

## Meeting Report from 28th Annual GLC Scientific Meeting

Friday, June 26, 2015  
Feinberg School of Medicine, Northwestern University  
Chicago, IL 60611, USA

The Great Lakes Chapter of ASPET held its annual meeting on June 26, 2015 at Feinberg School of Medicine, Northwestern University, Chicago. Over 170 pharmacologists attended the meeting including 72 undergraduate and graduate students and 18 post-doctoral fellows. Attendees included researchers from University of Illinois at Chicago, Rush University Medical Center, Rosalind Franklin University, Midwestern University, Northwestern University, Lake Forest College, Loyola University Chicago, Lurie's Children Hospital, The University of Chicago, University of Wisconsin Parkside, University of Michigan, Ohio State University, Indiana University School of Medicine, Benedictine University, Corning Life Sciences, ReproCell, AbbVie, Integrated DNA Technologies, Fisher Scientific, ACEA Biosciences, Pharmaconsultant, Inc., Promega Corporation and EMD Millipore, Biotix, Inc., BMG Labtech, Inc., Cayman Chemical, Cell Signaling, Diagenode, Essen Biosciences, Olympus, Sigma-Aldrich, Thermo-Fisher Sci.,

The following was the schedule of the 2015 Program:

8:30 am –10:30 am -     - Registration;  
                                  - Continental Breakfast;  
                                  - Poster Session;

8:30 am –12:00 pm     - Vendor Exhibit;

### **Young Investigators symposium –**

10:45 am - 11:00 am – **David L Ebenezer**, PhD Student, University of Chicago; “Epigenetic Role of Sphingolipids in Lung Inflammation and Injury”

11:00 am - 11:15 am – **Ankit Gupta**, Post-doctoral Fellow, University of Chicago; “The Role of Hypoxia in Vasculogenesis”

11:15 am - 11:30 am – **Kitman Tsang**, Post-doctoral Fellow, University of Chicago; “Targeting Epigenetic Regulatory Proteins Using Genetically Encoded Inhibitors”

11:30 am - 11:45 am – **Ishvariya Venkatesh**, Post-doctoral Fellow, Marquette University; “Epigenetic Regulation of CST Axon Regeneration”

12:00 pm -12:15 pm – **Paul Amit**, Graduate Student, University of Illinois at Chicago; “A 3D High-Content/High-Throughput Screening Platform to Enhance Multilineage Stem Cell Differentiation and Improve Human Pancreatic Islet Viability”

12:15 pm - 1:15 pm     – Lunch and Learn Career Workshop;

### **SCIENTIFIC SYMPOSIUM – “Stem Cells: Current and Future Use in Pharmacology”**

1:30 pm - 1:45 pm     – Welcome and Opening Remarks (Sanda Predescu, PhD – GLC ASPET President, 2013 – 2015 and Alfred L George, Jr., MD, Magerstadt Professor and Chair, Department of Pharmacology, Feinberg School of Medicine, Northwestern University

- 1:45 pm - 2:30 pm – Keynote Address: **John Christman, MD**, The Ohio State University, Wexner Medical Center – “Epigenetic Regulation of Macrophage Gene Expression in ARDS Associated with Severe Sepsis”
- 2:35 pm - 3:05 pm – **Ali Shilatifard, PhD**, Feinberg School of Medicine, Northwestern University – “Enhancer Malfunction in Cancer”
- 3:05 pm - 3:20 pm – Coffee break
- 3:20 pm - 3:50 pm – **Tao Pan, PhD**, The University of Chicago – “Dynamic RNA Modifications in the Regulation of Gene Expression”
- 3:55 pm - 4:25 pm – William N Pappano, PhD, AbbVie – “Interrogating Histone Methyltransferases as Oncology Targets”
- 4:25 pm - 4:55 pm – **Jindan Yu, PhD**, Feinberg School of Medicine, Northwestern University – “lncRNA Regulation of Androgen Receptor Signaling and Prostate Cancer”
- 5:00 pm - 5:30 pm – Business Meeting and Awards Presentation  
Election Results and Bylaws  
Awards (Ricardo Monzon, Senior Poster Judge)  
A panel of judges interacted with the poster presenters and cash prizes were given to the top posters in the following categories:

### **Undergraduate Students**

**First Place** – Sally Jo Deloff – “The Mystery of Tight Junction Dysfunction: Are Cytokines Involved in Bile Acid Action In the Colon?” – Benedictine University, Lisle IL

