

I am currently Principal Clinical Scientist at the Mycology Reference Centre at Leeds General Infirmary, Leeds, UK. I have worked in mycology for over 20 years, having carried out my doctoral research on the immune responses to *Malassezia* in patients with various dermatoses. Since then I have been working in diagnostic mycology and have a longstanding interest in teaching medical mycology. My current research interests focus on therapeutic drug monitoring and pharmacogenomics of antifungals, diagnosis of fungal infections and infections related to *Malassezia*.

I have been a member of ISHAM since 1990 and served as the Editor of the ISHAM newsletter from 2000-2005. I am currently an Associate Editor for *Medical Mycology*.

I am an active member of the British Society for Medical Mycology, having been served as Secretary, on several working parties and as the organiser of its biennial Diagnostic Medical Mycology course. The BSMM currently runs an MSc in Medical Mycology jointly with the University of London and I am a member of the course committee involved in teaching and examining on the course.

I believe that ISHAM has an increasingly important role to play in the future by its provision of *Medical Mycology*, the website, the working groups that it oversees and the ISHAM congress. At a time when there is economic pressure in all areas of science and medicine, it is essential that the importance of mycology in healthcare, agriculture and research is represented and I think ISHAM is ideally placed to do that.