

# Pharmacology News

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TULANE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE DEPARTMENT OF PHARMACOLOGY

## Message from the Chair: Dr. David Busija

### LCME accreditation 2019

We are in the midst of preparations for the critically important site visit by The Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME), which will occur *January 13–15, 2019*. The LCME is the national accrediting body for programs leading to the M.D. degree in the United States and is jointly sponsored by the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) and the American Medical Association (AMA). The LCME currently accredits 134 U.S. schools, which includes four in Puerto Rico as well as 17 in Canada. Generally, LCME accreditation occurs every eight years. We did very well eight years ago, which was only a short time after Hurricane Katrina struck New Orleans and shut down the University and Medical School. The accreditation process occurs over 12–18 months and consists of an institutional self-study program ending with a peer review/site visit. Schools are asked to meet 12 standards consisting of 93 data elements. These 12 standards span the entire mission of the medical school and cover topics including vision for the future, leadership, educational resources and infrastructure, competencies, curricular objectives and design, medical student selections, career advising, etc. *Our faculty has been very involved in the entire process, especially Dr. Craig Clarkson, and I would like to thank him and our other faculty members who have participated.* We are looking forward to the site visit in January.

## Thoughts on the Collaborative Process: Dr. Ricardo Mostany, Associate Professor



*Collaboration (n.) from Latin collaborare “work with” from con- (with) and laborare (work)*

*While* the etymological definition of collaboration refers to the action of working together, in the scientific field its definition goes beyond two or more scientists or groups of scientists working together. *The need to combine specialization with multidisciplinary approaches to answer mechanistic, translational, and complex questions in a scientific environment that is continuously progressing and becoming highly competitive for limited funds, urges us to find allies that complement our skills and knowledge.* However, identifying the right partner for a collaboration is not a simple task and may be limited by several factors: location, budget, availability of the collaborator, complementarity of resources, etc. This first step is key—because it will shape the direction of the partnership.

*Approaching* the right potential collaborator requires some previous investigation about the research and the techniques this person implements in the laboratory and how easy it would be to adapt them to one’s advantage—to the benefit of both. Also very important, is the personality of the potential collaborator. Ultimately, if the collaboration is to be fruitful and long-lasting—which is usually that is what one looks for—one will have to interact with this person for a while. *In this sense, I treat collaborations as scientific friendships, and like such, the more I get along with my collaborators, the higher the chances that the partnership moves in the right direction.* This does not necessarily mean that collaborators have to be best friends but at least they have to do their part to facilitate the scientific interaction, such as open and frequent communication with the members of the collaboration and commitment to the project.

*Early* dialogues about expectations about the structure of the collaboration: goals, timeframe, and role of each member are especially recommended. It is critical to keep fluent communication between the partners and to consider when decisions need to be made. The partners must reflect about the time and resources that all the persons involved in the collaboration, i.e., principal investigators, lab members, staff, etc. are investing and listen to all contributors without unilaterally modifying the aims or experiments previously decided. If all things are in alignment, the collaboration flourishes. However, no longer enjoying spending resources and time with someone or their lack of commitment weakens the partnership, which then becomes an unhealthy collaboration destined for failure.

*In the ideal scenario, the result achieved in a collaboration, i.e., the knowledge produced, should be of higher impact than just the sum that collaborators’ impacts could achieve individually.* While this is a difficult parameter to measure, there are ways to estimate whether the collaboration achieved the goals planned or set the storyline for a long-term research effort. On many occasions, collaborations allow the obtention of preliminary data for a grant proposal. In other cases, these partnerships lead to the publication of manuscripts. The development of technology is another outcome of a collaboration that may lead to a patent over a product or an idea.

