March 2013 Issue

Publications


Faculty News

Natalia Dudareva will transfer to Biochemistry from the Department of Horticulture and Landscape Architecture to become a Distinguished Professor of Biochemistry effective July 1. Natalia has been a faculty member in Horticulture since 1997.

Awards and Recognition

Kristi Trimble (Administrative Assistant) received a College of Agriculture Administrative/Professional Advancement for excellent performance. Kristi has been a member of the College of Agriculture since 2002 and a member of Biochemistry since 2003. She joins other professional staff in the department in rank 6, which is the highest rank in the program.
Brendan Powers (Hall lab) is this year’s Hickory Stick Award winner. The award is given annually to recognize a student’s outstanding performance as a teaching assistant. Brendan is recognized for his integral work in BCHM 309 during the spring 2013 semester. In the absence of the Laboratory Coordinator, Brendan’s contributions to BCHM 309 were vital to maintaining the quality of the course. He volunteered suggestions about how the lab could be improved and wrote a new and improved lab exam. Brendan will also be recognized at the Celebration of Teaching Excellence banquet hosted by the Committee for the Education of Teaching Assistants (CETA) and the Office of the Provost on April 23.

Jim Forney received a 2013 Trustee Teaching Award from the Indiana University School of Medicine for his efforts as instructor of medical biochemistry at the IUSM-Lafayette Center. He was also featured in Purdue Today March 8 for receiving this award.

Timothy Adams (B.S. 1982) was the 2013 Distinguished Ag Alumnus for Biochemistry. Biochemistry undergraduate Kayleigh Nyffeler was his citation reader during the convocation. After graduating high school in 1974, Adams began a military career as a medic with the 5th Special Forces Group at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, followed by service with the 11th Special Forces Reserve Group. He earned his
B.S. in biochemistry and animal sciences from Purdue in 1982 and went on to earn a DVM in veterinary medicine from Purdue, a M.S. in public health from Harvard, and a Ph.D. in toxicology from Duke University. Adams re-entered active military service in 1986 and went on to a distinguished military career. He headed the U.S. Army Public Health Command at Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD, was commander of the U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense, the Army’s Assistant Surgeon General for Force Projection, and 24th Veterinary Corps Chief. Adams retired from the U.S. Army as a Brigadier General in 2012 and is currently an independent consultant with MBO Partners.

Scott Briggs was featured in Purdue Today on February 25 for his yeast study that yields potential for new cholesterol, anti-fungal drugs.

Emeritus Professor Mark Hermodson was awarded the 7th Annual Crystal Bison Award for his volunteer efforts around the community.

Full Story: WLFI report

Lafayette Regional Science Fair

This year’s Lafayette Regional Science Fair was held on March 1 and 2. Judges spent time talking to students in grades 5-12 about their scientific experiments. The biochemistry department had several representatives at the fair:

Dr. Ann Kirchmaier
Dr. Sandra Rossie

Graduate Students:
Nick Anderson
Whitney Dolan
Yi Li
Luyen Nguyen

Graduate Student News

Paul South (Briggs lab) received his Ph.D. in December and has accepted a postdoc position at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign beginning in April. He will be working in the laboratory of Dr. Don Ort in the Department of Plant Biology for the USDA/ARS Photosynthesis Research Unit. Paul’s last day with us will be March 29.
**Going the Extra Mile**

Ann Kirchmaier travelled to Santa Fe, NM, where she presented a talk entitled, “Creating patterns in chromatin one nucleosome at a time” at the National Center for Genome Resources and the New Mexico IDeA Network of Biomedical Research Excellence (NM-INBRE) Genome Dynamics Conference on March 20. She also travelled to Indianapolis, IN, on March 1 where she was a participant at the IU-PU Bladder Cancer Minisymposium at the IU School of Medicine.

Clint Chapple travelled to North Bethesda, MD, where he presented a talk entitled, “Modeling and manipulating phenylpropanoid pathway flux for bioenergy” at the DOE Contractor’s Meeting on February 24.

Xiaoqi Liu travelled to Chicago, IL, on March 9 to meet with a collaborator and performed experiments at the University of Chicago.

**IT Corner by Joe Levell**

This month I would like to discuss some changes to the IT environment in Biochemistry.

The biggest change is the expansion and relocation of the X: Drive. On March 18, the X: Drive changed addresses. The new address is itsofs06.itap.purdue.edu\ag_BCHM (there is a _ between ag and BCHM).

Here are some instructions provided by AgIT to help you make the switch on your own:

**How to manually map a network drive,** [https://support.purdue.edu/AgITAnswers/28123](https://support.purdue.edu/AgITAnswers/28123)

**Settings for mobile devices,** [https://support.purdue.edu/AgITAnswers/19054](https://support.purdue.edu/AgITAnswers/19054)

The second change is the addition of a new document camera installed in BCHM 101. This camera should replace the need to use an overhead projector. It’s really easy to use, but you should take time to familiarize yourself with it before using it live. If you have questions or need help I am available. Here is a link to the user manual,

Safety Corner by Karyn Rodkey

Any compressed gas cylinder that is in use (has a regulator on it) MUST be secured separately. Only gas cylinders that do not have regulators attached may be secured together.

Strictly Personal

Sara Cloutier (Tran lab) and her husband Alan welcomed their first-born, Cameron, on Monday, March 18, at 2:00 p.m. He weighed in at 8 lbs. and 15 oz. Everyone is doing fine.
Birthdays
Ji Chen
Ann Kirchmaier
Jie Li
Andrew Miller
Jesse Murphy
Li Pan
Beth Tran
Lee Weith

Upcoming Events

Axelrod Lectures
Fred Winston
Department of Genetics, Harvard Medical School

March 26
Deans Auditorium (PFEN 241), 3:30pm

March 27
Deans Auditorium (PFEN 241), 4:00pm

April 2
BCHM Seminar Series
Bill Metcalf
The School of Molecular and Cellular Biology, University of Illinois
WSLR 116, 3:30pm

April 9
BCHM Seminar Series
Anita Corbett
Department of Biochemistry, Emory University
WSLR 116, 3:30pm

April 13-14
Spring Fest

April 16
BCHM Seminar Series
Jon Page
Department of Biology, University of Saskatchewan
WSLR 116, 3:30pm

April 23
Biochemistry Spring Awards Convocation
WSLR 116, 3:30pm