise and an impressive array of local York and regional talent to discuss developments at the physical-life sciences interface as pertains to infection and immunology. This theme was selected to highlight York's recent success in winning an MRC Discovery Award to build research capacity in the area of Biophysical Immunology. The invited speakers presented cutting-edge biophysical science related to this theme, which included applying state-of-the-art super-resolution fluorescence imaging techniques to understand the molecular basis of immunological mechanisms, and probing the biophysical properties of bacterial cell surfaces and proteins involved in biofilm formation. The external speakers included Professor Daniel Davis (Manchester Immunology Group, University of Manchester) and Professor Christian Eggeling (Radcliffe Dept of Medicine, University of Oxford). The internal speakers included Professor Mark Coles (Department of Biology/HYMS), Dr. Adam Wollman a post-doc based in the Departments of Biology and Physics, and the PhD students Rosalyn Leaman and Lotte van Beek, both based in the Department of Biology and working on cross-disciplinary projects. The BPSI symposium also hosted a poster session, which included presenters from across the University of York and the White Rose Network. The symposium concluded with a discussion panel including all of the speakers and this generated lively interactions with the audience. All of the speakers and some members of the BPSI Steering Group attended an evening meal in the York city centre where these lively discussions continued.

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