The IFT Welcomes New Members!!!

**Dr. Clint Allred** is an Assistant Professor in the Nutritional and Food Science Department. His research is focused on the dietary effects on the development and progression of numerous types of cancer, and on how dietary compounds can act as ligands of nuclear receptors in cancer cells. This research has found that fatty acids trigger peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor gamma (PPARγ) in colon cancer cells. In addition, the Allred laboratory studies the role estrogen receptor beta (ERβ) plays in colon cancer development and growth. The lab is involved ERβ’s possible protective effects of estrogen and the dietary compounds that mimic estrogen could have on preventing colon cancer via functioning through the estrogen receptor. Dr. Allred received his B.S.A degree from the University of Georgia, Athens, in animal science, and his Ph.D. in nutritional sciences from the University of Illinois, Urbana- Champaign. His postdoctoral work in molecular endocrinology was at the University of Kentucky-Lexington College of Medicine.

**Dr. Sakhila Banu** is a Research Assistant Professor in Veterinary Integrative Biomedical Sciences, Texas A&M University. Her main areas of research include: (i) Heavy metal toxicity (chromium, cadmium and arsenic) on the development of ovary, pituitary and thyroid, and female reproductive function, and ovarian cancer; (ii) Prostaglandin biosynthesis, signaling and transport on canine and feline cancers. Her research is supported by grants from American Association of Feline Practitioners, Winn Feline Foundation, Canine Health Foundation, USDA and Program Development Award from VIBS. Dr. Banu obtained her M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in Endocrinology from the Department of Endocrinology, University of Madras, India. During her doctoral work she studied the role of sex steroids on the development of thyroid and the role of chromium toxicity on the ovarian development. She was trained as a postdoctoral fellow in the Laval University and University of Montreal, Canada where she discovered the role of a novel prostaglandin transporter PGT in ruminant reproduction (Banu et al, PNAS, 2003).

**Dr. Kung-Hui “Bella” Chu** is an Assistant Professor of Environmental Engineering of the Zachary Civil Engineering Department. Her research interests are focused on the biodegradation and treatment of endocrine-disrupting chemicals (EDCs), pharmaceuticals and personal care products (PPCPs), and common pollutants. The Chu laboratory designs experiments for the development and applications of quantitative molecular methods and biosensors for improvement in bioremediation, drinking water safety, and wastewater treatment/reuse. Another focus of the Chu Environmental Micro-Nano-Technology Laboratory is ecology of active microbial populations in engineered and natural environments. This spring Dr. Chu was interviewed for *Science News* for work done on estrogen-degraders. Dr. Chu received her bachelor degree from National Chung-Hsing University in Taiwan in environmental engineering. She has also obtained two master’s degrees in agricultural and biological engineering.
from Cornell University. Dr. Chu earned her doctorate in environmental engineering at the University of California-Berkeley. She was a research assistant at the National Taiwan University, Cornell University, and the University of California-Berkley. In addition Dr. Chu has been employed by the Department of Water Pollution Control, ENVIRON Corp., and Bechtel National Inc. She received postdoctoral training at the University of California-Berkley. Dr. Chu was previously an Assistant Professor in Civil Engineering at the University of Tennessee.

**Dr. Arul Jayaraman** is an Assistant Professor in the Chemical Engineering Department. Professor Jayaraman’s research is on molecular mechanisms that underlie cellular phenotypes. His laboratory investigates: systems analysis of cytokine signaling in hepatic inflammation, metabolic engineering of adipocytes, living cell arrays for dynamic gene expression profiling, and quorum sensing in bacterial communication and biofilm formation. Other areas of research include chemical, biological, and high explosive counter measurements, threat & vulnerability, testing assessment, emerging threats, model stimulation and sensors for Homeland Security. Dr. Jayaraman received a bachelor’s degree in chemical engineering and a master’s degree in physics from Birla Institute of Technology and Science in India. In addition he received a master’s degree in biochemical engineering from Tufts University and a Ph.D. in biochemical engineering from the University of California-Irvine. He completed postdoctoral work in biomedical engineering at Massachusetts General Hospital.

