

UAB SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

Department of Microbiology

Microbiology's Booth Ties for First Place at 2017 SOM Diversity Fair

The UAB [School of Medicine Office for Diversity and Inclusion](#) held the inaugural Diversity Fair on Friday, February 3, in the lobby of the [Comprehensive Cancer Center](#). The fair featured booths from departments within the School of Medicine, showcasing the diversity within each department. Faculty, staff and trainees from the microbiology department worked together to take home first place, a \$250 gift certificate to a local restaurant. A special thank you to our volunteers; David Chaplin, Wayne Cheng, Danielle Chisolm, Julie Decker, Ruba Ghanam, Jianlin Geng, Norberto Gonzalez-Juarbe, Michael Gray, Zhi-Qiang Huang, Uma Mudunuru, Carlos Orihuela,

Sang-Sang Park, Jamil Saad, Kristina Sinclair, Charnell Sommers, Amy Weinmann, and Fen Zhou.

Volunteers will be enjoying lunch at Surin West one day in April to celebrate a job well done.

Go to https://www.flickr.com/photos/uab_som/32194631414/ to view more pictures from the event.



World-renowned Immunologist Presented at 2017 Bertram M. Marx Lectureship



The UAB Department of Microbiology featured Dennis R. Burton, Ph.D., Chairman, and Professor in the Department of Immunology and Microbial Science, The Scripps Research Institute, La Jolla, CA., at the 29th Bertram M. Marx lecture. Burton, presented “progress toward

a neutralizing antibody-based HIV vaccine” on February 1, 2017 at 3pm in Volker Hall, Lecture Room B.

Dennis Burton was recently awarded the James and Jessie Minor Chair in Immunology. He received his B.A. in Chemistry from Oxford University and his Ph.D from Lund University, Sweden in physical biochemistry. He is the Scientific Director of the International AIDS Vaccine Initiative (IAVI) Neutralizing Antibody Consortium and Neutralizing Antibody Center, Director of The Center for HIV/AIDS Vaccine Immunology and Immunogen Discovery (CHAVI-ID) at Scripps, and a member of the Ragon Institute of MGH, MIT and Harvard, Boston, USA. He has held many research grants from the NIH and has published more than 400 papers in scientific journals. He has received numerous awards including the Jenner Fellowship of the Lister Institute and a Fellowship in the American Academy of Microbiology. His research is focused on infectious disease, in particular the interplay of antibodies and highly mutable viruses, notably HIV. He is interested in the potential of broadly neutralizing antibodies to inform vaccine design.

The Bertram M. Marx Lectureship, hosted by the UAB Department of Microbiology, supports annual visits to the UAB campus by scientists noted for their work examining the basic biology of cancer as well as the impact of infection, inflammation and immune regulation on the development of cancer and other chronic diseases.

Annual Immunology Theme Fall Cookout

Written by Lou Justement

On Saturday, October 22nd, a beautiful sunny fall day, the Immunology Theme held its annual fall cookout, which is a tradition started in 2009 by Pete Burrows and Scott Barnum,



who were the original Immunology Theme Directors. The event was held at the Kearney’s house and was attended by 35-40 students, faculty and their families. Special thanks go out to Pete Burrows, Chris Klug and Lou Justement who arranged

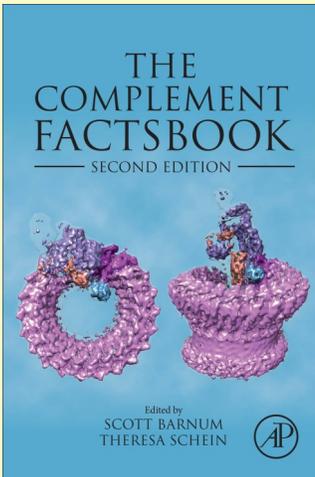


the food and drinks for the cookout, and to John and Maria Kearney who graciously provided their beautiful backyard with an amazing outdoor kitchen. The cookout was a great opportunity

for many of the new Immunology Theme students to get to know their fellow students and Theme faculty. It was an excellent opportunity for everyone to talk science, football, baseball, and to enjoy good food and libations. We look forward to having the cookout again next fall in the spirit of a great tradition and hope to see even more students and faculty join in.



Barnum and Schein Edit The Complement FactsBook



The Complement FactsBook, Second Edition provides in-depth insights and an overview of the components of the complement system. This new edition highlights the use of newly recommended complement nomenclature, covering new pathways and pro-

teins and adding information on mouse homologs. It is a completely revised and updated edition containing entries on all components of the complement system, and is an excellent source of one-stop shopping for complement information and references.

Useful Links

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We're on the web:

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

April 2017 Cover of Journal of Clinical and Vaccine Immunology

An image produced by Anukul Shenoy, a third year graduate student in Dr. Carlos Orihuela's lab is featured on the cover of [Clinical and Vaccine Immunology](#). They produced a false-colored transmission electron microscopy image of *Streptococcus pneumoniae* serotype 4 strain TIGR4 grown under planktonic conditions. The image shows the characteristic lancet-shaped diplococcus morphology of this Gram-positive bacterium. The image was obtained using a JEOL JEM-1230 transmission electron microscope.

