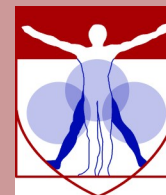


Musculoskeletal Messenger



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University of Pennsylvania Penn Center for Musculoskeletal Disorders

A Look Back at the PCMD Annual Scientific Symposium - November 14, 2012

We are thrilled to announce that we had 170 registrants for the 9th Annual Penn Center for Musculoskeletal Disorders Scientific Symposium in the BRB Auditorium/Lobby on November 14, 2012!

The keynote speaker, Constance R. Chu, M.D., Albert B. Ferguson, Jr. MD Endowed Chair in Orthopaedic Surgery Professor; Vice Chairman for Translational Research; and Director, Cartilage Restoration Center at The University of Pittsburgh gave a well-received lecture titled "Osteoarthritis: From Palliation to Prevention." Symposium attendees enjoyed several scientific presentations from new Center members Drs.

John Kelly, X. Sherry Liu and Viviane Khoury and PCMD Pilot Grant recipients Drs. Jaimo Ahn, Motomi Enomoto-Iwamoto and Olena Jacenko. While at the symposium, attendees had the opportunity to view 48 posters which were judged in five categories. The following poster winners received prizes:

Chandra Abhishek (3rd place), Colleen Larmour (2nd place), and Michael Convente (1st place) for their winning posters in the Molecular Profiling Category; Feliks Kogan (2nd place), Uday Palukuru (3rd place) and Chandra Abhishek (1st place) for their winning posters in the Imaging Category; Congratulations to Mona

Mukaddam (3rd place), Julianne Holloway (tied 1st place), and Brianne Connizzo (tied 1st place) for their winning posters in the Biomechanics Category; Satoru Otsuru (1st place), Federica Sgariglia (3rd place) and Joseph Chiaro (2nd place) for their winning posters in the Histology Category; Michael Dishowitz (3rd place), Tristan Driscoll (2nd place), and Andria Culbert (1st place) for their winning posters in the Miscellaneous Category. Pictures from the Symposium are available at www.med.upenn.edu/pcmd/2012SymposiumPictures.shtml.

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If you have any news or information that you would like included in the next issue of this newsletter, please email us at:
pcmd@mail.med.upenn.edu

PCMD Pilot and Feasibility Grant Program Opportunity

The Penn Center for Musculoskeletal Disorders is once again accepting applications for its Pilot and Feasibility Grant Program. Submissions should be related to musculoskeletal tissue injury and repair which is the broad focus of the Center and Grants are only eligible for Full Members (if you are not a Full member but would like to become one, please contact us at pcmd@mail.med.upenn.edu).

Pilot grants will be due on March 1, 2013 with a planned start date of July 1, 2013 and we are expecting to award 3 new grants in this round.

Submissions should be related to musculoskeletal tissue injury and repair which is the broad focus of the Center. For more information on our Cores and Center in general, please see our web site at www.med.upenn.edu/pcmd.

Eligibility

- Only Full Members are eligible. If you are not currently a member, please visit our web site at www.med.upenn.edu/pcmd/memberinfo.shtml
- Categories of applicants include: 1) Established investigators with a proposal to test the feasibility of a new or innovative idea in musculoskeletal tissue injury and repair representing a

(continued on page 2)

Remember to include reference to support from the Center in your abstracts and publications. Cite Grant NIH/NIAMS P30AR050950 from the National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal And Skin Diseases of the NIH.

Pilot and Feasibility Grant Program (cont'd)

clear and distinct departure from their ongoing research, 2) Established investigators with no previous work in musculoskeletal tissue injury and repair interested in testing the applicability of their expertise on a problem in this area, and 3) New investigators without significant extramural grant support as a Principal Investigator to develop a new project.

- Pilot and Feasibility Grants should use at least one of the Center's Research cores.
- Pilot project awardees are eligible for one year, with a second year to be considered (budgets will be for \$20-35,000 per year and timelines should be for one or two years).

