DEPARTMENT NEWS

CANCER BIOLOGY AND PHARMACOLOGY

Seminars/Presentations
Dr. Stephen Lasley presented a poster titled “Chronic Developmental Exposure to Environmental Manganese (Mn) Reduces Rat Striatal and Cortical Dopaminergic Activity in Adulthood” on Tuesday, March 25 at the 53rd Society of Toxicology Annual Meeting which was held in Phoenix, AZ from March 23-27, 2014.

The Department of Cancer Biology and Pharmacology will host the following two research seminars. The CBP Research Seminar Series is open to all UICOMP faculty, students and staff. Please join us on the following dates:

- Tuesday April 15 – Room A200-2 from 10:00-11:00 a.m.
Dr. David H. Wasserman, PhD, Professor and AM Lyle Chair, Molecular Physiology & Biophysics, Director of the Vanderbilt-NIH Mouse Metabolic Phenotyping Center, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN will present “Understanding the Pathogenesis of Insulin-Resistance: Thinking Outside the Cell.”

- Friday May 9 – Room A200-2 from 10:00-11:00 a.m.

Dr. Eleonora Zakharian, PhD, Assistant Professor, Department of Cancer Biology and Pharmacology at UICOMP, will present “New Heat for the Cold Receptor: the TRPM8 channel is an Ionotropic Testosterone Receptor.”

**Publications**

**Employee News**
We would like to extend a warm welcome to Keling Wang, PhD, who has recently joined Dr. Shao-yu Chen's laboratory.

**URBAN HEALTH PROGRAM**
Lorene King, MS, and Princess Currence, MSW, presented "Effective Strategies to Recruit and Retain African-American Students", at the 2014 ICBCHE [Illinois Committee on Black Concerns in Higher Education] Central Region Drive-In Conference, at Eastern Illinois University, on February 27. ICBCHE serves as a forum for discussion of concerns facing Blacks in Illinois higher education, and as an advocate for solutions to those concerns.

**LIBRARY OF THE HEALTH SCIENCES**
**FEATURED AUTHOR:**
The Library of the Health Sciences – Peoria supports the missions of the Colleges of Medicine and Nursing through its research services and collections as an integral piece of a thriving scholarly environment.

This month we would like to congratulate our Featured Authors:

Timir S. Baman, M.D. (editor/contributor) and Auroa Badin, M.D. (contributor) from the Department of Medicine.

Their book will be on display in the Library throughout the month.

Brahmajee K. Nallamothu and Timir S. Badin, editors.  
**Inpatient Cardiovascular Medicine.**  
Hospital Medicine: Current Concepts series.  
ISBN: 978-0-470-61000-8
LIBRARY SPOTLIGHT:

Even if you are a regular visitor to the Library, you may not have noticed our newest improvements. The Library recently acquired new study carrels. The new carrels replace the existing ones outside the study rooms, and we added two new ones to the café-style area in the back of the library. So come by, say hi, and check out our new spaces!

HUMAN RESOURCES

Please welcome new employee…

Scotti Nieukirk, Administrative Assistant, College of Nursing
Hope you are able to join us at the Staff Appreciation Banquet on April 23 to honor employees for their years of dedicated service! Please note changes to the service award process: UIC hosts service recognition in the fall (for the calendar year). The UIC service awards (from the fall) will be presented at the spring CSEC Banquet. In the past, UICOMP service awards were issued in the spring (for the academic year). This change may seem a bit confusing at first – some of those recognized at last year’s banquet will be recognized again at this year’s banquet, since they will be receiving the UIC Service Award from Fall 2013. We thank you for your patience through this change, and more importantly, we thank you for your continued service and dedication!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Years</th>
<th>List of Employees</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3 Years</td>
<td>Christina Koedijk, Joe Newcomb, Shari Wynn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Years</td>
<td>Lois Wood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 Years</td>
<td>Shelley Atkinson, Lori Retzer</td>
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<tr>
<td>13 Years</td>
<td>Lois Hill, Cheri Mahony, Randy Robbins, Barb Staggs, Heidi Vermillion</td>
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<tr>
<td>17 Years</td>
<td>Nylene Bradburn, Kristy Bushart, Maria Heathcoat</td>
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<td>19 Years</td>
<td>Steve Fehr, Lois Whitby</td>
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<tr>
<td>21 Years</td>
<td>Connie Lober, Nancy Schroer</td>
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<tr>
<td>23 Years</td>
<td>Judy Heffernan</td>
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<td>Special Recognition Awards</td>
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<tr>
<td>5 Years</td>
<td>Kim Alexander, Nancy Caho, Becky Caldwell, Craig Edwards, Kim Garcia, Bonnie Goodwin, Becky Hawkins, Lee Ann Maas, Jennifer Martin, Marcia O’Neal, Kelli Rude, Deanna Silotto</td>
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<tr>
<td>10 Years</td>
<td>Janet Dickson, Kathy Gensel, Andrea Grant, Vicki Helton, Mary Marksity, Dawn Roberts, Kimberly Rodgers, Bernie Rubio, Michelle Shearhod, Fae Turner, Suzy Witt</td>
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<td>15 Years</td>
<td>Lisa Collins</td>
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<tr>
<td>20 Years</td>
<td>Kim Deets, Gracita Edwards, Chris Johnson, Judy Lackey, Pam Williams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23 Years</td>
<td>Janelle Mounce</td>
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2014 Academic Professional Service Awards

