



The BMB Weekly Vol. 40, No. 5, January 29-February 2, 2007

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

Calendar

Monday, January 29

Entomology Seminar: Research on the use of entomopathogenic nematodes for control of peach pests. David Shapiro-Ilan, USDA-ARS, SSA, Fruit and Tree Nut Research Unit, Byron, Georgia, 4:00 p.m., 244 Natural Science.

Plant Research Laboratory and Plant Biology Seminar: Transport of the plant vacuolar sorting receptor: A tail's tale. Jurgen Denecke, University of Leeds, United Kingdom, 4:10 p.m., 101 Biochemistry.

Tuesday, January 30

Microbiology and Molecular Genetics Immunology Faculty Candidate Seminar: Licensing of natural killer cells by MHC class I in mice and humans. Sungjin Kim, Washington University School of Medicine, 9:00 a.m., 1400 Biomedical and Physical Sciences.

Physics and Astronomy Seminar: A fine-tuned higgs with natural dark matter. Aaron Pierce, University of Michigan, 2:00 p.m., 1400 Biomedical and Physical Sciences.

Chemistry Seminar: Bubble power: The chemical effects of ultrasound. Yves Coello, Michigan State University, 4:10 p.m., 136 Chemistry.

Wednesday, January 31

Center for Integrative Toxicology and Pharmacology and Toxicology Seminar: Changes in expression of hepatobiliary transport proteins as a compensatory response to drug-induced hepatotoxicity. Jose Manautou, University of Connecticut, 12:00 noon, B448-49 Life Sciences.

Ecology, Evolutionary Biology and Behavior Program Seminar: Ecological implications of population aging. Jianguo (Jack) Liu, 3:30 p.m., 247 Plant Biology.

Thursday, February 1

Biochemistry and Molecular Biology: The mechanisms controlling transcription fidelity. Mikhail Kashlev, NCI-Frederick, 11:30 a.m., 101 Biochemistry.

Neuroscience Seminar: The polyglutamine-expanded carboxyl terminus of the $\alpha 1A$ calcium channel subunit associates with nuclear DNA and activates histone proteins prior to cell death. Christopher Gomez, University of Chicago, 12:15 p.m., 1425 Biomedical and Physical Sciences.

Chemistry Seminar: Femtosecond electron diffraction: Making the molecular movie. R. J. Dwayne Miller, University of Toronto, 4:10 p.m., 136 Chemistry.

Physics and Astronomy Seminar: Magnetars. Victoria Kaspi, McGill University, 4:10 p.m., 1415 Biomedical and Physical Sciences.

Friday, February 2

Science at the Edge: Quantitative Biology and Modeling Seminar: Knots, loops, and writhes: How does topo undo them. Monte Pettitt, University of Houston, 11:30 a.m., 1400 Biomedical and Physical Sciences.

Transcription Journal Club: Presentation by Alison Gjidoda, 12:00 noon, 502 Biochemistry.

Calendar continued

Friday, February 2

Chemistry Seminar: Probing structure-function relationships of boron-doped diamond thin-film electrodes. Shinhua Wang, Michigan State University, 12:40 p.m., 136 Chemistry.

Publications

Zakir Ullah, Martin Buckley, David N. Arnosti, and R. William Henry. Retinoblastoma Protein Regulation by the COP9 Signalosome. **MBC in Press**, published online ahead of print January 24, 2007. Mol. Biol. Cell 10.1091/mbc.E06-09-0790.

Announcements

USDA Grants.gov Training: Hands on training opportunities targeted for faculty and staff on USDA submissions, **Thursday, February 1, 2007, 8:30-10:30 a.m., Location TBA.** The course will cover how to search for Funding Opportunities Announcements (FOA), download the free PureEdge software, download the application, and complete and submit the application form to CGA for approval. Tips and typical errors will be covered. **Registration is required.** E-mail Betty Crowell at crowell@cga.msu.edu to sign up or to ask any questions regarding the training.

