

Week of September 14-18, 2020

Dr. MacMillan-Crow Awarded U.S. Patent



Congratulations to professor, Lee Ann MacMillan-Crow on her new U.S. patent. Dr. MacMillan-Crow devised new, efficient methods and compositions for detecting mitochondrial dysfunction, the malfunctioning of the structures that produce energy for a cell, often due to stress or disease. Her patent relates to certain reporter molecules (OMA1) that are especially useful for drug discovery and detection of diseases associated with mitochondrial dysfunction. We admire innovation!

Grant Submissions Pending Agency Review

The Covid-19 pandemic has not stopped our research teams from submitting grants to the NIH and other funding agencies. In fact, the number of submissions is up! Some of our grant applications that are pending agency review (and the Principal Investigators) are listed below. Not included are the names of extremely valuable co-investigators and research staff, who made these submissions possible. Congratulations to everyone. Keep the momentum going!

Dr. Alexei Basnakian (PI): Novel Anti-DNA Damage Strategy for Prevention of Ischemic Kidney Injury (*NIH R01*)

Dr. William Fantegrossi (PI): Evaluation of Synthetic Opioid Substances using the Analgesia and Drug Discrimination Assay (*US Department of Justice*)

Dr. Nancy Gray (PI): NSF I-Corps Hub: Heartland Innovation Translation Hub (HIT) (*National Science Foundation*)

Dr. Shuk-Mei Ho (PI): Discovery of Novel Epigenetic Biomarkers Associated with Exposure and Adverse Health Outcomes in Veterans Exposed to Airborne Hazards from Open Burn Pits (*US Department of the Army*)

Dr. Shuk-Mei Ho (PI): RNA Modifications by Paternal Exposure to Arsenic and Intergenerational Effects on Sperm Quality (*NIH R01*)

Dr. Lee Ann MacMillan-Crow (PI): Mitochondrial Dysfunction during Renal Cold Storage and Transplantation (*NIH R01*)

Dr. Shengyu Mu (Co-PI): Selectivity of Bioactive Compounds of Rice, Bran and Soy for Depressor Effect-Focus on Chymase Inhibitory Mechanism (*National Institute of Food and Agriculture*)

Dr. Nirmala Parajuli (PI): Targeting Heat Shock Protein 72 to Improve Renal Function after Transplantation (*NIH R01*)

Dr. Eric Peterson (PI): Evaluation of Methamphetamine Sensitization of Anti-Methamphetamine Gene Therapy (*NIH R21*)

Dr. Sung Rhee (PI): Enhanced Arterial Bleeding Cessation through Structuring Thrombus Formation (*US Department of Defense*)

Dr. Fang Zheng (PI): Modulation of Seizure Susceptibility by TRPC4 Channels (*NIH R21*)

Remember the Good Old Days ?

We've enjoyed a lot of fun receptions and parties before the COVID-19 pandemic (i.e., picture at right). Many people have told us that they miss the department breakfasts (i.e., Donut Fridays). We are planning a virtual Department Fall Reception (TBA), but please send your ideas for strategies to stay connected to Pam Kahler or Sylvia Stewart.