*Then* the self-evaluation comes: *Could you have landed that manuscript in that journal without the contribution of your collaborators? Could you have submitted a particular grant without the data produced by the collaborators while keeping the same chance of being funded? If the answer to those questions is no, you should grade your collaboration as successful.* However, in the real world this is not always achieved, and the knowledge produced does not always crystallize into a grant, a paper, or a patent. Does that mean that the collaboration was a failure? I don’t think so. *I believe that collaborations need to evolve until they reach maturity; the unpredictability of research outcomes is inherent to science and the researchers participating in the collaboration have to respond to the immediate outcomes, which sometimes are the expected and fit into the overall hypothesis being tested, but in many cases are not. Finding the solution for the unexpected results is sometimes easier when attacked from the different perspectives of the collaborators involved in the investigation. With time, this process refines, leading to a well-established, healthy—and why not!—a successful collaboration.*

**Please visit our [webpage](#) for more information about the collaborations of the Mostany laboratory**

## Faculty News

### Dr. David Busija

- **Submitted Grants:** (1) NIH, October 2018; (2) NIH, November 2018; (3) NIH, November 2018.
- **Grant Reviewer:** (1) NIH Program Project Review, October 2018; (2) NIH Special Study Section, Vascular Cell and Molecular, November 2018.
- **Journal Reviewer:** *American Journal of Physiology* (AJP).

### Dr. Stephen Braun

- **Submitted Grant:** (1) R21 NIH NIAID, MPI: Miti Kaur, M.D. and Stephen Braun, Ph.D.
- **Study Section Reviewer:** Program Evaluation of NIH Peer Review Processes.
- **Invited Participant:** Invited by Egyptian Ministry of Education to visit Egypt as co-advisor for *Raghda Eldesouki*, MD, for her Ph.D. from the Department of Histology and Cell Biology at the Suez Canal University School of Medicine, Ismailia, Egypt.

### Dr. Suttira Intapad

- **Submitted Grant:** (1) R01, 10/5/18.
- **Invited Speaker:** Department of Physiology, Renal and Vascular Workshop, Tulane School of Medicine, "Sphingosine signaling pathway and blood pressure in IUGR mice," 6/21/18.
- **Guest Editor:** *Cardiology Research and Practice Journal*.
- **Journal Reviewer:** *American Journal of Physiology-Heart and Circulatory Physiology*, *Pharmacological Research*.

### Dr. Prasad Katakam

- **Invited Speaker:** (1) 11th World Congress for Microcirculation, "Impaired mitochondrial activity of nitric oxide synthase isoforms and aging related cerebral microvascular and cardiac function," 9/9–13/18 Vancouver, Canada; (2) Department of Pharmacology, "Measurement of mitochondrial respiratory function using Seahorse XFe24 analyzer," 9/21/18; (3) International Conference on Neuroscience and XXXVI Annual Meeting of Indian Academy of Neurosciences, "Impaired mitochondrial activity of neuronal nitric oxide synthase isoforms and cerebral microvascular dysfunction accompanying aging," 10/19–31/18, Varanasi, India.
- **Submitted Grant:** American Heart Association (AHA) Innovative Research Award, October 29, 2018.
- **Reviewer: Grants:** (1) NIH Special Emphasis Panel: Neurodegeneration, Neurodevelopment and Neuroimmunology. ZRG1 MDCN-M "The Blood-Brain Barrier, Neurovascular System and CNS Therapeutics," (2) AHA Fellowship

Vascular Endothelial Biology, Basic, (3) AHA Allen Initiative in Brain Health and Cognitive Impairment, Phase I and II; **Journals:** *Circulation Research*, *Hypertension*.

- **Professional Service:** (1) Poster Judge, 11th World Congress for Microcirculation, Vancouver, Canada 9/9–13/18; (2) Judge: Health Sciences Research Day, 2018.

### Dr. Sarah Lindsey

- **Grant Award:** NIH/NHLBI Administrative Supplement for Research on Sex/Gender Influences, HL133619-01A1S2 (PI), NIH-NHLBI, \$97,825 08/18-01/19.
- **Grant Submission:** (1) June 2018 – Letter of Intent for DoD grant (Co-PI with Prieto), and (2) Oct 2018 – Letter of Intent for AHA Collaborative Grant (Co-PI w/Prieto and Miller).
- **Session Moderator:** "Vascular Stiffness," AHA Hypertension Scientific Sessions, Chicago, IL, 9/9/18.
- **Invited Speaker:** (1) APS Conference on Cardiovascular, Renal, and Metabolic Diseases: Sex-Specific Implications for Physiology, "Vascular Changes in the Postmenopausal Female," Knoxville, TN, 10/2/18.
- **Poster Presentation:** "Tissue-Specific Estrogen Receptor Profiling Using Droplet Digital PCR," APS Conference - Cardiovascular, Renal and Metabolic Diseases: Sex-Specific Implications for Physiology. 9/30–10/3/18. Knoxville, TN.
- **Reviewer:** (1) AHA Peer Reviewer, National Fellowships, (2) Cardiorenal Basic Science, Fall Cycle; (3) NIH-NHLBI, Peer Reviewer, Mentored Transition to Independence Review Committee.

