



# UAB DEPARTMENT OF MICROBIOLOGY

Micro Newsletter | Spring 2013

## Where in the World are Micro Trainees?



Technological advances have created a “smaller,” and sometimes, more complex world. As it has become easier to travel and communicate, more and more researchers are forming networks and collaborating on worldwide health issues. And the UAB Microbiology Department is taking part in this approach.

Mentors and Project Investigators are encouraging trainees to participate in a variety of travel and learning opportunities. By attending national and international conferences and doing one-on-one collaborations with researchers in other countries, students experience firsthand new ideas and methodologies. In these situations, they are oftentimes made aware of how their research figures into the process of improving patient health.

Travel opportunities available to the students have a two-fold benefit. For trainees, living and working in other countries and experiencing cultural differences increases their understanding of the variety of approaches to research. And, for the department, these trainees become representatives of UAB and the research work that is being done here. The trainees are able to establish significant relationships for themselves and for the school that might otherwise go undeveloped.

Students working on a Ph.D. in the UAB Microbiology Department have a wide variety of national and international opportunities relating to their projects. From studying abroad on the K-RITH Summer Program to attending the International Association for Dental Research in Seattle, Washington, Microbiology students are expanding their knowledge.

### South Africa

Jennifer Rowland, graduate student in the Department of Microbiology, and Nicholas Eustace, first year MD/PHD program student, were selected to participate in the K-RITH summer internship program. Jennifer, a student in the lab of Dr. Michael Niederweis and Nicholas will both work this summer with Andries Steyn, Ph.D., a UAB Microbiology faculty member who splits his time between K-RITH and UAB.

The global health initiative K-RITH (KwaZulu-Natal Research Institute for Tuberculosis and HIV) is based in a region with a high volume of TB and HIV cases. While there, Jennifer and Nicholas will spend 8 to 13 weeks in Durban, South Africa, working in state-of-the-art laboratories to address the crises of TB and HIV at the heart of the epidemic.

### Amsterdam

Kathryn Doornbos, a graduate student in Dr. Michael Niederweis’ lab, is one of five graduate students who received the 2013 Moses Sinkala Travel Scholarship which will enable her to do an 8-week collaboration with Dr. Wilbert Bitter at VU (Vrije Universiteit) in Amsterdam working on *Mycobacterium marinum*.

### Denver

Graduate student Jocelyn Hauser, a member of Dr. Janet Yother’s lab is one of only six students nationally to receive the prestigious 2013 Richard and Mary Finkelstein Student Travel Grant. In addition to funding Hauser’s

travel to the 113th General Meeting of the American Society of Microbiology, in Denver, Colorado the grant also qualifies her to present a poster and give a short presentation of her abstract, “Modulation of Capsule Production in *Streptococcus pneumoniae* by SpxB and Hydrogen Peroxide.”

### Seattle

Stephanie Garcia, a graduate student in Dr. Hui Wu’s lab was one of only six students internationally to receive a 2013 IADR Colgate Research in Prevention travel award, allowing her to attend the 91st General Session and Exhibition of the International Association for Dental Research in Seattle, Washington.

Dr. Wu’s lab, including Stephanie, Fan Zhu, Katherine Taylor, and Dr. Qiong Zhang, a visiting scientist from China attended the meeting in March. They were able to meet and share information with scientists in the fields of dental, oral, and craniofacial research.

“I will collaborate with Dr. Wilbert Bitter, at Vrije Universiteit in Amsterdam, who has a well-established zebrafish embryo infection model for *Mycobacterium marinum*,” explains Kathryn Doornbos.

# Faculty News

## UAB Program in Immunology NIH Training Grant Scores a Perfect 10

The [UAB Program in Immunology NIH Training Grant](#) has been renewed with a perfect score of 10! Drs. Harry [Schroeder](#) and Laurie [Harrington](#) (Director and Co-Director of the Training Program and Grant) announced the good news February 26, 2013.

The UAB Program in Immunology has more than 69 members on the UAB campus including 14 Primary and 20 Secondary Faculty in the Department of Microbiology. As Drs. Schroeder and Harrington indicated in their announcement: "The training grant was judged on the quality of the written application, the qualifications of the Program Director and Co-Director, the track record of the previous and current trainees, the quality of the institution, and the track records and qualifications of the mentors. A score of 10 indicates that the committee viewed our program faculty and trainees very favorably."

