

IMMUNOBIOLOGY NEWSLETTER

August 2007

Welcome back students!

We are going to have a great year starting with our **FALL 2007 ORIENTATION** for new and continuing students on Friday, August 24. This event is for all Immunobiology graduate students and faculty and will be held in the Catalina Room Breezeway from 12:00 to 1:00 p.m. Students are required and faculty is urged to attend. Lunch will be served.

We have a new faculty member, Magdalene So, PhD whose lab is in the Keating Building. Dr. So comes to us from Oregon Health Sciences University.

We have made some changes over the summer. Michelle Blurton has taken over as Graduate Program Secretary and is now in the main office, room 644. The main office has had a major overhaul and is now more student-friendly.

We also have a new department staff member, Delma Lopez, who is our new Administrative Secretary and is Assistant to Dr. Akporiaye.

Rodney Adam

Dr. Adam's manuscript on the Giardia genome project is now in press in Science.

Emmanuel T. Akporiaye

Dr. Akporiaye was recently awarded a 3-year Category I grant by the Arizona Biomedical Research Commission to study the role of transforming growth factor-beta on dendritic cell cancer vaccines.

Jorge Giron

Dr. Giron was an invited speaker at the Gordon Research Conference on Microbial Adhesion and Signal Transduction, July 07.

Felicia Goodrum

Dr. Goodrum was nominated and elected to Editorial Board of the Journal of Virology this month.

Karen Taraszka Hastings

Dr. Hastings, who has a joint appointment in our department and is located at the University of Arizona Phoenix campus, was awarded an NIH/NIAMS K08 grant entitled "MHC class II antigen processing and immune recognition of melanoma. The funding is from 9/1/07 to 8/31/12.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS:

Giron Laboratory

- 1) Erdem A., et. al. Host protein binding and adhesive properties of H6 and H7 flagella of attaching and effacing Escherichia coli, Journal of Bacteriology, October 2007 (in press).
- 2) Rendon M, Saldana Z, Erdem AL, Monteiro-Neto V, Vazquez A, Kaper JB, Putente JL, Giron JA. Research highlights in Nature Reviews/Micorobiology, Vol. 5, August 2007, of her research paper, Commensal and pathogenic Escherichia coli in Proceedings of the National Academy of Sci. USA 104, 10637-10642 (2007).
- 3) Xicohtencatl J, Giron, JA, et. al. Novel Type IV pili of Enterohemorrhagic Escherichia coli, Journal of Clinical Investigation, O157:H7, October 2007 (in press).

OTHER NEWS

We welcome three new students this year. They are **Sharese Bailey**, **Claire Larmonier** and **Rajalakshmy Ramalingam**.

Aysen Erdem

Ms. Erdem obtained her Master's degree on August 3, 2007.

Collin LaCasse

I have been named the Courtney Page Zillman Fellow for Tee Up For Tots. TUFT is a non profit organization dedicated to raising funds for pediatric cancer research and to assist with support services for pediatric cancer patients and their families. I will be fully supported by TUFT this year. ---

Maria Rendon

Ms. Rendon has moved to another department and is now a Research Specialist Senior in Plant Sciences where she is working with Karen McGinnis for Dr. Vicki Chandler.

Diana Hernandez

Ms. Hernandez has moved to another lab and is now in Dr. Maggie So's lab in the Keating Building.