

## Dr. Karsten Hazlett '99 Joins CIMD Faculty

Karsten R.O. Hazlett, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, comes to CIMD from the Center for Microbial Pathogenesis at the University of Connecticut Health Center. While at UConn, Karsten focused on identification and characterization of treponemal outer membrane proteins as potential vaccine candidates as well as the role of trace metals as growth factors. As a graduate student with Dr. Jeffrey Banas at AMC,

Karsten's Ph.D. thesis research identified and characterized a major virulence factor for *Streptococcus mutans*. He will start November 1, 2005 and his office and laboratory will be located in ME-206.

**WELCOME DR. HAZLETT!**

## Dr. Melendez Receives \$1.1M Grant

J. Andrés Melendez, Ph.D. recently received a \$1.1 million, three-year grant from the Philip Morris External Research Program in support of his research entitled, "Redox Control of Bladder Cancer."

## Tularemia Workshop 2005

CIMD recently received a \$150,000/five year grant from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases in support of the Annual International Conference on Tularemia. This year's Biodefense Meeting will be held at Jiminy Peak Resort and Conference Center, Hancock, MA, November 6-8, 2005. While we originally anticipated 100-125 registrants for this meeting, there is now close to 200 participants. Those attending are scientists from the USA and around the world including Sweden, the Czech Republic, and Kazakhstan. The NIH/NIAID and Department of Defense are also sending numerous representatives to the meeting. The three day conference will include 25 invited talks plus 55 poster presentations. Details of the conference can be found at [www.amc.edu/tularemia](http://www.amc.edu/tularemia).

## CIMD Annual Research Retreat 2005

Everyone in CIMD, including incoming graduate students, enjoyed this year's Annual Research Retreat and Picnic that was held at the Fort William Henry Resort, Lake George, NY, on August 23, 2005. Oral presentations were given by faculty and senior graduate students. Following the presentations, a catered picnic was enjoyed on the outdoor patio overlooking Lake George; a tour of the Fort followed lunch. All CIMD graduate students presented posters for judging and the following received awards:

First & Second Year Students: 1st Place—Douglas Durrant, 2nd Place—Xiaoyun Wen

Senior Students: 1st Place—Ling Lu, 2nd Place—Justin Wilson, 3rd Place—Adriana Caballero Muniz



## Dr. Kirimanjeswara Receives Fellowship Grant from NIAID

Girish Kirimanjeswara, D.V.M., Ph.D., Postdoctoral Fellow, has received an \$86,400 three-year Career Development Grant from the Northeast Biodefense Center of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases Region II Center of Excellence for Biodefense and Emerging Infectious Disease Research. The grant supports Dr. Kirimanjeswara's research entitled, "Humoral Immunity to *Francisella tularensis*." (Mentor: Dr. Dennis Metzger)

## Presentations

Dennis W. Metzger, Ph.D., presented a seminar entitled, "Protection Against Respiratory Pathogens by Intranasal Cytokine Treatment" to the Interdepartmental Microbiology Program and the Institute for Combinatorial Discovery at Iowa State University on September 28-30, 2005. Dr. Metzger also discussed collaboration on a Department of Defense grant application that is focused on *Yersenia pestis*.

Dr. Metzger also made a presentation to the 3rd grade class at Craig Elementary School in Niskayuna, NY, on September 23, 2005 about germs, vaccinations and the importance of hand washing.



## Did you know...

...that CIMD has 18 faculty, 16 postdocs, 38 full and part-time support staff and volunteers, 18 graduate students, and 4 administrative staff?

...that CIMD faculty have 32 active grants (and are continuously submitting new proposals!)?

...**Jaya Dasgupta**, graduate student, and her husband, Apurba Sengupta, became proud parents of baby boy Smyan Sengupta on August 20, 2005. 6 lbs., 8 oz.?

...**Sita Subbaram**, graduate student, and Shridar Chittur are proud parents of baby boy, Neel Chittur, born on October 21, 2005 and weighted 7 lbs., 6 oz.?

## Postdoc News

There will be a Postdoctoral Poster Day on Tuesday, December 6, 2005 in ME-412 from 10-2 p.m. Lunch is being provided by VWR. All faculty, lab technicians, students and staff are encouraged to take a few minutes to view posters and chat with postdocs.

## CIMD Holiday Party

Over the next few weeks, look for information regarding the CIMD Holiday Party scheduled for Thursday, December 8, 2005 at the Glen Sanders Mansion in Scotia.

