

# AFMR News

**Newsletter of the American Federation for Medical Research** 

March 2006

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# From the President.....

Dear AFMR Members:

It has been an eventful year - a year of successful initiatives and new opportunities, a year of enthusiastic participation and a year of increasing challenges. I thank the AFMR Executive Director, Aurelie Alger, JD, and members of the AFMR national and regional councils for their tremendous dedication, energy, and efforts during this past year in continuing to make AFMR the "home" organization for medical researchers. I welcome Jonathan Purnell, MD, as our incoming President, who brings new ideas, experience and enthusiasm to AFMR.

Our programs this year have been vibrant and expanding. This has been particularly evident at our regional meetings, which reflect the strength of our grassroots membership. While the location needed to be changed, the devastations of Katrina and Rita did not deter AFMR Southern regional members from holding their meeting and having strong attendance. In the West, the Carmel meeting continued to flourish and their AFMR career workshops drew capacity plus audiences. In the Midwest, the planned activities and pre-registration for the upcoming meeting (to be held on April 28 in Chicago) attest to its revitalization and growth. Thanks to the vigorous efforts of council members, past and present, this year's regional meetings

Deborah Zucker, M.D., Ph.D.



continued to boost AFMR Scholars Programs - supporting trainees' attendance and recognizing their works. AFMR national activities are continuing to promote our goals of research dissemination, career development and medical research advocacy. The AFMR Translational Research Symposia at the Experimental Biology meetings, expertly organized by AFMR VP for Meetings Abdulla Salahudeen, MD, draw standingroom only crowds. This year's series (to be held April 1-5 in San Francisco) will continue to lead the curve by presenting bench to bedside research addressing clinically important questions. A career development workshop is planned to expand this program and provide practical guidance to investigators.

(continued on page 3)

## **CLINICAL RESEARCH 2006**

#### Marriott Wardman Park Hotel, Washington, DC March 16-18, 2006

Clinical Research 2006 will bring together the brightest clinical researchers to discuss scientific, academic, and policy issues that cut across all areas of clinical research, reflecting the interests of each of the sponsoring organizations:

- **American Federation for Medical Research**
- **GCRC Program Directors' Association**
- **Association for Patient-Oriented Research**
- **Association for Clinical Research Training**

Clinical Research 2006 will present a wide range of cutting-edge scientific presentations and important updates from research leaders and Washington-area policy makers. In addition, there are special workshops and sessions devoted to trainees to allow networking, learning, and support between trainees and senior investigators.

# 2006 HENRY CHRISTIAN AWARD Winners



Maliha Agloria, MD Jewish Hospital of Cincinnati



Zahra Gharraee, MD University of California, Irvine



Richard S. Goldstein, MD
Feinstein Institute for Medical Research



Sudha Koppaka, MD Albert Einstein College of Medicine



Do-Eun Lee, MD
Albert Einstein College of Medicine



Myria Petrou, MA, MBChB University of Michigan



Basel Ramlawi, MD
Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center



Mark Gregory Roddy, MD Children's National Medical Center



Magdalena Winiarska, MD Jewish Hospital of Cincinnati

#### 2006 INVESTIGATOR AWARD Winners

# Outstanding Investigator Award



Jonathan A. Epstein, MD University of Pennsylvania

## **Junior Physician Investigators Awards**



Polyxeni D. Koutkia, MD Massachusetts General Hospital



Chirag R. Parikh, MD
Yale University School of Medicine

The AFMR Outstanding Investigator and Junior Physician Investigator Awards are supported by an educational grant from Glaxo Smith Kline

#### From the President (continued from page 1)

We continue to co-sponsor the Clinical Research meetings and AFMR Past-President Mark Burge, MD served as this year's program chair. We advocated for a focus on trainee development activities while also providing a national forum for members to present patient-focused research and a setting in which to form collegial cross-discipline connections. The professionaldevelopment series have been expanded in our Journal of Investigative Medicine (JIM), and the building of career and networking resources on our website is currently underway. An added note about JIM - our Editor-in-Chief, Michael McPhaul, MD, has also successfully increased the number and quality of manuscript submissions and has expanded the journal's breadth. Please submit your work to JIM and enhance our efforts to raise JIM's impact factor.