## Dokland to Join NIH Study Section

Dr. Terje Dokland will serve as a member of the Molecular Structure and Function C

Study Section, Center for Scientific Review, for the term beginning July 01, 2013 and ending June 30, 2019. "Members are selected on the basis of their demonstrated competence and achievement in their scientific discipline as evidenced by the quality of research accomplishments, publications in scientific journals, and other significant scientific activities, achievements and honors," says Richard Nakamura, Ph.D., Director of the Center for Scientific Review at NIH.

## Lefkowitz Discusses Microbiome Data Analysis

Dr. Elliot Lefkowitz describes some of the challenges involved in microbiome data analysis in a podcast on [The Mix at UAB](#). Additionally, the Winter 2013 edition of [UAB Medicine](#) explains UAB's involvement in this work.

## Microbiology Faculty and Staff Recognized for Service

Dr. Jiri Mestecky received top honor at the 2013 Service Awards Program luncheon on February 15. He is this year's longest tenured employee at 45 years of service.

Two other members of the Microbiology Department were honored at the luncheon. Janice D. King (research assistant for Dr. David Briles) and Ming Luo, Ph.D. have both completed 25 years of service.

Other service pins presented:

15 Years: Patricia Grayson, Xianzhen Hu, Christopher Klug, Kristina Sinclair, 10 Years: C. Scott Swindle, Ming Du, 5 Years: Jamil Saad, John David Osborne

## Chaplin Elected to Faculty Senate

In spring 2013, Dr. David Chaplin was elected to a two-year term on the UAB Faculty Senate. The [Faculty Senate](#) provides a voice for UAB's faculty in addressing a variety of matters that affect the University. Faculty representatives from all academic units make up the Senate.

The Microbiology Department thanks Dr. Peter Prevelige who completed his term on the Senate at this time.

We're on the web:

<http://www.uab.edu/microbiology>

## Useful Links

[Faculty Directory](#)

[Annual Retreat](#) **New!**

[Employee Site](#)

[Microbiology Seminar Series](#)

[BBRB Conference Rooms Schedule](#) **New!**

University of Alabama at Birmingham  
Department of Microbiology

845 19th Street South, BBRB 276-11  
Birmingham, Alabama  
35294-2170



## Upcoming Seminars

### {APRIL}

#### April 30, 2013 - Noon

Faculty Candidate, "TGF-beta Signaling in CD8 T Cell Homeostasis, Migration and Tissue Residency." Nu Zhang, Ph.D., Department of Immunology, University of Washington

### {MAY}

#### May 2, 2013 - 10 AM

Faculty Candidate, "Unraveling the Paradox of Type I Interferon in Autoimmune Disease: Lessons from Mice and Humans." Robert C. Axtell, Ph.D., Department of Neurology, Stanford University

#### May 7, 2013 - Noon

(Learning Resource Center Room 102)  
"A Systems Genetics Approach to Study Obesity, Dietary Interactions and the Microbiome." Brian Parks, Ph.D., UCLA

#### May 7, 2013 - 2 PM

Faculty Candidate, "The Intracellular Biology of the Human-Restricted Pathogen Salmonella Typhi." Stephanie Spanò, Ph.D., Yale University School of Medicine

#### May 9, 2013 - 10AM

Faculty Candidate, Diana Alvarez Arias, Ph.D., Department of Cancer Immunology & AIDS, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Boston

#### May 14, 2013 - Noon

Faculty Candidate, Egbert Hoiczky, Department of Molecular Microbiology and Immunology, John Hopkins University

#### May 21, 2013 - Noon

"A Proteomics View of the Dynamic Interplay between Viruses and Hosts." Ileana

Cristea, Asst. Professor of Microbiology, Princeton University

#### May 22, 2013 - Noon

Faculty Candidate, "V(D)J Recombination: New Insights into Long Range Control and End-joining Mechanisms." Chunguang Guo, Research Fellow, The Children's Hospital Boston, Harvard Medical School

