Rachel Bennett obtained a Masters in Pharmacy from QUB, with a 1st class honours in 2010. Following this she completed her Pre-Registration year in the South Eastern Health and Social Care Trust before registering as a Pharmacist with the PSNI in August 2011. She has been working towards a PhD in Molecular Therapeutics in the School of Pharmacy since September 2011 under the supervision of Prof. Tracy Robson, Dr Helen McCarthy, and Dr. Adrien Kissenpfennig (Centre for Infection and Immunity). The primary focus of her research is assessing the endogenous role of the anti-angiogenic protein, FKBPL, using various models. She has assessed the effect of modulating the levels of FKBPL on cell growth, and the interaction of FKBPL with the Sirtuin pathway. Whilst completing her PhD she has gained the Certified Associate in Project Management (CAPM) and Institute of leadership and Management Level 5, in line with career aspirations towards Pharmaceutical Operations Management and Pharmaceutical and Life Science Consulting. In the School of Pharmacy she is the SWAN (Scientific Women's Academic Network) and GEESE (Gender Equality Enabling Scientific Excellence) postgraduate representative, and is involved in peer mentoring and volunteering with STEMnet.

Selected Publications:

Clinical Cancer Research, 9 (14), 3881–3893, 2013, Lana McClements, Anita Yakkundi, Angelos Papaspyropoulos, Hannah Harrison, Matthew P. Ablett, Puthen V. Jithesh, Hayley D. McKeen, Rachel Bennett, Christopher Donley, Adrien Kissenpfennig, Stuart McIntosh, Helen O. McCarthy, Eric O'Neill, Robert B. Clarke, Tracy Robson. Targeting Treatment-Resistant Breast Cancer Stem Cells with FKBPL and Its Peptide Derivative, AD-01, via the CD44 Pathway.