

The Pathobiologist

Department of Pathobiology
February, 2011

Good News



Welcome to **Dr. Brandon Plattner**, our new anatomic pathologist. Brandon joins us from Iowa where he just completed his PhD. His main area of interest is innate immuno-pathology of enteric mycobacterial disease (Johne's disease) of cattle, bovine gamma-delta T cells. Brandon is joined by his wife Rhoda, and their three children Mason, Mischa and Malia.

Congratulations to Anil & Nimmi Puttsawamy on the birth of their baby boy, weight 6.7 lb and height 21 inches, on Feb. 3rd. They have named him Ankush K Gowda.



Graduate Thesis and Defenses

Wed. Feb. 9th, Jennifer Brisbin, Final Oral PhD Exam, "Regulation of the chicken immune response by the intestinal microbiota", 9:00 am, Room 1810.

Winter Convocation: OVC Convocation takes place on **Wed. February 23rd** in War Memorial Hall.

Reminders to Graduate Students/Faculty/Staff: Please pick up your print jobs from the printer or colour printer in the photo copy room.

Faculty and Graduate Students, Progress Reports are due every semester: This is the link to the forms http://www.ovc.uoguelph.ca/path/doc/UofG-OVC-GradStudentFillableFinal_000.pdf. These are due to the Graduate Secretary by **Thurs. March 31st**.

Pathobiology Seminar Series

Fridays at 11:00 AM in Room 1810 unless otherwise noted.

Feb. 4th, Payvand Parvizi, PhD Candidate in Pathobiology, "Investigation of the interactions between Marek's disease virus and the chicken immune system".

Feb. 11th, Dorothee Bienzle, Pathobiology, "What have we learned about asthma in horses".

Feb. 18th, Gregg Dean, Prof. & Director, Centre for Comparative Medicine and Translational Research, North Carolina State U, "Feline immunodeficiency virus and acquired innate immunodeficiency".

Feb. 25th, Gayatri Vedantam, Professor, Veterinary Science & Microbiology, University of Arizona, Tucson, "*Clostridium difficile* virulence: it's NOT all about the toxin!".

Events

Wed. Feb. 2nd, MCB Distinguished Speaker Series, Prof. Michele Barry, U of Alberta, "Poxvirus Exploitation of the Ubiquitin Proteasome System: Assembly Required", 12:30 pm, Animal Science and Nutrition Room 156.

Tues. Feb. 8th, Cafe Scientifique, The School of Environmental Sciences presents **Jake Linklater** of the Saugeen Ojibway Nation Environment Office will discuss "First Nations and Environmental Protection: The Role of Consultation and Accommodation. Everyone is welcome to attend this free event, 7:00 pm, Location is Artisanale Cafe and Bistro, 37 Quebec Street.

Thurs. Feb. 10th, Maryse Paquet, Robarts Res. Inst, UWO, candidate for Pharm/Tox position, Dept. of Biomedical Sciences, "Between life and death: Studying scaffolding proteins in astrocytes", 9:30 am, room 1713.

Sat. Feb. 12th, Family and Friends Day, 9 am - 4 pm, various locations. First year students are their families tour OVC. Andrew Peregrine is helping to organize.

Tues. Feb. 15th, Dr. Patrick Meyers, candidate for Theriogenology position, Dept of Population Medicine, “Clinical Research and the advancement of the use of frozen semen in the horse”, 12:30 pm, room 1434.

Feb. 25-27th, The 6th Annual Summit of “Universities Fighting World Hunger” will be held outside the United States for the first time. The Summit will be held at the University of Guelph. The theme for the Summit is “Hunger has no boundaries”. For more information or to register go to <http://www.uoguelph.ca/worldhunger/>.

Notices

Next Departmental Meeting will be held on Thursday, February 24, 2011 at 12:30 p.m. in room 1817.

February 21-25, **Reading Week**, no classes.



Safety Corner: New Course

Introductory Biosafety This course will be of interest to persons who plan to work with biohazardous materials including laboratorians, animal handlers, and principal investigators. The "Introductory Biosafety" curriculum includes: Components of a biosafety program; Lab-acquired infections; Legislation, policy, and guidelines; The University of Guelph Biosafety Policy and Program; Permits; Responsibilities of stakeholders; Risk Assessment; Medical Surveillance; Biosecurity; Obtaining biohazardous materials; Working safely with biohazardous materials; Physical facilities; Engineering controls; Personal protective equipment; Operational practices; Decontamination; Waste management; Transporting biohazardous materials; Lab-specific training requirements. A short test will given. This training program may be used towards Joint Health and Safety Committee member certification. Principal Investigators (faculty and professional staff), laboratorians, animal care personnel, and personnel who may handle human-derived material. Attendees should have some knowledge of pathogens and disease transmission, microbiology/molecular biology techniques, medical lab procedures, and/or recombinant DNA techniques.

Dates: Thurs. Feb. 17th, 8:30 am - 12:30 pm & **Wed. Mar. 23rd**, 8:30 am - 12:30 pm; 168 Alexander (Axelrod) Hall.