

ABI Principal Investigators

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The ABI team has included 33 Principal Investigators (PI's) and 21 Post-graduate and Post-doctorate Research Assistants working in a variety of UK university departments and research institutes. The PI's are listed below. Many of the projects have crossed subject boundaries and fertilised new links between different scientific disciplines. The core methodologies come down to four - analytical chemistry, microbiology, microscopy and molecular biology. With them, ABI researchers have tackled an extraordinary range of samples.

03 Who were our ancestors?	Dr. B. Sykes Dr R. Hedges	Institute of Molecular Medicine Archaeology Research Laboratory	University of Oxford University of Oxford
04 The DNA detectives	Dr. E. Hagelberg	Department of Genetics	University of Cambridge
05 Who populated the Pacific?	Dr. E. Hagelberg	Department of Genetics	University of Cambridge
06 DNA on the hoof	Dr. A. Lister Dr. H. Stanley	Department of Biology Conservation Genetics Group	University College, London Institute of Zoology, London
07 Cattle - ancient and modern	Professor G. Dover Professor G. Barker Dr. A. Grant	Department of Genetics School of Archaeological Studies School of Archaeological Studies	University of Leicester University of Leicester University of Leicester
08 Sacrificial llamas and DNA	Dr. H. Stanley Dr. J. Wheeler	Conservation Genetics Group	Institute of Zoology, London University of San Marcos, Peru
09 New ways with old wheats	Dr. T. Brown Dr. G. Jones	Department of Biomolecular Sciences Department of Archaeology and Prehistory	UMIST Manchester University of Sheffield
10 Who tamed sorghum?	Dr. C. Shaw Dr. R. Edwards Dr. P. Rowley-Conwy	Department of Biological Sciences Department of Biological Sciences Department of Archaeology	University of Durham University of Durham University of Durham
11 Red light for amber DNA	Dr. A. B. Smith Dr. R. A. Fortey Dr. R. Thomas	Department of Palaeontology Department of Palaeontology Department of Zoology	The Natural History Museum, London The Natural History Museum, London The Natural History Museum, London
12 Ancient life in salt mines	Professor W. Grant Dr. T. McGenity	Department of Microbiology and Immunology Post-graduate Institute for Sedimentology	University of Leicester University of Reading
13 Cuticles of fossil plants	Dr. M. E. Collinson Professor A. C. Scott Dr. P. Finch Dr R. H. Wilson	Department of Geology Department of Geology Centre for Chemical Science Food Biophysics	Royal Holloway, University of London Royal Holloway, University of London Royal Holloway, University of London Institute of Food Research, Norwich
14 Ancient insects	Professor D. E. G. Briggs Dr. R. P. Evershed	Biogeochemistry Research Centre Organic Geochemistry Unit	University of Bristol University of Bristol
15 Solving the insoluble?	Professor S Rowland	Department of Environmental Science	University of Plymouth
16 Chemical fossils of ancient bacteria	Dr. I. M. Head Dr. P. Farrimond Dr. R. W. Pickup	Fossil Fuels and Environmental Geochemistry Fossil Fuels and Environmental Geochemistry Institute of Freshwater Ecology	University of Newcastle University of Newcastle Windermere Laboratory
17 Simulating bacterial decay	Professor R. J. Parkes Professor J. R. Maxwell Dr. R. P. Evershed	Geomicrobiology Group Organic Geochemistry Unit Organic Geochemistry Unit	University of Bristol University of Bristol University of Bristol
18 Water - the 'sore decayer'	Dr. M. Collins Dr. M. S. Riley Dr. R. Hedges	Fossil Fuels and Environmental Geochemistry Department of Civil Engineering Archaeology Research Laboratory	University of Newcastle University of Newcastle University of Oxford
19 Proteins in dinosaur bones?	Dr. M. J. Collins	Fossil Fuels and Environmental Geochemistry	University of Newcastle

Molecular Signatures from the Past

The Ancient Biomolecules Initiative is a five-year programme to understand the fate of biological molecules in archaeological and fossil materials, and to explore the applications of this new knowledge. The Initiative is funded by the Natural Environment Research Council.



The ABI Scientist's Dilemma - Who's My Ancestor? by Dr Némethy Sándor



ABI Contacts

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Superintending Officer Dr. Roger Padgham, Earth Sciences and Technology Board, Natural Environment Research Council, Polaris House, North Star Avenue, Swindon SN2 1EU. Tel: 01793 411573, Fax: 01793 411584, email: r.padgham@nec.ac.uk

The ABI Steering Committee

Professor M. K. Jones (Chairman) Department of Archaeology, University of Cambridge.

Professor D. E. G. Briggs Department of Geology, University of Bristol.

Dr. J. Connan (coopted member) Elf Aquitaine, Pau, France.

Professor G. Dover (coopted member) Department of Genetics, University of Leicester.

Professor G. Eglinton Biogeochemistry Centre, University of Bristol.

Professor S. Pääbo Department of General Biology, Zoologisches Institut de Universität München, Germany.

Dr. S. Payne English Heritage

Dr. P. A. Rowley-Conwy Department of Archaeology, University of Durham.

Professor E. B. G. Jones, Biological Sciences, University of Portsmouth and

Professor S. J. Larter, Fossil Fuels and Environmental Geochemistry, University of Newcastle served until 1995 and 1996 respectively.