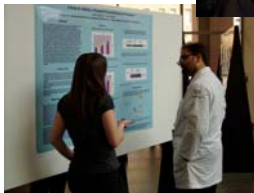


# MasterS Connection

Jefferson College of Graduate Studies MS Student eNEWS



## 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Sigma Xi Student Research Day a Big Success



The 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Sigma Xi Research Day was held 2 April 2008 at Thomas Jefferson University in the new Dorrance H. Hamilton Building. Ninety-six posters were presented this year. Presenters were graduate and professional students in the three TJU colleges and undergraduate students from the region. The Research Day is jointly sponsored by the Jefferson College of Graduate Studies, Jefferson Medical College and the TJU Chapter of Sigma Xi. The 18 undergraduate posters were from Drew University, King's College, Haverford College, Temple University, Richard Stockton College, Ursinus College, University of Delaware, University of Pennsylvania, and West Chester University. TJU Faculty judged the posters from TJU participants. The undergraduate posters were judged by TJU faculty who teamed with TJU graduate students. Master of Science students presented posters this year. The winners were Amrita Dawn and Mary Ryan from the MS program in biomedical sciences. Congratulations to these winners!

Following the research poster presentations and judging in the new Hamilton Building Conrady Lobby, Dr. Bonnie Bassler, Professor of Molecular Biology at Princeton University presented the 2008 William Potter

Lecture: "Small Talk: Cell-to-Cell Communication in Bacteria." Dr. Bassler was introduced by Dr. James Keen, Dean of the College of Graduate Studies and Dr. Rene Daniels, TJU Chapter President of Sigma Xi. Dr. Bassler is a recipient of a MacArthur Fellowship, a member of the National Academy of Sciences and a HHMI Investigator. Prior to the lecture, Dr. Bassler met with interested faculty and graduate students. Following the lecture, which was presented in the new Connelly Auditorium in the Hamilton Building, Sigma Xi Research Awards were presented to 15 winners. After the award ceremony, a reception for faculty, staff and especially the award recipients, was held in the Conrady Lobby of the Hamilton Building.

The TJU Sigma Xi Chapter and its officers would once again like to thank the faculty and student judges, the Graduate Student Association, the student participants, and many others that donated their time and skills to make this year's event the success it continues to be.



*Images taken by: Dr. D.M. Gross*

**The 2008 Award Winners**

# April Thesis Presentations

## JCGS Alumni Day

Friday, 18 April 2008

Please join the alumni, faculty and staff for this special event.

- Distinguished Alumni Award Lecture by Dr. Thomas B. Knudsen ('81) of the US EPA at 4.00 PM in the Hamilton Bldg., Rm. 505.
- Cocktail Reception in the Lobby of the Hamilton Bldg. 5.00–6.30 PM and an address on the State of the University by Dr. Robert Barachi, President of TJU.
- Student and Post-doctoral poster presentations and building tours: 6.30–7.00 PM
- Dinner in the Lobby of the Hamilton Bldg. 7.00–9.30 PM.
- Presentation of the Alumni Association Life Membership Award to Dr. Jeffrey L. Benovic, Professor and Chair, Biochemistry & Molecular Biology, TJU.

## Information Session

*Tell your friends!*

Wednesday, 14 May 2008,

5.30 PM – 7.00 PM

Jefferson Alumni Hall,  
The Jefferson Club

Light dinner will be served.

RSVP: Ella Henderson  
3-0154 or  
[msbasicsciences@jefferson.edu](mailto:msbasicsciences@jefferson.edu)



Please make every effort to attend the presentations this term. Your presence will not only provide peer support for your fellow students, but also provide you with an excellent opportunity to become familiar with what will be expected when you have completed your research. If you have not yet selected a thesis topic, you may get some ideas from your peers!

**Thursday, 24 April JAH 139**

### Biomedical Sciences

**Donna Brennan:** Adhesion molecules as mediators of cell signaling—proteolytic processing of desmoglein 2 in cell growth and survival.

**Vanessa Mitchell:** Analysis of FGF23, GALNT3, SAMD9, and KL genes in scleroderma patients with cutaneous calcinosis.

**Paulina Oca:** TGF $\beta$  regulation of ANKH (*Progressive Ankylosis*) expression in ATDC5 cells.

**Joshua Walker:** Characterization of K-Cl isoform, KCC2, and the effects of phosphorylation on protein localization.

### Pharmacology

**Francisco Almeida:** Fas ligand neutralization prolongs IgE-mediated airway inflammation in a murine challenge model.

**Kimberly Roland:** The role of shear stress in SK&F-82526-J (Fenoldopam) induced mesenteric vascular injury of rats.

**Nancy Diaz-Granados:** A comparison of methods for the ascertainment of adverse drug reactions of antidepressant medications.

### Microbiology

**Stephen Soltys:** Purification of adeno-associated virus serotypes 1-9 through ion-exchange chromatography; a direct comparison to cesium chloride purification.

**Elizabeth Cunningham:** A media and advocacy analysis to gain knowledge and formulate educational strategies for the current pharmaceutical and patient support environments regarding soft tissue sarcoma, renal cell carcinoma, ovarian cancer and breast cancer.

## Postdoctoral Research Symposium

The 3rd Annual Postdoctoral Research Symposium and Career Fair will be held on 24 June 2008 at Thomas Jefferson University in the Blumle Life Sciences Building and the new Dorrance H. Hamilton Building. The event will be highlighted by a mix of oral and poster presentations of research carried out by TJU postdoctoral fellows.

The keynote speaker will be Dr. Robert J. Lefkowitz, Professor of Medicine and Biochemistry at Duke University and a HHMI Investigator. His address will be at 4.00 PM. There will be an award ceremony and reception following the lecture.

Please support our postdoctoral fellows and take advantage of the Vendor and Career Fair. Please contact [Lisa.Kozlowski@Jefferson.edu](mailto:Lisa.Kozlowski@Jefferson.edu) if you have any questions or visit the web site for the symposium agenda and a list of sponsors.