

Subject: Re: Stefan Grimm's last email
From: "Wilkins, Martin R" <m.wilkins@imperial.ac.uk>
Date: 01/12/2014 16:42
To: David Colquhoun <d.colquhoun@ucl.ac.uk>

Dear David,

Thank you for contacting me and offering me the chance to comment. Stefan Grimm was a member of my department and it was with huge sadness that I had to break the news of his death to my colleagues at the end of September. The message I sent was as below, as are two more messages that are relevant to your question, beneath that. In particular I would like to draw your attention to the two final paragraphs of the last message which explain that the College is conducting a review following Stefan's death.

Sent: 29 September 2014 09:51
To: Department of Medicine
Subject: Message from Head of Department

Message from Martin Wilkins, Head of Department of Medicine,

It is with great sadness that I inform you of the death of Professor Stefan Grimm. Stefan held a personal Chair in Toxicology in the Centre for Pharmacology and Therapeutics, having come to the College from the Max Planck Institute. His research over the last 12 years focused on apoptosis with his group establishing a genetic screen for the isolation of apoptosis-inducing genes. All who knew him will have recognised a dedicated scientist. He will be sadly missed.

We extend our heartfelt condolences to his family and friends.

Following the circulation of the emails from professorstefangrimm@gmail.com on 21 October the messages below were sent by our senior administrator of the Faculty of Medicine to all recipients on 22 October. There were two slightly different versions - one for internal College members and one for those external to Imperial.

Sent to internal College members

Dear Colleague,

Senior College and Faculty colleagues are aware that you received a message yesterday from the email account professorstefangrimm@gmail.com. Stefan Grimm was a valued member of the Faculty of Medicine and news of his death at the end of September came as a great shock. We have been in touch with his family over the past month to offer our deepest

condolences.

If there is any support the College can offer you, please don't hesitate to contact me.

The statutory authorities are investigating Professor Grimm's death and we will continue to provide all the assistance that we can.

If you receive **enquiries external to the College**, please forward to me. If you should receive **any enquiries from the media**, please direct them in the first instance to J-P Jones in Imperial's Press Office (john-paul.jones@imperial.ac.uk / 020 7594 6704).

Best wishes,

Nigel Buck

Sent to recipients external to the College

Dear Colleague,

I am writing on behalf of Imperial College London as we are aware that you received a message yesterday from the email account professorstefangrimm@gmail.com. Stefan Grimm was a valued member of the Faculty of Medicine and news of his death at the end of September came as a great shock to colleagues. We have been in touch with his family over the past month to offer our deepest condolences.

The statutory authorities are investigating Professor Grimm's death and we will continue to provide all the assistance that we can.

Any media handling required at Imperial will be led by J-P Jones (john-paul.jones@imperial.ac.uk / 020 7594 6704).

Best wishes,

Nigel Buck

The College has already made this comment to the media and I think it is worth you seeing it in full as you write your article:

Stefan Grimm was a valued member of the Faculty of Medicine and news of his death at the end of September came as a great shock to colleagues. The College has been in touch with his family since his death to offer our deepest condolences.

The statutory authorities are investigating Professor Grimm's death and the

College will continue to provide all the assistance it can.

Imperial College London seeks to give every member of its community the opportunity to excel and to create a supportive environment in which their careers may flourish.

As with all serious and tragic events involving the loss of life of serving staff or current students, the College conducts appropriate reviews of the circumstances in order to see whether wider lessons may be drawn. At a time when family, friends, colleagues and students are still coming to terms with a death, it is important to undertake any reviews in a manner that respects these sensitivities, and that does not create a more difficult or challenging environment for those people.

Following Professor Grimm's death, Imperial's Provost has tasked the Director of HR and one of the College's senior elected academic representatives to review the relevant College policies and procedures. Their report will be considered by a senior group led by the Provost and the College will move swiftly to implement any recommendations.

Yours,

Martin

From: David Colquhoun <d.colquhoun@ucl.ac.uk>

Date: Monday, 1 December 2014 10:49

To: m_wilkins <m.wilkins@imperial.ac.uk>

Subject: Stefan Grimm's last email

Hello

I am planning to publish Stefan Grimm's last email today. As you'll be aware, it mentions you. I wondered whether you have any comment to make.

Best regards

David Colquhoun

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UCL home page: Corporate: <http://www.ucl.ac.uk/npp/research/dc>
Old: <http://www.ucl.ac.uk/Pharmacology/dc.html>

Blog: Improbable Science <http://dcscience.net/>
RSS feed <http://dcscience.net/?feed=rss2>

OneMol One stop shop for UCL single ion channel work <http://www.onemol.org.uk/>

Summer Workshop *Analysis and interpretation of single ion channel records and macroscopic currents using matrix methods.* [Next course dates 8 -12 July 2013](#)