Ninth Annual Postdoctoral Research Symposium

Tuesday, May 20th, 2014

The Jefferson Postdoctoral Association and the Jefferson Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences (JGSBS) Office of Postdoctoral Affairs will host the 9th Annual Jefferson Postdoctoral Research Symposium (PRS) on Tuesday, May 20, 2014. The oral presentations and keynote address will be in the Connelly Auditorium in the Hamilton Building (1001 Locust Street) and the poster presentations will be in the Hamilton lobby. The PRS will display the breadth and depth of the research done by postdocs here at Jefferson.

Once again this year, there will be two oral presentation sessions and a poster session. The poster session will include the “Early Discoveries” category, which is for postdocs to present work that is in the early stages, either due to the postdoc being at Jefferson for less than one year, or for a new project started within the past six months. This category will be judged separately, and prizes will be given for the best oral presentation and best poster in all sessions.

9th Annual PRS Agenda

The Keynote Speaker for the 2014 PRS will be Dr. Elaine Fuchs, a pioneer of reverse genetics, developer of the field of skin stem cells, and leader in the modernization of dermatology. Dr. on skin disease, stem cells, and the underlying bases for inherited human diseases and cancer. It has been said by her Dickson Prize nominator that she is among the most creative scientists worldwide. She is one of the ISI’s most highly cited researchers.

You may view Dr. Fuchs’ bio here and CV here.
The Distinguished Mentor Award, Friend of the JPA Award, and awards for best oral and poster presentations will be presented immediately following the keynote address.

All are invited to view the posters, attend the talks, and meet the postdoc presenters throughout the day. There will be a reception to close out the event in the lobby of the Hamilton building.

For more information please contact Lisa Kozlowski at the JGSBS Office of Postdoctoral Affairs at 215-503-5750 or Lisa.Kozlowski@jefferson.edu, or the PRS Planning Committee.

Fuchs is a Howard Hughes Medical Institute Investigator and the Rebecca C. Lancefield Professor in the Laboratory of Mammalian Cell Biology and Development at The Rockefeller University. Dr. Fuchs’ award winning research focuses
Ninth Annual Postdoctoral Research Symposium Agenda

Tuesday, May 20th, 2014

Dorrance H. Hamilton Building, 1001 Locust Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107

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<td>9:30-11:30</td>
<td>Poster Set-Up</td>
<td>Hamilton Lobby</td>
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<td>11:30-12:30</td>
<td>Oral Presentation Session I</td>
<td>Connelly Auditorium</td>
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<td>12:45-1:00</td>
<td>Light Lunch</td>
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<td>1:00-2:00</td>
<td>Oral Presentation Session II</td>
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<td>2:00-4:00</td>
<td>Poster Presentations and Judging</td>
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<td>3:30-4:00</td>
<td>Afternoon Coffee and Tea</td>
<td>Hamilton Lobby</td>
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<td>4:00-5:00</td>
<td>Keynote Address: <em>Stem Cells in silence, action and cancer</em></td>
<td>Connelly Auditorum, Hamilton Building</td>
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Keynote Speaker: Dr. Elaine Fuchs
Professor, HHMI and The Rockefeller University

5:00-5:30 Distinguished Mentor Award, Friend of the JPA Award
Connelly Auditorium, Hamilton Building

Lisa Kozlowski, PhD, Associate Dean, JGSBS
Mansi Khanna, PhD, President, JPA

Postdoc Oral and Poster Presentation Awards
Lisa Kozlowski, PhD, Associate Dean, JGSBS
Asha Ganesan, PhD, and Matt Schiewer, PhD
Co-Chairs, PRS Planning Committee

5:30-6:30 Reception
Hamilton Lobby
Elaine Fuchs is the Rebecca C. Lancefield Professor in Mammalian Cell Biology and Development at The Rockefeller University. She is also an Investigator, Howard Hughes Medical Institute. Fuchs has published nearly 300 papers and is internationally known for her research in skin biology, its stem cells and its associated human genetic disorders. Fuchs’ pioneered “reverse genetics,” a method of starting with protein and working one’s way up to elucidating the genetic basis of the human disorder that is caused by its mutations. Fuchs has applied her strategy to elucidate the genetic bases of a number of blistering skin disorders and tumors. Her current research focuses on stem cells, the long-lived cells of our body that allow tissues to replace dying cells and repair wounds. Using skin as a model, Fuchs explores the unique properties of skin stem cells that allow them to both replenish themselves (self-renew) and also maintain and regenerate the epidermis and its appendages such as sweat glands and hair follicles. She studies how resident stem cells of the skin communicate and respond to their local neighbors (their “niche”) and how these signals prompt them to adjust their program of gene expression and begin to make tissue, and how new signals instruct them when to stop once enough tissue has been made. By studying these basic properties of stem cells, Fuchs’ team has made major contributions towards understanding how tissues repair injuries and how abnormalities in stem cell behavior can lead to cancers. Overall, for over three decades, Fuchs has continued to devise and employ innovative and imaginative approaches to biomedical research, with emphasis on the skin. Her recent breakthroughs include developing the technology to carry out genome-wide RNAi screens in mice for oncogenic regulators of growth.

Fuchs received her Ph.D. in Biochemistry from Princeton University, and after her postdoctoral research with Dr. Howard Green at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, she joined the faculty at the University of Chicago in 1980. She stayed there until 2002 when she relocated to The Rockefeller University. Fuchs’ past awards and honors include the Presidential Young Investigator Award, the Richard Lounsbery Award from the National Academy of Sciences, the Novartis-Drew Award for Biomedical Research, the Dickson Prize in Medicine, the FASEB Award for Scientific Excellence, the Beering Award, the National Medal of Science, the L’Oreal-UNESCO Award and Charlotte Friend Memorial Award from the American Association for Cancer Research. In 2011, she received the Madison Medal, Passano Award, and Albany Prize in Medicine (with Shinya Yamanaka and James Thompson), and in 2012 received the March of Dimes Prize (with Howard Green). In 2013, she received the Kligman-Frost Leadership Award from the Society of Investigative Dermatology, the Lifetime Achievement Award from the American Skin Foundation and the Pasarow Award for Cancer Research. In April 2014, she will receive the Pezcoller Award from the American Association of Cancer Research. Fuchs is also an elected member of the National Academy of Sciences, The Institute of Medicine, American Academy of Arts and Sciences, American Philosophical Society, European Molecular Biology Organization (foreign member) and the inaugural group of 100 Fellows of the American Association for Cancer Research. She holds honorary doctorates from Mt. Sinai/New York University School of Medicine and from the University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana. Fuchs is also a past President of the American Society of Cell Biology, the International Society for Stem Cell Research and Harvey Society, and is on the Board of Governors of the New York Academy of Sciences. She has trained over 25 graduate students and 100 postdoctoral fellows, many of whom are now independent researchers at major academic universities and medical schools throughout the world.