**Dr. Michelle Pine** is a Clinical Assistant Professor in the Veterinary Integrative Biosciences Department. Her research focuses on changes in puberty-related hormones and neuroendocrine pathways in Sprague Dawley rats after in utero and peripubertal exposure to low dose type II pyrethroid pesticides. She is also interested in how exposure to these pesticides alters neurodevelopment. Dr. Pine received both bachelor’s degree in animal science and DVM degrees from the University of Missouri at Columbia. She practiced veterinary medicine and worked as a USDA Veterinary Medical Officer before going to graduate school. She earned a PhD in toxicology from TAMU and joined the faculty in 2006.

**Dr. Susanne Talcott** is an Assistant Professor in the Nutritional and Food Science Department. Her research focuses on phytochemicals in plants and herbal supplements, specifically antioxidants, in the long-term health benefits and disease prevention. Some of her work includes studying the health effects of grapes and wines with the collaboration of Texas Wine and Grape Industry, the health benefits of the pomegranate, the acai berry and of the polyphenolic compounds in grapefruit. Professor Talcott is also interested in the dietary supplement industry for products such as ginseng. Many Americans buy these consumer products with no scientific evidence or supplement guidelines of the proper dosage that these products are beneficial. Dr. Talcott is interested in conducting scientific research that supports the claims and dosages at which herbal supplements are effective in preventing diseases. Dr. Talcott obtained her bachelor’s and master’s degrees in nutrition from the University of Bonn in Germany. Professor Talcott received her Ph.D. in the anticancer effects of flavonoids from the University of Florida. She did postdoctoral work at the University of Florida in pharmacodynamics of flavonoids in disease prevention.

**Dr. Alice Villalobos** is an Assistant Professor in the Nutritional and Food Science Department. Her research studies the physiological regulation and toxicological modulation of nutrient transport in the choroid plexus. She uses in vitro and in vivo models to elucidate the impact of dietary exposure to heavy metals, like cadmium, on brain development in young animals. In addition, she also studies how cadmium mimics the appearance of other nutrients needed for brain function and the effects of cadmium toxicity on brain regulation and function. The role of MAP kinases and oxidative stress on nutrient transport is currently under investigation and future studies will determine if dietary zinc supplementation can reverse the effects of cadmium on choline transport. Dr. Villalobos received her bachelor’s degree in biology from Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles, California and her Ph.D. in physiology from the University of Arizona. She did postdoctoral work at
both the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences and the University of Connecticut, and was on the University of Rochester faculty before coming to TAMU.

**Dr. Thomas Wood** is the T. Michael O’Connor II Chair and Professor with joint appointments in Chemical Engineering, Biology, and Civil Engineering. Professor Wood’s research interest are: evolving bi-directional hydro-genases for hydrogen production; discovering the genetic basis of biofilm formation and of plant-derived biofilm inhibitors; evolving both bacterial monooxygenases and dioxygenases for bioremediation and green chemical synthesis (using the combinatorial method of directed evolution); metabolic engineering of bacteria for the degradation of chlorinated ethenes and other pollutants (e.g., adding glutathione S-transferases and evolved epoxide hydrolases to reduce the toxicity of chlorinated epoxides); engineering biofilms for corrosion inhibition and other applications; bioremediating chlorinated ethenes and metals using engineered bacteria in the rhizosphere (via poplar root biofilms); creating a green chemistry approach to remediating metal lubricants using thermophilic bacteria. Dr. Wood received his bachelor’s degree from the University of Kentucky and his Ph.D. from North Carolina State University, both in chemical engineering. He was an Assistant Professor in the department of Chemical and Biochemical Engineering at the University of California- Irvine, and obtained tenure as an Associate Professor in the department of Chemical Engineering at the University of Connecticut prior to joining the TAMU faculty.

