



# Texas A&M University Faculty of Toxicology News & Reviews

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## Announcements

### New Students

**Kyounghyun Kim** received his BS from Hallym University in Korea and his MS from Rutgers University. He is pursuing a PhD and is currently rotating through several laboratories.

**Jeong-Eun Lee** has BS and MS degrees from Seoul Women's University in Korea and is beginning a PhD here. She was awarded a Regents' Fellowship for her first year and is currently rotating through several laboratories.

**Weihong Wen** has a BS from Anhui Agricultural University in China. She is working on her PhD under the guidance of **Dr. Dave Busbee**.

### Meeting Attendance

**Erika Straka** from **Dr. Murl Bailey's** lab attended the International Symposium on Poisonous Plants in San Angelo, Texas in May. Others attending from Texas A&M were **Christy Goff** and **Dr. Beverly Clement**.

In August, **Bill Reeves** and **Carol Swartz** were accompanied by their advisor **Dr. K.C. Donnelly** and **Dr. Steve Safe** to the "Current Issues on Chemical Mixtures" Conference. It was sponsored by the NIEHS and hosted by Colorado State University in Fort Collins, CO. Bill and Carol presented posters

which are listed on page 3.

**Patrick Grant, Shawna Lemke** and **Dr. Tim Phillips** traveled to Las Vegas, Nevada in September to attend the 214th annual meeting of the American Chemical Society. Patrick presented a poster entitled "Modified Langmuir Equation for S-shaped and Multi-site Isotherm Plots." Shawna's oral presentation was "Isothermal Analysis of Zearalenone Adsorption on Organo-substituted Clays."

### Honors and Awards

The 5th Annual Toxicology Graduate Student Forum was held in August. Each student gave an oral presentation. Cash prizes were awarded to the following students for outstanding presentations:

**Shane Gold**  
**Kevin Kerzee**  
**Shawna Lemke**  
**Kim Lu**  
**Kavita Ramamoorthy**  
**Bill Reeves**

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Several Toxicology students participated in the 1997 College of Veterinary Medicine Graduate Student Association Fall Forum poster competition. Winners are listed below.

Toxicology Category:

- 1st **Kevin Kerzee**  
 2nd **Emely Castro-Rivera**  
 3rd **Cody Wilson**

Genetics Category:

- 1st **Matthew Stoner**

Other Category:

- 2nd **Renqin Duan**

Two abstracts from the Texas A&M University Superfund Basic Research Program are featured in the 1996-97 Research Highlights on the NIEHS Superfund Homepage. The featured abstracts represent 10% of the 250 abstracts submitted for the "SBRP: A Decade of Improving Health Through Multi-Disciplinary Research," a conference held in Chapel Hill, NC in February 1997. "Removal of Pentachlorophenol from Water by Adsorption to Modified Clay" is the work of Katie Springman in Dr. Tim Phillips' lab. "Additive Versus Synergistic Effects of Binary Mixtures of Estrogenic Organochlorines" is a multicenter collaborative project which included several members of Dr. Steve Safe's lab. The Superfund Homepage address is: [www.niehs.nih.gov/sbrp/](http://www.niehs.nih.gov/sbrp/).

The NIEHS Toxicology Training Grant was approved for continued funding from 1997 to 2002. The award is approximately \$150,000 per year. Training Grant faculty are **Steve Safe (PI), Bob Burghardt, David Busbee, Rick Finnell, Larry Johnson, Tim Phillips, Ken Ramos, Evelyn Tiffany-Castiglioni** and **Jim Wild**.

## Graduate Student Progress

The following doctoral students have completed their preliminary exams:

<u>Student</u>	<u>Advisor</u>
<b>Nancy Bordelon</b>	K.C. Donnelly
<b>Francis Lau</b>	Louise Abbott

Two students have recently completed Master of Science degrees.

**Hui Liu** graduated in May. Her research was done in Dr. Beverly Clement's lab.

**Philip White's** research was in Dr. Tim Phillips' lab. Philip graduated in August and lives in Houston.

Four students defended Doctor of Philosophy dissertations in June and graduated in August.

**Lety Arellano Johnson** from Dr. Steve Safe's lab is seeking a teaching position and is currently a full time mother.

**Alan Parrish** from Dr. Ken Ramos' lab is now a postdoctoral fellow in Dr. A.J. Gandolfi's laboratory at the University of Arizona. He is studying oxidative stress and tumor metastasis.

