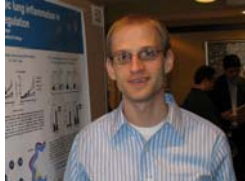




CIMD Newsletter

CIMD Graduate Students Excel at the 30th Annual Graduate Studies Research and Awards Day



Douglas Durrant* (Mentor: Dennis W. Metzger, Ph.D.)

Richard Miller Alumni Award for Outstanding Research Presentations (1st place)

Dean's Certificate for Excellence in Research—Senior Students

“IL-12 Alleviates Allergic Lung Inflammation in the Absence of T-bet”



Kristen Porter * (Mentor: Karen M. Duus, Ph.D.)

Richard Miller Alumni Award for Outstanding Research Presentations (3rd place)

Dean's Certificate for Excellence in Research—Fourth Year Students

“The Class II Transcriptional Activator (CIITA) Increases Susceptibility of CD4+ T cell to HIV-1 Infection”



Kathleen McCabe (Mentor: James R. Drake, Ph.D.)

Dean's Certificate for Excellence in Research—Fourth Year Students

“Exploring the Molecular Mechanism of BCR Internalization”



Maninjay Atianand (Mentor: Jonathan A. Harton, Ph.D.)

Dean's Certificate for Excellence in Research—Third Year Students

“Molecular Mechanisms by which POP2 Regulates Inflammasome Dependent IL-1beta Production”



Anthony Franchini (Mentor: Deborah H. Fuller, Ph.D.)

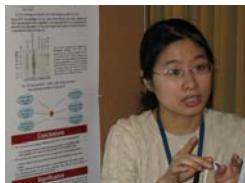
Alumni Research Award

“The Chemokine CCL20 Induces Mucosal Immunity when Co-Delivered as a Genetic Adjuvant with a DNA Vaccine via Particle-mediated Epidermal Delivery”



Justin Wilson (Mentor: James R. Drake, Ph.D.)

Graduate Student Alumni Service Award



Xiaoyun Wen (Mentor: Carlos de Noronha, Sc.D.)

Dean's Certificate and Prize for Excellence in Extramural Research Activities

*These students were invited to give an oral presentation on Awards Day.

Dr. Melendez Receives NIH Grant for Aging and Inflammation Research



J. Andrés Melendez, Ph.D., has been awarded a five-year, \$1.6 Million research grant from the National Institutes of Health, National Institute on Aging in support of his research entitled, “Redox-Control of MMP-1 and Senescence.”

Dr. Sellati Receives NIH Tularemia Grant

Timothy J. Sellati, Ph.D., has been awarded a four-year, \$1.24 Million research grant from the National Institutes of Health, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases in support of his research entitled, “Modulating MMP-9 and Neutrophil Recruitment: A Therapeutic Strategy for Tularemia.”

Dr. Crawford Receives NIH Grant for Signaling Studies

Dana R. Crawford, Ph.D., has been awarded a two-year, \$133K research grant from the National Institutes of Health, National Institute on Aging in support of his research entitled, “The Involvement of Adapt78 in Alzheimer’s disease and Down Syndrome.”



AMC MDDR Student Accepted into NIH Training Program

Vishnu Kannabiran, a third-year MDDR student, has been accepted into the National Institutes of Health, Clinical Research Training Program (CRTP) for the 2009-2010 academic year. Vishnu is the first Albany Medical College student to be admitted to this highly competitive program. (Mentor: Dana R. Crawford, Ph.D.)

6th International Conference on Tularemia 2009

The 6th International Conference on Tularemia 2009 being organized through the Robert Koch Institute will be held from September 13-19, 2009 in Berlin, Germany at the University Hospital Charité – Charité. Online registration is required for all attendees and everyone is encouraged to actively participate by submitting a poster abstract. The deadline for online abstract submissions is April 30, 2009.

Please share this information with colleagues who may be interested in attending the Conference. Detailed information on the scientific program, as well as on Berlin, can be found on the Congress website at www.tularemia-network.com. For those who are in need, there is a limited budget available to support qualified students.

Additionally, there is a plan to discuss the establishment of a Tularemia International Society. For more information, visit the website and click on the link “news” for ongoing activities of the tularemia scientific community. Questions and correspondence should be sent via email to info@tularemia-network.com

Conferences, Meetings and Study Sections

Dennis W. Metzger, Ph.D., served on the National Institutes of Health, Center for Scientific Review *Immunity and Host Defense* Study Section in San Francisco, CA, February 5-6, 2009. Dr. Metzger has also been invited to be a standing member of this Study Section for a four-year term (July 1, 2009-June 30, 2013).

Justin Wilson, graduate student, was invited to give a talk entitled, "Modulation of Macrophage Antigen Presentation by *F. tularensis*," on February 20, 2009 at the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill, NC. Justin also presented this talk on March 20, 2009 at SUNY Stony Brook in Stony Brook, NY.

J. Andrés Melendez, Ph.D., served on the National Institutes of Health *Cancer Etiology* Study Section in Bethesda, MD on February

9-10, 2009.

Dennis W. Metzger, Ph.D., served on the National Institutes of Health, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases *Multidisciplinary Resource Sharing* teleconference peer review, February 26, 2009.

Deborah Fuller, Ph.D., was asked to present her research to students at Bethlehem Central High School on February 12, 2009. Her presentation was entitled, "Pandemic," which focused on the flu pandemic of 1918. This presentation is part of the New York State Science Today 2009 Series.

