

Rx News

A Monthly Newsletter
of The University of Georgia College of Pharmacy
March 2016

AWARDS/HONORS

Aaron Beedle, Assistant Professor

Served as a member on the American Heart Association, Basic Cell Structure & Survival 2 grant review committee, March 22, 2016.

Brian Cummings, Associate Professor

Appointed as Counselor for the Toxicology Division of the American Society of Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics

Served as a Grant Reviewer for the National Institutes of Health for F09-B-B Oncological Sciences

Eileen Kennedy, Assistant Professor

Was interviewed and will be featured as a chemistry expert for the GPB/PBS Educational Series "Chemistry Matters," Episode 6, Topic: Chemical Reactions

Dexi Liu, Panoz Professor, head PBS

Served as an Ad-hoc Member on the NIH Study Section on Small Business: Biomaterials, Delivery, and Nanotechnology [BST(10)] on March 10, 2016.

Scott Pegan, Associate Professor

Named chair-elect of University Council's Executive Committee for 2016-17; duties to include serving as Grand Marshal at UGA graduations

Somanath Shenoy, Associate Professor

Served in the Grant Review Panel, Vascular Wall Biology Study Section of the American Heart Association on March 31

Appointed as the Editor, "NAVBO Vascular Biology Publications Alert", North American Vascular Biology organization

George Zheng, Associate Professor

Served recently on a National Science Foundation (NSF) grant review panel at Washington, DC.

GRANTS

Christopher Bland, Clinical Assistant Professor; Bruce Jones, Adjunct Assistant Professor; and Ray Maddox, Clinical Professor

Received \$80,000 from ALK, Inc. to study the use of penicillin skin testing as part of an antimicrobial stewardship initiative in Savannah's St. Joseph's/Candler Health System.

Cory Momany, Associate Professor; and Scott Pegan, Associate Professor

Together with a consortium of UGA researchers received a Shared Instrumentation Grant totaling \$411,876 from the National Institutes of Health for the acquisition of an X-ray Generator/Detector System.

PUBLICATIONS

Ashley Hannings, Public Service Assistant

Assessment of Emergency Preparedness Modules in Introductory Pharmacy Practice Experiences: Ashley N. Hannings, Trina von Waldner, Deanna W. McEwen, Catherine A. White. American Journal of Pharmaceutical Education Volume 80, Issue 2, 2016: Article 23.

Trisha Branam and Chris Bland, Clinical Assistant Professors

Published Branam TN, Bland CM, Sutton SS. Sepsis and Septic Shock. In: Chisholm-Burns M, Wells BG, Schwinghammer TL, Malone PM, Kolesar JM, and Dipiro JT. Pharmacotherapy Principles and Practice. 4th edition. New York, NY: McGraw-Hill. March 2016.

Eileen Kennedy, Assistant Professor

Hydrophobic Core Variations Provide a Structural Framework for Tyrosine Kinase Evolution and Functional Specialization. Mohanty S, Oruganty K, Kwon A, Byrne DP, Ferries S, Ruan Z, Hanold LE, Katiyar S, Kennedy EJ, Evers PA, Kannan N. PLoS Genet. 2016 Feb 29;12(2):e1005885. doi: 10.1371/journal.pgen.1005885.

Persistent Electrical Activity in Primary Nociceptors after Spinal Cord Injury Is Maintained by Scaffolded Adenylyl Cyclase and Protein Kinase A and Is Associated with Altered Adenylyl Cyclase Regulation. Bavencoffe A, Li Y, Wu Z, Yang Q, Herrera J, Kennedy EJ, Walters ET, Dessauer CW. J Neurosci. 2016 Feb 3;36(5):1660-8. doi: 10.1523/JNEUROSCI.0895-15.2016.

James Bruckner, Professor

Just reviewed a draft document entitled "Criteria for a Recommended Standard: Occupational Exposure to 1-Bromopropane" for the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health. This document presents the state-of-the-art on the health effects of the chemical and the scientific basis for setting a standard to protect workers from adverse health effects.

