

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

1. Dong F, Taylor MM, Samson WK, Ren J. Intermedin (Adrenomedullin-2) enhances cardiac contractile function via a protein kinase C and protein kinase A-dependent pathway in murine ventricular myocytes. *J. Appl. Physiol.* 101: 778-784, 2006 (September 2006).
2. Doser TA, Culver B, Ren J. COX-2 inhibitors and cardiovascular event: deja vu du jour. *Vascular Disease Prevention* 3: 217-221, 2006.
3. Fang CX, Wu S, Ren J. Intracerebral hemorrhage elicits aberration in cardiomyocyte contractile function and intracellular Ca²⁺ transients. *Stroke* 37: 1875-1882, 2006 (July 2006).
4. Fang CX, Yang X, Sreejayan N, Ren J. Acetaldehyde promotes rapamycin-dependent activation of p70S6K and glucose uptake despite inhibition of Akt and mTOR in dopaminergic SH-SY5Y human neuroblastoma cells. *Exp. Neurol.* in press.
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.
6. Li Q, Ren J. Cardiac overexpression of metallothionein attenuates chronic alcohol intake-induced cardiomyocyte contractile dysfunction. *Cardiovasc. Toxicol.* 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.
8. Ren J, Li Q, Wu S, Li SY, Babcock SA. Cardiac overexpression of antioxidant catalase attenuates aging-induced cardiomyocyte relaxation dysfunction. *Mech. Aging Dev.* acceptable.
9. Ren J. Acetaldehyde and alcoholic cardiomyopathy: lessons from the ADH and ALDH-2 transgenic models. *Novartis. Found. Symp.* in press.
10. Saari JT, Wold LE, Duan J, Ren J, Carlson HL, Bode AM, Lentsch AB, Zeng H, Schuschke DA. Cardiac nitric oxide synthases are elevated in dietary copper deficiency. *J. Nutr. Biochem.* in press.
11. Shen Q, Du M, Ren J. Fitness or fatness: the debate continues for AMP-activated protein kinase (AMPK) in the heart. *Curr. Cardiol. Rev.* 2: 117-123, 2006.
12. Stratton MS, Yang X, Sreejayan N, Ren J. Impact of insulin-like growth factor I on migration, proliferation and Akt-ERK signaling in early and late-passages of vascular smooth muscle cells. *Aging Cell* acceptable pending minor revision.
13. Wu S, Fang CX, Kim J, Ren J. Enhanced pulmonary inflammation following experimental intracerebral hemorrhage. *Exp. Neurol.* 200: 245-249, 2006 (July 2006).

B. Paper submitted or in revision: (highlight = 1st draft writer)

14. Dong F, Ren J. Fidarestat improves cardiomyocyte contractile function in *db/db* diabetic obese mice through a Sir2-dependent mechanism. *Hypertension* in review.
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.
16. Jay MA, Ren J. Impact of PPAR agonist in patients with diabetic heart diseases. *Curr Cardiol Rev.* in review.
17. Ren J. Influence of gender on cardiac contractile function, apoptosis and protein damage in spontaneously hypertensive rats. *Clin Exp. Pharm. Physiol.* in review.
18. Ren J. SIRS and heart dysfunction. *J. Organ Dysfunction* (invited review).
19. Zhang QJ, Lia QX, Zhang HF, Zhang KR, Guo WY, Wang HC, Fan M, Zhou Z, Cheng HP, Ren J, Gao F. Aerobic exercise sensitizes myocardial contractile response to insulin - Role of Akt-dependent eNOS activation. *Circulation* in review.

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):

20. Zhang QJ, Lia QX, Zhang HF, Zhang KR, Guo WY, Wang HC, Fan M, Zhou Z, Cheng HP, Ren J, Gao F. Aerobic exercise sensitizes myocardial contractile response to insulin - Role of Akt-dependent eNOS activation.
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.