



Please send submissions to: Katie Gallagher at galla134@msu.edu or 302B Biochemistry (mailbox on 2nd floor)

Vol.39, No. 30, July 24-28, 2006

Calendar

Monday, July 24

Tuesday, July 25

Wednesday, July 26

Chemistry Seminar: Efforts to develop a new strategy for the synthesis of dihydropyrans. LuAnne McNulty, Butler University, 3:00 p.m., 136 Chemistry.

Thursday, July 27

Biochemistry and Molecular Biology Doctoral Dissertation: Glucose, N-3 polyunsaturated fatty acids and peroxisome proliferator activated receptor-alpha agonist regulate rat liver-pyruvate kinase gene transcription. Jinghua Xu, 9:30 a.m., 208 Biochemistry.

Friday, July 28

Transcription Journal Club: No meeting this week.

Announcements

BMB 961-001 Concepts in Protein Structure Analysis and Modeling will be offered this fall and will be taught every other fall semester. The course is limited to 20 students. This is a hands-on course dealing with several aspects of protein structure analysis and modeling. We will go through UNIX basics, databases of three-dimensional structures of small molecules and proteins, and some of the most commonly used graphics software packages for visualizing and manipulating macromolecule structures. We will also learn the basics of BLAST and multiple sequence alignment and move on to methods of three-dimensional structure determination using X-ray diffraction and NMR and learn to analyze some of the structures determined by these methods. Finally for a protein sequence with unknown structure, the secondary structure will be predicted, and a three-dimensional homology model of the protein will be built and analyzed using some of the tools available on the Web with an emphasis on identifying structure-function relationships. The Accelrys suite of InsightII software package for analysis and modeling of protein structures will also be introduced. Lectures will cover the theory and demonstrate the computer methods used; lab hours will provide hands-on experience. For more information and permission to enroll in this course, please e-mail Kaillathe (Pappan) Padmanabhan at padmanab@msu.edu. The syllabus can be found at <http://www.bch.msu.edu/courses/961/961-001-FS06-syllabus.pdf>.

Announcements continued

College or Natural Science: The College of Natural Science will be awarding 15 dissertation completion fellowships for Fall 2006 or Spring 2007 with the funds received from the Graduate School. The amount of the awards will be \$6,000. Tuition and fees will not be paid. Students receiving fellowships can be appointed as a GA. Writing the dissertation and completion of the degree are the goals and we will expect positive results. Nomination packages should include a curriculum vitae that includes the students PID number and current mailing address, a 1-2 page outline of the dissertation with the specific status of each chapter and projected completion dates, a letter of support and a statement of progress by the major professor, and an endorsement from the Department Chairperson or Graduate Program Director. All applicants must be able to reasonably demonstrate completion of their degree by Summer 2007. **Please forward your nominations to 103 Natural Science no later than Friday, September 1, 2006.**

Travel

Northwest Airlines is bringing back service from Lansing to Minneapolis. The improved flight times are departing Lansing at 7:20 a.m. arriving in Minneapolis at 8:03 a.m.; departing Minneapolis at 6:52 p.m. arriving Lansing at 9:26 p.m. The DC9 plane size has been increased to accommodate 125 passengers.



Spotlight



Jinghua Xu, Graduate Assistant, is currently researching nutrients regulation of hepatic gene transcription in Dr. Jump's lab. Jinghua has been with the department for 5 years.

Jinghua is originally from Changchun, China. She received her undergraduate degree from Peking University before coming to the United States. She is married to Yuwei Chi. Jinghua enjoys playing tennis and gardening. One day, she hopes to have her own garden.

Quote for the Week

Nothing great in the world has been accomplished without passion. – *Georg Wilhelm*
