CANCER BIOLOGY & PHARMACOLOGY

Employees News

Dr. Kiran Kumar Velpula welcomes the following new employees to his lab:

- Dr. Maheedhara Reddy Guda, Postdoctoral Research Associate
- Dr. Rupa Nallamothu, Volunteer

Publications

The following publications were published by:

- Drs. Casimir Fornal and Stephen Lasley:

- Dr. Stephen Lasley:

- Drs. Sergey Malchenko and Marcelo Bento Soares:

- Dr. Eleonora Zakharian:
Presentations
Dr. Ken-ichiro Fukuchi presented “Role of inflammation in the Pathogenesis and therapy of Alzheimer’s disease” at Neurosciences Grand Rounds, North Building, on April 24th, 2015.

Seminars
Tuesday, May 19th – at 10:00 am (UICOM-P A200-2):
- The Department of Cancer Biology and Pharmacology will be hosting a research seminar on "Evolving roles of microglia in neurological disorders", which will be presented by Dr. Lee-Way Jin, Professor and Director of Neuropathology, Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine - Alzheimer’s Disease Center at the University of California, Davis

Thursday, May 28th – at 2:00 pm (UICOM-P A100-1):
- The Department of Cancer Biology and Pharmacology, in partnership with Illinois Neurological Institute, will be hosting a seminar on "Role of cell-cell communication in tumor progression and cancer stem cell maintenance“, which will be presented by Dr. Justin Lathia, Assistant Professor at the Department of Cellular and Molecular Medicine, Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine.

LIBRARY OF THE HEALTH SCIENCES

Watch for Featured Author announcements coming soon.

The Library of the Health Sciences - Peoria invites you to join us for the retirement reception honoring:
Josephine Dorsch, MALS, AHIP, FMLA
Regional Head Librarian and Professor
Friday, May 22nd, 2015, 2:00PM to 4:00PM UICOMP, Library of the Health Sciences, 2nd Floor
Light refreshments will be served.

HUMAN RESOURCES

Please welcome new employee…

Becky Joiner, Reimbursement Coding Specialist II, Medical Billing

Randi Shaffer, Case Manager, Positive Health Solutions
FY16 Benefit Choice Period / Open Enrollment: May 1, 2015 – June 1, 2015
(changes effective July 1, 2015)

Be sure to review the FY16 details in NESSIE – use this link to make any benefit choice changes and enroll/re-enroll in flex spending if you wish to do so. If you do not want to make changes to your benefits, you do not need to do anything during open enrollment. **Exception:** FLEX SPENDING (you must re-enroll).


FY16 Benefit Booklet & FY16 Change Highlights:
[http://peoria.medicine.uic.edu/departments__programs/human_resources/UICOMP_Focus_Newsletter/](http://peoria.medicine.uic.edu/departments__programs/human_resources/UICOMP_Focus_Newsletter/)

Please plan to attend the Benefit Fair on May 12! The vendors will be at the Benefit Fair to answer any questions you have about the plans.

**Benefit Fair**
May 12
On-campus, Room A200-2
10am – 2pm
(no presentation – stop in at your convenience)

**SURS will be on campus on September 17.** If you are interested in an individual consultation (eligibility below) please reply to me as soon as possible (scheduled first come, first serve). If you are planning to retire in the next year, it is recommended to schedule a consultation with SURS. Effective January 4, 2016, changes will be made to the Money Purchase Factors (actuarial); the actuarial experience study is required by state statute at least once every five years. This change does NOT impact everyone. For details of this change, please review in the SURS newsletter, The Advocate (February 2015 issue): [http://www.surs.org/advocate](http://www.surs.org/advocate) (FYI–Money Purchase does not apply to anyone hired on or after 7/1/05).

