Biomedical Sciences News and Events

How to Choose a Good Mentor Session Recap

On Wednesday, January 30 Dr. Candice Askwith, Associate Professor in the Department of Neuroscience, led a session on "How to Choose a Good Mentor." Dr. Askwith provided helpful information for first-year students to consider as they make this very important decision in their graduate careers. The handout that was distributed is attached here along with the Memorandum of Understanding document. First year students are encouraged to select their dissertation mentor by May 3, 2013, so they can apply for the College of Medicine's Systems in Integrative Biology (SIB) Training Program (watch the newsletter for more information about this Fellowship Program soon and check out the video about the program here). Students who have questions about selecting a mentor are encouraged to schedule an appointment with Biomedical Sciences Graduate Program Manager, Amy Lahmers, by calling 614-292-0857.
First Oral Drug for Spinal Cord Injury Improves Movement in Mice

An experimental oral drug given to mice after a spinal cord injury was effective at improving limb movement after the injury, a new study shows. The compound efficiently crossed the blood-brain barrier, did not increase pain and showed no toxic effects to the animals. "This is a first to have a drug that can be taken orally to produce functional improvement with no toxicity in a rodent model," said Sung Ok Yoon, associate professor of molecular & cellular biochemistry at Ohio State University and lead author of the study. "So far, in the spinal cord injury field with rodent models, effective treatments have included more than one therapy, often involving invasive means. Here, with a single agent, we were able to obtain functional improvement." Read more here.

*Dr. Sung OK Yoon is also an active faculty member of the Biomedical Sciences Graduate Program.*

Internationally Renowned Gynecologic Cancer Researcher Joins OSU

Internationally renowned uterine cancer researcher and geneticist Paul Goodfellow will lead a new team of three researchers devoted to gynecologic oncology research at the OSUCCC - James.

"Paul's expertise on the genetic and epigenetic events associated with the initiation and progression of uterine endometrial cancer makes him well-suited to lead this effort to accelerate gynecologic oncology research from basic science to Phase 1 clinical trials," says Dr. Michael Caligiuri, director of Ohio State's Comprehensive Cancer Center and CEO of the James Cancer Hospital and Solove Research Institute. Read the full story here.

*Dr. Paul Goodfellow recently joined the Biomedical Sciences Graduate Program faculty.*

Graduate School News and Events

Career Development Resources

For a listing of Career Development resources offered by the graduate school click here.

Medical Center News and Events

Trainee Research Day: Second Call for Abstracts: Due February 8

Remember to submit your Trainee Research Day abstract by Friday, February 8! The College of Medicine Student Organizing Committee is accepting abstracts for poster presentation at the 12th Annual OSUWMC Trainee Research Day, which will take place on Thursday, April 11. Winners in each trainee category of the poster session receive a $1,000 travel award to assist them in attending a scientific conference of their choice to present results of their research.

Trainees interested in participating in this year's poster session must
submit an abstract using the online form on the [Research Day website](https://ui.constantcontact.com/visualeditor/visual_editor_preview.jsp?agent.uid=1112284539417&format=html&print=true). Guidelines and instructions for poster preparation and presentation are available on the Research Day website. The deadline for submission is Friday, February 8. Direct any inquiries to researchday@osumc.edu.

**Distinguished Biomedical Research Mentor of the Year Award**

Nominations by College Of Medicine research trainees are now being accepted by the Trainee Research Day Student Organizing Committee for the 2013 OSUWMC Trainee Research Day Distinguished Biomedical Research Mentor of the Year Award.

Trainees are encouraged to nominate their research advisor or other faculty research mentor for this distinguished award. Nominations can be submitted using the [online nomination form](https://ui.constantcontact.com/visualeditor/visual_editor_preview.jsp?agent.uid=1112284539417&format=html&print=true) and are due no later than Friday, February 8. Nominees must be full-time COM faculty at either OSUWMC or Nationwide Children's Hospital.

To learn more about the award, please visit the [website here](https://ui.constantcontact.com/visualeditor/visual_editor_preview.jsp?agent.uid=1112284539417&format=html&print=true). The award winner will be recognized at the 12th Annual OSUWMC Trainee Research Day Awards Ceremony on April 11. Please direct any questions to researchday@osumc.edu.

**Blood Drive: Monday, February 4 in Meiling Hall: Urgent Need**

The College of Medicine is having a blood drive this coming **Monday, February 4, from 11:00-4:00 in Meiling Hall**. The American Red Cross has an urgent need for O Negative and B Negative blood donations.

- Volunteer blood donors of all blood types are continuously needed to maintain a strong and stable blood supply. Donors with type O negative and B negative blood are especially needed now as hospital distributions of these blood types are outpacing donations causing an urgent need situation.

- Recently a hospital served by the American Red Cross ordered 40 type O negative red cells for just one patient undergoing a hysterectomy.
  - Thanks to the generous blood donors that gave in the days and weeks before, these products were available for this patient.

**Other News and Events**

**Schweitzer Fellows to host "Life and Works of Albert Schweitzer" Feb. 4**

The Columbus-Athens Schweitzer Fellows Program, an interdisciplinary program hosted at Ohio State and focused on health-related community service, invites the campus community to attend the "Life and Works of Albert Schweitzer" on Monday (2/4) at 7 p.m., First Floor Auditorium, Westminster-Thurber Retirement Community, 717 Neil Ave. The keynote speaker will be Rev. Dr. Richard Wing, an expert on Schweitzer's message of service. Read more on their [website here](https://ui.constantcontact.com/visualeditor/visual_editor_preview.jsp?agent.uid=1112284539417&format=html&print=true) and contact [Terry](https://ui.constantcontact.com/visualeditor/visual_editor_preview.jsp?agent.uid=1112284539417&format=html&print=true).
Bahn with any questions

Counseling and Consultation Services Free Workshops

Counseling and Consultation Services offers a number of FREE drop-in-when-you-are-able workshops. No registration is necessary, no prior appointment is needed. These workshops are open to all enrolled OSU students. Topics include stress management, self-esteem and more. See the flyer or the website for more information. They also offer various group sessions which can be found here. If you are interested in making a personal appointment visit their website here.

Fun Fact

Mysterious Shaman Stones Uncovered in Panama

Archaeologists have unearthed nearly 5,000-year-old shaman's stones in a rock shelter in Panama. The stone collection may be the earliest evidence of shamanic rituals in that region of Central America, researchers say. Read more here.