3 Years
Jennifer Burton

7 Years
Lorene King

11 Years
Pam Briggs

13 Years
Nick Straub

Special Recognition Awards
10 Years
Mindy Reeter

DISCOUNTS! Be sure to check out the discounts available in NESSIE…for cell phones, travel and MORE!

Direct link via NESSIE below:
https://nessie.uihr.uillinois.edu/cf/benefits/index.cfm?Item_ID=1574&rlink=1

Amy Gillen, Coventry Health Education Coordinator, will present on the following wellness topics. Bring your lunch and join us!

April 17: Sweet Cravings: Snack Attack & Healthy Options
May 15: Yes, We Can! Motivation with a Can-Do-Attitude
Presentations are scheduled from 12pm-1pm in A200-2 (on campus)
RSVP: sdoerr@uic.edu

Note: Coventry is one of the state health insurance plan administrators.
Coventry website: http://www2.illinois.gov/cms/Employees/benefits/StateEmployee/Pages/state-admindir.aspx
CMS (state) Health Plan administrator websites:
http://www2.illinois.gov/cms/Employees/benefits/StateEmployee/Pages/state-admindir.aspx

SURS will be at the Peoria campus on May 6. They will offer a group presentation (about 1hr) on PENSION REFORM at 2:30 pm in Room A100-2. Please RSVP to sdoerr@uiuc.edu. Webinars are also scheduled regarding the pension reform; information and registration on SURS website:
http://surs.org/news-article/030314/pension-reform-webinars

For questions regarding pension reform please call SURS at 1800-275-7877. PENSION REFORM RESOURCES:
April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month

In celebration of April as National Child Abuse Prevention Month, the Pediatric Resource Center will be hosting the 2nd annual Kick Abuse at Kickapoo 5K Trail Run and Fun Walk on April 19, 2014 at the beautiful Kickapoo Creek Winery (https://secure.getmeregistered.com/Kickapoo5KTrailRun). This event features a run/walk through the beautiful vineyards and country setting on the grounds of Kickapoo Creek Winery. Proceeds from this event will provide much needed funds that will allow the PRC to continue to provide specialized medical and social services to central Illinois abused and neglected children.

The Pediatric Resource Center (PRC), a community service program of the University of Illinois College of Medicine at Peoria, provides direct services to suspected child victims of physical abuse, sexual abuse, and neglect in a child-friendly setting. Each year the PRC serves hundreds of abused and neglected children from multiple counties in Central Illinois. The PRC staff also provides support services to parents, guardians, and caretakers, and works in collaboration with the many agencies and systems that are involved child abuse cases. We hope you will share this event with your friends and family.

Please share the below flyer with your friends and family & join us…
Join PRC for the 2nd Annual

Kick Abuse at Kickapoo 5K Trail Run & Fun Walk
April 19, 2014

Stop Child Abuse

Benefiting:

Kickapoo Creek Winery

Come run or walk through the vineyards at Kickapoo Creek Winery and help raise money for the Pediatric Resource Center, providing medical exams and case management services to child victims of physical abuse, sexual abuse and neglect.

Run Starts @ 8:30 am $30/$25 for students

Register today @
https://secure.getmeregistered.com/Kickapoo5KTrailRun

OR Use your smart phone to scan this QR Code to go to the registration page

Contact PRC with Questions (309) 624-9595

Sponsored by:

Jim Maloof Realtors 
Meyer & Kiss LLC 
Par-A-Dice Hotel & Casino

Sponsorship opportunities still available
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!