If you wish to schedule an appointment with SURS prior to September 17, please call 1800-275-7877. SURS also offers phone consultations to schedule at your convenience. The SURS website has a member login that allows you to login and view your benefits, calculate retirement estimates, update beneficiaries, etc.; website: [www.surs.org](http://www.surs.org) click on ‘member login’ at the top. You will need your member ID to login; please contact SURS for your ID if you do not have it, or for any questions regarding the member website. (the SURS member site is not related to your university login for NESSIE, etc)

**Eligibility for an Individual Consultations:** SURS determines eligibility for one-on-one counseling sessions — each scheduled for a half-hour. You must be within 4 years of retirement eligibility...not necessarily planning on retiring in 4 years, but **WITHIN 4 years of ELIGIBILITY:** age 55 and 8 or more years of service; age 62 and 5 or more years of service; 30 or more years at any age. Employees are limited to one appointment (phone or in-person) every 12 months.

**Peoria Police Safety Presentation April, 2015**
On April 14 and April 16th Peoria Police Chief Jerry Mitchell, Sergeant Michael Patterson, and Officer Ryan Winkler (Neighborhood Services) held meetings over lunches with staff to discuss personal safety. Tips the officers shared include:

**Home Safety Tips:**
- Good lighting is the number one deterrent to break ins. Keep your porch and patio lights on all night.
- Keep storm doors and basement windows locked.
• Do not keep garage door openers on car visors or where they are easily seen. Thieves break into cars then use those devices to gain access to your home.
• Over the counter burglar alarms that use Wi-Fi work.

**Personal Safety Tips:**
• Keep your valuables with you at work or lock them in your desk.
• Cell phones are the most stolen items of all.
• Report a co-worker’s erratic behavior to HR.
• Keep a personal safety kit (including a flashlight) in your desk.
• Watch for strangers in the workplace.
• Use the buddy system when walking to your car. Reverse your direction if someone is making you uncomfortable. Trust your instincts.
• Keep your keys and cell phone in your hand while walking to your car. Hold your keys in your hand. If you need to strike someone the weight of the keys makes it hurts worse.
• Carry your purse like a football and only keep what is really necessary inside it.
• Take time to put away credit cards, ATM cards and receipts while at the checkout.
• Instead of signing the back of credit cards write “See ID” on them.
• Use caution at ATM’s. Watch for people watching over your shoulder.
• If confronted give your property to a robber. It can be re-placed.
• Always be cautious. You are most at risk in places where you are comfortable and not on guard.
• The emergency button in an elevator will summon help.
• Do not hesitate to dial 911 if you feel you may be in danger. Even if you cannot speak, the call will be tracked using cell towers (prepaid phones cannot be tracked).
• Look under and inside your car when approaching it.
• Lock your car doors and only crack windows when traveling.
• Do not place your purse or other valuables on the seat next to you where they are easily visible. That is when “Smash and Grabs” occur. Thieves break your passenger window and grab valuables.
• Look to make sure no one is watching you when place purses/valuables in the trunk.
• If someone tries to get you into a car fight your absolute hardest. Your chances of surviving drastically decrease once inside. Stay where you are at all costs.
• Whistles work and are best kept on key chains so they may be found quickly when needed.
• Keep one care link between you and the car stopped in front of you. Leave your self an escape route.
• If followed in your car, do not drive home. Go to a public place – ideally a police or fire station.
• If you have car trouble stay in the car, lock the doors, and call for help. You may call 911 and request an officer wait with you. Try not get out of the car but if you do stand way back. If you stand between two parked cars and the rear car is hit you will be caught between the vehicles.
• If threatened with a gun, put your hand out to protect where the gun is aimed. For some reason, shooters tend to avoid hands.

**Active Shooters:**
Do not scream. Gunmen tend to shoot those who scream.
Run and hide. Lock doors behind you and pull shades.

