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ANNOUNCEMENTS

CCID RESEARCH DAY POSTER WINNERS ANNOUNCED. CCID Research Day was held on May 8, 2003, at the Friday Continuing Education Center. The program was very successful with participation by 24 presenters in the poster competition, excellent speakers in the basic and population sciences, and research participants who offered new and innovative ideas for future collaborations. The posters in the competition were of the highest quality. It is clear that the future of research in inflammatory disorders holds much promise. Congratulations to the first prize winners who received \$1,000 each and the second place winners who received \$500 each. Read the abstracts at <http://ccid.unc.edu/research/abstracts.htm>.



Predocctoral Basic Science. First place prizes were awarded to **Christine Burillo-Kirch**, graduate student in the Department of Microbiology and Immunology for “CTxB induced apoptosis in Tc1 T cells involves caspases and JNK” and to **Heather Seitz**, graduate student in the Department of Microbiology and Immunology for “Relationship of novel receptor tyrosine kinases in phagocytosis of apoptotic cells.”

(Pictured left to right: Luda Diatchenko, Dan Caplan, Aurea De Sousa, John Elter, Heather Seitz, Patrick Flood, and Christine Burillo-Kirch)

Postdoctoral Basic Science. First place prizes were awarded to **Aurea De Sousa**, postdoctoral fellow in Cell and Molecular Physiology for “Localization of Myosin-X at filopodial tips is abolished by point mutations in the motor domain” and to **Luda Diatchenko**, Research Associate Professor in the Department of Endodontics, for “A systematic identification of modulators of the Nf-Kb Signaling Pathway through Genome-wide survey of monocyte adherence-induced genes.”

Postdoctoral Population Science. First prize was shared between **John Elter**, Research Assistant Professor in Dental Ecology for “Periodontitis, edentulism and plasma lipids: The ARIC study” and **Daniel J. Caplan**, Assistant Professor in Dental Ecology for “Endodontic inflammation and time to coronary heart disease.”

Invited speakers from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill included: **Becky Worthylake**, Cell and Molecular Physiology, “RhoA regulates directional migration of leukocytes”;



Sergei Makarov, Endodontics & Thurston Arthritis Center, “Too much of a good thing: Mesenchymal stem cells in arthritis;” **Kathleen Light**, Psychiatry, “Beta-adrenergic activity: Relationships to stress responses in healthy couples and women with chronic pain and distress;” **John Elter**, Dental Ecology, “Use of endothelial function testing in periodontal treatment trials;” and **Rosemary McKaig and Ada Rey**, Dental Ecology, “Oral Health Works for blue collar women in eastern NC: Methods and results.”

Visiting from the Boston University School of Dental Medicine, **Thomas Van Dyke**, Periodontology and Oral Biology, spoke on the “Role of phagocytic activation and signaling in periodontal disease.” Read more about CCID research opportunities and important findings of the various work groups on the web at <http://ccid.unc.edu/currentresearch/findings.htm> and see additional photos from the CCID Research Day at <http://ccid.unc.edu/research/photos2003.htm>.

OFFENBACHER AND BECK AWARDED NEW COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT. Steven Offenbacher and James Beck were recently awarded a five-year cooperative agreement, MOTOR-Maternal Oral Therapy to Reduce Obstetric Risk. The award of over \$9 million will fund five separate components: an administrative oversight project at the UNC School of Dentistry; three clinical trial performance sites at UNC School of Dentistry, Duke University Medical Center, the University of Alabama Dental and Medical Center and the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio; and a clinical trials data and statistical coordinating center at the UNC Collaborative Studies Coordinating Center in the School of Public Health. Recent studies have confirmed that there is an association between maternal periodontal disease and pregnancy complications that result in premature delivery. Data suggest that periodontal disease and its progression may represent an infectious and inflammatory exposure that could have serious deleterious effects during pregnancy. Scientifically, to determine whether periodontal disease is causally related to preterm delivery and confers any modifiable risk, it will be critical to demonstrate that treating periodontal disease in pregnant mothers results in a decreased incidence of preterm birth and growth restriction. The central hypothesis is that mothers with periodontitis who receive periodontal treatment during the second trimester of pregnancy will experience a lower rate of preterm delivery and a higher mean birth weight of the premature infants. The study will span five years and will be a randomized, two-armed, clinical trial completing 1800 mothers at three medical/dental centers.

