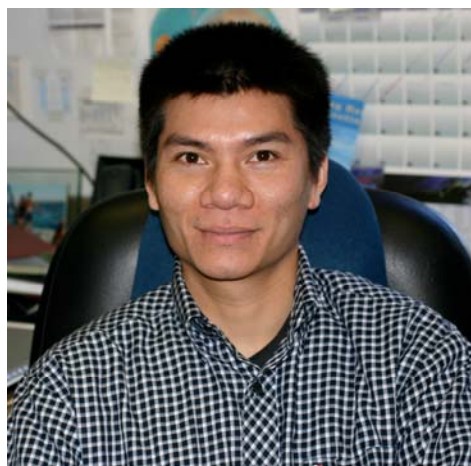


# Biochemistry and Molecular Biology

# NOTES

Volume 21, No. 2 July, 2009

## Welcome New Faculty Member Quyên Hoang, Ph.D.



Quyên will be the newest faculty member to join our department starting 8/1/09. He was selected from a field of over 470 applicants in a search that started last fall. Quyên's research interests are in the underlying mechanisms of neurodegeneration, particularly Parkinson's disease. He received a BS in Biochemistry from McMaster University in June 1997, and the Ph.D., also from McMaster, in June 2003. From May 2003 through August 2004 Quyên was a Research Scientist at Microstar Biotech Inc. In September 2004 he accepted an appointment as a Post-doctoral fellow at Rosenstiel Medical Research Center at Brandeis University and the Dept. of Neurology and Center for Neurologic Disease at Harvard. He was later appointed as a Senior Research Scientist. Quyên is experienced in biophysical techniques that complement structural biology

using X-ray crystallography. He's also designed novel drugs to treat bone-related disease and designed and developed a novel method to screen for bone drugs.

Quyên's lab will be in our newly renovated research space in the basement of Med Sci, MS 0013 (lab phone 274-4379) and his office will be next to Hyun-Suk-Lim's, in MS 0013D (office phone 274-4371). We'll provide his IU email address as soon as it's available, a few weeks after he arrives. Quyên and his wife, Mei, their son, Neo, age 5-1/2, and baby daughter, Cardea, age 1-1/2 are moving into a home in the Carmel area.

Please join us in warmly welcoming Quyên and his family to our Department and IU School of Medicine!

## Tom Hurley is the new Associate Chair

Tom Hurley has taken on the responsibilities of Associate Chair from Peter Roach, retroactive to Jan. 1, 2009. At the Biochem Faculty meeting on 3/6/09 Dr. Zhang announced that Peter took on the heavy teaching and administrative responsibilities of the B800 Medical Biochemistry course director in Fall 2008 in preparation of Dr. Bob Harris' retirement in December 08. In addition to the demands of B800, Dr. Roach wants to devote more time to research. Dr. Zhang deeply thanked Peter for his outstanding service as Associate Chair, and said that Tom Hurley has a passion for the job as well as experience as our Interim Chair.

# Congratulations!

## Howard Edenberg – 2009 Distinguished Researcher

Howard received the prestigious Distinguished Researcher Award for 2009 from the Research Society on Alcoholism at the annual meeting in June. He presented a plenary lecture on his research at that event. The award recognizes Howard's seminal contributions to our understanding of the genetics of alcoholism and other complex genetic diseases. Congratulations, Howard!

## 2009 Trustees' Teaching Awards

**Peter Roach** was selected to receive the 2009 Trustees' Teaching Award, along with 3 of Biochem's associate faculty members, **David Ingram** of PEDS, **Gattadahalli Seetharamaiah** of IUSM – Evansville, and **Ed McKee** of IUSM – South Bend. The award honors individuals who have a positive impact on learning through the direct teaching of students. Award recipients must have demonstrated a sustained level of teaching excellence. Congratulations to these 4 outstanding instructors on this very deserving recognition.

## Ron Wek named Showalter Professor

Effective July 1, 2009 Ron Wek became the new Showalter Professor, a position previously held by Bob Harris from 1992-2009. An outstanding biochemist, Ron has made seminal contributions to our understanding of the mechanisms regulating protein

synthesis and stress response pathways, and how these processes are beneficial or adverse in a given biomedical context. He has an excellent record of grant funding and is a major contributor in our teaching mission. We congratulate him on this honor.

## Student Poster Awards

Grad student **Lin Lin** of Mark Goebel's lab won 3<sup>rd</sup> place in poster presentations at the 13<sup>th</sup> GLACACS (Chinese American Chemical Society – Great Lakes Chapter) annual conference in May 09 at the Abbott Lab campus.

