



## Faculty of Pharmacy

The University of Sydney

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# Newsletter



Issue No. 22

Semester 2, 2005

## Rural/Remote Pharmacists in the Making



*Photo: Dr Sue Taylor with second and third year Pharmacy students on arrival at Darwin.*

A group of 16 Bachelor of Pharmacy (Rural) students was able to observe and experience the practice of pharmacy in remote settings in July, thanks to funding through the Rural and Remote Workforce Development Program, administered by the Pharmacy Guild. **Please see page 4 for a detailed report.**

### NEW STAFF & STUDENTS

Welcome to:

- ◇ **Dr Mary Bebawy**, Lecturer in Pharmaceutics. Dr Bebawy was previously the Associate Dean (Undergraduate).

- ◇ **Dr Bret Church**, Lecturer in Pharmaceutical Chemistry. (Please see page 5 for a full report.)
- ◇ **Ms Narelle Da Costa**, Student Services Assistant (Clinical Placements).
- ◇ **Mr Fabrizio D'Esposito**, PhD student in Pharmaceutics, under the supervision of Professor Michael Murray.
- ◇ **Mr Tony Emmanouel**, Technical Officer, working with Jimmy Lu.
- ◇ **Ms Amy Holmes**, Executive Assistant to the Dean. Amy previously worked in the International Office.
- ◇ **Ms Susanne Huth**, overseas visiting student working with Dr Dai Hibbs.
- ◇ **Mr Hong Ching Lee**, PhD student in Pharmaceutical Chemistry, under the supervision of Dr Bret Church.
- ◇ **Mr Hong Wing Lee**, PhD student in Pharmaceutical Chemistry, under the supervision of Dr Bret Church.
- ◇ **Mr Lawrence Lee**, PhD student in Pharmaceutical Chemistry, under the supervision of Dr Bret Church.
- ◇ **Ms Celine Loh**, Master of Pharmaceutical Sciences student in Pharmaceutical Chemistry, under the supervision of Dr Daniel Sze.
- ◇ **Mr Jimmy Lu**, Technical Officer, replacing Michael Kennedy.
- ◇ **Dr Guoyi Ma**, post-doctoral fellow with the Cancer Immunology Group.
- ◇ **Dr Nenad Petrovic**, Lecturer in Pharmaceutics. Nenad is located in the Medical Foundation Building.
- ◇ **Dr Greg Ryan**, Director of the new Pharmacy Education Unit. Greg was, until recently, the Acting Director of the Office of Teaching and Learning in Medicine in the Faculty of Medicine.
- ◇ **Ms Rania Salama**, PhD student in Pharmaceutics, under the supervision of Dr Paul Young.
- ◇ **Dr Daniel Sze**, Cancer Institute NSW Fellow and Head of the Cancer Immunology Group. (Please see page 5 for a full report.)
- ◇ **Mr Erdahl Teber**, PhD student in Pharmaceutical Chemistry, under the supervision of Dr Bret Church.
- ◇ **Ms Tess Webster**, Student Services Assistant for one year, replacing Annette Silva who is on parental leave.

- ◇ **Mr Tetuso Yamagishi**, PhD student in Pharmaceutical Chemistry, under the supervision of Dr Daniel Sze.
- ◇ **Dr Shihong Yang**, Research Assistant in the Cancer Immunology Group, under the supervision of Dr Daniel Sze.

## RESIGNATIONS/RETIREMENTS

### Farewell and good luck to:

- ◇ **Mr Chris Bates**, Student Services Assistant (Clinical Placements).
- ◇ **Ms Michelle Colbran**, Administrative Assistant, Finance.
- ◇ **Ms Colleen Cook**, Administrative Assistant working on special projects. Colleen is now working in the Publications Office.
- ◇ **Dr Sheridan Henness**, Research Fellow working with Dr Alaina Ammit. (See the report on page 6.)
- ◇ **Dr Sian Howard**, Postdoc with Dr Dai Hibbs. Sian has left to take up a lectureship at the University of South Australia.
- ◇ **Dr Erin Jones**, Lecturer in Pharmacy Practice, who has returned to the USA to take up an academic position.
- ◇ **Mr Michael Kennedy**, Technical Assistant.
- ◇ **Ms Naomi Morton**, Research Assistant.
- ◇ **Ms Marie Pryor**, Research Officer on the Asthma Outcomes Project. Marie is now working at Royal Prince Alfred Hospital.

## *CONGRATULATIONS*

*70:*

- ◇ **Dr Alaina Ammit**, on her promotion to Senior Lecturer. Alaina has also been re-elected to the Board of Directors of the Australian Society for Medical Research (ASMR) for the period November 2005 to November 2007.
- ◇ **Dr Sinthia Bosnic-Anticevich**, on her promotion to Senior Lecturer.
- ◇ **Dr Tim Chen**, on his promotion to Senior Lecturer.
- ◇ **Dr Renee Ying Hong**, who has completed her PhD under the supervision of Associate Professor Andrew McLachlan, Dr Christa Nath (Westmead Children's Hospital) and Associate Professor Iqbal Ramzan. Renee was successful in being awarded a University of Buffalo Pfizer Fellowship which began in November at the School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, University of Buffalo, USA.
- ◇ **Mr Tom Huang**, who has completed his PhD under the supervision of Professor Basil Roufogalis. Tom is currently studying Medicine (MBChB) at the University of Leicester, Leicester Medical School in the United Kingdom.
- ◇ **Mr John Kumar**, winner of the prize for the best oral presentation by a postgraduate student in the Biomolecular Division of the Royal Australian Chemical Institute National Congress in Sydney in

July for the paper: "Chiral cyclopentene phosphinic acid GABAC antagonists." (Authors: Kumar RJ, Chebib M, Johnston G, Hanrahan J.)

