

Pharmacology & Toxicology

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Boonshoft
School of Medicine
WRIGHT STATE UNIVERSITY

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CHAIR'S CORNER



Dr. Jeffrey B. Travers

The Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology newsletter keeps our alumni, the Boonshoft School of Medicine, and Wright State University apprised of the happenings in the department. The newsletter will be issued three times per year and can be found on the departmental webpage: [http://medicine.wright.edu/ pharmacology-and-toxicology](http://medicine.wright.edu/pharmacology-and-toxicology).

Each issue will also contain a "Spotlight" section that highlights a faculty, colleague, or a program. For this issue, we will be highlighting administrator Ms. Catherine Winslow, who, as all who is familiar with the Department knows, has been key to our successes. To get on the Departmental Mailing list to receive an electronic version, or to provide suggestions as to content, please contact Ms. Catherine Winslow at Catherine.Winslow@wright.edu

Dr. Sahu is Promoted to Associate Professor

We are pleased to announce that Dr. Ravi Sahu, Assistant Professor of Pharmacology & Toxicology, has been promoted to Associate Professor. Dr. Sahu recently was awarded an NIH R21 grant this past year and it was just announced he and Dr. Travers will be awarded an NIH R34 grant. For more details on Dr. Sahu, please see the Spotlight Section in the Winter 2018 edition of the newsletter.



Congrats to Dr. Sahu, and especially Dr. Thyagarajan who has been key to his success!

Drs. Ravi Sahu and Anita Thyagarajan

Winter Class of MS Students Began

We are pleased to announce that again this year, due to the demand, we have admitted MS students to begin their degree program in January, 2023. A total of 12 students began our program which put the total numbers of MS students at 129 total students (12 CTC, 14 MD/MS, 15 Research, 83 L/A).

DEPARTMENT UPDATES



Dr. Kemp receives AOM Outstanding Junior Faculty Award

Kemp received the Academy of Medicine (AOM) 2023 Outstanding Junior Faculty Award at the annual dinner on April 25, 2023.

Dr. Kemp and his well-deserved award!

Department Involved in Advising following East Palestine Train Wreck

The East Palestine train derailment occurred on February 3, 2023, at 8:55 p.m. EST, when 38 cars of a Norfolk Southern freight train carrying hazardous materials derailed in East Palestine, Ohio, United States. Several railcars burned for more than two days, with emergency crews then conducting a controlled burn of several railcars, which released hydrogen chloride and phosgene into the air. As a result, residents within a 1-mile (1.6-kilometer) radius were evacuated, and an emergency response was initiated from agencies in Ohio, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia. The train was carrying a variety of hazardous materials, including vinyl chloride, benzene residue, and butyl acrylate. Vinyl chloride is a highly toxic gas that can cause respiratory problems, cancer, and death. Benzene residue is a known carcinogen, and butyl acrylate is a flammable liquid that can cause skin and eye irritation.

The East Palestine train derailment is a reminder of the dangers of transporting hazardous materials by rail. Railroads need to take steps to prevent derailments, and it is also important for communities to be prepared for the possibility of a derailment.

Several news agencies reached out to the CBRN/toxicology faculty in the department for interviews and advice, including CBS (National), Wired, Ideastream Public Media, Sputnik Newswire, DC Bureau, and The Dayton Daily News. Drs. Oroszi and Williams took the lead with interviews, but several PTX faculty, including Dr. Sulentic, provided input.

Another example of departmental faculty expertise helping our community!

Departmental Students Win Big at Inaugural 3-Minute Thesis/Dissertation Competition

The Department did well in Wright State University's inaugural 3-Minute Thesis/Dissertation oral competition held February 21, 2023. Of the 11 students presenting from all across campus, SIX (6) were associated with Pharmacology & Toxicology (Vamshi Beemanapalli, William Cvammen, Mia Williams Burnett, Shikshita Singh, Venkata Sailaja Rachakonda, and Pranali Manjrekar). The Department came away with many prizes, also! 1st place award to William Cvammen (Kemp Lab); 2nd Place award to Shikshita Singh (Travers Lab); 3rd Place award to Mia Williams Burnett (Hussain/Sulentic Labs) and the People's Choice Award went to Vamshi Beemanapalli (Sulentic Lab). Please see pictures of winners with Provost Thompson and President Edwards.



MD-MS Students Making an Impact in Radiology

We are proud to announce that a team of BSOM students including three MD-MS students (Torralba, Gilbert, Fisher)



competed in the Society for Interventional Radiology's Biodesign and Innovation Competition. The team listed above, with mentor Dr. Robert Short, made it to the final competition on January 25th, 2023. Competing against medical student teams from Johns Hopkins, Brown, and Thomas Jefferson, our team took home 1st place. Their project centers on optimizing lung cancer



Ericson John Torralba, Wright State University Boonshoft School of Medicine, Class of 2024



Michael Gilbert, Wright State University Boonshoft School of Medicine, Class of 2024



Garrett Fisher, Wright State University Boonshoft School of Medicine, Class of 2025



Reid Furusmidt, Wright State University Boonshoft School of Medicine, Class of 2024



Robert Short, MD, PhD, Wright State University Boonshoft School of Medicine Section Chief Interventional Radiology, Department of Diagnostic and Therapeutic Radiology, Dayton VA Medical Center

therapy care pathways through utilization of CT-scan based analytics and clinical scoring systems to better stratify early-stage lung cancer patients into possible curative therapies including surgery, radiation, or thermal ablation. Their "INSPIRE" proposal lays out an "INtegrated System Providing Interventional Radiology/Radiation oncology Expedited" consultation as part of a multidisciplinary Minimally Invasive Nodule Therapy (MINT) Clinic.

