

## Biochemistry and Molecular Biology

# NOTES



Volume 15, No 7

October, 2002

### Grant Writing Workshop Available

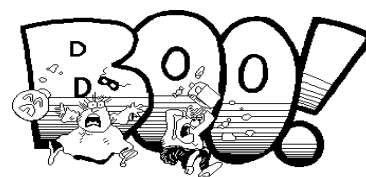
Grant writing skills are essential for the promotion and success of academic investigators. Funding sources are increasing, but obtaining those grants requires perseverance and essential skills in communicating ideas to the funding agency.

A 1-1/2 day Grant Writing Workshop is available to investigators starting **Wed. Oct. 9** in the Riley Outpatient Center Auditorium. The seminar emphasizes idea development, how to write for reviewers and tips and strategies. It addresses both conceptual and practical aspects associated with the grant writing process.

**The Department will cover the seminar fee for any interested Biochem investigator. Please contact Sandy at 4-1717 or John at 4-5341 for details or to register.**

### Important Dates

- 10/15 NIH Competing continuation, revised grants
- 11/28 THANKSGIVING
- 12/10 Finals begin
- 12/25 MERRY CHRISTMAS!
- 1/1/03 HAPPY NEW YEAR
- 1/8 Classes begin



---

### Recent Publications

Tuttle, J. L., Hahn, T. L., Sanders, B.M., **Witzmann, F.A.**, Miller, S.J., Dalsing, M. C. and Unthank, J. L. (2002). Impaired collateral development in mature rats. *Am. J. Physiol. Heart Circ. Physiol.* **283**: H146-155.

**Tunncliff, G.** and Cash, C.D. (editors). Gamma-Hydroxybutyrate: Molecular, Functional and Clinical Aspects. Taylor and Francis, London (2002)

**Witzmann, F.A.**, Clack, J.W., Geiss, K., Hussain, S., Juhl, M.J., Rice, C.M., and Wang, C. (2002). Proteomic evaluation of cell preparation methods in primary hepatocyte cell culture. *Electrophoresis* **23**: 2223-2232.



King, Michelle Y and **Redman, Kent L.** (2002), RNA Methyltransferases Utilize Two Cysteine Residues in the Formation of 5-Methylcytosine. *Biochemistry* **41**:11218-11225.

**Sanghani, P.C.; Robinson, H.; Bosron, W.F.; Hurley, T.D.** (2002) Human Glutathione-Dependent Formaldehyde Dehydrogenase. Structures of Apo, Binary, and Inhibitory Ternary Complexes. *Biochemistry* **41**:10778-10786

# October Seminars

## *Biochemistry Seminars Mondays 4 pm, MS 326*

**10/7 Dr. Ann Rundell**, Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Biomedical Engineering, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN. "A System-Level Analysis of the T-cell MAPK Signaling Pathway"

**10/14 Dr. Simon J. Rhodes**, Associate Professor, Department of Biology, IUPUI. "Homeodomain Transcription Factors in Mammalian Pituitary Development"

**10/21 Dr. Heinrich Taegtmeier**, Professor of Medicine, Division of Cardiology, University of Texas, Houston Medical School. "Metabolic Regulation of Gene Expression in the Heart: A Plausible Hypothesis"

## *SOM Combined Seminar Series Wednesdays, 4:00 pm, Cancer Research (R4) Auditorium 101*

**10/2** Development Potential of Hematopoietic Stem Cells. **William H. Fleming, M.D.**, Ph.D., Bone Marrow Transplant Program, Oregon Health Sciences University; Portland, OR.

**10/9** Strand-Specific Processing of Oxidative DNA Damage by the Human DNA Mismatch Repair Pathway. **Jim Drummond, Ph.D.**, Dept. of Biology, Indiana University; Bloomington.

## *Center for Diabetes Research Seminars, Tuesdays, 4:00 pm, MS 122*

**10/8 Dr. Ronald C. Wek**, Professor, Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, IUSM, "Coping with Stress: eIF2 Kinases and Translational Control"

**10/23 Dr. Christopher Newgard**, Director, Sarah Stedman Center for Nutritional Studies & Duke Program in Diabetes Research, Professor of Pharmacology and Cancer Biology, Duke University Medical Center, "Metabolic Engineering for Defining Regulatory Mechanisms and Diabetes Targets" at **4:00 p.m. in MS 326**

## *Biochemistry Student Seminars Wednesdays, 12 Noon, MS 311*

Oct 2 Yong Luo  
Oct 9 Wei Wang  
Oct 16 Mandar Joshi  
Oct 23 Candy Heyen  
Oct 30 Sirisha Asuri



**10/23** Complexities of TNF Signaling. **Maureen A. Harrington, Ph.D.**, Dept. of Biochemistry/Molecular Biology, IUSM.

## *Other Seminars of Interest*

**10/2 12:00 noon** Cellular Responses of Soft Tissues to Mechanical Stimuli. **Karen Haberstroh, Ph.D.**, Dept. of Biomedical Engineering, Purdue University; West Lafayette, IN. **Van Nuys Medical Science 326.**

**10/23 12:00 noon** Quality of Life in Germ Cell Cancer Survivors. National Center of Excellence in Women's Health Seminar. **Stephen Williams, M.D.**, Dept. of Medicine, IUSM. **Cancer Research Institute [R4] Auditorium 101.** [Bring your own brown bag lunch.]

