

Dean's Message

Dear colleagues and friends

The Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine is proud to announce NUS's conferment of the title of Emeritus Professor on Professor Chan Soh Ha. Widely recognized as an international expert on immune responses against the Epstein-Barr and Hepatitis Virus, both of which are major causes of cancer in the world, Professor Chan was also pivotal in establishing Singapore as a leading centre in Asia for tissue-typing, saving countless patients from the risk of potentially fatal complications. For his scholarship in immunology, Professor Chan has won numerous awards, including the National Science and Technology Award. He is also credited as an outstanding educator. The School is privileged to have Professor Chan on faculty.

This month also featured the NUS-New Zealand Life Sciences Week, which showcased public lectures and seminars delivered by leading faculty of the Liggins Institute, University of Auckland, and the University of Otago. Professor Peter Gluckman, who heads the Liggins Institute, led his team in delivering a series of talks on the implications of fetal health on adult well-being at NUS; Professor Mark Henaghan, Dean of Law at the University of Otago, gave a lecture on genes, ethics and the future, on top of conducting an ethics workshop. We hope that the NUS-New Zealand Life Sciences Week was a productive research encounter that will mark the beginning of a fruitful relationship between our School and these leading institutions.

Sincerely yours,
John

CONGRATULATIONS!

Grant Results

Singapore Cancer Syndicate January 2007 Results

Professor Shazib Pervaiz, Department of Physiology

Title: Apoptosis protease activating factor 1 (Apaf-1) mislocalisation as a novel marker for drug resistance in nasopharyngeal carcinoma and head and neck squamous cell carcinoma.

Assistant Professor Allen Yeoh, Department of Paediatrics

Title: Pharmacovigilance and Pharmacogenomics in childhood acute lymphoblastic leukaemia: Proposal for the multi-centre Malaysia-Singapore (MA-SPORE) ALL 2007 Study.

Incentive for Research & Innovative Scheme (IRIS) – Environment and Water Industry Development Council (EWI):

Associate Professor Poh Chit Laa, Department of Microbiology

Title: Rapid Detection of Bioterrorism Agents and Pathogens in the Drinking Water Distribution System of Singapore.

NMRC Grant Results

Dr Chen Li Hsian, Christopher, Department of Pharmacology

Title: Chinese Medicine Neuroaid Efficacy on Stroke Recovery (CHIMES) Study.

Awards and Grant Awards

Dean's Office

Recipients of the 2005/2006 NUS Annual Teaching Excellence Award and Faculty Teaching Award

- Associate Professor Bay Boon Huat – Anatomy
- Associate Professor Too Heng-Phon – Biochemistry
- Assistant Professor Koh Woon Puay – COFM
- Associate Professor Erle Lim Chuen Hian – Medicine
- Assistant Professor Thomas Loh Kwok Seng – Otolaryngology
- Associate Professor Daniel Goh Yam Thiam – Paediatrics

Recipients of the Faculty Teaching Excellence Award 2005/2006

- Associate Professor Samuel Tay Sam Wah – Anatomy
- Assistant Professor Stacey Tay Kiat Hong – Paediatrics

Recipient of the Faculty Outstanding Researcher Award 2007

- Associate Professor Bay Boon Huat – Anatomy

Recipient of the Faculty Outstanding Researcher Award 2007 (Young Researcher Category)

- Associate Professor Alirio Jose Melendez Romero

Recipients of the Research Excellence Award AY2005-2006

- Assistant Professor Shen Han-Ming – COFM
- Associate Professor Soong Tuck Wah – Physiology
- Assistant Professor Chong Yap Seng – Obstetrics and Gynaecology

COFM and CME

Professor David Koh was conferred the "National Skin Centre Distinguished Friend Award" on 14 April 2007.

The department received one of the two Gold Awards at this year's Annual Safety and Health Performance Award (ASHPA) Ceremony held on 28 March 2007. A special Excellence Award was also presented to COFM for having received the Gold Awards for 3 consecutive years.

