Winter 2006


Aurelia Lage, R03AA016608-01, Urokinase-type plasminogen activator and pancreatic stellate cells, 2006-2008.

Stelly Lu, R01DK051719 competitive renewal, pending, Regulation of Methionine: Adenyltransferase in Liver Cancer. 2006.

Samuel French, R01AA019205-01, NADPH oxidase and pancreatic cancer cell survival, 2006-2010.

Hide Tsukamoto, R21AA012885-06, competitive renewal for Nonparenchymal Liver Cll Cell Core, 2006-2011.


Jim Ou, R01RR021872, HBV transgenic mice as a model for liver oncogenesis, 2006 to 2008.

Stephen Pandol, R21 AA015806 pending, Alcohol, NADPH Oxidase and Pancreatic Stellate Cells.


Stephen Pandol (Co-PI, PI: Facili), R03 pending, The Effect of Alcohol on NADPH Oxidase Structure in Pancreatic Stellate Cells.

By Gukovsky – VA Merit Reivew submitted, Alcoholic Chronic Pancreatitis Results from Deregulated Immune Response.

Keigo Machida, R21 submitted, Role of TLR4 for oncogenic potential by HCV, alcohol, and diabetes.
By Vijay Kalra
University of Southern California

Every year the Research Center invites distinguished scientists in its Seminar series, which is organized as a two unit graduate course (Pathology 575; Frontiers of Pathology “Cellular Homeostasis”). This gives an opportunity for students, post-doctoral fellows, investigators and faculty to gain knowledge in novel areas of research, interact and forge collaborations. Students can interact informally with peers and make presentation at the end of the semester. This has motivated students to ask thought provoking questions and develop skills to be innovative. This year we are fortunate to have the following speakers every Thursday afternoon for the spring 2007 Seminar Series; Kenneth Zaret, Ph.D., Fox Chase Cancer Center; Mani Pashmforoush, M.D., Ph.D., IGM- USC Keck School of Medicine; Randall Kaufman, Ph.D., University of Michigan Medical Center; John Engelhard, Ph.D., University of Iowa; Michael Gake Jr., Ph.D., University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, Suzanne Pfeiffer, Ph.D., Stanford University; Vidya Dhir, M.D., Genentech; Soichi Kojima, Ph.D., RIKEN; Stephen Duncan, D.PHil, Medical College of Wisconsin and Carl Bodeb, M.D, Ph.D, Well College Cornell University.

Most Recent Publications by Center Members


International Symposium……continued from page 1

United States, Brazil, Indonesia, China and Japan. The event has been cosponsored by the National Science Foundation, the National Institute of Health, the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases, and the National Institute of General Medical Sciences.

The meeting was held at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, D.C., and included a opening plenary lecture by Dr. Daryl Cohen, the President of the International Association for the Study of the Liver, who outlined the goals and objectives of the meeting. The opening plenary lecture was followed by a series of plenary sessions, each of which was moderated by a distinguished scientist from the United States or another country.

The plenary sessions covered a wide range of topics related to the liver, including hepatic lipid metabolism, liver cell biology, liver injury, liver regeneration, and liver disease. Each session included a series of presentations by leading experts in the field, followed by a discussion period.

The plenary sessions were followed by a series of poster sessions, which provided an opportunity for participants to present their research and to engage in meaningful discussions with other attendees. The posters covered a wide range of topics, including new therapies for liver disease, new methods for diagnosing liver disease, and new insights into the pathogenesis of liver disease.

The meeting was very successful, with more than 500 attendees from around the world. The attendees included researchers, clinicians, and policy makers from a wide range of countries.

The next steps for the International Symposium will be to continue to organize and host similar events, and to work with other organizations to promote international collaboration in the field of liver disease.

This content is based on information from the 2007 International Symposium on Liver Disease, which was held in Washington, D.C., and is continued on page 4.
Spring 2007 Seminar Series by
By Vijay Kalra
University of Southern California
Every year the Research Center invites distinguished scientists in its Seminar series, which is organized as a two unit graduate course (Pathology 575: Frontiers of Pathology “Cellular Homeostasis”). This gives an opportunity for students, post-doctoral fellows, investigators and faculty to gain knowledge in novel areas of research, interact and forge collaborations. Students can interact informally with speakers and make presentation at the end of the semester. This has motivated students to ask thought provoking questions and develop skills to be innovative. This year we are fortunate to have the following speakers every Thursday afternoon for the Spring 2007 Seminar Series;

Kazumi Zaret, Ph.D., Fox Chase Cancer Center; Mani Pashmforoush, M.D., Ph.D., IGM-USC Keck School of Medicine; Randal Kaufman, Ph.D., University of Michigan Medical Center; John Engelhardt, Ph.D., University of Iowa; Michael Gale Jr., Ph.D., University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center; Suzanne Pfeffer, Ph.D., Stanford University; Vidula Dritz, M.D., Genentech; Soichi Kojima, Ph.D., RIKEN; Stephen Duncan, D.Phil., Medical College of Wisconsin and Carl Blobel, M.D., Ph.D, Weill Cornell University.

Most Recent Publications by Center Members


Continued on page 4


Comm. of the Center

Community Seminar Emphasized on Outreach Effort of the Center

In our continued effort to promote awareness about the alco- holic disease, we organized and hosted the 3rd Annual Community Seminar on “Alcohol and Your Health,” on March 3rd, 2006 in collaboration with Los Angeles County’s Alcohol and Drug Administration Program. The collaboration successfully brought together a wide network of health workers, doctors, scientists, and administrators. The seminar was interactive and informal and was divided into two one-hour sessions. The first hour covered brief lectures on the following five topics: Global and Regional Importance of Alcohol Problem (by Hidet Tsukamoto); Liver Biology, ALD and Fatty Liver (by Michael Mendler); Alcoholic Pancreatitis (by Stephen Pandol); Alcohol Problem Prevention and Evaluation (by Andrew Treno and Madhabika Nayak); and also one of the leading risk factors for major health problems in other developed and develop- ing countries. To address this global chal- lenge, the Research Center considered the International Symposium as the most effective means to stimulate new and integrated ap- proaches in scientific research and global col- laboration among various countries. The International Symposium was also impor- tant in addressing the significance of synergism between alcohol and other risk factors com- mon in contemporary societies such as obesi- ties and diabetes in producing serious patho- logic consequences. Also, Dr. Samir Zakhari from National Institute of Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA) highlighted that the “variations in susceptibility to alco- holic-induced liver and pancreatic damage as result of genetic polymorphisms in different populations represent a golden opportunity for international collabora- tion”. The Liver and Pancreas share de- velopmental, anatomical, biological and pathological commonalities while having...