Introducing New Graduate Students

We are excited to highlight Shannon, Anna, and Rachel - three new Microbiology graduate students. Shannon is currently currently rotating with the DeLisa lab, working with Aravind on a project focused on cloning and screening for effective glycosyltransferases that can generate O-linked glycosylated proteins in an E. coli system. As an undergraduate, Shannon focused on developing techniques to enhance algae biofuel production. She also explored novel genes involved in the root development of model plant systems. Shannon looks forward to pursuing research in applied microbiology. Through previous research at the National Cancer Institute on ribosome biogenesis and cell division in E. coli, Anna developed an interest in using genetics to resolve essential pathways in the bacterial cell cycle. In her first rotation with Dr. Tobias Doerr, Anna is applying her genetics training to solving a mechanism of B-lactam antibiotic tolerance in the human pathogen, V. cholerae. Rachel's previous work focused on plant epigenetics at UW-Madison, specifically the role of histone modification in plant development and the mechanism behind histone modification. She is currently rotating in the VanderVen lab on a project exploring nutrient uptake and usage in M. tuberculosis. Rachel is interested in pursuing research in host-microbe interactions.

See the October newsletter to learn more about first-year graduate students: Peter, Monique, and Elliot!

Microbiology Symposium

The 2016 Microbiology Symposium kicked off with a series of short talks by graduate students Evgeniya Nazarova, Heng Zhao, and David Sandino, post docs Jasna Kovac, Lubna Richter, and Juhong Chen, and faculty Dr. Tobias Doerr, Dr. Tory Hendry, and Dr. Patricia Mowery. The talks were outstanding and raised lively conversations. The poster session provided the opportunity to network and discuss research featuring student and faculty projects. Topics ranged from microbiome, food safety, pathogen evolution, soil health, and viruses. The symposium was organized and facilitated by Lillian Henry, Patti Brenchley, and Dr. Esther Angert. Dr. Angert was extremely pleased that the symposium fostered a collaborative environment in which students, alumni, and faculty discussed and developed their ideas. She hopes to expand the Microbiology Symposium by promoting participation from regional universities, Syracuse and Binghamton.

News Highlights

1) Congratulations Samantha Scott! Samantha Scott (Chang Lab) is the 2016 recipient of the CALS Outstanding Teaching Assistant in Microbiology Award! Please join us in congratulating her on her exceptional contribution to the teaching goals and mission of the Department of Microbiology.

2) Welcome Zhishu Liang Zhishu is a PhD student from Guangzhou Institute of Geochemistry, Chinese Academy of Sciences currently working with Dr. Steve Zinder.

Upcoming Events

- Oct. 31st: Halloween Coffee Hour
- Oct 26 - Nov 11: Spring 2017 enrollment
- Nov 23-26: Thanksgiving Recess