

June 2010

In this Issue:

- > From the Director
- > 2010 Career and Poster Day
- > MGPA welcomes new leadership
- > Biostatistics help for researchers
- > ECOR representatives
- > Spotlight on honors and awards
- > Upcoming programs

A newsletter for the MGH Research Community

From the ORCD Director, Tayyaba Hasan, PhD

In this summer 2010 issue of the ORCD newsletter, we welcome new leadership to the Mass General Postdoc Association, and give you important resources to aid your research and your career. These resources include: advice for the

new NIH grant format, information on biostatistics consultations available at MGH, and an introduction to the faculty representatives elected to ECOR, the Executive Committee on Research. We hope you find this information useful and encourage you to

contact the ORCD with your questions and ideas. Enjoy the days of summer!

Warmly,
Tayyaba
T. Hasan, PhD
ORCD Director



Announcing the 5th Annual ORCD Poster Celebration and **New Career Day: Join us in October !**

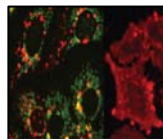
The ORCD is excited to announce that the 2010 Poster Celebration will also be a Career Day. Historically held in June, the 2010 event has been moved to October to accommodate the new format. We are pleased to invite Research Fellows *and* Instructors to submit abstracts and share their research findings with the MGH community.

The best traditions of past Poster Celebrations will remain, including awards and cash prizes for top-ranked posters. In addition, members of local biomedical companies and selected academic leaders will be invited. Two panel discussions, focused on careers in academia and industry, will take place in the morning. And,

industry representatives will have information tables in the Bulfinch tent near the posters. The abstract book will also be reformatted to allow space for each lead author to include biosketch information.

Abstract submissions will open in July. Because 2010 Poster and Career Day will be a public event, we urge all participants to consider whether your poster will disclose an invention that has possible commercial application. Information will be available with the abstract application to guide you on this important topic.

The 2010 Poster Celebration and Career Day will take place on October 29th – See you there!



Grant Writing: Guidance on the new NIH format and review process

On April 30th, the ORCD ran its sixth grant writing workshop. Attendees heard from three MGH faculty with extensive grant writing and study section experience: Sylvie Breton, PhD, Leo Cheng, PhD and Keith Miller, PhD. They offered advice on the new NIH grant format (12 pages!) and the new peer review process. Handouts from these very informative talks are available on the ORCD web site.

Mass General Postdoc Association (MGPA) Welcomes New Leaders

A message from outgoing MGPA Board leaders: The MGPA recently called for and collected nominations for the elected positions of co-chair (2 positions) and executive administrator (1 position) with the rule that in order to be eligible, nominees had to attend at

least two of the monthly MGPA board meetings in the past year. Because the number of eligible nominees exactly matched the number of open positions, elections were not necessary. We welcome new Co-chairs Tooba Cheema, PhD and

Erroll Rueckert, PhD and Executive Administrator Hilary Luderer, PhD. *A message from the newly appointed MGPA Board leaders:* We would like to thank outgoing co-chairs Adnan Abu-Yousif and Erik Hett and outgoing Executive Administrator Jonas Dyhrfeld-Johnsen for their fantastic leadership over the past year. We hope that our current MGPA Board can expand upon existing initiatives, and create new programs for MGH postdocs. All postdocs are invited to join the MGPA. For more information, please email us at: mgpa@partners.org.



2010-2011 MGPA leaders Tooba Cheema, Hilary Luderer and Erroll Rueckert take charge of the Postdoc Association this month.

Volunteer with Science Club for Girls

The Science Club for Girls provides free after-school programs for K-12th grade girls belonging to groups that are under-represented in the sciences. Girls work with mentor-scientists who model and foster leadership, affirm college as an expectation, and promote careers in science and technology as goals and options. MGH Research Fellow Jenny Tam recently won an HMS Dean's Community Service Award for her work with Science Club for Girls. We encourage other researchers to consider volunteering with this great organization. For more information, see www.scienceclubforgirls.org.

Got Statistics?

The MGH **Biostatistics Unit** supports MGH investigators undertaking basic research projects. Drawing on a team of highly skilled biostatisticians, the Biostatistics Unit offers consultations and expertise on a range of relevant areas to researchers as they launch new translational and basic research projects including:

- Grant submission/ resubmission
- Design for non-grant projects and feasibility consultations
- Education on a statistical topic
- Analysis planning and advice
- Assistance with response to a manuscript/journal review

This critical area of support could be the edge that you need to get your research published and funded, and we urge all researchers in need of statistics advice to contact the Biostatistics Unit.

Consulting for basic science projects is sponsored by ECOR, and can be accessed by contacting Dr. Dianne Finkelstein, Director of Biostatistics.



Dianne Finkelstein, PhD
dfinkelstein@partners.org

<http://hedwig.mgh.harvard.edu/biostatistics/groups>

Meet Your Faculty Representatives Elected to the MGH Executive Committee on Research (ECOR)

The MGH Executive Committee on Research (ECOR) has existed since 1947 with responsibility for strategic planning and policy-making for the hospital's research enterprise. ECOR is a standing committee of the General Executive Committee (GEC) of the MGH.

Its membership includes two elected representatives from each of the three HMS faculty ranks (Assistant Professor, Associate Professor, and Professor), as well as representatives elected from the Chief's Council, and appointed faculty members and senior management, including the MGH President and the MGPO

President. The committee meets twice per month.

ECOR also hosts monthly Research Council meetings which are open to all members of the MGH research community. The ECOR elected representatives serve as the Research Council Executive Committee, and the Research Council chair and co-chair are the two full-professor elected representatives to ECOR (chair: Dennis Brown, PhD; co-chair: Marjorie Oettinger, PhD).