**Lixia Pu** from Dr. Fred Schroeder's lab is a postdoctoral fellow in Dr. Sharon Krag's laboratory at Johns Hopkins University.

**Fan Wang** from Dr. Steve Safe's lab is currently a postdoctoral fellow in Dr. Safe's lab.

## Superfund News

The Superfund Basic Research Program appears to have continued funding for the coming year and support for the program has come not only from investigators but also from industry, professional organizations such as S.O.T. and some EPA staff. Special recognition goes to Dr. Jim Bus (Dow Chemical), past president of S.O.T. for his support and to Dr. K.C. Donnelly of Texas A&M University who has maintained strong ties with EPA Region 6 in Dallas.

One of the major highlights of the SBRP was the recent meeting on mixtures organized by Dr. Ray Yang, Colorado State University, Fort Collins. The theme of this meeting was "Current Issues on Chemical Mixtures" and this topic is highly relevant to the mixture research which is ongoing in the Texas A&M University SBRP. Steve Safe presented a lecture entitled "Interactions of Endocrine Signaling Pathways" which focused on the problems of the hazard and risk assessment of endocrine-active agents. Co-authors of the presentation were Toxicology graduate student I-Chen Chen and Barry Blankvoort, a visiting graduate student from the University of Wageningen, The Netherlands. Their work showed that a 200 ml glass of red cabernet wine (California origin) contained approximately 1 $\mu$ g of estrogen equivalents whereas the corresponding value for the daily intake of estrogenic organochlorine contaminants in food was at least three orders of magnitude lower. Dr. Lew Rodriguez from M.D. Anderson Cancer Center presented a lecture entitled "Outcomes and Mechanistic Studies Concerning Exposure to Benzo[a]pyrene and Coal Tars: Implications for Risk Assessment." Some of this work was carried out by Michael Steinberg for his graduate research. Dr. K.C. Donnelly, Bill Reeves and Carol Swartz also

attended the meeting and presented two posters: (1) Bioavailability and Risk Assessment of Complex Mixtures. W. R. Reeves, H.J. Huebner, T.J. McDonald, L.Y. He and K.C. Donnelly; and (2) Mitochondrial DNA Sequence Variability Due to Toxic Exposure. C.D. Swartz, K.C. Donnelly and J.W. Bickham.

As many of you know, Dr. Erika Randerath, one of our coinvestigators in the Texas A&M University SBRP passed away in September, 1997. Erika and her husband Kurt have been part of our Superfund program since its inception and they have played a critical role in many of our collaborative research projects. Erika will always be remembered as one of the most pleasant and cooperative colleagues; she was always willing to help others and she enjoyed her many visits to Texas A&M University for research meetings. We will all sorely miss Erika but look forward to our continuing collaboration with Kurt and his coworkers at the Baylor College of Medicine.

### **Former Student E-mail List**

A few of you have requested e-mail addresses for other former students. If you would like to have your e-mail address added to such a list for distribution, please send your address and request to [tox@cvm.tamu.edu](mailto:tox@cvm.tamu.edu).

# Conferences

## November 1997

November 4-6  
*Toxicology for Chemists*  
Clearwater, FL

Contact: American Chemical Society, Dept. Continuing Education, 1155 Sixteenth St. NW, Washington, DC 20036; Tel: (202)872-6336; Fax:(202)872-6336; Email: [shortcourses@acs.org](mailto:shortcourses@acs.org)

November 4-8  
*16th Intl. Symposium on Polycyclic Aromatic Compounds*  
Charlotte, NC

Contact: Registrar, Office of Continuing Education, UNC-CH School of Public Health, CB# 8165, Tate-Turner-Kuralt Building, Chapel Hill, NC 27599-8165; Tel: (919)966-4032; Fax: (919)966-5692

November 19-21  
*Human Diet and Endocrine Modulation: Estrogenic and Androgenic Effects*  
Fairfax, VA

Contact: Conference on the Human Diet and Endocrine Modulation, ILSI North America, 1126 Sixteenth Street, NW, Washington, DC 20036-4810; Fax: (202)659-3859; Email: [meetings@dc.ilsa.org](mailto:meetings@dc.ilsa.org)

November 20-21  
*2nd Intl. Symp. on Drug-Drug Interactions: Scientific and Regulatory Perspectives*  
Baltimore, MD

