

May 2006



Office of Education, Division of Intramural Research  
National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute

# FELLOWS NEWSLETTER

The Fellows Newsletter is published monthly by the Office of Education, Division of Intramural Research, National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute and distributed to NHLBI DIR members to promote the interest of DIR Fellows.

Office of Education, DIR, NHLBI  
Herbert M. Geller, Ph.D., Director  
Jessica M. Llewellyn, Coordinator  
Bldg. 10/2N242  
301-451-9440

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#### **From the Director of the Office of Education**

As you will see from the articles in this newsletter, the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Fellows Retreat on **April 27-28<sup>th</sup>** was a rousing success. Over 130 Fellows attended and 50 presented posters. There were two major talks by Drs. J. Craig Venter and Stuart Orkin. Planning for the next retreat is already underway. We invite you to participate in this process by joining the Fellows Advisory Committee.

The **May Fellows Science/ Social Hour** will be held on **Thursday, May 18<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 PM** in room 7S235, where Drs. Sylvain Cecchini and Alejandro Negrete from Dr. Kotin's Lab will present their studies on gene therapy using recombinant viruses. A social excursion to Bethesda will follow the conclusion of the talks. Come out to meet your colleagues and learn what other fellows are doing at the NHLBI!

We will soon see the influx of summer interns to the NHLBI. This year, we will have over 50 interns in almost all the labs and branches. Teaching an intern is a great way to obtain mentoring experience which is important as you begin to seek a permanent position outside NIH. So speak to your PI and ask if you can be involved, and you will be well-rewarded.

#### ***The Fourth Annual Fellows Retreat***

**Dr. Brigitte Simons**  
Laboratory of Kidney and  
Electrolyte Metabolism

Without hesitation, it is delightfully concluded that our 4th Annual NHLBI Fellows Retreat was a complete success with an attendance of over 150 fellows and staff, 50 posters, and 13 invited speakers. On April 27 and 28, the Office of Education

and the Fellows Advisory Committee hosted the retreat at the Harbortowne Golf Resort and Conference Center in St. Michaels, Maryland. Attended by 130 NHLBI fellows, these two spectacular days of sunshine, overlooking the Chesapeake Bay, packed in a very impressive agenda which allowed its attendees to enjoy several brilliant scientific seminars, career development speakers, and an evening of social networking. The program and abstracts can be downloaded from:

(Continued...)

## **Adelstein Dubbed Best Mentor 2006**



Drs. Yasuharu Takagi (Left) and Steven Yee (Right) congratulate Dr. Robert S. Adelstein on winning the 2006 Outstanding NHLBI Mentoring Award.

Dr. Robert S. Adelstein, Chief of the Laboratory of Molecular Cardiology was chosen as the Winner of the 2006 Fellows Award for Research Mentoring. Dr. Adelstein, who first came to NIH in 1956 as a summer intern, is a graduate of Princeton University and Harvard Medical School. He joined NHLBI in 1961 and has a long history of mentoring and training fellows. Amongst them are Dr. James Sellers, winner of last year's mentoring award.

Nominations for the the Fellows Award for Research Mentoring are solicited from all active NHLBI fellows once a year. A committee of fellows then evaluates the nominations and contacts present and past fellows of the nominees for their input.

We all congratulate Dr. Adelstein, who joins Dr. Sellers as well as Drs. Cindy Dunbar, Lance Pohl and Rodney Levine as winners of this award.

### Retreat (continued)

<http://dir-intranet.nhlbi.nih.gov/oe/retreat/>.

The day began with welcoming remarks by Dr. Robert Balaban, Scientific Director and Dr. Herbert Geller, Director of the Office of Education in the NHLBI Intramural Program. They stressed the idea that career success is not solely determined by scientific

achievements. This theme was reinforced by the outstanding talk by world-renowned keynote speaker, Dr. J. Craig Venter of the J. Craig Venter Institute. Dr. Venter delivered an outstanding talk profiling some of his impressive scientific achievements in genome research while also focusing on the Sorcerer II Expedition, a pilot study directed by Dr. Venter to perform genetic analyses of the earth's oceanic organisms. This global sailing endeavor was featured by the Discovery Channel and entitled "Cracking the Ocean Code." This DVD may be borrowed via inter-library loan from our NIH library. This seminar prompted numerous discussions on Dr. Venter's ideas of developing artificial chromosomes and genetic data predictions which reverberated amongst the crowd over lunch. Dr. Venter also stressed that progress in science depends upon attracting young people to do science. His presentation included examples of activities by the Venter Institute in the public schools.

On Friday morning, Dr. Stuart Orkin of Harvard Medical School was this year's scientific speaker. Dr. Orkin presented his research on hematopoietic stem cell growth and differentiation and touched upon the new implementations of interactomes for integrating evidence of protein interactions with biochemical datasets. A third talk by Ms. Alyson Reed from the National Postdoctoral Association (NPA) explained the goals of the NPA and invited NHLBI postdocs to become members and participate in NPA activities.

