

Molecular Genetics & Microbiology Graduate Program Newsletter

Spring 2018 Vol. 11, No. 1



2018 Publications

Bhagwat, A.S., Lu, B., and Vakoc, C.R. (2018) Enhancer dysfunction in leukemia. *Blood* 131: 1795-1804.

Bryan, A.M., and Del Poeta, M. (2018). Sphingosine-1-phosphate receptors and innate immunity. *Cell Microbiology* 20(5): e12836.

Diago-Navarro, E., Motley, M.P., Ruiz-Perez, G., Yu, W., Austin, J., Seco, B.M.S., Xiao, G., **Chikhalya, A.**, Seeberger, P.H., and Fries, B.C. (2018). Novel, broadly reactive anticapsular antibodies against carbapenem-resistant *Klebsiella pneumoniae* protect from infection. *MBio* 9(2): e00091.

Diago-Navarro, E., **Motley, M.P.**, Ruiz-Perez, G., Yu, W., Austin, J., Seco, B.M.S., Xiao, G., Chikhalya, A., Seeberger, P.H., and Fries, B.C. (2018). Novel, broadly reactive anticapsular antibodies against carbapenem-resistant *Klebsiella pneumoniae* protect from infection. *MBio* 9(2): e00091.

Espallat, M.P., Snider, A.J., Qiu, Z., Channer, B., Coant, N., Schuchman, E.H., Kew, R.R., Sheridan, B.S, Hannun, Y.A., and Obeid, L.M. (2018). Loss of acid ceramidase in myeloid cells suppresses intestinal neutrophil recruitment. *FASEB Journal* doi/10.1096/fj.201700585R.

Van Skike, N.D., Minkah, N.K., Hogan, C.H., Wu, G., **Benziger, P.T.**, Oldenburg, D.G., Kara, M., Kim-Holzapfel, D.M., White, D.W., Tibbetts, S.A., French, J.B., and Krug, L.T. (2018). Viral FGARAT ORF75A promotes early events in lytic infection and gammaherpesvirus pathogenesis in mice. *PLoS Pathogens* 14(2): e1006843.

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✦ 2018 Publications (continued)

Van Skike, N.D., Minkah, N.K., Hogan, C.H., Wu, G., Benziger, P.T., Oldenburg, D.G., Kara, M., Kim-Holzapfel, D.M., White, D.W., Tibbetts, S.A., French, J.B., and Krug, L.T. (2018). Viral FGARAT ORF75A promotes early events in lytic infection and gammaherpesvirus pathogenesis in mice. *PLoS Pathogens* 14(2):e1006843.

Werneburg, G.T., and Thanassi, D.G. (2018). Pili assembled by the chaperone/usher pathway in *Escherichia coli* and *Salmonella*. *EcoSal Plus* 8(1): doi 1128.

✦ 2018 Presentations

Chilhalya, A., and Hearing, P. Recombinant Adenovirus Vectors for Gene Therapy. April 6, 2018, Showcasing Women's Research in STEM. Graduate Women in Science and Engineering, Stony Brook University.

Medici, N., and Bliska, J.B. Studies on Bacterial Toxins and Their Regulation of Host Immune System. April 6, 2018, Showcasing Women's Research in STEM. Graduate Women in Science and Engineering, Stony Brook University.

Orner, E., and Fries, B. Microfluidics as a New Tool to Access Lifespan and Age-related Traits of *Cryptococcus neoformans*. 2018 American Society for Microbiology Microbe meeting, June 7-11, Atlanta, GA.

✦ 2018 Awards

Erika Orner - a third-year student in Dr. Bettina Fries' laboratory, and a Stony Brook Scholars in Biomedical Sciences Trainee, is the recipient of a Travel award from the Medical Mycological Society of the Americas to attend the 2018 American Society for Microbiology Microbe meeting, June 7-11, Atlanta, GA.



✦ Welcome New MGM Students

Carla Choudhary, M.S. in Plant Pathology and Microbiology, Pennsylvania State University

Cody Kempen, M.S. in Pharmaceutical Sciences, Albany College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences

Kyle McEvoy, M.S. in Physiology, New York Medical College

Lia Parkin, B.S. in Cell & Molecular Biology, Barnard College

Thanks to the Admissions Committee (Laurie Krug [chair], Patrick Hearing, Brian Sheridan, Ando van der Velden), Jennifer Jokinen, and all the faculty and students who participated in admissions this year and helped to recruit these outstanding students.

✦ Save the Dates!



The 40th Annual Retreat of the Department of Molecular Genetics & Microbiology will take place on **Friday October 12** at the Port Jefferson Village Center. (Retreat photos from last year may now be viewed on our web site at https://medicine.stonybrookmedicine.edu/mgm/gallery/retreat_2017)

The Department of *Molecular Genetics & Microbiology* will host a symposium on infection and immunity in Spring 2019. Stay tuned for details!