

School of Biomedical Sciences

Postgraduate Newsletter

In this edition

- PhD degrees awarded in 2010
- Grant and award recipients
- New Students
- SBMS Symposium and Biomedical Conference

PHD DEGREES AND AWARD RECIPIENTS IN 2010

Congratulations to **James Kesby**, from Darryl Eyles' Lab, for achieving his goal of attaining a Doctor of Philosophy degree. James has been working on the impact of developmental vitamin D deficiency on brain neurochemistry and behaviour in Sprague-Dawley rats. James will be graduating in December; well done!!!

A BIG congratulations also go to the following students on receiving the UQ Deans Award 2009 for Outstanding RHD Thesis:



Arjuna Kumarasuriyar:
Supervisor Dr
Simon Cool



Blake Harahush:
Supervisor, Prof
Shaun Collin

WELCOME TO OUR NEW STUDENTS IN 2010

A warm welcome to the following students who have joined us at SBMS in 2010.

Avik Banerjee is supervised by Peter Thorn and came to SBMS from India. Avik has a Masters in Plant Molecular biology and biotechnology. Avik was awarded a full scholarship for his study titled *Identification of the mechanisms that terminate granule fusion, understanding its intricacies, novel regulatory proteins involved and its role in significant body functions.*

Jennifer Leech is supervised by Stuart Mazzone and is researching *Identification of brain regions involved in the regulation of coughing.* Jennifer graduated from the University of Melbourne with first class Honours.

Liam Coulthard is being supervised by Steve Taylor and completed his Undergraduate and Honours Degree at UQ. Liam graduated with First class Honours which has led him into a PhD titled *The role of the complement cascade in neural development.*

Peppermint Lee is supervised by Trent Woodruff. Peppermint also completed her Undergraduate and Honours Degree at UQ. Peppermint's research topic is *The role of immune pathways in neurodegeneration.*

Alexanda Widiapradja is being supervised by Garrie Arumugam. Alex completed his Honours at UQ and has been awarded an APA for his research titled *Gamma-Secretase inhibitors as novel pharmacological agent to target stroke-induced brain injury.*

Keira Burlinson is supervised by Brad Launikonis and is researching *Calcium regulation in healthy and dystrophic muscle.* Keira completed her BSc Honours Degree and a Graduate Diploma in teaching at the University of Western Australia.

Shannon Hsieh is supervised by Garrie Arumugam. Shannon completed a BSc of Biotechnology at Ta-Tung University in Taiwan and her Master of Molecular Biology at UQ. Shannon's research topic is *Role of Fcy receptors in ischaemic stroke induced neuronal cell death.*

Joshua Simmich is supervised by Ethan Scott. Joshua graduated from UQ with First Class Honours and has been awarded an APA for his research titled *Cerebellar output, and its role in motor coordination and motor learning.* Recently, Joshua was awarded a UQAdv scholarship.

Jeremy Wong Weng is supervised by Lindsay Brown, USQ, who holds an adjunct appointment with SBMS. Jeremy has a MMedSc in Cancer Biology from the University of Malaya. He received a full UQ scholarship for his study, *Angiogenesis in the development and treatment of the metabolic syndrome.*

Angeline Tan is supervised by Chen Chen and graduated from UQ with First Class Honours. Angeline has received a full UQ scholarship for her research, *Effects of metabolic regulatory factors on growth hormone cells and growth hormone releasing hormone neurons.*

School of Biomedical Sciences Postgraduate Newsletter

GRADUATE SCHOOL TRAVEL GRANT RECIPIENT

Carla Atkinson, a PhD student with Professor Shaun Collin, has been awarded a Graduate School Travel Grant.

Carla used the grant to travel to the University of Bonn in Germany. There she did some research activities in Professor Michael Hofmann's lab. She learnt some tracing techniques using BDA injections into anaesthetised sharks and Dil injections in paddlefish.

Carla is looking at the central projections associated with taste, in the brains of sharks and paddlefish.



In the last week of Carla's trip overseas, she was also lucky enough to attend the International Congress for Neuroethology in Salamanca, Spain.

SBMS POSTGRADUATE SYMPOSIUM

The SBMS Postgraduate Symposium was held over two days on Thursday 10 and Friday 11 June in the Physiology Lecture Theatres.

This was the first year a two-day symposium has been held at SBMS. The Symposium aimed at bringing together all of our postgraduate students, to showcase their projects and data and to provide opportunities for increasing interaction across the School.

This symposium was a forerunner to the UQ Postgraduate Biomedical Sciences Conference we organised and held here at UQ with our affiliated Institutes and Schools, as well as our biomedical partners in New Zealand and China.

Our SBMS Three Minute Thesis competition was also held as part of the Symposium. Winners, Lee O'Sullivan and Bronwyn Bevan-Smith, went through to the Faculty of Science final that was held on Monday 16 August 2010. Unfortunately, Lee and Bron didn't make it through to the next round, but we congratulate them on a great accomplishment reaching the Faculty final.