- ◇ **Ms Rebekah Moles** and her husband Robert Ericsson, on the birth of Poppy Jade, on 24 September.
- ◇ **Ms Clarissa Ng**, one of the winners of the Best Oral Presentations at the Faculty of Pharmacy Postgraduate Conference in July, for her presentation: "Homoproline analogues of GABA."
- ◇ **Mr Kieren Po**, recipient of the 2005 Pharmaceutical Society of Australia NSW Pharmacy Student of the Year award.
- ◇ **Mr Noeris Salam**, one of the winners of the Best Oral Presentations at the Faculty of Pharmacy Postgraduate Conference in June, for his presentation: "Design, synthesis and pharmacology of kynurenine aminotransferase-1 inhibitors as drugs for schizophrenia."
- ◇ **Ms Annette Silva** and her husband Arthur, on the birth of Isaac Angelo on 26 September.
- ◇ **Dr Lorraine Smith**, winner of the Best Poster Prize for methodological rigour, good presentation and for bringing psychology into a new field, at the Australian Psychological Society National Conference in Melbourne in September, for the poster: "Collaborative goal setting in community pharmacy: towards the effective self-management of asthma." (Authors: Smith L, Bosnic-Anticevich S, Saini B, Mitchell B, Quah S, Krass I, Armour C.)
- ◇ **Ms EeLyn Tan**, who has successfully completed her PhD under the supervision of Professor Jo-anne Brien.
- ◇ **Mr Mark Waller**, one of the winners of the Best Oral Presentations at the Faculty of Pharmacy Postgraduate Conference in June, for his presentation: "Theoretical and experimental studies of the electron distribution in weak intermolecular and intramolecular interactions."

### RACI Prizes - Congratulations

Five equal prizes of \$400 each were awarded for the best poster presentation at the RACI NSW Pharmaceutical Science Group Student Research Presentation Symposium 2005, which was held in the Faculty of Pharmacy in September. The recipients were:

- ◇ **Ms Heba Abdel Halim** for "Comparative modelling of extracellular domain of GABAc receptors: Towards the design and development of selective GABAc receptor ligands." Authors: Abdel Halim H, Hibbs DE, Hanrahan JR and Chebib M.
- ◇ **Mr William Glover** for "Deposition of mannitol in human airways." Authors: Glover W, Chan H-K, Eberl S, Daviskas L and Anderson S.
- ◇ **Mr Prasad Kota** for "The reversal of cardiac interstitial fibrosis and gene expression of fibronectin and collagen synthesis by the methanolic extract of Punica granatum flower in obese Zucker rats." Authors: Huang THW, Li Y, Kota BP, Peng G, Li Q, Yamahara J and Roufogalis BD.
- ◇ **Ms Kasia Lobo** for "Ethnic differences in CYP2B6 activity and induction by rifampicin." Authors: Lobo KK, Gross AS, Williams KM, Liauw W, Day RO and McLachlan AJ.

- ◇ **Mr Noeris Salam** for "The development of kynurenine aminotransferase-I inhibitors as drugs for schizophrenia." Authors: Salam NK, Mishor Z, Hanrahan J, Kapoor V and Hibbs DE.

### Recipients of Long Service Awards

Congratulations to the following staff members, who received long service awards in November:

- ◇ **Mr Fred Wong**, recipient of a 40 years Silver Medal.
- ◇ **Dr Rujee Duke**, recipient of a 20 years service Certificate of Recognition.
- ◇ **Mrs Jennifer Bell**, recipient of a 15 years service Certificate of Recognition.
- ◇ **Ms Maxine Mackellar**, recipient of a 15 years service Certificate of Recognition.

### A Congratulatory Note to Dr Sinthia Bosnic-Anticevich from her Postgraduate Students

We would like to congratulate Sinthia on her promotion to Senior Lecturer. Even though she has worked very hard towards this goal, she has always still had time for her PhD students. We would like to take this opportunity to thank her for being a wonderful supervisor. In particular, we appreciate her positive and encouraging nature, especially in "tough PhD situations".

*- from Iman Bashedi, Vicky Kritikos and Cassie Slader*

## NEWS ITEMS



### Participation by the Faculty of Pharmacy in the University of Sydney Presentation Ceremony Held in Beijing 2005

*- from Dr George Li*



*Photo: Staff from the College of Health Sciences in front of the Great Hall of the People, Beijing*

Although Australia does not promote its educational expertise in China to the same extent as the UK and the USA, the University of Sydney is well known in China. The University of Sydney has placed a strong emphasis on internationalisation, and China is one of its top priorities. The Presentation Ceremony held on 2 September 2005 was the first time an overseas university was allowed to use the Great Hall of the People (the top government venue in China) for such a function, which indicated the University's determination to enter China with a big impact. The post-graduation dinners in the Beijing Hotel, featuring Australian wines courtesy of the Chancellor, Vice Chancellor and 50 other senior staff members, increased the realisation of the Sydney alumni of how much they missed their time at the Sydney campus, and certainly strengthened the friendships with various Chinese ministers and university presidents.

