

Biochemistry and Molecular Biology NOTES

Volume 20, No. 10

April 2008

Campus Holidays

Memorial Day, May 26, 2008
Independence Day, July 4, 2008

We've Moved!

On February 8th, **Dr. Harris** and his lab moved to the VA Medical Center. His new contact information is listed below:

VA Medical Center
1481 W. 10th Street
Indianapolis, IN 46202
Office: 988-4544 Room D-3034
Lab: 988-4551 Room D-3006
Fax: 988-2527



On April 30th, the
DNA Sequencing

Core also moved to the VA Medical Center.
Lab: 988-3645
Room D-3013

Dr. Lu has moved to his newly renovated lab in the basement of the Medical Science building. The phone numbers for his lab and office will remain the same, and the new room numbers are MS 0051D (office) and MS 00051 (lab).



Awards & Recognition

Congrats to **Reuben Kapur** for accepting the invitation to serve as a member of the Hematopoiesis Study Section, Center for Scientific Review.

Kudos to **Howard Edenberg** for receiving the Prestigious External Award Recognition (PEAR) award from IUPUI.

Lawrence Quilliam received a Trustee Teaching Award for the 2007-08 academic year. Well Done!

Welcome New Graduate Students

The pilot IBMG students have chosen labs to complete their pre-doctoral research. Please welcome the following new students into the Biochemistry Department.

Christopher Batuello – Mayo Lab, Peds
Liyun Cao – Matei Lab, Surgery
Erica Daniel – Thurmond Lab
Wei-Lun Hsu – Dunker Lab
Mike Kalwat – Thurmond Lab
Krzysztof Kamocki – Petrache Lab, Pulmonary Div.
Hoa Nguyen – Quilliam Lab
Bill Ranahan – Wells Lab
Brian Teske – Wek Lab

Peter Roach honored at Founder's Day

Faculty awards for outstanding teaching, research and service to Indiana University were presented March 30 at the 2008 Founders Day in Alumni Hall, Indiana Memorial Union. IU President Michael A. McRobbie recognized 21 faculty members and one doctoral student for outstanding teaching, research and service to the university.

Peter Roach, PhD, Chancellor's Professor and professor of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology at the IU School of Medicine, received the rank of Distinguished Professor. He was one of five university-wide faculty elevated to that rank. Dr. Roach is a leading authority on glycogen metabolism, an integral research area for understanding diabetes and metabolic disease.

For complete story, visit:

<http://newsinfo.iu.edu/news/page/normal/7803.html>

New Signature Center

IUPUI Chancellor Charles Bantz announced in January that 10 new proposals have been selected for funding in the second round of the Signature Center Initiative at IUPUI, bringing the total number of potential IUPUI signature centers to 29.

Vladimir Uversky's proposal was one of the newly awarded signature centers. The Institute for Intrinsically Disordered Proteins is dedicated to understanding the role of protein structure in disease. While an ordered protein structure is believed to be important to understanding protein function, cancer and neurodegenerative disease may be linked to the function of proteins with relatively greater intrinsic disorder. The Center will utilize both experiments and novel computational tools to understand the structure and function of disordered proteins in human disease, in order to accelerate the process of discovery of disease-fighting drugs.

Grants and Fellowships

Congratulations to **Bill Bosron** on his new R21 award for the project titled, "Quantification of human alcohol metabolizing enzymes by mass spectrometry".

Cheers to **Ron Wek** for his new Lung Cancer Working Group award from the IU Simon Cancer Center titled, "eIF2 Kinase Stress Pathway and Lung Cancer".

Debbie Thurmond received a new NIH R01 award for the project, "Cdc42-regulated insulin granule exocytosis". Good Job!

Congrats to **Tsuyoshi Imaskai** of Yuro Takagi's lab on his new post-doc fellowship award from the International Human Frontier Science Program for his project, "Structural and functional studies on mediator, central regulatory complex in gene regulation".

Congrats to **Jenna Jewel** of Debbie Thurmond's lab, **Elisabeth Lasater** of Dave Ingram's lab and **Aditi Bapat** of Mark Kelley's lab on receiving IUSM Travel Grants. These \$500 awards will help defray the costs of conference travel.

New Conference Room and Equipment

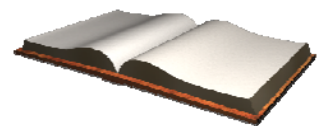
There is a new conference room available to all Biochemistry personnel in MS B54. This room can comfortably hold 12 people and reservations can be made by contacting any Biochemistry office employee.

