

# Biochemistry and Molecular Biology NOTES

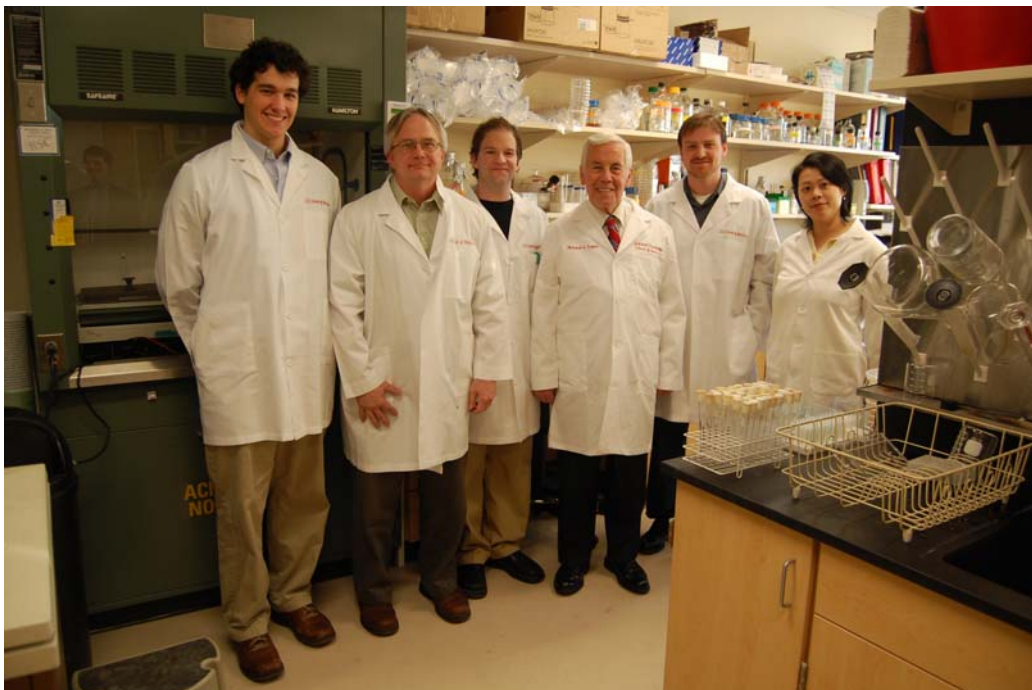
Volume 20, No. 9

January 2008

## Senator Lugar Tours Goebel Lab

As part of a tour of the facilities of IUPUI's Richard G. Lugar Center for Renewable Energy, Senator Lugar and several of his staff members paid a visit to the BRTC and the Goebel lab on January 3<sup>rd</sup>. The senator was presented with his very own personalized School of Medicine lab coat and heard about the use of yeast genetics for enhancing ethanol production from cellulosic biomass.

The senator was also kind enough to become an honorary lab member for the day and was included in a very impressive Goebel lab picture.



Pictured from left are summer student Alex Kuzma, primary investigator Dr. Mark Goebel, graduate student Ross Cocklin, Senator Lugar, and graduate students Josh Heyen and Lin Lin. Not pictured are informaticist Cary Woods, and lab assistant Tolanda Larry.

### Howard Edenberg Elected Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science

Congratulations to Dr. Howard Edenberg for being one of five Indiana University faculty members elected as a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) for 2007.

His election is due in part to his work for characterization of the alcohol dehydrogenase genes and for identification of other genes and alterations in gene expression.

The AAAS is the world's largest general scientific society, and publisher of the journal Science.

### 2007 Holiday Party

A good time was had by all at the 2007 Biochemistry Holiday Party held on December 14<sup>th</sup>. Thanks to the office staff and graduate students for all their hard work to make this celebration possible. Visit the Biochemistry website to view over 70 photos from the event!

## Upcoming Campus Holidays

Friday March 21 – Good Friday

## Birth Announcements

**Sarah Perez-Miller**, post doc in Dr. Tom Hurley's lab, and her husband,



Anthony, welcomed daughter Clara into the world on October 16, 2007. She weighed just 5 lbs 15 oz.

Congratulations to **Chunxiao Zhu**, a research analyst in Dr. Edenberg's lab, and her husband on the birth of their son, Clark Yanxing Hu. He was born on January 4, 2008 and weighed 7 lbs 15 oz.

Congrats to **Patty Dilworth** on the birth of her 2<sup>nd</sup> great-grandchild, Zaedyn, born January 9, 2008.

Alex Cocklin, son of **Ross and Carrie Cocklin**, was born on December 11, 2007 and weighed 6 lbs 2 oz. Ross is a graduate student working in Dr. Goebel's lab.



**Zhong-Xing Jiang**, a post-doc in Dr. Zhang's lab, and his wife welcomed a new baby boy on November 2, 2007. Both baby and mother are doing well.

## In Memoriam

**Arthur R. Schulz**, Professor Emeritus of the Indiana University School of Medicine, passed away at age 82 on December 10, 2007. Art was a faculty member of the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology for 32 years, from 1962 until his retirement in 1994 after which he was accorded Emeritus status.

His research, which had begun with his interest in nutrition, went on to include detailed kinetic analyses of several key enzymes and efforts to simulate energy metabolism in mammals which he applied to models that also included variations in nutritional intake. Later in his career, he was devoted to the area of flux control analysis, a more recent mathematical framework by which to analyze the control and behavior of complex multienzyme systems and to which he made notable contributions. Besides his many publications in biochemical and nutritional journals, his scholarship culminated with the publication in 1994 of a book, by Cambridge University Press, entitled "Enzyme Kinetics: from diastase to multienzyme systems".

