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The Newsletter of the School of Pharmacy's Office of Research

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Mission of the Office of Research

The Mission of the Office of the Associate Dean for Research is to promote and facilitate both clinical and basic science research for the faculty of the School of Pharmacy (SOP) in conjunction with the School of Medicine, School of Nursing, School of Allied Health, and other health professionals through all phases of research design, procurement of funding, managing the research process, and dissemination of results to the professional community. The Office of the Associate Dean for Research in the SOP (Amarillo campus) is available to all faculty on all campuses. The purpose of this office is to act as a resource for the granting process, facilitate research, and administer internal research programs.

Happy New Year from the Office of Research
We Succeed Because of You!

Coulter Research Building

After much anticipation, the Coulter Research Building is scheduled to open January 2009. This 48,000 sq ft, state of the art building will house eight Pharmaceutical Sciences Cancer Biology Center faculty including Xinli Liu, Ph.D., Paul Lockman, Ph.D., Majid Moridani, Pharm.D., Ph.D., US Rao, Ph.D., Quentin Smith, Ph.D., Sanjay Srivastava,



Ph.D., Kalkunte Srivenugopal, Ph.D., and Ming-Hai Wang, M.D., Ph.D. There is over 16,000 sq ft of useable lab space available; our fac-

ulty will occupy the first floor open labs as well a portion of the second. School of Medicine Researchers will occupy the rest.

The building is furnished with several new pieces of equipment which will help promote a productive research environment. With the research faculty in an open laboratory environment, collaboration is bound to happen. ♦



DATES TO REMEMBER

- 3rd Thursday of every month: CATALYST Seminars
- 2nd Monday of every month: Research Advisory Committee Meetings 1-2p.m.
- March 27: ABRI Applications Due
- June 16-17: Research Days
- June 16: Marsh Lecture

Names in the News

Quentin Smith, Ph.D., Chair of the Pharmaceutical Sciences Department, was recognized for his lifelong contribution in the area of Pharmaceutical Sciences by the AAPS. Dr. Smith was elected to Fellowship status at the November 16, 2008 annual AAPS meeting and exposition opening session.



Mark Lyte, Ph.D. has been appointed as a Visiting Professor at the University of Chicago School of Medicine. During the month of December he gave a series of lectures on Microbial Endocrinology. ♦

Bond & Raehl Receive Research Award



Drs. **CAB Bond** and **Cindy Raehl** of the Pharmacy Practice Department have both

been very successful in their research endeavors. Dr. Bond is nationally recognized for his work in Pharmacy Health Systems. He has published several articles on the subject. Dr. Raehl, former president

of the AACP, is equally as successful for her contributions to the study of health services research. On October 10, 2008, these two distinguished professors received the Research Award for Achievement in Pharmacy Practice Research from the American Society of Health System Pharmacists Research and Education Foundation for their paper "Clinical and Economic Outcomes of Pharmacist Managed Antibiotic Prophylaxis in Surgery Patients." The paper was

published in the September 2007 issue of the American Journal of Health System Pharmacy. This is the seventh time that Dr. Bond and Dr. Raehl have received the ASHP R&E Foundation award. ♦



Faculty Invited to National Conferences

Mark Lyte, Ph.D. of the Pharmacy Practice Department was invited to the Novartis Research headquarters in Cambridge during November 2008. Dr. Lyte at-



tended for Microbial Endocrinology in the development of new therapeutic drug modalities to treat bacterial-related disease pathologies. He was also invited to be the Keynote Speaker for the Bacterial Pathogenesis section of the Conference of Research Workers in Animal Diseases International at the December 7-9 meeting in Chicago.

Majid Moridani, Pharm.D., Ph.D., attended the November 2008 AAPS annual meeting in Atlanta, Georgia. Dr. Moridani gave

3 talks including: "Tyrosinase prodrug activation for treatment of melanoma;" "An overview of pharmacogenetics of drug metabolizing enzymes;" "The application of pharmacogenetic in clinical medicine." He was also co-chair for 2 of the meeting sessions.

