PUBLICATIONS

Qin, L., D.S.P.S.F. Guimarães, M. Melesse and M.C. Hall. 2016. Substrate recognition by the Cdh1 destruction box receptor is a general requirement for APC/C<sup>Cdh1</sup>-mediated proteolysis. *J. Biol. Chem.* **291**: 15564-15574.


AWARDS & RECOGNITION

Clint Chapple received an award in the amount of $300,000 from the Office of Basic Energy Sciences within the Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Science for his proposal entitled “Phenylpropanoid metabolism in Arabidopsis: The Role of REF4”. The project period is from 09/01/2016 – 08/31/2017.

Xiaoqi Liu received an award in the amount of $1,776,786 for his proposal entitled “Treatment of Castration-resistant Prostate Cancer (CRPC)” from the National Institutes of Health. The total project period is from 07/07/2016 – 06/30/2021.

Xiaoqi Liu received an award in the amount of $134,850 from the University of Wisconsin-Madison for his proposal entitled “Role of Polo-like Kinase-1 in Melanocytic Transformation. The total project period is from 07/01/2016 – 06/30/2020.

Xiaoqi Liu was chosen as a 2016 Showalter Faculty Scholar. Showalter Faculty Scholars must be Purdue University Faculty Scholars and they hold this title for the duration of their faculty scholar appointment. The title reflects support for the Purdue University Faculty Scholars program from the Ralph W. and Grace M. Showalter Trust and represents an official recognition of their expertise and excellence specifically in life sciences. Xiaoqi’s faculty scholar appointment runs through 2021.

Andy Mesecar received an award in the amount of $12,000 from CRDF Global. His proposal was entitled “Discovery of novel MER-coronavirus 3CLprotease inhibitors by combined structure-based and ligand-based virtual screening followed by in vitro validation and structural studies.” The project period is from 01/01/2016 – 09/30/2016.

Andy Mesecar received an award in the amount of $30,000 from EVPRP-NIH Program Grants. His proposal was entitled “Memapsin 1 Inhibitors for Treatment of Type 2 Diabetes”. The project period is from 05/01/2016 – 12/31/2017. Arun Ghosh (Department of Chemistry) is Co-PI for this award.

Beth Tran was featured in the August 17<sup>th</sup> edition of the AG Research Spotlight. To read the full article click on the link. [https://ag.purdue.edu/arp/SiteAssets/Spotlight%20-%20Tran.pdf](https://ag.purdue.edu/arp/SiteAssets/Spotlight%20-%20Tran.pdf)
Siwen Wang (Tran lab) was accepted into the very selective Epigenomics course at Van Andel Research Institute in Grand Rapids, MI from July 25 – 29, 2016.

NEW FACES

Yuan Zhou joined the Tao lab August 1 as a postdoc on August 1. He will be conducting research on chemical proteomics. Originally from China, Yuan earned his B.E. degree from Dalian University of Technology in Bioengineering in 2007 and his Ph.D. from Dalian Institute of Chemical Physics in Analytical Chemistry in 2014. After graduation, he worked at Dalian until June 2016. In his free time, he likes reading, driving and bike riding.

Yanyan Du joined the Tao Lab August 1 as an assistant research scientist and is from China. Yanyan received her PhD degree in biochemistry and molecular biology from China Agriculture University. Her previous research focused on protein kinase and signaling transduction. In Yanyan’s free time she enjoys traveling, cooking and spending time with her family.

Sujith Puthiyaveetil joined the department on August 15 as Assistant Professor. Originally from Kerala, India, Sujith received a B.Sc. from Calicut University (Kerala, India), a M.Sc. from Kannur University (Kerala, India), and his Ph.D. from the University of London. He most recently served as a post-doc at Washington State University, Pullman, where he uncovered the molecular basis of the high efficiency of protein repair in chloroplasts, which heals photodamage – the botanical equipment of sunburn. In his spare time, Sujith enjoys politics and soccer.

Jacob Hatfield joined the department on August 29 as the departmental storeroom clerk (replacing Mike Christy). Jake grew up in the Lafayette area, graduating from McCutcheon High School in 2007. He comes with a background in shipping and receiving and customer service. In March 2011, Jake married his high school sweetheart, Brianna. In their free time, they enjoy riding motorcycles, target shooting, spending time with family and friends, and being involved in Christian fellowship activities among other things. They are expecting their first child at the end of November 2016.