### Dr. John MacLachlan

- The paper, "Environmental signaling: from environmental estrogens to endocrine-disrupting chemicals and beyond," published in *Andrology*, was in top 20 downloaded articles for 2017 with 1331 downloads.

### Dr. Howard Mielke

- **Invited Speaker:** (1) **Keynote Address:** "The astonishingly large role of legacy soil lead as a source of exposure to children," Brooklyn College Student Center, NYC, 10/19/18; (2) Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health, Environment Health Science, "Getting the lead in, out, and beyond," 10/22/18; (3) Two presentations at Healthy Homes and Lead Prevention Regional Conference, 1) "On ways to be proactive rather than reactive in preventing childhood lead poisoning, increase lead hazard

## Faculty News—continued

control activities and reduce asthma triggers," 2) "The pre- and post-Katrina lead in soil and blood lead surveys for metropolitan New Orleans," New Orleans, LA, 10/10–11/18; (3) "Connections between soil health and human health," Silver Spring, MD, 10/16–17/18.

- **Reviewer:** *International Journal of Environmental Research Public Health, Environmental Research.*
- **Professional Achievement:** In 1997, a paper by **Howard W. Mielke, et al.**, outlined the health hazard of "Lead-Based Hair Coloring Products: Too Hazardous for Household Use," *Journal of the American Pharmaceutical Association*, Vol. NS37, No. 1, January/February. **After 20 years, the FDA finally reversed their regulation; the notice of action stated the following:** The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is amending the color additive regulations to no longer provide for the use of lead acetate in cosmetics intended for coloring hair on the scalp because new data available since lead acetate was permanently listed demonstrate that there is no longer a reasonable certainty of no harm from the use of this color additive. *This action is in response to a color additive petition filed by the Environmental Defense Fund, Earthjustice, Environmental Working Group, Center for Environmental Health, Healthy Homes Collaborative, Health Justice Project of Loyola University Chicago School of Law, Breast Cancer Fund, Improving Kids' Environment, Consumers Union, Natural Resources Defense Council, Consumer Federation of America, Learning Disabilities Association, Maricel Maffini, and Howard Mielke.*

### Dr. Debasis Mondal

- **Moderator:** As Vice-President of the American Association of Indian Scientists in Cancer Research (AAISCR), moderated the 25th Annual Meeting of AAISCR, <http://www.aaiscr.org/>, Chicago, IL, 4/16/18.
- **Reviewer: Grants:** Worldwide Cancer Research. **Journals:** *International Journal of Oncology; PLoS One.*
- **Thesis Committees:** (1) Adedoyin Johnson (Urology, BMS) -- Graduated with PhD, (2) Hakm Murad (Biomedical Engineering) -- Graduated with PhD, (3) Amy Freehan (Neuroscience), (4) Fayez M. Saleh (Primate Center, BMS).

### Dr. Ricardo Mostany

- **Grant Award:** Tulane Brain Institute Marko Spark Fund Award, PIs: Fadok and Mostany, "Determining the neuronal correlates of fear intensity using advanced neurotechnology," \$50,000, 7/1/18–6/30/19.
- **Submitted Grant:** R01 to NIA.
- **Invited Speaker:** (1) Institute of Neurobiology, University of Puerto Rico, Minisymposium - Visions of the Body and the Brain: Advances in Structural & Cellular Imaging, "Reduced sensory-evoked structural plasticity in the aged brain," San Juan, PR. 5/11/18; (2) Tulane National Primate Research Center, "Reduced sensory-evoked structural plasticity in the aged brain," Covington, LA. 10/16/18; (3) Swampy Science Social Club, "Aging and the Brain – A New Hope," New Orleans, LA. 10/29/18.
- **Poster Presentation:** "The absence of the tumor suppressor p53 causes dendritic spine instability in the primary somatosensory cortex of juvenile and young adult mice," T. Liu, J. Wu, S.-C. Peng, A. Davidson, S. Zeng, H. Lu, **R. Mostany**, at The Society for Neuroscience Meeting San Diego, CA, Nov. 2018 (Neuroscience2018).
- **Reviewer: Grants:** (1) Louisiana Clinical and Translational Science Center (LA CaTS); (2) The Research Foundation Flanders, Fonds Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek - Vlaanderen, FWO, Belgium; (3) Sinergia Grant reviewer: Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF). **Journals:** (1) *Neurobiology of Learning and Memory*; (2) *Cellular and Molecular Neurobiology*.

