Summary of September – October 2006 professional activities

A. Paper in print/in press: (highlight = 1st draft writer)
6. Li Q, Ren J. Cardiac overexpression of metallothionein rescues chronic alcohol intake-induced cardiomyocyte dysfunction: Role of Akt, mammalian target of rapamycin and ribosomal p70s6 kinase. *Alcohol Alcoholism* in press.

B. Paper submitted or in revision: (highlight = 1st draft writer)
12. Li Q, Ren J. Chronic alcohol consumption reduces activation of mammalian target of rapamycin (mTOR) and ribosomal p70S6 kinase in cerebral cortex. *Exp. Neurol.* in review.

16. Ren J, Privratsky JR, Carlson EC, Dong F, Fang CX. Cardiac-specific overexpression of metallothionein prevents glutathione depletion-induced oxidative cardiomyopathy in murine heart: Role of ARC, FLIP and XIAP. *Hypertension* in revision.


**Proposal submitted:**

2 NIH R15 were submitted on October 25, 2006. Sreejayan: to study Cr(4-hydroxy isoleucine) [Cr(4-OH-ILe)3]'s beneficial effects against diabetes and insulin resistance; Shen Y/Ren J to study of polymer degradation in gene delivery.

**Meeting Abstract Submission and Presentations:**

*The following abstracts have been accepted by American Heart Annual Meeting in Chicago (November 2006):*


19. Fang CX, Dong F, Nunn FM, Ren J. Metallothionein prevents insulin resistance-induced Cardiac contractile dysfunction by promoting mitochondrial biogenesis through upregulation of peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor gamma coactivator-1 (PGC-1) alpha. (Oral presentation by CXF – paper is submitting to *Diabetes*).

20. Dr. Culver presented at Society for Neuroscience in Atlanta (October) and Dr. Ren spoke at Novartis Foundation Symposium in London (September).

**Other business and miscellaneous:**

(1). Dave Bruch is the P1 President, and Jamie Hexem is the VP, way to go Culver lab.

(2). MCLS graduate students completed their first rotation Leah Kyle, Sarah Ulusoylar, Liren Zhang. Thanks for all especially Catherine and Feng for mentoring them during their rotation work. The second rotation is under way with Leah and Sarah trading places and Liren is off to molecular biology department.

(3). Dr. Sreejayan and his ADA research on diabetes were featured on UW official website and WyoWeb (photo of the day) last week.

(4). C-CRAM journal club met every other Wednesday. The presenters were Jun Ren, Sreejayan and Feng Dong. Leah will speak next. Dr. Lu Cai from University of Louisville will be here at the end of this month. He is an expert in diabetes research. He will present one seminar at physiology club and one in pharmacy, stay tuned.

(5). C-CRAM research award will be resumed by the end of this year – counting all professional activities including publication, meeting presentation and grantsmanship occurred in 2006.

(6). The third annual NHL hockey pool completed its first month of race. Bonnie and Jun are currently tied for lead with 215 points each. The past winners include Feng, Delwar (gold medal), Feng, Dean Vandel (silver medal), Cindy and Xiaoping (bronze medal) in the last two years.

(7). Welcome Caitlen Rode to join our team and we say farewell to Lindsay, thank you Lindsay.

Have a good thanksgiving – though it’s still early.