



Office of Education, Division of Intramural Research
National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute

FELLOWS NEWSLETTER

The Fellows Newsletter is published monthly by the Office of Education, Division of Intramural Research, National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute and distributed to NHLBI DIR members to promote the interest of DIR Fellows.

Office of Education, DIR, NHLBI

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From the Director of the Office of Education

September 4, 2011 is the 10th Anniversary of the NHLBI DIR Office of Education. I arrived on campus exactly one week before the tragic events of 9/11 and so we celebrate our anniversary tempered by the remembrance of all those whose lives were lost. Much has changed at NIH over the past 10 years. Especially noticeable, even to me, is the increased security for the campus. On the other hand, we proudly celebrate the achievements of the Office of Education over this period in establishing and maintaining programs that benefit the entire Division of Intramural Research. Notable amongst these are the NHLBI DIR Scientific Retreat, which has evolved from a one-day local meeting to a three-day exposition of the research going on in DIR. This Newsletter is also a creation of the Office of Education, and we hope that you find it informative and useful. The Lenfant Fellowships were begun to provide a means to reward our highest-achieving fellows. In addition, we started grant-writing workshops that have resulted in a success rate of over 75% for our intramural applicants on K22 and K99 awards. The entrance and exit interviews have provided me with information that is invaluable in shaping our programs to the needs of our fellows. We have organized the Summer Program in Biomedical Research as a way to increase the experience for our summer interns. We assist the Tenure Track faculty in getting the Tenure Track Seminar Series established and running. And I have counseled many fellows and NHLBI scientists one-on-one on career issues. You should visit our web site for a more complete picture of the activities of our office.

Of course, I could not do all of this by myself. Soon after my arrival, we established the Fellows Advisory Committee, which continues to this day to be the "eyes and ears" of the Office of Education, as well as serving to advise on policies and procedures that affect Fellows (the members are listed to the left of this column). Finally, I want to acknowledge our outstanding Program Assistants, currently Angela Theofilos and Aurora Taylor, without whose efforts none of this could have happened.

While this is a retrospective appreciation of the Office of Education, we look forward to continued expansion of our programs and services to assist all within the DIR community. I welcome your suggestions for such activities. I also welcome your participation in the Fellows Advisory Committee and in helping write and edit the Newsletter.

We invite all DIR personnel to stop by our office, Bldg. 10, 6N248 on Tuesday, September 6th for some refreshments and help us celebrate this milestone at the NHLBI DIR.

Networking: How does it affect my life?

By Herbert M. Geller, Ph.D

So you update your Facebook page (though not on your NIH computer!) and are waiting for your invitation to Google+. You tweet your meals, and you read your friend's tweets. The common thread of these activities is the high value of having a social network. What about your professional network?

As many of you know, I meet personally with each new fellow and each departing fellow. One of my standard questions to arriving fellows is "How did you find out about being a fellow at NIH?" Virtually all of you respond by saying "Someone I know is working or has worked at NIH and pointed me to this lab" or "I met my advisor at a meeting". Thus, most of our fellows have already benefitted from "networking". Likewise, when I ask departing fellows, many have found job leads through personal contacts that they or their advisors made. Thus, all the data support the benefits of networking in your professional as well as your personal life.

While most of you have benefitted from networking in your research environment, there are also tangible benefits of chance encounters. I can give

you several examples: The first is from the life of the keynote speaker at our 1st Retreat, Dr. Roy Vagelos. Dr. Vagelos retired from the Presidency of Merck and Company. But how did he get to Merck? Dr. Vagelos was born and raised in New Jersey, where his father owned a diner in Rahway, also the headquarters of Merck. Dr. Vagelos worked in the diner as a teenager, long before he became a successful scientist, and met many Merck executives who ate there. When the time came to hire a head of research, many had kept abreast of his career progress through medical school and then to Washington University where he was Chair of Biochemistry. And one of our former retreat speakers noted that he is now working for someone who he met at NIH while both were fellows in different labs down the hall.

