

Molecular Genetics & Microbiology Graduate Program Newsletter

Winter, 2011 Vol. 4, No. 4



Publications

Felek, S., Jeong, J.J., **Runco, L.M.**, Murray, S., Thanassi, D.G., and Krukoni, E.S. 2011. Contributions of chaperone/usher systems to cell binding, biofilm formation and *Yersinia pestis* virulence. *Microbiology* 157: 805-818.

Karen, K.A., and Hearing, P. 2011. Adenovirus core protein VII protects the viral genome from a DNA damage response at early times after infection. *Journal of Virology* 85: 4135-4142. This paper has been selected as an article of significant interest by the Editors and is featured in the Spotlight section for this issue.

Navin, N., Kendall, J., Troge, J., Andrews, P., Rodgers, L., McIndoo, J., Stepanky, A., Levy, D., Esposito, D., Muthuswamy, L., Krasnitz, A., McCombie, W.R., Hicks, J., and Wigler, M. 2011. Tumor evolution inferred by single-cell sequencing. *Nature* 472: 90-94.

Zheng, Y., Lilo, S., Brodsky, I.E., Zhang, Y., Medzhitov, R., Marcu, K.B., and Bliska, J.B. 2011. A *Yersinia* effector with enhanced inhibitory activity on the Nk κ B pathway activates the NLRP3/ASC/caspase-1 inflammasome in macrophages. *PLoS Pathogens* 7(4):e1002026.

Conference Presentations

Bublitz, D.C., and Furie, M.B. 2011. Characterizing How *Francisella tularensis* Suppresses the Proinflammatory Response of Endothelial Cells. 111th Annual Meeting of the American Society for Microbiology, New Orleans, L.A.

Bublitz, D.C., and Furie, M.B. 2011. Characterizing How *Francisella tularensis* Suppresses the Proinflammatory Response of Endothelial Cells. Gordon Conference: Microbial Adhesion and Signal Transduction. Newport, RI.

Crowley, J.T., and Benach, J.L. 2011. Transfer of *Borrelia*-Derived Fluorescent Lipids to Eukaryotic Cells. 111th Annual Meeting of the American Society for Microbiology, New Orleans, L.A.

DelGiorno, K., and Crawford, H. 2011. The Biology of Cancer: Microenvironment, Metastasis and Therapeutics. Cold Spring Harbor, NY.

DelGiorno, K.E., Carpenter, E., Takeuchi, K., and Crawford, H.C. 2011. Tuft Cell Formation Represents Pancreatic Epithelial Transdifferentiation to a Biliary-Like Phenotype. 42nd Annual Meeting of the American Pancreatic Association. Chicago, IL.

Conference Presentations (continued)

Doyle, C.R., Platz, G.J., Mena, P., Benach, J.L., and Thanassi, D.G. 2011. *Francisella tularensis* LVS Inhibits Caspase-3 Activation During Early Stages of Infection in a TolC-Dependent Manner. 111th Annual Meeting of the American Society for Microbiology, New Orleans, LA.

Hatkoff, M.R., Runco, L.M., Pujol, C., Bliska, J.B., and Thanassi, D. 2011. Role of the Chaperone/Usher Pathways of *Yersinia pestis* in Interactions with Host Cells and Virulence. 111th Annual Meeting of the American Society for Microbiology, New Orleans, LA.

Minkah, N., Stockton, R., Forrest, J.C., and Krug, L.T. 2011. Roles for MHV68 ORF75A and ORF75B Tegument Proteins in Gammaherpesvirus Pathogenesis. American Society for Microbiology Conference on the Manipulation of Nuclear Processes by DNA Viruses, Santa Fe, NM.

Yan, S., Honey, S., Ward, C., Mueller, S., Skiena, S., Wimmer, E., and Futcher, B. 2011. Encoding Matters: Different Codon-Pair Encodings of the Same Amino Acid Sequence Have Different Levels of Function. Yeast Cell Biology, Cold Spring Harbor, NY.

Awards

Kathleen DelGiorno and Matthew Hatkoff both received a Molecular Genetics & Microbiology Distinguished Service Award for 2011 for outstanding support of our graduate program. Congratulations!

Congratulations to Nana Minkah for being selected as the 2011 Teresa Haire Memorial Award recipient. Nana, a third-year student in Laurie Krug's lab, was recognized for his passion for research and scientific achievements.

Best Poster Award at the 33rd Annual Molecular Genetics & Microbiology Retreat was awarded to Alexis Santana. Alexis, a 4th-year student in Laurie Krug's lab, presented her project entitled "". Congratulations!

Nana Minkah was the recipient of an American Society for Microbiology Travel Award to attend the ASM 2nd Conference on the Manipulation of Nuclear Processes by DNA Viruses in Santa Fe, NM.

Recent Graduate

Ying Zheng defended her dissertation, "Mechanism of YopJ-Induced Cell Death and Caspase-1 Activation in Macrophages Infected with *Yersinia*", on August 18, 2011.

Winter and Spring Rotation Dates for 2011 - 2012

Winter	November 28 - February 3
Spring	February 6 - May 4

Rotation Laboratories

Lawton Chung: David Thanassi, Jessica Seeliger, Jamie Konopka

Barbara Fallon: Sumita Bhaduri-McIntosh, Adrianus van der Velden

Eve Klajbor: Jorge Benach, Laurie Krug, TBD

Benjamin Macaluso: Jessica Seeliger, Jim Bliska, TBD

Save the Date - Targeted Therapies in Cancer Symposium

The Cancer Center and Department of Molecular Genetics and Microbiology will be co-sponsoring a symposium, "Targeted Therapies in Cancer", on Tuesday, April 24, 2012 in the Wang Center. The speakers will include Frederick de Sauvage, Ph.D. (Genetech), Anthony John Iafrate, M.D., Ph.D. (Massachusetts General Hospital), Catriona Jamieson, M.D., Ph.D. (University of California, San Francisco), Patrick Ma, M.D., M.Sc. (Cleveland Clinic), Frank McCormick, Ph.D. (University of California, San Francisco), and Harald Sontheimer, Ph.D. (University of Alabama, Birmingham).