Yanyan Du joined the Tao Lab August 1 as an assistant research scientist and is from China. Yanyan received her PhD degree in biochemistry and molecular biology from China Agriculture University. Her previous research focused on protein kinase and signaling transduction. In Yanyan’s free time she enjoys traveling, cooking and spending time with her family.
2016 Incoming Graduate Students

(From left to right) Spencer Escobedo, Gilbert Kayanja, Courtney Traugh, Srishti Chakravorty, Kortany Baker and Chelsea Wu

2016 Incoming Undergraduate Students

Welcome to the 2016 incoming Biochemistry freshmen class. With 45 students, this is the largest incoming class in departmental history.

DEPARTMENT NEWS

August Graduates

Dr. Liang (Robert) Qin (Hall lab)
Next Stop: Postdoctoral Research, Cleveland Clinic
2016 Summer REU

Eight students participated in the NSF-funded Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) program from May 23 - July 29, 2016. The 10-week program provides advanced training in the manipulation and analysis of proteins for undergraduate students. It facilitates deep understanding of experimental laboratory research, insights into protein biochemistry and contemplation of the broader context of research.

To the left is Gilbert Loiseau from the College of William and Mary, presenting his research at the poster session held on July 29th. Gilbert worked in the lab of Humaira Gowher.

Jim Forney would like to thank the following students, postdoctoral scientists and faculty for reviewing NSF REU student posters on July 29th; Brandon Anson, Chris Petell, Nina Serratore, Faeze Saatchi, Steve Broyles, Bethany Manning, Brendan Powers, Joe Lynch, Kyle Mohler, Xinping Chen, Samantha Lee, Fred Gimble.

GRADUATE STUDENT NEWS

Congratulations to Xiangying (Candy) Mao (Chapple lab) for passing her preliminary exam on August 22, 2016.
IT CORNER
By Joe Levell

This is a friendly reminder to back up your data before something disastrous happens. There are various methods you can employ to back up your data. I suggest you follow the system below. The best way to back up your data properly is to use the 3-2-1 rule.

- Keep 3 copies of anything you care about.
- Keep the files on at least 2 different media types. Examples: external hard drive, networked hard drive or share, cd/dvd, flash drive.
- 1 copy should be stored off-site on one of the above media types and kept in a safe location.

It’s up to you how often you do this. I suggest that you do this weekly at the end of the week. Your computer or laptop does not count as a media type. It should not be used to satisfy the 3-2-1 rule in any way.

STRICTLY PERSONAL

Congratulations to Ben Carter (Ogas lab) for passing his Ph.D. defense on August 30, 2016.

Congratulations to Rachel Stegeman (Weake lab) and Michael Graham on the occasion of their wedding on August 20, 2016. They were married in Saint Paul, Minnesota.
The Tao group went on a canoe trip at the nearby Wildcat Creek. The picture shows them being transported to an upstream pier in a 1977 bus.

Congratulations to Bo Wang (Dudareva lab) and her husband Yaowang Li on the birth of their daughter, July Li, who was born on July 26, 2016.

Congratulations to Jeffrey Simpson (Chapple lab) and his wife Marisa Erasmus (Animal Sciences) on the birth of their daughter Annika Marie Simpson. Annika was born on Thursday, August 25th, weighing 7 lb. 1 oz. and was 20” long.

**BIRTHDAYS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hunter Balduf</th>
<th>Steve Broyles</th>
<th>K.K. Ho</th>
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<tr>
<td>Sherry Honn</td>
<td>Xiaoqi Liu</td>
<td>Victor Rodwell</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rachel Stegeman</td>
<td>Andy Tao</td>
<td>Allison Norvil</td>
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<td>Colin Carlock</td>
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UPCOMING EVENTS

September Biochemistry Speaker Seminar
(Tuesdays at 3:30 – 4:30 p.m. in Whistler Hall, Rm. 116)

September 6 - Dr. Estuardo Robles, Purdue University, Dept. of Biological Sciences, “Genetic Mosaic Labeling as a Tool to Explore Neuronal Diversity in the Visual System”

September 13 - Dr. Manny Ares, Jr., UC Santa Cruz, Dept. of PBSci-Molecular, Cell & Developmental Biology, “A Hungry Spliceosome Shapes Gene Expression and Intron Evolution in Saccharomyces”

September 20 – 21, BEACH LECTURES – Dr. Jef Boeke, NYU, School of Medicine, Dept. of Biochemistry & Molecular Pharmacology, Institute for Systems Genetics

September 27, Dr. Aaron Hoskins, University of Wisconsin-Madison, College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, "The Spliceosome's Lack of Commitment"

September Biochemistry Grad Student/Postdoc Seminar
(Every other Friday at 12:30 – 1:30 p.m. in Whistler Hall, Rm. 116)

September 16 – Ben Carter (Ogas lab) & Anwesha Sanyal (Mattoo lab)

September 30 – Aamir Mir (Golden lab) & Rachel Stegeman (Weake lab)