What’s New in Biochemistry

PERSONNEL CHANGES:

Michael Cosgrove has two new people working in the lab, Arianna Laszlo is doing her second rotation and he is hosting Josephine Lee, a medical student who is doing an elective entitled "Research in molecular basis of epigenetic gene regulation".

Knutson Lab has a new student in the lab. Her name is Paola Morocho. She is a Medical Scholars Master’s in Medical Technology Program who will be working as a researcher in the lab.

PUBLICATIONS:

Christian Heiss, Zhirui Wang, Ian Black, Parastoo Azadi, Raina N. Fichorova, Bibhuti N. Singh

http://www.jbc.org/content/291/2/998.full?sid=4b9b1659-0a5e-4191-9508-05962b5b1c70


AWARDS, RECOGNITIONS, AND OTHER ACTIVITIES:

Congratulations to MD/PhD student, Rebecca Sager, who won a Young Investigator Award for cancer research. For article in Upstate Online go to: http://upstateonline.info/static/Jan14-Jan212016/blog/story-3/index.html

Michael Cosgrove gave a seminar at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, MN, for their Molecular Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics visiting faculty member seminar series. The talk was on January 8th and was titled "Molecular Mechanisms for the assembly and regulation of the MLL core complex".

NEWS ABOUT ALUMNI:

Alumni Publications:

Bonnie An Henderson and Ivayla I. Geneva
http://www.jcrsjournal.org/article/S0886-3350(15)01028-7/abstract

Thank you to Jennifer Brennan for sharing her article in the Upstate Grad Update — February 2016:
Margaret (Meg) Stratton, PhD, (Biochemistry & Molecular Biology ‘10), started an Assistant Professorship at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, in September 2015 after completing her postdoc with Dr. John Kuriyan at the University of California, Berkeley. Meg is running a research group that focuses on the study of long-term memory at the molecular level. The Stratton lab analyzes the proteins involved in synaptic transmission such as CaMKII, Arc, and the NMDA receptor, among others. In addition to research, Meg is also teaching some undergraduate and graduate Molecular Biology courses.

Meg will be returning to Upstate this April! During her visit she will be a guest lecturer for the Biochemistry & Molecular Biology Seminar Series, hosted by her former thesis sponsor Dr. Stewart Loh. Her talk entitled “Understanding the Molecular Components of Memory Formation” will be held Monday, April 11th at 12:00 Noon in WH 2231. After, Meg will be joining us for a Career Development Workshop at 1:00 PM in Setnor 3507/3508, where she will meet with our graduate students and postdocs over lunch to share her experiences and advice on everything from finding a job in academia to starting your own lab and more!

From David Turner:

Hi, Penny!

There's an obit for Bill Bergstrom in Sunday's Post-Standard. He taught for many years in the Biochem course. For a time, if I recall correctly, his office was on our floor. I'm not sure, but he may have had some sort of courtesy appointment in our department. Rich probably knows about that. Bill was a very nice, gentle man. A good teacher, though he talked as if he had marbles in his mouth. What I remember best is that he routinely called me "Peter." (Don't know why.)

David

Bill had a joint appointment in Biochemistry. He retired in 1977 and became an Emeritus Professor.

From Syracuse.com obituaries:

Dr. William H. Bergstrom

Obituary

Dr. William H. Bergstrom, a medical professor, pediatrician and researcher who outside the lecture hall and laboratory would run clinics to treat migrant workers' children, has died. Bergstrom, 95, died Jan. 16 in a hospice in Danvers, Mass. His medical career included research posts in Boston, teaching pediatrics for decades at the State University of New York Upstate Medical University at Syracuse, N.Y., and traveling with medical teams to Algiers, Brazil and China. Bergstrom and his wife of nearly 72 years, Charlotte Stuart Bergstrom, lived for 60 years in Manlius, N.Y. - where they raised four children - from 1952 until moving to Danvers in 2012.

Born Jan. 1, 1921, in Bay City, Mich., he attended the Albany Academy in Albany, N.Y. and Binghamton (N.Y.) Central High School, earned a B.A. degree at Amherst College in the "Hurricane Class" of 1942 and an M.D. degree at the College of Medicine and Dentistry of the University of Rochester in 1945. During college summers Bergstrom took classes at the Marine Biological Laboratory at Woods Hole, Mass. A Phi Beta Kappa member, John and Mary R. Markle Scholar, member of the American Society of Pediatric Nephrology and American Society for Bone and Mineral Research, among others, he held research positions in Boston including National Research Council Fellow at Children's Medical Center in 1951 before moving to Syracuse in 1952. Bergstrom worked with his colleagues and students on more than 40 research papers and presentations during a lengthy research career, and authored a chapter in Nelson Textbook of Pediatrics. In the early 1960s he initiated and ran summer evening clinics, with a full complement of medical staff, to care for children in migrant farm worker camps in upstate New York.

In addition to Bergstrom's medical travels, he and his wife Charlotte traveled widely in Scotland, England, France and Italy. Bergstrom fished for trout in England and salmon in Vancouver Island, and was never happier than when teaching his children to paddle a canoe, hike a hillside in hopes of a rare bird sighting or cast a trout fly in a misty Catskill stream. He loved the outdoors, from a boyhood canoe trip on the Rideau Canal and ten mile Boy Scout hikes to his joyful
acquisition and preservation in later years of a stretch of forest and meadow high in a Catskill Mountain hollow where thicket of berry bushes foraged by bear surround a gem of a working spring-fed beaver pond. With the family property in Delaware County, N.Y., Bergstrom's goal for decades was to combine preservation of forest and water with encouraging local use for hunting, fishing and harvesting timber and bluestone.

Following retirement he became more active in the Manlius Historical Society. A 30 year member and one time president, he became a skilled blacksmith and was often at the forge creating decorative ironwork. In his home workshop he crafted bookcases, jewelry boxes, tables and children's toys, cherished by his family. He enjoyed the companionship of his golden retrievers and was known for his sporty lemon yellow Triumph Spitfire with a 'Love a Librarian' bumper sticker.

Bergstrom is survived by his wife, Charlotte Stuart Bergstrom, four children, William S. Bergstrom, of Rutledge, Pa., John S. Bergstrom, of Boston, Mary Linn Bergstrom, of San Diego, Calif., and David B. Bergstrom, of Deposit, N.Y. He had five grandchildren and three great grandchildren.

As he wished, his body was donated to Tufts University Medical School. A private memorial will be held.

Date of Death: January 16, 2016