#### May 28, 2013 - Noon

Faculty Candidate, "Otitis Media: A Polymicrobial Infection." William Edward Swords, Associate Professor, Department of Microbiology and Immunology, Wake Forest University, School of Medicine

#### May 30, 2013 - 10AM

Faculty Candidate, "Novel Mouse Models Give New Insight into the Function of NKG2D

Ligands in Immunity." Mary Alice Miller Markiewicz, Ph.D., Research Assistant Professor, Department of Pathology and Immunology, Washington University School of Medicine

### {JUNE}

#### June 4, 2013 - Noon

"Antibody responses to pathogens", Nicole Baumgarth, DVM, Ph.D., Professor Department of Pathology, Microbiology and Immunology, Center of Comparative Medicine, School of Veterinary Medicine, UC Davis

#### June 20, 2013 - 10AM

Faculty Candidate, Wenxian Fu, Ph.D., Department of Microbiology and Immunology, Harvard Medical School

## Alum News

### UAB Alumnus Speaks On Obesity May 7, 2013

Dr. Brian Parks, Postdoctoral Scholar at the University of California, Los Angeles, and graduate of the UAB Microbiology Department, will speak May 7, 2013 at Noon in the Learning Resource Center (1714 9<sup>th</sup> Ave. South) Room 102.



- Dr. Brian Parks -

Parks, a graduate student in Dr. Janusz Kabarowski's lab from 2004 to 2009, is studying the genetic nature of obesity and weight gain at the University of California, Los Angeles. His recent study using a systems genetics approach in

mice analyzed genetic and environmental interactions affecting obesity, metabolic syndrome and gut microbiota composition. The results indicated that body-fat responses and gut microbe changes to high-fat, high-sugar diets have a very strong genetic component. "We have identified several genetic factors potentially regulating these responses," says Parks.

Read Dr. Parks' most recent results, "Genetic Control of Obesity and Gut Microbiota Composition in Response to High-Fat, High-Sucrose Diet in Mice," in the January 2013 issue of [Cell Metabolism](#) a commentary at: [NIH Research Matters](#)

## New Hires

Svetlana Atasheva

-Postdoc with Dr. Ilya Frolov-

Edwina Clark

-Research Assistant with Dr. Peter Prevelige-

James Hove Mazorodze

-K-Rith student with Dr. Andries Steyn-

Kyung Don Kang

-Postdoc with Dr. George Luo-

# Student News

## Public Defenses

### Sara E. Conard

“Understanding the Function and Regulation of Eukaryotic Release Factor I, eRF1.”

Mentor: David M. Bedwell, Ph.D., Committee: Ching-Yi Chen, Ph.D., James F. Collawn, Ph.D., Kim M. Keeling, Ph.D., Sunnie R. Thompson, Ph.D., Mark Walter, Ph.D.

### David B.A. James

“Genetic and Biochemical Characterizations of the Capsular Glycosyltransferases in *Streptococcus pneumoniae* serotype 2”

Mentor: Janet Yother, Ph.D., Committee: Kevin Dybvig, Ph.D., Michael Niederweis, Ph.D., David Pritchard, Ph.D., Hui Wu, Ph.D., Charles Turnbough, Ph.D.

### Theresa N. Ramos

“The Role of Complement in Experimental Cerebral Malaria.”

Mentor: Scott R. Barnum, Ph.D., Committee: Daniel C. Bullard, Ph.D., Rita M. Cowell, Ph.D., Julian C. Rayner, Ph.D., Alexander J. Szalai, Ph.D.

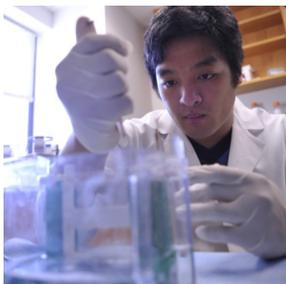
### Kyle Wolf

“Commensal Microbiota and its Impact on Health and Autoimmune Diabetes”

Mentor: Robin Lorenz, M.D., Ph.D., Committee: Charles Elson III, M.D., John Kearney, D.D.S., Ph.D., Richard Lopez, M.D., Hubert Tse, Ph.D.