On the Public Policy front, this has been a busy year and your input has directed our proactive advocacy efforts. It has been exciting to see new NIH initiatives promoting long-standing AFMR goals such as interdisciplinary, translational and clinical research, training medical researchers, and applying research to enhance public policy. Unfortunately, new monies have not been appropriated to NIH to support these new programs. The constraints on the NIH's budget are the worst in decades. In response, AFMR Secretary Treasurer/Public Policy Chair, Meredith Hawkins, MD, and I presented our support and concerns to NIH Program Direc-

tors and to Congressional staff in both the House and Senate. We met with Dr. Barbara Alving and other leaders at the National Center for Research Resources and discussed our optimism and our apprehensions about the future of the proposed Clinical and Translational Research Award (CTSA) program.

Peer review at NIH was also identified as a significant member concern in our public policy survey. With the help of longtime AFMR lobbyist Ms. Lynn Morrison of Washington Health Advocates, we were able to discuss this with the Director of the Center for Scientific Review at NIH, Dr. Antonio Scarpa, and to bring this matter to the attention of congressional members. We are pleased that the Senate Appropriations Committee report included a request for the review and the addressing of any disparities in the peer review of patient-focused research at NIH. Your voices were heard and your continued input is critical. Through the AAIM newsletter, timely e-mail notifications and our website's public policy page, we are working to keep you abreast and involved.

Our programs are flourishing and our opportunities are expanding. At the same time medical researchers are being pulled in many directions and we continue to see our membership decline. We are addressing this by working to meet current and future members' needs. We need your help. Our programs seem to be what people want-so we need to draw more

people to these programs. Participants are enthusiastic-so we must find ways to focus and transform this into active membership. Our organization has deep roots and long-standing goals - and looking at trends and AFMR's activities we clearly have our fingers on the pulse of medical research -literally and figuratively. Our ability to do this- to remain ahead of the curve- is thanks to you.

Members see what is needed and AFMR provides the "home" - the supports - to help us help ourselves - our interests, our careers and our profession. I urge you to think about what AFMR means to you - the support of a collegial environment in which to present your work; a journal open to interdisciplinary research and career enhancing information; a venue in which to connect with colleagues who may be in other specialties but who, like you, have a passion for research and for how it connects to patients; a place where you can have the opportunities for leadership — developing workshops, shaping public policy, and shaping our organization. Whatever it is—work to keep it and let others know about it. Invite them into our home. NOW is the time we have to act - I am convinced that once involved - once actively connected —it will be more rewarding and exciting for you and for us all.

With best wishes for future successes, Deborah Zucker, M.D., Ph.D., President

# Award Winners from Western Regional Meeting

#### WAFMR Outstanding Investigator

Zili Zhang, M.D.
Department of Pediatrics
Oregon Health and Science University

#### **AFMR Scholar Awards**

#### Patricia C. Heyn, Ph.D.

University of Colorado HSC A Systematic Comparison Of Exercise Training Outcomes on Cognitively Impaired and Cognitively Intact Older Adults

#### Javid Kamali

University of New Mexico
The Use of a New Presentation Format Improves
Patient Care and Teaching in the ICU

#### Farah K Madhani-Lovely, B.S., M.D.

University of New Mexico
Trending Serum Albumin In Predicting
Prognosis in Lung Cancer. A Computer
Database Review

# Charles J. Wray, M.D. UCSD

Use of Omalizumab for Cessation of Corticosteroid Therapy in a Patient with Pulmonary Sarcoidosis, Aspergillomas, Long-Standing Asthma, and Allergic Bronchopulmonary Aspergillosis

#### Clark C. Kulig, M.D.

University of Colorado HSCenter Lack of Detectable Levels of Fatty Acid Ethyl Esters in Plasma of Abstinent Liver Transplant Recipients

#### Cardiovascular Scholar Awards

#### Jamil Aboulhson, M.D.

UCLA Adult Congenital Heart Disease Center Quantification of Pulmonary Calcium Deposits in Patients With Primary and Secondary Pulmonary Hypertension Using Computed Tomography

#### Christine E. Bixby

Harbor-UCLA Medical Center
Platelet Activator Factor Plays a Significant
Role in Pulmonary Vascular Remodeling
Associated With Chronic High Altitude
Hypoxia (HAH) in Ovine Fetal Lambs

#### Yolanda E. Bogaert UCHSC

Type 1 Collagen Regulates Vascular Smooth Muscle Cell Phenotype By Down-Regulation of CREB and SRF Through an AKT-Dependent Mechanism

#### **Michelle Dew**

University of Arizona Attenuation Correction Affects Sum Stress Score in Myocardial Perfusion Imaging Among Women at Risk for Coronary Heart Disease