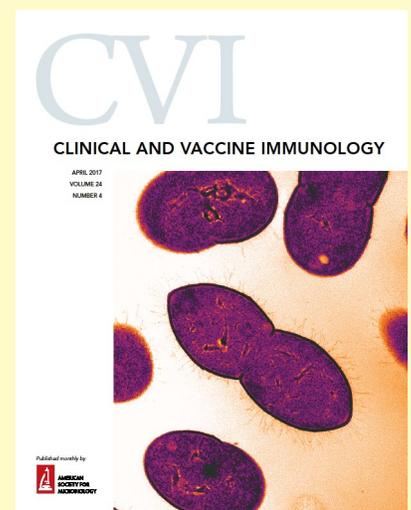


Photo courtesy of Anukul Shenoy and Carlos J. Orihuela

Attention Biology Freshmen and Sophomores: New Major Available!

Microbiology is pleased to announce a new undergraduate major – Immunology – a collaboration with the UAB College of Arts and Sciences' Department of Biology. In addition to the broad biological training that all Biology majors receive, this new major will provide state-of-the-art research experiences and one-on-one training in mentors' laboratories using the latest experimental techniques. Immunology is one of the hottest fields in the biomedical sciences. Combatting infectious diseases like HIV/AIDS, Ebola and Zika that threaten global health, using

the immune system to defeat cancer, or understanding how the immune system gone awry contributes to many human diseases, these are all part of the opportunities provided by this new major. It provides outstanding preparation for medically-oriented professional schools, graduate school or employment in the biotechnology and pharmaceutical fields.

For more information visit the website at <http://www.uab.edu/cas/immunology/>

Welcome

Arpine Sokratian - Visiting Scientist (Frolova)
 Valeriya Kuznetsova - Visiting Scientist (Frolov)
 Nadine Grummel - Volunteer (Walter)
 Kiran Gupta - Scientist I (Kabarowski)
 Alex Rosenberg - Associate Professor
 Joe Feduska - Postdoc (Tse)
 Nadezda Urakova - Postdoc (Frolov)
 Kathryn Rothell - Volunteer (Novak)
 Luhua Qiao - Researcher III (Luo)
 Qiao Shang - Researcher V (Green)
 Miranda Burnette - Postdoc (Klug)

Farewell

Tessa Blackburn - Researcher III (Burrows)
 Theresa Schein - Scientist I (Barnum)
 Maryna Akhrymuk - Researcher III (Frolov)
 Kathryn Doornbos - Grad Student (Niederweis)
 Preeyam Patel - Grad Student (Kearney)
 Lindsey Padgett - Grad Student (Tse)
 Jeff Milner - Researcher I (Tse)
 Jocelyn Hauser - Grad Student (Yother)
 Michael Zeiger - Researcher I (Tse)

We're on the web:

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

Follow us on Twitter — [@UABMicrobiology](https://twitter.com/UABMicrobiology)

Our Twitter account is an easy way for faculty, trainees, and staff to keep up with department activities. If you have information to share via Twitter, send it to gunnin@uab.edu.

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continued from page 6

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continued from page 8

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Grants and Contracts

October 1, 2016 – March 31, 2017

Kearney, John

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Plasma Cells in Health and Disease-Project 2

Lund, Frances

University of Alabama HSF

Arcturus Laser Capture Microdissection for Single Cell Isolation from Tissues

Prevelige, Peter

National Institute of Health - University of Virginia

Aptamers-Based Arrays for Detection of Pathogenic IgA 1 O-Glycoforms in IgA Nephropathy

Walter, Mark

Lupus Research Institute, Inc.

Single-Cell Detection of IFN's in Lupus Patients

Save the Date

EVENT	DATE	GUEST SPEAKER	VENUE
WELLS SYMPOSIUM	Tuesday, September 12, 2017	Ellen Rothenberg, PhD Albert Billings Ruddock Professor of Biology Caltech	Hill Student Center - Ballroom B
SUSAN ROBERTS DUBAY LECTURE	Tuesday, November 7, 2017	Dan Portnoy, PhD Edward E. Penhoet Distinguished Endowed Chair in Global Health and Infectious Disease Professor of Molecular and Cell Biology	Hill Student Center - Ballroom B
MICROBIOLOGY RESEARCH RETREAT	November 10-12, 2017	Gail Cassell, PhD Prior Professor and Chair of UAB Department of Microbiology	Joe Wheeler State Park
BERTRAM MARX LECTURE	February 20, 2018	Feng Zhang, PhD James and Patricia Poitras '63 Professor in Neuroscience; Associate Professor, Brain and Cognitive Sciences and Biological Engineering; Core Member, Broad Institute	UAB - TBA

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