SUMMER NEWSLETTER

“When the mind is silent like a lake the lotus blossoms.”
- Amit Ray, Enlightenment Step by Step
Myeloma Vaccine Research Earns $600,000 Leukemia and Lymphoma Society Grant

December 7, 2017
Fotis Asimakopoulos, MD, PhD

Fotis Asimakopoulos, MD, PhD, associate professor, Hematology, Medical Oncology and Palliative Care, has been awarded $600,000 over three years from the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society as a Translational Research Program grant.

Dr. Bendlin Goes to Washington

March 2018
Barbara Bendlin, PhD, Sam Poore, MD, PhD, Federico Rey, PhD

To help lawmakers understand the importance of research for advancing the field of medicine as well as key issues in higher education, a group of UW-Madison alumni, students, faculty, and supporters traveled to the nation’s capital to meet with legislators.

On March 19, 2018, more than 60 Badgers gathered in Washington, DC, to speak with legislators and their staff members as part of the second annual UW-Madison Day organized by the Wisconsin Alumni Association.

A lunch presentation by faculty members Barbara Bendlin, PhD, associate professor, Geriatrics and Gerontology, Sam Poore, MD, PhD, assistant professor, Department of Surgery, and Federico Rey, PhD, assistant professor, Department of Bacteriology, highlighted their research work and the importance of federal funding to their efforts.

The lunch was attended by UW Day participants and congressional staff members who work on the Science and Technology and Higher Education Committees in the House and Senate.

UW Alzheimer's Disease Research Highlighted by Local Radio Show

December 2017
Barbara Bendlin, PhD

Barbara Bendlin, PhD, associate professor, Geriatrics and Gerontology, was interviewed about Alzheimer’s disease research during the Perpetual Notion Machine show of WORT FM Community Radio.

“The term dementia is an umbrella term. When we’re thinking of Alzheimer’s disease, we’re thinking of it as a cause of dementia...Alzheimer’s is just one of the causes,” said Dr. Bendlin.

She explained research at UW and elsewhere on developing advanced imaging techniques to detect beta amyloid plaques between brain cells, and neurofibrillary tangles inside neurons, causing progressive loss of brain cells.

Study Finds People with Alzheimer’s Disease Have Altered Gut Bacteria

Oct 19, 2017
Barbara Bendlin, PhD, Federico Rey, PhD, Nicholas Vogt

Changes in gut bacteria could be linked to Alzheimer’s disease, according to a new study from the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health.

The study, “Gut microbiome alterations in Alzheimer’s disease,” was published on October 19, 2017 in Scientific Reports.

Barbara Bendlin, PhD, associate professor, Geriatrics and Gerontology, led the study together with Federico Rey, PhD (standing, at left), assistant professor, Department of Bacteriology. Nicholas Vogt (standing, at right), an MD/PhD student in Dr. Bendlin’s lab, is the first author on the paper.

“The results imply that gut bacteria may play a role in risk for dementia due to Alzheimer’s disease,” said Dr. Bendlin.

Long-term Cancer Survivor Beats Odds, Prompts Study

April 3, 2018
Mark Burkard

Long-term cancer survivor beats odds, prompts study

You’ve heard of the face that launched a thousand ships? Margaret “Peg” Geisler, 82, is the case that launched an international search for “extreme survivors” of metastatic breast cancer.

Geisler, a retired UW-Madison director of outreach development, has lived with breast cancer for 40 years and with metastatic cancer (meaning it spread to her bones) for 36 years.

Her story inspired UW Carbone Cancer Center oncologist Mark Burkard, who now is hunting the world for other survivors like her.

Study: Early Farm Exposure Mitigates Respiratory Illnesses, Allergies and Skin Rashes

September 5, 2017
Christine Seroogy, MD, James Gern, MD

Exposure to dairy farms early in life may dramatically reduce the frequency and severity of respiratory illnesses, allergies and chronic skin rashes among young children according to a collaborative study that includes two researchers from the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health.

Drs. Christine Seroogy, associate professor of pediatrics, and James Gern, professor of pediatrics, worked with researchers at the Marshfield Clinic on the study.
Looking for Better Methods to Determine Chemotherapy Treatments

March 2018
Mark Burkard, MD, PhD

Have you ever wondered how a doctor decides which chemotherapy drugs to give to a cancer patient? Mark Burkard, MD, PhD, has an answer:

“There’s usually a list of drugs that have worked for that type of cancer in the past and the doctor chooses the one that is likely most effective and safest for the patient,” said Burkard, a medical oncologist and researcher at the UW Carbone Cancer Center. “Often, patients will get multiple drugs from that list, one after another, until the doctor finds one that works.”

