

## Ceremony of IFTM Medal Award to Prof. David Rollinson at the Linnean Society in London

Last Thursday 28th September 2017, the *International Federation for Tropical Medicine* awarded the IFTM Medal to Prof. Dr. David Rollinson of the British Museum of Natural History, at the famous Meeting Room of the Linnean Society, Burlington House, London, United Kingdom, where Charles Darwin and Alfred Russel Wallace made the first communication of their views on the origin of species by natural selection on 1st July 1858.

The IFTM Medal Ceremony took place in the first morning session of the 2017 British Society for Parasitology Autumn Symposium, co-sponsored by the Royal Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene, under the theme of "*An ever Changing World*" and chaired by the symposium organizer Prof. Dr. J. Russell Stothard of the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine. The introductory lecture was in charge of Prof. Dr. Sir Roy Anderson, who made a speech on "Progress in the control of human helminth infections by mass drug administration".

After the chairman's introduction of the Ceremony, the citation was read by the IFTM President Prof. Dr. Honoris Causa Santiago Mas-Coma, highlighting the extraordinary merits of the medallist Prof. Dr. David Rollinson. This was followed by endearing personal anecdotes by the medallist's long-term colleague and friend Prof. Dr. Vaughan Southgate, former team director in the Department of Zoology of the British Museum of Natural History.



The subsequent delivery of the IFTM Medal to Prof. David Rollinson by Prof. Mas-Coma was the culminating moment of the ceremony, spontaneously photo-captured by all attendees: "Prof. David Rollinson, David, it is a great pleasure for me to award



you with the Medal of the International Federation for Tropical Medicine in recognition of your wide and outstanding contributions to science, parasitic diseases and tropical diseases throughout your lifelong career". The Medal acknowledgement response talk by Prof. David Rollinson was certainly moving. It was up to the chairman Prof. Stothard to finally close the event.



The session finished with three lectures by Prof. S. Mas-Coma, Prof. Louis-Albert Tchuem-Tchuente from Cameroon, and Prof. David Molyneux from Liverpool.

