AWARDS/HONORS

Azza El-Remessy, Associate Professor
Selected as moderator for the following sessions during Association of Research on Vision and Ophthalmology meeting, Orlando, FL: Mechanisms in retinal angiogenesis and retinopathy (paper session); and Diabetic Retinopathy (poster session)

Susan Fagan, Assistant Dean
Appointed to: EUREKA study section (NINDS): June 5, 2014; and NSD-A Study Section (NINDS): June 25-26, 2014

Dexi Liu, Professor and Head, Pharmaceutical and Biomedical Sciences
Appointed Deputy Editor of Molecular Therapy (http://www.nature.com/mt/index.html)

Abdelrahman Fouda, 3rd year CET student from Susan Fagan’s lab
Received the UGA/GRU Excellence in Research Award at the Graduate Research Day of Georgia Regents University.

Maha Abdalla, 4th year CET student from Somanath Shenoy’s lab
Received 1st place, best student presentation in VA Research Day

Islam Mohamed, 4th year CET student from Azza El-Remessy’s lab
Received 2nd place, best student presentation in VA Research Day

GRANTS

Aaron Beedle, Assistant Professor
Awarded $389,910 from the National Institutes of Health for study of elucidating muscle regeneration defects in fukutin ko mice

Somanath Shenoy, Associate Professor
Received $308,700 from the National Institutes of Health for study of protein kinase B (AKT)-mediated pathway regulating endothelial-barrier function

Jason Zastre, Associate Professor
Received $171,630 from the National Institutes of Health for study of adaptive regulation of vitamin B1 transport

PUBLICATIONS

Michael Bartlett, Interim Dean, Non-traditional Education and Outreach

Aaron Beedle, Assistant Professor
James Bruckner, Professor

Amber Clemons, Clinical Assistant Professor
Amber B. Clemons, PharmD, BCP; Elizabeth Ensley, PharmD; Stephanie Hoge, PharmD; Stephen Clark, PharmD. Fixed-Dose Rasburicase in Overweight and Obese Patients Versus Normal-Weight Patients. Annals of Pharmacotherapy. Published online before print June 17, 2014, doi: 10.1177/1060028014539144.

Brian Cummings, Associate Professor
Published “Secretory phospholipase A2 enzymes as pharmacological targets for treatment of disease” in Biochemical Pharmacology, along with Nhat Quach (PBS graduate student). This review focuses on understanding how sPLA2 isoform expression is altered during disease progression and the possible therapeutic interventions to specifically target sPLA2 isoforms, including new approaches using nano-particulate-based strategies.

Susan Fagan, Assistant Dean for MCG Programs


Michael Neville, Clinical Associate Professor

Poster abstracts published:


Michael Bartlett, Interim Assistant Dean, Non-traditional Education and Outreach
M.G. Bartlett, P. Li, A.V. Terry, Identification of Phosphorylation of Tyrosines on Tubulin Following Exposure to Organophosphorus Pesticides using LC-MS/MS, 62nd National Meeting of the American Society for Mass Spectrometry Baltimore, MD, June 2014

D. Gullick, A. Popovici, H.C. Young, J.V. Bruckner, B.S. Cummings and M.G. Bartlett
Quantitation of Pyrethroids in rat liver and muscle using gas chromatography negative chemical ionization mass spectrometry 62nd National Meeting of the American Society for Mass Spectrometry Baltimore, MD, June 2014

H.C. Young, D. Gullick, A. Popovici, J.V. Bruckner, B.S. Cummings and M.G. Bartlett
An enhanced method for extraction and quantification of highly lipophilic pyrethroid pesticides from adipose tissue 62nd National Meeting of the American Society for Mass Spectrometry Baltimore, MD, June 2014
Aaron Beedle, Assistant Professor
Presented “Exploring regeneration defects in dystroglycan glycosylation-deficient muscular dystrophy” at the University of Georgia College of Pharmacy Summer Science Institute on June 3, 2014 in Athens, GA.

Presented “Rabbit monoclonal antibodies for the detection of alpha-dystroglycan core protein” at the New Directions in Biology and Disease of Skeletal Muscle conference, June 30, 2014 in Chicago, IL.

Steven Foltz, Beedle Lab graduate student
Presented “Abnormal intracellular signaling in Fktn-deficient dystroglycanopathy muscle” at the New Directions in Biology and Disease of Skeletal Muscle conference, June 30, 2014 in Chicago, IL.

