



March 2018



## CANCER BIOLOGY & PHARMACOLOGY

### PUBLICATIONS

Dr. Veeravalli's lab has an article that has been accepted for publication:

Nalamolu KR, Chelluboina B, Magruder IB, Fru DN, Mohandass A, Venkatesh I, Klopfenstein JD, Pinson DM, Boini KM, Veeravalli KK. Post-stroke mRNA expression profile of MMPs: effect of genetic deletion of MMP-12. *Stroke and Vascular*

### HEALTH SCIENCES EDUCATION

Welcome!

The Department of Health Sciences Education would like to introduce Andrew Darr, PhD to its faculty. Dr. Darr will be teaching neuroscience concepts with primary focus in Block 6 of the new curriculum. In addition, Dr. Darr will be involved with the Illinois Neurological Institute to collaborate and develop simulation curriculum and research protocols.

Dr. Darr received his PhD in Neuroscience and has expertise in molecular and developmental neurobiology. He has conducted biomedical research at The Miami Project to Cure Paralysis and has experience teaching graduate and medical students at the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine, Florida International University Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine and College of Nursing and Health Sciences.



Dr. Darr is located in room B204 on the UICOMP campus and can be reached by phone at 309-671-8435 or by email at [adarr@uic.edu](mailto:adarr@uic.edu).

## HUMAN RESOURCES

Please welcome our new employee



Jennifer Zapf, Office Support Specialist, Pathology



# HUMAN RESOURCES

continued...



Have you heard of the university LLEAP? This program provides educational benefits, be sure to check out the UIC website for complete details.

## LLEAP Purpose

The Lifelong Learning and Education Access Program (LLEAP) is designed to provide Academic Professionals and Open-Range Civil Service employees, release time/flex time, and/or funds for development opportunities focused on enhancing a career at UIC.

## LLEAP Benefits

Each eligible employee can utilize one of the following benefits on an annual basis:

- Up to \$200 and up to 8 hours of release time for professional development activities
- Up to \$200 for coursework not covered under a university tuition waiver
- Continuous flex time of four hours per week while enrolled in or actively pursuing an educational development activity
- Release time of up to 16 hours per year for professional development activities

Complete details regarding LLEAP on the UIC website: [http://www.hr.uic.edu/professional\\_development/lleap/](http://www.hr.uic.edu/professional_development/lleap/)

University tuition waiver policies available in NESSIE:

[https://nessie.uihr.uillinois.edu/cf/events/index.cfm?Item\\_ID=1121&rlink=1116](https://nessie.uihr.uillinois.edu/cf/events/index.cfm?Item_ID=1121&rlink=1116)

## VACATION ACCRUALS FOR CIVIL SERVICE EMPLOYEES

The vacation policy is available in NESSIE, in the Leave section. Below is direct link for the civil service policies, and to view the maximum accruals, depending on years of service, and if exempt (salary) or non-exempt (hourly).

**Reminder:** Vacation accruals in a pay period are added to an employee's balance first and then hours used are deducted from that balance. Civil service employees must monitor the accruals on their pay stubs closely to avoid loss of accrual as they near maximum accrual.

For example: a non-exempt employee with no more than three years of service earns at rate of .0462 per hour worked (.0462 x 75 hours = 3.47); maximum accruals at this rate of accrual is 180 hours. Beginning BW6 the employee notices 175 vacation hours. This employee will lose hours on BW7 if vacation hours are not used on BW6, because accrual hours will be added first on BW7, before any hours used are deducted. If no vacation time used on BW6:  $175 + 3.47 = 178.47$ ; on BW7  $178.47 + 1.53$  (not eligible for full 3.47) = 180 maximum accrual.

To avoid loss of time, this employee should discuss, with supervisor, using vacation time on BW6 so that vacation balance is reduced to receive accrual of 3.47 hours on BW7.

Again, the vacation accrual maximum varies, based on your years of service and if exempt or non-exempt. Refer to the policy to review the vacation charts. Vacation requests are submitted to supervisor for review/approval.

