

GSBS NEWS

WINTER
1999/2000

Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences The University of Texas-Houston Health Science Center/M.D. Anderson Cancer Center

Generating Scientists for 37 Years



GSBS student, Jarah Meador, measures DNA damage to South Atlantic Ocean phytoplankton at Palmer Station in Antarc-

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Athanasia Panapoulos, Graduate Student Association president, waves atop the fire engine float in the M.D. Anderson Cancer Center Holiday Card parade against a back drop of the Houston Main Building.

Dean's Notes

In the hustle and bustle of everyday life it is easy to get the impression that we are achieving very little because we are so busy with daily tasks that we lose sight of how much we are accomplishing over time. For this very reason, at year's end, I pause and reflect on my career. When I review the past year's appointment calendar and update my CV, I get a truer perspective of my achievements and this prepares me for the challenges of the next 365 days. In the new Millennium, I find myself reflecting upon my entire scientific career which leads me to think about the accomplishments of the GSBS since it began in 1963. I would like to share some highlights of those GSBS thoughts with you.

We now have over 1,000 alumni and over 400 students are enrolled this year. These graduates and students are the most important mirror of our success or failure - what do they tell us about their experiences at the GSBS? In a recent alumni survey with a very high response rate (70%), "92.7% of the respondents are either 'very satisfied' or 'satisfied' with the education they received from the GSBS." A complete report of that survey can be found on the GSBS home page (<http://gsbs.gs.uth.tmc.edu/>) by clicking on "alumni." If you want to be as proud of the GSBS as I am, read the full report of that survey.

The goal of the GSBS is to provide exceptional research training. Since this requires top quality research, what is the quality of our research activities? In the most comprehensive study of its kind in the 80's, the Institute of Scientific Information ranked institutions based upon the total number of "Citation Classics" (i.e., the most frequently cited research publications) of their faculties. UT components in Houston ranked 3rd in the NATION. A study of clinical research in the mid 90's ranked us 10th in the NATION in terms of output and citation impact. This year the aggregate NIH funding of our parent institutions ranks in the top 20 of ALL institutions in the NATION - greater than ANY other institution in Texas. All this has been achieved in only 37 years compared to a much longer history for most of the competition.

Our teaching and research missions are accomplished by the GSBS faculty. What are some of their accomplishments? Let's start with a Nobel Prize. Add two Lasker Awards of current faculty and one awarded to a past faculty member. Continue the count with three faculty who have been members of the National Academy of Sciences (including the first in the Texas Medical Center), several elected to the NAS after they left Houston, and a number of current and past faculty elected to the prestigious Institute of Medicine. As an index of peer esteem, let's add presidencies of the American Society of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, the Endocrine Society, the American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics, the American Medical Association, the American Association of Pathologists, the American Physiological Association (two not one), the American Association for Cancer Research (three no less!) and the American Cancer Society (four - does any institution have more?). I apologize for any number of omissions, but even if the Dean weren't absent minded, his staff still gave him a page limit! The preceding comment reminds me to add a note about the great GSBS staff for all they do and the pleasant way they do it. They're the best!

The process of taking stock seems to work as well in the Dean's office as it did when I was a faculty member - I feel energized to face the New Year, the coming decade, and even the next Millennium! Thanks to all of you for providing the real energy for our School. Let's not rest on our laurels, but let's remember to occasionally pause and reflect.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "George".

1999/2000 NEW STUDENTS

Elizabeth Albaugh

PhD - Neuroscience
BS/1998/University of Northern Iowa
Iowa

Diane Andryshak

PhD - Microbiology & Molecular Genetics
BS/1999/ University of Florida-Gainesville
Florida

Matthew Billard

PhD - Immunology
BS/1996/ University of Illinois
Urbana-Champaign
MS/1999/Illinois State University
Illinois

Sonia Blum

MD/PhD - Immunology
BS/1997/University of Texas-Austin
Texas

Sara Bowne

PhD - Human and Molecular Genetics
BS/1993/State University of New York-
Fredonia
MS/1998/University of Texas-Houston
GSBS
Texas

