

Rx News

A Monthly Newsletter
of The University of Georgia College of Pharmacy
November 2015

AWARDS/HONORS

Aaron Beedle, Assistant Professor

Beedle lab graduate student Steven Foltz won a Student Poster Presentation Prize at the UGA Center for Drug Discovery Conference November 19th in Athens

Trisha Branan, Clinical Assistant Professor

Passed examination for Board Certified Critical Care Pharmacist (BCCCP)

Jim Bruckner, Professor

Invited to serve a second 3-year term as a member of the U.S.EPA Science Advisory Board Chemical Assessment Advisory Committee. This committee evaluates major national contamination problems and makes recommendations to the EPA Administrator for alternative courses of action.

Daniel Chastain, Clinical Assistant Professor (WOS)

Became AAHIVP, a certified HIV Pharmacist from the American Academy of HIV Medicine

Anthony Hawkins, Clinical Assistant Professor

Received BCCCP, critical care certification from the Board of Pharmacy Specialties

Vivia Hill-Silcott, Diversity Coordinator

Completed requirements for her PhD. in Education

Eileen Kennedy, Assistant Professor

Student Laura Hanold won the Best Graduate Student Poster Award at the UGA Cancer Center Retreat.

Dexu Liu, Panoz Professor

Graduate student, Hao Sun, also won the Best Graduate Student Award at the 2015 UGA Conference. It was a tie for first place. His poster was entitled "Assessment of IL-15/sIL-15R α Gene Therapy on Lewis Lung Carcinoma Growing in Mouse Lung, Liver and Kidneys."

Merrill Norton, Clinical Associate Professor

Selected to join the Substance Abuse Research Alliance (SARA) whose mission is to build a dynamic network of experienced academic and professional researchers who share common goals of examining the causes, effects and outcomes of substance abuse among Georgians of all ages; and to explore, share and help implement creative methods of preventing substance abuse and its devastating impacts on individuals, families, communities and the state of Georgia with the hope and expectation that the outcomes of their work will also produce beneficial results beyond Georgia and the Southeastern United States.

Somanath Shenoy, Associate Professor

Served in the 'cardio-pulmonary diseases' grant application review panel of the 'Italian ministry of Health'

PUBLICATIONS

Christopher Bland, Clinical Assistant Professor

Published Bookstaver PB, Bland CM, Griffin B, Stover KR, Eiland LS, McLaughlin M. A Review of Antibiotic Use in Pregnancy. *Pharmacotherapy*. 2015 Nov;35(11):1052-62.

Eileen Kennedy, Assistant Professor

Published Defining A-Kinase Anchoring Protein (AKAP) Specificity for Protein Kinase A Subunit RI (PKA-RI). Autenrieth K, Bendzunas G, Bertinetti D, Herberg FW, Kennedy EJ. *Chembiochem*. 2015 Nov 27. doi: 10.1002/cbic.201500632

Dexi Liu, Panoz Professor

Yahya Alhamhoom, Mohammad Alsaggar & Dexi Liu (2015) Future Perspective: Toward Targeting at the Cellular Level. *Advances and Challenges in the Delivery of Nucleic Acid Therapeutics (Volume 2)*. Pages 2-17, Doi: 10.4155/fseb2013.14.10

Kenya Kamimura, Takeshi Suda & Dexi Liu (2015) Hydrodynamic Gene Delivery. *Advances and Challenges in the Delivery of Nucleic Acid Therapeutics (Volume 2)* Pages 42-57, Doi: 10.4155/fseb2013.13.103

Mandi Murph, Associate Professor

Nguyen HT, Jia W, Beedle AM, Kennedy EJ, Murph MM. Lysophosphatidic Acid Mediates Activating Transcription Factor 3 Expression Which Is a Target for Post-Transcriptional Silencing by miR-30c-2-3p. *PLoS One*. 2015 Sep 29;10(9):e0139489. doi: 10.1371/journal.pone.0139489. eCollection 2015. PMID: 26418018

Merrill Norton, Clinical Assistant Professor

Cross,WJ, Baldwin JN, Fingerson BE, Norton MA. The Impaired Professional- Treating the Addicted Pharmacist: Defining the Issues. *Counselor Magazine*, December 2015;16(6) 60-65.

