



Please send submissions to: Katie Gallagher at galla134@msu.edu or 302B Biochemistry (mailbox on 2nd floor)

Vol.39, No. 26, June 26-30, 2006

Calendar

Monday, June 26

Tuesday, June 27

Microbiology and Molecular Genetics Seminar: Developmental information processing; tools to build gene regulatory networks. Charles Titus Brown, California Institute of Technology, 9:00 a.m., 1425 Biomedical & Physical Sciences.

Plant Biology Seminar: Regulation of amino acid metabolism and transport: role of the Arabidopsis glutamine dumper genes. Guillaume Pilot, 12 noon, 247 Plant Biology.

Wednesday, June 28

Chemistry Seminar: Comprehensive two-dimensional gas chromatography: an emerging technique for analyzing complex chemical mixtures. John Seeley, Oakland University, 3:00 p.m., 136 Chemistry.

Thursday, June 29

Friday, June 30

Transcription Journal Club: No meeting this week.

Announcements

2007 Young Investigator Award Program: NARSAD: The Mental Health Research Association has announced its 2007 Young Investigator Award program. This program is designed to extend already initiated research training and to facilitate the successful transition of young investigators to independent status. These young investigators work with an established investigator/mentor in the basic or clinical sciences in schizophrenia, affective disorders, or other serious neurobiological disorders. Previous NARSAD Young Investigator awardees at the post-doctoral or assistant professor level are encouraged to apply for a second award. A maximum of two awards is allowed. Applications should be submitted electronically through the NARSAD Website, <http://www.narsad.org>, then visit the Research Center. E-mailed or faxed applications will not be accepted. If you have any questions please contact the Research Grants Program at (516) 829-5576 or e-mail grants@narsad.org. For more information, please click [here](#). **The Application deadline is July 25, 2006.**

Position Vacancy Notice

Visiting Professor and Adjunct Instructor positions are available in the Chemistry Department at **Grand Valley State University**. The successful candidate will be teaching general and/or organic chemistry lectures and labs. The Chemistry Department at GVSU offers a B.S. in Chemistry and has one of the largest undergraduate chemistry departments in the country with 27 tenured and tenure track faculty and several additional visiting, affiliate, and adjunct faculty. They are well equipped with modern facilities for teaching and research. For more information about the department or the positions, please visit <http://www.gvsu.edu/chem/> or call Todd Carlson at (616) 331-3560.

Two **postdoctoral positions** are available at the **University of California, Riverside**. The successful candidates will study *Phytophthora infestans*, a fungus-like lower eukaryote, an oomycete, which causes the important late blight diseases of potato and tomato. *P. infestans* is one of the world's most important plant pathogens and a model system for the genus. Experience in working with DNA and/or proteins will be helpful for this position. Some experience with microscopy will be a plus, but is not essential. The positions are available immediately and funding is available for up to three years from grants through the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the U.S. National Science Foundation. For more information, please contact Howard Judelson at howard.judelson@ucr.edu. Additional information about the research group is available at <http://138.23.152.128/JudelsonHome.html>.

Spotlight



Sue Achberger, Graduate Assistant, is currently researching in Dr. Kevin Walker's lab. She started at MSU in the fall of 2005 and joined the Walker group in February 2006. Sue is working with the Tax06 enzyme, one of the enzymes involved in the biosynthesis of the anti-cancer drug, Taxol. She is doing a series of mutagenesis experiments to attempt to make the enzyme work more efficiently. Currently, Sue is testing randomly mutated forms of the enzyme to see whether or not the enzyme's activity has changed.

Sue is originally from Ashland, Ohio. She has a B.S. in chemistry from Baldwin-Wallace College in Berea, Ohio. Sue is a member of both the handbell and chancel choirs at Okemos Community Church. She frequently has the opportunity to accompany the choir on her clarinet or alto saxophone. She is an avid runner, reader, and hockey fan. Sue is pursuing a M.S. in forensic chemistry. She is also interested in forensic entomology, so she would like to incorporate that into her thesis. For her thesis, Sue plans to analyze the cuticular hydrocarbons found in blow flies. She would like to see if and how these compounds change throughout the blow fly life cycle. This could help investigators determine a victim's time of death.

Quote for the Week

Happiness is that state of consciousness which proceeds from the achievement of one's values. – *Ayn Rand*
