

Molecular Genetics & Microbiology Graduate Program Newsletter

Summer, 2009 Vol. 2, No. 2



2009 Publications

Karen, K.A., Hoey, P.J., Young, C.S.H., and Hearing, P. Temporal regulation of the MRN complex during adenovirus infection. *Journal of Virology* (83): 4565-4573.

Diamond, A.E., Park, J.S., Tachikawa, H., and Neiman, A.M. (2009) The anaphase promoting complex targeting Ama1 links meiotic exit to cytokinesis during sporulation in *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*. *Molecular Biology of the Cell* (20): 134-145.

LaRocca, T.J., Holthausen, D.J., Hsieh, C., Renken, C., Mannella, C.A., and Benach, J.L. (2009) The bactericidal effect of a complement-independent antibody is osmolytic and specific to *Borrelia*. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* (in press).

Quigley, B.R., Zähler, D., Hatkoff, M., Thanassi, D.G., and Scott, J.R. (2009) Linkage of T3 and Cpa pilins in the *Streptococcus pyogenes* M3 pilus. *Molecular Microbiology* (in press).

Viladevall, L., St. Amour, C.V., Rosebrock, A., Schneider, S., Zhang, C., Allen, J.J., Shokat, K.M., Schwer, B., Leatherwood, J.K., and Fisher, R.P. TFIIH and P-TEFb coordinate transcription with capping enzyme recruitment at specific genes in fission yeast. *Molecular Cell* (33): 738-751.

Awards

Amir Zeituni (C. Cutler's lab) has been awarded a two-year Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Individual Predoctoral Fellowship (F31) to support his research on the minor fimbriae of *P. gingivalis* and dendritic cells. Congratulations!

Congratulations to Nicholas Navin (M. Wigler's lab at CSHL) for receiving a Kevin King/John Miller Travel Scholarship Award. Nick will use the award to attend a meeting in Madrid this July.

Incoming Students, Fall 2009

Patrick McLaughlin; B.S., Rochester Institute of Technology

Brodie Miles; B.S., Oregon State University

Nana Minkah; B.S., Dickinson College

Esma Ucisik-Akkaya; M.S., Istanbul Technical University

Chen Yang; M.S., Drexel University

Xingmin Zhang; B.S., Shandong University

Yueting Zheng; M.S., Wuhan University

Thanks to all faculty, students and staff who participated in this year's recruitment efforts!

Recent Graduates

Kimberly Feres defended her dissertation entitled "Contributions of the RON Receptor Tyrosine Kinase to the Progression of Breast Cancer" on June 1, 2009 and will graduate in August.

Timothy LaRocca defended his dissertation, "The Mechanism of Complement-Independent Bactericidal Antibodies Against *Borrelia*", on May 13, 2009 and graduated in May.

Sarit Lilo defended her dissertation, "Mechanism of Caspase-1 Activation in Macrophages and its Role in Pathogenesis by *Yersinia pestis*", on June 25, 2009 and will graduate in August. Sarit will begin investigating *Staphylococcus aureus*-host interactions this fall as a postdoctoral fellow at NYU Medical Center in the laboratory of Dr. Victor Torres.

Betty Noel defended her dissertation entitled "Intracellular Survival of *Yersiniae* in Naïve and Activated Macrophages: Role of the Phagocytosis Mechanism and the Virulence Plasmid" on June 23, 2009 and will graduate in August. Betty has accepted a faculty position at Marymount School in Manhattan.

Congratulations to all!

Upcoming Dissertation Defenses

Christopher Czura (K. Tracey's lab) - July 7, 2009 at 11:00 AM in Life Sciences room 038.

Adam Rosebrock (B. Futcher's lab) - July 15, 2009 at 1:00 PM in Life Sciences room 038.

Kasey Karen (P. Hearing's lab) - July 24, 2009 at 1:00 PM in Life Sciences room 038.

Beth Mulligan (J. Dunn's lab) - August 12, 2009 at 10:00 AM in Life Sciences room 038.

Upcoming Events ~ Save the Dates!

The 31st Annual Retreat of the Department of Molecular Genetics and Microbiology, organized by Laurie Krug, will be held on Friday, October 9, 2009. The event will include oral presentations, a poster session, and presentation of graduate student awards. All graduate students in the Program are encouraged to present a poster.

The Welcoming BBQ for new students in the biomedical graduate programs is tentatively scheduled for the week of August 24th.

Reminder

Please let Janet Hearing know of papers that have been accepted for publication, awards, and conferences attended for inclusion in future newsletters.