

CELL BIOLOGY UPDATE

http://cellbio.emory.edu/pdf/newsletter_fall2004.pdf

Fall 2004

SPOTLIGHT ON NEW FACULTY

Learn more about Ping Chen and Ken Moberg who introduce themselves and their families in these brief profiles.

Ping Chen was born and grew up in Hangzhou, a city 100 miles southwest of Shanghai and famous for its poetry and beauty in China, Ping went to Xiamen University for undergraduate study and majored in Biochemistry. She then enrolled in the master program in Shanghai Institute of Biochemistry, Chinese Academy of Sciences, under Professor Zeiping Li, to study molecular genetics of hepatitis B virus. It was there within the thick walls (gone now) of Chinese Academy of Sciences quadrangles, she met her future husband, Xi (known as Erick in Emory) Lin, in Shanghai Institute of Physiology. Xi (pronounced as she-no wonder he prefers Erick) grew up in Sichun province. He did his undergraduate study of Biophysics in Science and Technology University of China before coming to Shanghai. They were married in 1988.

Upon completion of the master program, Ping joined Xi for a brief stay in Ann Arbor, where he was a neuroscience graduate student in Dr. Nuttall's lab in Kresge Hearing Institute, University of Michigan. She entered the graduate program in the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, University of Chicago, and studied ubiquitin-proteasome pathway in Dr. Mark Hochstrasser's lab. Xi joined Ping in Chicago after obtaining his PhD from University of Michigan, and did his postdoc in Dr. Peter Dallos's auditory physiology lab in Northwestern University.

Xi was recruited by House Ear Institute in Los Angeles as the section chief for auditory physiology lab when Ping was finishing up her PhD program. Ping followed Xi to Los Angeles and joined Dr. Neil Segil's inner ear development lab in the same institute. As predicted by their alternating leading role in relocation, Ping initiated the move to Emory this time. The recruitment of both Ping (Cell Biology Department) and Erick (Otolaryngology Department) was made possible by a combined effort by the two departments and the Woodruff foundation. They both have labs on the fifth floor in Whitehead Biomedical Research Building, collaborating on several projects.



They have two children born in the windy city, Anne, a six grader in Henderson Mill Middle School, and Alex, a third grader in Oak Grove Elementary School. Upon arrival at Atlanta, the family also added a new member, Bogey, a sweet and smelly puppy who follows Anne everywhere and sheds everywhere.

The Cell Biology Dept welcomed **Ken Moberg** to the faculty in January of 2004. Ken is a native of Philadelphia, and did his PhD and Postdoctoral work in Boston before coming to Emory. Work in his lab focuses on the genetic control of cell growth and proliferation in the fruit fly *Drosophila melanogaster*. Ken's lab is small but growing, and currently includes Sharon Burdick, a Research Specialist, Nathan Mortimer, a GMB grad student, and Melissa Gilbert, a new post-doctoral fellow. Ken was joined in the move to Emory by his wife, Karolina Graber. Karolina is a geriatric Nurse Practitioner at Emory's Wesley Woods Outpatient Clinic. Ken and Karolina enjoy gardening at their Oakhurst home, and like to get away for back-country backpacking trips (especially in the Rockies & Smokies) when they can.



CONGRATULATIONS!



Way to go, Barry! On August 25, 2004, Dr. Shur received one of two 2004 Albert E. Levy Faculty Awards for Excellence in Scientific Research. The Levy award was established to recognize outstanding scientific contributions by Emory faculty members. Each year one junior faculty member and one senior faculty member are selected by the University Research Committee for recognition of a recent research accomplishment. During the awards ceremony, Dr. Shur received the senior faculty award and presented a brief talk about the relevant research. He also received a monetary award from the Levy Endowment Fund.

Kudos to the Joshi Lab on licensing of anti-tumor drug discovery. Cougar Biotechnology disclosed that "This licensing agreement of the potent anti-tumor activity of noscapine demonstrates how industry and academia can establish an effective relationship in order to advance drug development". "Emory's preclinical studies indicate that noscapine and analogs of noscapine have anti-tumor properties that could translate into novel drugs for the treatment of a variety of cancers."