The Texas A&M Superfund Basic Research Program project has submitted their renewal application to the NIEHS for funding of years 20-25 of this collaborative research effort. This program contains seven research projects and five support cores and brings together scientists from throughout the Texas A&M University System. Faculty are affiliated with the Colleges of Veterinary Medicine (*Burghardt, Safe, Phillips, Porter* and *Sayes*) and Engineering (*Wood, Chu, Jayaraman* and *Autenrieth*), the School of Rural Public Health (*Donnelly, McDonald* and *Autenrieth*) and the Institute for Biosciences and Technology (*Finnell, Mitchell* and *Safe*). Dr. Donnelly is currently involved in coordinating an in vitro testing program among several Superfund Centers, and he also recently continued his pollutant sampling program in collaboration with the EPA in the Seattle area. In addition, Dr. Donnelly is coordinating an Environmental Health Conference in Cluj, Romania in October 2008 that will bring together U.S. EPA, European environmental agencies, and university scientists from the USA and Central and Eastern Europe to focus on common environmental health problems.

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**CANCER WORKSHOP**

The Texas A&M Health Science Center and Texas A&M University hosted a Cancer Workshop on June 25, 2008. This was the second workshop in a series of three designed to bring together the many cancer research groups within the two organizations. There were over 80 participants in this very successful meeting. The conference organizers were **Drs. Stephen Safe, Robert Chapkin** and **Warren Zimmer**. **Kim Daniel, Zara Berg** and **Rema Zebda** from the Interdisciplinary Faculty of Toxicology handled the logistics and prepared literature for the workshop. The third workshop will be held in the fall at the Scott & White campus in Temple, TX.
AWARDS

Many Toxicology students and a professor received awards at the CVM Honors Convocation, held April 11, 2008 in the TAMU College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences. Sabitha Papineni (Safe) and Elizabeth Wellberg (Porter) were the recipients of the George T. Edds Awards. Atrayee Banerjee (Ramaiah) and Michelle Boggs (Murphy) each received Fisher Institute Medical Research Awards. Kerry Thuett (Abbott/Castiglioni) received the Texas A&M Veterinary Faculty Auxiliary Graduate Award. Dr. George Stoica received the Pfizer Award for Research Excellence.

Six toxicology students placed in the TAMU Student Research Week competition held in March 2008. They are as follows: Nivedita Banerjee (Ramaiah) - 2nd Session Winner in the Medicine/Human Nutrition/Biomedical Engineering section. Gayathri Chadalapaka (Safe) - 1st Session Winner in the Molecular Biology section; Outstanding Accomplishments in Interdisciplinary Research Ribbon. Hiromi Hosako (Mirkes/Safe) - 3rd Session Winner in the Genetics section; Environmental Health & Safety Recognition Award; Outstanding Accomplishments in Interdisciplinary Research Ribbon. Natalie Johnson (Phillips) - 1st Place in the Medicine/Human Nutrition/Biomedical Engineering section; Environmental Health & Safety Recognition Award; Outstanding Accomplishments in Interdisciplinary Research Ribbon. Indira Jutooru (Safe) - 3rd Place in the Molecular Biology Division. Kerry Thuett (Abbott/Castiglioni) - 3rd Place, Anatomy/Physiology/Kinesiology section.

SOCIETY OF TOXICOLOGY

Twenty-five TAMU faculty, staff and students participated the 47th Annual Meeting of the Society of Toxicology in Seattle, WA, March 16-20. The group presented 22 abstracts (listed on pages 6-7) at the meeting. Additional highlights are as follows:

Nivedita Banerjee received First Place in the Immunotoxicology Specialty Section for her presentation “Possible Role of Osteopontin in Th1 Immune Response and Lymphocytic Infiltration During Non-Alcoholic Steatohepatitis in a Dietary Murine Model”.

Atrayee Banerjee received the Toxicology and Experimental Pathology Specialty Section travel award sponsored by Merck and Co. for her abstract “Osteopontin -Mediated *b1 and b2 Integrin Signaling: A Mechanism for Higher Hepatic Neutrophil Infiltration and Liver Injury in Female Alcoholic Liver Disease”.

