

Press Release

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IBMS awards first Mary Macdonald Bursary

The IBMS has awarded the first Mary Macdonald Bursary to Jill Beavers, a Medical Laboratory Assistant based in the Clinical Biochemistry department at North Tyneside General Hospital.

The Mary Macdonald Bursary was established by the Institute of Biomedical Science (IBMS) in January 2014, with the aim of providing support and encouraging excellence in biomedical science support staff. The bursary is awarded to outstanding candidates undertaking the IBMS Certificate of Achievement Part I or II, covering a year's IBMS membership fees and the cost of the portfolio.

The bursary was founded in memory of Mrs Mary Macdonald, an IBMS Council member who gave many years of dedicated service to the Institute. Mary is remembered as an outstanding professional, colleague and mentor, with a great passion for education.

Jill was delighted to discover that she had been the first successful applicant for the Institute's Mary Macdonald Bursary: "Being able to complete the Certificate of Achievement Part I will be an excellent opportunity for me to deepen my knowledge and understanding of my work and role within my department.

Completing the qualification will further the development of my career and the skills I gain will be of great use as Northumbria Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust undergoes exciting changes, including the development of our new Emergency hospital. Once I have completed Part I, I aim to build on skills I have gained and apply to take the Certificate of Achievement Part II."

IBMS President Nick Kirk congratulated Jill: "I would like to congratulate Jill on being awarded the inaugural Mary Macdonald Bursary. Mary was always keen to encourage and recognise excellence in others, so this award is a fitting tribute to her memory. The Mary Macdonald Bursary provides the Institute with a great opportunity to support biomedical science support staff like Jill in achieving their full potential."

You can find out more about the Mary Macdonald Bursary and Prize for achievement at:

<https://www.ibms.org/go/ibms/prizes-awards/marymacdonald>

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Editor's notes:

The Institute of Biomedical Science is the professional body for biomedical scientists in the United Kingdom. With over 20,000 members it aims to promote and develop the role of biomedical science within healthcare to deliver the best possible service for patient care and safety. www.ibms.org

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