This process can be tedious, time-consuming, and cause unnecessary side effects in patients.

Burkard and his colleagues are working hard to improve this process. With funding from Garding Against Cancer, Burkard is conducting a clinical trial to find better ways to predict which drugs will work best for which patients.

Immunotherapy: Harnessing Cellular Systems to Fight Deadly Diseases

January 2, 2017
Ken DeSantes, MD; Paul Sondel, MD, PhD ‘75 (PG ‘80); Peiman Hematti, MD; Christian Capitini, MD; Mario Otto, MD, PhD; Douglas McNeel, MD, PhD; Jacques Galipeau, MD; and many others

Four decades ago, researchers at the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health had the right idea—to pursue a theory that they could harness patients’ own immune systems to fight and defeat cancer. Their perseverance and hard work are paying off, as they’ve recently made great strides in cellular immunotherapy, along with colleagues in myriad medical fields.

A dedicated army of UW-Madison researchers is perfecting how to use immunotherapy and searching for new ways to do so. Ken DeSantes, MD; Paul Sondel, MD, PhD ’75 (PG ’80); Peiman Hematti, MD; Christian Capitini, MD; Mario Otto, MD, PhD; Douglas McNeel, MD, PhD; Jacques Galipeau, MD; and many others synergistically have combined forces around the newest frontier in the war on cancer and other diseases.

Gamm Team Recognized in NEI’s 3-D Retina Organoid Challenge

October 2017
Dr. David Gamm

A team of McPherson ERI scientists headed by Dr. David Gamm was recognized by the National Eye Institute as part of an initiative aimed at improving the production of human 3D retina structures grown from stem cells, a technology developed using human cells by McPherson ERI Director and lead investigator David Gamm.

New Awards Support Innovative Approaches to Burn Treatment, Atrial Fibrillation, Aging

January 2018
Angela Gibson, MD, PhD

In Wisconsin, over the course of one year, there were 61 fatalities and more than 600 hospitalizations related to burn injuries. Burn survivors can experience lifelong pain, scarring and infection from the burns as well as from the surgery needed to heal the wounds. Angela Gibson, MD, PhD, assistant professor in the Department of Surgery, has received funding for the project entitled Autologous Regeneration in Burn Injured Patients.

Working Together to Build a Program: Multiple Myeloma Care at the UW Carbone Cancer Center

September 7, 2017
Shigeki Miyamoto, PhD, Alan Rapraeger, PhD and Peiman Hematti, MD

When it comes to multiple myeloma patient care and research, the UW Carbone Cancer Center’s bench to bedside is not unique – all comprehensive cancer centers take this approach.

What is unique? Carbone Cancer Center’s relatively small size has actually been a boon to collaboration, allowing a diverse group of physicians and researchers to create a formidable team. Together, they have made great strides in multiple myeloma research and care, with even more on the horizon.

Prior to 2003, there was little research happening at the Carbone Cancer Center on the disease. However, several generous and forward-looking patients with myeloma established the Trillium Fund to support myeloma research. Callander arrived in 2004 and was introduced to Cancer Center members Shigeki Miyamoto, PhD, Alan Rapraeger, PhD and Peiman Hematti, MD. Callander said none of them were specifically working on multiple myeloma at the time, but they were conducting research that was closely linked to the disease.
Poor Sleep Linked to Multiple Brain Changes Associated With Alzheimer's Disease

July 2017
Dr. Rebecca Koscik, Dr. Mark Sager, Dr. Cynthia Carlsson, Dr. Ozioma Okonkwo, Dr. Sanjay Asthana and Dr. Sterling Johnson

An international team of researchers led by scientists at the University of Wisconsin-Madison found that people who experienced poor sleep in late midlife also had brain characteristics that point to an increased risk for developing Alzheimer's disease.