Numerous students received travel awards to attend the meeting. Atrayee Banerjee (Ramaiah) received an SOT Travel Award. Hiromi Hosako (Mirkes) received a 1st Place Gulf Coast Chapter travel award at the Gulf Coast and South Central Chapters Reception. Eight students received College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences Graduate Student Association Awards in the amount of $1250 each: Nivedita Banerjee (Ramaiah), Gayathri Chadalapaka (Safe), Hiromi Hosako (Mirkes), Natalie Johnson (Phillips), Indira Jutooru (Safe), Matthew Kelley (Donnelly), Abraham Robinson (Phillips) and Ying Xie (Tian). Other students and postdoctoral fellows including Navada Eagleton (Tian), Rebecca Lingenfelter (Donnelly), Alicia Marroquin-Cardona (Phillips), John Taylor (Phillips), Dr. Evans Afriyie-Gyawu (Phillips), Dr. Jin-Hyung Lee (Ramaiah), Dr. Ping Lei (Safe) and Dr. Shengxi Liu (Safe) received travel awards from the Interdisciplinary Faculty of Toxicology.

The SOT Committee on Diversity Initiatives hosted the 19th Undergraduate Education Program at the Seattle meeting. This program sponsors undergraduates from underrepresented groups to come to the annual meeting and attend a program designed for them to learn about Toxicology and furthering their educations in the field. The TAMU group again had a great presence in many levels of this program. Graduate students Navada Eagleton, Hiromi Hosako and Natalie Johnson served as Peer Mentors for the undergraduates. Drs. Alice Villalobos and Christie Sayes served as Host Mentors, and Dr. Villalobos also participated in the Career Opportunities in Toxicology Panel Discussion as the academia representative. Kim Daniel again provided the logistics for the undergraduate program, and organized and chaired the Academic Program Directors’ Session in which the undergraduates are able to talk with representatives from the premier Toxicology Programs across the country.

Dr. Christie Sayes presented a lecture in the Continuing Education course “Nanotoxicology: The Science of Developing a Safe Technology.” Other faculty who participated in this meeting were Drs. Tim Phillips, Shashi Ramaiah, Steve Safe and Yanan Tian.
2008 TRAVEL

Graduate student Elizabeth Wellberg and her mentor, Dr. Weston Porter traveled to Denver, CO from January 16-19 to attend the University of Colorado Health Science Center Conference. Elizabeth presented “The Role of Single-minded 2s in Mammary Epithelial Cell Differentiation.”

Dr. Larry Johnson and the PEER Team have been very busy. Dr. Johnson traveled to Washington, DC from February 28-March 2 to attend the NSF GK-12 Annual Meeting and present “Fellows Integrate Science/Math in Rural Middle Schools.” From May 18-21 he visited Washington, DC again for the Annual SEPA Conference at which he presented “Science Promotion through Veterinarians’ Visits to Public Schools.” He traveled to Beijing, China from May 25-June 2 for a science educator opportunity for the NSF GK-12 Program. There he presented “NSF GK-12 Program in the US.” This group also travels extensively in the state of Texas and hosts teacher workshops during the summer.

Dr. Christie Sayes traveled to the Empa Academy in Ascona, Switzerland, March 1-7, to present a platform and poster entitled “Comparative Toxicity to Algae Using Nano Versus Fine-Sized Particles.”

Dr. Stephen Safe traveled to San Francisco, CA to participate in the NIH-Oncology Fellowships grant review. He also traveled to Reston, VA to attend the mid-year meeting of the Health and Environmental Sciences Institute (HESI) as a member of the Board of Trustees.

From March 17-20, Dr. Weston Porter traveled to Cold Spring Harbor, NY as an invited speaker in the Cancer and Development meeting. He presented “Sim 2 Regulation of 02EMT.”

Dr. George Stoica attended the 39th Annual Meeting of the American Society for Neurochemistry in San Antonio, TX in March.

Dr. Bob Burghardt traveled to Kingsville, TX on March 27-28 to recruit in the Pathways to the Doctorate Program. He presented “Capacity Building in Imaging and Mechanobiology of Pregnancy.”

Dr. Les Dees attended an international meeting honoring the scientific career of Dr. S.M. McCann in Buenos Aires, Argentina, April 4-7. He presented “Differential Effects of Toxic Substances on the Onset of Female Puberty.”

Drs. John Stallone, Susanne Talcott and Alice Villalobos participated in the Experimental Biology 2008 meeting in San Diego, CA, April 7-9.