## Fernandez Receives Arts and Sciences Dean's Award

Timothy Fernandez (a member of Dr. Jamil Saad's lab) was one of three undergraduate recipients of the College of the Arts and Sciences 2013 Dean's Award. Students receiving this high honor represent the very best that UAB can achieve, says Dr. Catherine Daniélou, Senior Associate Dean for Undergraduate Academic Affairs.



The Dean's Scholarship Award is a college-wide scholarship open to students currently enrolled in or admitted to a degree-granting program in the College of Arts and Sciences who have demonstrated solid academic promise and leadership qualities. Recipients must have at least an overall 3.0 grade point average.

Timothy has worked in Jamil Saad's lab for three years and is a co-author on a *JBC* manuscript "Binding of calmodulin to the HIV-1 matrix protein triggers myristate exposure" and a review in *Frontiers in Microbiology* published last year. He will be recognized for this achievement at Honors Convocation on Tuesday, May 7th.

## Microbiology Trainees Receive Graduate Student Research Days Awards

Amber Buel (mentors: Patrizia De Sarno, Ph.D. and Chander Raman, Ph.D.) and Jocelyn Hauser (mentor: Janet Yother) were honored on Friday, March 8, 2013, at the UAB Graduate School Awards Luncheon in the Bartow Arena Green and Gold Room. Buel's presentation, "Lithium Controls Central Nervous System Autoimmunity through Modulation of IFN- $\gamma$  Signaling," received third place in Session 14, and Hauser's presentation, "Modulation of Capsule Production in *Streptococcus pneumoniae* by SpxB and Hydrogen peroxide," received third place in Session 11.



The annual UAB Graduate Student Research Day competition is open to all degree-seeking UAB

graduate students enrolled during the semester in which the competition is held. Each participant is limited to 12 minutes for their presentation, with 3 additional minutes for questions from the judging panel. Judges include faculty and post-doctoral fellows, representing a diverse group of scholars.

## Garcia Not Only Receives IADR Award, She Also Leaves a Mark on Seattle



While attending the International Association for Dental Research conference in Seattle, Dr. Wu's lab stopped at the popular Seattle Gum Wall. Described as one of the United

States' most offbeat tourist attractions, the wall is decorated with colorful used gum, some spelling out words and others formed into geometrical shapes. And, yes, Garcia was inspired to leave her mark on the city.



## Microbiology PostDocs Win Awards

The Office of Postdoctoral Education and the UAB Postdoctoral Association announced the winners for the 2013 Postdoctoral Research Day. Three postdocs from the Microbiology Department received awards:

- 1st Place – Rakesh Bakshi**
- 2nd Place – Davide Botta**
- 3rd Place – Colin Reily**

These outstanding trainees were among approximately 50 entrants from UAB and SRI (Southern Research Institute). Each submitted a 300-word abstract and presented a 12-minute talk about their research project. Research Day was divided into six sessions with 1st, 2nd and 3rd place awards for each session. Microbiology postdocs presented in session 4.

## Just Published

### Barnum, SR

Cox, M.A., S.R. Barnum, D.C. Bullard, and A.J. Zajac. 2013. ICAM-1-dependent tuning of memory CD8 T-cell responses following acute infection. *Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A* 110:1416-1421.

Hu, X., V.M. Holers, J.M. Thurman, T.R. Schoeb, T.N. Ramos, and S.R. Barnum. 2013. Therapeutic inhibition of the alternative complement pathway attenuates chronic EAE. *Mol Immunol* 54:302-308.

Ramos, T.N., D.C. Bullard, M.M. Darley, K. McDonald, D.F. Crawford, and S.R. Barnum. 2013. Experimental Cerebral Malaria Develops Independently of Endothelial Expression of Intercellular Adhesion Molecule-1 (ICAM-1). *J Biol Chem*

### Briles, DE

Hotomi, M., A. Togawa, M. Kono, Y. Ikeda, S. Takei, S.K. Hollingshead, D.E. Briles, K. Suzuki, and N. Yamanaka. 2013. PspA Family Distribution, Antimicrobial Resistance and Serotype of *Streptococcus pneumoniae* Isolated from Upper Respiratory Tract Infections in Japan. *PLoS One* 8:e58124.