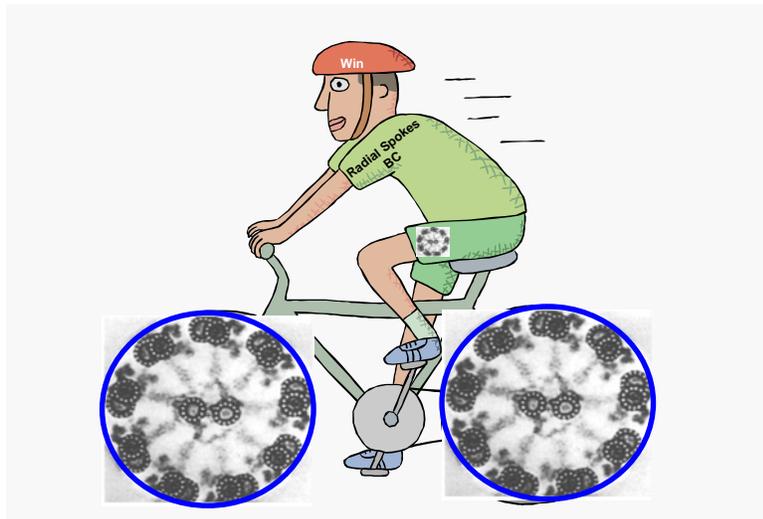
Best wishes to Adam Raymond (Shur Lab) and Jaime Schoonover who were married on June 26, 2004 at Embury Hills United Methodist Church. Adam and Jaime were high school sweethearts. Adam is in his third year of the BCDB graduate program and Jaime is a recent graduate of Emory's MPH program who works at the CDC. They live in Decatur with Elle, their black Labrador retriever.

Congratulations to Joanna Bonsall (Luskin Lab) and husband Mark Albright on the birth of William Robert Albright on January 16, 2004 and to Quentin Machingo (Shur Lab) and his wife, Stephanie O'Leary on the birth of Hannah Donna Marie Machingo on April 17, 2004.



THE RADIAL SPOKES BIKE CLUB OF THE DEPARTMENT OF CELL BIOLOGY

The Radial Spokes Bike Club is a prestigious yet often overlooked organization vital to the Department's research and scholarly mission. Current members include a multidisciplinary cadre of individuals specializing in various skills, sometimes even those relevant to biking. Conversations out on the road often reflect the important nature of the group's mission, such as "Win, where are we?" or "is that convenience store open?" or "Criss, get out of that porta-potty, the dogs are coming!" Yet even in the smothering heat of the Georgia summer, the group moves forward at a blistering pace. Sometimes, when water is running low and minds begin to wander, important issues such as science are discussed. It is difficult to relate, for example, how truly inspiring it is to hear about chloride channels and rectifying currents in 90° heat while climbing a steep hill. But even more important topics can be discussed while biking, such as the direction of the department, the medical school, or the country. It shouldn't come as a surprise that both John F. Kerry and George W. Bush are avid bike riders. They're easy to spot too – Kerry is the one wobbling about while Bush is the one making only right hand turns. So please, pump up your tires and come on out and join us. It's actually much more fun than it sounds!



Current Members:

Win Sale - Group leader. Specialties: Route Planning and Descent

Criss Hartzell – Co-group leader: Specialty: Equipment and Apparel

Michael Ensslin – Specialties: Riding after a party, traffic control, international relations

Quentin Machingo – Specialty: Breaking Wind

Andrew Kowalczyk – Specialty: Drafting

Doug Falls - Specialty: Commuting

Rick Kahn (ex-officio) – Specialty: Breakfast and Meal Planning

Make no mistake, there is a new ride in town, a green 2004 Acura TL with all of the bells, whistles, warnings, directions and possibly personal valet and catering services. Can you guess who said in (almost) these exact words "If I could, I would actually sleep in my new car!"? Yes, the very special owner of this very special automobile is our own chairman, Dr. Barry Shur. May the lovely new addition to his and Judi's household create the optimal environment for reducing stress, smelling the roses and driving with a perfect record.



