

Biochemistry and Molecular Biology NOTES

Volume 21, No. 3 October, 2009

New Faculty Search Underway

A new faculty search is underway with an ad in the Sept. 11 issue of SCIENCE. We are seeking applicants for any faculty rank with research interests that complement and strengthen research activities in the department, or those who bring novel approaches and expertise in areas including signaling mechanisms, systems biology, proteomics/genomics, bioinformatics, microRNA-mediated processes, epigenetics, stem cells, and genetic/disease model systems. Applicants are asked to submit their cv, brief summary of past accomplishments and future research plans, and names and email addresses of at least 3 references electronically to: Job #09171, biomjobs@iupui.edu. Check out our department website for additional information: <http://www.biochemistry.iu.edu/>.



New Baby!

Faculty member **Clark Wells** and wife Tracy welcomed a 4th son, Arthur, who arrived Mon. Aug. 24 weighing in at 10 lbs. 10 oz. and 23 inches long! He joins 3 big brothers. Everyone is doing well.



Wedding Bells

Post-doc **Sarah Hudon** of Qi-Zhuang Ye's lab married Adam Miller on Aug. 1, 2009 at the Fort Wayne History Center in Fort Wayne, IN. They honeymooned in San Francisco. Her new name is Sarah Hudon-Miller.

Whitney Smith, a Research Technician in Clark Wells' lab, wed Asher Kinnaman on Fri. Sept. 18th in Carmel, IN. They honeymooned in tropical Dunn's River, Jamaica. Her new last name is Smith-Kinnaman.

Congrats to **Jamie Schroeder** of the Biochem Office who became engaged to Ryan Mayfield on a recent California vacation. A wedding is planned for June 5, 2010.

Contacting Quyen Hoang

In case you'd like to reach our newest faculty member by email, **Dr. Quyen Hoang** can be reached at: qqhoang@iupui.edu. As a reminder, his phone numbers are: 4-4371 (office, MS 0013D) and 4-4379 (lab, MS 0013).

Beering Award Lecture Wed. Oct. 28

Bert W. O'Malley, MD will present the 2009 Beering Award Lecture, "Nuclear Receptor Coactivators: Mechanisms and Medical Relevance" at 8:30 a.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 28, in the Riley Outpatient Center auditorium. Dr. O'Malley, MD is the Thomas C. Thompson Professor and chairman, Department of Molecular and Cellular Biology, and director of the Baylor Center for Reproductive Biology in Houston. His research work involves discoveries in characterizing the intracellular mechanisms by which steroid hormones exert their actions through nuclear receptors. A reception will follow the Beering Lecture.



BIOM Appointment for Wade Clapp

We are pleased to announce that **Wade Clapp**, newly appointed Chair of the Dept. of Pediatrics, also has a new secondary appointment with Biochemistry and Molecular Biology. Welcome, Wade!



Grants and Awards: *Congratulations!*

- ✓ **Suk-Hee Lee** received a new 4-year NIH subcontract with the Univ. of New Mexico for his project titled, “Transposases in Etoposide Resistance”; R01 CA140422-01.
- ✓ **Ron Wek** received a Showalter Award for his project, “Translation and Stress Regulatory Pathways in Health and Disease.
- ✓ **Howard Edenberg** and Yunlong Liu (Biostatistics) received an R21 award for their project, “Elucidating CIS-Acting Elements Regulating Alcohol-Induced Alternative Splicing”; R21 AA017941-01A1.
- ✓ **Keith Dunker** received a new 3-year NSF award for the project, “DisProt Database: A Central Repository of Information of Intrinsically Disordered Proteins”; Award # EF-0849803. Keith also received a 5-yr competing renewal on R13 LM006766-13 award for “Pacific Symposium on Biocomputing”.
- ✓ **Andy Hudmon** receive a 2-year award from the Indiana State Dept. of Health for his project, “Calcium-Dependent Neuronal Death Induced by Traumatic Brain Injury: the role of CaMKII interaction with NMDA receptors”.
- ✓ **Howard Edenberg** was awarded a 5-year competing renewal on the COGA (Collaborative Studies on the Genetics of Alcoholism) grant through the State University of New York; 5U10-AA08401.
- ✓ **Qi-Zhuang Ye** received a supplement to his NIH R01 grant AI065898 for \$166,136 in direct costs.
- ✓ **Peter Roach** received a \$75,000 ARRA supplement to his NIH R01 award R01 NS056454 for “Glycogen Metabolism and LaFora Disease” for the purchase of a dual pump chromatography system with pulsed amperometric detection. He also received an ARRA supplement to R01 award DK027221, “Glycogen Metabolism and Its Regulation”, for support of a high school student this past summer.
- ✓ **Reuben Kapur** has 3 new R01 grants: one of them is for the project “Role of Vav and Rac in KIT oncogenesis”; R01 HL081111-01A2; the second is for “Role of Vav and Rac in KIT oncogenesis”; R01 HL08111-01, and the third is for “Mechanisms of adhesion and growth control in stem cells”; R01 HL075816.
- ✓ **Samy Meroueh** was awarded a substantial amount of computer time that is equivalent to purchasing a 1/2 million dollar computer cluster from the TeraGrid Request Allocation Committee (TRAC). His proposal, "Biodrugscore: A portal for customized scoring and ranking of molecules docked to the human proteome", was submitted directly through their Web site.
- ✓ **Simon Conway** has a new R01 award, HL092508, for the project, “Regulation of Periostin by TGFbeta and BMP in Heart Development”.
- ✓ **EdMcKee** was awarded a competing renewal for the project, “Mitochondrial Toxicity of Antiviral Nucleosides”; R01 HL072710.