The Faculty of Pharmacy delegation, led by Professor Basil Roufogalis (Executive Director, Herbal Medicines Research and Education Centre and Pro Dean, Faculty of Pharmacy), included Dr George Li, Dr Yuhao Li, Dr Pauline Goh, Dr Rujee Duke and Mr Fred Wong. They visited Guangzhou from 27 August to 1 September, and Beijing from 1 to 6 September. In Beijing, the Pharmacy team was joined by Mr Ross Brown and Mr Ted Crook, two Honorary Directors of the Herbal Centre.

At the beautiful campus of Sun Yatsen University in Guangzhou, the delegates, after being warmly welcomed by Professors Huang Min, Yang Depo, and Wu Weikang, gave seminars on research and educational developments in Australia. Next, the team visited Professor Chen Weiwen, Guangzhou University of Chinese Medicine; Dr Peng Gang, Tianda Pharmaceuticals; Dr Bei Weijian, Beiyunshan Pharmaceuticals; Ms Lin Xia, National Health Technology Park; Mr Steven Zhu, Australian Education Information Centre and Mr Cheung Waihung, of Cathay Herbal. The hot weather stopped the team from shopping, but they experienced friendship and 'good eating in Guangzhou', and observed first hand the speed of development of the 'manufacturing centre of the world.'

In Beijing, the delegates visited Professors Zhen Yingliang, Qiao Yanjiang and Zhang Bin at the Beijing University of Chinese Medicine, to sign a memorandum of understanding. The team also visited Professors Liu Junyi and Xu Shimin at the Pharmacy School of Peking University, and Professor Luo Guoan at Tsinghua University – the top universities in Chinese medicine and pharmacy research and education in China.

The Australian delegates and the Chinese parties are all interested in generating more international publications through research collaboration and exchange of postgraduate students. Funding for such collaborative ventures can be obtained from university scholarships, government grants, and industry sponsorships. Australian students will certainly be interested in experiencing Chinese medicine practice, working in the pharmaceutical industry, and engaging in scientific research in universities in China. The Chinese medicine industry is a priority biotechnology in China, and receives strong government support. The speed of the growth of industry in China is best exemplified by the construction of a new University city of ten universities by the Governments in Guangzhou in less than two years. The delegates at the same time were pleased at our achievements in advancing research and education in herbal medicines with our limited resources.

During the ten-day visit, the University of Sydney delegation promoted our achievements, learnt about research development in China and met leaders of the pharmaceutical industry for potential contract work or scholarship. After the visit, the researchers from the delegation are continuing discussions with their Chinese counterparts on implementation of collaboration plans. Overall, the tour has achieved its objective to promote collaboration in pharmacy and Chinese herbal medicine research and education with China.

## **Rural/Remote Pharmacists in the Making**

*by Dr Sue Taylor (Associate Dean, Rural)*

*Please see photo on the front page.*

Two of the main objectives of the Bachelor of Pharmacy (Rural) of the University of Sydney are to make students aware of the pharmacy career opportunities available in rural and remote areas and to increase their understanding of Aboriginal health. Thanks to funding through the Rural and Remote Workforce Development Program (administered by the Pharmacy Guild) a group of 16 BPharm (Rural) students was able to observe and experience the practice of pharmacy in remote settings in July 2005. All students felt privileged to have had these opportunities and that their horizons had expanded with respect to future career possibilities.

One third year student completed a community pharmacy placement in Casino in NSW and also spent time at Tabulum, the local Aboriginal community. This student was attached to the URDH Lismore and had a chance to experience hospital pharmacy.

*"The diversity and insight that this experience afforded me was a special opportunity that should be available to all students."* Cindy Edwards (Third year student).

Three third year students undertook their community pharmacy placements in Darwin and one student did so in Broome. Three then spent time in two remote Aboriginal communities 200km north of Broome. There they helped the local nurses or Aboriginal Health Workers manage the ordering, storage and distribution of medications as well as observe clinic staff treating their patients.

*"The students were most co-operative and no problems at all. Perlson was fortunate to be with a great RN who got him quite involved in the clinic and community. The Beagle Bay RN was most positive about the contribution that Jen had made within the clinic dispensary."* Cathy Larkin (Pharmacy Preceptor).

*"Everything went very well in Broome and Beagle Bay and we had a really good time. Cathy (Larkin) was great, and being in the clinic at Beagle Bay was a great experience. We were the first students to ever stay out there without Cathy so it was a new experience for them too."* Jenny Stoneman (Third year student).

Both second and third year students travelled from Darwin by ferry to the Tiwi Islands where they were shown around by three local women who talked about the history of the island, the current health issues and

pharmacy services. In Darwin itself they visited the training centre of Danila Dilba (the Darwin Aboriginal Medical Service), the Nightcliff Renal Clinic and the Royal Darwin Hospital.

*"I really valued the opportunity to learn about indigenous health issues first hand, rather than reading about them in a text book. It opened my eyes to a world I've had no prior experience of."* Shireen Davar (Second year student).

While the third year students were in Western Australia, the second years visited medical centres in Jabiru, Mataranka and Binjari as well as the hospital in Katherine. Staff at Sunrise Health Service and Katherine West Health Board explained the setting up of the health service arrangements to the group and were optimistic that the current partnerships could deliver measurable improvements in Aboriginal health.

*"We thoroughly enjoyed our time spent in the Northern Territory and found the experience very helpful in enhancing our understanding of the issues surrounding indigenous health in Australia as well as the challenges facing rural and remote health practitioners in delivering quality health care."* (Second year students).