Grad Student **Chad Walls** of Dr. Zhang's lab received an award as the Basic Science Grad Student Best Poster Finalist at the IU Simon Cancer Center Research Day on May 6, 2009.

## Bob Harris Honored at April 2009 Symposium

Friday, April 17, 2009 marked a day of recognition for one of our own outstanding investigators, **Bob Harris**. We celebrated his research career with seminars in Emerson Hall auditorium by 4 individuals who were part of Bob's investigative efforts through the years: Bei 'Betty' Zhang, a former Ph.D. student who graduated in 1991 and is now a Franchise Basic Site Leader at Merck and Co. in New Jersey; Yoshiharu 'Yoshi' Shimomura, a long-time collaborator currently appointed as a Professor at Nagoya University in Nagoya,

Japan; David Crabb, M.D., chair of the Department of Medicine at IUSM and who did graduate research work in Bob's lab); and David Thor Johnson, M.D., a former Ph.D. student who is now a Resident Physician at St. Vincent Hospital. Zhong-Yin Zhang gave a warm welcome to all in attendance, Dean Craig Brater provided comments on Dr. Harris' impact at IUSOM, and Peter Roach gave highlights of Dr. Harris' career. Anna DePaoli-Roach served as Moderator, having coordinated the day's details and introducing the speakers. Bob offered his utmost thanks to all who participated in making the event a success, especially the speakers who generously participated and those who traveled so far to celebrate this day with him.

Following the superb talks, an open reception was held in the first floor atrium of the Medical Science Building from 4:40-6 p.m. Many friends, former students, and current and former collaborators and colleagues were on hand to offer congratulations to Bob, greet one another, and reminisce.

The day's event was capped with a dinner and cocktails at the downtown Sheraton, where lively conversations included sharing a multitude of engaging stories about Bob through his IU research career. Bob expressed his deep appreciation for everyone's thoughtfulness and participation in sharing this event in his honor.



# New Grant Awards!



- ⇒ **Samy Meroueh:** NIH R01 CA 135380-01A1, 46-822-33, 5/15/09 – 2/28/13; “*Small-molecular Inhibition of the Interactions of the Urokinase Receptor: A Target in Tumor Invasion and Metastasis*”
- ⇒ **Tom Hurley:** NIH R01 AA01823-01, 46-836-31, 4/15/09 – 3/31/14; “*Activation and Inhibition of Aldehyde Dehydrogenase 2*”
- ⇒ **Yuro Takagi:** NSF, 48-822-06, 2/1/09 – 01/31/12, “*High resolution structural and functional mapping on Mediator of transcriptional regulation*”
- ⇒ **Ron Wek:** NIH R21 AI084031-01, 46-836-35, 06/15/09 – 05/31/11, “*Translational control and latent Toxoplasma Infection*”
- ⇒ **Hyun-Suk Lim:** Showalter, 44-822-57, 7/1/09 – 6/30/10, “*Chemical Inhibitors of the SCFSkp2 Ubiquitin Ligase*”
- ⇒ **Samy Meroueh:** Showalter, 44-822-59, 7/1/09 – 6/30/10, “*Computational Design and Chemical Synthesis of Next Generation Antimetastatic Agents*”
- ⇒ **Zhong-Yin Zhang:** Aarden Pharma, 45-822-16, 7/1/09 – 6/30/10, “*Targeting Protein Tyrosine phosphatases for Therapeutic Development*”
- ⇒ **Samy Meroueh:** CTSI, 22-822-55, 3/1/09 – 2/28/10, “*Development of a supraphysiological T cell receptor for the immunological treatment of melanoma*”
- ⇒ **Zhong-Yin Zhang:** CTSI, 22-822-54, 5/1/09-4/30/10, “*Identification of Ack selective inhibitors for the treatment of cancers arising from deregulated RAS signaling*”
- ⇒ **Joyce Hurley:** RSFG, 23-822-75, 7/2/09 – 6/30/10, “*Differences in Trigeminovascular Sensitivity in Male and Female Rats*”

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## Yuro Takagi has Featured Article in Structure

Mediator Structural Conservation and Implications for the Regulation Mechanism. Gang Cai, Tsuyoshi Imasaki, Yuichiro Takagi, and Francisco J. Asturias



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**Bert O'Malley, M.D. -  
2009 Beering Award  
Winner**

Dr. O'Malley will present the Beering Award lecture at 8:30 a.m. on Wed. Oct. 28 in the Riley Outpatient Center auditorium. He'll also present a lecture to graduate and med students at 9:00 a.m. on Tues. Oct. 27 in Emerson Hall auditorium. He's from Baylor College of Medicine where his research group made discoveries in characterizing the intracellular mechanisms by which steroid hormones exert their actions through nuclear receptors.