Vacation Leave Policies and Chart for Accruals: <https://nessie.uihr.uillinois.edu/PDF/policy/rules/pr7chap.pdf>

# LIBRARY OF THE HEALTH SCIENCES NEWS

As of January 2, Library hours for the public are: Monday through Thursday, 7:30 am - 8:00 pm; Friday, 7:30 am - 5:00 pm; Saturday, 12:00 pm - 5:00 pm; Closed on Sundays. The Library is staffed during these hours. Card access to the Library is with University ID at other times.

The Library is continuing to weed journals and books from the collection to provide more open study space for the students. As the bookshelves are removed, the Library is providing additional study tables and chairs. Here are a couple of our new tables.



In a recent All UIC Library Staff meeting a new diversity and inclusion program, We All Live Here, was introduced. Part of the introduction included hearing from Rich Alapack creator of the We All Live Here initiative, and a group exercise creating Post-it art (shown on left).

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## NOMINATIONS

We are fortunate to have this wonderful award program at our campus – it's a great opportunity to express your appreciation; the deadline to submit nominations is March 20. Please send email to [sdoerr@uic.edu](mailto:sdoerr@uic.edu) to request the nomination instruction sheet; please remember to attach the completed cover sheet to your nomination and do not use the nominee's name, job title, or department in your narrative. Nomination form can also be found on the website: <https://peoria.medicine.uic.edu/hr/newsletters/>

The CSEC Banquet will be held on April 26 (watch for details from the Council as time nears). Nominations for the Distinguished Staff, Dean's Staff and Team Award will be presented at the banquet. **Please take this time to express your gratitude for those who enhance the work day and exemplify excellence in serving the university and the mission; submit award nomination to HR no later than MARCH 20.** Each person who submits a nomination will be put into a drawing to win a \$25 gift card.

Nominators **only need to submit a brief letter** outlining the nominee's particular qualifications for an award based on the following suggested criteria categories: Attitude, Commitment, Leadership, Job Performance, and Team Work. Your nomination letter will be the primary source of information for the committee's consideration.

Please note: Recipients of the awards from past two years are not eligible:

**2017 Distinguished Award:** Beth Clayton

**2016 Distinguished Award:** Sondra Fox

**2017 Dean's Awards:** Scotti Nieukirk, Brian Schisler, Jennifer Young

**2016 Dean's Awards:** Angela Daniels, Jill Egizio, Linda Walter

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*"Let us be grateful to people who make us happy,  
they are the charming gardeners who make our souls blossom."*

*~ Marcel Proust*



The first day of spring is March 20

# Civil Service Employee Council News

March 2018



## Staff Appreciation Week

April 23-27

### CSEC Class of 2017-2018

Mike Bachmann  
Christina Constantinidou  
Dennis Driscoll  
Diana Farrar  
Terry Flynn  
Kristi Hasty  
Kira Healey  
Nicolette Lovingood  
Shelby Miller  
Joe Newcomb  
Brad Norrell  
Christie Perry  
Cindy Skender  
Kathy Slater



Are you onsite and interested in joining the fun? Contact Kira Healey at [kira@uic.edu](mailto:kira@uic.edu).

### CSEC OFFICERS

President: Kira Healey,  
[kira@uic.edu](mailto:kira@uic.edu)  
Vice-President: Kathy Slater,  
[kj Slater@uic.edu](mailto:kj Slater@uic.edu)  
Treasurer: Christina Constantinidou, [cconstan@uic.edu](mailto:cconstan@uic.edu)  
Secretary: Shelby Miller,  
[Smille59@uic.edu](mailto:Smille59@uic.edu)

CAN'T REMEMBER THE NAME OF YOUR CSEC REP? CONTACT Shelby Miller, [Smille59@uic.edu](mailto:Smille59@uic.edu)

The annual **Staff Appreciation Week** (SAW) dates have been set! This is a week where UICOMP staff are celebrated with a week of gifts **and** a banquet the evening of Thursday, April 26, hosted by council members. Mark your calendars!