Co-authors of the study from the University of Wisconsin include Dr. Rebecca Koscik and Dr. Mark Sager from the Wisconsin Alzheimer’s Institute; Dr. Cynthia Carlsson, Dr. Ozioma Okonkwo, Dr. Sanjay Asthana and Dr. Sterling Johnson, all affiliated with the Wisconsin Alzheimer’s Disease Research Center and Wisconsin Alzheimer’s Institute at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and the Geriatric Research Education and Clinical Center at William S. Middleton Memorial Veterans Hospital. The research team also included investigators from the University of Gothenburg in Malmö, Sweden and the University of California, Irvine.

UW Study Uses ‘bio-panning’ to Find Human Antibodies for Brain Cancer Stem Cells

November 27, 2017
Dr. John Kuo, Dr. Eric Shusta

Using a method described as similar to panning for gold, Carbone Cancer Center scientists discovered human antibodies for the cancer stem cells of glioblastoma, one of the most difficult brain cancers to treat.

The yeast expressing human antibodies were obtained from Kuo’s co-author, Dr. Eric Shusta, a UW professor of chemical and biological engineering. Shusta’s laboratory specializes in screening yeast cells that produce millions of different human antibodies, which the Kuo lab used in a method called “bio-panning” to seek the ‘needle in a haystack’ antibody that sticks to GBM stem cells.

Short-Term, Low-Methionine Diet Slims Down Obese, Pre-diabetic Mice

Feb 2018
Dudley Lamming, PhD

Finely manipulating metabolic processes by limiting intake of a specific building block of proteins caused obese, pre-diabetic mice to shed most of their fat and improve blood glucose control—even though the dietary intervention occurred over a short time span (one month), and their overall caloric intake was unrestricted.

The study, conducted by researchers in the laboratory of Dudley Lamming, PhD, assistant professor, Endocrinology, Diabetes and Metabolism, was published in The FASEB Journal on January 30, 2018.

Study Provides a Potential Therapeutic Strategy for Aggressive Lymphoma

January 11, 2018
Lixin Rui, PhD

Researchers at the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health have found a molecular regulator that controls cell life in diffuse large B cell lymphoma, the most common, aggressive form of lymphoma.

In activated B cell-like diffuse large B cell lymphoma, STAT3 expression and function are required for cancer cell survival and proliferation, but the underlying mechanisms are not fully understood, according to Lixin Rui, PhD, an assistant professor of medicine at the UW School of Medicine and Public Health, who led the study.

Chimpanzee Deaths in Uganda Pinned on Human Cold Virus

December 13, 2017
Gern’s lab

In the wild, chimpanzees face any number of dire threats, ranging from poachers to predators to deforestation.

That’s why scientists, investigating an outbreak of respiratory disease in a community of wild chimpanzees in Uganda’s Kibale National Park, were surprised and dismayed to discover that a human “common cold” virus known as rhinovirus C was killing healthy chimps.

In people, rhinovirus C infection can be especially severe in children, notes James Gern, another senior author of the study and a professor of allergy and immunology in the UW School of Medicine and Public Health. Gern’s lab was the first to grow rhinovirus C in the laboratory where it could be studied. Gern’s lab also described the receptor that the virus uses to infect cells of the respiratory system.

Tackling Prostate Cancer From All Angles

January 11, 2018
Joshua Lang, MD, MS

When it comes to combating prostate cancer, the most common cancer in men, Joshua Lang, MD, MS, thinks the best approach comes from many angles. Not only is Lang a medical oncologist at the UW Carbone Cancer Center, with a practice focusing primarily on prostate cancer, but he also runs a research laboratory built around developing new cancer treatments and conducts clinical trials to test new drugs.
CLR 131 Found to Broadly Target Pediatric Solid Tumors

September 8, 2017
Mario Otto, MD, PhD

According to a new study by UW Carbone Cancer Center (UWCCC) researchers, a broadly applicable cancer therapy currently being developed by Cellectar Biosciences may have the potential to work in pediatric solid tumors.

“Translating our findings in a pediatric clinical trial will be huge because, for the first time, we could offer molecular targeted radiotherapy for practically all pediatric solid tumors, including brain tumors,” said Dr. Mario Otto, a pediatric oncologist and researcher with UWCCC and American Family Children’s Hospital. “But it’s also huge from a regulatory standpoint. Pediatric cancers are relatively rare, so getting cancer-specific drugs or clinical trial protocols developed is very difficult.”

Study Points Researchers Toward New Therapies for Fragile X Syndrome

July 2, 2018
Xinyu Zhao

New insights into the molecular machinations behind fragile X syndrome, the most common inherited intellectual disability, may help researchers develop potential therapies.