GRANTS AND CONTRACTS

NEW AWARDS

| | |
|----------------|---|
| Ping Chen | “Morphogenesis of the Organ of Corti”, NIH Total Costs: \$1,358,989 (4 years – Transfer from HEI) |
| Victor Faundez | CCPDER pilot award, NIH/Neurology Total Costs: \$38,250 (1 year) |
| Victor Faundez | CAM pilot award., Neurology Direct Costs: \$32,220 (1 year) |
| Harish Joshi | “Determination of the Optimal Amount of Time of Noscapiene Exposure That Can Most Efficiently Kill Cancer Cells Without Affecting the Normal Human Cells”, Cougar Biotechnology, Inc. Total Costs: \$114,750 (1.5 years) |
| Robert McKeon | “Chondroitin Sulfate GAG Inhibition of Growth Cones”, Subcontract from Georgia Institute of Technology/NIH Total Costs: \$55,146 (3 years) |
| Robert McKeon | “Sustained In Vivo Delivery of CSPG siRNA Delivery for the Treatment of Spinal Cord Injury” GTEC/NSF Total Costs: \$91,898 (1 year) |
| Winfield Sale | “Regulation of the Molecular Motor Dynein by Phosphorylation” March of Dimes Birth Defects Foundation Total Costs: \$238,361 (3 years) |

REGULATORY AND POLICY CHANGES/APPLICATION INFORMATION

(from OSP and agency web pages, university and other sources)

Just –In-Time materials requested by NIH may now be submitted through their electronic portal, known as the eRA Commons. To utilize this option, investigators must provide Other Support documentation for all Key Personnel in an electronic file (preferably MS Word format), and send a copy of relevant IRB/IACUC approval letters and human subjects education certificates to Linda Jordan who will review and forward to OSP. OSP will review and upload the necessary information to the eRA Commons system.

NSF has published a new version of the NSF Grant Proposal Guide (GPG) that will be effective for proposals submitted on or after September 1, 2004. This document supersedes all prior versions and can be accessed at: <http://www.nsf.gov/pubsys/ods/getpub.cfm?gpg>.

WEB SITES OF NOTE

Information about Cottrell postdoctoral fellowships which are administered through Emory’s Office of Postdoctoral Education is available at:

http://www.emory.edu/WHSC/MED/POSTDOC/cottrell_program_application.html.

Find sources of internal and external funding on the OSP website at: <http://www.osp.emory.edu/funding/cfm>.
The OSP web site also provides Proposal Writing Tips at <http://www.osp.emory.edu/proposals/propprep.html>

Emory faculty profiles can be viewed via the departmental web site or directly at:

<http://www.medadm.emory.edu/faculty>.

Up-to-date information about visas can be accessed on the web site for Emory’s International Student and Scholar Programs: <http://www.emory.edu/ISSP>.

PUBLICATIONS

- Radde-Gallwitz, K.**, Pan , L., Gan L., **Lin, X.**, Segil, N., and **Chen, P.** 2004. Expression of Islet1 marks the sensory and neuronal lineages in the mammalian inner ear. *J. Comp. Neuro.* 477:412-421.
- Peng, B., Ahmad, S., Chen, S., **Chen, P.**, Price, M., and **Lin, X.** 2004. Acid-sensing ion channel 2 contributes a major component to acid-evoked excitatory responses in spiral ganglion neurons and plays a role in noise susceptibility of mice. *J. Neurosci.* In press.
- Zhou, J.**, Gupta, K., Aggarwal, S., **Aneja, R.**, Chandra, R., Panda, D., and **Joshi, H. C.** 2003. Brominated derivatives of noscapine are potent microtubule-interfering agents that perturb mitosis and inhibit cell proliferation. *Molecular Pharmacology.* 63 (4): 799-807.
- Checchi, P. M., Nettles, **J. H.**, **Zhou, J.**, Snyder, J. P., and **Joshi, H. C.** 2003. Microtubule-interacting drugs for cancer treatment. *Trends in Pharmacological Sciences.* 24 (7): 361-365.
- Stillwell, E. E., **Zhou, J.**, and **Joshi, H. C.** 2004. Human ninein is a centrosomal autoantigen recognized by CREST patient sera and plays a regulatory role in microtubule nucleation. *Cell Cycle.* 3 (7): 923-930.
- Pozharskaya, V.P., Weakland, L.L., Zimring, J.C., Krug, L.T., Unger, E.R., Neisch,, A., **Joshi, H.C.**, Inoue, N., and Offerman, M.K. The short duration of elevated vIRF-1 expression during lytic replication of HHV-8 limits its ability to block antiviral responses induced by interferon- in BCBL-1 cells. *Journal of Virology.* (in press).
- Zhou, J.**, Liu, M., Luthra, R., Jones, J., **Aneja, R.**, Chandra, R., Tekmal, R. R., and **Joshi, H. C.** EM012, a microtubule-interfering agent, inhibits the progression of multidrug-resistant human ovarian cancer both in cultured cells and in athymic nude mice. *Cancer Chemotherapy and Pharmacology.* (in press)
- Zhou, J.**, Liu, M., Aneja, R., Chandra, R., and **Joshi, H. C.** Enhancement of paclitaxel-induced microtubule stabilization, mitotic arrest, and apoptosis by the microtubule-targeting agent EM012. *Biochemical Pharmacology.* (in press)
- Rodeheffer, C.** and **Shur, B.D.** 2004. Sperm from 1,4-galactosyltransferase 1-null mice exhibit precocious capacitation. *Development* 131:491-501. (article featured as an editorial highlight)
- Rodeheffer, C.** and **Shur, B.D.** 2004. Identification of a novel, ZP3-independent egg coat ligand that facilitates initial sperm-egg adhesion. *Development* 131:503-512. (article featured as an editorial highlight)
- Shur, B.D.**, **Ensslin, M.A.** and **Rodeheffer, C.** 2004. Sperm-egg binding. *Current Opinion in Cell Biology*, invited review, in press.
- Shur, B.D.**, Rodeheffer, C. and **Ensslin, M.A.** 2004. Mammalian fertilization. *Current Biology*, invited Quick Guide, in press.
- Ensslin, M.A.** and **Shur, B.D.** The EGF repeat and discoidin domain protein, SED1, is required for mammary gland branching morphogenesis. Submitted.