*Hope to see you there!*

## WORD SEARCH

D	I	S	E	A	S	E	S	L	R
O	N	Q	M	G	P	U	R	G	E
S	F	A	O	A	E	I	B	E	S
E	E	T	D	R	C	L	O	N	E
F	C	H	E	M	I	S	T	E	A
O	T	O	L	R	E	D	O	X	R
M	I	S	Z	P	S	N	V	L	C
R	O	T	V	E	C	T	O	R	H
C	U	L	T	U	R	E	W	G	E
I	S	Y	N	A	P	S	E	S	R

AGAR  
 CHEMIST  
 CLONE  
 CULTURE  
 DISEASES  
 DOSE  
 GENE  
 HOST  
 INFECTIOUS  
 MODEL  
 PURGE  
 REDOX  
 RESEARCHER  
~~ROT~~  
 SPECIES  
 SYNAPSE  
 VECTOR

Circle the letters of the words listed. Words can be found in a horizontal, vertical or diagonal line.

## Publications

**Lu L, Ma Y, and Zhang JR.** *Streptococcus pneumoniae* recruits complement factor H through the amino terminus of CbpA. *J Biol Chem*, 2005, in press.

Fenard D, Yonemoto W, **de Noronha CMC**, Cavrois M, Williams SA, and Greene WC. Nef is physically recruited into the immunological synapse and potentiates T-cell activation early after TCR engagement. *J Immunology* 175 (9):6050-7, 2005.

**Gosselin EJ, Gosselin DR** and **Lotz S.** NK and CD8 T-cells dominate the response by human peripheral blood mononuclear cells to inactivated *Francisella tularensis* live vaccine strain (LVS). *Human Immunol*, 2005, in press.

Shi C, Forsbach-Birk T, Marre R and **McNealy T.** The *Legionella pneumophila* global regulatory protein LetA affects DotA and Mip. *Inter J Med Micro*, 2005, in press.

### Medical Student Investigation Day

**C**ONGRATULATIONS TO the following students who recently received meritorious recognition at the 2nd Annual Medical Student Investigation Day. **Dipti Bhoiwala** tied for 1st Place, Volunteer (post-baccalaureate) Activities, for her research entitled, "The involvement of Adapt78 in calcium-dependent cell signaling."

(Mentor: **Dr. Dana Crawford**)

**Emma Bendana** took 2nd Place, Union College-AMC Leadership in Medicine Program, for her research entitled, "Evaluation of risk factors associated with pre-term deliveries in pregnant systemic Lupus erythematosus (SLE, lupus) patients in Nicaragua and the knowledge and perception of SLE in the Nicaraguan Public."

(Mentor: **Dr. James Bennett**)



**THINK SNOW!**



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## We're on the web!

If you have an item you would like included in the next Newsletter issue, please put them in my mail box or e-mail your items to me at: [Bellvid@mail.amc.edu](mailto:Bellvid@mail.amc.edu) Thank you.

**Deadline for submission: 12/15/05**  
Next print date: January 2006  
Dawn Bellville, Editor

## Fall Events

### 35th Annual Holiday Parade

11/25/05

Schenectady NY

Largest nighttime parade in the Northeast.  
Music, floats, fireworks—FREE

### Victorian Streetwalk

12/01/05

Saratoga Springs, NY

Reindeer, Santa, Trolley Rides, etc.

### Twelfth Night

12/17/05

Croton-on-Hudson, NY

Music, dancing, bonfire, refreshments, etc.

For more information visit: [www.iloveny.state.ny.us](http://www.iloveny.state.ny.us)

## Upcoming CIMD Seminars

November 10, 2005  
(10:00 a.m. in MS-169)

*Faculty Candidate*

**Byeongwoon Song Ph.D.**

Instructor of Pathology

Department of Cancer Immunology & AIDS  
Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Harvard Medical School  
**"Analysis of Retroviral Restriction Factor  
TRIM5alpha"**

November 14, 2005  
(12:00 p.m. in MS-316)

**Lishan Su, Ph.D.**

Associate Professor

Microbiology and Immunology

Member, Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center  
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill  
**"How Does HIV Deplete CD4+ Cells?"**

November 18, 2005  
(9:00 a.m. in MS-316)

*Faculty Candidate*

**Gee W. Lau, Ph.D.**

Research Assistant Professor

Division of Pulmonary & Critical Care Medicine  
University of Cincinnati Medical Center

**"Mechanisms of Airway Injuries Mediated by  
Pseudomonas aeruginosa exotoxin pycocyanin"**

November 21, 2005  
(12:00 p.m. in MS-316)

**Keshav K. Singh, Ph.D.**

Associate Member

Department of Cancer Genetics  
Roswell Park Cancer Institute

**"InterGenomic Cross Talk and Tumorigenesis"**

November 28, 2005  
(12:00 p.m. in MS-316)

**Michael Starnbach, Ph.D.**

Professor

Department of Microbiology & Molecular Genetics  
Harvard Medical School

**"T Cell Responses During Bacterial Infection"**

December 5, 2005  
(12:00 p.m. in MS-316)

**Nicholas Tonks, Ph.D., F.R.S.**

Professor

Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory

**"Regulation of Signal Transduction by the Protein Tyrosine  
Phosphatase Superfamily of Enzymes"**

*For more information, please check our website.*