Jennifer Brannan

PhD - Virology and Gene Therapy
BA/1998/Cornell College
Washington

Ivone Bruno

PhD - Human and Molecular Genetics
BS/1990 /University of Puerto Rico
MS/1996/Southern Illinois University
Texas

Kim Buntz

PhD - Human and Molecular Genetics
BS/1999/University of Rochester
Pennsylvania

Laura Butler

SMS - Medical Physics
BS/1999/University of Memphis
Tennessee

Mariana Carrillo

PhD - Immunology
BS/1999/ University of California-Davis
California

Jennifer Carter

PhD - Virology and Gene Therapy
BS/1999/Angelo State University

Texas

James Chaloupka

PhD - Pharmacology
BA/1994/New York University
MHS/1997/Johns Hopkins University
New York

Wai Kin Chan

PhD - Cancer Biology
BS/1989/Xiamen University
MS/1995/Xiamen University
People=s Republic of China

Joseph Chang

PhD - Human and Molecular Genetics
BS/1998/University of Texas-Austin
Texas

Chih-Hsin Chen

PhD - Genes and Development
BS/1991/National Taiwan University
MS/1993/National Taiwan University
Republic of China

Xinpu Chen

PhD - Microbiology and Molecular Genetics
BS/1991/Zhejiang University
MS/1999/Peking University
People=s Republic of China

Amanda Davis

SMS - Medical Physics
BA/1999/Taylor University
Indiana

Matthew Dooris

PhD - Virology and Gene Therapy
BS/1999/Saint Leo College
Florida

Cheryl Fahrner

PhD - Neuroscience
BA/1994/University of San Diego
MA/1996/University of North Carolina -
Chapel Hill
California

Diasinou Fioravante

PhD - Neuroscience
BA/1999/American College of Greece
Greece

Hui Gao

PhD - Cancer Biology
BS/1993/Capital University of Medical
Science
People=s Republic of China

Betsy Gay

SMS - Genetic Counseling
BS/1993/Texas A&M University
Texas

Jason Grier

PhD - Cancer Biology
BS/1999/Texas A&M University
Texas

Hua Guo

PhD - Medical Physics
BS/1997/Liaoning University
MS/1999/Peking University
People=s Republic of China

Sumera Hasham

PhD - Human and Molecular Genetics
BS/1995/Osmania University
MS/1997/University of Hyderabad
India

Qiang He

PhD - Cancer Biology
BS/1992/Nankai University
MS/1997/Tianjin Medical University
People=s Republic of China

Stephen Henry

PhD - Genes and Development
BA/1990/Washington University
MS/1999/University of Texas-Houston
GSBS
Texas

David Hernandez

MD/PhD - Neuroscience
BS/1999/University of Texas-Austin
Texas

Xiaoyi Hu

PhD - Microbiology and Molecular Genetics
BS/1998/Nankai University Medical School
People=s Republic of China

Yong Huang

PhD - Genes and Development
BS/1996/East China University of Science
and Technology
MS/1999/Chinese Academy of Science
People=s Republic of China

Raegan Hunt

MD/PhD - Cancer Biology
BS/1998/Texas A&M University
Texas

Tricia Ishimoto

PhD - Cancer Biology
BS/1993/University of California –
Los Angeles

PharmD/1996/University of the Pacific
Texas

Latasha Jackson

PhD - Pharmacology
BS/1999/Xavier University
Georgia

Joanna Johnson

PhD - Cancer Biology
BS/1999/Texas Lutheran University
Texas

Geoff Kannan

PhD - Human and Molecular Genetics
AB/1999/Harvard University
Florida

Shreya Kant

PhD - Molecular Pathology
BS/1999/Indian Institute of Technology
India

Nick Koch

SMS - Medical Physics
BS/1999/University of Northern Colorado
Colorado

Keng-Hsueh Lan

PhD - Cancer Biology
BS/1999/National Taiwan University
Republic of China

Laurie Lashinger

PhD - Cancer Biology
BS/1994/Old Dominion University
BSN/1996/University of Virginia-
Charlottesville
Virginia

