May 2019

CANCER BIOLOGY & PHARMACOLOGY

PRESENTATIONS

Dr. Sergey Malchenko gave an invited talk at the West Virginia University Cancer Institute in Morgantown, West Virginia. His talk entitled “Characterization of brain tumor initiating cells isolated from an animal model of CNS primitive neuroectodermal tumors” was presented on April 3, 2019.

Dr. Krishna Veeravalli gave an invited talk at the 8th National Meeting & 37th Annual Banquet of ASIOA in Orlando, Florida. His talk entitled “Post-stroke induction of tPA contributes to brain injury and impedes neurological recovery” was presented on April 10, 2019.

Dr. Koteswara Nalamolu gave an invited talk at the 8th National Meeting & 37th Annual Banquet of ASIOA in Orlando, Florida. His talk entitled “Exosomes treatment ameliorates post-stroke neurological recovery” was presented on April 10, 2019.

Dr. Koteswara Nalamolu and Dr. Krishna Veeravalli attended the Experimental Biology 2019 Conference in Orlando, Florida and presented the below poster which was selected for poster discussion in ASIP Highlights Session.


Dr. Eleonora Zakharian hosted visitors from Chile: Professor Fernando Danilo González Nilo, Ph.D., Director of the Center for Bioinformatics and Integrative Biology (CBIB), Universidad Andrés Bello, Santiago, and his graduate student, Jaime Huerta. Dr. González gave a seminar talk entitled “Tracking the hear diffusion pathways on the TRPV1 channel” on Wednesday, March 27, 2019.
Dr. Krishna Veeravalli’s lab published the following article:


Dr. Sang-Oh Yoon’s and his collaborators published the following article:

  *Co-corresponding authors*

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**LIBRARY OF THE HEALTH SCIENCES**

Check out the Library’s new collection of Graphic Novels! Here are a few recent editions:

- **My Depression: A Picture** book by Elizabeth Swados. (New Book Shelf WM171.S S933m 2015)
  An HBO animated film with the voices of Sigourney Wever, Steve Buscemi, and Fred Armisen was created based on the book.

  **Lighter Than My Shadow** by Katie Green. (New Book Shelf WM175 G795 2017)
  Topic - Eating disorders

- **Tangles: A Story About Alzheimer’s, My Mother, And Me** by Sarah Leavitt. (New Book Shelf WT155 L439t 2012)

  **Smile** by Raina Telgemeier. (New Book Shelf RK55 Y68 T45 2010)
  Topic – Dental surgery/orthodontics
  Will Eisner Comic Industry winner

- **Hyperbole And A Half: Unfortunate Situations, Flawed Coping Mechanisms, Mayhem, And Other Things That Happened** by Allie Brosh. (New Book Shelf WM171.5 B874 2013)
  Topic – Mental health - depression
  #1 New York Times bestseller

  **Mom’s Cancer** by Brian Fies. (New Book Shelf WF17 F466m 2008)
  Eisner Award winner
Please welcome new employees....

Lori Armstrong, Reimbursement Coding Representative, Pediatrics

Robert Dunigan, Medical Insurance Specialist, Medical Billing

Erin Driscoll, Medical Education Program Specialist, Internal Medicine Residency

Elaine Moskop, Staff Nurse, Pediatrics

Kim Elder, Medical Assistant (certified), Pediatrics

Benefits Choice/Open Enrollment....

Benefit Choice/Open Enrollment is May 1 – May 31; changes effective July 1, 2019

Open Enrollment Changes must be submitted via MyBenefits. If you do not plan to make any changes during open enrollment you do not need to do anything with the exception of flex spending; it requires re-enrollment

MyBenefits: [link]

For login issues you will need to call MyBenefits at 844.251.1777; they can also assist with the navigation process in the MyBenefits website. Please do not wait until the May 31 deadline, if possible, in case there are login and/or website issues on the last day.

CMS Open Enrollment resources: [link]

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

Direct link: [link]

CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES!

