Faculty News

Funding Update:

❖ Congratulations to the following PIs for receiving new NIH grants:
  ➢ Dr. Caffrey: R21 AI101676-01 for 2 years
  ➢ Dr. Colley: 1R01GM101949-01 for 4 years
  ➢ Dr. Shikano: 1 R01GM099974 for 5 years
  ➢ Dr. Simonovic: R01GM097042-01 for 5 years
  ➢ Dr. Tyner: DOD W81XWH for 1 year

❖ Dr. Tyner successfully renewed 2R01DK044525-18 for next 5 years.

Other News:

❖ Congratulations to the following faculty on their Academic Promotions:
  ➢ Dr. Elizaveta Benevolenskaya
  ➢ Dr. Vadim Gaponenko

❖ Dr. Ackerman was an invited speaker at the following events:
  ➢ First CURED Eosinophilic Gastrointestinal Diseases (EGIDs) Research Symposium - Cincinnati Center for Eosinophilic Disorders, Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center, Cincinnati, OH.

❖ Dr. Hay was an invited speaker at the following meetings:
  ➢ March 2012- Educational Session, Annual meeting of the American Association for Cancer Research (AACR), Chicago, IL.
  ➢ May 2012- Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Banbury meeting on Metabolism and Cancer.
➢ October 2012- FASEB 7th International Meeting on AMPK, Asilomar Conference Center, Asilomar, CA.

➢ Dr. Segev was an invited speaker at the American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (ASBMB)’s annual meeting, Organelle Dynamics, San Diego, CA-April 2012.

➢ Dr. Simonovic was an invited speaker at:
  ➢ The Department of Chemistry, Wayne State University, Detroit, MI, Sept. 21, 2012.
  ➢ The Department of Chemistry, University of Innsbruck, Nov 29, 2012.

➢ The Mike and Kate Barany Tribute Symposium took place on April 9, 2012. They both were distinguished faculty members of UIC for 37 years. Dr. Michael Barany was an Emeritus Professor in BMG and Dr. Kate Barany was an Emeritus Professor in Physiology and Biophysics.

➢ The 7th Costa Memorial Lecture took place on October 24, 2012 and was presented by Klaus H. Kaestner, Ph.D., Thomas and Evelyn Suor Butterworth Professor in Genetics, Dept. of Genetics, Institute for Diabetes, Obesity and Metabolism, University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine.

General News

BMG Retreat

Our 5th Departmental Retreat took place at the Abbey Resort, Fontana, WI in August 2012. A big ‘Thank You’ to Dr. Simonovic for organizing it! Like past retreats, everyone had a good time. Over 60 members of the department attended the retreat -9 seminars and 32 posters were presented. Faculty, postdocs & students voted for the best posters. Congratulations to:

1st place - Joseph Zapater (Colley lab) and Michael Beshiri (Benevolenskaya lab)
2nd place - Zebin Wang (Raychadhuri lab)
3rd place - Chun-I Wu (Merrill lab) and Maria Paula Zappia (Frolov lab)

The traditional soccer match between faculty and students was as always grueling and fun at the same time! Once again the students won 5:3 and now they lead in the overall score 3:2.

Dr. Simonovic would like to thank all of you who helped set up the retreat and those who participated.
New Employees

- We welcome the following new employees:
  - Katie Holmes- Postdoctoral Research Associate (Benevolenskaya Lab)
  - Milan Nikolic - Postdoctoral Research Associate (Simonovic Lab)
  - Hang Sun – Visiting Scholar (Raychaudhuri Lab)
  - Coraline Rigouin- Postdoctoral Research Associate (Lavie Lab)
  - Qi Wang- Postdoctoral Research Associate (Hay Lab)
  - Arun Dey – Visiting Research Assistant Professor (Hay Lab)
  - Helena Palka-Hamblin - Visiting Research Assistant Professor (Colley Lab)
  - Minglian Wang -Visiting Scholar (Segev Lab)
  - Amelia Mannerings – Visiting Research Specialist (Gaponenko Lab)

- University of Bath, UK, Department of Biology and Biochemistry Program Placement Students:
  Our department has been participating in this work-study program for ~13 years. For 2012, the following students have joined our department:
  - Ross Low (Nakamura Lab)
  - Ashley Priddey (Gaponenko Lab)

Student News

We welcome the following new students:

- Gaurang Bhide
- Ben Hitchinson
- Stefanie Kall
- James Meyer
- Russell Smith
- Darren Wozniak

Awards:

- Brian Shy (Merrill lab) was selected by the Chicago Biomedical Consortium (CBC) to be a member of the CBC Scholars.
- Yuka Shimizu (Garcia lab) received the Chancellor's Graduate Research Fellowship award.
- Sumeyye Yar (Solaro Lab):
  - Renewed both Chancellor's Graduate Research Fellowship award from UIC and American Heart Association Pre-doctoral fellowship award for the 2nd year.
  - She won outstanding poster award at "the myofilament meeting" held at Madison, Wisconsin - June 2012.
She also won honorable mention in poster competition at "the college of medicine research forum" held at UIC - November 2012.