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Diagnostic Radiology

Associate Professor Wang Shih-Chang, Associate Professor Ashraf Kassim, Associate Professor Leow Wee Kheng, Dr Tian Qi (Media Division, Institute for Infocomm Research, A*STAR), Dr Borys Shuter, Dr Chui Chee Kong were awarded the Singapore Bioimaging Consortium (SBIC) grant for their research "Segmentation, structural modeling and simulation of the aorta and liver for clinical decision-making and treatment planning".

Associate Professor Foong Weng Chiong Kelvin (Network Director), Dr Ong Sim Heng, Dr Goh Poh Sun (co-PI) were awarded the SBIC grant for their research "Anatomic modeling of the human head from non-ionising radiation imaging modalities for orthodontic treatment and jaw surgery".

Dr Saw Maung Maung, Dr Yvonne Ho (NUH), Associate Professor Wang Shih-Chang were awarded a research grant by the International Atomic Energy Agency for their research "Development of In-house Prepared Kits for ⁹⁰Yttrium- DOTA labeled anti-CD20 and ^{99m}Tc – Annexin V".

Awards and Grant Awards

Microbiology

Professor Chan Soh Ha was conferred Emeritus Professorship in recognition of his distinguished scholarship and outstanding service to the University.

NLAM Clinician Scientist Unit

The "Pitch for Funds" Round was held on 27 March 2007. The winner was Dr Jerry Chan, Registrar, Dept of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, NUH. Dr Chan will receive project funding of S\$10,000 to work on his research "Isolation of Ovarian Cancer Stem Cells".

Merit Awards were also given to Dr Claude Renaud, Associate Consultant, Dept of Medicine, NUH; Dr Su Lin Lin, Associate Consultant, Dept of Obstetrics & Gynaecology, NUH and Dr Chan Ching Wan, Associate Consultant, Dept of Surgery, NUH.

Obstetrics and Gynaecology

Dr Jerry KY Chan was awarded the NHG-Small Innovative Grant for his research "Identification of mammary stem cells from human breast milk".

Dr Su Lin Lin and Dr Chong Yap Seng were awarded the NHG-Small Innovative Grant for their research "Carbetocin versus syntometrine for the third stage of labour following vaginal delivery – a double-blind randomised controlled trial".

Dr Mahesh Choolani was awarded the NHG-Small Innovative Grant for his research "Development and testing of a novel diagnostic kit for rapid intraoperative evaluation of malignancy using cyst fluid from epithelial ovarian tumours".

Dr Chong Yap Seng and Dr Citra Mattar were awarded the NHG-Small Innovative Grant for their research "Epigenetic markers in growth restricted human pregnancies: a case controlled study".

Ophthalmology

Associate Professor Wong Tien Yin was awarded the Singhealth Group CEO Excellence Award in Research (Open Category).

Paediatrics

The Department of Paediatrics achieved the following awards

- Safety Innovation Team Programme Award (SITP) - Chemical Safety Innovators (C.S.I.) on Chemical Hazard Management, April 2007
- SITP Award - P.A.E.D.S. on Safety Video and Quizzes, April 2007
- ASHPA (Silver), April 2007

Physiology

The Department of Physiology achieved the ASHPA (Gold) as well as the SITP awards: Certificate of participation (Team Secure), Consolation (Team Cross), Bronze (Team Noise Buster) and Silver (Team Visual).

Surgery

Associate Professor Lim Thiam Chye, Dr Ang Chee Wan, Associate Professor Lim Lum Peng and Dr Chung Kong Mun received a research grant from Faculty of Dentistry for their clinical trial "Usage of a bioresorbable scaffold as dental filler".

Dr Philip Iau has been awarded the Researcher-Investigator-Scientist Enabler Award (RISE) for two years. The selection was based on his established track record of translational research primarily in the field of Breast Cancer Genetics.