Marie McWhirter
I am an Administrative Clerk in the Center for Outcomes Research (COR); I joined the College of Medicine seven years ago. This position covers a vast array of responsibilities which include assisting with grant proposals and publication submissions; communications; coordinating travel; maintaining fiscal records, and other duties as assigned. The work within COR is fast paced and highly sought after. We are in the process of creating a database to track the various requests for our services.

My personal life also runs at a fast pace. My religious beliefs are my foundation, and I seek to leave this world a better place than I found it. I dedicate many hours to projects to assist the wounded soldiers by making blankets, pillow cases, etc. I also volunteers each November for one week as a dental assistant in Jamaica.

In 1991, I was diagnosed with stage 3 breast cancer. Since that time, my primary goal is to live and eat healthy to maintain a healthy life style.

I married Terry in July 1978. We have two sons, Chris and Evan. Evan, and his wife, Michala, live in Houston and are expecting their first child. Chris, and his wife, Regan, have 2 children, with twins on the way and live in El Paso.

Mary Marksity, Medical Office Associate, University Child Development
I have been with the UICOMP for 11 years. I have experienced many different positions with the University. I have crossed from Subspecialty to Primary Pediatrics, and just recently transferred to Child Development. I like the challenge and opportunity of learning new positions to increase my knowledge base. I look forward to seeing what my new location brings.

I wed my husband, Sam, in September 2013. We now have two dogs, Sava and Dazie. We enjoy time outdoors and walking along the riverfront. We also take on DIY projects and are currently remodeling our home. I have two
grown children, Elayna and Anthony. They have each blessed me with a grandchild, Khyree and Mason. I love spending any free time with my family.

I have had the privilege of working at UICOMP for the past 2+ years and am so thankful for the opportunities I have been given to grow, develop new skills, and make new friends. I am involved in grant preparation, manuscript formatting and preparation, proofing highly technical research documents, making travel arrangements, creating expense reports in the TEM system, and writing the department newsletter for FOCUS. In addition, I serve as secretary for 4 committees and assist our faculty and staff as needed. One of the things I have enjoyed most about working in this department is the opportunity I have been afforded to work with internationals, learning and understanding their culture and developing new friendships. Probably my greatest joy in working at UICOMP has come in the form of serving on the Civil Service Employees Council. It has been a rewarding experience and has given me the privilege to serve alongside a very talented group of employees that I would not have encountered otherwise.

My husband, Don, and I have been married for almost 29 years and we have one son, Jeff, who works in the CIS department here at UICOMP. A year ago, we became empty-nesters when Jeff bought a home and moved out. After Jeff left, we became foster parents to Ferdy (a.k.a. Ferdinand the Cat) who is part Manx and belongs to our next door neighbor. He actually spends more time at our house than his own, often spending the night.

In my spare time, I enjoy scrapbooking, crocheting afghans, baking, reading books, shopping trips with my mom, sisters, cousins, and friends, collecting and, most recently I have taken up quilting. In the spring and summer time you will find me in my shade gardens tending to my 300+ hostas. I have approximately 250 different varieties in my garden and you are welcome to visit anytime.

CSEC

Staff Appreciation Week

Coming to a Location Near YOU
April 21-25, 2014
CSEC is 
Rolling out the Red Carpet For
“U”
Expect a REEL good time!
Activities Include:

Kick-off with the Dean:
4/21 - 11:00 a.m. – UICOMP Room A100-2 and
4/22 - 8:30 a.m. – OSF Conference Room A

Daily Giveaways - Daily Door Prizes

Awards Banquet – 4/23 – 5:00 Happy Hour – 6:00 Dinner – ITOO Hall
Featuring the UICOMP CELEBRITY AWARDS (UCA’s)
(and perhaps a celebrity or two)

Invitations have been mailed and reservations are needed by April 7th
Please contact Debbie at deblm@uic.edu for questions
Special thanks to the following employees who donated their lunch break to make and serve popcorn in March: Kristy Bushart, Angela Daniels, Gail Davis, Lois Hill, Toni Johnson, Cheri Mahony, Bobbie Renken, Stephanie Sampson, and Robin Tucker.

NEWS RELEASES

Contact: Dave Haney
309-671-8404

Don’t forget to visit the UICOMP website for news releases: http://peoria.medicine.uic.edu/news

MISCELLANEOUS / PERSONAL

Happy Birthday!

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

Share with us…. Let us know who in your family is graduating in May. Send your graduation announcements to sdoerr@uic.edu

Please submit information for the May issue by April 29
Submit news to sdoerr@uic.edu

Think green….
…only print when necessary