

## A Year of Society Grants

**Rowena Mitchell** (Conferences and Membership Officer)

Each year, the Society awards almost £200 000 in grants, supporting our members at all stages of their career. Areas covered by our grants include summer studentships, outreach activities, attendance at scientific conferences and the sponsorship of events. Here I highlight just a few of the members that we have supported during 2012.

### Sponsored Events Grants

New in 2012, these grants provide sponsorship of up to £500 to support single lectures or small events at an

institution of higher education, such as postgraduate research days or one-day mini-symposia with a cross-institutional or student focus. The Society awarded a total of £5000 to support events in 2012.

The Sussex *Drosophila* Retreat, held on 30 July–2 August, was one of the sponsored events supported in 2012. A particular theme of the workshop was to encourage postgraduate students and early career researchers to participate in discussions and informal presentations; the retreat took place in Herstmonceux Castle.

### Undergraduate Student Prizes

Institutions are able to apply for an undergraduate prize to award to an exceptional undergraduate student that they feel deserves recognition. Winners of the prizes receive a certificate, one year's free membership of the Society, and a host of goodies from the Society and Portland Press. These prizes are available through the Local Ambassador of the institution. For more information about your Local Ambassador, see [www.biochemistry.org/Membership/LocalAmbassadors.aspx](http://www.biochemistry.org/Membership/LocalAmbassadors.aspx)

### General Travel Grants

The Society awards travel grants of up to £750 to Full, Early Career and Postgraduate members. The grants can be used by members with at least one year's continuous membership to attend a scientific meeting anywhere in the world. During the last financial year, the Society awarded £77 000 in General Travel Grants. You can read about the travels of some of the Biochemical Society members who have been awarded a Travel Grant in Travellers' Tales on our website ([www.biochemistry.org/Grants/TravellersTales](http://www.biochemistry.org/Grants/TravellersTales)).

### Student Bursaries

Postgraduate and undergraduate members can apply for a bursary of up to £300 to attend a Biochemical Society conference or Society-supported Independent Meeting. During 2012, the Society awarded almost £19 000 to students attending 25 events. For details of all Biochemical Society conferences in 2013, visit [www.biochemistry.org/conferences](http://www.biochemistry.org/conferences).



Queen's University Belfast Undergraduate Prize winner James Gill being presented with his award by Head of School Professor Christine Maggs



University of Portsmouth Undergraduate Prize winner Ala Alenazi receiving her prize from Head of School Professor Matt Guille