Our Department won the Gold Award for the NUS Building Fire Safety Compliance Award 2010 in March 2010. Special thanks to all staff and students in the Department who made this possible, especially the Safety Committee.

**Staff**

Congratulations to **A/P Gan Yunn Hwen** on being appointed as Assistant Dean (Grants and Lab Design) at Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine, NUS from 1 May 2010 to 30 June 2012.

Congratulations to **A/P Maxey Chung** on being appointed as Country Advisor to the International Relations Office (IRO) for Australia/New Zealand from 1 April 2010 to 31 March 2011.

Congratulations to **A/P Tan Tin Wee** on joining the Editorial board of BMC Bioinformatics.

**Student**

Congratulations to the following student on the conferment of his postgraduate degree! Well done!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Students</th>
<th>Degrees</th>
<th>Supervisors</th>
<th>Date of Conferment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Shao Ke</td>
<td>PhD</td>
<td>A/P Tang Bor Luen</td>
<td>April 2010</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Internal Appointments

Management Committee

A/P Tang Bor Luen has recently been appointed as a member of the Management Committee, which also comprises of HOD, Deputy Head, A/Ps Too Heng-Phon, Maxey Chung and Ms Aniza.

Finance Committee

Professor Sit Kim Ping has been appointed the Chairman of the Finance Committee for the current FY 2010.

Research Symposium Committee

HOD has appointed the Research Symposium Committee consisting of A/P Gan Yunn Hwen, Dr Takao Inoue, Adjunct Professor Kanaga Sabapathy, Adjunct Assistant Professor Dr Lisa Ng and Ms Fatihah Ithnin.

Welcome to the Family!

We welcome the latest addition to our family:

Baby Boy Manuel, A/P Markus Wenk’s second child

Baby Girl Si Yu, Dr Yew Wen Shan’s first child

Baby Boy Isyraq, Aniza’s fourth child

Baby Girl Clover, Shen Yanqing (of Dr Takao’s Lab) first child

Baby Boy Oliver, Dee Pham’s first child
## Our New Staff

### Academic Staff

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Assumed Duty</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dr Seiichi Mori</td>
<td>Joint Appointment</td>
<td>Cancer Science Institute</td>
<td>11 January 2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A/P Zhang Louxin</td>
<td>Joint Appointment</td>
<td>Dept of Mathematics (Honorary)</td>
<td>17 February 2010</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Adjunct Staff

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Assumed Duty</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A/P Ng See Kiong</td>
<td>Adjunct Associate Professor</td>
<td>Institute for Infocomm Research, A*Star</td>
<td>4 January 2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A/P Manfred Raida</td>
<td>Adjunct Associate Professor</td>
<td>Experimental Therapeutic Center</td>
<td>20 March 2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Sashi Kesavapany</td>
<td>Adjunct Assistant Professor</td>
<td>GSK Singapore Research Centre</td>
<td>4 January 2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Wa Xian</td>
<td>Adjunct Assistant Professor</td>
<td>Institute of Medical Biology</td>
<td>20 March 2010</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Lab Executive

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Supervisor</th>
<th>Assumed Duty</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lam Buu Duyen, Jenny</td>
<td>Lab Executive</td>
<td>A/P Markus Wenk</td>
<td>21 February 2010</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Research Fellow

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Supervisor</th>
<th>Assumed Duty</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Maybelle Darlene Kho Go</td>
<td>Research Fellow</td>
<td>Dr Yew Wen Shan</td>
<td>1 December 2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sriram Ramanan</td>
<td>Research Fellow</td>
<td>Prof Fu Xin-Yuan</td>
<td>18 February 2010</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Our New Staff

Research Associate

Savitha Swaminathan
Supervisor:
A/P Mridula Sharma
Assumed Duty:
12 January 2010

Research Assistant

Chan Jia Pei
Supervisor:
A/P Mridula Sharma
Assumed Duty:
11 January 2010

Johann Shane Tian
Supervisor:
Prof Fu Xin-Yuan
Assumed Duty:
1 March 2010

Low Liy Sim
Supervisor:
Dr Chen Ee Sin
Assumed Duty:
22 February 2010

Swaminathan Priyadharshni
Supervisor:
Prof Jeyaseelan Kandiah
Assumed Duty:
1 April 2010

New Postgraduate Students

A warm welcome to our new postgraduate students for January 2010 intake.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Students</th>
<th>Course of Study</th>
<th>Supervisors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Loo Ser Yue</td>
<td>PhD</td>
<td>A/P Clement, Marie-Veronique</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tan Thong Teck</td>
<td>PhD</td>
<td>A/P Alan Coleman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Xie Min</td>
<td>MSc</td>
<td>A/P Kanaga Sabapathy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Recent Events

Biochemistry - Bowls & Pins

Bowls & Pins, organized by the Staff Welfare Committee was successfully held on 21 January 2010 at the Singapore Polytechnic Graduate Guild House. The theme for the day was “Cosmic Bowling” which was bowling with disco lights and music. It was an afternoon with lots of fun and every team walked away with a prize.
Recent Events

High Tea Buffet

High Tea Buffet at Carousel @ Royal Plaza on Scotts
On 25 February 2010, the Staff Welfare Committee invited our staff to an afternoon of Food & Fun at Carousel @ Royal Plaza on Scotts. It had a good turnout with amazing Lucky Draw Prizes won by 10 fortunate staff.