UNC-CHAPEL HILL ANNOUNCES NEW AGREEMENTS. The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and the Department of Health and Human Services have completed negotiations of the new

facilities and administrative (F&A) rates. The agreement is dated **March 14, 2003**. For complete details see http://research.unc.edu/osr/fanda_memo.pdf.

7/1/2003 to 6/30/2005	ON CAMPUS	OFF CAMPUS ADJACENT	OFF CAMPUS REMOTE
Organized Research	46.0%	28.0%	26.0%
Instruction	44.9%	28.0%	26.0%
Other Sponsored Activities	31.9%	26.4%	25.1%
Clinical Trials	26.4%	26.4%	25.1%

UNC-Chapel Hill has a new **Federalwide Assurance (FWA) for human subjects research** approved by the Office for Human Research Protections at the DHHS. The new number is **FWA-4801** and replaces the old Multiple Project Assurance (MPA-1390). Use the new number to indicate the assurance under which UNC-Chapel Hill operates on any grant/contract applications and sponsor agreements.

Effective July 1, 2003, the **health insurance rates** for post docs will increase to \$1,604 per year. Rates for graduate students will increase to \$1,162/year effective August 15, 2003.

REVISED NIH POLICY ON SUBMISSION OF A REVISED (AMENDED) APPLICATION. This announcement eliminates the two-year restriction on the receipt of amended applications. The NIH will not consider any A3 or higher amendment to an application for extramural support. Beginning on the date of this announcement, there is no longer a time limit for the submission of the first and second revisions (A1 and A2). This policy applies to all NIH extramural funding mechanisms. After three reviews, it was felt that it was time for investigators to take a fresh approach to their research proposals.

Investigators who have submitted three versions of an application and have not been successful often ask NIH staff how different the next application submitted has to be to be considered a new application. A new application following three reviews is expected to be substantially different in content and scope with more significant differences than are normally encountered in a revised application. Simply rewording the Title and Specific Aims or incorporating minor changes in response to comments in the previous Summary Statement does not constitute a substantial change in scope or content. Changes to the Research Plan should produce a significant change in direction and approach for the research project. Thus, a new application would include substantial changes in all sections of the Research Plan, particularly the Specific Aims and the Research Design and Methods sections. See the complete announcement at <http://grants1.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-03-041.html>.

NATIONAL CANCER INSTITUTE MODIFIES ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENT FOR AWARDS FOR UNDERREPRESENTED MINORITIES. The eligibility section of several of the awards for underrepresented minorities has been modified for the Mentored Clinical Scientist – K08 (<http://grants1.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-CA-03-025.html>), the Mentored Career Development Award - K01 (<http://grants1.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-CA-03-023.html>), and the Mentored Patient-Oriented Research Award K-23 (<http://grants1.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-CA-03-024.html>). For purposes of this Program Announcement, underrepresented minority candidates include individuals belonging to particular ethnic, racial and other groups determined by the grantee institution to be underrepresented in cancer-related biomedical, behavioral, clinical, or social sciences research. Underrepresented minority candidates are not limited to racial and ethnic minorities but can also include individuals, as selected by the institution, as underrepresented as cancer researchers, e.g., first generation college graduates, socio-economically disadvantaged, etc.

DELIVERY OF COMPETING GRANT, COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT, AND FELLOWSHIP APPLICATIONS. The NIH Division of Receipt and Referral, Center for Scientific Review reminds

investigators that applications may not be delivered by individuals to the Center for Scientific Review but must be sent via a courier delivery service or the US Postal Service. Additional details at <http://grants1.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-03-040.html>.

Applications sent via the US Postal Service (express or regular mail)	Applications sent via a courier delivery service
Center for Scientific Review National Institutes of Health Suite 1040 6701 Rockledge Drive MSC 7710 Bethesda, MD 20892-7710	Center for Scientific Review National Institutes of Health Suite 1040 6701 Rockledge Drive Bethesda, MD 20817

NEW INITIATIVES

SPECIALIZED CENTERS FOR ORAL, DENTAL AND CRANIOFACIAL RESEARCH. Patrick Flood will direct the application process in the School of Dentistry in the area of Oral Infectious Diseases in response to an RFA from the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research. These specialized centers will replace the currently existing Comprehensive Oral Health Research Centers of Discovery. Each specialized center will be composed of a minimum of three tightly integrated basic science projects and any appropriate cores. Infectious diseases of the oral cavity (caries and periodontal diseases) continue to be a significant public health burden. Although periodontitis has been implicated in such systemic disorders as stroke, atherosclerosis, diabetes and the birth of pre-term low birth weight infants, it is not the intent of these centers to explore these associations. Rather, the emphasis is to be placed on the oral complications of these infectious processes. Oral tissues, cells, etc. from individuals with these disorders could be utilized to investigate the influence of these disorders on oral manifestations of microbial infections. See <http://grants1.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-DE-006.html> for the RFA. The letter of intent receipt date is November 15, 2003; the application receipt date is December 16, 2003.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