Fragile X is a genetic condition that affects one in 4,000 males and one in 6,000 females. It’s linked to variations in the gene that makes a protein called FMRP. Symptoms may include intellectual disability, anxiety, and attention deficit disorder, among others. Up to a third of people with fragile X also have autism. There is no cure.

“Our study provides a mechanistic basis for potential new treatments that can be fast-tracked, especially for adults with fragile X,” says Xinyu Zhao, the principal investigator of the new study, a professor of neuroscience at UW-Madison, and a Waisman Center Investigator.

Connecting the Dots: a New Method to Understand Cell Type Transitions

June 3, 2017
Rupa Sridharan

Every cell in your body contains the same DNA sequence – the same instruction manual for creating proteins, new cell types, and tissues – and yet you are made up of many different types of cells that perform different functions. Different cells, as it happens, are reading different parts of the instruction manual. Variety in cell types is to a large extent due to epigenetic, rather than genetic, differences – changes that result in different genes being expressed in different cell types.

Rupa Sridharan, assistant professor of cell and regenerative biology at WID, studies the epigenetics of cell fate. By exploring histone modifications and changes in gene expression across cell types, Sridharan can better understand how cells transition from one type – like a pluripotent stem cell capable of becoming any kind of cell – to a fully differentiated end-type capable of just one function, such as a skin or liver cell. Then, she can reverse the process to create induced pluripotent stem (iPS) cells: cells that were once differentiated, but have been reprogrammed to have their ability to become other cell types restored. Such cells can be used by scientists in regenerative medicine to create new tissues without the need for embryonic stem cells.

New Study Shows How Cells Can Be Led Down Non-cancer Path

October 23, 2017
Dr. Wei Xu

As cells with a propensity for cancer break down food for energy, they reach a fork in the road: They can either continue energy production as healthy cells, or shift to the energy production profile of cancer cells.

“Cancer cells often change their nutrient utilization and energy production, so many efforts are being made to develop drug inhibitors of cancer cell metabolism to starve them,” says senior author Wei Xu, the Marian A. Messerschmidt Professor in Cancer Research at the UW Carbone Cancer Center and McArdle Laboratory for Cancer Research. “We have found that inhibiting a chemical modification of a cancer-associated metabolism protein is enough to inhibit the aggressive nature of cancer cells.”
Christine Seroogy Is Improving Healthcare for Amish Infants in Wisconsin

Researchers at the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health have found a molecular regulator that controls cell life in diffuse large B cell lymphoma, the most common, aggressive form of lymphoma.

In activated B cell-like diffuse large B cell lymphoma, STAT3 expression and function are required for cancer cell survival and proliferation, but the underlying mechanisms are not fully understood, according to Lixin Rui, PhD, an assistant professor of medicine at the UW School of Medicine and Public Health, who led the study.

Congratulations to Igor Slukvin and Colleagues for Their New Publications in Cell Reports

Scientists at the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health have used human stem cells to make blood-forming cells and demonstrated that they can function as lymphoid precursors, or the earliest cells from which various immune cells arise.

These findings may be helpful for treating a variety of blood cancers, according to Igor Slukvin, MD, PhD, professor of pathology and laboratory medicine, and lead scientist of the research studies.

Dr. Wei Xu

The function of a protein associated with breast cancer development and metastasis is now better understood, based on a new study by University of Wisconsin Carbone Cancer Center (UWCCC) researchers.

“When CARM1 is overexpressed in breast cancer, the higher expression is correlated with a poorer prognosis,” said Dr. Wei Xu, professor of oncology at UWCCC and the McArdle Laboratory for Cancer Research. “But we know very little about how it works.”

Deciphering Gene Regulatory Networks

Every cell in your body – from liver cells to skin cells and everything in between – holds the same genetic information, the programming that tells cells what to become and how to perform the appropriate functions. So how is it that you end up with such a variety of cells capable of vastly different things?

Learning more about gene regulatory systems is of great interest to many researchers, especially those who are trying to manipulate cells toward particular states. One such researcher is Rupa Sridharan, Assistant Professor of Cell and Regenerative Biology in the Epigenetics theme at WID. Sridharan’s research on reprogramming cells concentrates on converting differentiated or somatic cells into pluripotent stem cells, which then have the potential to re-differentiate into any cell type.