New Studies Begin in the Pharmacology Translational Unit

One of the goals of the Department is to foster translational studies to facilitate the process where discoveries at the laboratory bench can be brought to the clinic. Moreover, the Pharmacology Translational Unit (PTU) located in the Wright State Physicians Building next to our campus is set up to conduct both translational research studies as well as pharmaceutical clinical trials. Regarding the latter, the PTU is currently conducting almost a dozen pharma-sponsored studies. These include testing a topical aryl hydrocarbon receptor modulator for psoriasis in children, and a new studies testing novel agents for the challenging skin disease hidradenitis. The PTU is also testing a novel agent for the blistering disease bullous pemphigoid. We also have a novel self-funded study testing if high doses of oral vitamin D can treat psoriasis. In addition to these studies, we are particularly looking for healthy adults 18-45 years and over age 65 years of age interested in some of our translational studies. If questions or for more details, please contact PTU Medical Director Dr. Rohan or PTU Administrative Director Elizabeth Cates at 937-245-7500.

Spring 2023 Graduates

Congratulations to our graduates!

Vyshnavi Aaireni
Hamad Albaqami
Krishna Awasthi
Shriya Bandapalli
Rama Bandi
Abdul Basit
Sahithi Bethelli
Anisha Cherukuri
Swathi Chillara
Anusha Chinthareddy
Sreevalli Chirumamilla
Danielle Corbin
Sai Priya Devarakonda
Lakshmi Devarapalli
Prashant Gaikwad
Vaibhavkumar Gajjar
Jaypalsinh Gohil
Balaram Gudapati
Vineel Jampani

Hrishikesh Kadam
Naga Kavuri
Venkatesh Kilari
Maansi Kulkarni
Rushabh Lohade
Bhavitha Madala
Pranali Manjrekar
Adil Mohammed
Swathi Palnati
Harika Paruchuri
Kesha Patel
Sumaja Perneti
Vinitha Sakhamuri
Tulasi Sama
Shikshita Singh
Harika Vaddadi
Lakshmi Vinnakota
Divya Yekkala

Spotlight

Each issue of the Departmental Newsletter will “spotlight” an individual faculty or program in the Department. For this issue, we are taking the opportunity to spotlight Ms. Winslow.



*Catherine Winslow
Assistant to the Chair
Assistant Director, MS Program*

Catherine was born in Grosse Pointe, Michigan, though she grew up on the east side of Detroit. Her parents are Douglas and Nancy Shahady. Her father ran a family drapery business, where Catherine worked part time during high school and the summers of college. She has four sisters and a brother. Following graduation from Regina HS, an all-girl Catholic school, Catherine then went to the University of Michigan where she worked her way through receiving her BA in Business in 1988. Following matriculation, she worked at Electronic Data Systems Inc., a company owned by entrepreneur Ross Perot. Rising through the ranks, Ms. Winslow became a manager with 22 people reporting to her. She left EDS and joined the Department in 2008. Ms. Winslow has contributed and helped oversee the growth in the Department, especially the new non-thesis MS program. To recognize her important role in the educational mission of the Department, in 2017 she became Assistant Director of the MS

Program. In her many roles, Catherine manages the Chair’s calendar, promotions, evaluations and other duties of the Chair’s office as well as provides support for the faculty and students. For example, students oftentimes seek her out with issues ranging from homesickness to career advice. In this role, Catherine Winslow serves as a “mother” to many of our students. Inasmuch as many of our students are from overseas and they are often away from home for the first time, her guidance has tremendous value and has made Dayton more like “home” for countless students. Ms. Winslow also coordinates this newsletter as well as a weekly “Down on the Pharm” bulletin updating faculty as to important goings on from the weekly administrative meeting. Not surprisingly, Catherine enjoys the variety and the camaraderie of all in her essential job in the Department.

When not working, Catherine likes spending time with her family. Her husband Bob Winslow is a Network Engineer, and they have five children; Robert, Sarah, Jessica, Maria, and Sophia, ranging from 36 to 21 years of age, son-in-law, Steven, and daughter-in-law, Alison, and a beautiful grandson, Rowan, who will turn 1 on July 28! Her hobbies include reading, especially mysteries and political thrillers. Catherine is also a writer and is working on a novel at this time. She enjoys exercising and overseeing a household which consists of two Shetland Sheepdogs, Blue and Leo; three bunnies, Lola, Sunshine, and Casper; and two cats, Percy and Whodey! (Note: the bunnies are entirely managed by Sophie).

When asked about her role models, Ms. Winslow describes many. In particular, she relates that her parents have played an important role and have given her examples of truly happy people who exhibit both a strong faith and notable work ethic.

We are quite fortunate to have Catherine Winslow in our midst and are pleased to spotlight her and her many accomplishments. She really deserves credit for much of the success of the Department and all of us are grateful for her and her efforts!



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