Dr. Tim Phillips traveled to New Orleans, LA on April 9-11, to attend the American Chemical Society’s Mycotoxin Symposium. He presented “Clay-based Therapy for Humans and Animals at High Risk for Aflatoxicosis.”

On April 18, Dr. Gerald Bratton traveled to Houston, TX to meet with colleagues at the Texas Heart Institute concerning joint research projects at TAMU.

Dr. Friedhelm Schroeder traveled to Dallas, TX on April 24-25 to participate in an American Heart Association study section.

Dr. Gladys Ko participated in the Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology in Fort Lauderdale, FL, from April 26-May 2. She presented “Retinoschisis is Under Circadian Control in the Chick Retina.”

Dr. Louise Abbott traveled to St. George, Grenada, April 27-May 8 to lecture at the St. George University School of Veterinary Medicine. She presented embryology lectures including “Common Congenital Defects in Veterinary Medicine.”

Dr. Bob Burghardt traveled to Kona, Hawaii from May 23-31 to attend and participate in both the 1st World Congress on Reproductive Biology Meeting, and the 2008 Annual Meeting of the Society for the Study of Reproduction. He presented “Enhanced Focal Adhesion Assembly Reflects Increased Mechanosensation and Mechanotransduction Along the Maternal-Conceptus Interface During pregnancy in Sheep.”

From May 28-June 7, Elizabeth Wellberg, Dr. Michelle Boggs and their mentor, Dr. Weston Porter attended the Gordon Research Conference on Mammary Gland Biology in Burga, Italy. Dr. Porter presented “Loss of Sim2s Induces an Epithelial Mesenchymal Transition in the Mouse Mammary Gland Associated with and Up-regulation of Slug and MMP2.” Elizabeth presented “The Role of Singleminded 2s in Mammary Epithelial Cell Differentiation” and Michelle presented “The Domestic Dog as a Model for Human Breast Cancer and Related Oncomir Investigations.”

Dr. Jamie Thompson traveled to the Toxic Substance Coordination Committee meeting in Austin, TX on June 24. He presented “Bayesian Risk Mapping of Childhood Cancer around Texas Superfund Sites.”

Dr. Les Dees attended the annual meeting of the Research of Society on Alcohol and Alcohol Abuse in Washington, DC from June 28-July 1 and presented “Actions and interaction of Insulin-Like Growth Factor-1 in Alcohol on Kiss-1 Gene Expression in Juvenile Female Rats.”
SOT 2008 ABSTRACTS

OLD NSAID BUT NEW ANTICANCER AGENT: TOLFENAMIC ACID INHIBITS Pancreatic CANCER GROWTH AND SENSETIZES TUMOR TO RADIOTHERAPY THROUGH DOWNREGULATION OF Sp PROTEINS. M.Abdelrahim1,2, S.Konduri1, S.Safe3, J.Colon1. 1Cancer Research Institute, M. D. Anderson Cancer Center Orlando, Orlando, FL; 2Burnett College of Biomedical Sciences, University of Central Florida, Orlando, FL; 3Veterinary Physiology and Pharmacology, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX.

NOVASIL CLAY DOES NOT AFFECT BIOAVAILABILITY AND UTILIZATION OF VITAMINS A AND E AND NUTRIENT MINERALS IN GHANAIANS AT HIGH RISK FOR AFLATOXICOSIS. E.Afriyie-Gyawu1, Z.Wang2, N.Johnson1, L.Xu2, N.Ankrah3, T.Li4, H.Huebner1, P.Jolly3, J.Williams4, J.Wang2, T.Phillips1. 1Veterinary Integrative Biosciences, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX; 2Environmental Toxicology/The Institute of Environmental and Human Health, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, TX; 3Noguchi Memorial Institute for Medical Research, University of Ghana, Accra, Ghana; 4Veterinary Integrative Biosciences, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX; 5Peanut Collaborative Research Support Program, The University of Georgia, Griffin, GA.

OSTEOPONTIN - MEDIATED B1 AND B2 INTEGRIN SIGNALING: A MECHANISM FOR HIGHER HEPATIC NEUTROPHIL INFILTRATION AND LIVER INJURY IN FEMALE ALCOHOLIC LIVER DISEASE. A.Banerjee1,2, S.Ramaiah1,2. 1Toxicology, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX; 2Pathobiology, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX.