Dr Edmund Chiong was awarded the ExxonMobil-NUS Research Fellowship for Clinicians for a period of six months. This fellowship enables him to spend at least 60% of his working hours on research. This award will fund 60% of his base salary and his mentor, A/Prof E Kesavan, will also receive S\$20,000 for laboratory expenses.

Dr Phan Toan Thang and Prof Pham Manh Hung were awarded a research grant by Ministry of Science and Technology of Vietnam (2646/QD-BKHCN) and MekoPharm Pharmaceuticals for their research "The National Stem Cell Project of Vietnam: Establishment of a National Stem Cell Bank and Stem Cell Research Centre using novel source of stem cells derived from human umbilical cord membranes".

Dr Phan Toan Thang and Dr Yang Yi Yan received the COT (Commercialization of Technology) Funding Grant from A*STAR Exploit Technologies for their research "Evaluation of thermosensitive wound dressing using porcine wound model".

The Department of Surgery won the Merit Safety Award with \$10,000 prize for safety expenditure from OSHE.

Collaborations

Surgery

Professor Uwe Klima and Dr Theodoros Kofidis engaged collaborations for training and IRB-based postoperative therapy improvement in CTV surgery with companies such as Medtronic and Johnsons and Johnsons.

Achievements

Alice Lee Centre for Nursing Studies

Papers were presented at the Nursing Leadership Conference 2007, held at Sea World Nara Resort in Gold Coast, Queensland, Australia from 19 to 20 April 2007 by

1. Keynote speaker Professor David Arthur "Riding the Wave of Change: Some Ups and Downs of Leadership in Nursing Education".
2. Concurrent session speaker, Dr Anthony O'Brien "The Bachelor of Science (Nursing) Degree in NUS – Leading Regional Initiatives in Nursing Education".
3. Plenary Address by Dr Jillian Diane Brammer "Student Learning in Clinical Placement? It's Not My Responsibility".

Dr Miharu Sagar-Rosemeyer gave an oral presentation "Brain death or cardiac arrest: Japanese children's definition of death" at the 29th Annual Conference of Association for Death Education and Counselling held in Indianapolis, USA from 12 to 15 April 2007.

Anatomy

Professor Ling Eng Ang was invited to serve as a member of the Assessment Committee to review the graduate programmes in the Graduate Institute of Anatomy and Cell Biology, National Taiwan University (NTU) on 11th – 12th April 2007.

Microbiology

Professor Mike Kemeny was invited to deliver a lecture "CD8 T cells talk back to Dendritic cells" at the Amsterdam Medical Centre on 14 February 2007.

Associate Professor Poh Chit Laa's article entitled "Antisense-based antimicrobials show promise against *K. pneumoniae*" was selected as 1 of the 5 journal highlights by Microbe, the news magazine of the America Society for Microbiology for the month of April 07.

Orthopaedic Surgery

Professor Wong Hee Kit was invited as a Guest Speaker at the 36th Annual Meeting of the Japanese Society for Spine Surgery and Related Research, 26-27 April 2007, Kanazawa, Japan.

Associate Professor James Goh was invited as a Guest Speaker at the International Workshop on Articular Joint Biology and Disease, 17-18 Mar 2007, Indian Institute Technology, Kanpur, India.

Assistant Professor Hee Hwan Tak was invited as a Guest Speaker and lecturer at the Minimally Invasive Spine Surgery Seminar, 7 April 2007, Miot Hospitals, Chennai, India and Spine Update, Sancheti Institute of Orthopaedics Research, Pune, India.

Physiology

Associate Professor Soong Tuck Wah was invited to present his paper "Alterations of splicing profiles of Ca_v1.2 L-type calcium channels in the cardiovascular system" at the Calcium Channel Conference on 1-7 April, 2007, Moorea. His team members who contributed to the paper are Dr Tang Zhen Zhi, Ms Yu Dejie and Dr Liao Ping.

Professor Shazib Pervaiz was invited to speak on "Intracellular ROS and Bcl-2 family; friends or foes" at the Sydney Kimmel Cancer Center Annual Conference "New Targets and Delivery Systems in Cancer Diagnosis and Treatment" in Coronado, CA, March 5-7, 2007.