Art Schulz was a valued and thoughtful member of the Medical School faculty, who contributed greatly to the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology throughout his career.

**Dr. Morris Aprison** passed away in retirement on December 2, 2007. He was a Distinguished Professor at the Institute of Psychiatric Research and the Departments of Psychiatry and Biochemistry for 44 years, from 1956 to 2000. He was instrumental in establishing a new graduate program in Medical Neurobiology in 1983; the first of its kind in a Dept. of Psychiatry in the US.

In 2006 the Dept. of Psychiatry established the annual Morris H. Aprison Lectureship in Biological Psychiatry in his honor.

## Condolences

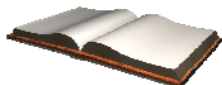
Our heartfelt condolences are extended to **Sarah (Pinkerton) Conner** on the passing of her father.

## Biochemistry Seminars

For the most up-to-date seminar listing, visit the Biochemistry website seminar schedule found at <http://www.biochemistry.iu.edu/bod.y.cfm?id=2923&oTopID=2923>.

## Recent Publication

Li, X, Wang, S, Qi, J, Echtenkamp, SF, Chatterjee, R, Wang, M, Boons, G-B, Dziarski, R, and **Gupta, D**. 2007. Zebrafish peptidoglycan recognition proteins are bactericidal amidases essential for defense against bacterial infections. *Immunity*, 27:518-527.



## Grants and Fellowships

Congratulations to **Jeremy Sanford** for his receipt of the National American Heart Association grant titled, “Post-Transcriptional Gene Regulation by SF2 in Cardiomyocytes”. Jeremy also received an RSFG for his project, “Genome-wide Analysis of RNA-Protein Interactions”.

Cheers to **Samy Meroueh** who received an American Cancer Society grant titled, “Allosteric Regulation of the Interaction between the Urokinase Receptor and Integrin with Small Molecules”. Samy also received an RSFG for his project, “Lead Discovery Guided by Isothermal Titration Calorimetry”.

**Mushui Dai** has received a National Cancer Institute grant for his project, “Dissection of the feedback inhibition of c-Myc by L11”. Mushui has also received a Biomedical Research Grant titled, “Regulation of c-myc mRNA by L11”.

Kudos to graduate students, **Vinnie Tagliabracci** of Peter Roach’s lab, **Jingliang Yan** of Lawrence Quilliam’s lab, and **Lan Huang** of Mervin Yoder’s lab, who received American Heart Fellowships.

Congrats to **Qi-Zhuang Ye** who has received an RSFG for his project, “Discovery of Antibacterial RNase E inhibitors”.

Congratulations to **Howard Edenberg** who is serving as co-investigator on a recently awarded R01 titled, “Genomic Association Study of Bipolar Disorder”.

Cheers to **Hua Lu** who received an R01 titled, “The role of L5, L11 and L23 in the MDM2-p53 feedback regulation”.

**Mu Wang** has received an ATCP grant for his project, “Quantitative Proteomic Analysis of Fibroblasts from Ataxia-telangiectasia Patients Using LC/MS-based Label free Method”. Mu is also serving as Co-PI for an R01 titled, “Novel Protective antiapoptotic action of Alpha 1-antitrypsin in emphysema”.

Kudos to **Mark Goebel** for receiving a Richard Lugar Center for Renewable Energy grant titled, “The role of catabolite repression on xylose utilization in yeast”.

## New People in Biochemistry



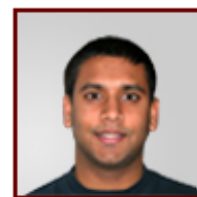
**Sheena Becker**  
Research Technician  
Edenberg Lab



**Wongu Jang**  
Post Doc  
Wek Lab



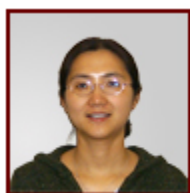
**Yetao Jin**  
Assistant Research Professor  
Lu Lab



**Neil Patel**  
Research Technician  
J. Hurley Lab



**Whitney Smith**  
Research Technician  
Wells Lab



**XiaoXin Sun**  
Post Doc  
Lu Lab

**Not Pictured**  
**Manjari Mazumdar**  
Adj. Asst. Professor  
Appointed IUB

**Not Pictured**  
**Julie Peller**  
Adj. Asst. Professor  
Appointed IUNW

## Bioinformatics Course

The Center for Computational Biology and Bioinformatics will offer, for the first time, a short course on Bioinformatics on March 3, 5, and 7, 2008. This three half-day multi-disciplinary course on bioinformatics is designed primarily for health care providers and life scientists.

Presented by the Center for Computational Biology and Bioinformatics (CCBB) at Indiana University School of Medicine, this course will cover a broad aspect of bioinformatics, including biological databases, genomics, proteomics, genetics, and chemical biology.

The course objective is that at the conclusion of this program, participants should be able to:

- Make informed decisions with regard to bioinformatics-related medical literature;
- Identify appropriate bioinformatics resources including methodologies and databases when designing a medical study;
- Communicate with computational biologists and bioinformaticians on a complex medical study that involves bioinformatics;

The Indiana University School of Medicine designates this educational activity for a maximum of 10.75 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)<sup>™</sup>. Please note that you must attend all three courses to obtain full credit.

Please visit our website: <http://www.compbio.iupui.edu> for additional information regarding agenda, registration, instructors, fees, and so on. For questions please contact Dr. Yunlong Liu through email [yunliu@iupui.edu](mailto:yunliu@iupui.edu) or phone at 317-278-9222.