Here is your first issue of the CCRAM Newsletter for 2011. This issue showcases the achievements of CCRAM researchers during the first six months of this year, which is indeed impressive. CCRAM Researchers already have 37 papers (many in journals with impact factor over 5), presented their work at several meetings, submitted grant proposals, and received awards and recognitions. Congratulations! - Editor

College of Health Sciences Grand Rounds

CCRAM researchers presented nine posters during the “2011 College of Health Sciences Grand Rounds” Research Day (see page for details). Yinan Hua received the ‘Best Graduate Poster Presentation Award’ and Alex Xu won the “CHS and UW Student Travel Award” to present his work at the Experimental Biology Meeting in Washington DC. Alex Xu also received the “CHS Student Research Grant” awarded for the best research proposal. Congratulations Yinan and Alex!


11. Hua Y*, Zhang Y*, Ceylan-Isik AF, Nunn JM, Ren J. Chronic Akt activation accentuates aging-induced cardiac hypertrophy and myocardial contractile dysfunction: Role of autophagy. *Basic Res. Cardiol.* acceptable pending minor revision (*equal first authorship*). (Impact factor: 5.973)


Pharmacol. Physiol. in press. (Impact factor: 2.196)

Research Papers in Review

4. Li LL, Hua Y, Ren J. Lenalidomide (Revlimid) administration ameliorates cardiomyocyte contractile dysfunction in ob/ob obese mice. Obesity in review.
5. Roe ND, Ren J. Akt2 knockout mitigates chronic iNOS inhibition-induced insulin resistance and myocardial contractile dysfunction. Diab. Obese Metab.

Subat Turdi successfully defended his dissertation in April 2011 and received the doctoral degree in philosophy. His dissertation title is “Cardiac Dysfunction Associated With Metabolic Stress: Role of Adenosine Monophosphate Activated Protein Kinase”. Subat is being hooded by his mentor Dr. Jun Ren as President Buchanan watches on. Subat has taken a position at the York University in Toronto, Canada starting on July 12. CCRAM wishes him and his family the best.
Meetings and Presentations

1. Ceylan-Isik AF, Kandadi MR, Ren J, Nair S. Apelin alleviates high fat diet-induced cardiac remodeling and myocardial contractile dysfunction: Role of miRNA-133a. CHS Grand Round, April 1, 2011.
8. Pacheco B, Xu X, Ren J. The role of macrophage migration inhibition factor (MIF) in cardiac hypertrophy. UW Undergraduate Research Day (oral presentation guided by Alex Xu), May 2011.
10. Ren J. Cardiometabolic syndrome, The 10th Renin Hospital, Shanghai, China, May 2011.
11. Ren J. Cardiac health in obesity, The Fourth Military Medical University, Xi’an, China, June 2011.
12. Ren J. Tips on biomedical scientific writing and publication, Zhongshan Hospital, Fudan University, Shanghai, China, May 2011.
13. Ren J. Role of oxidative stress in cardiac aging, Target Meeting on “Molecular targets and mechanism of aging” Webinar, delivered in US on June 25, 2011 (session chair).
15. Roe ND, Ren J. iNOS inhibition causes myocardial abnormalities through an AKT dependent pathway. CHS Grand Round, April 1, 2011.
17. Xu X, Zhang Y, Ren J. TRAF6 mediates the cardioprotective effect of lipopolysaccharide against insulin resistance in an Akt2 knockout murine model. CHS Grand Round, April 1, 2011.
20. Yu X, Kandadi MR, Ren J. Hyperpepsinemia induced cardiac contractile dysfunction: Role of autophagy. CHS Grand Round, April 1, 2011.
21. Yu X, Kandadi MR, Ren J. Hyperleptinemia induced cardiac contractile dysfunction: Role of autophagy. UW Undergraduate Research Day (oral presentation guided by Machender Kandadi), May, 2011.


27. Zhao H, Ceylan-Isik AF, Ren J, Nair S. The role of Endothelin Receptor-1A (ETA) in Obesity Associated Cardiac Dysfunction. CHS Grand Round, April 1, 2011.

Meetings and Presentations

**Asli Ceylan-Isik** decided to return to her home country Turkey for further career development. Thanks for all she has done for CCRAM and School of Pharmacy.


**Nick Hu** successfully defended his M.Sc. degree and was awarded as the best thesis award from the College of Life Sciences, Hebei Agricultural University.

**Yinan Hua** received best graduate poster presentation award at the College of Health Science Grand Round on April 1, 2011.

**Machender Kandadi,** and his wife are expecting their first child later this year.

**Machender Kandadi** taught Biopharm/Pharmacokinetics (PHCY6102) this spring and received excellent peer review for his teaching.


**Nate Roe** received the UW PhD summer enhancement Award for 2011.

**Alex Xu,** successfully passed his qualifying exam in April and received the UW PhD summer enhancement Award or 2011. He also received the CHS student research grant on his proposal, “Akt2 is Required for High-Fat-Diet-Induced Autophagy Flux Suppression in Mice Heart”. In addition, he won the CHS and UW student travel award to present his work at the Experimental Biology meeting in Washington DC.

**Megan Zhang** submitted two grant proposals this spring.

**Ceylan-Isik/Kandadi/Zhang:** Gave lectures in “Advanced Cardiovascular Pharmacology and Physiology” (PHCY 6550) this spring.

**AHA submission,** 12 abstracts have been submitted to AHA (Orlando) this year (3-Megan; 2-Alex; 1-Machender; 1-Subat; 1-Nate; 2-Yinan and 2-Asli)

Dr. Ming-Hui Zou from University of Oklahoma visited UW on April 26-28 and presented a seminar at the CCRAM meeting.

News and Others

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