### Dr. Margaret Zimmerman

- **Grant Award:** LA CaTs Roadmap Scholar Award, "Renal Implications of Menopausal Hormone Therapy," 7/2018–7/2020.
- **Award:** *Paper of the Year* from *The American Journal of Physiology - Renal Physiology* for the paper: "Long- but not Short-term Estradiol Treatment Induces Renal Damage in Midlife Ovariectomized Long Evans Rats," Authors included: Zimmerman MA, Hutson DD, Trimmer EH, Kashyap SN, Duong JL, Murphy B, Grissom EM, Daniel JM, and Lindsey SH. The paper appeared in *Am J Physiol Renal Physiol.* 2017 Feb 1;312(2):F305-F311.

**SOM Committees:** **Dr. Bunnell:** Chair: Faculty Grievance, Chair: Personnel and Honors, Research Advisory, Executive Committee; **Dr. Busija:** Head: Basic Science Chairs, LCME subcommittees: (1) Mission, Planning, Organization, and (2) Leadership and Administration; **Dr. Intapad:** SOM Faculty Advisory; **Dr. Mondal:** Nominating; **Dr. Lindsey:** BMS Admissions, BMS Curriculum, LCME Accreditation-Junior Faculty Committee, Campus Climate Task Force-Sexual Harrassment by Faculty Subcommittee; **Dr. Katakam:** Faculty Advisory Committee, BMS Steering, Medical School Admissions; **Dr. Hamblin:** Nominating; **Dr. Clarkson:** Curriculum, BMF Steering; and **Dr. Mostany:** Tulane Brain Institute Executive; Chair: Tulane Brain Institute Seminar Series; Nominating (Basic Sciences Rep).

**Laboratory News: Pharmacology (Pharm), Brain Institute (BI), Neuroscience Undergraduate (NU), Stem Cell and Regenerative Medicine (SCRM), Neuroscience Program (NP), Cell & Molecular Biology Program (CMB), Physiology (Phys), School of Science and Engineering (SSE), Biomedical Engineering (BE)**

### **Laboratory of Dr. Stephen Braun**

**Nathan Johnson**, M.D./Ph.D. student (SCRM) was awarded a F30 Fellowship from NIH NIGMS for "Modifying CMV-specific T cells with a novel bicistronic CD4-CAR/maC46 vector to target HIV," \$198,096, 7/01/18–6/30/23. **Congratulations Nathan!**

### **Laboratory of Dr. Prasad Katakam**

**Venkata (Ram) Sure** (Pharm) presented a poster, "Inhibition of Nitric Oxide Synthase (NOS) Impacts Mitochondrial Function Differently in Brain Microvascular Endothelial Cells and Cortical Neurons," at the 11th World Congress for Microcirculation, Vancouver, Canada, 9/9–13/18. Ram has published a first-authored paper. *Please see page 6.*

**Wesley R. Evans** (NP) gave an oral presentation and a poster, "Effects of acute insulin-induced hypoglycemia on cerebral microvascular function" at Neuroscience2018. Other departmental authors included: J. A. Sperling, V. N. Sure, S. S. Sakamuri, P. Spencer, R. Mostany, D. W. Busija, and P. V. G. Katakam.

**Prasad Sakamuri**, (Pharm) has published a first-authored paper. *Please see page 6.*

**Padmini Mahalingam** (Pharm) defended her master's thesis, "Actions of Arginase and PRMT inhibitors on respiration in isolated mouse heart mitochondria," 5/11/18.