The Graduate School – Ph.D. Job Search Series Workshop: “The academic job search.” Presented by Dr. Matt Helm, **Thursday, February 1, 2007, 5:00-7:00 p.m., Big Ten C, Kellogg Hotel and Conference Center.** In order to be successful and efficient in the academic job search process it is essential to understand the diversity of opportunities in American academia. This workshop will provide an overview of the different types of academic institutions and expose students to the perspectives and constraints faced by search committees. Students will also learn how to find academic job listings, how to evaluate opportunities, and how to prepare application materials. This workshop is designed for Ph.D. students who are within two years of graduating. **Registration is required.** To register, please send an e-mail to gradwrsp@msu.edu and include your name, department, e-mail address, and the name of the workshop.

The Graduate School Workshop: “Identify the obstacles to your thesis/dissertation.” Presented by Greg Lambeth, University of Illinois, **Saturday, February 3, 2007, 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., Henry Center for Executive Development.** This workshop focuses on some of the difficulties typically encountered by students writing the dissertation and proposes time management and organizational strategies to solve these problems. The workshop evaluates how a variety of issues (procrastination, perfectionism, advisor conflicts and balancing personal life with academic responsibilities) affect the dissertation and propose specific solutions. It contains a series of exercises that allow participants to analyze their goals and priorities related to the dissertation, formulate a time management plan and construct a method of monitoring future progress. It is interactive and there are a number of small group exercises throughout the day. The opportunity to meet graduate students from other disciplines and learn about their dissertation work is an important part of the workshop experience. **Registration is required.** To register, please send an e-mail to gradwrsp@msu.edu and include your name, department, e-mail address, and the name of the workshop. Lunch will be provided.

Position Vacancies (copies of notices are in maroon binder in Room 302A)

An **Extension Specialist, Cropping Systems Agronomist position** is available with the Department of Plant Sciences at the **University of Arizona**. The successful candidate will develop and implement an extension/research program to address agricultural production problems associated with growing field crops in Arizona’s environmental conditions. The primary responsibility of the position is to work with stakeholders, including county and campus faculty to deliver innovative and effective extension programs. The successful candidate will be located at the University of Arizona Maricopa Agricultural Center, located in Maricopa, Arizona, approximately 30 miles south of Phoenix, and 90 miles north of Tucson. Excellent opportunities for collaboration exist with colleagues in Department of Plant Sciences as well as with researchers at the Plant Physiology and Genetics Research Unit and other units of the USDA-ARS Arid-Land Agricultural Research Center located at Maricopa. Qualifications include a Ph.D. degree in plant science, crop science, horticultural science or a closely related field, excellent oral and written communication skills, and the ability to work as a member of multidisciplinary teams of scientists and extension personnel. Review of applications will begin March 7, 2007 and continue until the position is filled. The position is available on or after July 1, 2007. For additional information, please contact Dr. Bill McCloskey, Search Committee Chair at wmcclosk@ag.arizona.edu.

Spotlight



Alison Gjidoda, Graduate Assistant, is currently studying the role of the retinoblastoma protein in transcriptional repression of polymerase III transcribed genes in Bill Henry's lab. In 2002, Alison began her undergrad and graduated in 2006. Beginning the summer of 2004 until she graduated with her undergraduate degree, Alison worked for Charlie Hoogstraten.

Alison is originally from Royal Oak, Michigan. She married Bledar Gjidoda June 10th, 2006 in Rochester, Michigan. Alison's husband co-owns Hannah's Koney Island, in Hannah Plaza (try the corned beef, it's excellent) where she eats most of her meals and makes the best rice pudding in town. Besides that, Alison enjoys watching documentaries and playing with her dog, Pluto. Pluto is a lhaso-poo.

Quote for the Week

Real joy comes not from ease or riches or from the praise of men, but from doing something worthwhile.

– *Sir Wilfred Grenfell*
