

MBI In the News Grants, Awards and Publications

Grants

- Dr. Ruben Gonzalez-Perez, professor, department of microbiology, biochemistry and immunology, received a grant from the Morehouse School of Medicine/Tuskegee University/UAB Comprehensive Cancer Center Partnership. The grant is a pilot proposal titled, "Leptin-Notch axis in pancreatic cancer."
- Dr. Ruben Gonzalez-Perez was granted a Developmental Research Program Award in the amount of \$25,000, to support his pilot project, "Targeting the obesity-pancreatic cancer stem cell link."

Admitted to Ph.D. Program

Courtney Dill, Dr. Ruben Gonzalez's Lab
Crystal Lipsey, Dr. Ruben Gonzalez's Lab
Cynthia Tchio, Dr. Ruben Gonzalez's Lab
Jeronay King, Dr. Shailesh Singh's Lab

Publications

- Menter, J.M., Freeman, L. and Edukuye, O. (2015) Thermal and Photochemical Effects on the Fluorescence Properties of Type I Calf Skin Collagen Solutions at Physiological pH. *Open Journal of Physical Chemistry*, 5, 21-27. <http://dx.doi.org/10.4236/ojpc.2015.52003>
- H. Mir H, R. Singh, G.H. Kloecker, J.W. Lillard Jr, and S. Singh. 2015. CXCR6 expression in non-small cell lung carcinoma supports metastatic process via modulating metalloproteinases. *Oncotarget Epub* PMID:25888629. [http://www.impactjournals.com/oncotarget/index.php?journal=oncotarget&page=article&op=view&path\[\]=3194](http://www.impactjournals.com/oncotarget/index.php?journal=oncotarget&page=article&op=view&path[]=3194)
- Silva, A.J., W.P. Parker, P. Paula, J.C. Ayala, and J.A. Benitez. 2015. Role of methylthioadenosine/S-adenosylhomocysteine nucleosidase in *Vibrio cholerae* cellular communication and biofilm development. *Biochem. Biophys. Res. Commun.* In press.
- Wang, H., J.C. Ayala, J.A. Benitez, and A.J. Silva. 2015. RNA-seq analysis identifies new genes regulated by the histone-like nucleoid structuring protein (H-NS) affecting *Vibrio cholerae* virulence, stress response and chemotaxis. *PLoS ONE* doi. 10.1371/journal.pone.0118295.
- Silva, A.J. and J.A. Benitez. 2015. Biofilm development and stress response in the cholera bacterium: role of the histone-like nucleoid-structuring protein in: Frans J. de Bruijn (Ed.) *Stress and Environmental control of Gene Expression in Bacteria*, Wiley.
- Danielle Daley's paper was accepted for publication in the special issue of "Hormone Molecular Biology and Clinical Investigation" (HMBCI) on: "Adiposopathy in Cancer and (Cardio) Metabolic Diseases: An Endocrine Approach – Part 2".
- Patrice L. Capers^{1,2}, Hyacinth I. Hyacinth^{1,3,4}, Shayla Cue¹, Prasanthi Chappa⁴, Tatyana Vikulina⁵, Susanne Roser-Page⁶, M. Neale Weitzmann^{5,6}, David R. Archer⁴, Gale W. Newman¹, Alexander Quarshie¹, Jonathan K. Stiles¹ and Jacqueline M. Hibbert¹. 2015. Body composition and grip strength are

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improved in transgenic sickle mice fed a high-protein diet. Journal of Nutritional Science (2015), vol. 4, e6, page 1 of 9 doi:10.1017/jns.2014.63

- JM Menter, AA Etemadi,, AM Patta, N Scheinfeld, (2015) “Topical AC-11 Abates While Applied Actinic Keratoses and Early Squamous Cell Cancers in Hairless Mice Exposed to Ultraviolet A (UVA) Radiation *Aperito Journal of Dermatology* 1: 102 1 – 7. [http://dx.DOI.org.10.14437/AJD](http://dx.doi.org/10.14437/AJD) – 1- 102. * Corresponding Author: Noah Scheinfeld, Weill Cornell Medical College, New York, NY

Research Awards

Graduate Students:

- Raeden Russell, Dr. Francis Eko’s Lab, was awarded a travel fellowship to attend the International Society *for Extracellular Vesicles (ISEV) meeting* in Washington, DC, April 23-26, 2015.
- Danielle McKeithen, Dr. Qing He’s Lab, received Georgia Academy of Science (GAS) Biomedical Sciences Outstanding Graduate Oral Presentation, Milledgeville, GA, March 2015: ASC Aids in Protection Against Infertility Post Chlamydia Infection.
- Danielle McKeithen, Dr. Qing He’s Lab, received Keystone Symposia NIH Underrepresented Trainee Scholarship (International Meeting) July 2014.
- Danielle McKeithen, Dr. Qing He’s Lab, received Student Travel Award Recipient: ASM 113th General Meeting (National Meeting) May 2013.
- Patrick Carriere, Ph.D. Student in Dr. Shailesh Singh’s lab was selected as one of the recipients of a 2015 AACR Minority Scholar in Cancer Research Award.
- Zachary Kiser, Ph.D. student in Dr. Jacqueline Hibbert’s Lab was selected to be the Co-coordinator of the southeast region for the National Science Policy Group. Zachary also leads the GEBS Science Policy and Advocacy Group (GSPAG) at MSM.
- Hassana Salifu, Ph.D. student in Dr. Jonathan Stiles’ lab, has been accepted for a Division AA Student Travel Grant at the American Society for Microbiology (ASM) 2015 General Meeting in New Orleans, LA, May 30 – June 2 Division AA: Free-Living, Symbiotic and Parasitic Protists. Hassana’s abstract is: “The Effect of Iron Supplements on Heme in Pregnant Women with Malaria and Without Malaria.
- Viola Lanier, Ph.D. student in Dr. Ruben Gonzalez’s lab won the third place award for the Oral presentation and the third place award for the Poster presentation.
- Carmen M. Dickinson-Copeland, a Ph.D. candidate Dr. J. Stiles’ lab was chosen by The American Society for Topical Medicine and Hygiene (ASTMH) and the Young Investigator Award Committee as one of five recipients for the Society’s 2014 Young Investigator Award for research presented at the annual meeting held on November 2 thru 6, 2014, in New Orleans, La.
- Carmen Dickinson-Copeland, Ph.D. Student, Dr. J. Stiles’ lab was featured in a YouTube video interview for Morehouse School of Medicine’s Health Connect South, a first-of-its-kind, sustainable platform for regional health collaborations.

