Summary of July – August 2006 professional activities

A. Paper in print/in press: (highlight = 1st draft writer)


5. Li Q, Fang CX, Nunn JM, Zhang J, LaCour KH, Ren J. Characterization of cardiomyocyte excitation-contraction coupling in the FVB/N-C57BL/6 intercrossed “chocolate” brown mice. Life Sci. in press.


7. 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)


15. Li SY, Babcock SA, Xu PS, Shen Y, Ren J. Advanced glycation endproducts (AGEs) is linked to cardiomyocyte contractile dysfunction in streptozotocin-induced diabetic mice. Diabetes in revision.


Proposal submitted: None (next NIH deadline is Oct. 01, R15 is late September).

Meeting Abstract Submission and Presentations:

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


21. 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).
Other business and miscellaneous:
(1). Our high school summer SRAP students Jessica Capps from North Carolina and Katharine Bierman from Wyoming have successfully presented their work on July 28 during the SRAP symposium. They were working with Dr. Sreejayan and Dr. Feng Dong respectively.
(2). Michael Burnett, a McNair Scholar, presented his work on July 31 at the McNair symposium on campus.
(3). Warmest welcome for all new comers and MCLS graduate students going through their rotations – Subat Turdi, Leah Kyle, Sarah Ulusoylar, Liren (Tony) Zhang, Robbie and Bryce from our colleague Bud Chew’s lab.
(4). Xiaoping Yang moved to Denver to take a position in my colleague Xiandong Meng’s group. Tom Doser is now working as a research assistant in Portland, Oregon. Sara Babcock is now in my colleague Joey Granger’s lab in Mississippi. Karissa LaCour moved to Tennessee to continue her college education, best wishes for them.
(5). C-CRAM was featured in the American Academy of Colleges of Pharmacy newsletter.
(6). C-CRAM journal club initiated, first one was presented by Jun Ren on 14-3-3/ASK protein signaling. Next one will be presented by Sree. The format is blended with lab meeting and journal club style.
(7). 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.

Have a fun new semester, everyone.