- A second year of funding, the dollar amount of which would only be for up to half the year one budget, will be considered based on the progress report submitted after the first year of funding and funding availability in the Center. Please note that second year funding will most often not be awarded, and when awarded, will be done so primarily to new investigators; second year funding to senior investigators will be quite rare.
- It is expected that these Pilot grants will lead to funding through other independent, extramural mechanisms. Therefore, the likelihood of future extramural funding will enter into the evaluation of these proposals. For format

guidelines please visit our website www.med.upenn.edu/pcmd/pilotgrants.shtml



PCMD FUNDS AVAILABLE: Summary Statement Driven Funding Request

If you have a recent summary statement from an NIH grant (eligible NIH mechanisms include all "R" grants such as R03, R21 and R01 and "P" grants such as P20, P50, P60 on their first submission – please inquire regarding eligibility of other proposal mechanisms) which requires you to run additional experiments, gather additional data, provide feasibility for an approach, or similar, we can provide small funds (\$1,000-\$15,000) with a very short turn-around time in order to allow you to complete these experiments and resubmit your proposal with the best chance of success. Requests for funding will be evaluated on a rolling basis and priority will be given to Assistant Professors with encouraging initial review priority scores better than ~30-35%. The format of the "Summary Statement Driven Funding Request", which is limited to one page, is as follows.

- ◇ Name of PI (must be a PCMD full member)
- ◇ Title of Project Request
- ◇ Specific Purpose of Request with Stated Outcome/Goal Referring Explicitly to the Summary Statement for Justification
- ◇ Research Design and Methods
- ◇ Budget with Brief Justification

In addition to the one page proposal, the PDF of the complete summary statement must be provided. Funding through this mechanism is available by submitting the one page proposal and summary statement to pcmd@mail.med.upenn.edu.

Core Seed Grant Funding Available!

As you know, NIH has funded our Penn Center for Musculoskeletal Disorders (PCMD) for another five-year period. This allows us to continue our Seed Grant program with funds residing in the Center's Research Cores. The purpose of this program is to provide small seed grants to PCMD investigators who are active in musculoskeletal research that fits within the scope of the Center's overall objectives, as a means to generate pilot data in support of a future grant application.

If you wish to benefit from this opportunity with a small project that uses one of our core resources, please provide a brief description including specific aims and budget, not exceeding one page, to the appropriate core director (see below for contact information). There are no restrictions as far as the use of the funds are concerned except that they cannot be spent on equipment. The current cap is \$6,000.

Core Director Contact Information

- **Molecular Profiling Core Director** – Vivianna Van Deerlin, M.D., Ph.D. (vivianna@mail.med.upenn.edu)
- **Imaging Core Director** – Felix W. Wehrli, Ph.D. (wehrli@mail.med.upenn.edu)
- **Biomechanics Core Director** – Robert Mauck, Ph.D. (lemauck@mail.med.upenn.edu)
- **Histology Core Director** – Robert Pignolo, M.D., Ph.D. (pignolo@mail.med.upenn.edu)

Department of Orthopaedic Surgery renews 5-year, institutional training grant from National Institutes of Health

Congratulations to Dr. Soslowsky and the other training faculty for the successful competitive renewal of a NIH T32 Institutional Training Grant titled "Training in Musculoskeletal Research". This grant is in Year 37 which makes it one of the longest running grants at the NIH. This is an extremely competitive review process and this renewal application scored a perfect "ten" by the NIH review panel! The goal of this grant is to prepare bioengineers for an academic career in orthopaedic research as part of a broad program leading to the Ph.D. degree in Bioengineering. Training orthopaedic surgeons and bioengineers side-

by-side in the same laboratory, together with life scientists at various levels of training, will foster an environment conducive to research and education in the orthopaedic arena. Research areas represent a wide range of musculoskeletal problems including, but not limited to, the cellular and molecular biology of bone growth, repair, ossification, and maintenance; the etiology and pathogenesis of tendon and ligament injury, repair, and regeneration; factors for disc degeneration and restoration; biomimetic scaffolds; and functional tissue engineering. In addition to formal didactic coursework, training opportunities include a seminar series and

journal club. The primary facility is the McKay Orthopaedic Research Laboratory of the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery at the University of Pennsylvania. The multidisciplinary McKay Laboratory includes state-of-the-art facilities in Biochemistry, Bioengineering, Biophysics, Computation, Histology, Machine Shop, Molecular Biology, Specimen Preparation, and Cell and Tissue Culture. In addition, extensive laboratories throughout the Penn campus such as those of the Department of Bioengineering are available to the trainees.

Congratulations to PCMD Member, Kurt D. Hankenson, DVM, MS, PhD!

Kurt D. Hankenson, DVM, MS, PhD has been appointed as the first incumbent of the Dean W. Richardson Professorship in Equine Disease Research.

The Dean W. Richardson Professorship was established by Mr. and Mrs. M. Roy Jackson, following the hospitalization of their Kentucky Derby winner, Barbaro, at Penn Vet's New Bolton Center. Their desire to contribute to the treatment and elimination of laminitis was the catalyst for their gift to endow the professorship.