Based on these stories and data, "networking" means taking advantage of every opportunity to meet and interact with people. It does not mean that you have to be socially aggressive or make a nuisance of yourself. Whether you consider yourself outgoing or are shy, the process is the same and builds upon your innate talents and curiosity.

Instead of watching a WALs lecture by videocast, go to Masur and especially go to the reception afterwards.

Prepare yourself with a question for the speaker so you can introduce yourself. Attend each of your interest group meetings and talk to the others at the group. Present a poster at the NHLBI Fellows Retreat where you can talk about your work to the other fellows at NHLBI. At your scientific meeting, don't go back to your room after dinner, but instead attend as many social functions as you can.

All of this can be supplemented by computerized scientific networking. I strongly urge each of you to join LinkedIn (www.linkedin.com). As an individual member of LinkedIn, you can post your own professional profile which is searchable by potential employers. In addition, you can join interest groups that can expand your network and your visibility, such as the Stem Cell Group or the Pharmacology Jobs & Careers Forum. Of course, we encourage all of you to join the NHLBI Fellows and Alumni group http://www.linkedin.com/groups?gid=1887299&trk=myg_ugrp_ovr

Much more information about networking is available on the web. Check out the Office of Education web site under "Career Development Resources" for useful links. Or simply Google "networking" and "science" for many interesting links.

Happy 10th Birthday OE!

Come celebrate the 10th anniversary of the NHLBI DIR Office of Education by stopping by the office for light refreshments.

*Tuesday, September 6th
10/6N248*

We look forward to seeing you.

Recent Publications by NHLBI Fellows

- Armaleo, D., **Sun, X. M.**, & Culberson, C. (2011). Insights from the first putative biosynthetic gene cluster for a lichen depside and depsidone. *Mycologia* 103, 741-754.
- Bhat, K. L., Markham, G. D., **Larkin, J. D.**, & Bock, C. W. (2011). Thermodynamics of Boroxine Formation from the Aliphatic Boronic Acid Monomers R-B(OH)(2) (R = H, H(3)C, H(2)N, HO, and F): A Computational Investigation. *J. Phys. Chem. A* 115, 7785-7793.
- Bourdi, M., **Davies, J. S.**, & Pohl, L. R. (2011). Mispairing C57BL/6 Substrains of Genetically Engineered Mice and Wild-Type Controls Can Lead to Confounding Results as It Did in Studies of JNK2 in Acetaminophen and Concanavalin A Liver Injury. *Chem. Res. Toxicol.* 24, 794-796.
- Chang, A. H. K.**, **Jeong, J.**, & Levine, R. L. (2011). Iron Regulatory Protein 2 Turnover through a Nonproteasomal Pathway. *J. Biol. Chem.* 286, 23698-23707.
- Chen, L., **Li, H. Z.**, Liu, W. L., **Zhu, J. Q.**, Zhao, X. C., Wright, E., Cao, L., Ding, I., & Rodgers, G. P. (2011). Olfactomedin 4 suppresses prostate cancer cell growth and metastasis via negative interaction with cathepsin D and SDF-1. *Carcinogenesis* 32, 986-994.
- Goldsborough, A. S., Handley, M. D., **Dulcey, A. E.**, Pluchino, K. M., Kannan, P., Brimacombe, K. R., Hall, M. D., Griffiths, G., & Gottesman, M. M. (2011). Collateral Sensitivity of Multidrug-Resistant Cells to the Orphan Drug Tiopronin. *Journal of Medicinal Chemistry* 54, 4987-4997.
- Kang, B., Pu, M. T., **Hu, G. Q.**, Wen, W. H., Dong, Z. G., Zhao, K. J., Stillman, B., & Zhang, Z. G. (2011). Phosphorylation of H4 Ser 47 promotes HIRA-mediated nucleosome assembly. *Genes & Development* 25, 1359-1364.
- Lim, J. C.**, **You, Z.**, Kim, G., & Levine, R. L. (2011). Methionine sulfoxide reductase A is a stereospecific methionine oxidase. *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U. S. A* 108, 10472-10477.
- Meza-Carmen, V.**, Pacheco-Rodriguez, G., **Kang, G. S.**, Kato, J., **Donati, C.**, Zhang, C. Y., Vichi, A., **Payne, D. M.**, **El-Chemaly, S.**, Stylianou, M., Moss, J., & Vaughan, M. (2011). Regulation of growth factor receptor degradation by ADP-ribosylation factor domain protein (ARD) 1. *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U. S. A* 108, 10454-10459.
- Schroeder, J. L.**, Bakalar, M., Pohida, T. J., & Balaban, R. S. (2011). Rapid overlapping-volume acquisition and reconstruction (ROVAR): automated 3D tiling for high-resolution, large field-of-view optical microscopy. *J. Microsc.* 243, 103-110.
- Sviridov, D. O.**, **Ikpot, I. Z.**, Stonik, J., Drake, S. K., **Amar, M.**, **Osei-Hwedieh, D. O.**, Piszczek, G., Turner, S., & Remaley, A. T. (2011). Helix stabilization of amphipathic peptides by hydrocarbon stapling increases cholesterol efflux by the ABCA1 transporter. *Biochem. Biophys. Res. Comm.* 410, 446-451.
- Zhou, X. M., **Izumi, Y.**, Burg, M. B., & Ferraris, J. D. (2011). Rac1/osmosensing scaffold for MEKK3 contributes via phospholipase C-gamma 1 to activation of the osmoprotective transcription factor NFAT5. *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U. S. A* 108, 12155-12160.