#### Shannon E. Hamrick

University of California San Francisco Validating Cerebral NIRS in Postoperative Pediatric Cardiac Surgery

#### Elizabeth Juneman, M.D.

University of Arizona Implantation Of 3DFC Patch Improves Left Ventricular Systolic Function and Prevents LV Remodeling After Myocardial Infarction

#### Eric S. Miguelino, M.D.

UC-Davis Medical Center C-Reactive Protein (CRP): Adiponectin Ratio-A Novel Diagnostic Biomarker of the Metabolic Syndrome

#### Shelley D. Miyamoto

University of Colorado Cell-Specific Responses in an Apoptotic Model of Viral Myocarditis

#### Christian H. Pott

UCLA

Increased Transient Outward Current, Shortened Action Potential Duration and Ishort-Qt-Syndromeî In Na+/Ca2+ Exchanger Knockout Mice

#### Benjamin Schaefer, M.D.

University of Washington
Variation in Cardiac Index by
Thermodilution Methods in Heart Transplant
Recipients

#### Uma Singh, Ph.D.

**UC** Davis

CRP Downregulates Il-10 Secretion from Human Monocyte-Derived Macrophages via Inhibition of Protein-Kinase A

#### Sara O. Weiss, M.D.

University of Colorado Trichostatin A Differentially Regulates Pathologic and Physiologic Hypertrophy

# Centocor Immunology And Rheumatology Scholar Award

#### **Amit Goel**

University of Washington Assessment of Regulatory T Cells in Phenotypic Type 2 Diabtes Patients

#### Frederick J. Rubner

University of Utah
Polymorphonuclear Leukocyte
Differentiation from Human Umbilical Cord
Blood Stem Cells: A Model for Ontogenic
Investigation

#### **Centocor Scholar Award**

#### Zahra Gharraee, M.D.

University of California, Irvine Antenatal Indomethacin Suppresses Lung MMP Activity and VEGF Levels in Fetal Rabbits

# **Brigitte N. Gomperts** UCLA

Circulating Progenitor Epithelial Cells Traffic Via Cxcr4/Cxcl12 in Response to Airway Injury

#### Daniel Norman, M.D.

University of California, San Diego Fibrosing Mediastinitis as an Etiology of Unexplained Syncope

#### **Endocrinology Scholar Award**

#### Jorge N. Artaza, M.D.

Charles Drew University Myostatin Effects on C3h 10t (1/2) Mesenchymal Multipotent Cells Through the SMAD Signaling Pathway: A Microarray Approach

#### Piya Ballani, M.D.

Charles R. Drew University
Testosterone Effects on Muscle Mass and
Strength: A Systematic Review of Trials in
Young Hypogonadal Men and Middle-Aged
and Older Men with Low Testosterone Levels

#### Jacalyn M. Bishop, B.S., M.D.

Oregon Health and Science University
The Development of Hepatic Steatosis and
Oxidative Stress in the Offspring of
Nonhuman Primates Fed a High-Fat Diet

#### Krista Erkkila, M.D., Ph.D

**UCLA** 

N-Acetyl-L-Cysteine Restores Gsh-Gssg Ratio and Prevents Human Male Germ Cell Apoptosis

#### **Western Regional Winners (continued)**

#### Michael A. Garcia, M.D.

Charles R. Drew University
Differences in Subjective and Objective
Sexual Function Between Hispanic and NonHispanic Women

#### Yue Jia, M.D., Ph.D UCLA

Mild Testicular Hyperthermia and Exogenous Testosterone Induce Germ Cell Apoptosis Through Mitochondrial-Dependent Pathway in Adult Cynomolgus Monkeys

#### Peter Y. Liu, M.B., B.S. (Hons), Ph.D.

**UCLA** 

Recovery of Spermatogenesis after Androgen-Progestin Therapy

#### Hamid Moradi, B.S., M.D.

University of California, Irvine

Down-Regulation of Hepatic HDL Receptor

Proteins in Hereditary Obesity

#### Stephanie T. Page

**UWMC** 

Is There a Role for GNRH Antagonists in Male Hormonal Contraception?