**Nominations are now being accepted for *The Rose Award*.**

Visit <http://peoria.medicine.uic.edu/csec/rose-award/> to learn more about the Rose Award and download your nomination form. Deadline for nomination submissions is the end of day March 2, 2018. **CSEC Council members are not eligible to win this award.** Please send your nomination via in house mail or courier **Attention CSEC: Rose Award.**

## Check out the CSEC Webpage

The Civil Service Employee Council (CSEC) Webpages have been updated and are ready for visitors. Stop by and see who your CSEC Representatives are for the 2017-19 AY and learn more about CSEC activities at <http://peoria.medicine.uic.edu/csec/>

## Get Your Lucky Charms



Lucky Charms are a fun way to tell your co-workers that you think they are wonderful. For just \$1, you can tell those special people "I appreciate you" and give them a little treat. See your CSEC representative March 7-14 to purchase your Lucky Charms. They will be delivered on the 15<sup>th</sup> or 16<sup>th</sup>.

## WHO'S WHO in the CSEC

### Meet Nicolette Lovingood



Hi! My name is Nicolette Lovingood and I am a Medical Case Manager with the Positive Health Solutions clinic. Serving on the Civil Service Employee Committee has allowed me to meet other employees from UICOMP that I otherwise would have not met and has shown me how they believe in community not just at UICOMP but in the city. I live in Peoria with 2 of my granddaughters and I have three grown daughters and 8 G-babies (who are my joy!) in all. I am not much of a social butterfly but when I do get out I like to travel, try new restaurants and have fun with my family and friends.

## Class Act Nominations

*Who has gone "above and beyond" to help you with a work project or has done something that made your day? Recognize that special co-worker's contribution with a statement of appreciation published in the newsletter and a certificate that will be sent to them on your behalf.*

Nominate your special co-worker by sending the details about why they are a "Class Act" to Shelby Miller at [smille59@uic.edu](mailto:smille59@uic.edu).



## March Popcorn Sales

Thursday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>

11:00 am - 1:00 pm

**For just 50¢ a bag, you have a delicious popcorn treat AND help raise funds for worthy causes! At that incredible price, you can treat your friends, too!** Portions of the proceeds in go to worthy causes, as in the past, to the South Side Mission or the SGA (Student Government Assn.)

**DID YOU KNOW?** Proceeds from the popcorn sales also go to fund the **Community Chest**, which is a fund that supports civil service staff members facing any kind of hardship. You may nominate yourself or a co-worker by sending an email request to Shelby [smille59@uic.edu](mailto:smille59@uic.edu) or Kathy [kjlater@uic.edu](mailto:kjlater@uic.edu). If we can help pay your electric bill or buy the tire that blew because all your money has gone to medical bills, for example, then the fund can assist.

Be sure to check out the News Releases on the website:

<http://peoria.medicine.uic.edu/news>

Contact: Dave Haney, 309.671.8404



## March Birthdays



Lesa Armstrong  
Tom Ryan  
Beth Wallace  
Kristie Taggart  
Jonathan Fisher

Bonnie Goodwin  
Mary Durdel  
Cheri Mahony  
Ashley Johnson

Camilla Pietreniak  
Marie Smith  
Heather Boore  
Angela Daniels

Chris Menke  
Christina Constantinidou  
Judy Martin  
Amanda Daily

If your birthday is not listed, and you wish to have it added, please contact Shannon at [sdoerr@uic.edu](mailto:sdoerr@uic.edu).

*The deadline for submission of information for the April issue is March 29. Send your submissions to Shannon at [sdoerr@uic.edu](mailto:sdoerr@uic.edu).*

## Run (or Walk) to Fight Child Abuse!

Gather your co-workers, make a team and sign up today for the

**Kick Abuse at Kickapoo 5K Trail Run and 1 mile Walk**

**April 21<sup>st</sup> 2018, 8:30am start**

[go.uic.edu/KickAbuse5K](http://go.uic.edu/KickAbuse5K)

Click on the UICOMP Teams button on the left side of  
the registration page



**Team with the most participants WINS (bragging rights)**

100% of proceeds benefit the PRC, providing child-friendly, specialized medical exams to abused & neglected children in central Illinois



## USE CODE UICOMP18 to Save \$5

Contact Amanda Franklin at PRC with questions: 624-9595 or [aerwin@uic.edu](mailto:aerwin@uic.edu)



*May your thoughts be as glad as the shamrocks,  
may your heart be as light as a song,  
may each day bring you bright, happy hours  
that stay with you all the year long.*



**Think Green!**  
**Only Print When**  
**Necessary.**

