Research News: 2007, no. 3

University of Mississippi. School of Pharmacy

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TO: All School of Pharmacy Personnel

FROM: Charles D. Hufford, Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Programs

DATE: September 5, 2007

SUBJECT: Research News (#3)

The following GRANTS/CONTRACTS have recently been awarded:

1. **Dr. Mitchell Avery** (P.I. – Medicinal Chemistry). Development and Testing of New Antimalarial Drugs (Year 4) (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention), $3,000,000, August 1, 2007-July 31, 2008.

2. **Dr. Joseph Byrd** (P.I. – Pharmacy Practice). University of Mississippi Medical Center/University of Mississippi School of Pharmacy/Department of Pharmacy Practice – Contract for Residency Training Program Support (2007) (University of Mississippi Medical Center), $25,000, July 1, 2007-June 30, 2008.

3. **Dr. Joseph Byrd** (P.I. – Pharmacy Practice). University of Mississippi School of Pharmacy/Department of Pharmacy Practice/University of Mississippi Medical Center – Department of Medicine/Division of Infectious Diseases Agreement (2007-2008) (University of Mississippi Medical Center), $13,945, July 1, 2007-June 30, 2008.


7. **Dr. Alice Clark** (P.I. – NCNPR/ORSP) and **Dr. Ameeta Agarwal** (P.I. – NCNPR). New Drugs for Opportunistic Infections (Year 18) (National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases) $303,465, July 1, 2007-June 30, 2008.


10. **Dr. Mark Hamann** (P.I. – Pharmacognosy), **Dr. Larry Walker** (Co-P.I. – NCNPR) and **Dr. Mitchell Avery** (Co-P.I. – Medicinal Chemistry), Anti-AIDS Agents from Marine Organisms (FY 2007-08) (National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases) $336,448, June 1, 2007-May 31, 2008.

11. **Dr. Muhammad Ilias** (P.I. – NCNPR), **Dr. Babu Tekwani** (Co-P.I. – NCNPR), and **Dr. Ikhus Khan** (Co-P.I. – NCNPR). Standardization of Banisteriopsis caapi for Chemical and Biological Markers (National Institutes of Health), $180,000, August 1, 2007-April 30, 2008.


16. **Dr. Dale Nagle** (P.I. – Pharmacognosy), and **Dr. Yu-Dong Zhou** (P.I. – Pharmacognosy). Neosergiolide – The First Potent Bi-Functional Natural Product that Simultaneously Targets STAT3-Dependent Breast Tumors and Tumor Hypoxia (U.S. Army Medical Research and Material Command), $108,000, September 15, 2007-October 14, 2008.


20. **Dr. Larry Walker** (P.I. – NCNPR), **Dr. Ikhus Khan** (Co-P.I. – NCNPR), **Dr. Babu Tekwani** (Co-P.I. – NCNPR), **Dr. Dhammika Nanayakkara** (Co-P.I. – NCNPR), and **Dr. Muhammad Ilias** (P.I. – NCNPR). A Longer View of the Antimalarial Drug Pipeline: Natural Products as New Prototypes (Medicines for Malaria Venture), $180,579.19, July 1, 2007-December 31, 2007.

21. **Dr. Barbara Wells** (P.I. – Dean’s Office), and **Dr. Charles Hufford** (Co-P.I. – Dean’s Office). Health Care Facilities and Other Construction: Equipment for Phase II – NCNPR Program (Health Resources and Services Administration), $639,917, August 1, 2007-September 30, 2007.


The following PUBLICATIONS have appeared:


TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER transactions:
(In the interest of protecting confidential information, the names and titles associated with School of Pharmacy invention disclosures and patent applications will no longer be published until after a patent has issued.)

Research Disclosures Filed in FY2007-2008: 3
U. S. Patent Applications Pending: 29
Recent U. S. Patents Granted: Enzymatic method to produce 7-dehydroprogrenenolone, vitamin D like compounds and derivatives thereof. Slominski, Andrzej; Tuckey, Robert; Zjawiony, Jordan; Stewart, D. Jeremy; Wortsman, Jacobo. US Patent #7,253,393.

The following SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS are also listed:

- **Mr. Sanju Narayanan** (Medicinal Chemistry Graduate Student) has been selected to participate in the 2007 American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists Graduate Student Symposium in Drug Design and Discovery, sponsored by Bristol-Myers Squibb, to be held in November in San Diego, California. This is the second year in a row that a graduate student from the University of Mississippi has been selected for this prestigious recognition.

- **Mr. Srinivasa Murthy Sammeta** (Pharmaceutics Graduate Student) received a Graduate Student Council Research Grant for 2007-08 funded by the Graduate Student Council of the University of Mississippi for his project entitled, “Needle Free Method of Measuring Blood Glucose”.

- **Mr. Sridhar Thumma** (Pharmaceutics Graduate Student) was presented with an outstanding podium presentation award for his podium entitled, “Transmucosal Delivery of a Pro-drug V9-Tetrahydrocannabinol” at the Pharmforum 2007 conference, hosted by the University of Tennessee Student Chapter of the American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists (AAPS) in May 2007. Mr. Thumma also received the Natural Products Neuroscience (CORE-NPN) Fellowship funded by the National Institutes of Health for 2006-07.

- **Ms. Sanpada Upadhye** (Pharmaceutics Graduate Student) was presented with the Best Poster Award in Health Sciences II category for her poster entitled, “Wound Healing Potential of Chlorophyllin Gel” at the University of Mississippi Sigma Xi Poster Symposium in March 2007. Ms. Upadhye also won the outstanding poster award during the AAPS Pharmforum 2007 conference.

- **Mr. Siva Ram Kiran Vaka** (Pharmaceutics Graduate Student) also received a UM Graduate Student Council Research Grant for 2007-08 for his project entitled, “Enhancement of Brain Uptake of Intronasally Administered Macromolecular Therapeutics”.

- **Ms. Jiajia Wang** (Pharmacology Graduate Student) and **Ms. Lu Wang** (Pharmacology Graduate Student) became the inaugural recipients of the Marvin Davis Award for the best pre-candidacy graduate student in the Department of Pharmacology Awards ceremony on August 24, 2007. The award is named in honor of Dr. Marvin Davis, who was the founding Chair of the Department, and is awarded for “outstanding performance as a graduate student in research, scholarship and service to the Department”. Jiajia Wang is a graduate student in the laboratory of Dr. Rae Matsumoto and Lu Wang is a graduate student in the laboratory of Dr. Kristine Willett.

Please continue to send me important research and graduate information so that I might share it with your faculty colleagues. **This information is now being posted on the School of Pharmacy web page** (www.pharmacy.olemiss.edu).
cc:  Dean Barbara G. Wells
     Ms. Dabney Weems
     Ms. Julie Edgington, Office of Research