Chris Ledbetter

PhD - Medical Physics
BS/1999/Centenary College
Louisiana

Lawrence Lee

PhD - Immunology
BS/1996/University of Washington-Seattle
Washington

Tom Lee

MS - Immunology
BA/1997/University of Texas-Austin
Texas

Mei Li

PhD - Biochemistry
BS /1997/Beijing Medical University
People=s Republic of China

Yan Li

PhD - Immunology
BS/1998/Peking Union

Medical College
People=s Republic of China

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PhD - Physiology
BS/1997/Emory University
Florida

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New York

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People=s Republic of China

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BS/1998/Trinity University
Texas

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BS/1997/Southwest Texas State University
MS/1999/Southwest Texas State University
Texas

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MS - Cancer Biology
1978/BS/Texas A&M University
BS/1997/Southwest Texas State University
Texas

Mark Moynier

MS - Immunology
BA/1997/Middlebury College
Texas

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MS - Cancer Biology
BS/1985/Government Medical College
MD/1990/Government Medical College
India

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Michigan

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Michigan

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People=s Republic of China

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Michigan

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BS/1995/Shanghai Medical University
MS/1998/Chinese Academy of Preventive
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People=s Republic of China

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ROBERT D. WELLS
President-Elect of the American Society for
Biochemistry and Molecular Biology

Robert D. Wells, Ph.D., is a man who has garnered impressive scientific awards, forged new paths, and received an amazing number of accolades backed up by significant financial support. Dr. Robert D. Wells is the Director of the Center for Genome Research at the Institute of Biosciences and Technology, Texas A&M University, Texas Medical Center in Houston. Dr. Wells holds an Adjunct Professorship in the Department of Biochemistry at The University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center (1991-present). This is the sole Adjunct Professorship ever extended by the M.D. Anderson Cancer Center. He was the Founding

Director of the Albert B. Alkek Institute of Biosciences and Technology in Houston (1990-1994). Concurrently, he served as the Head of the Department of Biochemistry and Biophysics, Texas A&M University in College Station, Texas.

Previously, Dr. Wells was Chairman and Professor of the Department of Biochemistry in the Schools of Medicine and Dentistry at the University of Alabama at Birmingham for a ten-year period. From 1966-1981, he was Professor at the University of Wisconsin-Madison in the Department of Biochemistry. He was a Guggenheim Fellow at the Salk Institute for Biological Studies and the University of California-San Diego, mid 1970's, where he studied cancer viruses (polyoma). Wells participated in solving the genetic code (1964-66); his postdoctoral mentor, Dr. H. Gobind Khorana received the Nobel Prize in 1968 for these discoveries.

Today, numerous seminal contributions from Dr. Wells' laboratory have furthered our understanding of unusual DNA structures related to gene expression. As Program Director for Cellular and Molecular Biology at the University of Wisconsin, he received the largest training grant in the United States in 1978. From 1986-1991 he received a National Science Foundation Research Grant for Studies with Defined Deoxyribonucleic Acids, the first ever National Science Foundation grant award for a five year period; and, Dr. Wells was the recipient of 27 years of uninterrupted support from the NSF for Studies with Defined Deoxyribonucleic Acids, from 1967-1994.

***“Aim for the stars, but
be willing to accept
something less.”***

His book entitled, **Genetic Instabilities and Hereditary Neurological Diseases**, co-edited with Dr. Stephen T. Warren (Emory University) was released by Academic Press in May 1998. Dr. Wells has directed an active research program continuously funded by federal, state and foundation sources since 1966, and has conferred 27 Ph.D. degrees and trained over 60 postdoctoral fellows. As an acclaimed biochemist and president of the most prestigious organization of American biochemistry, he is pleased with his affiliation with the UT-H GSBS. Dr. Wells' advice to graduates in general, and GSBS students in particular, is this: *“Associate with the very best people. Work hard, be productive, have fun, and then move to another lab for postdoctoral experience. Aim for the stars, but be willing to accept something less.”*



ALFRED G. KNUDSON OUTSTANDING DISSERTATION

In 1997 an annual **Alfred G. Knudson Outstanding Dissertation Award** was established by M.D. Anderson Cancer Center to honor this distinguished individual and previous GSBS dean. It is to be given to a graduate of the GSBS whose dissertation is selected as the most outstanding in cancer research. For 1999-2000 the recipient of the **Alfred G. Knudson Award** of \$1,000 is

Alexey L. Arkov, Ph.D.