Dr Fai Tsang and Associate Professor Soong Tuck Wah wrote a book chapter in "Oxidative Stress and Neurodegenerative Disorders", edited by G. Ali Qureshi and S. Hasan Parvez – Chapter 26, "Environmental and genetic interactions: key to sporadic Parkinson's disease".

Surgery

Dr Theodoros Kofidis has been invited to be a panelist on the editorial board at the Asian Society of Cardiovascular Surgery Meeting in Beijing in May 2007. He has also been invited to speak on "Myocardial restoration with stem cells and bioartificial tissues: Pandora's Box on the scale" at the International Society of Heart Disease Conference in Vancouver, Canada, in July 2007.

Professor Lee Chuen Neng will be the President of 16th Congress, Asian Society for Cardiovascular Surgery, 2008.

Professor Uwe Klima and Dr Theodoros Kofidis and their team expanded the surgical spectrum of the Department to encompass minimal invasive atrial septal defect closure and repair of aortic valve and root (instead of replacement).

Dr Jane Lim, Associate Professor Lim Thiam Chye and Dr Ong Wei Chen wrote a book chapter in Evans & Wirth, General Reconstructive Surgery - Chapter 9, Hip and Pelvic Wall. Elsevier.

Student Publication

Pharmacology

Honours student Ching Jian Hong won the 2nd prize in the Podium competition at the 3rd American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientist-National University of Singapore (AAPS-NUS) Student Chapter Symposium held on 5 March 2007. The title of his project was "A Study of Antiplatelet and Anticoagulant Activities in Plants Commonly Found in Singapore".

Appointments

Centre for Biomedical Ethics

Professor Alastair Campbell, Director, Centre for Biomedical Ethics, NUS, has been appointed by the Minister of Health, Singapore as

- Board Member, Health Sciences Authority
- Member, Bioethics Advisory Committee
- Member, National Medical Ethics Committee

Professor Campbell has also been appointed by the National Healthcare Group (NHG) as Member of the NHG Research Ethics Committee.

Medical Education Unit

Professor Matthew Gwee was appointed member of the International Editorial Board of Medical Education by Professor Georges Bordage from the University of Illinois at Chicago, Chairman of the Board.

Surgery

Associate Professor Kesavan Esuvaranathan was elected as President for the Singapore Urology Association on 1 April 2007. The presidency is for a term of 1 year.

Dr Stephen Chang, Consultant, Division of Hepatobiliary and Pancreatic Surgery, Department of Surgery, will assume duties as Acting Head, Division of Hepatobiliary and Pancreatic Surgery, NUH.

Dr Siow Woei Yun was appointed as a member of the Medical Education Unit in Dean's Office of Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine. The appointment is from 1 April 2007 to 30 June 2009.

Dr Dean Koh was appointed as a member of the NHG Research Informatics Ad-hoc Review Committee (Riarc). The appointment is from 1 April 2007 to 31 December 2007. The Riarc was proposed by the NHG Research Policy and Review Committee (RPRC) to set the overall strategic direction for research informatics in NHG through enhancement of the Central Clinical Research Database (CCRD). The CCRD is a cluster-wide clinical research database system with the objective to enable integration between relational databases and act as gateway between NHG and other external agencies. The Riarc will make its recommendation on the strategy and plan to the NHG RPRC, six months from its appointment date. A new project steering committee will then be formed based on the recommendation by Riarc to oversee the development and implementation.

NEW STAFF APPOINTMENTS

Medicine	Professor Nancy Jenkins Copeland	Adjunct Professor
	Professor Neal Greig Copeland	Adjunct Professor
Pathology	Dr Ng Siok Bian	Assistant Professor

TEMASEK YOUNG INVESTIGATOR AWARD (TYIA) 2007 – CALL FOR NOMINATIONS (DEADLINE: 21 MAY 2007)

The Temasek Young Investigator Award aims to build up a pool of high quality researchers in NUS to undertake leading-edge research in defence and security. The award is specifically targeted at promising young NUS faculty/research staff, aged 40 or less, who have demonstrated strong scholarship and leadership in research. To date, six outstanding researchers have been awarded the TYIA.