Be sure to check out the Wellmobile flyer on the website… the Wellmobile is scheduled to be on campus May 14:
http://peoria.medicine.uic.edu/departments__programs/human_resources/UICOMP_Focus_Newsletter/

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**EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHTS**

The ‘employee spotlights’ are a great way to put some faces with some names, as we’re all located in a variety of locations, sharing a common mission. Thank you to all for your daily support of the College of Medicine’s goals; your commitment, dedication, and hard work, are greatly appreciated!

No ‘spotlights’ to report this month… Hope you all enjoyed Staff Appreciation Week! CSEC put together another great evening – thanks to all who support (with fund donations, centerpieces, etc) to make the evening possible!
2015 Award Recipients

Congratulations to all Award Recipients & Nominees... Thank YOU for demonstrating excellence and exhibiting our core values!

**Distinguished Staff Recipient:** Pam Volk, Pediatrics, received nominations from: Dr. de Alarcon, Dr. Lapke, Dr. Saving, Gregg Chadwick, Tim Hollingsworth, Sue Weiss and Stacy Walker.

**Dean’s Staff Award Recipients:** Kristy Bushart, Dean’s Office, nominated by Laureen Perkins. Mary Jean Dzurisin, DES, nominated by Dr. Geiss. Marnie Koeppel, Surgery Residency, nominated by Jennifer Young.

Nominee also included Stephanie Sampson, LACF, nominated by Angela Daniels

**Team Award Recipients:** Positive Health Solutions: Jenny Ashley, Lori Bennett, Julie Bensing, Pam Briggs, Nancy Caho, Beth Clayton, Jill Egizio, Antishay Gardner, Molly Graham, Sindy Hornibrook, Cathy Huntsman, Jill Jones, Toni Johnson, Emily Lee, Lynne Manley, Carrie Neff-Andrews, Marcia Osman, Gina Richardson, Kimberly Rodgers, Lisa Roeder, Sherry Sherman, Christine Smith-Luebbers, Tracey Vogelsang. Nominations from Pam Briggs and from Lynne Manley.

Positive Health Solutions, social services, also received a team nomination from Lisa Roeder; nominees: Molly Graham, Antishay Gardner, Jill Jones, Beth Clayton, Cathy Huntsman, Kimberly Rodgers, Gina Richardson, Tracey Vogelsang

**The Rose Award** recognizes individuals who continually brighten our day, have a positive attitude and show courage in the midst of adversity. Congratulations...thank you for brightening our day!

This year’s Rose Award recipient is Deb Wolf, nominated by Wendy Bucklin

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**CSEC**

**Save the Dates**

**Upcoming CSEC sponsored events:**

**May 14**  Popcorn Sale -  
From 11:30-1:00 in the Lobby at main campus  
Volunteers needed for 1/2 hr. shifts and they receive FREE popcorn.  
Please contact Latoria Brock at lbrock@uic.edu if you would like to volunteer.  
Offsite employees may place orders with their CSEC Rep.

**May 28-29**  Silent Auction proceeds benefit the Community Chest. We have been able to help several employees this year already with this fund. How rewarding and blessed we are to have this opportunity to serve our fellow co-workers in
such a great way! We need to replenish it so our efforts can continue to help employees in the near future. Come join the fun and donate a Spring Basket filled with goodies or pass off that nice White Elephant gift you received! Donations will be collected from May 11 through May 22 and must be in good presentable condition. Please email Angela Daniels at amd@uic.edu if you are interested in donating a silent auction item. Starting May 25 all baskets/items will be in the glass lobby display for viewing at One Illini Drive on campus. Pictures will be taken and displayed at the two following places:
http://peoria.medicine.uic.edu/departments__programs/human_resources/CSEC/photo_gallery/
or
http://peoria.medicine.uic.edu/departments__programs/human_resources/CSEC/photo_gallery/fy15

**June**  Help us Kick-off the Summer with **BBQ Cookout.... Plus Chip-n-Dip Contest!** Proceeds benefit PRC (Pediatric Resource Center) - Child Abuse Prevention Awareness. Ok let’s get ready for summer in style with our first cookout of the season. The bonus is a Chip-n-Dip contest! So if you would like to enter the contest, go through those famous recipes and enter your favorite chip-n-dip. Watch for details.