Our other winners at the Symposium were:

Overall Poster: Josh Simmich
Overall Oral: Dale Pavlovski

First Year

1st Prize Oral: Matt Fogarty
Runner Up Oral: Liam Coulthard
1st Prize Poster: Simon Foster
Runner Up Poster: Lee O'Sullivan AND Alex Widiapradja

Second Year

1st Prize Oral: Danny Bosch
Runner Up Oral: Yi Ma
1st Prize Poster: Kirsty MacRae
Runner Up Poster: Jenny Fung

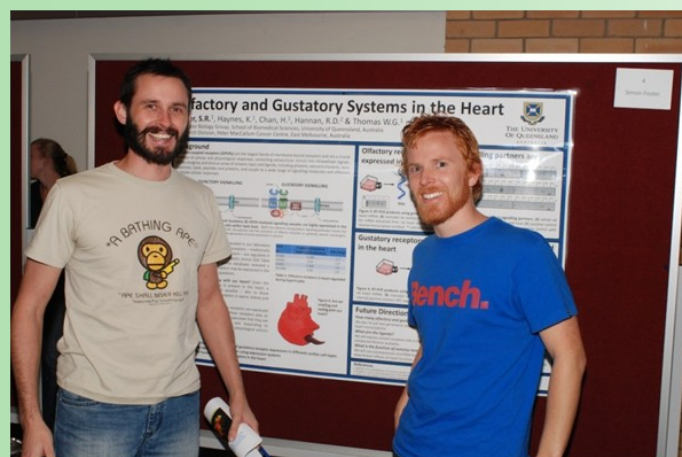
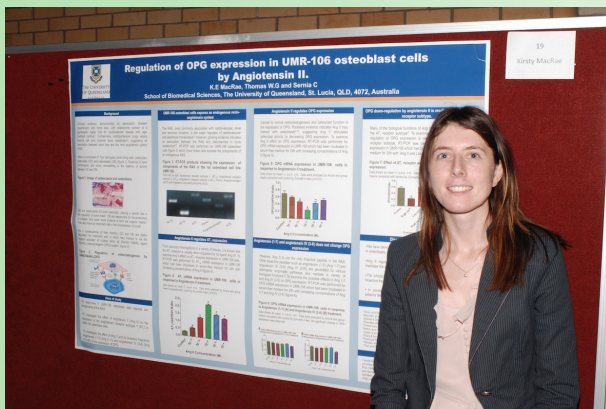
Third Year

1st Prize Oral: Georgia Kafer
Runner Up Oral: Andrew Rayfield
1st Prize Poster: Neville Hartley

A big thank you goes out to the organising committee for all their help and hard work!

*Simon Foster – 1st Prize
Poster for first year
students*

*Kirsty MacRae – 1st
Prize Poster
for second
year stu-*



School of Biomedical Sciences Postgraduate Newsletter

UQ POSTGRADUATE BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES CONFERENCE

The UQ Postgraduate Biomedical Sciences Conference was held on Friday 2nd July at St Leo's College.

This was a great opportunity for our affiliated Institutes and Schools to come together to showcase their research and enhance collaboration opportunities.

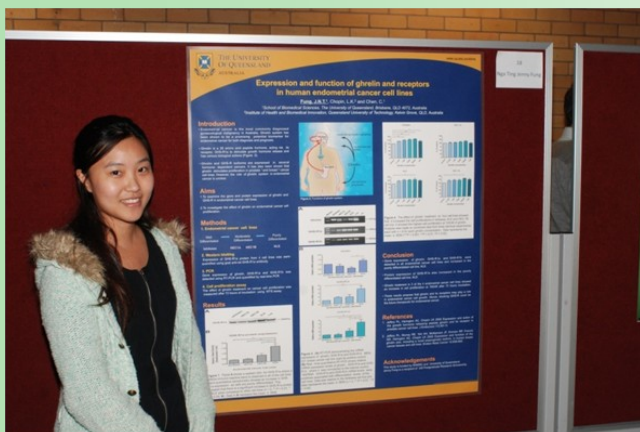
As a consequence, the School of Biomedical Sciences, School of Chemistry and Molecular Biosciences, Institute for Molecular Biosciences, Queensland Brain Institute, Diamantina Institute, Australian Institute for Bioengineering and Nanotechnology, UQ Centre for Clinical Research, Prince Charles Hospital and School of Pharmacy, were all involved.

Due to Conrad's recent alliance with New Zealand Universities, we were fortunate to have 4 students from the University of Otago and Auckland attend the conference. Each student gave a presentation on their current research projects. With Chen Chen's alliance with China, we were excited to see a presentation from Professor Youfei Guan and PhD student Yifei Miao from Peking University. However due to some airline hiccups, they were unable to attend.

The day concluded with a Public Lecture given by Professor Ronald J Quinn AM, on "The Science of Drug Development from Natural Products".

Posters winners were:

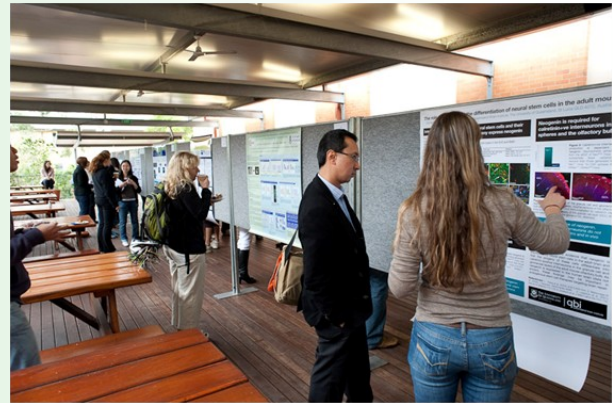
- 1st. Alexi Kovten (IMB)
- 2nd. Dana Bradford (QBI)
- 3rd. Jenny Fung (SBMS)



Jenny Fung (taken at the Symposium) received 3rd place poster at the Conference

CONFERENCE PHOTOS

Student poster presentations



ABOVE: Industry trade displays
BELOW: Prof Ronald Quinn



R
E
M
I
N
D
E
R

Graduate School Research Travel Grant scheme will no longer be offered in its current format. Keep an eye out for details on a new scheme for UQ's research higher degree students <http://www.uq.edu.au/grad-school/graduate-school-research-travel-grant-gsrtg>