

The NIDDK iNFORMER Newsletter - September/October 2011

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.Learn more about former NIDDK fellow Romuald Patient on page 2.



National Postdoc Appreciation Week celebration at NIH on page 3.



HAPPY HALLOWEEN!!



Meet new NIDDK fellows on page 4.

Special points of interest:

- Life after NIDDK
- Research Festival this month!
- Great National Postdoc Appreciation Celebration photos

Events Calendar

Wed Oct. 19th	Scientist Teaching Science Workshop
Sun. Oct. 23rd	FelCom Sponsored Walking Tour of DC Monuments
Thurs. Oct. 27th	Basic Science Writing Course
Thurs. Oct. 27th	Writing and Publishing a Scientific Paper
Thurs. Nov. 10th	Speaking Up: How to Ask for What You Need in the Lab and in Life
Mon. Nov. 14th	Career Paths in Industry

Fellowship Office news

Grant Writing 102 Workshop

Commences on November 7, 2011. If you are interested in attending the Grant Writing 101 or 102 Workshops, please register via e-mail with Lorraine Moore at (LorraineM@intra.niddk.nih.gov ; 301-496-6685) as early as possible as there is limited seating in the room. You will receive a registration confirmation from me.

This course is free of charge and open to all NIDDK Fellows.



The **iNFORMER**, is a monthly newsletter published by the Fellows Advisory Board (FAB) in collaboration with the NIDDK Fellowship Office. If you would like to participate in writing newsletter articles or have questions or comments, please contact any of the following members.

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Life After NIDDK with Romuald Patient *as told to Shauna Clark*



Former NIDDK fellow Romuald Patient on his job in France.



Romuald received his PhD in Cellular and Molecular Biology of Infectious Diseases in June 2008 from the University of Tours, France. He worked on (i) the morphogenesis of Hepatitis B Virus and its Subviral Particles (natural particles just composed of the viral envelope without any genome and used as a vaccine against the disease since the early 80's) and (ii) the vaccine development against Hepatitis C Virus.

Following graduation he moved to the US to start a postdoctoral position in the

Liver Diseases Branch of the NIDDK under the supervision of Dr. Jake Liang. Joining the lab afforded him the opportunity to obtain more training in immunology & vaccine screening.

SC: *What were you working on as a Postdoc at NIDDK?*

RP: I did various work on several projects in the lab regarding HCV immunology and vaccine development which was exactly what I was looking for. I really had a great time working there, professionally and personally, with a lot of amazing people. Various

scientific background, various nations and cultures... It really gives you a new way of thinking. I ended my postdoc in July 2010 to get back home for a permanent position.

SC: *What is your current position and what responsibilities do you have?*

RP: I am now an Assistant-Professor at the University of Tours, (Tours, France) teaching Cell Biology to undergraduate and Master level students. In addition, I am now responsible for the Master Students interested in receiving training in a foreign country. I also am still doing research in the lab. My research focuses on HBV morphogenesis. Hepatitis B virus (HBV) is unusual in that its surface proteins (small [S], medium, and large [L]) are not only incorporated into the virion envelope but they also bud into empty subviral particles in great excess over virions. The morphogenesis of these subviral envelope particles remains unclear, but the S protein is essential and

sufficient for budding. A better understanding of this process may be critical for future antiviral strategies. And of course I still have an eye on HCV vaccine research.

SC: *Is your current position what you expected?*

RP: Totally!!! It takes a lot of time and energy to teach and maintain my research... but that is what I always wanted to do. I cannot dissociate the two, one brings so much to the other.

SC: *Do you have any advice for current postdocs?*

RP: Well, it is not easy!! During your postdoc you will meet a lot of great and really smart people, people you did not expect to work with... be sure to keep in touch with them. They can be an amazing network and can be a tremendous resource for your next step.

SC: *Would you mind current postdocs contacting you to ask for further information?*

RP: No problem. It will be my pleasure!

The iNFORMER staff is looking for organized, self-motivated fellow(s) to edit the newsletter!

