



Fall 2008

C
A
S
C
O
F
B
-
O
-
O
-
O
A

Announcements

Ken Wright attended the annual Cancer Biology Training Consortium meeting in Park City, Utah on October 17-19th. Each program had the option of sending a student representative and Brittany Cross from Dr. Chen's lab was selected to attend and participate in a poster session and meetings with graduate students from across the country.

Faculty

New Cancer Biology faculty members approved:

- **Meera Nanjundan, Ph.D.**, USF Biology
- **Xiaohong Zhang, Ph.D.**, USF Pathology/
Cell Biology & Moffitt Cancer Center
- **Keiran Smalley, Ph.D.**, Moffitt Cancer Center

Courses

- **Current Topics in Oncology**
Thomas Guadagno and Amer Beg are co-directing the course this year
- **Advances in Cancer Biology**
Gary Reuther is continuing as Course Director during the Fall; Mark Alexandrow will be Course Director in the Spring
- **Cancer Biology I**
Jerry Wu is again Course Director this Fall
- **Cancer Research Techniques**
Noreen Luetke continues as Course Director
- **Cancer Biology II**
Sheng Wei will direct this Spring course again
- **Selected Topics – Cancer Genetics**
This course is being directed by Alvaro Monteiro
- **Cancer Biology Student Advisor**
Gary Reuther will continue as Student Advisor for the Program

O
c
t
o
b
e
r

Students

Nicholas Woods successfully defended his doctoral dissertation on Monday, August 25, 2008. He has accepted a position in the lab of Dr. Julie Djeu, Moffitt Cancer Center.

Nick is pictured below with his committee (from left to right): Dr. Jiandong Chen, Dr. Jerry Wu, Dr. Alvaro Monteiro, Dissertation Chair Dr. Steven Frisch from West Virginia University, Dr. Nicholas Woods and major professor, Dr. Hong-Gang Wang.



Congratulations, Nick!

P.S. – Nick and Neha welcomed Nikhil Royal Woods on October 10, 2008 at 8:45 p.m. Nikhil weighed in at 9 lbs, 6 oz! Congratulations to the proud parents!!!!

“Meet the Mentors” for first year students took place on Wednesday, August 27, 2006. Entering students met with faculty who would like a Cancer Biology student to join their lab. Following “Meet the Mentors” a **Welcome Reception** was held from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. in the David Murphey Conference Room in SRB. Students, Cancer Biology faculty and members of USF and Moffitt administration enjoyed a casual dinner buffet. Notable attendees included the new interim USF Graduate School Dean Dr. Karen Liller, ACD Dr. Jack Pledger and MRI Director Dr. Tom Sellers. Dr. Ken Wright, Cancer Biology Program Director and Dr. Julie Djeu, Associate Director for the Program also attended, as did numerous Cancer Biology faculty members. New and returning students were the guests of honor!

2

0

0

8

First lab rotations for new students:

- Crystina Bronk – Park lab
- Lacy Loos – Hazlehurst lab
- Melissa Price – Monteiro lab
- Valentina Schneeberger – Chellappan lab
- Kate Bailey – Seto lab
- Jessica Craig – Gabilovich lab

Students admitted to Doctoral Candidacy:

- Nicole Gjertsen – Kerr lab

Congratulations, Nicole!

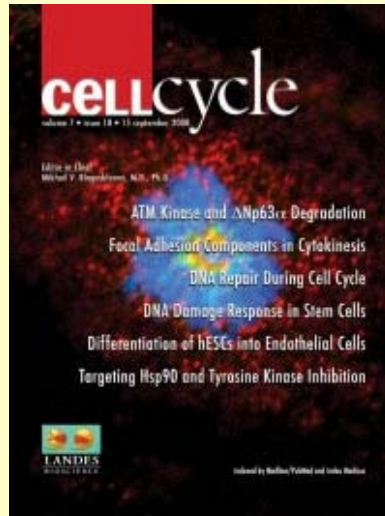
Teaching Experience

The Biology Department may have openings for Ph.D. students interested in gaining teaching experience in Spring 2009. If you are interested in teaching an undergraduate Biology lab, please send your name to Dr. Wright who will forward the list to the Biology Chair. You can contact Jackie Johnson to find out what it was like and the effort/time required. The deadline for contacting Dr. Wright is November 15th.

Publications

Meyerkord CL, Takahashi Y, Araya R, Takada N, Weiss R, Wang HG. *Loss of HUS1 Sensitizes Cells to Etoposide-induced Apoptosis by Regulating BH3-only Proteins*. Accepted for publication in Oncogene.

Congrats, Cheryl!



Meghan Borysova not only had her paper published in September in Cell Cycle, but also had one of the images from her article selected for the cover!

Great Work, Meghan!

Reminder

Students should include the Program in the author affiliations of all papers and abstracts. Example: “**H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center, Tampa, FL and the Cancer Biology Ph.D. Program, University of South Florida, Tampa, FL**”.

Thank you!

2008 Poster Symposium & Competition: “Global Challenges for the 21st Century”

The following Cancer Bio students submitted abstracts for the poster Symposium & Competition during the inaugural **USF Office of Research Innovation and Graduate School Research Week**:

- Je-In Youn, Gabilovich lab
- Nicole Gjertsen, Kerr lab
- Danielle Yarde, Dalton lab
- Brittany Cross, Chen lab
- Jackie Johnson, Chellappan lab

Thank you for your participation and good luck!



Travel

Travel Funds finally have been approved for the 08-09 academic year. The cap is \$1,000 per student per calendar year. Please contact Cathy Gaffney in the Cancer Biology Office well in advance of your planned trip for the correct procedure to use the funds. Travel items (airfare or hotel or registration fees) must be handled through the Cancer Biology Program office in order to be covered.

A new form, Travel Award Request Form, can be found on the Cancer Biology website by clicking on "Students", then the link "Information and forms for current students click here". This will enable the program to better track the numerous meetings students attend throughout the year.