

Dr. Drake Receives \$1.96 Million Grant

James R. Drake, Ph.D., Associate Professor, has received a \$1.96 million, 5-year research grant (6/1/07-5/31/12) from the National Institutes of Health, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases in support of his research entitled, "Establishing Molecular Mechanisms of BCR Endocytosis."

Dr. de Noronha Receives \$1.4 Million Grant

Carlos de Noronha, Sc.D., Assistant Professor, has received a \$1.4 million, 4-year research grant (5/15/07-4/30/11) from the National Institutes of Health, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases in support of his research entitled, "Vpr as a Mediator Proteasomal Degradation."

Dr. de Noronha Receives Subcontract from RPI

Carlos de Noronha, Sc.D., Assistant Professor, received a \$30,000, 1-year (8/1/07-7/31/08) subcontract from the National Science Foundation as part of a collaboration with Dr. Diana A. Borca-Tascuic, Department of Mechanical, Aerospace & Nuclear Engineering at RPI in Troy, NY. The title of their project is "Ultra-Small Nanoparticles for Thermal Therapies at the Molecular and Cellular Level."

CIMD Graduate Students Earn Degrees in 2007

AMC Commencement ceremonies took place on Thursday, May 24, 2007 at the Saratoga Performing Arts Center in Saratoga Springs, NY.

*Ph.D. Recipients***Adriana Caballero Muñiz**

Thesis Title: "Functional and Structural Requirements for the Internalization of B Cell Receptor-Antigen Complexes"

Mentor: *James R. Drake, Ph.D.*

Ling Lu

Thesis Title: "The Molecular Mechanisms of cbpA-mediated Pneumococcus-Host Interactions"

Mentor: *Jing-Ren Zhang, D.V.M., Ph.D.*

*M.S. Recipients***Douglas M. Durrant**

Thesis Proposal: "IL-12 Treatment Alleviates Allergic Lung Inflammation in T-bet β -/- Mice"

Mentor: *Dennis W. Metzger, Ph.D.*

Xiaoyun Wen

Thesis Proposal: "Determining the Role of the HIV1 Protein Vpr in Infection and Pathogenesis Through its Cellular Interaction Partners"

Mentor: *Carlos de Noronha, Sc.D.*

Dr. Deborah Fuller Joins CIMD Faculty

Deborah L. Fuller, Ph.D., Associate Professor, joined CIMD on June 1, 2007. Dr. Fuller earned her Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin (2001). Most recently she was a faculty member at the University of Pittsburgh. The Fuller laboratory's research focuses on 1) the role of virus-specific mucosal immunity in the control of HIV infection, and 2) development of molecular adjuvants and vaccines.

CIMD Students Receive Awards Day Recognition

Several CIMD graduate students were honored during the 28th Annual Graduate Student Awards Day, held April 5, 2007. The event is held to recognize the research accomplishments of students who presented their work during Graduate Student Poster Day in March.

Justin Wilson - 1st Place, *The Richard Miller Alumni Prize for Outstanding Research Presentations*
(Mentor: **James R. Drake, Ph.D.**)

Xiaoyun Wen - *Dean's Certificate and Prize in Recognition of Excellence in Research*
(Mentor: **Carlos de Noronha, Sc.D.**)

Amanda Melillo - *Alumni Research Awards* (Mentor: **J. Andrés Melendez, Ph.D.**)

Douglas Durrant - *The Dean's Certificate for Significant Scientific Achievement in Research Endeavors*
(Mentor: **Dennis W. Metzger, Ph.D.**)

C onferences and Invited Seminars

Dana R. Crawford, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, was invited to give a presentation entitled, "Adapt oxidative and nitrosative stress response genes," at the 5th Annual Meeting of the Canadian Oxidative Stress Consortium, May 4-6, 2007 in Montreal, Canada. Also receiving awards at the conference from Dr. Crawford's lab were:

Dipti Bhoiwala, AMC II MDDR student, had her poster abstract selected from a field of 50 to give an oral presentation entitled, "Redox regulated Adapt78 (RCAN1) in cell signaling and macrophage function," at the 5th Annual Meeting of the Canadian Oxidative Stress Consortium, May 4-6, 2007 in Montreal, Canada. (Mentor: **Dana R. Crawford, Ph.D.**)

Lalithapriya Jayakumar, AMC II MDDR student, received an award as one of the top three posters (from a field of 40) for her poster entitled, "Adapt78 (RCAN1), an oxidative and calcium stress-response protein." (Mentor: **Dana R. Crawford, Ph.D.**)

Co-authors on all research presented and conference attendees from Dr. Crawford's lab were **Amber Mitchell** (AMC II MDDR), **Vishnu Kannabiran** (AMC I MDDR), and **Shazneen Hushmندی**.

Timothy J. Sellati, Ph.D., was invited to participate in the National Institutes of Health, National Institute of Allergy & Infectious Diseases "Development of Reagents for TLR and Innate Immune Receptors: Present Challenges-Future Directions Workshop" held at NIAID's Basic Immunology Branch, Division of Allergy, Immunology & Transplantation in Bethesda, MD, June 28-29, 2007. Dr. Sellati was also the Discussion Leader for Session 1: Pattern Recognition Receptors and Regulation of Immune Response and gave a presentation entitled, "From the Outside In: Bridging the Reagent Gap Between TLRs and NLRs."

Timothy J. Sellati, Ph.D., gave a seminar presentation entitled, "Respiratory Tularemia: Immunotherapeutic and Vaccination Strategies," hosted by the Bacteriology Division, U.S. Army Medical Research In-

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stitute of Infectious Diseases (USAMRIID) in Frederick, MD on April 26-28, 2007.

Jing-Ren Zhang, D.V.M., Ph.D., was invited to give a presentation entitled, "Genome-Wide Search for Otitis Media-Associated Pneumococcal Genes," at the 9th International Symposium on Recent Advances in Otitis Media in St. Pete Beach, FL, June 3-7, 2007. Dr. Zhang is also an International Advisor to this Symposium.

Publications

Baron SD, Singh R, and **Metzger DW**. Inactivated *Francisella tularensis* Live Vaccine Strain Protects against Respiratory Tularemia by Intranasal Vaccination in an Immunoglobulin A-Dependent Fashion. *Infect. Immun.* 2007, 41(5):2152-2162.

Forestal CA, **Malik M**, Benach JA, **Sellati TJ**, and Furie MB. *Francisella tularensis* in the Blood of Tularemic Mice is Localized Predominantly in the Plasma. *J. Infect. Dis.* 2007 Jul 1;196(1):134-7.

Ding J, Zhang X, Li J, Song L, Ouyang W, Zhang D, Xue C, Costa M, **Melendez JA**, and Huang C. Nickel Compounds Render Anti-Apoptotic Effect to Human Bronchial Epithelial Beas-2B cells by Induction of Cyclooxygenase-2 through an IKKbeta/p65-dependent and IKKalpha- and p50-independent Pathway. *J. Biol. Chem.* 2006 Dec 22;281(51):39022-32.

Wolfe DN*, **Kirimanjeswara GS***, Goebel EM, and Harvill ET. Comparative Role of Immunoglobulin A in Protective Immunity Against the bordetellae. *Infect. Immun.* 2007 75(9), in press. (*Equal Contributors)

Su J, Yan J, Zhao D, Kawula TH, Banas JA, and Zhang JR. Genome-Wide Identification of *Francisella tularensis* Virulence Determinants. *Infect. Immun.* 2007 75(6):3089-3101.

Thakar J, Pilione M, **Kirimanjeswara G**, Harvill ET and Albert R. Modeling Systems-Level Regulation of Host Immune Responses. *PLoS. Comput. Biol.* 2007 June 8;3(6):e109.

Gopinathan L, **Kirimanjeswara GS**, Wolfe DN, Kelley ML, and Harvill ET. Different Mechanisms of Vaccine-induced and Infection-induced Immunity to *Bordetella bronchiseptica*. *Microbes Infect.* 2007 Apr;9(4):442-8.