The primary functions of the editors is to oversee layout and design of the newsletter and assign/develop stories for publication. For more information please contact Shauna Clark or Matt Wenham (clarkshauna@niddk.nih.gov) (matt.wenham@nih.gov). This is an excellent opportunity to gain valuable editing and writing experience.



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National Postdoc Appreciation Week by Shauna Clark

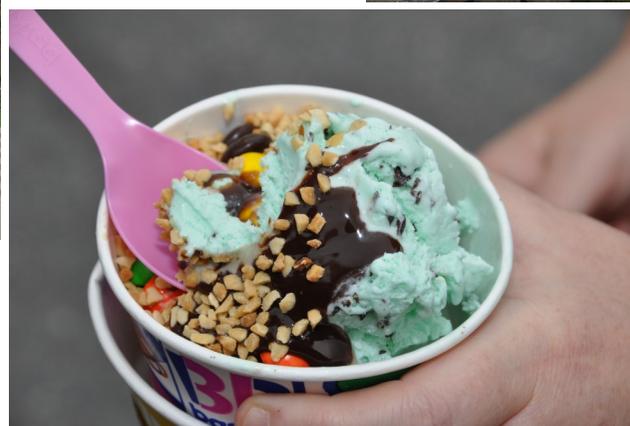


Photos pictured at right courtesy of Arnaud Carpentier.

The third annual National Postdoc Appreciation Week sponsored by the National Postdoctoral Association (NPA) was celebrated across the country September 19-23.

This year, according to the NPA website, 89 institutions in over 30 states and Canada hosted approximately 170 events to celebrate and recognize the significant contributions of postdoctoral and clinical fellows. On the Bethesda campus fellows

were celebrated with an ice cream social held on September 20th. Hundreds of fellows craving a cold creamy treat gathered in front of building one where Scientific and Training Directors served them Baskin Robbins ice cream. About half way through the hour long celebration, the traditional "family photo" was taken with NIH Director Dr. Collins and NIDDK Director Dr. Rogers.



The 25th annual NIH Research Festival is October 24-28, 2011. This week of activities highlights the scientific excellence of the Intramural Research Program. Events will include scientific symposia, poster sessions, FARE Award

ceremony, NIH exhibitors, the vendor tent show and more.

Support the approximately 40 NIDDK fellows as they present their work at the festival. For specific session times, locations and details, visit: <http://researchfestival.nih.gov>. A PDF-version of the festival booklet are available.

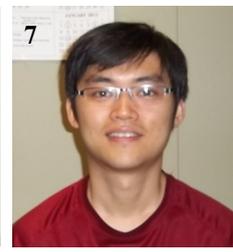
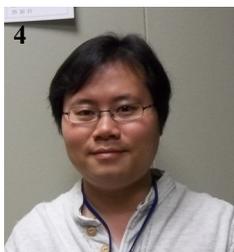


PhD Comic by Jorge Cham



WWW.PHDCOMICS.COM

Welcome New Fellows!



The following fellows joined NIDDK in the last two months:

1. Zhen-Xia Chen
Visiting Fellow - China
PhD, Peking University
Laboratory of Cellular and Developmental Biology (Oliver)

2. Travis Hope
IRTA, Drexel University
Laboratory of Biochemistry and Genetics (Minton)

3. Alan Guerrero
IRTA, Baylor College of Medicine
Diabetes Branch (Tarbell)

4. Bo Xiong
Visiting Fellow - China
PhD, Chinese Academy of Sciences
Laboratory of Cellular Developmental Biology (Dean)

5. Lingyan Xu
Visiting Fellow- China

PhD, Shanghai Institute of Health Sciences
Genetics of Development and Disease Branch, (Mueller)

6. Panagotis Chandris
Visiting Fellow - Greece
PhD, University of Crete School of Public Health
Genetics of Development and Disease Branch, (Proia)

7. Xinran Ma
Visiting Fellow, China
PhD, Shanghai Institute of Health Sciences
Genetics of Development and Disease Branch, (Mueller)

Maximillian Hohenadel -Not Pictured
Visiting Fellow, Germany
PhD, University of Leipzig
Phoenix Epidemiology and Clinical Research Branch
(Krakoff)