Study Sheds Light on Function of Protein Associated With High-risk Breast Cancers

The function of a protein associated with breast cancer development and metastasis is now better understood, based on a new study by University of Wisconsin Carbone Cancer Center (UWCCC) researchers.

“When CARM1 is overexpressed in breast cancer, the higher expression is correlated with a poorer prognosis,” said Dr. Wei Xu, professor of oncology at UWCCC and the McArdle Laboratory for Cancer Research. “But we know very little about how it works.”
PATH Award Offers Promise for Advancing Biomedical Science at UW–Madison

July 10, 2018

John-Demian Sauer

UW–Madison assistant professor of medical microbiology and immunology John-Demian Sauer has been awarded a 2018 Burroughs Wellcome Award for Investigators in the Pathogenesis of Infectious Disease (PATH). The Burroughs Wellcome Fund supports biomedical scientists who are early in their careers and advancing fields in the basic biomedical sciences that are undervalued or underfunded.

Sauer was selected as one of just 12 awardees from an applicant pool of 152. The award provides $500,000 over five years. Sauer’s project is “The war within: Identification and characterization of antibacterial cell intrinsic defenses in the host cell cytosol.” Sauer’s lab studies the tug of war between pathogen and host.

Congratualtions to Li Lu and Lixin Rui

February 2018

Li Lu and Lixin Rui

Congratulations to Li Lu and Lixin Rui for their outstanding new publication in PNAS describing new mechanistic insights into Diffuse Large B-cell Lymphoma with significant translational implications.


Dr. Jeniel Nett Recognized by American Medical Women’s Association

June 21, 2018

Jeniel Nett, MD, PhD

The American Medical Women’s Association (AMWA) has selected Jeniel Nett, MD, PhD, assistant professor, Infectious Disease, as one of the 2018 recipients of the Exceptional Mentor Award.

The Christian Capitini lab was awarded its first R01 on July 3 entitled “Combining hu14.18-IL2 and NK cell infusions to treat neuroblastoma”
Angela Gibson, MD, PhD
Department of Surgery
Research focus: epithelial regeneration in burn injury, development and testing of skin substitutes, understanding the contribution of mesenchymal stem cells in burn wound healing, and identifying the role of the host defense peptides in burn wound healing

Gopal Iyer, PhD
Department of Human Oncology
Research focus: molecular mechanisms of lung and pancreatic cancer development and its progression towards metastasis

Jayshree Samanta, PhD
Department of Comparative Biosciences
Research focus: how neural stem cells generate myelin in the brain during development as well as during recovery from a demyelinating insult or remyelination

Jing Fan, PhD
Department of Nutritional Sciences
Morgridge Institute for Research
Research focus: Metabolic Regulation in Dynamic Mammalian Systems

Josh Lang, MS, MD
Department of Medicine
Research focus: Cancer resistance Assay and biomarker development Drug development for solid tumors

Sathish Kumar, DVM, PhD
Department of Comparative Biosciences
Research focus: Understanding the mechanisms that contribute for abnormal maternal vascular adaptations and perinatal origins of adult diseases. The impact of this research is likely to have significant positive repercussions in other programmable adult diseases, such as obesity, diabetes, osteoporosis, cancer and Alzheimer’s disease.

Junsu Kang, PhD
Department of Cell and Regenerative Biology
Research focus: Heart regeneration, fin regeneration, regeneration enhancer, gene regulation, genetic mutant, zebrafish

Michael Taylor, PhD
School of Pharmacy
Pharmaceutical Sciences Division
Research focus: discover innovative strategies for drug delivery into the CNS.

Eric Shusta, PhD
Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering
Research focus: Protein engineering, blood-brain barrier engineering, and drug delivery to the brain

Mostafa Zamanian, PhD
Department of Pathobiological Sciences
Research focus: Combine molecular biology, genetics, and computational approaches to make discoveries that improve our understanding of parasite biology and our ability to treat parasitic infections.

Doug McNeel, MD, PhD
Department of Medicine
Research focus: prostate cancer immunology.

Ahmed Mahmoud, PhD
Department of Cell and Regenerative Biology
Research focus: Dissect the molecular underpinnings of regeneration in the neonatal heart so that we can explore potential avenues to activate this process in adult humans.