In September 2005, two cross year students had the opportunity to travel to Alice Springs where they visited the Centre for Remote Health, spent time working in the pharmacy of Congress (Aboriginal Medical Service) dispensing prescriptions and counselling Aboriginal patients about their medications. They drove to the Hermansberg clinic 120km west of Alice Springs with Peter Hatswell, who currently provides pharmaceutical services to most Aboriginal communities around Alice Springs. Peter also has a pilot's licence and a four seater plane which he flies to the most remote clinics. The two students were lucky enough to accompany him on a visit to Nyrippi where they helped check the stock and sat in on an in-service training session Peter gave to the clinic staff.

*"I had a fantastic time and experienced some things I don't think I would otherwise have done. Before going to Alice I would never have thought of doing a placement there but now the idea of working there is something I will consider."* Fiona Taylor (Second/Third year student).

### **A Big Thank You**

We would like to thank all the people who made the trips so successful and rewarding:

#### **Pharmacists**

Rollo Manning, Terry Batalis, Cathy Larkin, Fran Vaughan, Neil Johnstone, Peter Hatswell, Rod (Darwin), Graham (Katherine), Karen (Alice Springs).

#### **Nurses and other Health Care Practitioners**

Elaine at the Nightcliff Renal Clinic, Diane at Jabiru Medical Centre, Serena at Mataranka, Jill at Katherine West Health Board and Lesley at Sunrise.

#### **Last but not least**

Teresita, Leonie and Jacinta of the Tiwi Stong Womens Group.

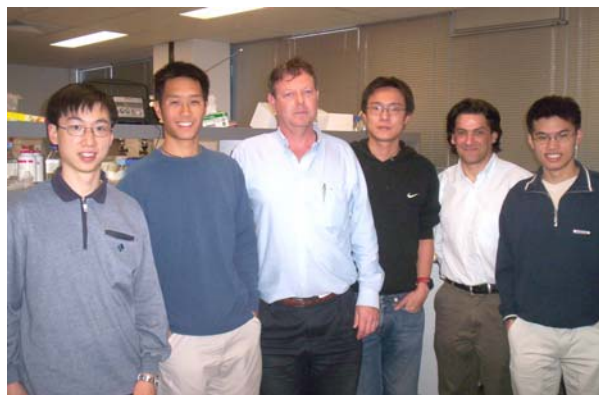
## Welcome to Dr Daniel Sze and the Cancer Immunology Group

Welcome to the newly established Cancer Immunology Group (CIG), which is headed by Dr Daniel Sze.

Dr Sze, who is the holder of a Cancer Institute NSW Career Development and Support Fellowship for three years, is working on the collaborative myeloma project with the Centenary Institute and Institute of Haematology at the Royal Prince Alfred Hospital. Daniel was a finalist for the Cure Cancer Australia's Young Researcher Award in 2002 and 2003 for his work on myeloma. He was originally a hospital laboratory scientist at the Hong Kong Polytechnics University and the University of Hong Kong, obtained a Masters degree in Bristol, UK, and another Masters degree and PhD from the University of Birmingham, UK. He arrived in Australia in 1998 and has been the recipient of a number of grants, fellowships and scholarships. Daniel has completed his third Masters degree in Higher Education at the University of Sydney, and he participates in a radio broadcasting of a scientific program that aims to educate the general public about cancer and genetics.

The Cancer Immunology Group has two advisors – Professor Doug Joshua from the Royal Prince Alfred Hospital and Professor Basil Roufogalis of the Faculty of Pharmacy. The group is supported by staff who specialise in different research areas. For instance, Cancer and Cellular Immunology – Dr Daniel Sze; Molecular Biology – Dr Chris Jolly (Centenary Institute); Haematology – Dr Ross Brown (Royal Prince Alfred Hospital); Bioinformatics – Dr Warren Kaplan (Garvan Institute); Chemistry – Dr George Li (Herbal Medicines Research and Education Centre), Pharmacology – Dr Guoyi Ma (CIG post-doctoral fellow). Currently, there are four research students – Mr Tetuso Yamagishi, Ms Celine Loh, Mr Kei Fan, Mr Iyad Ahmed; and one research assistant – Dr Shihong Yang in the CIG. They are located in N257 and if you would like to contact them, please email [cig@pharm.usyd.edu.au](mailto:cig@pharm.usyd.edu.au)

## Welcome to Dr Bret Church and his Research Group



*Photo: Dr Bret Church (centre) surrounded by members of his group: Hong Ching Lee, Lawrence Lee, Jeremy Kong (Honours student), Erdahl Teber and Hong Wing Lee.*

Dr Bret Church arrived in the Faculty of Pharmacy in August. His most recent appointment was at the Department of Physiology and Pharmacology at the University of New South Wales, but before that he spent time at the School of Molecular and Microbial Biosciences at the University of Sydney and assisted in the early phase of the Molecular Biotechnology Program.

Bret's area of research expertise is in structural biology and protein crystallography. The wealth of information in protein structure has brought about its own area of bioinformatics making for the area of structure-guided drug design. Bret is an expert in this area and has an active research team with interests ranging throughout these areas. Perhaps there is nothing more varied than work in space (protein crystallisation on the MIR space station) and being a foundation contributor to homology modelling methods of the CASP meetings known widely in the molecular modelling community! His lab currently consists of four PhD students and a number of part-time staff. Bret has interests in specific targets of the inflammation cascade as well as schizophrenia, and general considerations of the G protein-coupled receptors. He has been active in the Sydney Protein Group, a local affiliate of the Australian Society of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, and also has had a long standing association with the RACI and the Australian Molecular Modellers, soon likely to affiliate with the Molecular Modeling and Graphics Society which is better known around the world.