“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
STAFF APPRECIATION WEEK FUN!

What a super fun night with UICOMP Super Heroes at the CSEC Awards Banquet held in April! Congratulations to the award recipients and nominees! Thank you for your outstanding contributions, for using your light to exemplify excellence to fulfill the UICOMP mission. You ALL shine!

**Distinguished Staff Recipient:** Tracey Vogelsang, nominated by Bruce Broughton

**Dean’s Staff Award Recipients:** Lynne Keeton, nominated by Shannon Doerr; Carol Reames-Trotter, nominated by Raney Pierce; Kathy Slater, nominated by Jennifer Young and by Marnie Koeppel

**Team Award Recipients:** Sondra Fox and Suzy Witt, nominated by Adam Yerian

**Additional distinguished/dean’s staff nominees:**
Jenny Johannes, nominated by Kim Alexander; Dawn Roberts, nominated by Dr. Jacqueline Fischer; Suzy Witt, nominated by Sondra Fox; Maureen Wolfe, nominated by Jamie Hassall

**Additional team nominees:**
Team (2018) CSEC nominated by Kathy Slater: Kira Healey, Christie Perry, Nicolette Lovingood, Shelby Miller, Terry Flynn, Diana Farrar, Christina Constantinidou, Joe Newcomb, Dennis Driscoll and Cindy Skender

Team Dean’s Office, nominated by Laureen Perkins: Kristy Bushart, Dennis Driscoll and Adam Yerian

Team Health Sciences/Pathology, nominated by Sherri Yong: Debby Tucker and Jennifer Zapf

**Rose Award:** Jennifer Zapf, nominated by Sherri Yong and by Andrew Daar

**Additional Rose Award nominees:**
Kimberly Rodgers, Positive Health Solutions, nominated by Christine Luebbers
Christina Constantinidou, Cancer Biology and Pharmacology, nominated by Eleonora Zakharian and Bento Marcelo Soares

Loni Wenzel, Academic Affairs, nominated by Adam Yerian

Michael Koperski, Positive Health Solutions, nominated by Tracey Vogelsang

Lynne Keeton, Human Resources, nominated by Gary Edwards

*For all those who submitted a nomination, there is drawing for a $25 gift card... Winner is Dr. Fischer*
May 2019

STAFF APPRECIATION WEEK 2019

A big thanks to all of our UICOMP employees—each of you makes a big difference at work—with coworkers, students, patients, visitors. We thank you for your hard work, attention to detail, willingness to go the extra mile to provide great service to others—all of those things go into why UICOMP is a great place to work.

The CSEC worked hard on planning the whole week this year, to make it fun for everyone. Next year, we hope to have even more staff join us for the Banquet. The evening is full of great food, great people and entertainment, with a 50/50 raffle and bidding on centerpieces and gift baskets.

If you have ideas about the 2020 Staff Appreciation Week, or would like to share feedback, please email the CSEC President, Kira Healey, at kira@uic.edu.

Community Chest

The Community Chest 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 or Kira kira@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.
I started working for UICOMP in July of 2017 as an Office Support Specialist in GME. I have lived in Peoria most of my adult life, and I keep promising myself I will eventually leave, but I am starting to think I am a liar. Outside of work I have three kids, go to school part-time and perform stand-up comedy. In my free time. Just kidding, I don’t have free time! Working at UICOMP has been a great experience so far and I am enjoying the added experience of being a part of CSEC.

Fresh Food Drive

Fresh Food Drive – May 24th at the North Building, Dept. of Emergency Medicine (1st floor)

The Fresh Food Drive will be accepting donations (see below) for the Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry, for distribution on Saturday, May 25th.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fruits</th>
<th>Vegetables</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Apples, Oranges, Pears</td>
<td>Broccoli, Cauliflower, Cabbage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Melons: Cantaloupe, Watermelon, Honeydew</td>
<td>Carrots, Celery, Cucumbers, Radishes, Tomatoes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stone fruit: Peaches, Plums, Nectarines</td>
<td>Zucchini, Squash, Sweet and White Potatoes, Corn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Berries: Strawberries, Blueberries, Raspberries</td>
<td>Green beans, Sweet peppers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pineapples, Bananas</td>
<td>Greens: Mustard, Collard, Spinach, Lettuces</td>
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</tbody>
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This event is sponsored by the CSEC organization of UICOMP, and the Healthy Kids U Pediatric Clinic of UICOMP.