CHANGES

New Staff: Sharon Burdick (Moberg Lab); Yuanyuan Cui, Lead Research Specialist (Hartzell Lab); Jingsheng Gu, Lab Assistant (Bhat Lab); Sharayne Mark, Research Specialist (Chen Lab); Amanda Mulligan, Research Specialist (English Lab).

New Postdocs: Rita Aneja (Joshi Lab); Maureen Blomberg-Wirschell (Sale Lab); Paul Chen (Lin Lab); Susannah Copland (Shur Lab), new REI fellow from Gyn/Ob; Delia Cucoranu (McKeon Lab); Xuekun Li (Luskin Lab); Ilva Putzier (Hartzell Lab); Dong Qian (Chen Lab); Xiaohui Zhang (Chen Lab).

New Graduate Students: Branch Craige (Faundez Lab); Marie Cross (Powers Lab); Robert Lyng (Shur Lab); Nathan Mortimer (Moberg Lab).

Other Personnel News: Summer Cook (Moses Lab) was promoted to Lead Research Specialist. This fall Summer began training at Emory's School of Nursing, while continuing as a part-time employee in Cell Biology. In February, Karen Schmeichel (Shur Lab) started a new phase of her career as ORISE Fellow at the National Center for Environmental Health, Health Studies Branch, CDC. She is working on cancer cluster identification. In her spare time, Karen continues to work in the Shur Lab.

NEW CELLBIO WEBPAGE

The Cell Biology webpage has a new look. If you haven't seen it recently, please pay the site a visit. The address is: <http://cellbio.emory.edu>



CONTACT SEARCH HOME EMORY

Department of Cell Biology EMORY UNIVERSITY

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UPCOMING EVENTS

- 10.06.2004 - Jane Johnson, UTSW Medical Center
- 10.11.2004 - Art English
- 10.13.2004 - Frank Laski, UCLA
- 10.20.2004 - Vytas Bankaitis, UNC-Chapel Hill

WELCOME TO THE WEB HOME OF THE DEPARTMENT OF CELL BIOLOGY AT EMORY UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE.

