

## October 2017 Issue

### PUBLICATIONS

Duan, C.-G., X. Wang, L. Zhang, X. Xiong, Z. Zhang, K. Tang, L. Pan, C.-C. Hsu, H. Xu, **W.A. Tao**, H. Zhang and J.-K. Zhu. 2017. A protein complex regulates RNA processing of intronic heterochromatin-containing genes in *Arabidopsis*. *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A.* **114**(35):E7377-E7384.

### AWARDS & RECOGNITION

Joe Ogas received a Bridge Funding award from The Office of the Vice President for Research. The total award amount for the project is \$86,113. The project period is 8/1/2017 – 5/31/2018.

Andy Tao was featured in an article on September 20 in Purdue University Agriculture News entitled “New kinase detection method helps identify targets for developing cancer drugs”. To read the full article click on the link, <http://www.purdue.edu/newsroom/releases/2017/Q3/new-kinase-detection-method-helps-identify-targets-for-developing-cancer-drugs.html>

### NEW FACES



Zhaoyuan (Joe) Wang joined the Kazemian lab as a postdoctoral researcher on August 14. He earned his doctorate degree in Biochemistry and Immunology from Shanghai Institute of Biochemistry and Cellular Biology, Chinese Academy of Sciences. He then did postdoctoral research on the cancer immunotherapy in the Laboratory of Molecular Immunology at the National Cancer Institute. At Purdue, his research focuses on the discovery and modeling of the regulatory circuitry of the non-coding genome, which is essential for maintaining normal cellular physiology. In his spare time, he likes fishing with family.

### DEPARTMENT NEWS

Thank you to the sponsors of the 2017 Biochemistry Research Retreat held on Friday August 18, 2017.

THANK YOU!  
2017 RESEARCH RETREAT SPONSORS

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## Get up to speed on cutting-edge genetics and genomics research at Purdue symposium

An article highlighting the Biochemical Horizons Symposium entitled "Get up to speed on cutting-edge genetics and genomics research at Purdue symposium" was featured in the September 8 issue of PurdueToday . To read the entire article click on the link, <http://www.purdue.edu/newsroom/releases/2017/Q3/get-up-to-speed-on-cutting-edge-genetics-and-genomics-research-at-purdue-symposium.html>

## GRADUATE NEWS



Congratulations to Tiffany Young for passing her defense on September 29.

## GOING THE EXTRA MILE

Mark Hall traveled to Roscoff, France to attend the Cell Cycle Inside Out meeting from September 18 – 22. While there he gave a talk titled "Evidence for a catalytic function of the destruction box".

Andy Mesecar traveled to Athens, Georgia on September 27<sup>th</sup> to present a seminar at the University of Georgia. His seminar was titled "Ubiquitin specific proteases (USPs) as emerging therapeutic targets".

Elizabeth Tran traveled to Rochester, New York on September 26 – 28 to present a seminar at the University of Rochester entitled "Unraveling the role of RNA structure in gene regulation through studies of the RNA Helicase Dbp2/DDX5". She also traveled to North Chicago, Illinois on August 30 – September 2 at the University of Rosalind Franklin School of Medicine and Science. Her seminar was titled "Unraveling the Role of RNA Structure in Gene Regulation through Studies of the RNA Helicase Dbp2/DDX5" to the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology.

## SAFETY CORNER

By Karyn Rodkey

### How to use a Fume Hood safely

Fume hoods get rid of vapors from any reactions or reagents lab workers may be using. But if you don't use the hood properly, you won't get the full safety benefits of this important piece of equipment and you could be exposed to the harmful fumes you're dealing with. These five points are good to keep in mind when working with a fume hood:

- To improve how well fumes are taken up and away, put your reactions or equipment as far back in the fume hood as you possibly can.
- Turn the unit's light on by using the switch near the electrical outlets on the outside panel.
- The safety shield or glass sash of the hood automatically drops to the right height for proper operation. Don't lift the sash above this height unless it's to put materials in or take them out of the hood. You should also keep the shield between the inside of the hood and your body. Lower the sash only if the height of the automatic stop is too high to protect your body and face. This may be common sense, but you should never climb inside the fume hood or stick your head inside it.
- If a splash occurs, wipe the glass of the fume hood clean and be sure to clean up any spills right away.
- Lower the safety shield to the height shown by the sticker on the side once you're done working with the fume hood.

Sources: Dartmouth College, "Using a Fume Hood"

## BIRTHDAYS

Karl Brandt  
Yifan (Evan) Kong  
Sherry Pogranichniy

Sherlene Brown  
Jeremy Lohman  
Faeze Saatchi

Sara Cloutier  
Jiaxin Long  
Lee Stunkard

Melaku Garsamo  
Sebastian Paez

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### **October Break – Monday & Tuesday, October 9 & 10, 2017**

No classes, but University offices will be open normal business hours

### **Biochemistry Speaker Seminars (Tuesdays at 3:30 – 4:30 p.m. in Whistler Hall, Rm. 116 unless stated)**

October 3 – **Dr. Tracy Johnson**, UCLA, Dept. of Molecular, Cell and Developmental Biology

October 17 – **Dr. Elda Sanchez**, Texas A&M – Kingsville, Exec. Co-Director National Natural Toxins Research Center

October 24 – **Dr. Carl Bauer**, Indiana University, Dept. of Molecular and Cellular Biochemistry

October 31 – **Dr. Mats Ljungman** – Univ. of Michigan, Radiation Oncology, School of Public Health

### **Biochemistry Graduate/Postdoc Seminars – (Fridays at 12:30 – 1:30 p.m. in Whistler Hall, Rm. 116 unless stated).**

October 13 – **Iskander Ibrahim** (Puthiyaveetil lab) & **Lee Stunkard** (Lohman lab)

October 27 – **Longyun Guo** (Morgan lab) & **Joe Lynch** (Dudareva lab)

### **October 20 – Rotation Talks**

Rotation talks will be held from 11:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. (Light lunch will be served at 11:15 a.m.)

### **November 17 – Biochemical Horizons Symposium (registration required)**

[www.conf.purdue.edu/landing\\_pages/biochemistry/](http://www.conf.purdue.edu/landing_pages/biochemistry/)