

Biochemistry and Molecular Biology NOTES



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New NIH Grant Program For Postdoctoral Fellows

The Pathway to Independence Award is a pilot initiative designed to support postdoctoral fellows in the early stage of their research career. It will provide up to five years of support in order to assist fellows in securing a research position during the critical transition to independent funding. The award is divided into two phases. The initial phase will provide 1-2 years of mentored support for highly promising postdoctoral fellows. The second phase will provide up to 3 years of independent support contingent on the applicant securing an independent research position. Award recipients will be expected to compete successfully for R01 support from the NIH during the career transition award period. It is expected that 150 - 200 awards will be made in year one. **Applications are due April 7, 2006.** Applications are accepted from non-US and US citizens alike. For complete information see: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-06-133.html> .

Radiation Badge and Rings

Radiation Safety received a large number of late and unreturned personnel monitoring devices this past quarter. Because of late and unreturned badges, results in erroneous or inaccurate doses, and presents a problem for both the individual being monitored and for Radiation Safety.

Beginning with the January 2006 quarterly badges, Radiation Safety will send a list to the contact person (Sheila Reynolds) for each department of those badges that were late and/or unreturned. Each individual on the list will also be sent a *Dose Estimation Form*. It is imperative that this form be completed and returned to Radiation Safety as soon as possible so that if a dose adjustment is warranted, it can be made in a timely manner. If you misplace your badge/ring, please contact Radiation Safety so they can make a note of it an issue a new badge/ring. If the badge/ring is found at a later point in time, please return to Radiation Safety and they will process it.

Radiation Safety does charge a service fee of \$5 each for late and or unreturned dosimeters. This fee is charged to the permit holder (a faculty's account). Please help our department keep the cost down by promptly returning your badge/ring to your contact person in a timely manner each quarter.



Congratulations

Congratulations to **G.S. Seetharamaiah** for a Research Enhancement Grant for his work on "Stat4 in Graves' hyperthyroidism".

Congratulations to co-PI, **Mu Wang**, upon receiving a grant award from Boston Scientific for the project, "A Non-GLP Study to Demonstrate Phenotypes of Vascular Protein Expression in Normal Carotid, Renal, Iliac and Femoral Arteries of Yucatan Mini Swine and Human, and Their Correlation with Vessel Wall Sear Rates". PI is Matt Johnson of Radiology Department.

NIH Announces Plans To Eliminate Mailing Of Summary Statements & Peer Review Outcome Letters

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) continues toward its goal of a paperless grants process through the elimination of the following notifications which had previously been sent in paper form: Summary Statements and Peer Review Outcome Letters. Investigators are instructed to use the eRA Commons to access this information. eRA Commons is a Web interface used by NIH and the applicant organizations to receive and transmit information about the administration of NIH proposals and awards.

In order to set up an NIH eRA Commons account, please e-mail your full name and University user-ID to srsinfo@iupui.edu. Sponsored Research Services (SRS) will then establish an account in your name and will assist you with any questions concerning the use of the system. Once you have an eRA Commons account it will remain active until you leave the university.



New Course

A new course called **I590 Bioinformatics for Biologists – Tools and Applications** will be offered Summer I, 2006 (Tues., Thur.) for 3 credit hours. Prerequisite: A strong background in molecular biology. Please contact instructor Dr. Narayanan Perumal (nperumal@iupui.edu) with any queries.

IBEN

The **Indiana Biomedical Entrepreneur Network** is focused on information sharing and networking for biomedical entrepreneurs. There will be a session on **March 14, 2006 from 5:00 – 7:30 p.m.** at University Place Hotel and Conference Center at IUPUI. The topic is “Dilutive Financing” and the speakers are Jane Martin, General Partner of Village Ventures and Carrie Bates, Managing Partner of Triathlon Ventures. There is no charge, but space is limited so register early online at: <http://www.indianabionetwork.org> Registration deadline: Friday, March 10, 2006.

Publications

Land KJ, Gudapati P, Kaplan MH, **Seetharamaiah GS**. Differential requirement of signal transducer and activator of transcription-4 (Stat4) and Stat6 in a thyrotropin receptor-289-adenovirus-induced model of Graves' hyperthyroidism. *Endocrinology*. **147**:111-9, 2006.