### **Laboratory of Dr. Sarah Lindsey**, [Please visit our webpage](#)

**Dr. Benard Ogola** (Pharm) **(1)** gave a poster, "Female Protection from Arterial Stiffness Diminishes with G Protein-Coupled Estrogen Receptor Deletion or Angiotensin II Hypertension," AHA Hypertension Scientific Sessions, Chicago, IL, 9/9/18; **(2)** received a Travel Award from the American Society for Biochemistry & Molecular Biology to attend a Grantsmanship Enhancement Workshop; **(3)** won first place in the ASPET postdoctoral oral competition at EB2018! **Congratulations Ben!** Ben also has a first-authored publication. *Please see page 6.*

**Dillion Hutson** (Genetics) defended his thesis, "Estrogens: Friend or Foe? A Matter of Reception," May 2018. **Congratulations Dillion!**

**Rakesh Gurrala** (Pharm-Masters) defended his thesis "Impact of Sex and Aging on the Expression of Estrogen Receptors in Cardiovascular Tissues Using Droplet Digital PCR," May 2018. **Congratulations Rakesh!**

### ***Members of the Lindsey and Mostany labs presented the following poster:***

Hutson DD, Gurrala R, Mostany R, Satou R, and Lindsey SH. Tissue-Specific Estrogen Receptor Profiling Using Droplet Digital PCR. APS Conference - Cardiovascular, Renal and Metabolic Diseases: Sex-Specific Implications for Physiology. 9/30–10/3/18. Knoxville, TN.

### **Laboratory of Dr. Debasis Mondal**

**Namrata Khurana**, an International Ph.D. candidate from Amity University, India, working with **Dr. Debasis Mondal** was awarded a Graduate Student Travel Award by the AAISCR to attend the American Association of Cancer Research meeting where she presented a poster, "Bardoxolone-methyl suppresses both androgen receptor and its splice-variant ARv7 in prostate cancer cells to enhance the anti-cancer efficacy of enzalutamide," April 14–18, 2018, Chicago, IL. Other authors from the lab and University include: **Partha Chandra**, Hogyoun Kim, Asim B. Abdel-Mageed, **Suresh C. Sikka** and **Debasis Mondal**.

**Dr. Partha Chandra** (Pharm) has published a first-authored paper. *Please see page 6.*

### **Laboratory of Dr. Ricardo Mostany**, [Please visit our webpage](#)

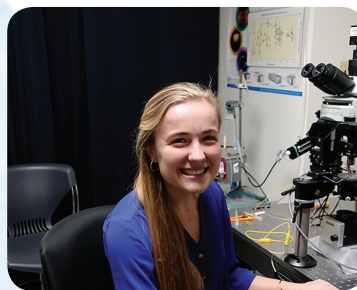
**Brandon Thrash**, (Pharm) was accepted at LSU School of Medicine and started in the Fall of 2018. **Congratulations Brandon!!**

**Drew Davidson** (CMB) was chosen as a Graduate Student Leader for 2018–19 for Tulane's STEM Outreach Program. **Congratulations Drew!**

**Rebecca Voglewede** (BI) presented a talk, "Age-dependent alterations of somatosensory-evoked structural plasticity within cortical layer five," at the following institutions: **(1)** Department of Brain and Cognitive Sciences, MIT, Cambridge, MA, 4/9/18; **(2)** Kresge Institute, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI, 5/14/18; and **(3)** Center for Learning and Memory, University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX, 5/14/18. **(4)** Rebecca also presented, "Reduced sensory-evoked structural plasticity in the aging barrel cortex," Department of Pharmacology, Tulane University, New Orleans, LA, 10/12/18. **Rebecca successfully defended her dissertation on 11/12/18. Congratulations Rebecca!**

## New Faces in Pharmacology in Fall 2018

**Nikita Bess**, M.S., joined the **Busija** lab as a Research Technician. She is studying mitochondria in the cerebral vasculature following strokes. Nikita has been accepted into the UQ-Ochsner MD program. *Congratulations Nikki!*

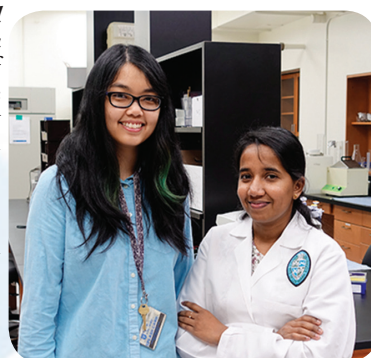


**Alexandria Leland**, an undergraduate student pursuing a degree in Neuroscience and Asian studies has joined the **Mostany** lab and is learning patch-clamp recording and two-photon techniques while studying age-related changes in the neocortical pyramidal neurons of the mouse somatosensory cortex.



