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OSUMC Office of Research Supports Our Clinical Research Expansion

Since July 2008, the newly-created Office of Research Support at B0931 Cramblett Hall has been utilized by a technical editor and 9 clinical research professionals (6 full-time; 3 part-time). The office fully complies with patient care and confidentiality involved in appropriately conducting department- and sponsored-clinical trials. Equipped with a LCD projector and screen, the office is available for research meetings and conferences. Contact Iveta Grants at 688-3668 for availability.

New Clinical Lab for Research is Unveiled

A new clinical lab with two separate workstations, located at N531 Doan Hall, is up and running! The lab is available to all faculty, residents, and research personnel in our department who have human samples (eg, blood, tissue, cells, cerebral spinal fluid, biopsy tissue) to process from clinical trials or investigator-initiated clinical studies. The lab features a BSL-2 biological safety hood, an -80°C freezer, a Beckman GS-6R refrigerated centrifuge, an analytical and a top-loading balance, and a computer. The clinical lab meets OSHA-
Profile: Mark A. Gerhardt, MD, PhD

Mark A. Gerhardt, MD, PhD is a cardiothoracic anesthesiologist who joined The Ohio State University in 1998. He graduated from the Medical Scientist Training Program from the University of Michigan where he specialized in molecular pharmacology and signal transduction mechanisms of adrenergic receptors. He performed his internship at the Cleveland Clinic Foundation. Dr. Gerhardt completed his anesthesiology residency and cardiothoracic anesthesia fellowship at Duke University. He remained at Duke University as a Fellow in the NIH Anesthesiology Research Program. His work focused on acute adrenergic receptor desensitization mechanisms, with publications in Anesthesiology, Circulation, and Circulation Research and a grant from the Foundation for Anesthesia Education and Research (FAER).

Clinically, Dr. Gerhardt specializes in cardiac, thoracic, vascular, and regional anesthesia. He was honored with Teacher of the Year awards in 2001 and 2002, and the College of Medicine also recognized him with an Excellence in Teaching award in 2002. He has also been active in the lung transplant and lung volume reduction surgery (NETT) programs at Ohio State. Dr. Gerhardt has an active research program investigating molecular mechanisms of ventricular remodeling in large animal models of heart failure and congenital heart disease. In 2001, his lab developed a microembolization model of heart failure with left ventricular assist device implantation to evaluate myocardial oxygen utilization during partial ventricular unloading. These results were published in the Journal of Cardiac Failure (2004, 2005) and ASAIO. Dr. Gerhardt was also funded by peer-reviewed grants from FAER and the National Heart Foundation.

In collaboration with The Heart Center and Center for Cardiopulmonary Medicine at Nationwide Children’s Hospital, Dr. Gerhardt was awarded competitive peer-reviewed grants from the Society of Cardiovascular Anesthesiologists (2008) and the Nationwide Children’s Translational Research Grant (2009) to explore molecular mechanisms of remodeling in congenital heart disease.

2nd Annual Anesthesiology Skills Lab

Mark Gerhardt, MD, PhD, nationally recognized for his work in large animal research studies in heart failure, and Gretel Monreal, PhD, directed the 2nd Annual Anesthesiology Skills Laboratory on July 10. The lab is an excellent display in integration of translational research and expertise with training in clinical skills of our CA-1 residents.

Fourteen anesthesiology and dental residents participated in the all-day event, which included demonstrations, slide presentations, and hands-on techniques for fiberoptic bronchoscopy, ET tube exchange, central lines, and more.

Course preceptors: Ron Harter, MD, John Rogowski, DO, Andy Roth, MD, Ben Morris, MD, Chris Annis, MD, and Nick Franklin, MD.
Announcements

- Check out OSU’s vendor policy: https://www.osumc.edu/webpage.aspx?pg=vendor_interaction_policy
- CA-3 residents: Direct inquiries about starter grants for your research from the Dominic and Lisa Mandalfino Memorial Fund in Anesthesiology to Dr. Christofi.

Awards

Abstracts submitted by Mohamed D.H. Hassona, Mohamed Awad and Zeinb A. Abouelnaga, PhD students in the lab of Hamdy Hassanain, PhD, were selected as ‘best abstracts’ for Experimental Biology 2009 in New Orleans and given travel awards. The research focus is on the use of genomic models of cardiovascular disease. Sergio Bergese, MD is a collaborator.

Faculty-authored Publications

Sergio Bergese, MD


Fievos L. Christofi, PhD

Roger Dzwonczyk, PE

Hamdy Awad, MD, Andy Roth, MD

Mark Gerhardt, MD, PhD

Pending NIH Grants

1. Fievos L. Christofi, PhD – NIDDK (Obama Recovery Act grant); Purinergic signaling in enteric neural reflexes.
2. Yun Xia, MD, PhD – NIDDK; PAF in the Enteric Nervous System.

Physician Scientist Joins Residency

Jacqueline Wunderlich, MD, PhD, part of the GI investigative team led by Fievos Christofi, PhD in collaboration with Brad Needleman, MD for the past five years, has joined the anesthesiology residency program. At this year’s American Gastroenterology Association meeting, she gave an oral presentation on “purinergic neural-glial communication in the human ENS.”
Promotions & Leadership Activities in Research

- Congratulations to Robert H. Small, MD for being named as president of the College of Medicine Faculty Council.
- Fievos L. Christofi, PhD reviewed National Institutes of Health (NIH) grants in three NIH study sections for National Institute of Digestive, Diabetes and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK). He will also serve as a permanent member of the clinical and integrative molecular gastroenterology (CIMG) study section until 2013.
- Erika Puente was promoted to research scientist. Congrats!
- Dr. Christofi was also appointed to the College of Medicine Promotion & Tenure Committee.
- Dr. Small was also selected as vice chair of Administrative Affairs in the Department of Anesthesiology.

PhD Graduate of Medical Scientist Program

Keith Vogt, PhD graduated on June 14 with Robert H. Small, MD hooding. Keith's graduation is the culmination of five years of research in the Department of Anesthesiology under the mentorship of Dr. Small. His work on the reduction of physiological noise from fMRI studies of pain was presented at several national and international meetings and has generated more than three manuscripts, which are in the writing and submission process. Keith will now move on to the clerkship years of his combined MD-PhD program. Congratulations, Keith!

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