NIDCR'S SMALL GRANT PROGRAM (R03) AND EXPLORATORY/DEVELOPMENTAL (R21) GRANT PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENTS. Effective with the October 1, 2003 receipt date, the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research will use the NIH Exploratory/Developmental Research Grant Award (R21) at <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-03-107.html> and the NIH Small Research Grant Program (R03) at <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-03-108.html>. For additional details, see <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-DE-03-004.html>.

PERIODONTAL DISEASES: MICROBIAL AND HOST GENOMICS/PROTEOMICS. Periodontitis is a chronic inflammatory disease that destroys the tissues that surround and support the teeth. These diseases are complex, with genetic, microbial, immunological and environmental factors determining disease risk, progression, and course. The purpose of this RFA from the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research is to stimulate research that will employ prokaryotic/eukaryotic genomic and proteomic techniques to analyze the molecular interactions that occur between oral bacteria and host cells (i.e. bacteria-bacteria, bacteria-host cell, and host cell-host cell) associated with the pathogenesis of periodontal diseases. The ultimate goal is to use this information to prevent, treat or diagnose periodontal diseases. This RFA was designed to stimulate research to use contemporary high-throughput technology to identify and characterize genes (genomics) and proteins (proteomics) that are

associated with periodontal diseases and health. Findings from these studies will establish a scientific basis for identification of logical targets for the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of these diseases.

This RFA will use NIH R01 and R21 award mechanisms. The NIDCR intends to commit approximately \$2.0 million total cost (direct cost and applicable facilities and administrative F&A cost) in FY2004 or FY2005 to fund six to eight new and/or competitive continuation grants in response to this RFA. An R01 applicant may request a project period of up to four (4) years and a budget for direct costs up to \$500,000 per year. An R21 applicant may request direct costs up to \$275,000 over a two year period. The letter of intent receipt date is July 29, 2003; the application receipt date is August 26, 2003. See <http://grants1.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-DE-04-001.html> for complete details.

INNOVATIONS IN BIOMEDICAL COMPUTATIONAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY. The NIH invites applications for innovative research in biomedical computational science and technology to promote the progress of biomedical research. This solicitation targets support for fundamental research in biomedical computing science and technology as well as the development and application of new biocomputing tools or technologies for a particular area(s) of scientific opportunity in biomedical research. Programs may target one or multiple areas of biomedical computing that will enable progress in biomedical research. Examples of data types that could be considered include but are not limited to genomic sequences, biomedical images, qualitative descriptors for health and social science, remote sensing and geospatial images, and chemical formulae. Specific research areas solicited in informatics or computational science include but are not limited to:

- Tools for data acquisition, archiving, querying, retrieval, visualization, integration and management
- Platform-independent translational tools for data exchange and for promoting interoperability
- Analytical and statistical tools for interpretation of large data sets
- New models or simulations of complex biological processes (and the development of mathematical tools for these processes)

Areas of biomedical research likely to be critically dependent on biocomputing advances include but are not limited to behavioral science, cell biology, demographic and social science, developmental biology, drug design at the molecular and cellular levels, dynamic modeling of health, chronic disease, and disablement, epidemiology, genomics, immunology/inflammation, neurobiology and cognitive science, pharmacology, and physiology. Projects must span the interface of biomedical research and biomedical computational science and technology. This PA will use the NIH Phased Innovation Award (R21/R33) and R01 award mechanisms. Application receipts dates include June 24, 2003; October 24, 2003, and February 24, 2004. Details at <http://grants1.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-03-106.html>.

DEADLINE FOR NEXT NEWSLETTER/HOW TO REACH CCID

Submit news items (awards, training opportunities, events, publications, grants, funding opportunities) to CCID@dentistry.unc.edu. Please limit to approximately 200 words. Previous editions of The Hot Sheet are archived on the CCID website at <http://ccid.unc.edu/newsarchives.htm>.

Comprehensive Center for Inflammatory Disorders
UNC School of Dentistry
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
CB# 7455, 101 Dental Research
Chapel Hill, NC 27599-7455
Phone 919-966-1455
Fax 919-966-3683