Kong, I., A. Sato, Y. Yuki, T. Nochi, H. Takahashi, S. Sawada, M. Meji-ma, S. Kurokawa, K. Okada, S. Sato, D.E. Briles, J. Kunisawa, Y. Inoue, M. Yamamoto, K. Akiyoshi, and H. Kiyono. 2013. Nanogel-based PspA Intranasal Vaccine Prevents Invasive Disease and Nasal Colonization by Pneumococcus. *Infect Immun*

### Chaplin, DD

Nabe, T., K. Matsuya, K. Akamizu, M. Fujita, T. Nakagawa, M. Shioe, H. Kida, A. Takiguchi, H. Wakamori, M. Fujii, K. Ishihara, S. Akiba, N. Mizutani, S. Yoshino, and D.D. Chaplin. 2013. Roles of basophils and mast cells infiltrating the lung by multiple antigen challenges in asthmatic responses of mice. *Br J Pharmacol*

### Dokland, T

Neuman, B.W., G. Kiss, H.M. Al-Mulla, T. Dokland, M.J. Buchmeier, T. Weikl, and D. Schley. 2013. Direct observation of membrane insertion by enveloped virus matrix proteins by phosphate displacement. *PLoS One* 8:e57916.

### Glasgow, JN

Kim, J.W., J.N. Glasgow, M. Nakayama, F. Ak, H. Ugai, and D.T.

Curiel. 2013. An adenovirus vector incorporating carbohydrate binding domains utilizes glycans for gene transfer. *PLoS One* 8:e55533.

### Justement, LB

Mattila, P.K., C. Feest, D. Depoil, B. Treanor, B. Montaner, K.L. Otipoby, R. Carter, L.B. Justement, A. Bruckbauer, and F.D. Batista. 2013. The actin and tetraspanin networks organize receptor nanoclusters to regulate B cell receptor-mediated signaling. *Immunity* 38:461-474.

Myers, R.C., R.G. King, R.H. Carter, and L.B. Justement. 2013. Lymphotoxin  $\alpha 1\beta 2$  expression on B cells is required for follicular dendritic cell activation during the germinal center response. *Eur J Immunol* 43:348-359.

### Kabarowski, JH

Parks, B.W., L.L. Black, K.A. Zimmerman, A.E. Metz, C. Steele, J.E. Murphy-Ullrich, and J.H. Kabarowski. 2013. CD36, but not G2A, modulates efferocytosis, inflammation, and fibrosis following bleomycin-induced lung injury. *J Lipid Res* 54:1114-1123.

### King, RG

Myers, R.C., R.G. King, R.H. Carter, and L.B. Justement. 2013. Lymphotoxin  $\alpha 1\beta 2$  expression on B cells is required for follicular dendritic cell activation during the germinal center response. *Eur J Immunol* 43:348-359.

### Lund, FE

Etich, J., V. Bergmeier, C. Frie, S. Kreft, L. Bengestrate, S. Eming, C. Mauch, B. Eckes, H. Ulus, F.E. Lund, G. Rapp, H. Abken, M. Paulsson, and B. Brachvogel. 2013. PECAMI(+)/Sca1(+)/CD38(+) vascular cells transform into myofibroblast-like cells in skin wound repair. *PLoS One* 8:e53262.

### Luo, G

Hertz, M.I., D.M. Landry, A.E. Willis, G. Luo, and S.R. Thompson. 2013. Ribosomal protein S25 dependency reveals a common mechanism for diverse internal ribosome entry sites and ribosome shunting. *Mol Cell Biol* 33:1016-1026.

(Continued on page 6)

**Mestecky, J**

Mestecky, J., M. Raska, B.A. Julian, A.G. Gharavi, M.B. Renfrow, Z. Moldoveanu, L. Novak, K. Matousovic, and J. Novak. 2013. IgA nephropathy: molecular mechanisms of the disease. *Annu Rev Pathol* 8:217-240.

