What’s New in Biochemistry

Our Newsletter for January-February, 2013

PERSONNEL NEWS:

Susan Viggiano has switched labs. She will now be working as a Senior Research Support Specialist (lab manager) with Michael Cosgrove.

Dr. Brian Haarer will be working as a Senior Research Scientist at 50% for Dave Amberg and 50% for Wenyi Feng.

Lee Parsons completed his PhD degree in Stephan Wilkens’ lab and is currently looking for employment.

Dr. Nilda Alicea-Velaquez has joined Michael Cosgrove’s lab as an Instructional Support Associate. She is completing her PhD degree in Titus Boggin’s lab at Yale and will be switched to a Postdoc position once the degree has been awarded.

Dr. Remigiusz Arnak has joined Wenyi Feng’s lab as a Postdoctoral Associate. Remig has obtained his PhD degree from The Open University in Cambridge, UK.

Rosa Leon Huamancaja has left her SU work-study position in BN Singh’s lab. Rosa is continuing her studies at SU.

Ashley Delutis left her Student Assistant position in BN Singh’s lab. Ashley is continuing her studies at SUNY Binghamton.

Ivayla (Eve) Geneva will be returning to medical school after completing the PhD portion of her MD/PhD degree.

PUBLICATIONS:

Poster:
Heather DeBari and Ed Berry have a new article, "Structure of Vibrio cholerae ribosome hibernation promoting factor" published in Acta Crystallographica F. The paper is available online at http://dx.doi.org/10.1107/S1744309113000961

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION RECEIVED:

Congratulations to Ivayla (Eve) Geneva who completed all of the degree requirements for the PhD portion of her MD/PhD degree in Peter Calvert’s lab.

Venkat Dharmarajan, Michael Cosgrove’s SU student, defended his dissertation entitled "Thermodynamic and structural characterization of the interaction between WD-40 repeat protein-5 (WDR5) and human SET1 family methyltransferases". He is now doing a Postdoc at Scripps Florida in Patrick Griffin’s Lab.

Melody Sanders, another one of Michael Cosgrove’s SU students, defended her Masters thesis entitled "Structural and functional studies on the role of Retinoblastoma binding protein five (RbBP5) in the histone methyltransferase activity of the Mixed Lineage leukemia (MLL1) core complex".

Congratulations to Richard Mangio who successfully defended his PhD thesis on January 24, 2013!

Congratulations to Stephen Shinsky for being selected to receive a $1,000 Graduate Student/Postdoctoral Fellow travel award to attend the 2013 ASBMB Annual Meeting in Boston in April of 2013.

Masters student, Kevin Namitz, and technician, Cassandra Barns have been accepted into the Biomedical Sciences PhD program for fall of 2013.

PERSONAL NEWS:

Patty Kane’s son, Josh Popp, qualified with his trumpet for Sr. High All-County band and the Area All-State festival to be held on February 1-2, 2013 at Ithaca College. Josh is a sophomore at CBA.

This picture of Daniel is from 1/12/13 Post Standard. For the full article go to: http://www.syracuse.com/news/index.ssf/2013/01/more_than_300_high_school_stud.html#incart_river

*Description of concertmaster provided by Jenny: The concertmaster is the leader of the orchestra and usually the first chair of violin. The concertmaster leads the orchestra members in tuning their instruments. In the band where Josh, Patty's son, belongs the concertmaster is the first chair clarinet or oboe.

Xin Jie Chen and Xiaowen Wang’s son, Victor, made Jr. High All-County with his violin. As did Elena Haarer, Brian Haarer’s daughter, on her flute.

Trivia anyone? Some Biochemistry graduate students, employees, and friends take second place in Trivia competition at Coleman’s. The trophy is in the departmental office.

Provided by Stephen Shinsky:
“On 12/18/12 we took 2nd place in the 7-week Trivia Tournament by the Syracuse Trivia Company. We play every Tuesday night at Coleman's Authentic Irish Pub on Tipp Hill. At that time our team consisted of myself (Stephen Shinsky), my roommate (Samantha Miller), Andrew McCulley, Cherry Ignacio, Cherry's boyfriend (Stephen Barry), and Nick ……”

On 1/22/13 we won 2nd place during the regular nightly contest.

Stewart Loh and Jenny Ha’s son, Daniel, also qualified with his violin as concertmaster* for Sr. High All-County band and the Area All-State festival.

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On 2/19/13 we again placed 2nd place in the 7-week tournament with the same company and still at Coleman's. Our team consisted of the same people above plus Andrew's high school friend, Rob Calimlim. We won passes to play paintball!

NEWS ABOUT ALUMNI:

Look at how big Maya, Diana Mitrea's daughter, has gotten!

Patty Kane received an email from Gino Cingolani announcing that he is a father. Lara Sato was born on December 7, 2012. Look at all of that hair! Gino told Patty that the baby got her hair from her mother luckily.

Dr. Heather DeBari is currently working at the NIH research campus in Bethesda, with the NHLBI Laboratory of Cardiac Energetics, under Dr. Robert S. Balaban.