Postdocs

- Dr. Adriana Harbuzariu, Dr. Ruben Gonzalez’s Lab, was selected as a HDRTP scholar for two years and was the only one awarded this year from MSM. In the second year she will receive \$10,000 for research upon completion of the first year of training.

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- Dr. Adriana Harbuzariu, postdoctoral fellow, Microbiology, Biochemistry and Immunology, was selected as a 2015 Health Disparities Research Training Award Program scholar

Presentations

Graduate Students/Postdocs:

- Raeden Russell, Dr. Francis Eko's Lab, presented at the International Society for Extracellular Vesicles (ISEV) meeting in Washington, DC, April 23-26, 2015. The title of the presentation was "The role of exosomes in Chlamydia pathogenesis."
- Danielle Dailey, Dr. Ruben Gonzalez's Lab, presented at the NIH for the Clinical Research Education Career Development (CRECD) in Minority Institutions Program for the Annual Investigators meeting, April 15, 2015. The title of the presentation was "The Role of Notch, IL-1, Leptin Crosstalk Outcome (NILCO) in Endometrial Cancer."
- Danielle Dailey, Dr. Ruben Gonzalez's Lab, presented at the Translational Science Conference in Washington, CD, April 16-18, 2015. The title of the poster presentation was "Nilco As A Novel Biomarker for Type II Endometrial Cancer."
- Members of Dr. Singh's lab that presented at the AACR Annual Meeting, April 18th – 22nd:
 - AB Ward "Quercetin inhibits prostate cancer by modulating molecules involved in apoptosis and cell proliferation". American Association for Cancer Research, Annual Meeting, April 18-22, 2015, Philadelphia, PA.
 - Jeronay King. "Improving Therapeutic Efficacy of Docetaxel in Breast Cancer". American Association for Cancer Research, Annual Meeting, April 18-22, 2015, Philadelphia, PA.
 - Patrick Carriere. "CCR9/CCL25 mediates epithelial-mesenchymal transition in prostate cancer". American Association for Cancer Research, Annual Meeting, April 18-22, 2015, Philadelphia, PA.
 - Dr. Hina Mir. "Andrographolide inhibits prostate cancer by modulating chemokine and cytokines". American Association for Cancer Research, Annual Meeting, April 18-22, 2015, Philadelphia, PA.
 - Dr. Neeraj Kapur. "CCR6-mediated molecular mechanisms involved in colon cancer. American Association for Cancer Research", Annual Meeting, April 18-22, 2015, Philadelphia, PA.
- Members of Dr. Ruben Gonzalez's lab that presented at the American Association for Cancer Research, Annual Meeting, April 18-22, 2015, Philadelphia, PA
 - Dr. Adriana Harbuzariu. "Identification of a novel adjuvant therapeutic agent for obesity related pancreatic cancer."
 - Viola Lanier. "Leptin Notch VEGFR-2 axis influences cancer stromal cell behavior."
 - Tia Harmon. "Iron oxide nanoparticle-leptin receptor antagonist: A novel targeted adjuvant therapy for triple negative breast cancer."
- Tia Harmon, Ph.D. student in Dr. Ruben Gonzalez's lab did a poster presentation in Barcelona at the European Organization for Research and Treatment of Cancer (EORTC) conference which has been published on the Nexcelom company website.
- Blessing Ahabue, Research Assistant I, Dr. James Lillard's Lab, the Department of Microbiology, Biochemistry, and Immunology presented in the Annual AACR meeting, April 18th – 22nd in Philadelphia, PA. The title of the poster presentation was: "Exergame Development for Cancer Prevention and Intervention."

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Faculty:

- Dr. Lilly Immergluck presented at the Society of Healthcare Epidemiology of America (SHEA) Spring Conference in Orlando, FL, May 14-17, 2015. The title of the presentation was “Reducing Risks for Touch Contaminaton and CLABSI with Innovative Connector (SmashCap).”

Non-Reviewed Published Articles

Dawn ISEV Satellite Meeting Focuses on HIV and EVs. Thu, 04/23/2015 - 16:53 — bioquicknews. by Mike O'Neill, MA, and Ron Faanes, Ph.D. The ISEV2015 satellite symposium:

<http://www.bioquicknews.com/node/2593>

Honorees in the Employee Awards and Service Recognition Program

Bettie Wright, 25 years

Dr. Ming Bo Huang, 20 years

Dr. Deborah Lyn, 20 years

Dr. Jacqueline Hibbert, 15 years

Dr. James Lillard, 15 years

Dr. Jonathan Stiles, 15 years

Dr. R. Singh, 5 years