Please consider making a donation of fresh fruit/vegetables—it really makes a difference for people in need. **We are accepting fresh, un-cut foods.** Any donation amount is welcome, but the request is a 10 lb donation. Thank you for your consideration and donation!

This ‘N’ That

- **When you buy a bag of popcorn from the CSEC, for just 50¢ a bag, you have a delicious popcorn treat AND help raise funds for a good cause!**
- **May 15 is our next projected popcorn sale date, 11:30-1:00.**
- **Donate to our Fresh Food Drive to help local residents have healthy food options.**
- **Volunteer opportunities will be announced in these pages throughout the year.**
Elections for Civil Service Employee Council! May 2019

Each year, UICOMP Civil Service staff and academic professionals have an opportunity to step up and become a part of the CSEC, the council that develops and hosts staff-oriented activities to celebrate our work community and give back in various ways to the Peoria-area community, too.

The election for new CSEC members will be coming in the next several weeks. CSEC terms are for two years and there are a variety of responsibilities to choose from on the Council, so you can participate in ways that support your interests, experience and time. Each council member is granted up to four hours a month for CSEC activities, so please talk with your manager about your interest. Current CSEC members will be circulating with cookies, inviting each person to be in the election. If you do not opt out, your name will be included on the ballot.

Thank you for considering joining CSEC – we need YOU!

STAFF APPRECIATION BANQUET

Good food was consumed, games were played, prizes were won, fun was had!

Thank you to all who worked so hard to make this Staff Appreciation Week and Banquet a reality.
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.

Dr. David Pinson- LACF Director, Attending Veterinarian, DVM, PhD, DACVP, DACLAM
A leader with great knowledge-education in the field of animal research from many different aspects and fronts. We are blessed to have acquired such a capable asset to the research program here at UICOMP. Always has the correct answers, teaches and leads with enormous dedication, quick to lift up praise to those deserving, ready to solve a problem with a proposed solution and is ALWAYS looking out for the best interest of all the research animals and animal care staff here on campus. He is always quick to be there for us no matter the day or time, even at last minute unforeseen occurrences. He is our #1 fan and we cannot thank him enough. We are blessed to have him for our mentor, director and fearless leader. Thank you and may God bless you always.....and we hope your retirement doesn’t come any time in the near future. ☺

Angela Daniels, Laboratory Animal Care Supervisor, RLAT
Laboratory Animal Care Facility

Spring
is a lovely reminder of how beautiful change can truly be

Check out the CSEC Webpage:
Stop by the Civil Service Employee Council (CSEC) Webpages to see who your CSEC Representatives are, and to learn about CSEC activities at http://peoria.medicine.uic.edu/csec/
MAY BIRTHDAYS

Raney Pierce  Amy Zimmerman  Ashley Monahan  Emily Johnson
Karen Wyman  Mike Bachmann  Trisha Fillman  Amanda Franklin
Dawn Roberts  Cindy Skender  Kim Montgomery  Michelle Bond
Bryan Bander  Kim Deets  Tammi Miller  Liz Kellington
Kim Hauk  Carla Stokes  Haily Rhoades  Bonnie Willis

If your birthday is not listed and you wish to have it added, please contact Shannon at sdoerr@uic.edu.
A detailed birthday list may be found on the “PUBLIC” drive in the Focus Newsletter Folder, as well as past issues of the Focus in the Focus Newsletter Folder.

The Earth laughs in flowers.
- Ralph Waldo Emerson

NEWS RELEASES

Contact: Sue Grebner
309-671-8404

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

Think Green! Only Print When Necessary.