*Pharmacology has two, new, much appreciated administrative personnel.* Pictured below left, **Linda Martin** (left) has worked at Tulane SOM in the Depts. of Biomedical Sciences and Medicine. She is happy to have landed in Pharmacology. **Phyllis Lefort** (right) previously worked with a commercial property leasing company and is thrilled to now be working at Tulane.

Joining the **Intapad** lab, pictured on the right, **Dr. Amruta Narayanappa** (right), is a Lab Technician working on maternal preeclampsia programs in hypertension in mouse offspring. Amruta has a Ph.D. from the University of Agricultural Sciences, GKVK, Bengaluru, India. **Katherine Chan** (left) is a masters student in the MSPH program in the School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine. Katherine is working on the imbalance of the sphingolipid synthesis/degradation pathway in preeclamptic mouse placenta and kidney of intrauterine growth restricted mouse fetus.



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## Master's in Pharmacology Graduate Spotlight: Rachel Cohen M.D. Candidate, Tulane class of 2019



In March of 2013, my senior year of undergraduate education, I knew I wasn't going to get into medical school that cycle. I wallowed through the month of March, but by April I was ready to take the next step toward achieving my dream of becoming a physician. I started looking for a one-year master's program that would help me prove to the medical community that I, **Rachel Cohen**, could succeed in medical school. At the time, I had lived all of my 22 years of life in the Midwest with no intent on leaving the region, so naturally my first choice of program was in Chicago. However, when Tulane's Pharmacology Master's Program flashed up on my computer screen, I remembered the spring break trip to New Orleans, from which I had just returned. I thought, "I kind of liked New Orleans ... I'll apply there!" I didn't think much about it because I was "definitely" going to the Chicago school. *Two weeks later*, I received an acceptance letter from the Tulane Pharm program and then found out that my application to the Chicago school had been misplaced in their system. Devastated by this additional hurdle, I called my mother to complain. My mother, however, saw what I could not yet see: an opportunity that the universe seemed to be pointing at with a neon sign.

*It's funny how life works sometimes. Doors were closing all around me and Tulane's Pharmacology Master's program was an open window.* I thought to myself, "... it's only a year; then I can go back home." Despite my initial hesitation, it was through the Pharm program that I not only fell in love with Tulane School of Medicine, but with New Orleans as well. I loved my fellow students and my professors. The Pharmacology Master's program gave me a wonderful foundation for medical school, and in addition, helped me gain the confidence I needed to take the next steps. Through the Tulane Pharmacology program, I proved to the medical community that I could be a successful med student and proved it to myself as well. The pharm program was my cocoon. *I grew so much during that year and I am forever grateful for the strength and opportunities that the program gave me.*

*Thank you to those who have donated to **The Dr. Krishna C. Agrawal Education Fund** to support our students*

This endowed fund supports students in the Department of Pharmacology.

To read the biography of Dr. Krishna please go to: [Agrawal Fund](#)

To support Pharmacology students through The Dr. Krishna C. Agrawal Education Fund or to make a gift to the Department of Pharmacology, contact Mark McKeown, Senior Director of Development for Tulane University School of Medicine, 504-314-7380, or [mmckeown@tulane.edu](mailto:mmckeown@tulane.edu)  
Tulane University School of Medicine Office of Development #8745, 1430 Tulane Avenue, New Orleans, Louisiana 70112

## Publications

Sara Perl Egendorf, Zhongqi Cheng, Maha Deeb, Victor Flores, Anna Paltseva, Dan Walsh, Peter Groffman, and **Howard W. Mielke**. Constructed soils for mitigating lead (Pb) exposure and promoting urban community gardening: The New York City Clean Soil Bank pilot study. *Landscape and Urban Planning* 175 (July 2018) 184–194.