R.W. BUTCHER ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

The **R.W. Butcher Fund** was established in 1977 to provide for these annual awards of \$3,000 each. The award is presented to a student who demonstrates excellence in research, has a commitment to a career in biomedical research, and makes professional contributions to the community. In 1999-2000 there are two **R.W. Butcher Award** winners:

Student

Martha Rodriguez
Stacey Davis

Supervisory Professor

Dr. Varsha Gandhi
Dr. Magnus Hook



PRESIDENTS' SCHOLARSHIPS

Through funding from President M. David Low, UT-H Health Science Center, and President John Mendelsohn, M. D. Anderson Cancer Center, recognition is given to four advanced GSBS students who have demonstrated excellence in research. The applications are reviewed by a committee consisting of five past, present and future presidents of the Graduate Faculty. The 1999 Presidents' Scholars who will each receive a cash award of \$5,000, are:

Scholars

Nelson Arango
Weimin Bi
Michael Davies
Xiolan Ma

Supervisory Professor

Dr. Richard Behringer
Dr. Benoit de Crombrughe
Dr. Peter Steck and Dr. Gary Gallick
Dr. William Margolin



SOWELL-HUGGINS SCHOLARSHIPS

Eight years ago the **Sowell** and **Huggins** families established an **Endowment** in the GSBS in appreciation for the particularly effective treatment received by their sons, Andy Sowell and Wade Huggins, at the M.D. Anderson Cancer Center. The endowment is to be used to award scholarships to GSBS students who are involved in cancer research. Twenty students have received these awards to date. The 1999-2000 **Sowell-Huggins Scholars** who will each receive \$2,000 are:

Scholars

Michael Davies
Ming Tan
Darren Davis

Supervisory Professors

Dr. Peter Steck/Dr. Gary Gallick
Dr. Dihua Yu
Dr. David McConkey



ANNUAL GRADUATE STUDENT POSTER AWARDS

The seventeenth annual graduate student poster session was held October 29, 1999. Nine awards were made to three categories of students: Master's Degree, Pre-Candidacy Ph.D., and Post-Candidacy Ph.D. Cash prizes for the winners were: First place, \$400; Second place, \$300; Third Place, \$200.

Student

Award

Supervisory Professor

MASTER'S

Ann Painter	1 st Place	Dr. Ellen Richie
Stacia P. Vaughn	2 nd Place	Dr. Jacqueline T. Hecht
Andrew Doig	3 rd Place	Dr. Nicholas Terry

PRE-CANDIDACY PH.D.

Fariba Behbod	1 st Place	Dr. Robert A. Kirken
Qiyong (Jackie) Hu	2 nd Place	Dr. Richard Behringer
Kelly Volcik	3 rd Place	Dr. Hope Northrup

POST-CANDIDACY PH.D.

Darren W. Davis	1 st Place	Dr. David J. McConkey
Wendong Huang	2 nd Place	Dr. Benoit de Crombrughe
Weimin Bi	3 rd Place	Dr. Benoit de Crombrughe



SCHISLER FOUNDATION FELLOWS

The **Schissler Foundation** has been a major contributor to the GSBS for the past five years supporting students involved in research in the human genetics of common diseases. For the 1999-2000 academic year, the **Schissler Foundation** is providing funding for two fellowships in the amount of \$20,000 each. In 1999-2000 the prestigious **Schissler Fellows** are:

Fellows

Josh Akey
Sara Bowne

Supervisory Professor

Dr. Li Jin
Dr. Stephen Daiger



AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY FELLOWSHIPS

For twenty-eight years the **American Legion Auxiliary** has been providing scholarships to GSBS students involved in cancer research. The money for this funding is raised through bake sales, bingo games and other labor-intensive activities. The **Auxiliary** has raised \$750,583 to present 65 scholarships to date. \$5,000 is currently presented to each award-winning scholar. **American Legion Auxiliary Fellows** for the 1999/2000 fiscal year are:

Fellows

Robert A. Boyd
Thomas Burrows
Julie Cerrato
Tracy Costello
Michael Davies
Joshua Krumenacker
Elizabeth Lafleur
Deana Leonard
Steven McCullough
Leta Nutt
Jessica Pahler
Christopher Richie
Jeffrey Walterscheid
Deborah Yetman
Tse-Kuan Yu

Supervisory Professor

Dr. Kenneth Hogstrom
Dr. Michael Weil
Dr. Ta-Jen Liu
Dr. Christopher Amos
Dr. Gary Gallick
Dr. Ferid Murad
Dr. Eugenie Kleinerman
Dr. Randy Legerski
Dr. Richard Wendt III
Dr. David McConkey
Dr. David McConkey
Dr. Randy Legerski
Dr. Stephen Ullrich
Dr. Stephen Tomasovic
Dr. Elizabeth Grimm

Special Thanks For Your Generous Support

**American Legion Auxiliary
Cancer Answers
The Schissler Foundation**

**R.W. "Bill" Butcher
Alfred G. Knudson
M. David Low
John Mendelsohn**



Annual Campaign Donors

Bharat B. Aggarwal	Rekha D. Halligan	McHam)
Anne I. Baronitis	Dianne K. Hammond	Sijiu Shen
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David B. Brown	Beng T. Ho	Joseph M. Sorrentino
Thomas F. Burks II	James A. Hokanson	Jeannice Y. Spangenberger
R. W. Butcher	Vicki Huff	Cheryl P. Spitzenberger
Ian J. Butler	Mien-Chie Hung	George M. Stancel
Daniel D. Carson	Micaela N. Izor	George Starkschall
Linda Carter	Rodney E. Kellems	Anna Steinberger
Subhas Chakrabarty	Robert A. Kirken	Hongmin Sun
Zhuo G. Chen	Julane H. Knobil	Heinrich Taegtmeier
Paul E. Cizdziel	Ralf Krahe	Lawrence H. Thompson
Richard B. Clark	Margaret Kripke	Stephen P. Tomasovic
Leonard J. Cleary	Robert H. Ku	Dr. Ah-Lim Tsai
Gilbert J. Cote	Jian Kuang	David L. Vale
Jane N. Craig	Richard J. Kulmacz	Deidre L. Vedder
Monica C. Cronin	Marcus T. Kuo	Jack Waymire
Stephen P. Daiger	Hon-Chiu Eastwood Leung	Jean M. Worsham
Paul E. Darlington	Katherine A. Loveland	Michael M. Weil
Teresa L. Deis	Kathryn Louie	Nianhua Xu
Zuoming Deng	Frederick R. Lummis, Jr.	Wenbing Xu
Carmen W. Dessauer	Chai-An Mao	Li-Ying K. Yang
Donna DiPaolo.	Helene B. Marshall	Edward T. Yeh
Peter A. Doris	Thomas S. Matney	Dihua Yu
Tommy C. Douglas	Pierre D. McCrea	Wei Yu
Julie A. Ellerhorst	Raymond E. Meyn	Leonard A. Zwelling
Gang Feng	Debra M. Moss	
Isiah J. Fidler	Steven J. Norris	
Ralph S. Freedman	Gabrielle A. Pate	
Gary E. Gallick	Sen Pathak	
Brenda Gaughan	John M. Powers	
Chuan Gao	Janet E. Price	
Michelle S. Glasky	Ellen Richie	
Armand B. Glassman	Doris L. Ross	
Thomas J. Goka	Wanda Rowe-Horwege	
Millicent E. Goldschmidt	Kerry S. Russell	
Lincoln Gray	Grady F. Saunders	
Elizabeth A. Grimm	William J. Schull	
James R. Gum, Jr.	Stanley G. Schultz	
	Shell Oil Company (Betty	



GARY EDWARD GALLICK
PRESIDENT-ELECT OF GRADUATE FACULTY

Unanimously elected at the September 16, 1999 meeting of the Graduate Faculty, Dr. Gary Gallick, is the new Vice-President/President-Elect of the Graduate Faculty. He will serve as Chairman of the Executive Committee for the 1999-2000 academic year and will become President of the Graduate Faculty in 2000-2001.