**Michalek, SM**

Speer, A., T.B. Shrestha, S.H. Bossmann, R.J. Basaraba, G.J. Harber, S.M. Michalek, M. Niederweis, O. Kutsch, and F. Wolschendorf. 2013. Copper-boosting compounds: a novel concept for antimycobacterial drug discovery. *Antimicrob Agents Chemother* 57:1089-1091.

**Niederweis, M**

Slayden, R.A., M. Jackson, J. Zucker, M.V. Ramirez, C.C. Dawson, R. Crew, N.S. Sampson, S.T. Thomas, N. Jamshidi, P. Sisk, R. Caspi, D.C. Crick, M.R. McNeil, M.S. Pavelka, M. Niederweis, A. Siroy, V. Dona, J. McFadden, H. Boshoff, and J.M. Lew. 2013. Updating and curating metabolic pathways of TB. *Tuberculosis (Edinb)* 93:47-59.

Speer, A., T.B. Shrestha, S.H. Bossmann, R.J. Basaraba, G.J. Harber, S.M. Michalek, M. Niederweis, O. Kutsch, and F. Wolschendorf. 2013. Copper-boosting compounds: a novel concept for antimycobacterial drug discovery. *Antimicrob Agents Chemother* 57:1089-1091.

Wells, R.M., C.M. Jones, Z. Xi, A. Speer, O. Danilchanka, K.S. Doornbos, P. Sun, F. Wu, C. Tian, and M. Niederweis. 2013. Discovery of a Siderophore Export System Essential for Virulence of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*. *PLoS Pathog* 9:e1003120.

**Novak, J**

Novak, J., M.B. Renfrow, A.G. Gharavi, and B.A. Julian. 2013. Pathogenesis of immunoglobulin A nephropathy. *Curr Opin Nephrol Hypertens*

Mestecky J, Raska M, Julian BA, Gharavi AG, Renfrow MB, Moldoveanu Z, Novak L, Matousovic K, Novak J. 2013. IgA nephropathy: molecular mechanisms of the disease. *Annu Rev Pathol*. 24:8:217-40.

Nakata, J., Suzuki, Y., Suzuki, H., Sato, D., Kano, T., Horikoshi, S., Novak, J., Tomino, Y. 2013. Experimental evidence of cell dissemination playing a role in pathogenesis of IgA nephropathy in multiple lymphoid organs. *Nephrol. Dial. Transplant*. 28:320-326,

**Prevelige, PE**

Culpepper, B.K., D.S. Morris, P.E. Prevelige, and S.L. Bellis. 2013. Engineering nanocages with polyglutamate domains for coupling to hydroxyapatite biomaterials and allograft bone. *Biomaterials* 34:2455-2462.

Echlin, H., F. Zhu, Y. Li, Z. Peng, T. Ruiz, G.J. Bedwell, P.E. Prevelige, and H. Wu. 2013. Gap2 Promotes the Formation of a Stable Protein Complex Required for Mature FapI Biogenesis. *J Bacteriol*

**Saad, JS**

Vlach, J., and J.S. Saad. 2013. Trio engagement via plasma membrane phospholipids and the myristoyl moiety governs HIV-1 matrix binding to bilayers. *Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A* 110:3525-3530.

**Thompson, SR**

Hertz, M.I., D.M. Landry, A.E. Willis, G. Luo, and S.R. Thompson. 2013. Ribosomal protein S25 dependency reveals a common mechanism for diverse internal ribosome entry sites and ribosome shunting. *Mol Cell Biol* 33:1016-1026.

**Tse, HM**

Kozlovskaya V, Zavgorodnya O, Chen Y, Ellis K, Tse HM, Cui W, Thompson JA, Kharlampieva E. 2013. Ultrathin polymeric coatings based on hydrogen-bonded polyphenol for protection of pancreatic islet cells. *Adv Funct Mater* 22(16):3389-3398.