Zachary Morris, MD, PhD
Department of Human Oncology
Research focus: using preclinical and translational research approaches to study the mechanisms whereby radiation may impact the anti-tumor response to immunotherapies.
### Regional, National and International Conference Attendance

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Conference Details</th>
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<tr>
<td>Lindsey Block</td>
<td>Extracellular Vesicle conference, June 2018, Breckenridge, Colorado. ASV (American Society for Virology)</td>
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<td>Andrew Brandl</td>
<td>Great Lakes Transplant Immunology Forum, October 2017, Madison WI</td>
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<td>Caleb Dillingham</td>
<td>Midwest Chromatin and Epigenetics Meeting, June 2018, at Purdue in West Lafayette, IN</td>
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<td>Ryan Donahue</td>
<td>ISER/BrightFocus Glaucoma Meeting, October 2017, Atlanta, Georgia</td>
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<td>Phu Duong, Eileen Lynch, Jeanette Metzger</td>
<td>Society of Neuroscience, in last Nov 2017 at Washington DC</td>
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<td>Philip Emmerich</td>
<td>AACR Annual Meeting, April 2018, Chicago, IL</td>
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<td>Evan Flietner</td>
<td>AACR, April 2018, Chicago IL</td>
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<td>Sarah Franco</td>
<td>ATVB: Arteriosclerosis, Thrombosis and Vascular Biology May 2018, San Francisco</td>
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<td>Trey Gilpin, Gianna Hernandez</td>
<td>AAI, May 2018, Austin Texas</td>
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<td>Anna Hoefges</td>
<td>GLIFCA, September 2017, Madison WI and SITC, November 2017, Washington, DC.</td>
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<td>Caity Holmes</td>
<td>American College of Rheumatology, November 2017, San Diego, CA</td>
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<td>Rebeca Hutcheson</td>
<td>International Conference on EBV &amp; KSHV, July 2018, Madison, WI</td>
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<td>Andrew Lynch</td>
<td>Genomics Sciences Training Program Annual Retreat, June 2018, Madison, WI</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jeanette Metzger</td>
<td>American Society for Neural Therapy and Repair, April 2018 Clearwater, FL.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Katie Zarbock, Qijun Zhang</td>
<td>7th annual conference on Beneficial microbes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Qijun Zhang</td>
<td>Madison Microbiome Meeting (M3), April 2018, Madison, WI</td>
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Awards and Presentations


**Fen Zhu:** Oral Presentation at ASH meeting on Lymphoma Biology, August 2018, Chantilly, VA.

**Caity Holmes:** UW Department of Medicine Research Day, Madison WI. Poster Award in the basic science category

**James Romero-Masters,** EBV and KSHV meeting, Madison, WI, James will be giving a talk at this conference. He also won the best UW Madison student poster presentation at the “Wis-e-sota” virology T32 symposium.

**Lindsey Block:** ASV, July 2018, College Park, Maryland, Lindsey received a travel award and will be giving a presentation.

**Julia Kreznar:** Selected to present poster and oral presentation and received Keystone Symposium Future of Science Fund Travel Award ($1200), Keystone Symposia: Host resistance, gut microbiota, and disease, March 2018, Banff, Canada

Congratulations to **Jeanette Metzger** on her first author paper, “In vivo imaging of inflammation and oxidative stress in a nonhuman primate model of cardiac sympathetic Neurodegeneration” published in Nature Parkinson’s disease.

Congratulations to **Anna Marie Rowell** on her TEAM Science R-25 Program Fellowship and International Federation of Placenta Associations, NIH travel award.

Congratulations to
- **Jeanette Metzger** on the successful submission of her F31 NIH Grant,
- **Nick Van Sciver,** Virology T32 spot (renewed for 18-19!)
- **Eileen Lynch,** Stem Cell and Regenerative Medicine Graduate Training Award
- **Mengxue Zhang,** AHA award
- **Philip Emmerich, Andrew Brandl,** and **Lindsey Block,** CMP, T32 Awards
**CMP Graduates - Academic Year 2017-18**

**Mike Khan**  
Graduated December 2017, Judith Smith Lab  
Postdoctoral Research in Informatics, UW Madison

**Mary Lopez**  
Graduated January 2018  
Postdoctoral Research in Dr. Arthur Liesz Lab, Munich Germany (Oct. 2018)

**Heather Schmitt**  
Graduated April 2018, Rob Nickells Lab  
Postdoctoral Research in Ophthalmology, Duke University

**James Johnson**  
Graduated May 2018, Mark Burkard Lab  
Postdoctoral Research in Oncology, UW Madison

**Gianna Hernandez**  
Graduated August 2018, Zsuzsa Fabry Lab  
Teaching position, tenure track, Mount Mary College, Wauwatosa, WI

