



LESLEY BERGMEIER

Reader in Oral
Immunology

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TELL US ABOUT YOUR CURRENT ROLE AT THE INSTITUTE OF DENTISTRY

I am one of only a few Oral Immunologists in the UK: The Gatekeeper/Housekeeper roles of the oral immune system and its influence on systemic disease - and vice versa is central to my interests and has informed my career pathway; from vaccines against dental caries and mucosal HIV vaccines to the role of immune responses in Behçet's Disease.

WHAT HAVE YOU ENJOYED MOST ABOUT WORKING AT THE INSTITUTE OF DENTISTRY?

The people - not just my colleagues but the huge variety of students from many backgrounds and at different levels of study that I have had the privilege to teach. It's a real gift to be able to talk endlessly about the importance of the mucosal immune system- especially the oral immune system. I am sure my students will testify I can talk for England on the subject!

TELL US SOMETHING WE DO NOT KNOW ABOUT YOU

In August 2012, I sang in the Royal Albert Hall in a choral work commissioned from Karl Jenkins to Commemorate the London Olympics, "The Gods of Olympus". We also sang Jenkins "the Armed Man". An unforgettable experience.