Getting to know our faculty members

Congratulations on new research funding!

Our faculty continue to succeed in competing for research funding!

Farahnaz Movahed Zadeh (top left) and Shahila Mehoob received funding from the SENCER Center for Innovation - Midwest via the NSF for their project "Introduction to Biological Research: A one-day workshop for students interested in pursuing advanced scientific degrees".

Jeremy Johnson (top right) and co-Is Maarten Bosland (Pathology), Chun-Tao Che, Ravinder Gill (Gastroenterology and Hepatology), and Sekhar Reddy (Pediatrics) earned a grant from the US Dept of Agriculture (Natl Inst of Food & Agriculture) for their project "Rosemary as a Food Preservative: Implications for Gastrointestinal Health".

Brian Murphy (bottom center) received a grant from the National Geographic Society for his project "Exploration and Mapping of Sponge Populations in the Great Lakes".

View the full funding news.

Faculty in the News
UIC pharmacoeconomists led by Simon Pickard (top left) and Ruixuan Jiang (top right) created a cost-analytic model to determine how heroin impacts society using several variables: number of imprisoned heroin users and their crimes; treatment costs of heroin abuse; chronic infectious diseases contracted through heroin abuse (HIV, Hepatitis B and C, and tuberculosis), and cost of their treatments; cost of treating newborns with medical conditions associated with heroin; lost productivity at work; and heroin overdose deaths. The study, published in the journal *PLOS ONE*, found that heroin users are less productive than others due to premature death; spend more time away from work due to seeking treatment for drug dependence and for drug-related hospitalizations, and have high rates of work absenteeism and unemployment. Co-authors on the study were Inyoung Lee and Todd Lee of PSOP. Read the news story about their study here and the full article here.

A plant found throughout Southeast Asia traditionally used to treat arthritis and rheumatism contains a potent anti-HIV compound more powerful than the drug AZT, according to a new paper published in the *Journal of Natural Products*. The chemical, patentflorin A, is derived from the willow-leaved Justicia, and was identified in a screening of more than 4,500 plant extracts for their effect against the HIV virus. Doel Soejarto (bottom left), along with Lijun Rong (Microbiology and Immunology) and Harry Fong (Associate Director of the World Health Organization Program for Traditional Medicine), led the UIC branch of the International Cooperative Biodiversity Group on the study. Read the news story about their study here and the full article here.

An exercise program comprised of gentle exercises and taught by home care aides can help frail older adults perform basic daily activities, according to a new study published in *The Gerontologist*. The program, called Healthy Moves for Aging Well, includes three low-risk, gentle exercises: a seated step-in-place, arm curls and an ankle point-and-flex to home-bound older adults. Aides remind clients of their health goals and provide motivation to complete the exercises daily during regular visits. Surrey Walton (bottom right) was a co-author along with PI Naoko Muramatsu (School of Public Health/Institute for Health Research and Policy). Read the news story about their study here and the full article here.

**Faculty Awards**

Katie Suda and co-authors have been nominated to receive the CDC Charles C. Shepard Science Award for their paper in *JAMA* entitled "Prevalence of Inappropriate Antibiotic Prescriptions Among US Ambulatory Care Visits, 2010-2011." The award recognizes scientific achievement at the CDC in four categories - Assessment; Prevention and Control; Laboratory Science; and Data Methods and Study Design. Dr. Suda’s paper was nominated under the Assessment category. Read the full article here.

**Spotlight on our Trainees**

**BPS Students win Big at PGRSM**
BPS graduate students won half of the awards at the 48th Pharmaceutics Graduate Student Research Meeting (PGSRM), hosted by the University of Michigan:

- POSTER category (2nd place): Dulari Jayawardena (Onyuksel lab, left)
  "Superior therapeutic effect of micellar encapsulated vasoactive intestinal peptide nanomedicine over free peptide in ameliorating DSS induced colitis"

- POSTER category (3rd place): Jason Bugno (Hong lab, center)
  "Polymer-Dendrimer Hybrid Nanoparticles: Size-Dependent Release and Intratumoral Targeting"

- PODIA category (2nd place): Sungjoon Cho (Jeong lab, right)
  "A potential role of commensal gut microbiota in modulating susceptibility to acetaminophen-induced hepatotoxicity"

News from Rockford

Jing Li (Hanakahi lab) became the first Rockford student since the campus began admitting students in 2010 to obtain her PhD. She also won second place for graduate student posters at the Midwest DNA Repair Symposium in May at Wright State University,

More Research News

News from the CBC

The Chicago Biomedical Consortium (CBC) is inviting new Catalyst Award applications, open August 14-18, 2017. The CBC’s Catalyst Award program offers funding up to $250,000 for one- or two-year new inter-institutional collaborative research projects. The Catalyst Award program supports basic biomedical research by multi-institutional teams; projects with translational potential will also be considered.

The CBC has also announced it’s 15th Annual Symposium, "Small Molecule Discovery".

DATE: Friday, November 17, 2017
TIME: 9:00 AM - 6:00 PM
LOCATION: The University of Illinois at Chicago Forum
SPEAKERS: Karin BRINER (Novartis), Ray MOELLERING (UChicago), Victoria RICHON (Ribon Therapeutics), Brian SHOICHET (UCSF), Rick SILVERMAN (NU) and Gregory THATCHER (UIC)

This all-day event is organized by the current CBC leadership and the incoming CBC Executive Director, Jim Audia. The meeting will also include a poster session. The event is free of charge but pre-registration is required.

Important Dates/Upcoming Events

Responsible Conduct of Research Workshop Seminar - Animal Subjects Research
Monday, 07/10/2017
COMRB, Room 6175

Chicago Mass Spec Day
Friday, 07/14/2017
MBRB Auditorium

3rd Annual Mini Symposium
Friday, 08/04/2017
MBRB 3rd Floor

Atkins Garden Walk
Friday, 08/11/2017
Atkins Garden

**CBC Catalyst Award**
Monday 08/14 (8:00 am) - Friday, 08/18 (5:00 pm)

**New Graduate Student TA Orientation**
Wednesday, 08/23/2017
PHARM B32

**15th Annual CBC Symposium "Small Molecule Discovery"**
Friday, 11/17/2017
UIC Forum, 725 W Roosevelt

**College of Pharmacy Research Day**
Friday, 02/09/2018

[View All College of Pharmacy Events](#)

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