

# Research

RESEARCH



THE  
UNIVERSITY OF  
ILLINOIS  
AT  
CHICAGO  
PHARMACY

November 2015

## We Are No. 4 Nationwide in Research Funding

The UIC College of Pharmacy ranked fourth nationally in the amount of grants and contracts awarded by the National Institutes of Health and other federal and non-federal agencies for fiscal year 2014, according to figures released by the [American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy](#). UIC was awarded nearly



\$18.5 million for fiscal year 2014, trailing only the University of California at San Francisco, University of Kansas and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. The University of Colorado rounded out the top five.

[Read more.](#)

## Getting to know our faculty members

### Laura Sanchez is a New BIRCWH Scholar

The University of Illinois at Chicago's (UIC) women's health research career development program, Building Interdisciplinary Research Careers in Women's Health (BIRCWH) is a collaborative



effort among UIC's National Center of Excellence in Women's Health (CoE), the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, and UIC's six health colleges: Medicine, Nursing, Pharmacy, Dentistry, Applied Health Sciences, and the School of Public Health. As a BIRCWH Scholar, [Laura Sanchez](#) will investigate the chemical language of metastasis by monitoring the spatial distribution of small molecules exchanged between ovarian cancer cells and healthy cells with the novel technique of imaging mass spectrometry.

[Read more.](#)

## Monsheel Sodhi: Genetic Patterns Linked to Depression and Suicide Differ in Men and Women

The findings were reported in *Molecular Psychiatry* on July 14, 2015 by A.L. Gray and colleagues at the University of Illinois at Chicago. The senior author and team leader was 2004 and 2006 NARSAD Young Investigator grantee [Monsheel Sodhi](#).



Their results add to growing support for the strategy of targeting glutamate receptors in the treatment of depression and suicidal behavior and indicate that clinical trials of new glutamatergic antidepressants need to consider men and women with depression separately.

[Read more.](#)

## Cancer Center Pilot Project Grant Goes to Rick Gemeinhart

[Rick Gemeinhart](#) and his collaborator Karen Colley received funding for the [2015 Cancer Center Pilot Project](#) "Targeting polysialic acid-modified surface markers in lung cancer therapy".



[Read more.](#)

## Dima Qato is a Co-Investigator on new NIH R21 Grant: May I help you? An avatar health concierge

The grant is from the National Institute of Nursing Research titled "May I help you? An avatar health concierge for HIV-infected African American men". [Dime Qato](#) collaborates with Mark Dworkin, School of Public Health, who is the PI on the project.



[Read more.](#)

## Spotlight on our Trainees

### Three COP Trainees Win at the UI Cancer Center Research Forum

Two COP graduate students and one postdoc who recently graduated from COP won at

the Cancer Center Research Forum. Out of the 6 awards, three went to COP:

**Lamiaa El-Shennawy** (left), Frason Lab:

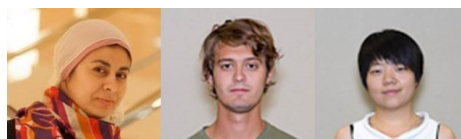
"Co-Activation of estrogen receptor and IKKbeta induces dormancy and metastasis in estrogen receptor positive breast cancer";

**Thomas Hanigan** (center), Petukhov Lab:

"Novel Platform for the Development of Next Generation HDAC Inhibitors for Breast Cancer";

**Jing Li**, Hanakahi Lab:

"Investigating the role of TDP1 in non-homologous end joining".



[Read more.](#)

## Two COP Graduate Students Received the Chicago Consular Corps Scholarship

PSOP's **Ernest Law** and BPS's **Karina De Oliveira Lima** (Onyuksel lab) are this year's recipients of the Chicago Consular Corps Scholarship for the academic year 2015-2016. Only 10 awards are given out each year.



[Read more.](#)

## Ernest Law (PSOP) to Receive the Canadian Society of Hospital Pharmacists Publication Award for 2015

The award will be presented in Vancouver, Canada on November 21, 2015 and is for an article that Ernest co-authored: Leung TS and Law EH. Differential benefit risk assessment of DOACs in the treatment of venous thromboembolism: focus on dabigatran. Drug Des Devel Ther 2015 Jul 9;9:3557-69 (PMID:26185422). The purpose of this award is to recognize excellence in pharmacy publication.



[Read more.](#)

## More Research News

Don't forget to vote for the best image in this year's competition!

The voting portion of the Annual College of Pharmacy Research Image Competition is now open. Everyone in the College is invited to vote. You only have one vote, but if you change your mind, you can go back and revise it before the **deadline on December 7**.

Visit the website to see the work of our researchers. Big thanks go to faculty and staff members who helped out to make the numbers so we can run the competition!

[Read more and vote.](#)



## Save the Date: COP Research Day is on Friday, February 26, 2016: **The Drug Discovery Process: Dennis Liotta on Emtriva**

### Therapeutics

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.

Product	Licensee	Preclinical	Phase I	Phase II	Phase III	NDA	Market
Epivir®	GlaxoSmithKline/Shire	●	●	●	●	●	●
Combivir®	GlaxoSmithKline/Shire	●	●	●	●	●	●
Trizivir®	GlaxoSmithKline/Shire	●	●	●	●	●	●
Epzicom®	GlaxoSmithKline/Shire	●	●	●	●	●	●
Epivir-HBV®	GlaxoSmithKline/Shire	●	●	●	●	●	●
Emtriva®	Gilead Sciences, Inc.	●	●	●	●	●	●
Truvada®	Gilead Sciences, Inc.	●	●	●	●	●	●
Atripla®	Gilead Sciences, Inc.	●	●	●	●	●	●
Complera®	Gilead Sciences, Inc.	●	●	●	●	●	●
Stribid™	Gilead Sciences, Inc.	●	●	●	●	●	●
Elvucitabine	Achillion Pharmaceuticals	●	●	●	●	●	●
Q-122	Que Oncology	●	●	●	●	●	●

[Read more.](#)

## Important Dates/Upcoming Events

[UIC Strategic Plan Update--Town Hall Meeting](#)

11/30/15 3 pm  
Student Center East

[Image Competition Voting Deadline](#)

12/7/15

[Save the Date: 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*

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