**New Location for  
Suk-Hee Lee's lab**

Suk-Hee Lee's lab has a new home in the brand-new R3 building, Joseph E. Walther Hall. The street address is 980 W. Walnut Street. Suk-Hee's office is located in Room C551 (phone 8-3464) and his lab is in Room C549 (phone 8-3465). The phone numbers have not changed from his previous location in the R4 building.

**More info to be collected by  
travel agencies**

Airlines and travel agencies are required to implement Secure Flight, a new program from the Transportation Security Administration (TSA). For air travel security, TSA will collect the traveler's first, middle, and last name, gender, and date of birth. Be prepared to provide this detailed information when making air reservations.

**New Grad Students Joining Biochem Dept. in Fall 2009**



Twelve new grad students join Biochemistry Department on Aug. 1, 2009 after finishing their first year in the IBMG program. We'd like to warmly welcome these fresh new faces to Biochem!

First row:

[Chanda Karthik](#) - Peter Roach's lab

[Dorothy Lo](#) - Hua Lu's lab

[Yunpeng Bai](#) - Zhong-Yin Zhang's lab

Second row:

[Derek Woods](#) - John Turchi's lab

[Raleigh Malik](#) - Simon Rhodes' lab

[Soyoung Park](#) - Simon Rhodes' lab

[Latha Ramalingam](#) - Debbie Thurmond's lab

Third row:

[Bibek Parajuli](#) - Tom Hurley's lab

[Jacob Adler](#) - Clark Wells' lab

[Fei Huang](#) - Keith Dunker's lab

[Jennifer Pardo](#) - Merv Yoder's lab (MS student)

Not pictured:

[Ms. Hyojin Kim](#) - Merv Yoder's lab

# New Faces in Biochemistry Department



**Guifen He**

Post-doc in Dr. Lu's lab



**Sarah Hudon**

Post-doc in Dr. Ye's lab



**JiHoon Lee**

Post-doc in Dr. Lim's lab



**Junho Lee**

Post-doc in Dr. Lu's lab



**Ron Jerome**

Visiting Research Associate  
in Dr. Edenberg's lab



**Lifan Zeng**

Post-doc in Dr. Zhang's lab



**Kentaro Yamada**

Post-doc in Dr. Takagi's lab



**Yao Zhang**

Post-doc in Dr. Dong's lab



**Ann Kimble-Hill**

Post-doc in  
Dr. Tom Hurley's lab



**Hina Younus**

Post-doc in  
Dr. Tom Hurley's lab



**Xiuhua Yuan**

Post-doc in Dr. Ye's lab



**Dan Wei**

Post-doc in Dr. Dong's lab

# New Faces in Biochemistry Department



**Ming Chen**  
Visiting Scientist  
in Dr. Zhang's lab



**Tom Berg**  
Hourly Lab Assistant  
in Dr. Zhang's lab



**May Khanna**  
Vis. Asst. Research  
Professor in Dr. Tom  
Hurley's lab



**Rongjun He**  
Post-doc in Dr. Zhang's lab



**Xin (John) Zhang**  
Hourly Lab Assistant  
in Dr. Ye's lab



**Alex Scherer**  
Vis. Research Associate  
in Dr. Zhang's lab



**Yuki Nishimura**  
Post-doc in Dr. Takagi's lab



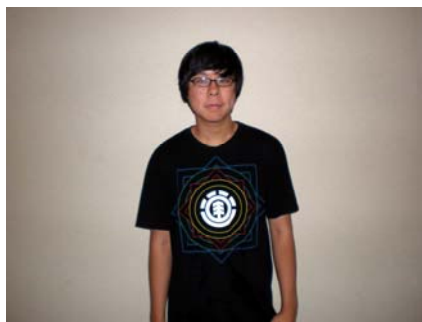
**Ariel Wong**  
Hourly Lab Assistant  
in Dr. Roach's lab



**Lara Lazarre**  
Hourly Lab Assistant  
in Dr. Harrington's lab



**Joe Graham**  
Hourly Lab Assistant  
in Dr. Harris' lab



**Brian Ye**  
Hourly Lab Assistant  
in Dr. Ye's lab