A PhD from the School of Chemistry at the University of Sydney, Bret has come to us by way of post-doctoring at the University of Alberta, and positions at Biosym in California (now Accelrys), and the Garvan Institute of Medical Research. His publications routinely appear in journals such as the Journal of Biological Chemistry, Proteins: Structure, Function and Bioinformatics and Protein Science. Look out for his recent work on general methods in gene and protein annotation.

Bret has had other associations with the Faculty of Pharmacy over the years. His wife, Susan Rowley, worked with Fred Wong for a 5 year period. Also Bret had a productive collaboration with Michael Morris, who is now at the University of Adelaide. Talking of wives and family, Bret has two teenage daughters and Susan is now Head of Science at a school in the St George area.

Bret suggests he's been enjoying his environment back at Sydney University and also that you seek him out and make a point of saying hello! Have a look at his staff web page and his lab page at [www.churchlab.asn.au](http://www.churchlab.asn.au)

## New Associate Deans

**Professor Jo-anne Brien** has taken over from Associate Professor Iqbal Ramzan as Associate Dean (Admission/Administration or Programs). Professor Brien is also Chair of the Programs Committee.

**Dr Jane Hanrahan** has replaced Dr Mary Bebawy as Associate Dean (Undergraduate). Dr Bebawy has taken up a lectureship in Pharmaceutics.

## New Safety Officer

**Dr Dai Hibbs** has replaced Dr Jane Hanrahan as the Faculty's Safety Officer.

## Farewell to Dr Sheridan Henness

- from Dr Alaina Ammit

Dr Sheridan Henness' last day in the Faculty was 30 November 2005. After completing her PhD studies at Royal North Shore Hospital, Sheridan joined the Respiratory Research Group in 2002 funded by a Sesqui R&D Grant, then a Sesqui New Staff and R&D Grant in 2003. In 2004 Sheridan was awarded The Australian Lung Foundation/Boehringer Ingelheim Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease Research Fellowship, a two year fellowship to support her research into "Messenger RNA stability as a novel anti-inflammatory target in chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD)". Sheridan is a great contributor to the Faculty of Pharmacy research culture, has published a number of first author and contributing author publications and is a popular member of the research staff, being always happy to help out with a scientific problem or enquiry. I am sure we will all miss her happy smiling face and wish her well in her future adventures!

## Visitors to the Faculty

Dr Ulrike Birnabum, postdoctoral scholar, visited Dr Ines Krass for 3 months. She was from the Institut für Klinische Pharmakologie Charité-Universitätsmedizin Berlin.

Mr Timo Quante, an undergraduate Biochemistry student from the University of Hannover, performed a period of practical training from July-October, under the supervision of Dr Alaina Ammit.

Professor Fugen Aktan, from the University of Ankara, Turkey, continued her collaboration with Dr Alaina Ammit and Professor Basil Roufogalis, visiting for one month in August/September.



## SOME NEW GRANTS

Ammit AJ, Hughes JM, Roufogalis BD, Armour CL, Collins (Chebib) M, Murray M. Real-time PCR Instrument. *NHMRC Equipment Grant*. 2005: \$22,500.

Ammit AJ, Roth M, Brewer G, Armour CL, Hughes JM. Understanding corticosteroid-sensitive and -insensitive pathways in airway remodelling. *NHMRC Project Grant*. 2006-2008: \$292,500.

Bebawy M. Dietary nucleotides: Effects on P-glycoprotein expression and function in the gastrointestinal system. *The Clive and Vera Ramaciotti Foundations, 2005 Biomedical Research Awards*. 2006: \$26,939.

Bosnic-Anticevich S, Krass I, Bickle M, Payne P, Bronger L, Armour CL. Women in pharmacy leadership program evaluation. *Pharmacy Guild of Australia – 3<sup>rd</sup> Community Pharmacy Agreement (CPA R&D) Grants Program*. 2005-2006: \$165,000.

Johnston C, Marsh H, Smith L, Overland J. Children and adolescents with type 1 diabetes: Determining critical pathways to self-management. *ARC Linkage Grant*. 2006-2008: \$660,657.

Johnston GAR, Hanrahan JR, Chebib M. Positive modulation of ionotropic GABA receptors. *NHMRC*. 2006-2008: \$528,750.

Johnston GAR, Hanrahan JR, Collins (Chebib) M, Mewett KN. GABA modulators for the treatment of anxiety epilepsy and insomnia. *NHMRC Project Grant*. 2006-2008: \$528,750.

McLeod MD, Collins (Chebib) M. Elucidating the mode of action of nicotinic receptor ligands. *ARC Discovery Project Grant*. 2006-2008: \$275,000.

Murray M. Novel omega-3 fatty acid epoxides and the activation of cellular survival pathways. *NHMRC Project Grant*. 2006-2008: \$447,750.

Segelov E, Grabs A, Fallon A, Bloomfield L, Brien J, Neil M, Joo Leow L. Evaluation of the "RIME" protocol as an assessment tool for students involved in multidisciplinary clinical teaching in the Faculty of Medicine, UNSW. *Learning and Teaching Grant, University of New South Wales*. 2005: \$15,000.