Padgett, L.E., K.A. Broniowska, P.A. Hansen, J.A. Corbett, and H.M. Tse. 2013. The role of reactive oxygen species and proinflammatory cytokines in type 1 diabetes pathogenesis. *Ann N Y Acad Sci*

Piganelli, J.D., M.M. Delmastro-Greenwood, and H.M. Tse. 2013. Effects of Metalloporphyrins on Reducing Inflammation and Autoimmunity. *Antioxid Redox Signal*

**Turnbough, CL**

Aldred, K.J., S.A. McPherson, C.L. Turnbough, R.J. Kerns, and N. Osheroff. 2013. Topoisomerase IV-quinolone interactions are mediated through a water-metal ion bridge: mechanistic basis of quinolone resistance. *Nucleic Acids Res*

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**Zajac, AJ**

Cox, M.A., S.R. Barnum, D.C. Bullard, and A.J. Zajac. 2013a. ICAM-1-dependent tuning of memory CD8 T-cell responses following acute infection. *Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A* 110:1416-1421.

Cox, M.A., S.M. Kahan, and A.J. Zajac. 2013. Anti-viral CD8 T cells and the cytokines that they love. *Virology* 435:157-169.

**Grant Awards**

**Scott Barnum, Ph.D.**, "The Role of the Terminal Complement Pathway in ALS," NIH

**Frances Lund, Ph.D.**, "Controlling Th2 Immunity by Tuning CXCL13 Dependent DC Migration in Lymph Nodes," National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases/NIH/DHHS

**Frances Lund, Ph.D.**, "Treating B cell-derived neoplasms by targeting the ectoenzyme CD38: a regulator of the NAD metabolic pathway." Alabama Drug Discovery Alliance

**Sunnie Thompson, Ph.D.**, "Development of an anticancer therapeutic against ribosomal protein S25." Alabama Drug Discovery Alliance

**Extended Family****Employee's Daughter Is National Chess Champ**

Congratulations to Sarvagna Velidandla, daughter of Uma Mudunuru (research assistant for the Lund-Randall lab), for being named a national champion chess player. Sarvagna, a second-grader, participated in the K-3 unrated section of the 2013 SuperNationals Chess Tournament, which was held April 5-7 in Nashville, Tennessee. She won all seven games in her category and received a beautiful first-place trophy.



Sponsored by the [United States Chess Federation](#), the SuperNationals tournament for school-aged children occurs every four years and has huge participation numbers. In this year's event 5,344 chess players from all 50 states competed in the tournament.

Since December Sarvagna has participated in nine local and statewide competitions. She has won many awards in those tournaments, including six first-place trophies.

**Around Campus and About Town****May 2, 2013**

**Cinco de Mayo**  
6:00 PM

The [Young Supporters Board](#) of the UAB Comprehensive Cancer Center presents an opportunity to celebrate Cinco de Mayo for a cause. The Fiesta Ball 2013 will be held at 6 p.m. on Thursday, May 2, 2013, at [B&A Warehouse](#), 1531 First Ave. South.

**May 4, 2013**

**40th Annual Southern Appalachian Dulcimer Festival at Tannehill State Park**

The festival is officially on the 1st Saturday in May, however, folks show up during the week before to camp, jam and socialize. The first (semi)formal event will be a hot dog supper on Thursday evening followed by a big group jam. On Friday, there will be performances all day long by individuals and clubs.

**May 4, 2013****Schaeffer Eye Center Crawfish Boil**

All-day event  
Admission: \$10

Richard Arrington Jr. Boulevard North, between 22nd and 24th streets, will be the site for the 2013 Schaeffer Eye Center Crawfish Boil. The annual outdoor music and crawfish festival some of the biggest acts in music to Birmingham while raising money for a variety of local charities. The event has raised nearly \$500,000 for local non-profits such as the UAB Comprehensive Cancer Center,



Tanner for Multiple Sclerosis, Greater Birmingham United Cerebral Palsy and many more. Camp Smile-A-Mile and a new 50 Years Forward Scholarship Fund will be the recipient charities in 2013.

**June 9, 2013****Jazz in the Park**

[Avondale Park](#)  
6:00 – 9:00PM  
Admission: Free



Take blankets, coolers, food, small TV trays and votive candles and enjoy the concert in the park. Food vendors will be available.

**June 21- 23, 2013****Triumph Superbike Classic**

[Barber Motorsports Park](#)  
Admission charged

Come see the thrills, action and adrenaline-rush as some of the fastest riders in the world compete on the famed 2.38 mile track at Barber Motorsports Park!