Yu Li, Sirisha Asuri, John F. Rebhun, Ariel F. Castro,

Nivanka C. Paranavitana and Lawrence A. Quilliam. The RAP1 Guanine Nucleotide Exchange Factor Epac2 Couples Cyclic AMP and Ras Signals at the Plasma Membrane. *J Biol Chem*. **281**(5):2506-14, 2006.

New People in Biochemistry



Phil Huldeen, Research Administrative Coordinator (Bioinformatics)

March Seminars

Biochemistry

3/1 Dr. Anne-Frances Miller, Associate Professor, Department of Chemistry, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY. “**Towards understanding the bases of flavin reactivity, and substrate non-specificity, in enzymes**” at **1:00 p.m. in MS 311 A/B**.

3/6 Dr. Nicola L. Pohl, Assistant Professor, Department of Chemistry and the Plant Sciences Institute, Iowa State University, Ames, IA. “**Synthetic Strategies to Decipher the Glycocode**” at **4:00 p.m. in MS 326**.

3/7 Dr. Xian Chen, Team Leader, Biosciences Division, Los Alamos National Lab, Los Alamos, NM. **“Comprehensive Proteomics to Investigate the Integrity of Signal Transduction and Cell Regulation”** at 4:00 p.m. in MS B26.

3/9 Dr. Lizi Wu, Instructor in Medicine, Medical Oncology, Dana Farber Cancer Institute, Boston, MA. **“The MAML family: transcriptional co-activators for Notch signaling in development and cancers”** at 4:00 p.m. in MS B26.

3/13 Dr. Jillian Zhang, Assistant Professor, Department of Pathology, Weill Medical College of Cornell University, New York, NY. **“JAK-STAT Signaling pathway: How protein-protein interactions lead to immediate early gene activation”** at 4:00 p.m. in MS 326.

3/16 Dr. John S. Allingham, Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Biochemistry University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI. **“Actin-Targeting Natural Products: Constraints for the Design of New Pharmacological Agents”** at 4:00 p.m. in MS B26.

3/21 Dr. Yuichiro Takagi, Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Department of Structural Biology, Stanford University School of Medicine, Stanford, CA. **“Mediator, central regulatory complex of eukaryotic gene transcription”** at 4:00 p.m. in MS 326.

3/27 Dr. Debbie Thurmond, Assistant Professor, Department of Biochemistry and Molecular

Biology, Indiana University School of Medicine, Indianapolis, IN. **“Regulating vesicle exocytosis in insulin-secreting and insulin-responsive tissues: ‘Munc-ing around’** at 4:00 p.m. in MS 326.

3/30 Dr. Jeremy R. Sanford, Caledonian Research Fellow, Medical Research Council Human Genetics Unit, Western General Hospital, Edinburgh, UK. **“Getting the message: RNA binding proteins and post-transcriptional gene expression”** at 4:00 p.m. in MS 311 A/B.



Center for Diabetes Research

3/14 Dr. Glenn Bohlen, Professor, Cellular and Integrated Physiology, Indiana University School of Medicine, Indianapolis, IN. **“Endothelial nitric oxide abnormalities in obesity and diabetes”** at 4:00 p.m. in MF 122A (Daly Center).

3/28 Dr. Kieren Mather, Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine, Indiana University School of Medicine, Indianapolis, IN. **“Interactions of Endothelin and Insulin in Vivo”** at 4:00 p.m. in MF 122A (Daly Center)

Student Seminars Noon - MS 326	
3/1	Chad Walls
3/8	Sulochanadevi Baskaran/ Aditi Bapat
3/22	Sarah Shuck/ Julia Howell
3/29	Thor Johnson/ Sirisha Pochareddy

Center for Computational Biology and Bioinformatics

3/3 Dr. William J Sullivan Jr., Assistant Professor, Pharmacology & Toxicology, Indiana University School of Medicine. **“Mining parasite genomes to combat infectious disease”** at 3:30 p.m. in MS 326

3/10 Dr. Malika Mahoui, Assistant Professor School of Informatics. **“SIBIOS: An Ontology Driven Workflow Management System for Building in-silico Experiments in Biology”** at 3:30 p.m. in MS 326

3/17 Trevor P. Creamer, Associate Professor Center for Structural Biology Department of Molecular & Cellular Biochemistry University of Kentucky. **“Denatured is not destructured. Is unfolded unstructured?”** at 3:30 p.m. in MS 326

Islet Biology Journal Club Daly Center 122A 4-5:00 p.m.	
Dr. Mark Deeg	March 2
Dr. Scott Witting	March 23