POSSIBLE ROLE OF OSTEOPTIN IN TH1 IMMUNE RESPONSE AND LYMPHOCYTIC INFILTRATION DURING NON-ALCOHOLIC STEATOHEPATITIS IN A DIETARY MURINE MODEL. N.Banerjee1, A.Banerjee1, M.Shinohara2, S.Ramaiah1. 1Toxicology, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX; 2Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA.

CURCUMIN INHIBITS BLADDER CANCER CELL GROWTH BY TARGETING THE SPECIFICITY FACTORS BY BOTH PROTEASOME - DEPENDENT AND PROTEASOME-INDEPENDENT MECHANISMS. G.Chadalapaka1, I.Jutooru1, S.Chintharlapalli2, S.Papineni1, S.Safe1,2. 1Veterinary Physiology and Pharmacology, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX; 2Institute of Biosciences and Technology, Texas A&M Health Science Center, Houston, TX.

GENE EXPRESSION DIFFERENCES IN P53 - DEFICIENT DAY - 9 MOUSE EMBRYOS. H.Hosako, G.S.Martin, M.Barrier, S.H.Safe, P.E.Mirkes. Veterinary Physiology & Pharmacology, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX.

URINARY 1 - HYDROXYPYRENE: A BIOMARKER OF POLYCYCLIC AROMATIC HYDROCARBON EXPOSURE IN A GHANAIAN POPULATION. N.Johnson1, A.Cardona1, A.Robinson1, J.Taylor1, E.Afriyie-Gyawu1, H.Huebner1, L.Xu2, L.Tang2, N.A.Ankrah3, D.Ofori-Adjei1, J.H.Williams4, J.S.Wang5, T.D.Phillips1. 1College of Veterinary Medicine, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX; 2The Institute of Environmental and Human Health, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, TX; 3Noguchi Memorial Institute for Medical Research, University of Ghana, Accra, Ghana; 4Peanut Collaborative Research Support Program, The University of Georgia, Griffin, GA.

METHYL 2-CYANO-3,11-DIOXO-OLEAN-1,12-DIEN-30-OATE (CDODA-ME) IS HIGHLY CYTOTOXIC TO PANCREATIC CANCER CELLS. L.Jutooru1, G.Chadalapaka1, S.Chintharlapalli2, S.Papineni1, S.Safe1,2, S.Papineni1. 1Veterinary Physiology and Pharmacology, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX; 2Institute of Biosciences and Technology, Texas A&M Health Science Center, Houston, TX.

PEROXISOME PROLIFERATOR - ACTIVATED RECEPTOR α (PPARα) AGONISTS SUPPRESS ETHANOL-INDUCED OSTEOPTIN EXPRESSION IN BILIARY EPITHELIAL CELLS. J.Lee, M.M.Wallace, S.K.Ramaiah. Pathobiology, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX.

BIOMARKERS OF EXPOSURE AND TOXICITY IN ECOLOGICAL RECEPTORS. M.A.Kelley1, A.Gillespie1, E.Duncan2, E.McDonald1, G.Zhou1, T.McDonald1, K.Mkhtiev2, A.Islamzadeh3, K.Donnelly1. 1Texas A&M University, College Station, TX; 2US EPA Region 10, Seattle, WA.

BIOMARKERS OF PAH EXPOSURE AND GENOTOXIC EFFECTS IN HUMAN POPULATIONS. R.A.Lingenfelter1, Z.Naufal1, L.Cizmas1, L-Y.He1, G.Zhou1, T.McDonald1, A.Mkhtiev2, A.Islamzadeh3, K.Donnelly1. 1Texas A&M University, College Station, TX; 2Institute of Physiology n.a. A.I.Karaev, Baku, Azerbaijan; 3Sumgayit Centre for Environmental Rehabilitation, Sumgayit, Azerbaijan.