**July**  Get your green thumb on folks. Our next Personal Enrichment project will be starting our own mini herb garden. Join us on Wednesday, July 15 from 11:30-1pm. Onsite location: A115. Offsite locations: Hillcrest 401-32 & Allied at the “ID” room.

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**HIGHLIGHTS FROM SAW AWARDS BANQUET**

We hope all of you enjoyed **Staff Appreciation Week**. The SAW Awards Banquet was a great success as we had so many positive comments. The following people were winners:

- Deb Wolf – Rose Award
- Carole Siefken – 50/50 Drawing received $167
- Primary Peds Office – Most popular centerpiece drawing received $258
- Erica Duffy – Grand Prize package overnight stay and water park in Springfield

We want to extend a huge THANK YOU to Trisha Thurman for donating the sweet treat at the door on the way home! These were much appreciated by staff 😊
Costume Contest Winners:
Adam Yerian - Professor Plum
Joe Newcomb - Mr. Green
Lee Ann Maas - Miss Scarlet
Gail Davis - Mrs. White
Marybeth Arduini’s Husband - Colonel Mustard
Jill Jones - Mrs. Peacock

Congratulations to our Rose Award winner Deb Wolf! Rose Bacon’s son Scott Lee presented the Rose Bowl Award along with a rose. Rose’s mother Jean Brown was also in attendance.

Congratulations to Pam Volk who received the Distinguished Staff Award!
Dr. Rusch is already bragging about Pam’s name being on the plaque!
Clue Costume Contest Winners from left to right: Marybeth Arduini’s husband as Colonel Mustard; Lee Ann Maas as Miss Scarlet; Gail Davis as Mrs. White; Adam Yerian as Professor Plum; Jill Jones as Mrs. Peacock; and Joe Newcomb as Mr. Green.

For more banquet pictures, please visit: https://www.flickr.com/gp/132819350@N02/cLbV79/

Correction: Our donation amount to Foster Pet Outreach was $80.07

See the following links for further information regarding how the Community Chest can benefit you during an unexpected life’s hardship.

http://peoria.medicine.uic.edu/departments__programs/human_resources/CSEC/community_chest/


Don’t Forget To Check Us Out On The UICOMP CSEC Webpage 😊

http://peoria.medicine.uic.edu/departments__programs/human_resources/CSEC/
View information or items such as event photos, CSEC Constitution, Suggestion Box, Rose Award, Community Chest, Thank You Booklet, Welcome Letter and general information about your CSEC Council.

NEWS RELEASES

Contact: Dave Haney
309-671-8404

Be sure to checkout UICOMP news releases at: http://peoria.medicine.uic.edu/news

MISCELLANEOUS / PERSONAL

May Birthdays

5 Molly Graham
5 Amy Zimmerman
7 Crystal Thomas
11 Emily Johnson
14 Linda Conlee
17 Amanda Erwin
17 Lorene King
17 Dawn Roberts
18 Cindy Robbins
20 Christina Koedijk
20 Emily Lee
22 Karen Canning
23 Kim Deets
23 Tammi Miller
27 Kim Hauk
28 Janice Smith
29 Carla Stokes
30 Haily Rhoades
31 Bonnie Willis

If your birthday is not listed, and you wish to be added, please contact Shannon at sdoerr@uic.edu

Congratulations Graduates to the UICOMP Class of 2015!

“I hope your dreams take you... to the corners of your smiles, to the highest of your hopes, to the windows of your opportunities, and to the most special places your heart has ever known.” ~unknown
Congratulations to Dr. Pinson’s daughter, Hannah.

Hannah will be attending Columbia College in the fall with a major in fashion business and a minor in marketing.