

Awards and Congratulations:

- (1). College of Health Research Day (April 28, 2006): Congratulations to [Catherine Li](#) and [Sreejayan](#) for their 2006 CHS travel awards (\$500 each) to support their conference travels to China (Beijing and Dalian respectively) this summer. [Susan Zhang](#) received the CHS Graduate Student Research Award (\$1000) to study the neurological effects of methamphetamine. [Catherine Li](#), [Sara Babcock](#), [Tom Doser](#), [Matt Stratton](#) and [Feng Dong](#) each had a poster presentation during the CHS Grand Round. Congratulations to all of them!
- (2). [Lindsay Hueckstaedt](#) and [Jamie Hexem](#) received EPSCoR summer research awards (\$3500 each) to work here at C-CRAM. Their projects are entitled "effect of advanced glycation endproducts (AGE) on diabetes-induced cardiac dysfunction" and "effects of chronic methamphetamine abuse on vascular endothelial growth factor", respectively. Congratulations to Lindsay and Jamie (mentor=Shiyan Li/Jun Ren and Bruce Culver).
- (3). 2006 University of Wyoming undergraduate student research day (April 29): [Sara Babcock](#) (2 oral presentations), [Jihye Kim](#) (oral), [Jennifer Nunn](#) (oral), [Jackie Maris](#) (oral), [Tom Doser](#) (poster) and [Dave Bruch](#) (oral) all presented at the UW Research Day. Congratulations to their successful presentation and the on-site cheering of [Shiyan](#), [Xiaoping](#) and [Catherine](#) as well as their mentoring contributions.
- (4). [Xiaoping Yang](#) received favorable vote for his promotion to "Adjunct Assistant Professor" of pharmacology in the Division of Pharmaceutical Sciences. Xiaoping obtained his PhD degree on drug design from Nankai University in China in 1997 and joined us in 2003. He has two patents, 12 high impact journal publications, one CHS research award and several pending federal or national grants after coming on board. His recent work appeared in "*Arteriosclerosis Thrombosis and Vascular Biology (ATVB)*", "*FASEB Journal*". His major research focuses are on insulin signaling and cardiovascular aging. Congratulations and keep it up – Xiaoping.
- (5). [Sree](#) received 2006 CHS New Investigator Award (\$500). He also received a Wyoming NASA Space Consortium research award (\$42,000) on study entitled "Inhibition of Spaceflight Induced Skeletal Muscle Atrophy by Novel Chromium(phenylalanine)³". Congratulations and cheers.
- (6). [Feng Dong](#) & [Matt Stratton](#) each presented a poster during the 2006 UW Graduate School Forum (4/2006).
- (7). C-CRAM was featured/highlighted in this issue of CHS newsletter written by Virginia Cole.
- (8). Congratulations to [Jennifer Nunn](#) and [Dave Bruch](#) for their admission into our PharmD program.

Summary of March – April 2006 professional activities**A. Paper in print/in press: (highlight = 1st draft writer)**

1. Ceylan-Isik AF, LaCour KH, Ren J. Sex difference in cardiomyocyte function in normal and metallothionein transgenic mice: the effect of diabetes mellitus. **J. Appl. Physiol.** 100: 1638-1646, 2006.
2. Fang CX, Doser TA, Yang X, Sreejayan N, Ren J. Metallothionein antagonizes aging-induced cardiac contractile dysfunction: Role of PTP1B, insulin receptor tyrosine phosphorylation and Akt. **Aging Cell** 5: 177-185, 2006.
3. Kim J, Li Q, Fang CX, Ren J. Paradoxical effects of ginkgolide B on cardiomyocyte contractile function under normal and high glucose environments. **Acta Pharmacologica Sinica** 27:536-542, 2006.
4. Xu P, Van Kirk EA, Li SY, Murdoch WJ, Ren J, Hussain MD, Radosz M, Shen Y. Highly stable core-surface-crosslinked nanoparticles as cisplatin carriers for cancer chemotherapy. **Colloids and Surfaces B: Biointerfaces**, 48:50-57, 2006.
5. Dong F, Zhang X, Ren J. Response: Leptin, endothelin, NADPH oxidase and heart failure. **Hypertension** 47: E20-E21, 2006.
6. Ren J. Cardiac health and diabetes mellitus in women – problems and prospects (invited review). **Minerva Cardioangiologica** in press.
7. Guo KK, Ren J. Cardiac overexpression of alcohol dehydrogenase (ADH) alleviates aging-associated cardiomyocyte contractile dysfunction: Role of intracellular Ca²⁺ cycling proteins. **Aging Cell** in press.

Proposal submitted: None. Next AHA, ADA or Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF) deadline is July

Meeting Abstract Submission and Presentations: Shiyan's abstract was accepted by the highly competitive American Heart Association ATVB Meeting held last weekend in Denver. "Methylglyoxal-Derived Advanced Glycation Endproduct-Induced Cardiomyocyte Impairment Through NAD(P)H Oxidase Mediated Irreversible Oxidative Modification of Sarco(end)plasmic Reticulum Ca²⁺-ATPase2a". Unfortunately, neither [Shiyan](#) nor [Jun](#) was able to attend due to other obligations. [Xiaoping Yang](#) will be at DC for insulin workshop.

Abstract deadline for 2006 American Heart Association Scientific Session (Chicago, Nov 12-15, 2006) is **May 26 at 5 PM** (Central time). <http://scientificsessions.americanheart.org/portal/scientificsessions/ss/submitabstracts>

C-CRAM will hold a graduation BBQ party in late May for [Sara](#), [Tom](#), [Matt](#) and [Cindy](#) to wish them good luck.