BIS[3'- (5 - BROMOINDOLYL)] METHANE INDUCES KRÜPPEL - LIKE FACTOR 4 - DEPENDENT ACTIVATION OF P21 IN COLON CANCER CELLS EXPRESSING WILD - TYPE OR MUTANT P53. S.Liu1, S.Chin, S.Chintharlapalli1, M.Abdelrahim1, S.Papineni4.
IN VITRO CHARACTERIZATION OF MYCOTOXIN BINDING AGENTS INCLUDED IN ANIMAL FEEDS IN MEXICO. A.G.Marroquin-Cardona\textsuperscript{1,3}, C.T.Hallmark\textsuperscript{2}, J.Taylor\textsuperscript{1}, E.Afriyie-Gyawu\textsuperscript{1}, A.Robinson\textsuperscript{1}, N.Johnson\textsuperscript{1}, T.D.Phillips\textsuperscript{1}.\textsuperscript{1}Veterinary Integrative Biosciences, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX; \textsuperscript{2}Soil and Crop Sciences, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX; \textsuperscript{3}Universidad Autonoma de Nuevo Leon, San Nicolas de los Garza, Mexico.

PHYSICO-CHEMICAL CHARACTERIZATION OF STEALTH LIPOSOMES ENCAPSULATING A HYDROLYZING ENZYME EMPLOYED IN ORGANOPHOSPHORUS ANTAGONISM. I.Petrikovics\textsuperscript{1}, J.R.Wild\textsuperscript{2}, M.Budai\textsuperscript{3}, P.Grof\textsuperscript{3}, P.Chapela\textsuperscript{1}, M.E.Wales\textsuperscript{2}.\textsuperscript{1}Chemistry, Sam Houston State University, Huntsville, TX; \textsuperscript{2}Biochemistry and Biophysics, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX; \textsuperscript{3}Pharmaceutics, Semmelweis University, Budapest, Hungary.

ESFENVALERATE ACTS AT THE HYPOTHALAMUS TO SUPPRESS THE AFTERNOON RISE OF LUTEINIZING HORMONE IN PREPUBERTAL FEMALE RATS. M.Pine, J.K.Hiney. Veterinary Integrative Biosciences, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX.

DEVELOPMENT OF ADSORPTIVE MATERIALS FOR THE REMEDIATION OF FUMONISIN B1 CONTAMINATED FOODSTUFFS. A.Robinson, J.Taylor, N.Johnson, A.Marroqui-Cardona, H.Huebner, N.Sarpog, E.Afriyie-Gyawu, T.Phillips. Veterinary Integrative Biosciences, College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX.

THE ONCOGENIC MICRORNA - 27A TARGETS GENES THAT REGULATE SPECIFICITY PROTEIN (SP) TRANSCRIPTION FACTORS AND ESTROGEN RECEPTOR IN BREAST CANCER CELLS. S.Safe\textsuperscript{1,3}, S.U.Mertens-Talcott\textsuperscript{1}, S.Chintharlapalli\textsuperscript{1}, X.Li\textsuperscript{1}.\textsuperscript{1}Veterinary Physiology & Pharmacology, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX; \textsuperscript{2}Institute of Biosciences & Technology, Texas A&M Health Science Center, Houston, TX.

PHYSICO-CHEMICAL CHARACTERIZATION METHODS RELEVANT FOR TOXICOLOGICAL AND ECO-TOXICOLOGICAL EVALUATIONS OF NANOMATERIALS. C.M.Saves, R.A.Hoke, D.B.Warheit. DuPont Haskell Laboratory, Newark, DE.
STUDENT & POSTDOC NEWS

Atrayee Banerjee (Ramaiah Lab) received her PhD in May 2008. She is working as a Postdoctoral Fellow at Missouri University of Science and Technology in Rolla, MO.

Ziad Naufal (Donnelly Lab) also received his PhD in May 2008. He now resides in Winston-Salem, NC and works for the R.J. Reynolds Company.

Evans Afriyie-Gyawu, MPH, PhD, joined the faculty of Georgia Southern University as an Assistant Professor of Environmental Health Science in the Jiann-Ping Hsu College of Public Health. Evans is a PhD graduate of the Toxicology Program, and has been a postdoc in Dr. Tim Phillips' lab since completing the PhD. At GSU he will be teaching Basic Environmental Toxicology and Food Safety/Toxicology.