Jon Weidanz, Ph.D. attended the Human Therapeutics Antibodies Conference in New York City on November 11-14, 2008. Dr. Weidanz was the Keynote Speaker for the meeting. ♦

New Pharmaceutical Sciences Faculty

The Pharmaceutical Sciences Department is excited to welcome Nikita Mirajkar, Ph.D. Dr. Mirajkar joined the program after receiving her Ph.D. at the Center for Veterinary Health Sciences at the Oklahoma State University. Her doctoral re-



search was based around the evaluation of cholinesterase and non-cholinesterase mechanisms of cardiotoxicity and neurotoxicity produced by organophosphorus insecticides in adult and aged rats using radiotelemetry. ♦

2009 Research Days & Marsh Lecture

After last year's success, the Research Advisory Committee has decided to host the twelfth annual Wendy and Stanley Marsh 3 Endowed Lectureship in Pharmacology & Neurochemistry of Substance Abuse/Addiction at the 2009 Research Days. This year's speaker is Fulton Crews, Ph.D., Professor of Pharmacology & Psychiatry, Director of the Skipper Bowles Center for Alcohol

Studies at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Dr. Crews' current research interests revolve around three main areas: addiction and neurodegeneration, stem cells and the regeneration of the brain during recovery from addiction, and the use of gene delivery to understand how changes in genes alter brain function and behavior.

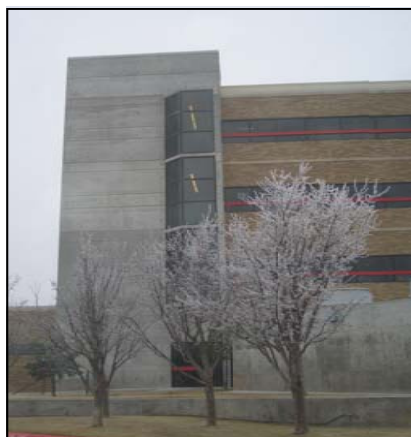
Research Days will have a few

changes as well. We will still be hosting the annual poster presentation. But this year the top 5 Pharmaceutical Sciences and the top 5 Pharmacy Practice abstracts will be chosen to give a 15 minute podium presentation. More information will be e-mailed soon.

Research Days will be held Tuesday, June 16th and Wednesday June 17th. Be sure to mark your calendars! ♦

Seminars

Chandan Thomas, Graduate Student/Research Assistant. Monday, December 8, 2008. SOP Room 107. "Enhanced Mucosal and Cell Mediated Immunity upon Pulmonary Vaccination."



Nikhil Vad, Graduate Student/Research Assistant. Monday, December 1, 2008. SOP Room 107. "Investigation of the ester prodrug of caffeic acid as a novel anti-melanoma agent"

Katie Bennett, Graduate Student/Research Assistant. Monday, November 24, 2008. SOP Room 107. "Neutrophil gelatinase-associated lipocalin: The function and diagnostic uses of NGAL."

Yan Xu, Graduate Student/Research Assistant. Monday, November 24, 2008. SOP Room 107. "Characterization of HLA-A₂ ex-

pression in A₂ transgenic mouse strains."

Bhavna Verma, Graduate Student/Research Assistant. Monday, November 10, 2008. SOP Room 107. "Peptide HLA complexes as novel targets for therapeutics in cancer."

Sarah Willis, Graduate Student/Research Assistant. Monday, November 3, 2008. SOP Room 107. "Anaplerosis as a potential therapy for epilepsy."

(Continues on pg 4)

Names in the News

On October 23, Sharanya Vemula, Ph.D. Candidate of the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences presented "Neurovascular sodium depend glucose transporter as a target for stroke therapy" for her Doctoral Dissertation Defense.



Erika Wisdom, Ph.D. Candidate of the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences received a travel award to attend the Experimental Biology Meeting on April 18-22, 2009 in New Orleans, LA. The award was granted through the FASEB MARC and the ASBMB. ♦

Seminars

(Continued from pg 3)

Vinay Rudraraju, Graduate Student/Research Assistant. Monday, November 3, 2008. SOP Room 107. "Brain and Tumor Uptake Studies in a Metastatic Brain Tumor Model Using Quantitative Autoradiography."