Other faculty representatives serve on important ECOR sub-committees, including the sub-committee on graduate education, co-chaired by Sue Slaughaupt,

PhD and Kristin White, PhD; and the sub-committee on communications, chaired by Randy Peterson, PhD.

Your elected representatives communicate the needs of MGH research scientists to ECOR, and by extension to the MGH General Executive Committee (GEC). They look forward to hearing from researchers, and communicating ECOR news at Research Council.

The next Research Council meeting will be on Tuesday, September 7, 2010. The ECOR representatives will be at that meeting to hear your thoughts or concerns, or feel free to email them anytime.

Professors



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Spotlight on MGH Researchers' Honors and Awards

The Office for Research Career Development would like to congratulate the following MGH faculty and fellows for their recent professional honors:

Darrell R. Borger, PhD

Distinguished Doctorate Alumni Award, University of South Carolina School of Medicine

Xandra Breakefield, PhD

Elected Vice-President, American Society of Gene and Cell Therapy

Jeffrey M. Ellenbogen, MD

Certificate of Distinction in Teaching for Undergraduate Course: "The Sleeping

Brain." Derek Bok Center for Teaching and Learning

Tayyaba Hasan, PhD

Elected President, American Society for Photobiology

Martin S. Hirsch, MD

Awarded Honorary Degree from Hamilton College

David C. Hooper, MD

President-elect of the American Society for Microbiology

Anne Klibanski, MD

William Silen Lifetime Achievement in Mentoring Award

Jeannie T. Lee, MD, PhD

2010 Molecular Biology Award from the National Academy of Sciences

Prakash Rai, PhD

2010 AACR Merck Scholar-in-Training Award

Jenny Tam, PhD

HMS Dean's Community Service Award, Science Club for Girls

Bakhos A. Tannous, PhD

Outstanding Young Investigator Award, Society of Gene and Cell Therapy

Rochelle Walensky, MD, MPH

HMS 2010 Young Mentor Award Fellow – Amer. College of Physicians

Mark Your Calendar! June-July Programs for Researchers

English as a Second Language Call for Applications

The ORCD is offering an 8-week summer course in ESL, for non-native speakers of English who need some help with their language skills. This comprehensive course covers grammar, vocabulary, speaking skills, and written skills. Classes meet one evening per week beginning June 21. Please register only if you can devote the full 8 weeks to the course.

Application deadline, June 7
Applications available at:
www.massgeneral.org/orcd

Review, Revise, Resubmit: Getting to the Next Step in Publishing

Do you wonder where to start when journal article reviews are returned to you? This seminar will focus on responding to reviewers' and editors' comments on your scientific journal submissions. Dr. Julie Ingelfinger will outline steps to help you productively address reviews and maximize your chances at publication.

Monday, June 14, 2010
Noon – 1:30 pm
Thier Conference Room

Making New Contacts: Learning to Network Strategically

This seminar is designed to improve your professional networking skills, including using the internet and social networking sites to advance your career. Presented by Brianna Blaser, PhD, of AAAS.

Wednesday, June 16, 2010
12:00 – 1:00 pm
Simches Auditorium

Interviewing Skills

This seminar will walk you through every step of the job interview process, from initial phone interviews, to preparing for the big day, to following up with interviewers. Presented by Brianna Blaser, PhD, of AAAS.

Wednesday, June 16, 2010
3:00 – 4:00 pm
Simches Auditorium

Volunteer! Special Olympics

Sponsored by the MGPA, this volunteer opportunity for postdocs will help the track and field events by measuring jumps, timing races and cheering for athletes. Donate your time and make a difference!

Saturday, June 19, 2010
11:00 am – 4:00 pm

HMS Academic Career Advancement Series: Investigation

Learn what it takes to get promoted in your area of excellence. *Panelists:* Tayyaba Hasan, PhD, Professor of Dermatology, and Mary Walsh, PhD, HMS Assistant Dean for Faculty Affairs. *Moderator:* Stephen Calderwood, MD, Morton N. Swartz MD Academy Professor of Medicine.

Tuesday, June 22, 2010
4:00 – 5:30 pm
Thier Conference Room
Register: cfid@partners.org

Film Screening at CNY: Naturally Obsessed: The Making of a Scientist

This documentary film shows a true story of the struggle to become a scientist and the triumph of making a discovery. Billed as "a dynamic, nail-biting and honest review of life in the lab," the film will be presented with refreshments and a post-film discussion with MGPA postdoc leaders.

Friday, June 25, 2010
12:00 – 1:30 pm
CNY: Building 149, Room 7231

Postdoc Parents Lunch

Are you juggling parenthood with your postdoctoral training? Do you hope to become a parent during your postdoc years? Come learn about valuable resources at MGH, and learn from the experiences of a panel of postdoc parents.

Wednesday, June 30, 2010
11:30 am – 1:00 pm
Thier Conference Room

Invention Liaison Program Panel Discussion

You have an idea or discovery in the lab... Who owns the idea? ...How do you protect it? This panel discussion will introduce you to a program in which faculty liaisons serve as a resource on all aspects of technology commercialization, including issues related to internal processes, intellectual property issues, technology assessment, and policy concerns.

Thursday, July 1, 2010
12:00 – 1:00 pm
Thier Conference Room

Unless otherwise noted, please contact orcd@partners.org with questions or to register.

For newsletter questions or submissions, contact the editor: Ann M. Skoczenski, PhD askoczenski@partners.org
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