

Rx News

A Monthly Newsletter
of The University of Georgia College of Pharmacy
April 2009

AWARDS/HONORS

James Bruckner, Professor

Elected Vice President of the Biological Modeling Specialty Section of the Society of Toxicology at their national meeting in March.

James Cooper, Professor Emeritus

Receive the Leadership In Education Award from the American Society of Consultant Pharmacists for his career achievements in education, service and research to improve drug use in the older adult.

Brian Cummings, Assistant Professor

Received UGA's 2009 Excellence in Undergraduate Research Mentoring Award.

Shelley Hooks, Assistant Professor

Elected to serve as Secretary/Treasurer of the Molecular Pharmacology Division of American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics (ASPET).

Brad Phillips, Professor and Head, Clinical and Administrative Pharmacy

Moderated the Scientific Paper Platform Presentations, "The Great Eight," at the American College of Clinical Pharmacy / European Society of Clinical Pharmacy International Congress on Clinical Pharmacy, and announced the Best Scientific Paper Award with co-chair Professor J.W. Foppe van Mil.

Student Awards:

Jillian Hurst was selected as a Finalist in the Graduate Student Best Poster Award competition in the Molecular Pharmacology Division of ASPET at the annual meeting in New Orleans.

Kathryn Turner was chosen as winner of the Best Paper Award in the Science division at the annual UGA CURO undergraduate research symposium, for her paper entitled, "Inhibition of LPA Signaling Pathways By RGS Protein Overexpression in Ovarian Cancer Cells". Kathryn has worked in the Hooks lab for two years, and is entering the Neuroscience graduate program at the University of Alabama, Birmingham.

GRANTS

Susan Fagan, Professor and Assistant Dean for MCG Programs

Received \$15,259 as a continuation grant from the Medical University of South Carolina for Neuroprotective exploratory trials in Parkinson's Disease Pharmacology.

PUBLICATIONS

James Bruckner, Professor

Wrote a chapter in the medical textbook: Bruckner, J.V., Fenig, D.M., and Lipshultz, L.I.: Adverse effects of environmental chemicals and drugs on the male reproductive system. Ch. 14 in Infertility in the Male (Lipshultz, L., Howards, S., and Niederberger, C.), 4th ed., Cambridge Press, Cambridge, UK (2009).

Brian Cummings, Assistant Professor

Published "Characterization of human lysophospholipid acyltransferase 3 (LPCAT3)" in the Journal of Lipid Research, with graduate student Xiaoling Zhang. This manuscript describes the use of molecular approaches (siRNA and over expression vectors) to determine the role of lysophospholipid acyltransferase (a novel phospholipid metabolizing enzyme) in phospholipid metabolism and cell growth as determined using electrospray ionization tandem mass spectrometry.

David Mullis, Associate Professor and Director of Regulatory Affairs Graduate Education

Published PHAR 6900: Expanding Regulatory Experience in the April issue of Regulatory Focus.

Mandi Murph, Assistant Professor

"Lysophosphatidic acid-induced transcriptional profile represents serous epithelial ovarian carcinoma and worsened prognosis" accepted for publication in the journal PLoS ONE.

PRESENTATIONS

James Bruckner, Professor

Three scientific papers were presented at the national meeting of the Society of Toxicology in Baltimore:

"Validation of physiologically-based pharmacokinetic (PBPK) model predictions of presystemic elimination of trace oral doses of trichloroethylene," with Michael Bartlett was a co-author. In this study, we found that ~90% of trace levels of trichloroethylene (an animal carcinogen) consumed in drinking water are removed by the liver and lungs, before they reach the rest of the body of rats.

"Improved analysis of trichloroethylene (TCE) metabolites by gas chromatography (GC)" described a new analytical technique for simultaneously measuring the solvent trichloroethylene and its major metabolites in blood and tissues.

"Bayesian analysis of physiologically-based pharmacokinetic (PBPK) modeling of perchloroethylene (PCE) in humans" showed that the statistical work permitted development of an improved mathematical model to predict the tissue deposition and metabolism of the industrial solvent, perchloroethylene, in humans.

Susan C. Fagan, Professor and Assistant Dean for MCG Programs

"How to find a mentor and assemble a research team" at the Research Primer at ACCP-ESCP International Congress on Clinical Pharmacy; Orlando, FL, April 24, 2009.

James Franklin, Associate Professor

Gave a seminar entitled "Bax-dependent ROS production in apoptotic and non-apoptotic neurons" to the Department of Physiology and Pharmacology at the University of Rochester, Rochester, New York.

Shelley Hooks, Assistant Professor

Poster presentation: "Gi G-protein Selective RGS Proteins Regulate Lysophosphatidic Acid Signaling in SKOV-3 Ovarian Cancer Cells" at the American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics (ASPET), Experimental Biology 2009, New Orleans, with Jillian H. Hurst, Phillip Callihan, Kathryn Turner.

Kalen Porter, Clinical Assistant Professor

Poster presentation: "The use of azithromycin for the treatment of pediatric acute asthma exacerbations" at the American College of Clinical Pharmacy/European Society of Clinical Pharmacy International Congress on Clinical Pharmacy in Orlando, Florida with Caity Bowers, Pharm.D. student.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Alumni Dinner at Sawgrass Plantation on Monday, June 22, at 7:30 at the Magnolia Terrace. The cost is \$35 per person and advanced reservations are required. Faculty are invited.