Samata Tiwari, Graduate Student/Research Assistant. Monday, October 27, 2008. SOP Room 107. "Role of Toll-like receptors in ischemic stroke induced endothelial cell Activation and dysfunction."

Siva Koganti, Graduate Student/Research Assistant. Monday, Oc-

tober 27, 2008. SOP Room 107. "Angiotensin Type I Receptor mediated mitogenic effect in Renal cells."

Lloyd Alfonso, Graduate Student/Research Assistant. Monday, October 20, 2008. SOP Room 107. "Aspirin Sensitizes MDA-MB-231 Breast Cancer Cells to Camptothecin-induced Apoptosis."

Satyanarayana Goda, Graduate Student/Research Assistant. Monday, October 20, 2008. SOP Room 107. "Improving Drug Delivery to the Brain."

Rajendar Mittapalli, Graduate Student/Research Assistant. Mon-

day, October 13, 2008. SOP Room 107. "Permeability of primary RG-2 and metastatic MDA-MB-231BR tumors."

Erika Wisdom, Graduate Student/Research Assistant. Monday, October 6, 2008. SOP Room 107. "A Compensatory Mechanism for Acute Hyperglycemia Induced Apoptosis in Human Proximal Tubule Epithelial Cells."

Chandan Thomas, Graduate Student/Research Assistant. Monday, December 8, 2008. SOP Room 107. "Enhanced Mucosal and Cell Mediated Immunity upon Pulmonary Vaccination."♦

Publications



MacLaren R, **Bond CA**, Martin SJ, Fike D. Clinical and economic outcomes of involving pharmacists in the direct care of critically ill patients with infections. *J Crit Care Med.* 36 (12):3184-3189, December 2008.

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initiation of fosamprenavir/ritonavir in an HIV-negative patient with baseline hypertriglyceridemia. [Case Report]. *J Clin Lipidology.* 2008;2:398-400.

Hall RG, **Payne KD**. Antibiotic dosing and obesity: Views of TSHP members. *TSHP Journal* 2008;9(4):25-29.

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Young Tag Ko, Raktima Bhattacharya, **Ulrich Bickel**. Liposome encapsulated polyethylenimine/ODN polyplexes for brain targeting. *J Control Release.* 2008 26.

Vemula S, Roder K, Yang T, **Bhat GJ, Thekkumkara TJ, Abbruscato TJ**. A functional role for sodium dependent glucose transport across the blood-brain barrier during oxygen glucose deprivation. *J Pharmacol Exp Ther.* 2008 Nov 3.

Bai S, **Ahsan F**. Synthesis and Evaluation of Pegylated Dendrimeric Nanocarrier for Pulmonary Delivery of Low Molecular Weight Heparin. *Pharm Res.* 2008 Nov 25.

Arumugam TV, Okun E, Tang SC, Thundyil J, Taylor SM, Woodruff TM. Toll-Like Receptors in Ischemia-Reperfusion Injury. *Shock.* 2008 Nov 11.

Parasrampur R, **Mehvar R**. Hepatobiliary disposition of rhodamine 123 in isolated perfused rat livers. *Xenobiotica.* 2008 Oct;38(10):1263-73.

Mehvar R. Dependence of time to reach steady-state on the length of

dosage interval. *Ann Pharmacother.* 2008 Oct;42(10):1518-9.

Shaik IH, George JM, **Thekkumkara TJ, Mehvar R**. Protective effects of diallyl sulfide, a garlic constituent, on the warm hepatic ischemia-reperfusion injury in a rat model. *Pharm Res.* 2008 Oct;25(10):2231-42.

Chiriva-Internati M, **Weidanz JA**, Yu Y, Frezza EE, Jenkins MR, Kennedy RC, Cobos E, Kast WM. Sperm protein 17 is a suitable target for adoptive T-cell-based immunotherapy in human ovarian cancer. *J Immunother.* 2008 Oct;31(8):693-703. ♦

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Nucleus

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To include information in the next edition of this newsletter, please submit materials to the Office of Research
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