

# Biochemistry and Molecular Biology Notes

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## Congratulations!

**Melissa Limp-Foster** has received an award from the United States Army Medical Research and Materiel Command, Breast Cancer Research Program, to study "DNA base excision repair (BER) and cancer gene therapy: Use of the human N-methylpurine DNA glycosylase (MPG) to sensitize breast cancer cells to low dose chemotherapy".

**The BBF** has just received delivery of a new Perkin-Elmer 7700 Sequence Detection System (Real-Time PCR). The 96-well system is capable of determining literally hundreds of message levels each day. It will be used for the quantitation of mRNA and genomic DNA (and tell if the DNA is wild-type or mutant).

**Tom Hurley** has been named Chair of the recently appointed Medical Biophysics Steering Committee. The purpose of the committee will be to restructure Medical Biophysics into more tightly focused fields in order to strengthen their ability to recruit new students by concentrating on those research areas where the program has strength in training and funding. Joining Tom on the Steering committee will be Chip Montrose, Physiology/Biophysics; Grant Nicol, Pharmacology/ Toxicology; **Peter Roach**, Biochemistry & Molecular Biology; and William Stillwell, Biology.

## Another Move

- **Hiremagular Jayaram** and **Joel Yalowitz** are now located in MS 407 and 408A. Their phone number (4-3709) remains the same.

## New Faces in Biochemistry

- **Dr. Joyce Hurley** has accepted a full-time position in the Department as an Assistant Scientist. Her laboratory/office is MS AS I 1, and phone is 8-2463.
- **Blythe Janowiak**, Senior at DePauw University, has begun a one-month internship with Bob Harris.
- **Carter Herndon**, Research Technician in the research laboratory of John Hawes.

## January Seminars

**1/17 Dr. David Skalnik**, Wells Research Center, Biochemistry & Molecular Biology, IUSM; "*Regulation of gene expression during myeloid cell development*"

**1/19 Dr. Alan Mahrenholz**, Scientific Director, Center for Structural Biology, Department of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology, IUSM; "*BLICORE interaction analysis: Fundamentals, applications and potential*" MS 4001, 1:00 p.m.

**1/20 Dr. Monica Niederhut**, Postdoctoral Fellow, Bio-chemistry & Molecular Biology, IUSM; "*Structural studies of gamma alcohol dehydrogenase* " **MS A506/A518, 12:00 Noon**

**1/24 Dr. Weinan Shou**, Assistant Professor, Department of Pediatrics, Wells Center for pediatric Research. "*The Biological Function of mammalian FKBP12*"

**1/31 Dr. Arun Srivastava**, Professor, Microbiology & Immunology, Walther Oncology Center, IUSM; "*Gene Transfer with AAV Vectors: Obstacles and Possible Solutions*"

## **Other Seminars of Interest**

**1/5 TGF- Signaling Mechanisms. Dr. Xiao-Fan Wang**, Dept. of Pharmacology and Cancer Biology, Duke University Medical Center; Durham, NC. **Cancer Research Institute Auditorium, 4:00 p.m.**

**1/13 Valine Catabolism-Evolution of Unusual Enzymes for an Unusual Pathway. John Hawes, Ph.D.**, Dept. of Biochemistry/Molecular Biology and Director, Biochemistry Biotechnology Facility, TUSM. **Medical Science 326, 4:00 p.m.**

**1/25 AktIGSK3beta Serine Threonine Kinases: Evidence for a Signaling Pathway Mediated by Familial Alzheimer's Disease mutations. Bin Hui Ni, Ph.D.** Senior Scientist, Eli Lilly and Co. **Medical Science BLDG 3IIA-B, 12:00 noon.**

**1/27 Iron Scavenging Systems and Their Roles in Pathogenesis of Gonococcal Infection. P. Frederick Sparling, M.D., J. Herbert Bate** Professor of Medicine and Microbiology/Immunology, University of North Carolina; Chapel Hill, NC. **Medical Science 326, 4:00 p.m.**

**1/18 Dr. Zhong-Yin Zhang**, Assistant Professor of Pharmacology & Biochemistry, Albert Einstein College of Medicine, Yeshiva University, Bronx, NY, "*Protein tyrosine dephosphorylation and si-anal* "