Metzger DW, Bakshi CS, and **Kirimanjeswara G**. Mucosal Immunopathogenesis of *Francisella tularensis*. *Ann. N.Y. Acad. Sci.* 2007 1105:266-283.

Study Sections & Review Panels

Timothy J. Sellati, Ph.D., served on the National Institutes of Health "Special Topics in Bacterial Pathogenesis Study Section" in Washington, DC on June 7-8, 2007.

J. Andrés Melendez, Ph.D., served on the National Institutes of Health "Cancer Etiology Study Section" in Washington, DC on June 11-12, 2007.

Deborah L. Fuller, Ph.D., served on the National Institutes of Health "Immune Mechanisms of Viral Control Study Section" in Bethesda, MD on June 25-27, 2007.

Albany Alive at Five

Thursdays 6/7/07-8/9/07

River Front Park Albany, NY

Free concerts by the Hudson River. Vendors on site.
www.albanyevents.org**7th Annual Pine Bush Triathlon**

Sunday 7/15/07

Six Mile Park Albany, NY

Participants age 10 and up! Swim, bike, and run.
www.pinebushtriathlon.org**Boonville-Oneida County Fair**

7/23/07-7/29/07

Route 294 Boonville, NY

An old-fashioned county fair with rides, games, etc.
www.boonvillefair.com**Harvest Festival at Bethel Woods**

Sat-Sun 8/26/07-10/7/07

Hurd Rd. Bethel, NY

Farm products, crafts, music, corn & haze maze, etc!
www.bethelwoods.ive.org**30th Annual Capital District Scottish Games**

Sat-Sun 9/1/07-9/2/07

Altamont Fair Grounds Altamont, NY

Celtic festival with music, dancing, sheep dogs, etc.
www.scottishgames.comThese are just a few of the activities in New York State.
Many are free!**For more information, visit**
www.iloveny.com

CIMD Administrative Staff

Dennis W. Metzger, Ph.D., Professor and Director
Lynn Arnold, IRC Coordinator
Bob Lord, Fiscal Coordinator
Dawn Bellville, Administrative Coordinator & Editor
Wendy Cragan, Administrative AssistantCenter for Immunology & Microbial Disease
Albany Medical College
47 New Scotland Ave., MC-151
Albany, NY 12208-3479
Phone: 518-262-6750
Fax: 518-262-6161
Website: www.amc.edu/academic/research/imdIf you have an item you would like considered for the next Newsletter issue, please put it in my mail box or e-mail your item(s) to me at: Bellvid@mail.amc.edu
Thank you.**Deadline for submission: 9/15/07**
Next print date: October 2007**Upcoming CIMD Seminars**July 23, 2007
(12:00 p.m., MS-316)**Eric R. Lafontaine, Ph.D.**Associate Professor
Department of Infectious Disease
University of Georgia
College of Veterinary Medicine**"Identification and Characterization of Adhesins in Gram Negative Bacterial Pathogens"**September 10, 2007
(12:00 p.m., MS-316)**John S. Gunn, Ph.D.**Associate Professor
Center for Microbial Interface Biology
Ohio State University
"TBA"September 24, 2007
(12:00 p.m., MS-316)**Jian-Dong Li, M.D., Ph.D.**Professor
Department of Microbiology and Immunology
University of Rochester Medical Center**"Bacterial-Induced Host Cell Signaling Networks in Airway Infection"****For more information, please check our website.****CIMD Events**Monday, August 20, 2007
CIMD "Meet the Professor Day"Tuesday, August 21, 2007
"CIMD Annual Research Retreat"
River Stone Manor, Glenville, NYWed-Thurs., August 22-23, 2007
"New Student Orientation"**Birth Announcement**Congratulations to **Kristen Porter** and her husband, Johan Gaudron, proud parents of Ella Madeline Gaudron. Ella was born on June 23, 2007, weighed 5 lbs., 9 oz. and was 18".