Smith L, Bosnic-Anticevich S, Saini B, Krass I, Armour C. Goal setting in patient self-management of allergic rhinitis. *Schering-Plough P/L*. 2005: \$25,621.

Stewart PJ, Soria J, Honnery DR, Chan H-C, Thompson BR, Larson IC, Young PM. Characterising particulate laden flow in the lung airways: from drug delivery to primary anthropogenic sources. *ARC LIEF Grant*. 2006: \$230,000.

Willcox MD, Kumar N, Cole N, Armstrong RS. Novel antimicrobial biomaterials. *ARC Discovery Grant*. 2006-2008: \$440,000.

Young P (and Advanced Drug Delivery Group). Colloidal probe microscope. *University of Sydney Major Equipment Grant*. 2005: \$95,000.



# RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Ammit AJ. (2005). Invited Review: The role of mRNA stability in airway remodelling. *Pulm Pharmacol Ther*, **18**(6), 405-415.

Armour CL, Saini B, Bosnic-Anticevich S, Krass I. (2005). Role of pharmacists in asthma monitoring. In *Monitoring Asthma, Lung Biology in Health and Disease Series*, C Lenfant (ed), Chapter 17, 465-502.

Barker DL, Diana H-S, Carland JE, Chu CP-Y, Chebib M, Brimble MA, Savage GP, McLeod MD. (2005). Methyllycaconitine analogues have mixed antagonist effects at nicotinic acetylcholine receptors. *Bioorganic & Medicinal Chemistry*, **13**(14), 4565-4575.

Basheti IA, Reddel HK, Armour CL, Bosnic-Anticevich SZ. (2005). Counseling about turbuhaler technique: Needs assessment and effective strategies for community pharmacists. *Respiratory Care Journal*, **50**(5), 617-623.

Bell S, Chen TF. (2005). Improving medication safety - an Australian perspective. *International Pharmacy Journal*, **19**, 24-26.

Bell S, Siiskonen S, ten Brink M. (2005). Tobacco use among pharmacy students: an international survey. *Pharmacy Education*, **5**, 131-135.

Bell S. (2005). From practice research to public policy - The Ministerial Summit on Health Research. *Annals of Pharmacotherapy*, **39**, 1331-1135.

Chaar B, Brien, J, Krass I. (2005). Professional ethics in pharmacy: The gap between theory and practice. *Int J Pharm Pract*, **13**, 195-204.

Chaar B. (2005). Recurrent infection: Disease state management case. *Pharmacy News*, November.

Chrubasik S, Pittler MH, Roufogalis BD. (2005). Zingiberis rhizoma: A comprehensive review on the ginger effect and efficacy profiles. *Phytomedicine*, **12**, 684-701.

Crittenden DL, Chebib M, Jordan MJT. (2005). A quantitative structure-activity relationship investigation into agonist binding at GABA-C receptors. *Journal of Molecular Structure THEOCHEM*, **755**, 81-89.

Crittenden DL, Chebib M, Jordan MJT. (2005). Stabilization of zwitterions in solution: GABA analogues. *Journal of Physical Chemistry A*, **109**(18), 4195-4201.

Crittenden DL, Kumar RJ, Hanrahan JR, Chebib M, Jordan MJT. (2005). Stabilization of zwitterions in solution: Phosphinic and phosphonic acid GABA analogues. *Journal of Physical Chemistry A*, **109**(37), 8398-8409.

Hall WD, Ward R, Liauw WS, Brien JE, Lu CY. (2005). Tailoring access to high cost, genetically targeted drugs. (Peer reviewed editorial.) *Med J Aust*, **182**(12), 607-608.

Hamama AK, Ray J, Day RO, Brien JE. (2005). Simultaneous determination of rofecoxib and celecoxib in human plasma by high-performance liquid chromatography. *Chromatogr Sci*, August, **43**(7), 351-354.

Huang TH, Peng P, Li GQ, Yamahara J, Roufogalis BD, Li Y. (2005). Salacia oblonga root improves postprandial hyperlipidemia and hepatic steatosis in Zucker diabetic fatty rats: activation of PPAR- $\alpha$ . *Toxicol Appl Pharmacol*, 20 June [Epub ahead of print].

Huang THW, Peng G, Kota BP, Li GQ, Yamahara J, Roufogalis B, Li Y. (2005). Pomegranate flower improves cardiac lipid metabolism in a diabetic rat model: role of lowering circulating lipids. *British Journal of Pharmacology*, **145**(6), 767-774.

Huang THW, Peng G, Kota BP, Li GQ, Yamahara J, Roufogalis BD, Li Y. (2005). Anti-diabetic action of *Punica granatum* flower extract: activation of PPAR- $\gamma$  and identification of an active component. *Toxicology and Applied Pharmacology*, **207**, 160-169.

Huang THW, Razmovski-Naumovski V, Kota BP, Roufogalis BD, Lin DSH. (2005). The pathophysiological function of peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor-gamma in lung-related diseases. *Respiratory Research*, **6**, 102.

Huang THW, Razmovski-Naumovski V, Salam NK, Duke, RK, Tran VH, Duke CC, Roufogalis BD. (2005). A novel LXR-alpha activator identified from *Gynostemma pentaphyllum*. *Biochemical Pharmacology*, **70**(9), 1298-1308.

Huang THW, Yang QL, Harada M, Uberai J, Radford J, Li GQ, Yamahara J, Roufogalis BD, Li Y. (2005). Salacia oblonga root improves cardiac lipid metabolism in Zucker diabetic fatty rats: modulation of cardiac PPAR-alpha-mediated transcription of fatty acid metabolic genes. *Toxicology and Applied Pharmacology*, 27 August [Epub ahead of print].