Catherine Bourg, Clinical Assistant Professor
Presented “Diabetes Track Advanced: Insulin Therapy” Optimizing the use of insulin in patients with Type 2 Diabetes” at the Georgia Pharmacy Association Convention

Azza El-Remessy, Associate Professor
El-Remessy’s lab presented 5 different presentations in the annual meeting of Association of Research on Vision and Ophthalmology in Orlando FL:
1- Ahmed Shanab, PhD, post-doctoral fellow presented Modulating p75NTR Prevents ProNGF- And Diabetes-Induced Acellular Capillaries Via Suppression of NRIF Nuclear Translocation
2- Islam Mohamed, graduate student presented: TXNIP deletion abrogates high fat diet-induced retinal inflammation and microvascular injury
3- Sally Elshaer, graduate student presented: Modulation of P75NTR Restores Reparative Angiogenesis and Prevents Retinal Neovascularization in Ischemic Retinopathy
4- Barbara Mysona, PhD, a post-doctoral fellow presented ProNGF causes retinal endothelial cell permeability via activation of p75NTR/RhoA pathway
5- Azza El-Remessy presented Deletion of Thioredoxin Interacting Protein (TXNIP) Augments Hyperoxia-induced Vasobliteration in Ischemic Retinopathy

El-Remessy was invited speaker during the 74th Scientific session of the American Diabetes Association, San Francisco, CA; Symposium: Diabetic Retinopathy-targets and treatments
Presentation title: Inhibition of RhoA kinase prevents diabetes- and proNGF-mediated retinal vascular permeability

Symposium: Novel Mechanisms of Body Weight Regulation and Glucose Homeostasis
Presentation title: Deletion of TXNIP restores reparative angiogenesis in high fat diet-induced obesity model

Kalen Manasco, Clinical Associate Professor
Presented Asthma Management: Focus on Patient-Centered Care at the Georgia Pharmacy Association Convention, Panama City, Florida, on June 28, 2014.

Rusty May, Clinical Professor

Merrill Norton, Clinical Associate Professor

University of Utah Medical School Conference on Alcohol and Drug Studies, Salt Lake City, Utah
Pharmacy Section: From Disgrace To Grace: An Overview of the Addiction and Recovery Process
ACPE #0202-0000-14-096-L04-P 1.5 hours.; Do Pharmacists Have a Higher Risk for Addiction?
ACPE #0202-000-14-110-L04-P 1.5 hours; Psychopharmacology of Substance Use Disorders

The National Judicial College, Reno Nevada: The Neuroscience of Substance Use Disorders- The Anti-Reward Brain System;
Conference for Superior Court Judges, defense and prosecuting attorneys, Drug Court personnel, and treatment providers on the psychopharmacology of addictive disorders.

Ridgeview Institute Professional Training Series: Psychopharmacology Basics - Child, Adolescent, and Adult Update, Seminar designed to update clinical psychologists and other healthcare practitioners on current use trends of psychotropic medications.

**Beth Phillips, Rite Aid Professor**
Invited speaker to the University of Alabama Residency Programs, “Closing the Loop: Training the Future of Pharmacy”, Birmingham, AL. June 2, 2014.

**Han-Ron Weng, Assistant Professor**
Invited to present “Targeting glial glutamate transporters for treatment of neuropathic pain,” at BiT’s 5th World Congress of NeuroTalk-2014, Nanjing, China. 5/17/2014.

**George Zheng, Associate Professor**
Dr. Zheng’s lab graduate students Liza Ngo and Kun Qian attended and presented at the Bioorganic Chemistry Gordon Research Conference held on June 8th—13th in Andover, New Hampshire. Ngo presented a poster titled “Chemical Inhibitors and Probes for the Histone Acetyltransferases”. Qian presented a poster titled “Development of Selective Inhibitors for Protein Arginine Methyltransferase 1”.

**OTHER NEWS**

**James Bruckner, Professor**
Attended a meeting of the U.S.EPA Science Advisory Board Chemical Assessment Advisory Committee in Washington, DC. This committee is advising and monitoring EPA’s revision of the composition of its IRIS Documents on Priority Pollutants. These documents summarize research findings on the toxic hazards of major chemicals, conduct risk assessments, prescribe research priorities, and detail EPA’s scientific justification for setting air and water exposure standards to protect public health.

**Rusty May, Clinical Professor**

**Trina von Waldner, Senior Public Service Associate, and Deanna McEwen, Public Service Associate**
Served as faculty preceptors for 16 rising third-year students and one fourth-year student in the interdisciplinary Farm Worker Family Health Program, June 15-27 in Moultrie, GA.