Dr. Gallick received his Bachelor of Science degree in 1974 from the University of Michigan, and his master's and Ph.D., all in Microbiology, from the University of Illinois in Champaign-Urbana in 1980 and 1981 respectively. His postdoctoral fellowship was at the University of Texas-Houston M.D. Anderson Cancer Center. Since 1991 Dr. Gallick holds the appointments of Associate Virologist and Associate Professor, Department of Tumor Biology, Molecular Virology Section, UT-HMDACC.

As a member of the Graduate Faculty since 1987, Dr. Gallick has been very active in the GSBS having served as Chair for the Academic Standards Committee, the Admissions Committee, and first Chair of the Program Coordinating Committee. He currently instructs Mechanics of Hormone Action and Signal Transduction as well as coordinates classes in Cancer Biology.

Dr. Gallick's research focuses on the roles of protein tyrosine kinases of the Src family in signal transduction pathways, with an emphasis on contribution of activated forms of these enzymes to progression of colon cancer. Recently his laboratory has demonstrated that Src activation contributes to several aspects of colon tumor cell survival, and the laboratory is actively engaged in studying the underlying signal transduction pathways.

In addition to attempting to elucidate fundamental growth regulatory pathways, Dr. Gallick's research is relevant to the development of protein tyrosine kinase inhibitors as novel therapeutic agents. Src activation appears to play a role in later stages of tumor progression where few, if any, effective therapies are available. Further, Src itself may be redundant in normal cellular function. Thus, development of Src-specific inhibitors adds a tumor specific agent of limited toxicity to the currently available anticancer armament.

Dr. Gallick is a member of the Metastasis Society, the American Association for Cancer Research, and past president of the Texas Branch of the Tissue Culture Association of America. An opera lover as well as an avid bromeliad grower, he is the outgoing president of the Bromeliad Society of Houston.

GSBS MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

(includes the August, October, and December 1999 Membership Committee meetings)

i

MEMBERS REAPPOINTED WITH COMMENDATION

Dr. Elizabeth A. Grimm
Dr. Randy L. Johnson
Dr. Theresa M. Koehler
Dr. Randy J. Legerski

Dr. Timothy J. McDonnell
Dr. E. Terry Walters
Dr. Jack C. Waymire

NEW REGULAR MEMBERS

Kenichi Fujise, Assistant Professor, Internal Medicine, UT-Houston Medical School; M.D., Kyoto University, 1987; Research interests: MCL1; apoptosis; anti-apoptotic proteins; cell cycle regulation

Yasuhide Furuta, Assistant Professor, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, M.D. Anderson Cancer Center; Ph.D., University of Tsukuba, 1993; Research interests: organogenesis, inductive tissue interactions, secreted signaling molecules, transgenic mice, gene targeting

Roger Janz, Assistant Professor, Neurobiology and Anatomy, UT-Houston Medical School; Ph.D., University of Cologne, 1993; Research interests: molecular neurobiology, biochemistry, synaptic proteins, mouse genetics

Daniel M. Jones, Assistant Professor, Hematopathology, M.D. Anderson Cancer Center; Ph.D., Case Western Reserve University, 1993; Research interests: chemokines; G-protein coupled receptors; lymphocyte homing; lymphoma

Dario Marchetti, Assistant Professor, Neurosurgery, UT-Houston Medical School; Ph.D., The University of Pavia, 1979; Research interests: the molecular biology and therapeutic functionality of neurotrophins (NT) and NT receptors (NTR) as related to brain injury, central nervous system (CNS) regeneration mechanisms, and formation of metastases to the CNS