Kohlert-Schupp C, McLachlan AJ, Rich C, Roufogalis BD. (2005). Herbs in menopause. *Journal of Complementary Medicine*, **4**(4), 50-56.

Koo M, Krass I, Aslani P. (2005). Consumer use of consumer medicine information - a pilot study. *J Pharm Pract Res*, **35**(2), 94-98.

Koo M, Krass I, Aslani P. (2005). Patient characteristics influencing evaluation of written medicine information: Lessons for patient education. *Ann Pharmacother*, **39**, 1434-1440.

Krass I, Bajorek B. (2005). SERMS: designer drugs for osteoporosis treatment? *Retail Pharmacy*, July, 38-39.

Krass I, Bajorek B. (2005). Lipid lowering in high risk patients: Current state of play? *Retail Pharmacy*, April, 50-51.

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## CONFERENCE ABSTRACTS AND PRESENTATIONS

Abdel Halim H, Hibbs DE, Hanrahan JR, Chebib M. (2005). Poster presentation by H Abdel Halim: Comparative modelling of extracellular domain of GABA<sub>A</sub> receptors: towards the design and development of selective GABA<sub>A</sub> receptor ligands. *Connect 2005, RACI 12th National Convention*, Sydney, July.

- Basheti I, Reddel H, Armour C, Bosnic-Anticevich S. (2005). Poster presentation by H Reddel: Educating community pharmacists: correct PFM and inhaler technique for two different inhaler devices. *Thoracic Society of Australia and New Zealand Conference*. Perth, March.
- Bennett AA, Hayward C, MacDonald PS, Brien JE. (2005). Poster presentation by AA Bennett: Amiodarone-induced thyrotoxicosis (AIT): A challenge in heart failure (HF) patients. *Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia Federal Conference*, Brisbane, November.
- Bennett AA, Jones G, MacDonald P, Brien JE. (2005). Poster presentation by AA Bennett: Additional benefits of follow-up NT-proBNP measurements in ambulatory heart failure patients after hospital discharge. *Heart Failure Society of America*, Boca Raton, Florida, September.
- Crittenden DL, Chebib M, Jordan MJT. (2005). Poster presentation by DL Crittenden: Quantitative structure-activity relationships of GABA<sub>c</sub> receptor agonists. *Connect 2005, RACI 12th National Convention*, Sydney, July.
- Gallego G, Brien JE. (2005). Oral presentation by G Gallego: The migration of young pharmacists: An individual perspective. *Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences World Congress, 65th Congress of International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP)*, Cairo, September.
- Gallego G, Taylor S, Brien JE. (2005). Presentation by G Gallego: Decision-makers views of access to high cost medicines (HCMs) in public hospitals in Australia. *Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences World Congress, 65th Congress of International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP)*, Cairo, September.
- Gallego G. (2005). Oral presentation: Paying for medicines used in hospitals in Australia. *Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences World Congress, 65th Congress of International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP)*, Cairo, September.
- Gelgor L, Zachulski A, Chen T. (2005). Poster presentation by L Gelgor: A profile of chronic pain sufferers frequenting rural and remote community pharmacy. *11th World Congress on Pain*, Sydney, August.
- Johnston GAR, Chebib M, Hanrahan JR, Hinton T, Mewett KN. (2005). Oral presentation by GAR Johnston: GABA<sub>c</sub> receptor antagonists and memory. *Connect 2005, RACI 12th National Convention*, Sydney, July.
- Kay O, Bajorek B, Brien JE. (2005). Oral presentation by O Kay: Pharmacist prescribing activities – Opinions of Australian pharmacists. *Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia Federal Conference*, Brisbane, November.
- Kumar RJ, Abdel Halim HA, Hanrahan JR, Chebib M, Hibbs DE. Poster presentation by HA Abdel Halim: Comparative modelling of extracellular domain of GABA<sub>c</sub> receptors: Towards the design and development of selective GABA<sub>c</sub> receptor ligands. *Connect 2005, RACI 12th National Convention*, Sydney, July.
- Kumar RJ, Chebib M, Johnston G, Hanrahan J. (2005). Oral presentation by RJ Kumar: Chiral cyclopentene phosphinic acid GABA<sub>c</sub> antagonists. *Connect 2005, RACI 12th National Convention*, Sydney, July. (Prize for the best oral presentation by a postgraduate student in the Biomolecular Division.)
- Kumar RJ, Chebib M, Johnston GAR, Hanrahan JB. (2005). Oral presentation by RJ Kumar: Chiral GABA<sub>c</sub> selective antagonists. *Connect 2005, RACI 12th National Convention*, Sydney, July.
- Lehnbohn E, Welch SA, Brien JE. (2005). Poster presentation by SA Welch: Evaluation of a new insulin medication chart. *Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia Federal Conference*, Brisbane, November.
- Moles R, Brien JE, Benrimoj SI. (2005). Poster presentation by JE Brien: A medication education service (MES) provided to private hospital patients at discharge. *Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia Federal Conference*, Brisbane, November.
- Ng YC, Hennes S, Ge Q, Ammit AJ. (2005). Oral presentation by AJ Ammit: Corticosteroids reduce pro-inflammatory cytokine expression in airway smooth muscle cells via upregulation of MAPK phosphatase-1 and inhibition of p38 MAPK signalling. In *Abstracts of the European Respiratory Society International Conference*, Copenhagen, Denmark, September.
- Nguyen TH, Howard ST, Hanrahan JR, Hibbs DE. (2005). Poster presentation by TH Nguyen: A supramolecular approach to host-guest interaction. *Connect 2005, RACI 12th National Convention*, Sydney, July.
- Roubin R, Whitelock J. (2005). Oral presentation by R Roubin: Rapid direct analysis of GAG disaccharide composition from biological cartilage samples. *29th Annual Meeting of the Matrix Biology Society of Australia and New Zealand*, Adelaide, September.
- Slader CA, Bosnic-Anticevich SZ, Jenkins CR, Armour CL, Reddel HK. (2005). Poster presentation (and published abstract) by HK Reddel: Patient perception of the effect of breathing exercises for asthma. *European Respiratory Society International Conference*, Copenhagen, Denmark, September.
- Slader CA, Reddel HK, Spencer LM, Belousova EG, Thien FCK, Jenkins CR. (2005). Poster presentation (and published abstract) by CR Jenkins: Value-adding using patient assessment of asthma control. *European Respiratory Society International Conference*. Copenhagen, Denmark, September.
- Slader CA, Reddel HK, Spencer LM, Belousova EG, Thien FK, Armour CL, Bosnic-Anticevich SZ, Jenkins CR. (2005). Poster presentation (and published abstract) by CA Slader: Impact of breathing exercises on asthma and control. *American Thoracic Society 100th International Conference*, San Diego, USA, May.

