



The BMB Weekly Vol. 40, No. 7, February 12-16, 2007

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

Calendar

Monday, February 12

Chemistry Seminar: Electronic symmetry and disymmetry in metal-mediated reactions. Seth Brown, University of Notre Dame, 11:00 a.m., 136 Chemistry.

Chemistry Seminar: New reagents, methods, and strategies for organic synthesis. Andrew Harned, California Institute of Technology, 12:35 p.m., 136 Chemistry.

Entomology Seminar: Research into control of the malaria mosquito, *Anopheles gambiae*, using novel anticholinesterases. Jeffrey Bloomquist, Virginia Tech, 4:00 p.m., 244 Natural Science.

Plant Research Laboratory and Plant Biology Seminar: The translation initiation factor, eIF4E, and resistance to plant viruses. Molly Jahn, University of Wisconsin, Madison, 4:00 p.m., 101 Biochemistry.

Tuesday, February 13

Microbiology and Molecular Genetics Immunology Faculty Candidate Seminar: RNA interference to suppress flaviviral encephalitis. Manjunath Swamy, Harvard Medical School, 9:00 a.m., 1425 Biomedical and Physical Sciences.

Statistics and Probability Seminar: High dimensional classification using features annealed independence rules. Yingying Fan, Princeton University, 10:30 a.m., A405 Wells.

Chemistry Seminar: Disorder dynamics: Watching proteins before they fold. Lisa Lapidus, Michigan State University, 4:10 p.m., 136 Chemistry.

Wednesday, February 14

National Food Safety and Toxicology Center Special Seminar: Managing foodborne disease in Europe: Reporting of foodborne disease and salmonella control actions by the European Food Safety Authority. Wolf Maier, Delegation of the European Commission, 10:30 a.m., 162 Food Safety and Toxicology.

Pharmacology and Toxicology Seminar: Apoptosis-inducing factor and neurotoxicity. Seong-Woon Yu, Michigan State University, 12:00 noon, B448-49 Life Sciences.

Food Science and Human Nutrition Seminar: Regulation of embryonic heart development by vitamin A. Maija Zile, Michigan State University, 4:00 p.m., 101 Biochemistry.

Thursday, February 15

Biochemistry and Molecular Biology Seminar: Mechanistic studies of transcription. Smita Patel, UMD Rutgers, 11:30 a.m., 101 Biochemistry.

Neuroscience Seminar: Epigenetic transmissions of reproductive behavior across generations. Frances Champagne, Columbia University, 12:15 p.m., 1425 Biomedical and Physical Sciences.

Microbiology and Molecular Genetics and Physiology Seminar: Protein and lipid microarray characterization of multiple sclerosis. Bill Robinson, Stanford University, 4:00 p.m., 4115 Biomedical and Physical Sciences.

Calendar continued

Thursday, February 15

Physics and Astronomy Seminar: Stationary states and their fluctuations. E.G.D. Cohen, Rockefeller University, 4:10 p.m., 1400 Biomedical and Physical Sciences.

Friday, February 16

Science at the Edge: Engineering Seminar: Polymers on surfaces and at the interface with biology. Gregory Baker, Michigan State University, 11:30 a.m., 1400 Biomedical and Physical Sciences.

Transcription Journal Club: No meeting this week.

Chemical Engineering and Material Sciences Seminar: Polymers on surfaces and at the interface with biology. Gregory Baker, Michigan State University, 11:30 a.m., 1400 Biomedical and Physical Sciences.

Chemistry Seminar: Development of a fieldable GC/MS instrument for Homeland Security and defense applications. J. Mitch Wells, Griffin Analytical, 12:40 p.m., 136 Chemistry.

Announcements

Joint Graduate Recruitment Weekend will be held February 15-18. The following is the schedule for February 16th and 17th:

Friday February 16th

8:45 - 10:30 a.m.	Introduction by Chair and four visiting applicants in 208 Biochemistry
12:00 - 1:00 p.m.	Pizza lunch in 208 Biochemistry
5:30 p.m.	Social hour at Harpers

Saturday February 17th

6:00 p.m.	Social hour and dinner hosted by graduate students, Cora Fong's house: 2326 Barritt Street, Lansing, MI 48912, (517) 337-0324 (Directions will be sent out next week)
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The Graduate School – Ph.D. Job Search Series Workshop: “Networking for Ph.D.’s: Building relationships for your future.” Presented by Dr. Linda Goss, Assistant Director of Career Services, **Tuesday, February 13, 2007, 5:00-7:00 p.m., Big Ten C, Kellogg Hotel and Conference Center.** In a tightly competitive job market learn how to position yourself for an effective job search. It is estimated that 75% of all jobs are not advertised, creating a “hidden” job market. Most people locate job openings through a networking process of referral, personal relationships, and informational interviewing. This workshop is intended to expose Ph.D. students to a variety of techniques associated with successful networking including the art of “small talk” and how to combat fear and anxiety in the networking process. **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 - Navigating the PhD: A Writing Workshop: This is a two-part workshop. Part I is titled, “Demystifying the dissertation, personal management, forming committees, working with committees, and comprehensive exams.” Part II is titled, “Topics and proposals, writing strategies, revision strategies, the defense...and beyond, and graduate writing groups.” This workshop is being offered twice during spring 2007:

Series 1

9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
The Writing Center – 300 Bessey Hall
Part 1: Saturday, February 10, 2007
Part 2: Saturday, February 17, 2007

Series 2

9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
The Writing Center – 300 Bessey Hall
Part 1: Saturday, April 7, 2007
Part 2: Saturday, April 14, 2007

Each part will be limited to 25 doctoral students. Although it is highly recommended that you attend both parts, you may register for only one part. Lunch will be served during the sessions. This workshop series is offered every semester. Additional information can be found at <http://writing.msu.edu/ntp/>. To register, please send an e-mail to gradwrsp@msu.edu and include your name, department, e-mail address, the name of the workshop, and the dates you would like to attend.

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

Two **Management Intern positions** will be available with the MSU Union at **Michigan State University** at the end of spring 2007. Acceptance and enrollment in a MSU graduate program is required for this position. MSU Union Management Interns provide for the smooth and orderly operation of all building functions during his/her shift. This includes, but is not limited to, maintaining acceptable standards of safety, security and sanitation; overseeing all scheduled events; enforcing and following proper business procedures; maintaining building cleanliness, overseeing various departmental activities and ensuring compliance with established rules of conduct. The Management Intern position is one that has a considerable amount of responsibility, and requires individuals possessing above average maturity with well developed skills in the areas of customer service, supervision, verbal and written communication, and cash handling. Selection will begin immediately and continue until the positions are filled. For more information, please contact the MSU Union Director's Office at 355-3460.

Scholarships/Fellowships

2007 Independent Investigator Award Program: NARSAD: The Mental Health Research Association is pleased to announce its annual Independent Investigator Award program. The Independent Investigator Award is intended to facilitate innovative research opportunities for scientists at the academic level or associate professor or equivalent, who have won national competitive support as principal investigators, accepting those who have a currently active NARSAD Young or Staglin Investigator Award. Research must be relevant to schizophrenia, mood disorders, or other serious mental illnesses. Last year 46 grants were awarded. Applications will be accepted through **March 5, 2007**. Please visit the NARSAD website for examples of previously funded research. For more information, please visit <http://www.narsad.org>.

A **postdoctoral fellowship position** will be available beginning August 2007 in the Indiana University School of Medicine-South Bend at the **University of Notre Dame**. The lab has a number of current research interests, ranging from analysis of axon growth in *Drosophila* to evolution of nervous system development in a variety of arthropods. Funding is available for three years. A background in *Drosophila* genetics, cellular growth regulation, or evolution of development, especially RNAi, is beneficial, though not required. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis until the position is filled. For more information, please contact Molly Duman-Scheel at mscheel@albion.edu.

Graduate Student Fellowships for Interdisciplinary Research in Quantitative Biology are available with the Quantitative Biology and Modeling Initiative (QBMI) at **Michigan State University**. The goal of QBMI is to initiate and support research and training activities that involve the application of quantitative methods from physical, chemical, mathematical, statistical, and computational sciences to programs in biology. QBMI aims to foster interdisciplinary interactions and encourage the participation of students in joint-Ph.D. programs between biological and quantitative non-biological disciplines. The fellowships are meant to facilitate the pursuit of interdisciplinary research directed at addressing important biological questions, by graduate students. Such work would typically involve two faculty mentors in different disciplines. Several one-semester fellowships are available for the upcoming academic year, intended to cover graduate stipend, tuition, student fees, and funds for other research associated expenses, such as books or conference travel. The fellowships are aimed primarily at students who are in the first or second year of their graduate research career with an emphasis on the initiation of new collaborations. Application deadline is **May 11, 2007**. For more information, please visit <http://www.qbmi.msu.edu> or e-mail Helen Geiger at geiger@msu.edu.

Congratulations

R. Michael Garavito was recognized with a Distinguished Faculty Award at the Annual Awards Convocation on Thursday, February 8, 2007. The nominations are based on teaching; advising; research; publications; committee work; public service including extension, continuing education, and work with government agencies; or a combination of these activities. Congratulations to Dr. Garavito on this achievement!

Spotlight



Chin-Mei Lee, Graduate Assistant, is currently studying the mechanism of CBF induction in response to low temperature in *Arabidopsis* in Michael Thomashow's lab in PRL. Before enrolling as a BMB graduate student in July 2006, Chin-Mei was a Laboratory Aide in Min-Hao Kuo's lab from December 2005 to April 2006.

Chin-Mei is originally from Taoyuan, Taiwan. She got married in the summer of 2005 to Mao-Ning Tuan Mu, a graduate student in the Department of Fishery and Wildlife. Outside of school, Chin-Mei enjoys watching movies, listening to music, and traveling. She also enjoys cooking and baking.

Quote for the Week

The most decisive actions of our life - I mean those that are most likely to decide the whole course of our future - are, more often than not, unconsidered. – *Andre Gide*