Contact: The Institute for Scientific Exchange, 8000 Main Street, Suite. 100, Baltimore, MD 21043; Tel: (410)480-9974; Fax: (410)480-9983; Email: [lsciencE@aol.com](mailto:lsciencE@aol.com)

November 20-22  
*6th Intl. Conference on Gene Therapy of Cancer*

San Diego, CA  
Contact: Cass Jones, Professional Conference Management, Inc., 7916 Convoy Court, San Diego, CA 92111-1212;

Tel: (619)565-9921; Website: <http://www.pcmisandiego.com/pcminc/gene.htm>

## December 1997

December 12-13  
*Tamoxifen and the Uterus: Potential Uterine Risks of Anti-Oestrogens*  
Brussels, Belgium  
Contact: Hilde Demessemaeker, Congress Dept., Agri-Reizen, Parijsstraat 50, B-3000 Leuven Belgium; Fax: 32 16 24 38 02; Email: [agri@pophost.eunet.be](mailto:agri@pophost.eunet.be)

December 13-17  
*American Society for Cell Biology 37th Annual Meeting*

Washington DC  
Contact: The American Society for Cell Biology, 9650 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, MD 20814-03992; Tel: (301)530-7153; Fax: (301)530-7139; Email: [ascbinfo@ascb.org](mailto:ascbinfo@ascb.org); Website: [www.ascb.org/ascb](http://www.ascb.org/ascb)

## January 1998

January 22-25  
*Testosterone: Action, Deficiency, Substitution*  
Bavaria, Germany  
Contact: Prof. Dr. E. Nieschlag, Institute of Reproductive Medicine of the University Domagkstr. 11, D-48129 Munster, Germany; Email: [nieschl@uni-muenster.de](mailto:nieschl@uni-muenster.de)

## February 1998

February 16-21  
*AACR Innovative Approaches to the Prevention, Diagnosis, & Therapy of Cancer*  
Maui, Hawaii  
Contact: Special Conference Registration, American Association for Cancer Research, Public Ledger Bldg., Suite. 826, 150 South Independence Mall West, Philadelphia, PA 19106-3483; Tel: (215)440-9300; Fax: (215) 440-9313

## March 1998

March 1-5  
*Society of Toxicology 37th Annual Meeting*  
Seattle, WA

Contact: Society of Toxicology, 1767 Business Center Drive, Suite 302, Reston, VA 20190; Tel: (703)438-3115; Fax: (703)438-3113; Internet: [www.toxicology.org](http://www.toxicology.org)

### April 1998

April 14-18

*SETAC-Europe 8th Annual Meeting: Interfaces in Environmental Chemistry and Toxicology: from global to the molecular level*  
Bordeaux, France

Contact: SETAC-Europe, Av. E. Mounier 83, Box 1, 1200 Brussels, Belgium; Fax: 32 2 770 53 86

April 20-23

*Environmental Toxicology & Risk Assessment: Standardization of Biomarkers for Endocrine Disruption & Environmental Assessment*  
Atlanta, GA

Contact: ASTM Publications Division, 100 Barr Harbor Drive, West Conshohocken, PA 19428-2959

### May 1998

May 11-14

*Chemical Measurement & Monitoring of Environment*

Ottawa, ON, Canada

Contact: EnviroAnalysis '98 Secretariat, Dept. of Chemistry, Carleton University, 1125 Colonel By Drive, Ottawa, ON K1S 5B6 Canada; Fax: (613)520-3679

May 16-20

*SETAC: Quantitative Structure Activity Relationships in the Environmental Sciences*  
Baltimore, MD

Contact: Greg Schiefer, Asst. Executive Director, SETAC Office, 1010 North 12th Ave, Pensacola, FL 32501-3370; Tel: (850)469-1500; Fax: (850)469-9778; Email: [schiefer@setac.org](mailto:schiefer@setac.org); Website: <http://www.setac.org>

May 18-21

*Remediation of Chlorinated & Recalcitrant Compounds*

Monterey, CA

Contact: The Conference Group, 1989 West Fifth Ave Suite 5, Columbus, OH 43212-1912; Tel: (800)783-6338 or (614)424-5461; Fax: (614)488-5747; Internet: [102632.3100@compuserve.com](mailto:102632.3100@compuserve.com)