Somanath Shenoy, Associate Professor

Abdalla M, Thompson L, Gurley E, Burke S, Ujjin J, Newsome R, Somanath PR. Dasatinib inhibits TGF β -induced myofibroblast differentiation through Src-SRF Pathway. *Eur J Pharmacol*. 2015 Nov 6: [Epub ahead of print] PubMed PMID: 26548624.

This study was performed through a collaboration between a graduate student and five PharmD students. The role of Src in pathologic myofibroblast (MF) differentiation and the effect of Src inhibition on TGF β -induced MF differentiation were investigated. Results indicated that selective Src inhibition using 'PP2' mimicked the effect of dasatinib in attenuating MF differentiation and fibronectin assembly in both murine NIH 3T3 fibroblasts and fibrotic human lung fibroblasts. Thus, Src inhibition could potentially be a therapeutic option in fibrotic diseases.

Tom Taylor, Associate Professor Emeritus

Safe medication storage prevents bad outcome, *Columbia County News Times*, November 11, 2015.

George Zheng, Associate Professor

Zhang, J. and Zheng, Y. G. (2015) SAM/SAH Analogs as Versatile Tools for SAM-Dependent Methyltransferases. *ACS Chem Biol*. In press. <http://pubs.acs.org/doi/abs/10.1021/acscchembio.5b00812>

Zhou, R., Xie, Y., Hu, H., Patel, V., Zhang, J., Yu, K., Huang, Y., Liang, Z., Zheng, Y. G., Luo, C. (2015) Allosteric regulation connecting PRMT1 dimerization to SAM binding and methylase activity. *J Chem Inf Model*. In press. <http://pubs.acs.org/doi/pdf/10.1021/acscjcm.5b00454>

PRESENTATIONS

Aaron Beedle, Assistant Professor

Posters presented at the UGA Center for Drug Discovery Conference in Athens GA:

SJ Foltz, A Patel, KB Peissig and AM Beedle. Therapeutic targeting of Akt/mTOR signaling in Fktn-deficient muscle.

YM Wang, SK Hekmatyar, SJ Foltz and AM Beedle. Evaluation of MRI for phenotypic assessment in a mouse model of muscular dystrophy.

Catherine Bourg, Clinical Assistant Professor

With Gin Fleming, clinical assistant professor, presented "Incorporation of Video-Enhanced Case-Based Learning Strategies into Large Classroom Teaching." Brown Bag Presentation, in collaboration with University of Georgia Center for Teaching and Learning (CTL).

Eileen Kennedy , Assistant Professor

Presented "Targeting Protein-Protein Interactions in Kinase Regulation" at the UGA Cancer Center Retreat

Dexi Liu, Panoz Professor

Seminar, Tuning-up Gene Expression to Prevent and Treat Obesity and Obesity-associated Insulin Resistance, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, University of Pittsburgh School of Pharmacy, November 3, 2015

Invited Presentation, Tuning-up Gene Expression to Prevent and Treat Obesity and Obesity-associated Insulin Resistance, The 20th Annual Meeting of the Korea Society of Biomedical Laboratory Sciences, Wonju, South Korea, November 4-6, 2015.

Merrill Norton, Clinical Assistant Professor

Invited keynote speaker at the Opioid Treatment Providers of Georgia annual conference, "Patient Question: Should I Take Buprenorphine or Methadone? - The Neurobiology of Opioid Use Disorders", Lake Lanier Islands Georgia.

