



April 2018



CANCER BIOLOGY & PHARMACOLOGY

PUBLICATIONS

Dr. Sergey Malchenko's lab recently published a paper:

"Characterization of brain tumor initiating cells isolated from an animal model of CNS primitive neuroectodermal tumors". Sergey Malchenko, Simone T. Sredni, Jerusha Boyineni, Yingtao Bi, Naira V. Margaryan, Maheedhara R. Guda, Yulia Kostenko, Tadanori Tomita, Ramana V. Davuluri, Kiran Velpula, Mary J.C. Hendrix and Marcelo B. Soares.

Oncotarget, 2018, vol.9, (No. 17), pp: 13733-13747.

SERVICE

- Dr. Velpula was appointed as an Associate Editor for the Journal – Biomedicine and Pharmacotherapy an Elsevier Journal (Impact Factor: 2.759) starting April 1st 2018.
- Dr. Eleonora Zakharian was invited to give a talk at Columbia University Medical Center, held by the Department of Biochemistry and Biophysics on March 22nd 2018, New York.
The talk title is:
"TRP channels in uncharted territory: Interplay with Oxytocin- and Testosterone-induced rapid signaling mechanisms"
- Dr. Eleonora Zakharian was a chair of the TRP channels session at the at the 62nd Annual Meeting of Biophysical Society, held in San Francisco on February 20th, 2018
- Dr. Eleonora Zakharian gave a talk at the 62nd Annual Meeting of Biophysical Society on February 20, 2018. The talk title:
OXYTOCIN MODULATES NOCICEPTION AS A DIRECT AGONIST OF PAIN-SENSING TRPV1
- Dr. Demirkhanyan and Dr. Zakharian also presented a poster entitled:
TRPM8 REGULATES SEXUAL DESIRE AND SATIETY
- Dr. Asuthkar was invited to review grants for Rally Foundation, pediatric cancer research awards program, for the year 2017-2018.

- Stephen M. Lasley, Ph.D., is a Co-Investigator on a grant award from the Department of Defense Gulf War Illness Research Program entitled, “Understanding Gut-Microbiome Links to Gulf War Illness Persistence and Development of Gut Dysbiosis-Targeted Therapy”. Dr. Lasley will have a subcontract from the Principal Investigator’s institution for \$139,009 to perform studies at UICOMP.
- Dr. Lasley has also been appointed to the Department of Veterans Affairs Scientific Merit Review Board for a three-year term. This Board reviews grant applications to the VA for awards to study Gulf War veterans’ illnesses.

EMPLOYEE NEWS

- Dr. Velpula-Tsung Laboratory welcomes
 1. Chase P. Smith (M1 student)
 2. Ryan R. Wilbur (M1 student)
 3. Simon J Park (M1 student)
 4. Yeshaswini Reddy (Volunteer)
- Dr. Asuthkar’s lab welcomes Wade Marshall Smith, M1 student.



HUMAN RESOURCES

Welcome to our new employee!



Rebecca Somogyi, Business Manager II with Positive Health Solutions

MAY IS OPEN ENROLLMENT

Information regarding open enrollment will soon be released by the State (CMS); watch for information from CMS and university announcements later in the month. If you make any changes you must do so in the MyBenefits website: <https://mybenefits.illinois.gov/account/login/MustAuthLogin#/login>

Please call MyBenefits if you have any issues with the login process: 844.251.1777

Reminder...this is not a university login (NetID/password)

Benefit resources: <https://www.hr.uillinois.edu/benefits/>



Graduation!

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

Civil Service Employee Council News

April 2018



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.

CSEC OFFICERS

President: Kira Healey,

kira@uic.edu

Vice-President: Kathy Slater,

kj Slater@uic.edu

Treasurer: Christina

Constantinidou, cconstan@uic.edu

Secretary: Shelby Miller,

Smille59@uic.edu

CAN'T REMEMBER THE NAME OF YOUR CSEC REP? CONTACT

Shelby Miller, Smille59@uic.edu

Staff Appreciation Week "A Carnival of Possibilities" April 23-27

The CSEC is putting together a **Thank You Booklet** to celebrate Staff Appreciation Week 2018 and we would like to offer you a chance to show your appreciation to your coworkers!

If there is someone you would like to thank, submit your Thank You Note via email to CSEC Member, Kathy Slater, at kj Slater@uic.edu, no later than April 16.

