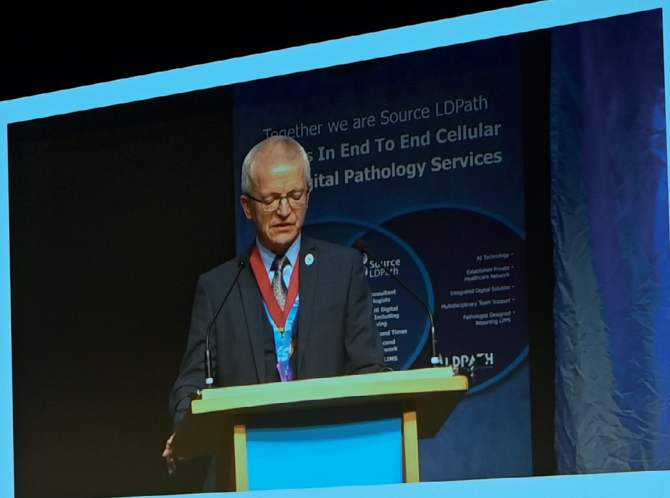


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CONGRESS 2022





With the wait finally over, hundreds of sessions took place at IBMS Congress – the biggest biomedical science event of its kind.

Thousands of biomedical scientists travelled to Birmingham last month to attend the highly anticipated IBMS Congress.

The rescheduled event had been due to take place last September, but was cancelled due to the pandemic.

However, after months of waiting the event finally arrived with more than 300 speakers giving their unique insights to members.

The first day featured the new "Politics and Pathology" programme and opened with a session from Lord Bethell on the how the UK IVD industry responded to the pandemic.

This was followed by an afternoon lecture programme delivered by NHS England.

IBMS Past President Allan Wilson delivered the opening speech of the Congress Plenary programme on the following day. "I've never been as proud of the profession and of being a biomedical scientist as I am today," he said. "Over the last two years I've been amazed by the sheer commitment, dedication and expertise shown by members."

One of the best-known speakers at the event was Professor Jonathan Van-Tam, the Deputy Chief Medical Officer. His session was a summary of lessons from the pandemic – he

stressed that these were "lessons identified, not lessons learned". He talked through the UK vaccination programme, which he called "the defining moment of my career".

He concluded his session: "So many of your roles are hidden behind the closed doors of laboratories, but I for one appreciate everything you've done in the past 27 months."

The four days of concurrent programmes covered all specialisms, alongside a biomedical laboratory support staff programme and a UKAS programme. There was also a CPD-recognised seminar programme that was separate from the main programme and free to attend for those who had not been able to purchase tickets for the event.

After two years in which there has been little chance for face-to-face meetings and networking, the exhibition was bustling and the evening social programme well attended.

For more information on the event, visit congress.ibms.org