The **annual Biochem Department Family Picnic** was held on Friday, Sept. 25, 2009 at the familiar shelter at Eagle Creek Group Picnic Area. In spite of a soggy start to the day, lots of folks came out for a great afternoon of fun. Hot dogs, brats, and hamburgers were expertly grilled by our faculty chefs and event co-chairs, **Mark Goebel and Qi-Zhuang Ye**. Frisbee and soccer enticed many while the students claimed a decisive 21-10 victory over the faculty in the annual softball challenge. There's always next year!

Qi-Zhuang Ye and Mark Goebel did a fine job of co-chairing the event with plenty of help from our grad students and the student rep, **Souvik Dey**. Thanks for all of your efforts! We also want to thank the Biochem Office staff for their help in making the site reservation, obtaining necessary permits, set-up and clean up, and everything else to make this a successful event.

Recent Graduates

Heather Benson of David Wilkes' lab accepted a position as a post-doc in the Center for Immunobiology at IUSM.

Ross Cocklin of Mark Goebel's lab graduate in August 2009. He's now a post-doc in Ann Roman's Microbiology lab.

Kirk Habegger of Jeff Elmendorf's lab in Physiology completed his degree in Aug. 2009 and is now a post-doc at the University of Cincinnati.

Hao Zhang finished his degree in Aug. 09 in Simon Atkinson's lab in Nephrology; he accepted a post-doc position there.

Jingliang Yan from Lawrence Quilliam's area joined the Fall 09 IUSOM freshman medical school class after completing his degree in Aug. 09.

New Appointments

Mervin Yoder, director of the Herman B Wells Center for Pediatric Research, is one of 10 individuals named by Gov. Mitch Daniels to the newly created Indiana Cord Blood Bank board of directors.

Harikrishna Nakshatri is the new associate director for education at the Indiana University Melvin and Bren Simon Cancer Center.

Mark Your Calendars For the Holiday Party!

Friday, Dec. 18 we'll have the annual BIOM Holiday Party in the Med Science atrium at 12 noon. Stay tuned for details as the event draws closer.

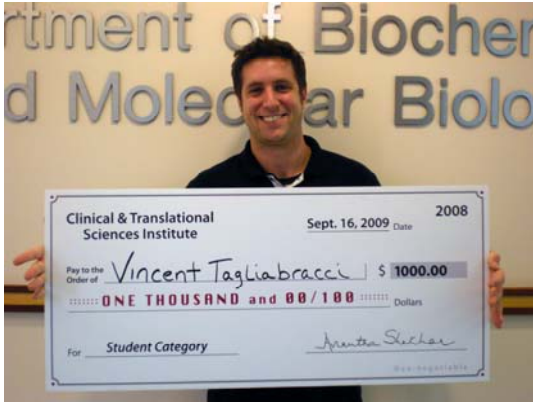
Autoclave staging areas

Environmental Health and Safety advised that no items are allowed to be staged in the general vicinity of sterilizers while waiting to use the equipment. Any items intended for autoclaving need to be kept in the lab until an autoclave is available for use, and after sterilization should be returned to the originating lab. An exception would be for bags of autoclaved waste; they may remain in the room for disposal by house-keeping if the bags are clearly marked as having been sterilized and ready for disposal, along with the PI's name and room number.

Winners from the Annual IUSM-CTSI Scientific Poster Session; IUSM Art Exhibition

The 2009 IUSM CTSI Scientific Poster Session and the IUSM Art Exhibition were held simultaneously on Wednesday, Sept. 16 in the Med Science Building atrium. The Scientific Session highlighted current research efforts within the school with hopes of fostering interdisciplinary research. Two Biochem grad students won poster awards in the Student category.

Vinnie Tagliabracci of Peter Roach's lab won the First Place award of \$1,000 for his poster, "Glycogen Phosphorylation and Lafora Disease". His wife, grad student **Jenna Jewell** of Debbie Thurmond's lab, won Second Place for her poster, "Identification of an Insulin-Stimulated Munc18c Tyrosine Kinase in 3T3L1 Adipocytes and Primary Skeletal Muscle". And in a tie for First Place in the Basic Science Category, post-doc **Eun-Jin Oh** of Debbie Thurmond's lab won \$500 for her poster, "Syntaxin 4 Transgenic Mice Exhibit Enhanced Longevity". Congratulations to all of you!



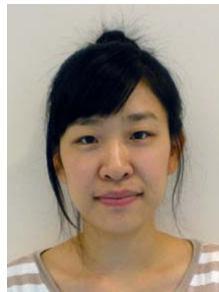
The IUSM Art Exhibition showcased the artistic expressions of SOM faculty, staff and students. Biochem was well-represented with entries from the following departmental personnel: Howard

Edenberg – photographs; Jeanette McClintick – ceramic bowl; Sandy McClain – decorative fabric quilt and pencil sketch; and Mary Harden – blown glass objects. Nicely done, everyone!

New Faces in Biochem



Karl Staser
MD/PhD student in
Wade Clapp's lab



Hyojin Kim
Grad student in
Merv Yoder's lab



Konrad Christian
Post-doc in
Ron Wek's lab



Rongya Tao
Post-doc in Charlie
Dong's lab



Justin Johnson
MD/Ph.D. student in
Simon Atkinson's lab



Adrianna Henson
Visiting Research Assoc.
in Hua Lu's lab