Deborah A. Pearson, Associate Professor, Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, UT-Houston Medical School; Ph.D., Rice University, 1986; Research interests: neuropsychology; psychopharmacology; neurobiology; neuroimaging; developmental disabilities; ADHD; autism; conduct disorder

Shrikanth Reddy, Assistant Professor, Gastrointestinal-Medical Oncology, M.D. Anderson Cancer Center; Ph.D., University of Southern Carolina at Columbia, 1993; Research interests: signal transduction; PI 3-kinase and Ki-ras signaling pathways; molecular mechanisms of pancreatic carcinogenesis; regulation of cell survival and cell death (apoptosis); acute-phase of the inflammatory response

Jill Schumacher, Assistant Professor, Molecular Genetics, M.D. Anderson Cancer Center; Ph.D., University of Washington, 1995; Research interests: microtubule dynamics during the cell cycle; chromosome segregation; mitosis; meiosis; cytokinesis; oogenesis; spermatogenesis; *C. elegans*

Ba-Bie Teng, Assistant Professor, Research Center for Human Genetics, Institute of Molecular Medicine, UT-Houston Medical School; Ph.D., McGill University, 1987; Research interests: molecular genetics of atherosclerosis/lipid metabolism; RNA editing; gene therapy

Naoto T. Ueno, Assistant Professor, Blood and Marrow Transplantation, M.D. Anderson Cancer Center; M.D., Wakayama Medical College, 1989; Ph.D., UT-Houston GSBS, 1999; Research interests: gene therapy, breast cancer, ovarian cancer, target-specific gene expression

Anas Younes, Associate Professor, Lymphoma and Myeloma, M.D. Anderson Cancer Center; M.D., The University of Damascus School of Medicine, 1983; Research interests: regulation of life and death of benign and malignant lymphocytes

George Zouridakis, Assistant Professor, Neurosurgery, UT-Houston Medical School; Ph.D., University of Houston, 1994; Research interests: functional brain imaging, mathematical modeling of brain activity and quantification of the EEG and evoked potentials (EPs), digital signal processing, pattern recognition, nonlinear dynamics (chaos theory), fuzzy decision making, wavelet transforms, and EP analysis with applications in clinical neurophysiology

NEW ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

Joseph L. Alcorn, Jr., Assistant Professor, Pediatrics, UT-Houston Medical School; Ph.D., University of Texas at Dallas, 1988; Research interests: hormonal, developmental, and cell-specific regulation of pulmonary surfactant proteins; transcriptional regulation of surfactant protein C (SP-C) by steroid hormones; post-transcriptional regulation of surfactant protein B (SP-B) mRNA

Suzanne Craig, Assistant Professor, Veterinary Medicine and Surgery, M.D. Anderson Cancer Center; D.V.M., Tuskegee University School of Veterinary Medicine, 1989; Research interests: laboratory animal medicine

Thomas M. Lembo, Assistant Professor, Veterinary Medicine and Surgery, M.D. Anderson Cancer Center; D.V.M., Texas A&M University, 1993; Research interests: veterinary medicine and surgery; pain control

Joan M. Mastrobattista, Assistant Professor, Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Sciences, UT-Houston Medical School; M.D., University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, 1988; Research interests: obstetrics; maternal-fetal medicine; prenatal genetics

Rebecca D. Pentz, Associate Professor, Ethics, M.D. Anderson Cancer Center; Ph.D., University of California at Irvine, 1979; Research interests: ethics

Karl L. Prado, Assistant Professor, Radiation Physics, M.D. Anderson Cancer Center; Ph.D., University of Oklahoma, 1983; Research interests: medical physics, radiation dosimetry, radiation oncology treatment planning

Peggy T. Tinkey, Assistant Professor, Veterinary Medicine and Surgery, M.D. Anderson Cancer Center; D.V.M., Texas A&M University, 1983; Research interests: laboratory animal medicine