**Second Place** – Saul Bello Rojas – “Insights into Parkinson’s Disease: Evaluation of Splice Variants and C-terminal Truncations of  $\alpha$ -Synuclein in Yeast”, Neuroscience Program, Lake Forest College, Lake Forest, IL

**Third Place** – Rachel Granberg, “Sex differences in the development of parvalbumin and calretinin interneurons in the rat prefrontal cortex during adolescence”, Department of Cellular and Molecular Pharmacology, The Chicago Medical School at Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Science, North Chicago, IL

### **Graduate Students**

**First Place** – **Daniel C. Pipilas** - “Novel Calmodulin Mutations Cause Congenital Long QT Syndrome and Affect Calcium Current in Human Cardiomyocytes”, Feinberg School of Medicine, Northwestern University, Chicago.

**Second Place** – **Hemraj Dodiya** – “Colonic inflammation in earlier cases of Parkinson’s disease”, Departments of Pharmacology, Gastroenterology & Neurological Sciences at Rush University Medical Center, Chicago

#### **Third Place**

**A.R. Mehta** – “Direct Conversion of resident oligodendrocytes progenitor cells into mature neurons with subtype specification”, The Chicago Medical School at Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Science, North Chicago, IL

**Katie Trella** – “Treadmill running promotes epigenetic changes in a murine model of tendon repair”, Rush University Medical Center, Chicago

### **Post-doctoral Fellows**

**First Place – Eden Flores-Barrera**, “ Early adolescent social defeat stress results in impaired prefrontal inhibitory control in adulthood”, Department of Cellular and Molecular Pharmacology, The Chicago Medical School at Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Science, North Chicago, IL

**Second Place – Mahsa Moaddab**, - “Chronic morphine decreases oxytocin-induced excitation of nucleus accumbens shell neurons”, Centre of Neuroendocrinology, and Department of Physiology, University of Otago, New Zealand

**Third Place – Xiagpeng Liu** - “Proteome-wide profiling of the specific targets of ubiquitin activating enzymes Uba1 and Uba6 by a novel Orthogonal Ubiquitin Transfer (OUT) technology”, Departments of Pharmacology, Northwestern University;

#### **Election results; 2015 - 2017**

GLC ASPET – President, Eric Blomme, DVM, PHD, DACVP, Abbvie;

GLC ASPET – Vice-President, Phillip Kopf, PhD Midwestern University;

GLC ASPET Councilors, Murali Prakriya, PhD & Megumi Yamashita, DDS, PhD, Northwestern University, Yuru Liu, PhD, UIC, Marieke R. Gilmartin, PhD, Marquette University;

**GLC ASPET, Outstanding Service Award** – Dr. Walter Prozialeck, PhD, Midwestern University, Past-President GLC ASPET & Sanda Predescu, PhD, Ex-President GLC ASPET

#### **Bylaws Amendment – Approved:**

##### **Revised text:**

Section 6.09 ***Election and Term of Office***. Directors shall be elected by written ballot at the Annual Members Meeting by the attending members. The terms of office shall be as follows: President: 2 years; Vice President: 2 years, Secretary: 3 years, Treasurer, 3 years; Councilors: 2 years. *Officers of the corporation (President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer), will be limited to a maximum of 3 terms, either in the same position or a combination of different positions, that include councilor.* Each officer shall hold office until the first of the following occurs: his or her successor shall have been duly elected and shall have qualified; his or her death or disability, or he or she shall resign in writing; or he or she shall have been removed in the manner hereinafter provided. The Board of Directors may vote on an interim officer to fill all a vacancy until the next election at the Annual GLC meeting.

The GLC-ASPET Executive Committee gratefully acknowledges financial support for the meeting from: ASPET, Feinberg School of Medicine, Northwestern University, Department of Pharmacology, Medical College of Wisconsin, Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Science (College of Pharmacy & Department of Pharmacology) and Rush University. We also gratefully acknowledge the following for their support *in kind* contributions: Midwestern University, Victoria Sears (Midwestern University, Department of Pharmacology) and Dr. Walter Prozialeck (Midwestern University, Chicago College of Osteopathic Medicine & Department of Pharmacology), Dr. Jim O'Donnell, Pharmaconsultant, Inc., and Dr. William Beck, UIC.

Support by the following vendor exhibitors is gratefully acknowledged: Corning, Integrated DNA Technologies, ACEA Biosciences, Promega Corporation, BMG Labtech, Cayman Chemical, Cell Signaling, Diagenode, Essen Biosciences, Olympus, Promega, Sigma-Aldrich, and Fisher Scientific and Thermo Fisher Scientific.