- Multiple Thank You notes can be emailed together.
- Please proofread and check for correct name spellings before you send.
- Put "SAW Thank You" in the subject line of your email.
- A reply will be sent to all submissions received. If you don't receive a reply within one business day, please call 655-2383.

The **Thank You Booklet** will be posted on the CSEC webpage during SAW Week and the link will be emailed to everyone on and off-site.

Thank you!

Kathy Slater, CSEC Committee Member

Staff Appreciation Week Schedule

The fun begins with the Dean's SAW Kickoff on Monday, April 23, and SAW Trivia questions will be coming your way every day via email. Little surprises will be sprinkled throughout the week. All Civil Service employees are invited to the SAW Banquet on Thursday, April 26, at Barrack's Cater Inn Banquet Center & Catering, 1224 W. Pioneer Parkway in Peoria. Check in at 5:30 pm., get your 50/50 or raffle tickets, and bring money for the cash bar. Come ready to play games and have fun! Dinner begins at 6:15 with program and awards at 7:00.

Raffle tickets can be used on any of the many centerpieces donated by individuals and departments within the University system. (See details on the next page.)

Buffet Dinner begins at 6:15 pm. The menu includes:
BBQ Beef Brisket or Chicken Breast Filet
Garlic Whipped Potatoes, Fresh Hot Vegetable Blend
Vegetable Pasta Salad, Tossed Salad (w/assortment of dressings)
Fresh Hot Rolls and Butter, Desserts & Coffee

Award Ceremony at 7:00 pm

Service, Distinguished Staff, Dean's Staff and Team awards, as well as the Rose Award will be given. We will also announce the winners of the Raffles and 50/50!

There will be great food, great fun, and great company at this year's CSEC Staff Appreciation Banquet. Look for your invitation!!





Step right up folks! Welcome to “A Carnival of Possibilities!”

During Staff Appreciation Week 2018, you are invited to participate in a daily trivia contest. Starting on Monday, April 23, each day that week, we will send out questions relating to the Carnival or a certain Carnival experience. Answers will be True/False, matching, multiple choice, and fill in the blank. We will keep track of every correct answer- and a winner will be chosen based on those correct answers. The winner will receive a Grand Prize- something better than a stuffed animal or a goldfish in a jar. See you on the midway!

Staff Appreciation Banquet Centerpieces

Use your creativity and create a prize-winning “Carnival of Possibilities” centerpiece for our SAW Banquet on April 26th. The winner who garners the most raffle tickets wins an awesome prize. ***If you would like to donate a centerpiece, please contact Terry Flynn by email at tlflynn@uic.edu.***



WHO’S WHO in the CSEC - Meet Dennis Driscoll



Hi! My name is Dennis Driscoll and I am an Administrative Aide in the Dean’s Office at UICOMP. I’m serving my second year on the Civil Service Employee Council and have enjoyed the fun experiences CSEC has to offer. I live in Peoria with my 2 awesome boys and our very energetic Blue Heeler puppy, Lucy. In my free-time I enjoy being with family & friends and traveling, especially to the beach!

Thank You!

Thank you, all who made, bought and consumed popcorn at our recent popcorn fundraisers. Many thanks to those who bought Luck Charms for your co-workers!



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/>.

April Birthdays



Megan Hobson
Kimmi Walker
Jeanne Reddy

Kristin Lenover
Janice Tamplin
Tom Cusack

April Rosen
Carmen Howard
Kimberly Rodgers

April Day
Dave Haney
Joe Naidur

If your birthday is not listed, and you wish to have it added, please contact Shannon at sdoerr@uic.edu. A detailed birthday list can be found on the "PUBLIC" drive in the Focus Newsletter Folder. Also, you can find issues from 2016 in the Focus Newsletter Folder. *Reminder note: You may also save a copy to your files if you wish to keep a copy for reference as well. The deadline for submission of information for the May issue is April 26. Send your submissions to Shannon at 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 21st 2018, 8:30am start

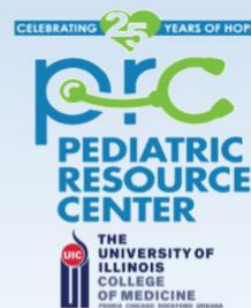
go.uic.edu/KickAbuse5K



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



Think Green!

Only print when necessary.