Lakshman Segar, Associate Professor

Shawky NM, Pichavaram P, Shehatou GSG, Suddek GM, Gameil NM, Jun JY and Segar L. Sulforaphane improves dysregulated metabolic profile and inhibits leptin-induced VSMC proliferation: implications toward suppression of neointima formation after arterial injury in western diet-fed obese mice. Journal of Nutritional Biochemistry 2016;32;73-84.

Somanath Shenoy, Associate Professor, and Brian Cummings, Associate Professor

Al-Azayzih A*, Missaoui WN* (*Co-first Authors), Cummings BS#, Somanath PR# (#Co-senior authors), 2016: Liposomal-mediated delivery of the p21 activated kinase-1 (PAK-1) inhibitor IPA-3 limits prostate tumor growth in vivo. Nanomedicine. doi: 10.1016/j.nano.2016.01.003. [Epub ahead of print]

Study provides the evidence that liposomal encapsulation of an otherwise metabolically unstable compound IPA-3 enhances its stability and efficacy, and helps to reduce the frequency of drug administration in limiting prostate tumor growth in a mouse model. IPA-3 inhibits P21 activated kinase-1 (Pak1) activity in prostate cancer cells thus inducing prostate cancer cell apoptosis and inhibiting invasion. Media coverage on this study is available at: <https://sciencedirect.altmetric.com/details/6146175/news>

George Zheng, Associate Professor

Hu, H., K. Qian, et al. (2016). "Small Molecule Inhibitors of Protein Arginine Methyltransferases." Expert Opin Investig Drugs 25(3): 335-58.

Zhang, J. and Y. G. Zheng (2016). "SAM/SAH Analogs as Versatile Tools for SAM-Dependent Methyltransferases." ACS Chem Biol 11(3): 583-97

PRESENTATIONS

Christopher M. Bland, Clinical Assistant Professor

"The White House and Antimicrobial Stewardship: How coming mandates affect my practice." Georgia Society of Health-Systems Pharmacists Spring Meeting. Savannah, GA. March 2016.

Brian Cummings, Associate Professor

Presented at the 55th Annual Society of Toxicology Meeting in New Orleans, LA: R. Kolli, T. Glenn and B.S. Cummings, Bromate-induced Alterations in the Expression of Cyclin-Dependent Kinase Inhibitors Via Epigenetic Mechanisms, *The Toxicologist*, 150(1), 3135, 2016.

Eileen Kennedy, Assistant Professor

Targeting allosteric regulation of kinases using constrained peptide scaffolds. University of Iowa, Depts. of Cell Biology and Medicinal Chemistry, Iowa City, IA, March 3, 2016

Targeting allosteric regulation of kinases using constrained peptide scaffolds. The Wistar Institute, Dept. of Cancer Biology, Philadelphia, PA, March 9, 2016

Kalen Manasco, Clinical Associate Professor

Presented "Update in the Management of Cystic Fibrosis" at the Georgia Society of Health-Systems Pharmacists Spring Meeting in Savannah, GA on March 13, 2016.

Scott Pegan, Associate Professor

"Engineering the OPAA Enzyme for Increased Catalytic Efficiency and Broadened Stereospecificity on Russian VX," 2016 DTRA Enzyme Colloquium, Falls Church, VA, March 31, 2016

"Biodiversity impact of host interferon-stimulated-gene-product 15 on the function of viral deISGylases," 2016 SER-CAT Symposium, Emory University, GA, March 18, 2016

Lilian Sattler, Interdisciplinary Assistant Professor

Sattler, E.L.P., Bhargava, V. Food Insecurity and Health among the Working Poor in the US. Presented at Experimental Biology, San Diego, CA, April 4, 2016.

Sattler, E.L.P., Bhargava, V. Food Insecurity is Associated with Increased Cardiovascular Risk in US Adults. Presented at AHA Epidemiology and Prevention/ Lifestyle and Cardiometabolic Health Scientific Sessions in Phoenix, AZ, March 4, 2016.

George Zheng, Associate Professor

Presented an invited seminar titled "Bioorthogonal Chemical Probes of Protein Acetylation" at School of Pharmacy, University of California at San Diego, CA. 3/3/2016.