A major feature of the retreat was the chance to learn about fellows research at NHLBI. Over 50 fellows submitted abstracts for the poster session, four of whom were selected for oral presentations: Dr. Ganghui Wang (Proteomics Core Facility), Dr. Satoaki Matoba (Cardiovascular Branch), Dr. Jianjun Bao (Laboratory of Molecular Cardiology), and Dr. Hongjun Liu (Cardiovascular Branch). Posters were judged by a panel comprised of Advisory Committee members and NHLBI Tenure-Track faculty members, and two

NHLBI travel awards of \$1000 were given to Drs. H. Lee Woodcock (Laboratory of Computational Biology) and Satoaki Matoba (Cardiovascular Branch).

A special awards session held after dinner presented Dr. Robert Adelstein with the "Fellows Award for Research Mentoring" (see sidebar). Of course, Dr. Adelstein did not hesitate in

(Continued...)

## **Matoba and Woodcock Win Awards**



Congratulations to Drs. Satoaki Matoba (Cardiovascular Branch) and Dr. H. Lee Woodcock (Laboratory of Computational Biology), who won \$1000 travel awards for their presentations at the Fellows Retreat. These awards are funded by Dr. Robert Balaban, Scientific Director. Each poster was evaluated for content and presentation by a committee consisting of Tenure Track Investigators and members of the Fellows Advisory Committee. Dr. Matoba's presentation, co-authored with J. G. Kang, W. D. Patino, A. Wragg, M. Boehm, O. Gavrilova, P. J. Hurley, F. Bunz, P. M. Hwang was entitled "p53 regulates mitochondrial respiration". Dr. Woodcock's presentation, entitled "Parametrization of a CHARMM compatible carbohydrate force field: Priming the pump" was co-authored with Drs. B. R. Brooks, A. D. MacKerell, and R. W. Pastor.

*(Retreat continued...)*

demonstrating his worthy mentorship characteristics by leading us all into the evening's social events of karaoke. Thank you very much to Dr. Lina Li for transforming me into a raging fool and lending us your karaoke equipment and to Jessica Llewellyn for orchestrating the steady flow of performances. Everybody's participation in karaoke was outstanding. Some of you in particular warrant a repeat performance next year, namely the Drs. Geller duo.

The finale of the meeting was a Career Development panel. Former NHLBI fellow Dr. Ted Mills from the University of Texas gave a very realistic yet captivating talk about the expectations of taking on an associate professorship position in academia. Next, an expert view of the extramural

program at NIH was presented by Dr. Jim Kiley. Lastly, Maureen Kerber, the president of a life science recruitment company named The Kerber Group (based in Seattle), spoke about preparing for the job market within the biotech and pharmaceutical industry. A luncheon with the career development panelists proved to be an excellent way for the fellows to discuss and reflect upon possible career options given the expertise of these three invited speakers.

A special thanks to Dr. Herbert Geller, Jessica Llewellyn, and Judy Corbett for the majority of the preparations in coordinating our retreat. Thanks to all who attended and provided us with valuable feedback on how to improve our annual conference in 2007. For those interested, please

join the Fellows Advisory Committee and help organize next year's retreat.

## Fellows Advisory Committee Gains New Members

Welcome Drs. Lee Ann Cohen (Laboratory of Cell Biology) and Siddhartha Jana (Laboratory of Molecular Physiology) to the Fellows Advisory Committee. At the same time, we thank departing members Drs. Jianjun Bao, Marina Lee, Lina Li, Roberto Weigert, and Ogei Yar for their valuable contributions to the Committee. Fellows from all Labs and Branches are welcome to participate in the Committee.



Ms. Leticia Cano is a recent member of the Vascular Medicine Branch under the supervision of Mark Gladwin. Ms. Cano received her M.S. in Biological Sciences from University of California- Irvine and is presently working on her Ph.D. from City of Hope Graduate School in Duarte, California. Her project entails translational research on sickle cell disease.



Dr. Karin Fredriksson has recently joined the Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine Branch under the mentorship of Dr. Stewart Levine. She received her Ph.D. in Respiratory Medicine and Allergy from Stockholm University in Sweden. Dr. Fredriksson's project entails work on the role of immunomodulatory exosomes in the pathogenesis of inflammatory lung diseases.

## New NHLBI Fellows

### Jessica's Corner

I can't tell you how exciting it was to meet so many of you fine fellows at this year's retreat! Though it was a bit hectic at times, it was great to be able to sing karaoke, share meals, and even find s-video cables in St. Michaels, Maryland with you. I hope you all enjoyed the time to meet your fellow colleagues, get away from the NIH and just act like a kid for a while. Perhaps American Author Ray Bradbury was right in saying: "Touch a scientist and you touch a child." Looking forward to seeing all of you at a nearby karaoke bar in the VERY near future!

### Come to the Fellows Science and Social Hour

Thursday, May 18th, 2006  
10/7S235A

Presentations by  
**Drs. Sylvain Cecchini and Alejandro Negrete**

## Recent Publications by NHLBI Fellows

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- Tomanee P and Hsu JT.** Preparative fractionation of protein, RNA, and plasmid DNA using centrifugal precipitation chromatography with tubular dialysis membrane inside a convoluted tubing as separation channel. *Biotech Prog* 22: 532-537, 2006.
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