

Biomedical Times

The Newsletter of the Department of Biomedical Sciences

May 2003, Volume 2, No. 1

This is the fourth issue of the *BMS Newsletter*. The newsletter provides information about

- New programs in the Department and College
- Student and Alumni News
- Intersession and Fall Course Offerings
- Faculty and Student News

This issue of the newsletter is in the draft stage. If you have information to include, please contact the [newsletter editor](#) with the details.

Student and Faculty Highlights

Summer 2003 Fellowships:

- **Kristan Hagan**, CMB Junior, was awarded an American Society for Microbiology Minority Undergraduate Research Fellowship to study at Emory University during the summer.
- **Joshua O'Donnell**, CMB Senior, was awarded a summer Pediatric Oncology Research Fellowship at St. Jude Children's Research Center.

Grant Awards:

Dr. Thad Wilson, Assistant Professor, received a grant from the American Heart Association for \$121,000 for a two year period. Dr. Wilson's grant, entitled *Mechanisms underlying blunted cutaneous vasoconstrictor responses in the aged*, involves identifying vasoconstrictor dysfunction, including a) reduced post-synaptic adrenergic receptor responsiveness, b) reduced post-synaptic vasoconstrictor response to co-released neuropeptide Y, and c) reduced post-synaptic purinoceptor vasoconstrictor response.

Dr. Colette Witkowski, Assistant Professor, received a \$100,000 National Science Foundation (NSF) Course, Curriculum, and Laboratory Improvement Grant to enhance the Cell and Molecular Biology undergraduate curriculum. A charge-coupled device array digital (CCD) camera, imaging hardware and software, and a Fuji Pictograph photo-quality printer were acquired with this grant and are being used with the department's existing epifluorescence microscope.

Presentations:

Faculty presentations at the **American Society for Cell Biology** 42nd Annual Meeting in San Francisco in December 2002 included posters by **Dr. Richard Garrad**, Assistant Professor, and **Dr. Joanne Gordon**, Professor. Dr. Garrad's poster was entitled: *The Effect of Protein Kinase C Inhibition on P2Y₂ Receptor Desensitization in 1321N1 Astrocytoma Cells*. Dr. Gordon's poster was entitled *Upregulation of VCAM (CD106) by 5-Hydroxytryptamine (Serotonin) in Human Umbilical Vein Endothelial Cells*.

Dr. Joanne Gordon, Professor, presented a platform presentation on *Upregulation of a Cell Adhesion Molecule by 5-Hydroxytryptamine* at the **Midwest Nursing Research Conference** in Grand Rapids, MI, in April 2003.

Faculty and students presenting platform presentations at the **Missouri Academy of Science** in Warrensburg in April include the following:

- **Umme Rumana, Dr. Colette Witkowski**, *Analysis of the distribution of bpat-3::GFP fusion protein in Caenorhabditis elegans collagen IV mutants*.
- **David Stone, Dr. Colette Witkowski**, *Distribution of ajm-1::GFP in collagen IV null mutant Caenorhabditis elegans embryos*.
- **Matthew Groh, Dr. Richard Garrad**, *Regulation of a P2Y₂ Nucleotide receptor desensitization*.
- **Joshua O'Donnell, Dr. Richard Garrad**, *Site-directed mutagenesis of the P2Y₂ nucleotide receptor*.
- **Dr. Albert Gordon**, *Career assessment and student self-assessment as valuable tools for early advisement in the health professions*.

December 2002 Graduates

Dietetics majors:

Cell and Molecular Biology majors and their immediate career goals:

Gwendolyn Brady; Colleen Daniels, accepted a position at Wyeth BioPharma, St. Louis; **Louis Drackert**, was accepted to the University of Missouri-Kansas City Dental School for Fall 03; **Derek Eddie; Laura McGuire**, a Bryant Scholar, will be attending the University of Missouri-Columbia School of Medicine; **Chris Winn**.

Clinical Laboratory Sciences/Medical Technology majors:

Masters in Nurse Anesthesia:

Bradley Korman, Sheridan Klinger, Daniel Littleton, Kathleen Whorton

May 2003 Graduating Students

Dietetics majors and their dietetic internships:

Amanda Bartlett, Leah Broecker, Jarreau Hawkins, Kathleen Hoss, Jessica Jensen, Stuart Johnson, Rebecca Kuklenski, Lindsay Mooney, Sarah Murray, Stephanie Pitt.