Scott Pegan, Associate Professor

Conference Abstract and Poster Presentation:

Daczkowski C, Deaton M, Jenkins B, Mank N, Bergeron E, Pegan SD., "Development of vaccine candidates through ablation of viral deubiquitinase and delSGylase activities," 2015 UGA Conference on Drug Discovery, November 17, 2015

Beth Phillips, Rite Aid Professor

Invited Presentations:

"Hot Topics in the New PGY1 Residency Accreditation Standard" Georgia Society of Health-System Pharmacists (GSHP) Preceptor Development Workshop. Atlanta, GA. October 2, 2015.

"PPMI and the Future of Ambulatory Care Pharmacy" Jefferson College of Pharmacy. Philadelphia, PA. November 18, 2015

"Invest in Your Future: How to Select the Right Residency for You" Jefferson College of Pharmacy. Philadelphia, PA. November 18, 2015.

George Zheng, Associate Professor

Poster Presentations:

Han, Z., Zheng, Y. G. "Integration of Bioorthogonal Probes and Q-FRET for the Detection of histone Acetyltransferase Activity." Poster presentation at UGA Center for Drug Discovery Conference, Athens, GA, November 17, 2015.

Hu, H., Zheng, Y. G. "Exploration of Cyanine Compounds for Selective Inhibition of PRMTs." Poster presentation at UGA Center for Drug Discovery Conference, Athens, GA, November 17, 2015.

Ngo, L., Zheng, Y. G. "The Design of Chemical Biology Approaches to Resolve The Challenges in HAT Research." Poster presentation at UGA Center for Drug Discovery Conference, Athens, GA, November 17, 2015.

Qian, K., Zheng, Y. G. "Isoform-Selective Inhibitors of Protein Arginine methyltransferases as Potential Cancer Therapeutic Agents." Poster presentation at UGA Center for Drug Discovery Conference, Athens, GA, November 17, 2015.

Zhang, J., Zheng, Y. G. "Intercommunication of Acetylation and methylation on the Histone Tail." Poster presentation at UGA Center for Drug Discovery Conference, Athens, GA, November 17, 2015.

OTHER NEWS**Dexi Liu, Panoz Professor**

Co-organizer for the session titled "NIH Programs & Funding Opportunity for Pharmaceutical Scientists", 2015 AAPS Annual Meeting and Exposition, October 25-29, 2015, Orange County Convention Center, Orlando, Florida

Marjorie Phillips, Clinical Professor of Pharmacy (WOS)

November 5, 2015 Joint Meeting of the FDA Antimicrobial Drugs Advisory Committee and the Drug Risk and Safety Management Advisory Committee (The committees discussed the risks and benefits of the systemic fluoroquinolone antibacterial drugs for the treatment of acute bacterial sinusitis, acute bacterial exacerbation of chronic bronchitis in patients who have chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, and uncomplicated urinary tract infections in the context of available safety information and the treatment effect of antibacterial drugs in these clinical conditions.)

at: <http://www.fda.gov/AdvisoryCommittees/CommitteesMeetingMaterials/Drugs/Anti-InfectiveDrugsAdvisoryCommittee/ucm424449.htm> and <http://www.fda.gov/AdvisoryCommittees/CommitteesMeetingMaterials/Drugs/DrugSafetyandRiskManagementAdvisoryCommittee/ucm433818.htm>

November 6, 2015 FDA Anesthetic & Analgesic Drug Product Advisory Meeting (The committee discussed the new drug application for sugammadex sodium injection, for the proposed indication of reversal of moderate or deep neuromuscular blockade (NMB) induced by rocuronium or vecuronium.) <http://www.fda.gov/AdvisoryCommittees/CommitteesMeetingMaterials/Drugs/AnestheticAndAnalgesicDrugProductsAdvisoryCommittee/ucm433361.htm>

Medical Device Regulations Conference

The Medical Device Regulations Conference was held November 3-4, 2015 at the Georgia Center for Continuing Education. The conference was co-sponsored by The University of Georgia's Office of BioPharma Regulatory Affairs, the College of Pharmacy Office of Continuing Education and Outreach, and the Food and Drug Administration. David Mullis, Director of Regulatory Affairs Education Program, was the planning chair and conference moderator. The conference was attended by 84 medical device manufacturer professionals.