#### Monica G. Schwarcz

**UCLA-Harbor** 

Over-Expression of Estrogen Receptor Beta Contributes to Exogenous Testosterone Induced Germ Cell Apoptosis in Rats

# Nissar A. Shah, M.D. UCLA

Genetic Variation in 5a[Symbol]- Reducatse Influences Development of PCOS and Severity of Hirsutism

#### James W. Tsao

Charles R. Drew University

Androgen Modulation of Cell Lineage

Commitment By Muscle-Derived Stem Cells

(MDSC)

#### Chantal A. Vella, Ph.D.

University of New Mexico HSC
Oral Ethanol Suppresses Overnight
Endogenous Ghrelin Secretion in
Nondiabetic and Type 2 Diabetic Subjects

#### Natalia B. Volkova, M.D.

**UCSF-Fresno** 

An Impact of Diabetic Ketoacidosi Guidelines Implementation on Residents' Level of Knowledge and Patients' Care

#### Huarong Zhou, M.D., Ph.D.

Pacific Northwest Research Institute Restoration of Defective Glucagon Secretion During Hypoglycemia in Autoimmune Diabetes

#### Metabolism Scholar Award

#### Fernando Gerchman, M.D.

University of Washington
Increased Visceral Adiposity is Associated
with Decreased Glomerular Filtration Rate
by a Mechanism Independent of Glucose
Tolerance

#### Viorica Ionut

University of Southern California Portal GLP-1 Produces an Insulin-Independent Reduction in Glycemia by Increasing Peripheral Glucose Disposal, Without Changing Hepatic Glucose Balance

#### Kristen J. Nadeau, M.D.

University of Colorado HSC Regulation of SREBP-1 Expression in Skeletal Muscle of Zucker Diabetic Rats by Fenofibrate and Rosiglitazone

#### Robert H. Nelson, M.D.

Mayo Clinic

Lipoprotein Lipase-Mediated Fatty Acid Metabolism in ihe Splanchnic Bed

#### Aaron W. Pardini, M.D.

University of Washington Localization of IRS-2 in Brain Areas Important for Energy Homeostasis

#### **Jenny Tong**

University of Washington
Parasympathetic Innervation May Mediate
the Effect of Age and Gender on Body Fat
Distribution in Humans

#### Kristina M. Utzschneider, M.D.

University of Washington
The Early Insulin Response to an OGTT
Exhibits Marked Day-To-Day Variability in
Free-Living Adults

#### **Renal Scholar Award**

#### Florian E. Toegel, M.D.

University of Utah

Renal Protective Actions of Bone Marrow Derived Mesenchymal Stem Cells Are a Potential New Treatment for Acute Renal Failure

# Submit your Proposals NOW for Experimental Biology 2007

April 28-May 2, 2007 Washington, DC

As the largest general Physician Scientist Organization in the country, we have formed a liaison with the American Physiological Society (APS) and FASEB. AFMR is accepting proposals for 2-hr symposia presentations at the 2007 Experimental Biology meeting, which is scheduled for April 28 - May 2, 2007 in Washington, DC. The **Symposia Submission Form** can be found on the **AFMR website:** www.afmr.org.

Over 20,000 physicians, scientists, and healthcare professionals are expected to attend this very prestigious multidisciplinary scientific meeting. The AFMR encourages you to submit a proposal today! These thematic symposia should have a bench to bedside character and highlight recent basic science developments that are being brought to the bedside. Be creative. Follow the appended format for submission. This is an excellent opportunity to showcase your work.

All proposals will be reviewed by the AFMR National Council and Executive Committee. All symposia organizers for the symposia which are selected for presentation at the 2007 Experimental Biology Meeting will be expected to submit manuscripts of their presentation for consideration for publication in the *Journal of Investigative Medicine*, which is the official journal of the AFMR. Please make sure that your invited faculty are aware of this requirement.

The AFMR provides financial support to symposia organizers and presenters for their participation in this important process.

# Forms Available online at www.afmr.org

# **NEW AFMR MEMBERS**

Jamil AboulHosn, M.D.

Los Angeles, California

Maliha Agloria, M.D.

Hamilton, Ohio

Bradley D. Anawalt, M.D. Seattle, Washington

Maines L. Aviles-Santa, M.D.

Dallas, Texas

Piya Ballani, M.D.

Los Angeles, California

Sarah Barber, M.D.

Dallas, Texas

Jacalyn M. Bishop, M.D.

Portland, Oregon

Christine E. Bixby, M.D. Torrance, California

Charles Bruen, M.D.

Dallas, Texas

Jason Chang, M.D.

Dallas, Texas

John H. Eisenach, M.D. Rochester, Minnesota

Yonas Endale Geda, M.D. Jacksonville, Florida

Jonathan A. Epstein, M.D.