### July 1998

July 4-8

*ISH-EHA Combined Hematology Congress*  
Amsterdam

Contact: Eurocongres Conference Management, Jan van Goyenkade 11, 1075 HP Amsterdam, The Netherlands; Email: [eurocongres@rai.nl](mailto:eurocongres@rai.nl); Website: [http://www.rai.nl/ish\\_eha](http://www.rai.nl/ish_eha)

July 20-24

*12th Intl. Symposium on Microsomes and Drug Oxidations*

Contact: VISA Congres, 624 rue des Grezes, 34070 Montpellier France; Tel: 33-4 67 45 56 77; Fax: 33-4 67 45 57 97; Email: [visa@imaginet.fr](mailto:visa@imaginet.fr)

### August 1998

August 17-20

*SETAC Modeling & Measuring the Vulnerability of Ecosystems at Regional Scales for Use in Ecological Risk Assessment & Risk Management*

Seattle, WA

Contact: Llewellyn R. Williams, Chair, Organizing Committee, US EPA, National Exposure Research Lab, PO Box 93478, Las Vegas, NV 89193-3478; Tel: (702)798-2138; Fax: (702)798-2233; Email: [williams.llewellyn@epamail.epa.gov](mailto:williams.llewellyn@epamail.epa.gov)

August 23-26

*Issues in Environmental Pollution*  
Denver, CO

Contact: Don Smith, IEP'98 US Secretariat, Elsevier Science Inc., 8773 South Ridgeline Boulevard, Highlands Ranch, CO 80126-2329; Tel: (303)470-1900; Fax: (303)470-5119; Email: [dcsmith@elsevier-hr.com](mailto:dcsmith@elsevier-hr.com)

# Employment Opportunities

*Assistant Professor of  
Environmental Science*

**Austin College**

Ph.D. and a strong background in chemistry and biology with interests in interdisciplinary environmental issues and a strong commitment to undergraduate education required. Teaching will be primarily within the environmental studies curriculum with some responsibilities in college-wide programs. The normal teaching load is two lectures and two laboratories per semester. Will be a participant in newly created Center for Environmental Studies and is expected to develop research program involving undergraduates therein. Position begins in August 1998. Send letter of application, CV, graduate transcripts, three letters of reference, and one page description of teaching philosophy and research interests to: David Jordan, Vice President for Academic Affairs, Austin College, 900 North Grand Avenue, Sherman, TX 75090-4440. Visit Austin College's web site for additional info: <http://www.austinc.edu>.

*Risk Assessor*

**Sciences International, Inc.**

Washington, DC based firm specializing in assessing risks posed to human health and the environment by chemicals and other substances. Clients in both government organizations and private firms. Seeking qualified scientists with experience in developing and applying dose response methodologies and reference

doses and conducting site-specific risk assessment. Toxicologists, epidemiologists, ecotoxicologists and biostatisticians who are interested mainly in part-time employment are encouraged to submit resume and statement of availability. Send to: Sciences International, Inc., King Street Station, 1800 Diagonal Road, Suite 500, Alexandria, VA 22314, Attention: Peggy Sheren.

*Post Doctoral Fellow*

**Genentech, Inc.**

The Toxicology Department at Genentech, Inc. is seeking a Post Doctoral Fellow to study the role of exogenously administered human growth factors on the production and growth of tumors. Genetically engineered human growth factors (insulin-like growth factor-1, vascular endothelial growth factor, nerve growth factor, etc.) are being developed for therapeutic use. Candidate will conduct research into the use of in vitro and in vivo models to evaluate potential tumorigenicity of these factors, and conduct mechanism of toxicity studies to better understand the extrapolation of these results to man. Studies may include whole animal models, cell biology and molecular biology to investigate the mechanism of potential tumorigenic effects. A Ph.D. in Toxicology or a related field is required, and candidate should have experience or knowledge of tumor biology. Laboratory techniques and animal handling experience required. Experience with in vivo and in vitro tumor models is highly desirable.

Applications should include a curriculum vitae and names of three references. Send to: Jeanine L. Bussiere, PhD, DABT, Dept. of Toxicology, Genentech, Inc., 460 Point San Bruno Blvd., South San Francisco, CA 94044.