The Winners for the Lucky Draw Prizes are:
1. Irwin Cheah    Olympus 14MP Digital Camera
2. Sun Guang Wen  Sony 7” Digital Photo Frame
3. Ping Yueh Shyang Samsung 4GB MP4 Player
4. Lee Mui Khin   Creative Zen 4GB MP4 Player
5. Aniza A Wahid  Imation 320GB Harddisk
6. Amanda Lim     HP Printer, Scanner, Photocopier
7. Aslam Khan     Philips Micro Hi-Fi System
8. Ong Joo Yong   iPod Shuffle
9. Ooi Suan Oo    Philips DVD Player
10. Neo Ah Gek    Logitech Webcam
Recent Events

Biochemistry Fruit Day
We had our very own Fruit Day in support of Singapore’s “Healthier Living Starts with You” campaign. To encourage our staff to live a healthy lifestyle, the Staff Welfare Committee gave out fruit packs on 11 March 2010.

AED & CPR Familiarization Training
On 23 March 2010, OSHE together with Senior Lab Executive, Wong Veen Senn, organized an AED & CPR Familiarization Training specially for Biochemistry staff. OSHE conducted the training at the CRC Symposium Room.
Publications

Shi, J, S LUA, J Tong and J Song*, "Elimination of the Native Structure and Solubility of the hVAPB MSP Domain by the Pro56Ser Mutation which Causes Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis". *Biochemistry*, (2010). (United States).


Ng*, E L, J J Ng, F Y Liang and B L Tang*, "Rab22B is expressed in the CNS astroglia lineage and plays a role in epidermal growth factor receptor trafficking in A431 cells". *Journal Of Cellular Physiology*, 221, no. 3 (2009): 716-728. (United States).


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month awarded</th>
<th>Staff</th>
<th>Amount awarded</th>
<th>Project title</th>
<th>Source of Fund</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan 2010</td>
<td>A/P Clement, Marie-Veronique</td>
<td>$920,000</td>
<td>A study to investigate the activation of a new Akt/NHE-1 &quot;feedback loop&quot; in the redox regulation of survival in normal and tumour cells</td>
<td>BMRC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A/P Gan Yunn Hwen</td>
<td>$100,000</td>
<td>Discovery of novel antimicrobial therapeutics from rice plants</td>
<td>SMF-NUS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Prof Barry Halliwell</td>
<td>$730,620</td>
<td>Neurodegeneration in apolipoprotein E4 carriers: The regulatin of mTOR1 by labile zinc as a new mechanisms of action</td>
<td>BMRC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A/P Chua Kim Lee</td>
<td>$316,400</td>
<td>Significance of efflux pumps in multidrug resistance and pathogenesis of Acinetobacter spp.</td>
<td>A*STAR-UK MRC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb 2010</td>
<td>Dr Takao Inoue</td>
<td>$273,877</td>
<td>Function of ICD release and Wnt modification in Ryk signaling</td>
<td>AcRF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dr Sherry Wang</td>
<td>$160,000</td>
<td>c-Abl is a Positive Regulator of Telomerase and Governs Telomerase Translocation in Different Cellular Compartments</td>
<td>AcRF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dr Wu Qiang</td>
<td>$179,000</td>
<td>Exploring the Molecular Functions of the Pluripotency and Reprogramming Factor Lin 28</td>
<td>AcRF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dr Wu Qiang</td>
<td>$300,000</td>
<td>Exploring the role of Jmjd6 in embryonic stem cells</td>
<td>AcRF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dr Chen Ee Sin</td>
<td>$90,000</td>
<td>Study of the physiological ramifications of chemotherapeutic agents using fission yeast</td>
<td>AcRF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Prof Sit Kim Ping</td>
<td>$90,000</td>
<td>Does pyruvate metabolism determine tumour malignancy?</td>
<td>AcRF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar 2010</td>
<td>Dr Yeong Foong May</td>
<td>$40,000</td>
<td>Investigating Possible Links Between Chromosome Condensation and Cancer</td>
<td>NUHS Cross Department</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Upcoming Events

Look out for our Biochemistry 2nd Research Symposium 2010!

Bon Voyage

We bid adieu to Joyce Goh, formerly a Lab Technologist from A/P Markus Wenk’s Lab, who has transferred to the Office of Deputy President (Research & Technology), NUS from 1 February 2010.