Publications


Awards & Recognitions

Beach Family Travel Grant
Paul South (Briggs lab) and Shawn Liu (Liu lab) are this year’s recipients of the Beach Family Travel Grant. The award will support Paul’s attendance to the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology (FASEB) 2010 summer research conference, Biological Methylation: from DNA to Histones, in June in Carfree, AZ, where he will present a poster, “A Conserved Interaction Between the SDI Domain of Bre2 and the Dpy-30 Domain of Sdc1 is Required for Histone Methylation and Gene Expression.” Shawn will attend The Cell Cycle meeting in May at the Cold Spring Harbor Laboratories where he will present a poster, “Plk1 Phosphorylation of GTSE1 is Essential for G2 Checkpoint Recovery.” This is the first off-campus meeting for both. Congratulations!

Dr. Ann Kirchmaier received a Cancer Center Innovative Grant sponsored by the Indiana Elks Charities, Inc. in the amount of $15,000 for her project entitled, “Defining Epigenetic Programming Directing Double Strand DNA Break Repair by Single Molecule Methods.” 11/01/09-10/31/10.

New Faces

Stephanie Arndt joined the Kirchmaier lab on January 11 as a temporary lab technician. She graduated in December with B.S. in computer science and molecular biology from the University of Wisconsin. During her undergraduate career, Stephanie worked in an oncology lab studying the role of Estrogen-Related Receptor as a possible antagonist in hard-to-treat forms of breast cancer under Dr. Janet Mertz. She moved to Lafayette to be closer to her fiancé until he graduates from Purdue in May in computer science. In June, they will move to Seattle, WA so that Stephanie can start her position as a software development engineer with Microsoft. In her spare time, Stephanie enjoys biking, cooking, and reading.

Lingfei Zeng, a Ph.D. student in the MCMP program, joined Dr. Tao’s lab on January 1 after completing three laboratory rotations. Before coming to Purdue, Lingfei completed her undergraduate studies in Tongji Medical College, Huazhong University of Science & Technology, China. During her spare time, Lingfei enjoys watching movies, traveling and going out with friends.
**Graduate Update**

Ayesha Elias (Rossie lab) was interviewing when the December newsletter was published. We are happy to report that she has accepted a postdoc position with Dr. Taosheng Chen in the Department of Chemical Biology & Therapeutics at St. Jude Children’s Hospital in Memphis, TN. She will start February 1.

**Upcoming Events**

- **January 15**  Graduate/Postdoc Seminar  
  WSLR 116, 12:30 p.m.  
  Lianghai Hu and Sirius Li

- **January 18**  Martin Luther King, Jr. Day – University Holiday  
  No Classes

- **January 22**  Graduate/Postdoc Seminar  
  WSLR 116, 12:30 p.m.  
  Jennifer Jacobi and Heng Zhang

- **January 26**  BCHM Seminar  
  WSLR 116, 4:00 p.m.  
  Jenna Rickus  
  Department of Agricultural & Biological Engineering  
  *Title: TBA*

- **January 29**  Graduate/Postdoc Seminar  
  WSLR 116, 12:30 p.m.  
  Bing Song and Rakesh Joshi

- **February 2**  BCHM Seminar  
  WSLR 116, 4:00 p.m.  
  Sandra Rossie  
  Department of Biochemistry, Purdue University  
  *Title: TBA*

- **February 5**  Graduate/Postdoc Seminar  
  WSLR 116, 12:30 p.m.  
  Juan Martinez and Greg Weber

- **February 9**  BCHM Seminar  
  WSLR 116, 4:00 p.m.  
  Scott Michaels  
  Department of Biology, Indiana University  
  *The Role of Histone H3K27 Methylation in Chromatin Structure, Gene Expression, and DNA Replication*

- **February 12**  Graduate/Postdoc Seminar  
  WSLR 116, 12:30 p.m.  
  Shawn Liu and Elwood Mullins
**Strictly Personal**

We missed an announcement in our November newsletter. Mark and Hana Hall became proud parents of a third son, Alex Colton Hall, born on October 23 around 11:30 a.m. weighing 7 lbs. 12 oz.

Henry Weiner is the proud grandfather of a third grandchild, Rebecca Morgan Weiner. She was born at 11:11 a.m. on December 25 at Roosevelt Hospital in NYC, weighing 6 lbs. 10 oz. Dr. Weiner reports that everyone is doing well.

Brett Bishop (Ogas lab) and his wife, Amy, welcomed their new baby girl, Liliana Grace, on January 6. Liliana is their first child and was 7 lbs. 6 oz. and 21 inches long. Everyone is doing fine and Brett says she’s a good baby!

**Safety Corner**

One incident of injury: minor treatment required to a cut on a thumb received while using a scalpel in the lab.

**Birthday**

Connie Bonham
Kayla Harmeyer
Mark Hermodson
Lianghai Hu
Jennifer Jacobi
Chunhui Jiang
Shinyoung Lee
Karyn Rodkey
Liang Xue

**Alumni Updates**

Bradley Wilson (B.S. 2005) recently contacted us and provided an update. He married Jane Dall on October 24. Jane is an attorney at Baker & Daniels, LLP in Indianapolis. Brad and Jane currently reside at 9748 Harrison Ridge Drive, Indianapolis, IN 46236.

Sherry Pogranichnyi recently received an e-mail from biochemistry alumna Sarah Batta (B.S. 2008). Sarah is currently serving in the Peace Corps in Mali as a Health Education Volunteer. She has been in Mali since July 2009, and after two months of intensive training, moved to a village “in the middle of nowhere” of about 1000 people. Sarah described her house as a mud hut with a tin roof, cement floor and a bathroom out back. Her first project has been to start a library for the village children. She is also starting to lead health and life-skills groups focusing on prevention of STDs, teen pregnancy and AIDS. Sarah only has e-mail access about once a month, but would love to receive letters from any of her former biochemistry family: Sarah Batta, Peace Corps Volunteer, BP 227, Sikasso, Mali, West Africa.

We recently learned that Naomi Jayasuriya (M.S. 2008, Clemens) was married to Garrett Fleck in a small private ceremony on April 28 in Indianapolis. Naomi was happy that her parents were able to come from Singapore for the occasion. Garrett is a research technician with Vertellus Specialties, Inc. (formerly known as Reilly Industries) in Indianapolis. When Naomi is granted permanent residency, she plans to return to the workforce.

**Service Directory**

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