**Matthew Sutton**  
Graduated August 2018, Shelby O’Connor Lab  
Postdoctoral Research, Dr. Mario Roederer Lab as part of the ImmunoTechnology Section at the Vaccine Research Center at the NIH

**Impending Summer 2018 Graduations**

**Eddie Dominguez** - David Andes Lab  
**Amanda Contreras** - M. Suresh Lab  
**Sarah Franco** - Bo Lui Lab

**Rotating Students**

**Cole Gilsdorf**  
BS, UW-Madison, 2017, Biology  
Stated Interest(s): Infectious disease

**Athena Golfinos**  
BS, UW-Madison, 2017, Biology  
Stated Interest(s): Pathogens and the human microbiome

**Michelle Koenig**  
BS, Beloit College, 2013, Environmental Biology  
Stated interest(s): HIV, cancer immunology and virology

**Morgan Mann**  
BS, University of Oklahoma, 2018, Biochemistry, Mathematics  
Stated interest(s): disease pathology and proteomics

**Gage Moreno**  
BS, UW-Madison, 2018, Genetics  
Stated Interest(s): Pathogenesis of infectious diseases

**Margo Heston**  
BS, Johns Hopkins University, 2015, Biomedical Engineering  
Stated interest(s): microbiota interactions across healthy and diseased specimens
Rotating Students:

Hassler Rengifo
BS, San Diego State University, 2017, Biology
Stated interest(s): pathobiology, biochemistry, immunology and regenerative medicine

Benjamin Wancewicz
BS, UC Davis, 2014, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
Stated interest(s): metabolomics, genomics, proteomics

Olivia Sayer
BS, Colorado Mesa University, 2016, Biology
Stated interest(s): interface of immunology, microbiology, and virology

Direct Admission Students:

Athanasios Papadas
Fotis Asimakopoulos Lab

Hemanth Potluri, MSTP student
Douglas McNeel Lab

In Other News...

Communication/Mentoring/Teaching/Practices

Space is still available in Delta courses this fall!

Take a Delta course this fall to build your teaching, communication and mentoring skills! Space is still available in the following courses:

- Improv to Improve Science Communication and Teaching
- Effective Teaching in an Internationally Diverse Classroom
- Research Mentor Training Seminar
- Effective Teaching with Technology
- Exploring Practices in the Classroom (EPIC): a learning community for TAs

For more information about our courses and to register visit https://delta.wisc.edu/Courses_and_Programs/fall_2018_offerings.html
**CMP Steering Committee:** On Wednesday, July 18th the CMP Steering Committee met and discussed whether or not to continue requiring GRE scores from applicants. Much research has been done of late regarding how effective the GRE is in predicting success in graduate school. Additionally, to date, no other Graduate Science Based Research Program at UW Madison has voted to keep requiring it. CMP, for numerous reasons, has also decided to discontinue the GRE requirement for application.

**CMP Curriculum:** The CMP curriculum is in the process of being enhanced with Rigor and Reproducibility training beginning with our Pathology 809 course. The CMP Program, with the Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine as its home, is in a unique position for this training with access to the Clinical Lab and its various quality control measures, antibody testing, instrument QC etc. The CMP Program is also looking to take advantage of the department's established TRIP lab (Translational Research Initiatives in Pathology) for additional measures of Rigor and Reproducibility as well as a new focus on reproducible data analysis using state of the art software products.

**CMP Mentoring:** This fall we are kicking off our 2018-19 Seminar Series with a talk/workshop by Jessica Middlemis Maher who works with Amber Smith, Director of Research Mentor and Mentee Training, here at the UW. Jessica is preparing a workshop-y session to support participants thinking about how to achieve productive mentor, mentee relationships. The session will also focus on promoting professional behavior in all mentor-mentee and other profession relationships.

**CMP Teambuilding:** This year we moved our CMP spring student event to July in order to take advantage of our beautiful Madison lakes. On Tuesday, July 24th the CMP Program sponsored a boating outing for our students. Paddling on Mendota was followed with some terrace snacks. The pictures tell the story....