Peter T. Triolo, Jr., Associate Professor, Restorative Dentistry, UT-Houston Dental Branch; D.D.S., University of Iowa, 1987; Research interests: operative dentistry; esthetic dentistry; cariology; dental materials

David J. Yang, Associate Professor, Nuclear Medicine, M.D. Anderson Cancer Center; Ph.D., Northeast Louisiana University, 1983; Research interests: receptor imaging, cancer diagnosis, drug delivery

Update . . . Update . . . Update



George M. Stancel, Ph.D., is newly appointed Dean of the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences and continues as Professor, Department of Integrative Biology and Pharmacology, at The University of Texas-Houston Medical School. Dr. Stancel holds a Bachelor of Science degree from the College of St. Thomas, and a Ph.D. in Biochemistry from Michigan State University, with postdoctoral work in the field of Endocrinology at the University of Illinois. Arriving at The University of Texas-Houston in 1972, Dr. Stancel's distinguished career includes academic, administrative and research acclaim with significant awards from NIH, noted publications and professorial acknowledgements.



Stephen Tomasovic, Ph.D., officially received a newly created appointment as Associate Dean for M.D. Anderson Cancer Center Educational Programs to the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences, while continuing as Associate Vice President for Educational Programs at M.D. Anderson. Dr. Tomasovic earned a joint doctorate in radiation biology and cell and molecular biology from the Colorado State University, with a postdoctoral fellowship at the University of Utah Medical Center. He joined the UT-H M.D. Anderson Cancer Center in 1980 and played a major role in developing the Cancer Biology Program. He remains a professor in the former Department of Tumor Biology which has been renamed the Department of Molecular and Cellular Oncology. He is a member of the GSBS Faculty since 1981, and President of the Faculty in the 1998-99 academic year.



Jon R. Wiener, Ph.D., is newly appointed Assistant Dean for Academic Affairs, The University of Texas-Houston Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences; and, Adjunct Graduate Faculty, Cancer Biology Program, at UT-H M. D. Anderson Cancer Center. His responsibilities include counseling, advising, and assisting students with academic, personal and financial matters. Dr. Wiener holds master's and bachelor's degrees in microbiology from the University of Maryland, a Ph.D. in Microbiology from the University of Virginia, with a postdoctoral fellowship at Duke University.



Associate Dean, Paul Darlington, center, is flanked by Director of Admissions, Anne Baronitis, left, and Assistant for Faculty Affairs, Cheryl Spitzenger, right, who are modeling new, superior quality, GSBS T-shirts. Available in White only (S-M-L-XL-XXL) for \$10 (\$15 if mailed).

ALUMNI ALERT: GLOBAL TROTTERS

With GSBS alumni now located around the world and over 1,000 strong, it makes sense to put together an alumni association. In starting such a group the first order of business is **COMMUNICATION**. Many of you are probably aware of the sparkling, up-to-date, web site for the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences at <http://gsbs.gs.uth.tmc.edu>. Once on site, click on "Alumni" to get a page specifically dedicated to you. On the web page you will find invaluable information including a GSBS Alumni Directory, a listing of postgraduate Positions, and a Career Outcomes Report. All this can help you to connect with persons important to your research, business associations, colleagues and friends.

Whether you are linked to the Internet or not, messages will arrive in a variety of ways, so watch your mail (electronic or paper) for cards, letters and bulletins. By way of an Alumni Association, the GSBS hopes to become increasingly focused, current, and useful to you as you go about your life--in this regard look to the future as the year 2000 unfolds before us.



Linda Carter is the new Director of Public Affairs and Development: one of her objectives for the GSBS is to begin an Alumni Association. Ms. Carter is a graduate of the University of Oklahoma with a degree in Journalism and English. For the past eight years she directed and re-vitalized one of Texas' oldest non-profit art galleries and continuing education art schools.



NEWSLETTER

Editor: Linda Carter

Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences
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Health Science Center
Houston, Texas 77225-0334

**Graduation Convocation
Saturday, 10 AM, May 13, 2000
Hornberger Conference Center
2151 W. Holcombe Boulevard
Houston, TX**

Address Correction Requested