College of Pharmacy has two 2015 UIC Researchers of the Year!

The University of Illinois at Chicago Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research (OVCR) announced the recipients of the 2015 UIC Researcher and Scholar of the Year Awards. The Distinguished Researcher and Distinguished Scholar awards are given this year to three UIC researchers and one UIC scholar who have demonstrated outstanding achievements in their field of expertise. This year the Rising Star award is given to four UIC early career researchers and one UIC early career scholar who have demonstrated outstanding promise to become future leaders in their area of expertise. The 2015 Honorees in Basic Life Sciences are both from the College of Pharmacy! Dr. Richard van Breemen is recognized as UIC Distinguished Researcher and Dr. Douglas Thomas as UIC Rising Star, bringing the award to the College for the fourth year in the row.

More information.

Getting to know our faculty members

Richard van Breemen is 2015 UIC Distinguished Researcher of the Year in Basic Life Sciences

The 2015 UIC Researcher of the Year Award recognizes and celebrates the efforts and commitment of individuals who are advancing knowledge in their area of research and scholarship. These individuals inspire and promote continued excellence at UIC. The Distinguished Researcher award this year is given to three UIC researchers who have demonstrated outstanding achievements in their field of expertise.
In the honor of the recipients of the UIC Researcher and Scholar of the Year Awards, an awards ceremony and reception will be held on Wednesday, February 17, 2016 from 3:30 pm to 6:00pm in the Michele M. Thompson Rooms of the UIC Student Center West at 828 South Wolcott Avenue.

Read more.

**Douglas Thomas** is 2015 UIC Researcher of the Year: Rising Star in Basic Life Sciences

The purpose of the Researcher of the Year Award is to recognize the efforts and commitment of those researchers who are advancing knowledge in their area of scholarship and inspire and promote continued excellence in research at UIC.

The Rising Star award is given to 4 UIC early career researchers who have demonstrated outstanding promise to become future leaders in their area of expertise. Previous College of Pharmacy recipients were Mike Federle (2014), Joanna Burdette (2013) and Seungpyo Hong (2012).

Read more.

Young Jeong received the CBC Catalyst Award

*Young Jeong* received $200,000 from the Chicago Biomedical Consortium (CBC) for her Catalyst application “Role of Gut Microbiota in Determining Drug Efficacy and Toxicity”. She is collaborating with Eugene Chang at University of Chicago.

Read more.

View all funding news.

Keith Rodvold received funding from Antibacterial Resistance Leadership Group (ARLG)

The Antibacterial Resistance Leadership Group (ARLG) develops, designs, implements, and manages a clinical research agenda to increase knowledge of antibacterial resistance. The ARLG is located at the Duke University and aims to advance research by building transformational trials that will change clinical practice and reduce the impact of antibacterial resistance and antimicrobial resistance. *Keith Rodvold* received $601,065 from this NIH/NIAID funded cooperative agreement.

Read more.

View all funding news.

Seungpyo Hong is a New Associate Editor of
Seungpyo Hong has become an Associate Editor of Nanomedicine: Nanotechnology, Biology and Medicine, effective January 15, 2016.

The mission of Nanomedicine: Nanotechnology, Biology, and Medicine (Nanomedicine: NBM) is to promote the emerging interdisciplinary field of nanomedicine.

Read more.

**Spotlight on our Trainees**

**Congratulations to Michael Rush on NIH F31 predoctoral fellowship!**

Michael Rush (van Breemen lab) received F31 predoctoral training grant from the NIH National Center for Complementary and Integrative Health (NCCIH). He is working on project "Discovery of Natural Product Inhibitors of Fuctose-1, 6-Bisphosphatase for the Obesity Management".

Read more.

**Dulari Jayawardena received FADEX 2016 grant to travel to France in March**

FADEX (French-American Doctoral Exchange) Seminar was created in 2014 by the Office for Science and Technology of the Embassy of France in the United States. The committee of selection of the Office for Science and Technology of the French Consulate of Houston awarded Dulari Jayawardena (Onyuksel lab) a grant to participate to the French American Doctoral Exchange Program (FADEX) on "Nanoparticles for medicine".

Read more.

**Laura Rodgers is an Honorable Mention Certificate Winner in COM 2015 Research Forum**

Laura Rodgers, MD/PhD student in Joanna Burdette's lab, is an Honorable Mention Certificate Winner in the Graduate, MD/PhD and other combined degree category at the College of Medicine Research Forum 2015. She receives her certificate at an award
Giving Back: MCP-Graduate Student Association gets more involved in community service

The MCP-Graduate Student Association gave back to the community by volunteering at the Pacific Garden Missions last semester which houses over 500 individuals and families who do not have shelter.

From L to R: Wei-Lun Chen (Burdette lab), Loru Delgado-Rivera (Thatcher lab), Sue Lee (Thatcher lab), Tristesse Jones (van Breeman lab), Sezen Meydan (Mankin lab), Peter Sullivan (Orjala lab)

Learn more about GSA and find out how you can get involved.

More Research News

COP Research Day is on Friday, February 26, 2016: A New Model for Drug Development in Academic Institutions

This year's keynote speaker is Dr. Dennis Liotta from Emory University. Dr. Liotta is an inventor on 75 issued US patents, many of which cover the antiviral and anticancer drugs and drug candidates he has discovered. In the United States he is recognized as one of the premier discoverers of novel therapeutics, having been one of the inventors associated with ten FDA approved therapeutics including Epivir, Combivir, Trizivir, Epzicom, Epivir-HBV, Emtriva, Truvada, Atripla, Complera and Stribid. He was also a postdoctoral mentor of our colleague, Dr. Terry Moore.

Find out about the program and poster competition.

UICentre accepting Letters of Intent (LOIs) for new proposals

UICentre, the campus-wide drug discovery initiative at UIC, is seeking new collaborations. UICentre provides seed funding, consultation, project management, and research components for collaborative small molecule drug discovery. Support varies depending on the mix of research needs for each project, ranging from $20-65k or up to $100k if internal resources are also costed.
Deadline to submit LOI is February 19, 2016.

View the RFA and LOI instructions.

Important Dates/Upcoming Events

Career Lunch with Industry Scientists
Monday 2/15/16
204/208

UICentre LOI deadline
Friday 2/19/16

College of Pharmacy Research Day
Friday 2/26/16

View all College of Pharmacy Events

Office of the Associate Dean for Research
and Graduate Education

Joanna E. Burdette, PhD, Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Education
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