November 12, 2013

Shenoy Elected AHA Fellow

Somanath Shenoy, associate professor at the University Of Georgia College Of Pharmacy, has been elected a Fellow of the American Heart Association (FAHA), Council of Atherosclerosis Thrombosis and Vascular Biology (ATVB). This honor recognizes his scientific and professional accomplishments and volunteer leadership and service in the field of cardiovascular and stroke professionals.

Shenoy is a biomedical scientist with specialization in molecular cell signaling. In general, he is interested in characterization of signaling pathways and identification of therapeutic targets utilizing cellular and pre-clinical models for prostate cancer, pulmonary hypertension and vascular permeability research. He was a postdoctoral fellow at Cleveland Clinic in Ohio prior to joining the faculty at the College's Clinical and Experimental Therapeutics program in Augusta in 2009, performing original health-related research in pulmonary vascular and cancer biology. Shenoy also serves as an adjunct faculty at the Georgia Regents University and Charlie Norwood VA Medical Center in Augusta.

His long-term research goal in the cancer and cardiovascular biology laboratory is to enable the development of new and innovative therapeutics for urological cancers, lung edema and pulmonary arterial hypertension through better understanding of the molecular mechanisms regulating tumor growth and metastasis, vascular permeability, angiogenesis and extracellular matrix remodeling etc. In his cancer research, he focuses on determining the molecular mechanisms regulating tumor growth, invasion and metastasis of prostate and bladder cancers with an emphasis on developing therapeutics employing studies using pre-clinical mouse models. For pulmonary hypertension and fibrosis, he is investigating the molecular mechanisms mediating transforming growth factor-β (TGFβ)-induced myofibroblast differentiation and endothelial-mesenchymal transition. In the area of vascular biology, his research is centered on identifying how different growth factors such as vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF) and angiopoietins differentially regulate endothelial-barrier function in controlling vascular leakage, inflammation and edema during various physiological and pathological conditions.

Since joining the College of Pharmacy, Shenoy has published 18 research articles and two book chapters and won several national and international awards. His research is extramurally funded by National Institutes of Health and American Heart Association grants, in addition to four intramural grants. One of his major accomplishments has been the creation of a broad multi-disciplinary training program in basic and translational research to enable trainees to move into their respective health care fields as practitioners, educators and researchers with a firm mutual understanding of each other’s knowledge and ability to effectively communicate with one another.