**10/29 8:00 a.m.** Genes and the Environment in the Pathogenesis of Diabetes Mellitus. **Steven C. Beering Award Recipient. C. Ronald Kahn, M.D.**, Mary K. Iaccoca Professor; President and Director, Joslin Diabetes Center; Boston, MA. **Emerson Hall Auditorium.**

**10/30 8:30 a.m.** Defining the Multidimensional Insulin Signaling Network. **Steven C. Beering Award Lecture. C. Ronald Kahn, M.D.**, Mary K. Iaccoca Professor; President and Director, Joslin Diabetes Center; Boston, MA. **University Place Hotel Auditorium.**

### *In Memoriam*

**Harry E. Hadd**, 83, Ph.D. '64, associate professor emeritus of biochemistry at the Northwest Center for Medical Education, died in Bedford, Indiana on April 15. He joined IU in 1960.

He taught and did cancer research at the IU School of Medicine in Indianapolis and then worked as a research scientist on the Northwest campus. He retired in 1989.



## A Poster-ful 2002 Biochem Retreat

The Med Science Atrium was packed with posters for the 2002 Biochem Retreat held on Friday, September 6! The judges managed to view all 45 posters in the course of the afternoon.

This year's retreat format was a departure from previous years. We opted to forgo talks and focused on posters from students, post-docs, and faculty. Everyone enjoyed snacks and beverages in the atrium before heading to MS 326 for the awards ceremony.

Maureen Harrington emceed the program. Dr. Harris updated the group on departmental, school, and campus milestones from last year with a glimpse of future plans and events. Retreat Chairperson Anna DePaoli-Roach presented the 4 poster awards: post-doc **Susan Kline-Smith** of Claire Walczak's lab in Bloomington, grad students **Jingyuan Liu** of Tom Hurley's lab and **Joel Yalowitz** of Hiremagalur Jayaram's lab, and post-doc **Ken Payie** of John Hawes' lab. Our congrats to the winners!

There were other winners as well: **Boli Huang** and **Kun Ma** were co-winners of the Peggy Gibson Award for the best paper, **Heather Larson** received the Jack Davis Award for best seminar, and **Peter Roach** received the Outstanding Mentor Award from the grad students. Kudos to you all!

Many thanks to **Simon Atkinson**, **Debbie Thurmond** and **Weinian Shou** for serving on this year's Peggy Gibson Award Committee, and to **Janice Blum**, **Joe Brozinick**, **Joe Burnell** and **Ann Roman** for their work in judging the posters, and to **Anna DePaoli-Roach** for chairing the event.

And hats off to all the behind-the-scenes folks for prepping and checking, setting up, taking down, bringing in, and putting away everything needed make an event like this so successful. We couldn't have done it without you!

---

Announcement of Competition for

## **THE 2002 BOWMAN AWARD**

The Bowman Award is for excellence in research in the field of biochemistry by a postdoctoral fellow. The prize consists of \$1,000 award for first place and a \$500 award for second place.

Candidates eligible for this award will have held a postdoctoral or residency appointment in a department of Indiana University School of Medicine in association with a full time member of the School of Medicine Faculty.

An interdepartmental committee will select the award winners on the basis of originality and significance of the research. For this purpose, candidates should submit a single reprint of a published paper or a preprint of a paper in press. The faculty sponsor should submit a letter indicating the significance of the research and the role of the candidate in designing and carrying out the experimental program and in the preparation of the paper. The applicant must have conducted the research in an Indiana School of Medicine department during the period of July 2000-present. The committee will not review doctoral thesis research.

Areas of research to be judged in this competition are limited to fundamental biochemistry and molecular biology. While clinical research is not excluded, the contribution to basic biochemistry or molecular biology must be manifest. **Applicants for this award should submit a single preprint or reprint and a letter from the faculty sponsor by Thursday, October 24, 2002** to Pam Nichols, Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, Medical Science Building, Room 4053.

Announcements of the Bowman Award will be made during dinner ceremonies on Friday, November 8, 2002.

---

---

# Congratulations!

Congratulations to **Drs. Nirmala Mavila** and **Jyothi Thundimadathil** on the birth of their son, Bharath. Little Bharath was born on Tuesday, September 10 at 6:30 p.m. and weighed 7 lbs., 2 oz. Everyone is doing well.

The Diabetes Graduate Program announced three one-year graduate student fellowship awards effective September 1, 2002. **Delu Zhou** of Janice Blum's lab in Microbiology received the DeVault fellowship, and **Beth Spurlin** of Debbie Thurmond's lab and **Candy Heyen** of Peter Roach's lab received Diabetes Graduate Program fellowships. Congratulations to you all!

**Paresh C. Sanghani**, who received his Ph.D. in Pharmaceutical Sciences from the University of Southern California in 1997, has been appointed Assistant Scientist in the Department of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology. Prior to joining the faculty, he completed a postdoctoral fellowship here.

## **Ting-Kai Li, M.D. Named New Director of NIH's Alcohol Research Institute**

National Institutes of Health Director Elias A. Zerhouni, M.D. announced the appointment of **Ting-Kai Li, M.D.** as the new director of the NIH's National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA). Dr. Li is currently Distinguished Professor, Department of Medicine, and of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology at Indiana University School of Medicine in Indianapolis, where he also serves as Director of the Indiana Alcohol Research Center. Dr. Li is expected to assume his new duties within the next few weeks.

"It gives me great pleasure that one of our nation's preeminent scientists in the alcohol research field will be taking the helm at NIAAA to lead our federal alcohol research efforts," said Tommy Thompson, Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services.

"Dr. Li has been at the forefront of discovery in alcohol research throughout his illustrious career," added Dr. Zerhouni. "His unparalleled scholarship and proven leadership abilities will enable NIAAA to continue to capitalize on the diverse scientific opportunities in biomedical, clinical, and prevention research.

"I am honored to come to NIAAA at this exciting time," said Dr. Li. The author of more than 400 journal articles and book chapters, Dr. Li has produced ground-breaking research in several areas, including alcohol metabolism and animal models of alcoholism.