A new ice machine and large autoclave are located in the MS basement room B005. Keys for this room can be requested by contacting Sheila Reynolds at sreynoll@iupui.edu.

There are also two automatic dishwashers located in MS 4034 which are available for use by Biochemistry labs.

Recent Publication

Crystal structure of DNA-bound Co(III) bleomycin B2: Insights on intercalation and minor groove binding. Goodwin KD, Lewis MA, Long EC, Georgiadis MM. Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A. 2008 Apr 1;105(13):5052-6.





Jan Rhodes, First Place Award Winner Xiao Yu,
Simon Rhodes, Ann and Herbert Strong

2008 Bowman Award Dinner



Zhong-Yin Zhang, Ann Bowman Strong, Second Place
Winner Kristie Goodwin

The 2008 Bowman Award Dinner was held on Friday, May 9 at the Hulman River House at White River Gardens in Indianapolis. Eleven candidates from 6 different IUSOM departments participated in the post-doctoral competition for excellence in research in the field of biochemistry and molecular biology. The event is named for Dr. Donald Bowman, who was the first chair of our Department. Dr. Bowman's research contributions include purification of an important protein that bears his name, the Bowman-Birk protease inhibitor, a substance found in soybeans and which has the ability to suppress the carcinogenic process. He also served as the sole lecturer in the medical biochemistry course for 18 years. The competition and dinner are held in recognition of his many contributions to the success of the Department as well as his appreciation of the importance of training new investigators. Tom Hurley, David Gilley of Med Genetics, and Ron Wek comprised this year's committee which reviewed submitted papers for award consideration.

Ron Wek chaired the competition and noted this year's celebration was a seminal event in many ways. It marked the 100th anniversary of Dr. Bowman's birth (1908); it is the 50th anniversary of the establishment of the Department and our Graduate Program, and the 50th anniversary of the completion of the Medical Science Building. 2008 also marks the 20th anniversary of Bob Harris' appointment as the 3rd chair of the department, and the 10th anniversary of completion of the Medical Science Building annex.

Simon Rhodes, Associate Dean for Graduate Studies in the IUSOM, gave the keynote speech, noting various ways that post-docs should prepare for their future careers as independent investigators. Special guests included Dr. Bowman's daughter, Ann Bowman Strong, and her husband, Herbert Strong, and Dr. and Mrs. David M. Gibson. Dr. Gibson was the 2nd chair of Biochemistry from 1967 to 1988.

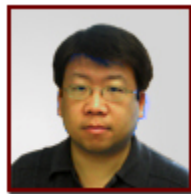
Ron noted that this year's competition was fierce in that all of the papers were excellent, making the committee's work very difficult. As the assembled group waited in anticipation, Ron presented the Second Place Award of \$500 to **Kristie Goodwin** of Millie Georgiadis' lab, and the First Place Award of \$1,000 was given to **Xiao Yu** of Zhong-Yin Zhang's lab. Many thanks to Lili Wu for using her camera talents and serving as our event photographer for the evening. Pictures of the Bowman Award Dinner can be seen on the Biochemistry and Molecular Biology Department website at:

<http://www.biochemistry.iu.edu/>.

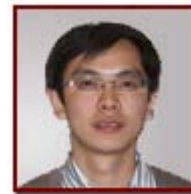
New People in Biochemistry



Yujun He
Research Technician
Quilliam Lab



Yifeng Li
Post Doc
Lu Lab



Zhihong Yu
Post Doc
Zhang Lab



Arif Khan
Post Doc
Lu Lab



Yasmeen Rahimi
Visiting Research Associate
Harris Lab

NOT
PICTURED

Rick Jones
Biochem Department



Birth Announcements



Congrats to **Lan Chen**, Assistant Research Professor in the Chemical Genomics Facility and **Sheng Zhang**, a post doc in Dr. Zhang's lab on the birth of their daughter, Amy Zhang, born February 28th and weighing 7 lbs 11 oz.

Marcus Breese and his wife Erin welcomed the arrival of their son, Jack Robert Breese, on February 6th. Marcus is a graduate student working in Dr. Edenberg's lab and Erin is an MD/PhD graduate from Maureen Harrington's lab.

Congrats to assistant professor **Jeremy Sanford** and his wife Sarah on the birth of their daughter, Josephine Maeve Sanford. She weighed 6 lbs 12 oz.

Josiah Goodwin Ranahan, son of **Bill Ranahan** his wife Marcia, was born on February 7th. He weighed 9 lbs 2 oz. Bill is a 1st year graduate student who will join Dr. Wells' lab this summer.