Smith L, Bosnic-Anticevich S, Saini B, Mitchell B, Quah S, Krass I, Armour C. (2005). Poster presentation by Lorraine Smith: Collaborative goal setting in community pharmacy: towards the effective self-management of asthma. *Australian Psychological Society National Conference*, Melbourne, September. (Best Poster Prize for methodological rigour, good presentation and for bringing psychology into a new field.)



## OTHER ORAL PRESENTATIONS

Ammit A. (2005). How do corticosteroids reduce airway inflammation? *5<sup>th</sup> International Young Investigators Symposium 'Smooth Muscle in Airway and Vascular Disease'*, Malmo, Sweden, September.

Ammit A. (2005). mRNA stability, inflammation and asthma. *Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Utrecht University*, The Netherlands, August.

Armour C, Krass I. (2005). Specialised DSM models for diabetes in community pharmacy. *School of Public Health, University of Sydney*, Sydney, July.

Armour C, Krass I. (2005). Diabetes services from community pharmacy. *Faculty of Pharmacy Seminar Series, University of Sydney*, Sydney, October.

Armour C, Saini B, Bosnic-Anticevich S. (2005). The Pharmacy Asthma Care Model. *Woolcock Institute of Medical Research*, Sydney, November.

Basheti I. (2005). The impact of correcting inhaler technique: Improved asthma outcomes with a simple intervention by community pharmacists. *Woolcock Institute of Medical Research, University of Sydney*, Sydney, September.

Blair E. (2005). Population PKPD of raltitrexed in patients with advanced solid tumours. *Faculty of Pharmacy Seminar Series, University of Sydney*, Sydney, October.

Chang H-I. (2005). Formulation and characterisation of polycaprolactone matrix systems and fibres for applications in advanced drug delivery and tissue engineering. *Faculty of Pharmacy Seminar Series, University of Sydney*, Sydney, August.

Chu C. (2005). Flavonoids: Negative modulators at  $\alpha 4\beta 2$  nicotinic receptors. *Faculty of Pharmacy Seminar Series, University of Sydney*, Sydney, September.

Cui S. (2005). The occurrence and biological actions of omega-3 and omega-6 C18 monoepoxy fatty acids. *Faculty of Pharmacy Seminar Series, University of Sydney*, Sydney, October.

Huang T. (2005). Modulation by traditional herbs of PPAR-mediated transcription: role in hepatic and cardiac steatosis of obese and diabetic animals. *Faculty of Pharmacy Seminar Series, University of Sydney*, Sydney, July.

Koo M. (2005). Consumer use of written medicine information. *Faculty of Pharmacy Seminar Series, University of Sydney*, Sydney, September.

Krass I. (2005). Invited oral presentation. Disease state management (DSM) in type 2 diabetes (past and current research). *Community Pharmacy Southern Convention and Exhibition*, Melbourne, July.

Mohammed Abdul MI. (2005). Herb-drug interactions and the anticoagulant warfarin. *Faculty of Pharmacy Seminar Series, University of Sydney*, Sydney, October.

Moles R. (2005). Pharmacy services in New South Wales private hospitals. *Faculty of Pharmacy Seminar Series, University of Sydney*, Sydney, August.

Peterson-Clark G. (2005). The use of internet-based medicines information by consumers and pharmacists. *Faculty of Pharmacy Seminar Series, University of Sydney*, Sydney, October.

Razmovski T. (2005). Characterisation of *Gynostemma pentaphyllum saponins* affecting cholesterol homeostasis. *Faculty of Pharmacy Seminar Series, University of Sydney*, Sydney, July.

Roberts A. (2005). Practice change in community pharmacy. *Faculty of Pharmacy Seminar Series, University of Sydney*, Sydney, October.

Slader C. (2005). Use of complementary and alternative medicines in asthma. *Asthma Educators Association (NSW) Professional Development Day, Royal Prince Alfred Hospital*, Sydney, October.

Thank you to all who contributed to the Newsletter.