

Molecular Genetics & Microbiology

Graduate Program Newsletter

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Publications

Bryan, A.M., Del Poeta, M., and Luberto, C. 2015. Sphingolipids as regulators of the phagocytic response to fungal infections. *Mediators of Inflammation* 2015: 640540.

Bridges, R.G., Sohn, S.Y., Wright, J., Leppard, K.N., and Hearing, P. 2016. The adenovirus E4-ORF3 protein stimulates SUMOylation of general transcription factor TFII-I to direct proteasomal degradation. *MBio* 7(1): e02184-15.

Chahales, P., Hoffman, P.S., and Thanassi, D.G. 2016. Nitazoxanide inhibits pilus biogenesis by interfering with folding of the usher protein in the outer membrane. *Antimicrobial Agents and Chemotherapy*, in press.

Chung, L.K., and Bliska, J.B. 2016. *Yersinia* vs. host immunity: how a pathogen evades or triggers a protective response. *Current Opinion in Microbiology*, in press.

Schoberle, T.J., **Chung, L.K.**, McPhee, J.B., Bogin, B., and Bliska, J.B. 2016. Uncovering an important role for YopJ in the inhibition of caspase-1 in activated macrophages and promoting *Yersinia pseudotuberculosis* virulence. *Infection and Immunity*, in press.

Espaillet, M.P., Adada, M.M., Shamseddine, A.A., Hannun, Y.A., and Obeid, L.M. 2015. Ceramide and sphingosine-1-phosphate in cancer, two faces of the sphinx. *Translational Cancer Research* doi: 10.3978/j.issn.2218-676X.2015.10.01

Ivanova, E., and Carpino, N. 2016. Negative regulation of TCR signaling by ubiquitination of Zap-70 Lys-217. *Molecular Immunology*, in press.

Jain, N., Bouklas, T., Gupta, A., Varshney, A.K., **Orner, E.P.**, and Fries, B.C. 2015. ALL2, a homologue of ALL1, has a distinct role in regulating pH homeostasis in the pathogen *Cryptococcus neoformans*. *Infection and Immunity* 84(2): 439-451.

Nomakuchi, T.T., Rigo, F., Aznarez, I., and Krainer, A.R. 2016. Antisense-oligonucleotide-directed inhibition of nonsense-mediated mRNA decay. *Nature Biotechnology* 34(2): 164-166.

Zheng, Y., Stamminger, T., and Hearing, P. 2016. E2F/Rb family proteins mediate interferon-induced repression of adenovirus immediate early transcription to promote persistent viral infection. *PLoS Pathogens* 12(1): e1005415.

☒ Conference/Symposium Presentations

MGM graduate student Mel Pilar Espaillat presented a seminar in the Center for Inclusive Education's Research Café Series on March 21, 2016 titled "The Lipids in Your Gut: Defining the Role of Sphingolipids in Inflammatory Bowel Disease".

MGM graduate students Lawton Chung (advisor: Jim Bliska) and Glenn Werneberg (advisor: David Thanassi) were selected to present their dissertation research at the first of two spring 2016 symposia on March 24, 2016. The titles of their talks were:

Infection by injection: How Pathogenic Yersinia Activate and Subvert Immune Responses
Lawton Chung, Molecular Genetics and Microbiology

Dissection of Usher-Chaperon-Subunit Interactions During Pilus Bio-genesis Escherichia Coli
Glenn Werneburg, Medical Scientist Training Program, Molecular Genetics and Microbiology

☒ Dissertation Defense Announcement

Ellitza Ivanova will defend her dissertation on Monday April 11 at 10:00 aM in Life Sciences room 038. The title of her dissertation is "Ubiquitination of Zeta-associated Protein of 70 kDa (Zap-70) Regulates the Activation of TCR-Proximal Signaling Pathways".

☒ 2016 Graduations

Dr. Anand Bhagwat, PhD (Mentor: Christopher Vakoc). Anand has started the clinical phase of the Medical Scientist Training Program at Stony Brook University.

Dr. Tomoki Nomakuchi, PhD (Mentor: Adrian Krainer). Tomoki has started the clinical phase of the Medical Scientist Training Program at Stony Brook University.

Dr. Glenn Werneberg, PhD (Mentor: David Thanassi). Glenn has started the clinical phase of the Medical Scientist Training Program at Stony Brook University.

☒ Kudos

MGM graduate student Ting Zheng's recent paper published in PLoS Pathogens (Zheng, Y., Stamminger, T., and Hearing, P. 2016. E2F/Rb family proteins mediate interferon-induced repression of adenovirus immediate early transcription to promote persistent viral infection. *PLoS Pathogens* 12(1): e1005415.) was featured in a Spotlight Review as a "long-awaited breakthrough" in understanding adenovirus persistence in a special issue of Trends in Microbiology on microbial endurance. <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0966842X16000433>

Save the Dates

A symposium, *Viruses Forever, Two*, in honor of Dr. Eckard Wimmer's 80th birthday will be held on Friday June 3rd at the Charles B. Wang Center. The speakers will be Sasha Gorbalenya (Leiden University, NL), Bert Semler (U. California at Irvine), Richard Kuhn (Perdue University), Hans-Georg Kräusslich (University of Heidelberg Medical School, DE), Emilio Emini (Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation), Sung Key Jang (Pohang University, South Korea), Bruce Futcher (MGM), Konstantin Chumakov (US Food and Drug Administration), Ping Jiang (MGM), Nihal Altan-Bonnet (NIH), and Jose Romero (Arkansas Children's Hospital, University of Arkansas).

A symposium will be held on Friday October 28, 2016 to honor the career and scientific achievements of Dr. Jorge Benach who has stepped down from the position of Chair of the Department of Molecular Genetics and Microbiology after ten years of leadership. Speakers will include Ira Schwartz (New York Medical College), Linda Bockenstedt (Yale University), Patricia Rosa (NIAID), Linden Hu (Tufts University School of Medicine), Adriana Marques (NIAID), Jorge Galán (Yale University), Adolfo Garcia Sastre (Mount Sinai School of Medicine), and Justin Radolf (University of Connecticut School of Medicine).