**Presentations:**

- Aaron Ambrus (Frolov lab) gave presentations at the following meetings:
  - Drosophila Research Conference (March 2012).
- Mike Beshiri (Benevolenskaya lab) gave a presentation for abstract "The function of the tumor suppressor pRB during differentiation is linked to epigenetic mechanisms" at the 10th Annual CBC Symposium on Epigenomics, October 12, 2012, Northwestern University.
- Krushna Patra (Hay lab) was a speaker at the following meetings:
  - Oral presentation at “Tumor Metabolism/ PI 3-Kinase and Interplay with Other Signaling Pathways”, Keystone Meeting, 2013.
- Russell Smith (rotation student) was a guest speaker and poster presenter at a Keystone Symposia conference in Utah - Frontiers of NMR in Biology.
- Sumeyye Yar (Solaro Lab) presented a poster titled "Altered flexibility affects regulatory functions of cardiac α-tropomyosin (α-Tm) in a novel transgenic mouse model expressing α-Tm-D137L" at the 57th Biophysical Society Meeting, Philadelphia, PA - February 2013.

**Thesis Defense:**

- Congratulations to the following students who successfully completed their Thesis Defense:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Lab</th>
<th>Thesis Defense</th>
<th>Current position</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Marianna Halasi</td>
<td>Gartel</td>
<td>April 27, 2012</td>
<td>Postdoc - UIC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matt Thompson</td>
<td>Colley</td>
<td>May 2, 2012</td>
<td>Postdoc- Loyola University Medical Center, Advisor: Dr. Stephanie Watkins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yu Zheng</td>
<td>Tyner</td>
<td>June 11, 2012</td>
<td>Postdoc - Harvard Medical School, Advisor: Dr. Daniel Haber, Director, Mass. General Hospital Cancer Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jackson Hoffman</td>
<td>Merrill</td>
<td>July 13, 2012</td>
<td>Postdoc - NIEHS, Advisor: Dr. Trevor Archer, Chief, Molecular Carcinogenesis Laboratory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nilotpal Roy</td>
<td>Raychaudhuri</td>
<td>Sept. 17, 2012</td>
<td>Postdoc - University of California at San Francisco, Advisor: Dr. Matthias Hebrok, Director, UCSF Diabetes Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zebin Wang</td>
<td>Raychaudhuri</td>
<td>Feb. 8, 2013</td>
<td>Postdoc - AstraZenca, Boston</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Congratulations to the following newly weds!!!!

- Brian Shy (Merrill Lab) and Kimberly got married on June 15, 2012.

- Malgorzata Dobosz (Simonovic Lab) and Gregory got married on August 17, 2012.
Congratulations to the following proud parents!!!!

- Julian Nomme and Coraline Rigouin (Lavie Lab) welcomed their baby boy, Elliot, on 02/28/2012.

- Kaitlyn Peterson (Simonovic lab) and Dan got married on October 6, 2012.

- Veronique Nogueira (Hay lab) and Myismail got married on September 15, 2012.
In science one tries to tell people, in such a way as to be understood by everyone, something that no one ever knew before. But in poetry, it’s the exact opposite. - Paul Dirac
We just hired a molecular biologist. Man, is he small!

Science is the great antidote to the poison of enthusiasm and superstition. - Adam Smith

I made comments on the paper draft you gave me.

Oh, thanks Prof. Rive-

??

Uh, this is completely illegible?

Bad handwriting is the only way people remember we're doctors too.
## Seminar Bingo

To play, simply print out this bingo sheet and attend a departmental seminar.

Mark over each square that occurs throughout the course of the lecture.

The first one to form a straight line (or all four corners) must yell out "Bingo!!"

### Bingo Card

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Speaker bashes previous work</th>
<th>Repeated use of “um…”</th>
<th>Speaker sucks up to host professor</th>
<th>Host professor falls asleep</th>
<th>Speaker wastes 5 minutes explaining outline</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Laptop malfunction</td>
<td>Work ties in to Cancer/HIV or War on Terror</td>
<td>“…et al.”</td>
<td>You’re the only one in your lab that bothered to show up</td>
<td>Blatant typo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Entire slide filled with equations</td>
<td>“The data clearly shows…”</td>
<td><strong>FREE</strong> Speaker runs out of time</td>
<td>Use of PowerPoint template with blue background</td>
<td>References Advisor (past or present)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>There’s a Grad Student wearing same clothes as yesterday</td>
<td>Bitter Post-doc asks question</td>
<td>“That’s an interesting question”</td>
<td>“Beyond the scope of this work”</td>
<td>Master’s student bobs head fighting sleep</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speaker forgets to thank collaborators</td>
<td>Call phone goes off</td>
<td>You’ve no idea what’s going on</td>
<td>“Future work will…”</td>
<td>Results conveniently show improvement</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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