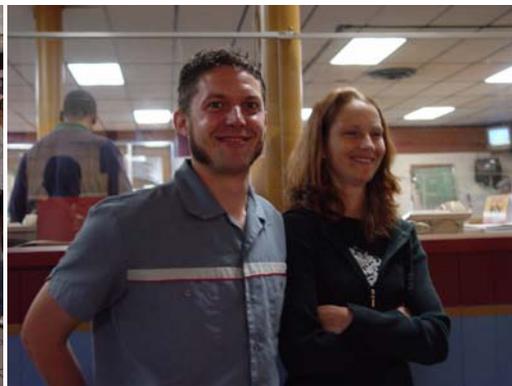
- [A message from our Chairman, Dr. Barry Shur](#)
- [Links to our Faculty](#)
- [The latest department news](#)
- [Schedule of seminars](#) hosted by our department
- [The Jerome Sutin Lectureship](#)
- [Websites of classes](#) taught by our faculty
- [How to find us](#)
- [Links](#) associated with our department
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FEATURED PUBLICATIONS

- Shyamala, B. V., and Bhat, K. M. (2002). A Hedgehog independent Patched-Smoothed signaling activates Baboon/Activin pathway to regulate head morphogenesis in Drosophila. Development 129, 1839-1847.
- Pol-Rodriguez, M.M., Schwartz, G. and English, Arthur W. Post-Translational Phosphorylation of the Slow/ Myosin

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FIRST ANNUAL CELL BIOLOGY BOWLING COMPETITION PICTURES



MISC COMPUTER NEWS

A few pointers from Danny Rouk

A large number of “phishing” emails are circulating around the internet lately. “Phishing” is when a person sends out an email which at first glance appears to be from a bank or other legitimate source. These messages are fraudulent, and their goal is to try and get you to reply to them and submit personal information that they can then use for their own benefit. The main way to avoid these is to simply ignore them. If you think the message is legitimate, go to the banking website on your own and not by clicking on a link in the message.

Along the same lines, many virus emails use similar tactics, and at first glance appear to be from a legitimate source such as an administrator. Almost always they will include an attachment which they will ask you to install. Again, ignoring these is usually the best response. I will never send out a mass email with an attachment for folks to run.

One way to help avoid such emails is to use a spam filter. Email coming into Emory is scanned for the most common types of spam, and are marked with a flag labeled: **X-pstn-spam: Y** Most email programs have the ability to filter your incoming messages and can move mail that has this text into a separate folder. Not everything marked as spam will be, so you shouldn't automatically delete it without at least a quick review.

Finally, most folks seem to be happy with the poster printer output. A few tips: In Powerpoint, make your text boxes larger than the text they contain and leave margins to allow the text to expand. There are slight font differences between what is seen on the screen and what is printed, and a tight text box will cause unexpected errors. When using automatic bullets or numbered lists, try to avoid inserting tabs or multiple spaces. For some reason these too often cause problems. Finally, remember to change the paper size **BEFORE** you add your material to the document and not after. Resizing almost always causes problems.

UPCOMING EVENTS

(FALL 2004-WINTER 2005)

| | |
|------------------|---|
| November 25,26 | Thanksgiving Holidays |
| December 5 | NIH Individual NRSA |
| December 24, 27 | Christmas Holidays |
| December 31 | New Year's Holiday |
| January 17, 2005 | MLK Holiday |
| February 1 | NIH New Submissions |
| March 1 | NIH Competing Renewals and Revisions |
| April 5 | NIH Individual NRSA |
| May 16 | End of spring semester and commencement |
| May 30 | Memorial Day Holiday |

CELL BIOLOGY SEMINAR SCHEDULE

| | |
|--------------|---------------------------------------|
| Nov 17, 2004 | Bryan Burke, UFL |
| Dec 1, 2004 | Liana Artinian, Cell Biology |
| Jan 12, 2005 | Nick Spitzer, UCSD |
| Jan 26, 2005 | Stefan Heller, Harvard |
| Feb 2, 2005 | Richard Palmiter, Univ. of Washington |

B&G SCHEDULE

| | |
|--------------|----------------|
| Nov 22, 2004 | Bruce Wainer |
| Jan 10, 2005 | Victor Faundez |
| Feb 14, 2005 | Beth Finch |
| Mar 14, 2005 | Criss Hartzell |
| Apr 11, 2005 | Harish Joshi |
| May 9, 2005 | Marla Luskin |
| Jun 13, 2005 | Bob McKeon |
| Sep 12, 2005 | Ken Moberg |
| Oct 10, 2005 | Kevin Moses |

FEEDBACK REQUESTED

This is your newsletter and your involvement is crucial to its success. Please send comments, suggestions, or ideas for articles or columns to Linda Jordan by departmental mail, telephone at 727-3748 or e-mail to linda@cellbio.emory.edu.