Xuemeng Sun, Xiaoping Li, Yanan Zhao, Tao Yang, Dongying Liu, Ting Wu, Yue Cai, Yuwei Ai, Xu Zhang, Jiwen Wang, Rui Yang, Hongtao Yu, **Howard W. Mielke**. Use of a Survey to Assess the Environmental Exposure and Family Perception to Lead in Children (< 6 Years) in Four Valley Cities, Northwestern China. *Int. J. Environ. Res. Public Health* 2018.

**Mielke HW**, Gonzales CR, Powell ET, Mielke PW Jr. Bayou Chemist. Soil lead and children's exposure: Revised perspective on the urban chemistry of New Orleans, *Bayou Chemist* October, 2018.

Das NA, Carpenter AJ, Yoshida T, Kumar SA, Gautam S, **Mostany R**, Izadpanah R, Kumar A, Mummidi S, Siebenlist U, Chandrasekar B. TRAF3IP2 mediates TWEAK/TWEAKR-induced pro-fibrotic responses in cultured cardiac fibroblasts and the heart. *Journal of Molecular and Cellular Cardiology* 2018, 121:107-123.

**Sure VN, Sakamuri SSVP, Sperling JA, Evans WR, Merdzo I, Mostany R, Murfee WL, Busija DW, Katakam PVG**. A novel high-throughput assay for respiration in isolated brain microvessels reveals impaired mitochondrial function in the aged mice. *Geroscience* 2018;40:365-375.

**Ogola BO, Zimmerman MA, Clark GL, Abshire CA, Gentry KM, Miller KS, Lindsey SH**. New Insights into Arterial Stiffening: Does Sex Matter? *Am J Physiol Heart Circ Physiol*

315: H1073-H1087, 2018

**Zimmerman MA, Hutson DD**, Mauvais-Jarvis F, **Lindsey SH**. (2018) Bazedoxifene-Induced Vasodilation and Inhibition of Vasoconstriction is Significantly Greater than Estradiol. *Menopause* 26(2).

**Chandra PK**, Gerlach SL, Wu C, Khurana N, Swientoniewski LT, Abdel-Mageed AB, Li J, **Braun SE, Mondal D**. Mesenchymal stem cells are attracted to latent HIV-1-infected cells and enable virus reactivation via a non-canonical PI3K-NFkB signaling pathway. *Sci Rep* 2018 Oct 2;8(1):14702.

Datta A, Kim H, McGee L, Johnson AE, Talwar S, Marugan J, Southall N, Hu X, Lal M, **Mondal D**, Ferrer M, Abdel-Mageed AB. High-throughput screening identified selective inhibitors of exosome biogenesis and secretion: A drug repurposing strategy for advanced cancer. *Sci Rep* 2018 May 25;8(1):8161.

Alt E, Barabadi Z, Pfnür A, Ochoa J, Daneshimehr F, Lang L, Lin D, **Braun SE**, Chandrasekar B, and Izadpanah R. TRAF3IP2, A Novel Therapeutic Target in Glioblastoma Multiforme. *OncoTarget* 2018 Jul 3; 9(51):29772-29788.

Navarro G, Allard C, Morford JJ, Xu W, Liu S, Molinas AJ, Butcher SM, Fine NHF, Blandino-Rosano M, **Sure VN**, Yu S, Zhang R, Munzberg H, Jacobson DA, **Katakam PV**, Hodson DJ, Bernal-Mizrachi E, Zsombok A, Mauvais-Jarvis F. Androgen excess in pancreatic beta cells and neurons predisposes female mice to type 2 diabetes. *JCI Insight* 2018;3.

**Sakamuri S, Sperling JA, Sure VN**, Dholakia MH, Peterson NR, **Rutkai I**, Mahalingam PS, Satou R, **Katakam PVG**. Measurement of respiratory function in isolated cardiac mitochondria using seahorse xfe24 analyzer: Applications for aging research. *Geroscience* 2018;40:347-356.

### Pharmacology News is a publication of the Department of Pharmacology, Tulane University

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**Chair: Dr. David W. Busija**

Department Administrator: Debbie Sanders

Senior Editor/Newsletter Preparation: Nancy Busija

Newsletter Oversight: Dr. Sarah Lindsey

#### **Departmental Mission Statement:**

*We will educate and train medical and graduate students in the principles of pharmacology using modern techniques and will conduct state-of-the-art research in pharmacology-related fields in order to expand the frontiers of science and medicine.*