Cell and Molecular Biology majors and their immediate career goals:

Jacob Bentley; Lisa Briano, moving to California; **Sean Brooks**, completing an accelerated masters degree in Chemistry; **Scott Campbell; Amber Cheaney**, a Bryant Scholar; will be attending the University of Missouri-Columbia School of Medicine; **Nicholas Gentry**, will be attending the University of Missouri-Columbia School of Medicine; **Jeffrey Kemp; Aaron Lauck**, will be a manager at Abercrombie and Fitch; **Sarah Martin**, will attend the PharmD program at the University of Nebraska; **Tammy Miller**, accepted a position in the University of Arkansas' Nuclear Medical Technology program; **Melanie Narancich; Jennifer Nelson; Joshua O'Donnell**, accepted a position in the University of Tennessee College of Pharmacy's PharmD program; **Jeffrey Overton; Matthew Routh; Ben Seedorf**, will be attending Washington University's Physical Therapy program; **Daniel Short; Jared Snavelly**, will be attending Creighton University's PharmD program in the School of Pharmacy and Health Professions; **Jaime Wommack.**

Clinical Laboratory Sciences/Medical Technology majors:

Kimberly Brandriff

Masters in Cell and Molecular Biology:

Lori Langiano (spring 2003), **Libia Chandler** (summer 2003)

Masters in Nurse Anesthesia:

Samantha Aiken, Sherry Bailey, Bruce Bensch, Sheri Hirai, Lisa Gore

Information about the **[Master of Science in Cell and Molecular Biology](#)** is available online. The program is accepting applicants for the fall. Assistantships are also available.

Alumni News

During the summer of 2002, an alumni survey was distributed to all Cell and Molecular Biology alumni, beginning with those graduating in the first group of CMB graduates in 1994. Based on this survey and information known about the CMB alumni, the graduates are successful in continuing their education in professional programs and securing positions in biotechnology and science areas. Of the 138 alumni,

- 19% (23) pursued careers in medicine (MD/DO programs)
 - 11% (13) entered dental programs
 - 20% (24) continued their education in graduate schools and post-baccalaureate programs, including 9 that entered PhD programs
 - 8% (10) entered optometry programs
 - 2% (2) entered podiatry programs
 - 2% (2) attended pharmacy programs
 - 1% (1) entered a chiropractic program
 - 5% (6) attended programs leading to a physicians assistant degree
 - 4% (5) entered programs in physical therapy
 - 24% (29) took positions in biotechnology and science areas
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New Faculty and Faculty Appointments

Dr. Thad Wilson, Assistant Professor, joined the BMS faculty in August 2002. Dr. Wilson has his BS and MS from the University of Wyoming and his PhD from the University of Utah. He spent two years in a post-doctorate position at Presbyterian Hospital of Dallas/University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center. Dr. Wilson's research interests are environmental physiology, autonomic nervous system, cutaneous biology, exercise physiology, and temperature regulation. Dr. Wilson's teaching responsibilities include BMS 569, Neurobiology; BMS 652, Medical Physiology; PTE 664, Exercise Physiology, Nutrition, and Wellness; and BMS 308, Human Physiology.

Dr. Helen Reid, Professor, has been appointed Associate Dean for the College of Health and Human Services, Missouri State. Dr. Reid has served as served in this position in an interim capacity for the past three years.

\$\$\$ - Scholarship Opportunities - \$\$\$

The *Advantage Missouri Program* provides loans for students majoring in designated critical need programs in Missouri academic institutions. Biomedical/biotechnology is one of the three programs identified as critical need areas for the first year of the program (advanced manufacturing and computer science are the other two areas). For more information on the Advantage Missouri Program or other student financial assistance programs contact the MOSTARS Information Center at 1-800-473-6757 or check the [Missouri Department of Higher Education](#) Web site. The Missouri State Office of Financial Aid should be able to give full details on the application process and other information about the program.

Do you have news you would like to see on the BMS Newsletter? Contact the [newsletter editor](#) with the details.

Links to prior newsletters

- [July 2001](#), Vol. 1, no. 3.
- [June 2000](#), Vol. 1, no. 2.
- [August 1999](#), Vol. 1, no.1.

[Go to the BMS Home Page](#)

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URL: <http://courses.missouristate.edu/jmg230f/newsltr03.html>