BNMS Research Champion

Philip Blower

Current Role: Professor of Imaging Chemistry, King's College London

Research Interests: Simple and accessible radiochemistry for radionuclide imaging and therapy; use of PET in the study of trace metal metabolism

Biography (250 words max.)

Since 2006 Phil Blower has been at King's College London as Professor of Imaging Chemistry, with research interests in "molecular imaging" mainly using inorganic chemistry tools. As Head of the Imaging Chemistry and Biology Dept, he built a large interdisciplinary research team with wide interests covering radiopharmaceutical chemistry and biology for PET, SPECT and radionuclide therapy, applying inorganic chemistry from all parts of the periodic table to nuclear medicine. Most recently he focused on use of PET to study metallomics and in vivo cell tracking. He stepped down as Head of the department in 2023 and although semi-retired since 2021 he continues to lead the EPSRC MITHRAS Programme (2019-2025) and helped set up the Radionuclides for Health UK advocacy network. He has published >230 peer-reviewed papers and supervised 43 successful PhD students. He played a leading role in setting up the new Chemistry Dept and its undergraduate programme at King's in 2012 and served as its first interim Head. He has served on various peer review panels for international grant awarding bodies and journals and as Editor in Chief of Nuclear Medicine Communications. He was awarded the Norman Veall Medal by the British Nuclear medicine Society in 2020.