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Sophie Esmail, M.D.

Dallas, Texas

Mulugeta Fissha, M.D.

Owings Mills, Maryland

Fernando Gerchman, M.D. Seattle, Washington

Darshan P. Godkar, M.D. Brooklyn, New York

Richard S. Goldstein, M.D.

Manhasset, New York

Brigette N. Gomperts, M.D. Los Angeles, California

Mark O. Goodarzi, M.D.

Los Angeles, California

Anil Gupta, M.D.

Brooklyn, New York

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Boston, Massachusetts

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Dallas, Texas

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Denver. Colorado

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Baltimore, Maryland

Uzoma N. Ibebuogu, M.D.

Augusta, Georgia

Vinu Ipe, M.D.

Dallas, Texas

Yue Jia, M.D.

Torance, California

Javid Kamali, M.D.

Albuquerque, New Mexico

Shamsah Kazani, M.D.

Boston, Massachusetts

Qasim Khalil, M.D. Cincinnati, Ohio

Sudha Koppaka, M.D. Yonkers, New York

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Phillip Kuan,

Dallas, Texas

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Christopher T. Lam, B.S. Mason. Ohio

Keith K. Lau, M.D.

Memphis, Tennessee

Do-Eun Lee, M.D.

New York, New York

**Eugene Limanovich, M.D.** *Dallas, Texas* 

Peter Y, Liu, MBBS

Torrance, California

James R. Lucas, M.D.

Kamuela. Hawaii

Farah K. Madhani-Love, M.D.

Albuquerque, New Mexico

Vandana Madkan, M.D.

Houston, Texas

Nichole Mahnert, M.D.

Dallas, Texas

Leticia Manning Ryan, M.D.

Washington, DC

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Sacramento, California

Shelley D. Miyamoto, M.D.

Denver. Colorado

Hamid Moradi, M.D.

Orange, California

Majid M. Mughal, M.D.

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Khurram Nazeer, M.D.

Louisville, Kentucky

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Robert H. Nelson, M.D.

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Dallas, Texas

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Norcross, Georgia

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Los Angeles, California

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Herndon, Virginia

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Albuquerque, New Mexico

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Jeanette M. Waller, BA *Irvine*, California

Sara O. Weiss, M.D. Denver, Colorado

Magdalena Winiarska, M.D. West Chester, Ohio

Charles J. Wray, M.D. La Jolla, California

Jason Yoho, M.D.

Baltimore, Maryland

Zili Zhang, M.D.

Portland, Oregon

Huarong Zhou, M.D.

Seattle, Washington



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The AFMR...

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#### **American Federation for Medical Research**

# TRANSLATIONAL SYMPOSIA to be presented at EXPERIMENTAL BIOLOGY 2006 APRIL 1-5, 2006 Moscone Convention Center, San Francisco, California

SYMPOSIUM I - Sunday, April 2, 2006 – 8:00-10:00 AM (Room 135) "A Comprehensive Stem Cell Research Update"

Meredith Hawkins, M.D., Chair

SYMPOSIUM II - Sunday, April 2, 2006 - 10:30 AM – 12:30 PM (Room 250/262) "HIV Lipodystrophy: Lessons from a Novel Metabolic Syndrome" Steven K. Grinspoon, M.D., Chair

SYMPOSIUM III - Sunday, April 2, 2006 - 3:15-5:15 PM (Room 274/276)

"Pathological Calcification: Crystallization, Infection or Cell Transdifferentiation"

Virginia M. Miller, PhD, Chair

SYMPOSIUM IV - Monday, April 3, 2006 - 8:00-10:00 AM (Room 274/276)

"Mechanism Based Neurotherapeutics for Osteoarticular Pain"

Maren L Mahowald, M.D., Chair

### Submit your manuscript to the Journal of Investigative Medicine

The Journal of Investigative Medicine is the official publication of the American Federation for Medical Research (AFMR). The Journal publishes original articles and reviews of broad inter-



est to academic physicians and scientists. Authors wishing to contribute reviews are encouraged to contact the Editor prior to submission.

Manuscripts containing new material are accepted for consideration for publication with the provision that they are submitted solely to the *Journal of Investigative Medicine* and that no part of the material has been submitted to any other publication. For complete Author Information on *Journal* submission, please visit the AFMR website, <a href="www.afmr.org">www.afmr.org</a> or visit the publisher's website at <a href="www.bcdecker.com">www.bcdecker.com</a>