*Assistant Professor of*

*Environmental Toxicology*

**University of California, Santa Cruz**

Position available within the Department of Biology for tenure-track Assistant Professor. Candidate is expected to develop and extramurally funded research program focusing on fundamental molecular, biochemical or physiological mechanisms underlying the role of microorganisms as pathogens and/or their role in the synthesis of degradation or environmental toxins. Expected to teach both undergraduate and graduate courses in that area and to actively participate in the development of a new graduate program in Environmental Toxicology. Candidate will be the fifth appointment in a proposed Environmental Toxicology Program composed of a scientifically diverse faculty. Postdoctoral experience is preferred. Ph.D. or equivalent in Microbiology, Biology, Biochemistry, Toxicology, Pharmacology or a related field, and achievements in or demonstrated potential for university research and teaching are required. The position is available for the Fall of 1998. Submit CV, a brief description of research and teaching interests,

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copies of reprints, and arrange for three **confidential** letters of recommendation to be sent to: Environmental Toxicology Search Committee, Department of Biology, 225 Sinsheimer Laboratories, University of California, Santa Cruz, CA 95064. Refer to Position #492 in correspondence. Closing date is December 15, 1997. Visit the Biology Department website at <http://www.biology.uscs.edu>. Candidates applying for more than one of the advertised positions may submit only one application, but they must indicate in a cover letter which positions they specifically want to be considered for in order to be considered for each separate position.

*Health Risk Analyst  
(Environmentalist III)*

#### **New Hampshire Office of Health Management**

Opening in the Bureau of Health Risk Assessment. Seeking high quality individual with a graduate degree in epidemiology, environmental health, or a related field. Four years experience in public health or a related discipline such as risk assessment, toxicology or environmental epidemiology is also required. Each additional

year of approved graduate level education may be substituted for one year of work experience. This position is responsible for maintaining the Hazardous Substances Emergency Event Surveillance System which measures characteristics and public health impact of emergency chemical spills endangering New Hampshire citizens. Position is a liaison between the state's principal public health agency and its' emergency response community. A qualified candidate will be called upon to investigate hazardous materials emergency events within the state, compile an electronic data base on event characteristics, develop a clear picture of the long-term health impact of emergency chemical events, and inform the local emergency response community about the public health impact of chemical spills. Strong communications skills are essential for continuous interface with the public, emergency response professionals and other public health professionals within the state and federal government. Candidate will receive training in a number of environmental health issues, including preparation or review of health

risk assessments, preparing fish consumption advisories and responding to indoor air quality complaints. Interested persons should contact Dennis A. Penski, Supervisor, Risk Assessment Section, Bureau of Health Risk Assessment, Office of Health Management, 6 Hazen Drive, Concord, NH 03301-6527 or (603)271-4664 to initiate the formal application process. (For more details on this position call the TAMU Faculty of Toxicology office at (409)845-5529).

#### *Multiple Listings*

#### **Cadus Pharmaceutical Corporation**

Positions in Biochemical Pharmacology, Medicinal Chemistry, Expression Cloning, Mammalian Cell Biology, Molecular/Yeast Biology, and Drug Discovery/Cell Biology. For details on these positions, view Cadus' website at <http://www.cadus.com>. To apply for a position, indicate the job code and send CV and a list of references to: Human Resources Department, Cadus Pharmaceutical Corporation, 777 Old Saw Mill River Road, Tarrytown, NY 10591 or email at [hr@Cadus.com](mailto:hr@Cadus.com).

#### **Carolina Minority Postdoctoral Scholars Program (University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill)**

At least five positions in the Carolina Minority Postdoctoral Scholars Program are available. Postdoctoral Scholars may only teach one course per year, and spend essentially full time on research.

The stipend will be \$34,000 per calendar year. Health benefits and some funds for research expenses, including travel are available. Minority students who completed their doctoral degree between July 1, 1994 and July 1, 1998 are eligible to apply. Preference given to U.S. citizens and permanent residents. This program is funded by the State of North Carolina and emphasizes Afro-Americans and Native Americans.

Submit a curriculum vitae, sample publications and/or dissertation chapters, a statement of research plans, and three letters of recommendation to the Carolina Minority Postdoctoral Scholars Program, Office of the Vice Provost for Graduate Students and Research, CB #4000, South Building, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, N.C. 27599-4000. Applications must be postmarked by February 1, 1998. Incomplete or late applications will not be accepted.

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Texas A&M University has a strong institutional commitment to the principle of diversity in all areas. In that spirit, admission to Texas A&M University and its sponsored programs is open to all qualified individuals.

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