A Message from the Editors

Happy Spring! Please continue to send your news and story ideas to MLnews@einstein.yu.edu at any time throughout the year.

News from the Chair

We are pleased to announce a secondary appointment to our department for Dr. Nikolaos Frangogiannis who is currently Professor of Medicine at Albert Einstein College of Medicine. Dr. Frangogiannis came to Einstein from Baylor in 2010 and holds the Edmund J. Safra/Republic National Bank of New York Chair in Cardiovascular Medicine. His research interests are in the area of inflammation and how dysregulation in inflammatory responses can translate into increased tissue damage and cardiovascular disease, an area new to our department’s scientific research portfolio. As a secondary appointee he is welcomed to the full academic life of our department and we look forward to his participation in and involvement with our activities. Please join me in welcoming Dr. Frangogiannis to MI.

The Einstein Student Chapter of the American Society for Microbiology has invited Dr. Lovley (U Mass) to give a special seminar. Dr. Lovley works on the problem of electrical generation/response by microbes. This is an extremely interesting area that could have major implications for energy generation and use in the decades ahead. One of the wonderful aspects of student-selected speakers is that they discuss areas that are not the usual standard fare in our seminar series. For example, in the past we have had lectures on the microbiology of wine. I ask all members of the department to support our students by attending what promises to be a very interesting seminar. See the separate story below for details.

One of the major expenses at our institution is electricity and any savings in this regard are very helpful to the college and to the environment. Consequently, MI is working with the Einstein Office of Energy & Sustainability to become the first department to undergo an energy audit to account for the sources of electrical use and to identify areas where we can reduce electrical consumption. Michael Winkler and Andrea Moore from the Office of Energy & Sustainability met with the MI Einstein faculty and provided a very informative presentation of energy use. We are hoping to come up with strategies to reduce our energy footprint and with that thought...please turn off whatever is not needed!
American Society for Microbiology Student Chapter Update

The Einstein Student Chapter of the American Society for Microbiology (ASM) would like to invite you to our upcoming student-invited seminar. Please join us in the Forchheimer 1st Floor Lecture Hall Wednesday April 25th at noon for a talk by Professor Derek Lovley from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. Dr. Lovley studies anaerobic microorganisms, including Geobacter, which has many implications in bioremediation and environmental restoration. You can read more here: http://www.geobacter.org

The title of Dr. Lovley's talk will be “Electromicrobiology: A New Paradigm for Long-Range Electron Transport and Applications to Bioenergy and Bioremediation.”

Contributed by Lisa Brown.

Please Welcome the New MI Lab Members!

Leandro Carreno, Research Fellow (Porcelli)
Thomas Fricke, Research Fellow (Diaz-Griffero)
Chayim Goldberg, Graduate Student (Prasad)
Kessler McCoy-Simandle, Research Fellow (Porcelli)
Shalu Sharma, Research Fellow (Porcelli)
Anna Wec, Graduate Student (Chandran)

News from the Students

Raquel Furtado (Palliser)


Emily Happy Miller (Chandran)


Emily was selected to give a short talk at this meeting and received a travel award to attend.


Robert Tamayev (D’Adamio)

Robert was awarded a Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award (F30) from the
National Institute on Aging (NIA) to support his continued training as a predoctoral MD/PhD fellow. The project to be supported is entitled, “Dementia due to mutations in BRI2; link to Alzheimer's disease.”

**News from the Research Fellows**

Sarah Weber (Pirofski)


Data from this paper will be featured as the cover art for the April 2012 issue.

**News from the Faculty**

Joan Berman

Joan was awarded a five-year R01 grant to study the mechanisms by which HIV-infected peripheral monocytes transmigrate across the blood brain barrier and mediate the pathogenesis of neuroAIDS.

Joan was selected to present the "Women in Neuroscience" Lectureship at the International Society of Neurovirology Meeting this May 2012.

Joan presented her work at two symposia in Chile, one in Santiago and one in Puerto Varas at the Chilean Cell Biology meeting, in November 2011. She also had the pleasure of meeting with undergraduate and PhD students in Santiago for two days to discuss their data in detail as part of a “Meet the Professor” program.


Arturo Casadevall

Arturo continues to serve on the National Scientific Advisory Board for Biosecurity (NSABB) which has been in the news recently as a result of their recommendation that portions of manuscripts describing mammalian transmissible H5N1 virus be redacted because of security concerns. As of this time the controversy continues as the NSABB is scheduled to reconvene in late March to consider new information. Arturo has been quoted in news articles published in *The New York Times* and *Science*. He participated in a forum to discuss the issue organized by

Invited lectures:
Brown University
University of North Carolina
National Plant Diagnostic Network
Harvard University
Bard College
Keystone meeting on fungal pathogenesis and drug discovery, Santa Fe
University of Calgary
University of Tennessee
Student Invited Speaker - Nashville


**Kartik Chandran**

The Chandran Lab extends a warm welcome to Anna Wec, who recently joined the lab as a PhD student.


**Kate Dadachova**


Kate, together with co-inventors Arturo Casadevall and Harris Goldstein, was awarded patents in Canada, Europe, Hong Kong, and South Africa on “Methods of applying ionizing radiation for therapy of HIV infection.”
Kate was invited to serve on the National Cancer Institute’s Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) review panel for “Innovative Devices to Protect Radiosensitive Organs and Structures during Radiation Therapy.”

Invited lectures:
“Viral antigens on cancers of viral origin as selective biomarkers for diagnosis and therapy with radiolabeled antibodies,” Circulating Cancer Biomarkers Meeting, Washington, DC, January 2012.


**Johanna Daily**


**Teresa DiLorenzo**

Teresa recently accepted invitations to review grant applications for the Israel Science Foundation and for the BIOS Institute, which is based at the University of Arizona and whose goal is “to bring scientists from diverse disciplines together to foster innovation.” She is currently reviewing R24 grant applications for the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK). The R24 mechanism funds resource-related research projects and collaborative interdisciplinary team science.
Bill Jacobs
Bill was named a 2011 Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), Section on Biological Sciences. A Fellow is defined as an AAAS member “whose efforts on behalf of the advancement of science or its applications are scientifically or socially distinguished.” Read more about the nomination process here: http://www.aaas.org/aboutaaas/fellows/instructions.shtml

Stan Nathenson
The collaborative relationship between the laboratories of Stan, Xingxing Zang, and Steve Almo was recently highlighted in the Einstein Cancer Center newsletter. Read the full article here: http://www.einstein.yu.edu/home/publications/cancer-summer-fall-2011.pdf

Debbie Palliser
Debbie was awarded a new R01 from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) for a project entitled “Enhancing RNAi delivery in vivo.” The award is for five years.


Laura Santambrogio
Invited lectures:
Department of Pathology, New York University, New York, NY, November 2011.
Department of Systems Biology and Translational Medicine, Texas A&M Health Science Center, Temple, TX, May 2012.


Bettie Steinberg


**Andy Yates**


**Xingxing Zang**

Xingxing received a 2012 Early Career Faculty Travel Award from the American Association of Immunologists to attend the 99th Annual Meeting in Boston, MA, in May 2012.

Invited lecture: T cell costimulation and coinhibition, Weill Cornell Medical College, New York, NY, February 2012.