Mr. and Mrs. Jackson commented, "We are very pleased that this position has been filled and are confident that under Dr. Hankenson's leadership significant steps forward will be made in the study of laminitis and other equine musculoskeletal diseases. We have faith in Penn Veterinary Medicine's ability to do the kind of in-depth work that will bring about positive results."

Dr. Hankenson's career has included an impressive range of clinical and academic positions at both human and veterinary healthcare institutions, and currently holds a faculty position at Penn Vet and at

Penn's Perelman School of Medicine.

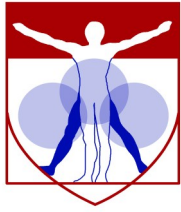
Surgeon Dr. Dean W. Richardson and his team cared for Barbaro for nine months, from May 2006 until January 2007. Dr. Richardson noted, "We are very excited to attract a scientist of this caliber to this position. In today's research environment, it will be an enormous advantage to have someone like Dr. Hankenson, who has a proven record of both research funding and productivity. He has a wide range of connections both here at Penn and throughout the scientific community. Dr. Hankenson's roots are in the horse world and he is sure to make major contributions to equine research."

Joan C. Hendricks, VMD, PhD, the Gilbert S. Kahn Dean of Veterinary Medicine, said that she is especially pleased at Dr. Hankenson's appointment.

"This is another example of Penn Vet's ability to attract and retain the very best and brightest in the field of veterinary medicine," said Dean Hendricks. "I am thrilled that Dr. Hankenson will be leading this endeavor and am confident that under his leadership, Penn Vet will remain at

the forefront of discovery for this debilitating disease." The goal of the Dean W. Richardson Professorship is the development of a world-leading research program directly applicable to equine diseases, with particular emphasis on improving the understanding, prevention, and treatment of equine laminitis. A debilitating, painful, and uncompromising condition, laminitis is the second leading killer of horses worldwide and is presently incurable. Winner of the 2006 Kentucky Derby and a beloved American icon, Barbaro suffered a catastrophic fracture during the running of the Preakness. After undergoing successful surgery at New Bolton Center, he developed severe laminitis that eventually led to his death. This Professorship serves as a lasting legacy of Barbaro.

University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine, 15 November, 2012.
www.vet.upenn.edu/PennVet/News/NewReleases/tabid/287/articleType/ArticleView/articleId/344/Kurt-D-Hankenson-DVM-MS-PhD-Named-to-the-Dean-W-Richardson-Professorship-in-Equine-Disease-Research-Position-at-Penn-Vet.aspx



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U.S. Department of Health
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Supported by the



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Upcoming Events

Tuesday, February 12, 2013, 1:30-2:30pm/ CRB Austrian Auditorium

Coupling Bone Resorption and Formation

Xu Cao, PhD, Lee Riley Professor and Co-Director
John Hopkins University

Tuesday, March 12, 2013, 1:30-2:30pm/ CRB Austrian Auditorium

**Co-sponsored by the Institute Of Aging*

Aging, Redox Signaling, and the Development of Osteoarthritis

Richard F. Loeser Jr, MD, Professor, Internal Medicine-Rheumatology & Immunology
Wake Forest School of Medicine

Tuesday, April 09, 2013, 1:30-2:30pm/ CRB Austrian Auditorium

Tendon Stem Cells, Tendinopathy, and Tendon Repair

James H-C. Wang, PhD, Associate Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery, Mechanical Engineering & Materials Science
University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine

Tuesday, May 07, 2013, 1:30-2:30pm
TBA

**Co-sponsored by the ITMAT Program
in Translational Biomechanics*

*Preclinical Models and Imaging of
Musculoskeletal Degeneration and
Regeneration*

Robert E. Guldberg, PhD., Director,
Institute for Bioengineering & Bio-
science; Professor of Mechanical
Engineering
Georgia Institute of Technology

PCMD Annual Scientific Symposium Scheduled for November 13, 2013

The PCMD is looking forward to the 10th Annual Scientific Symposium which will take place on November 13, 2013 in the BRB auditorium/lobby. The keynote speaker will be **Joan A. McGowan, Ph.D., Director, Division of Musculoskeletal Diseases, National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases (NIAMS) at the National Institutes of Health (NIH)**. The symposium will include moderated scientific sessions, lunch, and poster sessions. The day will conclude with Dr. McGowan's lecture, the presentation of poster awards and a reception. Last year's event featured ~50 posters and ~170 registrants. We are expecting another successful event this coming November. Please mark your calendar and be sure to check the PCMD website in the upcoming months for more information.