Join the **NHLBI Fellows and Alumni** group in LinkedIn.
It's a great way to network with past and current fellows.

New NHLBI Fellows



Seth Thacker, Ph.D., is an IRTA Fellow in the Lipoprotein Metabolism Section under Dr. Alan Remaley. Dr. Thacker earned his Ph.D in Immunology from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. He was previously a graduate research associate and later a postdoc fellow at the University of Michigan. Dr. Thacker's initial research project is the effects of Endothelial cells on reverse cholesterol transport; HDL's effects on angiogenesis and on Strokes.



Lu Sun, Ph.D. is an IRTA Fellow in the Laboratory of Protein Trafficking and Organelle Biology under Dr. Rosa Puertollano-Moro. Dr. Sun earned his Ph.D. in Physiology and Biophysics from the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, Little Rock. He served as Assistant Researcher in Beijing Children's Hospital and as Research Associate at Weill Cornell Medical College in Qatar before coming to the NIH. Dr. Sun's initial research project is the study of Mucolipin 2 by knockout mice.



Vinay Swaminathan, Ph.D. is an IRTA Fellow in the Laboratory of Cell and Tissue Morphodynamics under Dr. Clare Waterman. Dr. Swaminathan earned his Ph.D. in Applied Sciences and Engineering from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. He was previously a graduate research assistant at Chapel Hill before departing for NIH. Dr. Swaminathan's project focuses on determining the role of Talin in modulating cell adhesion and cytoskeletal dynamics and migration in human fibroblast cells.



Chad Williamson, Ph.D., is an IRTA Fellow in the Laboratory of Cell Biology under Dr. Julie Donatien. Dr. Williamson earned his Ph.D. in Biochemistry from the George Washington University, DC. Before coming to the NIH he was a Research Associate and Postdoctoral Fellow at Children's National Medical Center in Washington, DC. Dr. Williamson's initial project will be to characterize the role of GPI-anchored proteins in mediating clathrin-independent endocytosis.



Brian Galletta, Ph.D., is a Research Fellow in the Cell Biology and Physiology Center under Dr. Nasser Rusan. Dr. Galletta earned his Ph.D. in Biochemistry, Microbiology and Molecular Biology from the Pennsylvania State University, Pennsylvania. Prior to coming to the NIH he was a Research Assistant Professor at the Washington University School of Medicine in Saint Louis, Missouri. One of Dr. Galletta's many initial research projects is to direct an array based two-hybrid screen to determine the protein-protein interactions within the centriole/centrosome.

NHLBI DIR Tenure Track Seminar Series presents

"Structure and Mechanism of RNase P, a Universal Ribozyme"
Alfonso Mondragon, Ph.D.
Northwestern University

Tuesday, September 13th • 11 AM- Noon • Building 50, 1227/1233