Dennis W. Metzger, Ph.D., was re-appointed as a member of the External Advisory Board of the National Institutes of Health *Center of Biomedical Re-*

search Excellence (COBRE) at Dartmouth Medical School to review the school's research programs on March 9-10, 2009.

Carlos de Noronha, Sc.D., was invited to give a seminar entitled, "The HIV1 Protein Vpr as a Mediator of Protein Degradation," the University of Massachusetts Center for AIDS Research in Worcester, MA on February 5, 2009; Boston University in Boston, MA on February 23, 2009; and the University of Pittsburgh in Pittsburgh, PA on March 16, 2009.

Dennis W. Metzger, Ph.D., was invited to speak at Cornell University's Department of Microbiology and Immunology in Ithaca, NY on March 20, 2009. The title of his lecture was "Cytokine Regulation of Pulmonary Immunity to Polymicrobial Infections."

Dennis W. Metzger, Ph.D., was invited to participate in a *National Science Advisory Board for Biosecurity* (NSABB) public consultation meeting. The Federal Government has charged the NSABB with recommending a personnel reliability program (PRP) for individuals who work with highly pathogenic select agents. Their recommendations will address the measures that institutions should undertake to assess whether individuals are trustworthy and reliable to work with these agents. The meeting was held in Bethesda, MD on April 3, 2009.

Peer-reviewed Publications

Bitsaktsis C, Rawool DB, **Li Y**, Kurkure NV, **Iglesias B**, and **Gosselin EJ**. Differential requirements for protection against mucosal challenge with *Francisella tularensis* in the presence versus absence of Cholera toxin B and inactivated *F. tularensis*. *J. Immunol.* In press, 2009.

Gosselin EJ, **Bitsaktsis C**, **Li Y**, and **Iglesias B**. Fc Receptor-targeted mucosal vaccination as a novel strategy for the generation of enhanced immunity against mucosal and non-mucosal pathogens. *Archives of Immunology and Experimental Therapy*. Invited review. In press, 2009.

Brookins Danz ED, Skramsted J, Henry N, **Bennett JA**, and Keller RS. Resveratrol prevents Doxorubicin cardiotoxicity through mitochondrial stabilization and the Sirt1 pathway. *Free Radic Biol Med*. In press, 2009.

Joseph LC, **Bennett JA**, Kirschner KN, Shields GC, Hughes J, Lostritto N, **Jacobson HI**, and Andersen TT. Antiestrogenic and anticancer activities of peptides derived from the active site of alpha-fetoprotein. *J Pept Sci*. 15:319-25, 2009.





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*Knowledge is our goal,
Teamwork and Excellence
is our standard.*

If you have an item you would like considered for the next edition, please submit it to Dawn Bellvid at: Bellvid@mail.amc.edu
Thank you.

Deadline for submission: 6/15/09

Next Issue: July 2009

Other News Items...

- The AMC Research Centers are organizing a spring/summer softball team. Everyone is welcome to join. Contact is Wendy Hobb in MS-419 or at x28102.
- Registration opens on May 1, 2009 for the 12th Annual Upstate New York Immunology Conference. Please be sure to register early if you plan on attending. This year's Keynote Speakers will be Jonathan W. Yewdell, M.D., Ph.D., from the Laboratory of Viral Diseases (NIAID/NIH) and Jay K. Kolls, M.D., Niels K. Jerne Professor of Pediatrics and Immunology (Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh).



Upcoming CIMD Seminars

April 27, 2009

12 Noon, MS-316

Stanley Mudzinski, Host

Clifford M. Snapper, M.D. '81

Professor

Department of Pathology

Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences

"Mechanism of an in vivo Anti-Capsular Polysaccharide Antibody Response to an Intact Extracellular Bacteria"

May 18, 2009

12 Noon, MS-316

Deborah Fuller, Host

Tzzy-Choou, "TC" Wu, M.D., Ph.D.

Professor

Department of Molecular Microbiology & Immunology

Bloomberg School of Public Health

Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine

"Perspectives in the Preventive and Therapeutic HPV Vaccines"

May 4, 2009

12 Noon, MS-316

J. Andrés Melendez, Host

Bernard P. Arulanandam, Ph.D.

Professor

Microbiology & Immunology

South Texas Center for Emerging Infectious Diseases

University of Texas at San Antonio

"New Insights into Protective Immune Mechanisms Against Genital Chlamydial STD"

June 8, 2009

12 Noon, MS-316

Kristen Porter, Host

Heinrich Gottlinger, M.D., Ph.D.

Professor

Program in Immunology & Virology

University of Massachusetts Medical School

"Host Factors in HIV Budding"

May 11, 2009

12 Noon, MS-316

Kristen Porter, Host

Shan Lu, M.D., Ph.D.

Professor

Program in Immunology & Virology

University of Massachusetts Medical School

"Eliciting Neutralizing Antibodies for the Development of HIV Vaccines"

June 15, 2009

12 Noon, MS-316

J. Andrés Melendez, Host

Matthew B. Grisham, Ph.D.

Boyd Professor

Department of Molecular and Cellular Physiology

Associate Director of Research, Arthritis Center for Excellence

Louisiana State University Health Center

"Regulation of Chronic Gut Inflammation"