Eligibility & Terms of Award

- Candidates must have demonstrated strong scholarship and leadership in research.
- Candidates must be below **40 years of age** (as at 20 Aug 2007) as the award is targeted at supporting promising faculty/research staff to hone their research capabilities in the early part of their career.
- Winners will be selected based on merit with particular emphasis on leadership in research and potential impact of the nominee's research on defence and security.
- There is no restriction on nationality and citizenship.
- Self nominations are allowed however no team awards will be considered.

Details of the Award are as follows

- Winners will be awarded the title of '**Temasek Young Investigator**'.
- Each winner will receive an S\$500,000 research grant tenable over a period of 3 years.
- A further S\$200,000 will be awarded to the host Faculty/School of each winner for 3 years to allow the Faculty/School to reduce the winner's teaching load by half.
- Each winner will be required to sign a Project Agreement with DSTA which stipulates the terms of the award. Funds usage will be in accordance with policies governing NUS research projects and the terms stipulated in the Project Agreement.

The nomination process involves two proposal submission stages:

- 1) Submission of preliminary proposal (deadline to Dean's Office: 21 May 2007).
- 2) Submission of full proposal (only shortlisted nominees will be invited to submit a full proposal for consideration).

Interested staff members are required to submit a preliminary proposal for review - **PART I** of the TYIA Preliminary Proposal form and forward it to the **Dean's Office (Attn: Jane Leong)** by **21 May 2007** for our follow-up action with Office of Research (ORE). Researchers are encouraged, if possible, to prepare preliminary proposals in consultation with DSTA Programme Managers (PMs). Shortlisted nominees will be invited to submit a full proposal for consideration. The Final Selection Committee will convene sometime in Oct 2007 to decide on the final list of recipient(s).

Other details of the TYIA are also available at ORE's website <http://www.nus.edu.sg/ore/awards/TYIA.htm>.

FORTHCOMING GRANT CALLS

Forthcoming Grant Details	Deadlines
BMRC/NMRC Joint Call	May 2007
World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) call for Research Grants	30 May 2007
Singapore-Poland Science & Technology Co-Operation: 2nd Call for Joint Proposals	8 June 2007 (Full Paper)
National Research Foundation – Post Doctoral Fellowship Scheme	2 July 2007

Division of Research

BMRC/NMRC Joint Call – To be announced

Tentative Deadline: May 2007

World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) call for Research Grants

Deadline: 30 May 2007

Please submit your application directly to WADA by 20 May 2007 with a copy to Ms Poonam Rai (medprai@nus.edu.sg, tel: 6516 4235) or Ms Masrinie (medmmr@nus.edu.sg, tel: 6516 5292).

Research interests for this year include:

1. Compounds and/or methods enhancing oxygen delivery
2. Non-steroidal compounds or methods enhancing growth
3. Projects relating to the Prohibited List: classic methodologies
4. Projects relating to the Prohibited List: novel methodologies
5. Identification and/or detection of substances with suspected doping potential

More details are available at <http://www.wada-ama.org/en/newsarticle.ch2?articleId=3115388>.

Singapore-Poland Science & Technology Co-Operation: 2nd Call for Joint Proposals

Deadline: 8 June 2007 (Full Paper)

We are pleased to invite applications for "Full proposal" in the research areas mentioned below, from SERC on the second Call for Joint Proposals under the Singapore-Poland Science & Technology Co-operation with the Polish Ministry of Science & Higher Education (MSHE).

Proposals are being invited in the following areas:

- (I) Information technologies - Methods and tools supporting the development of an information society including:
 - a. Intelligent modeling and decision support systems for controlling and optimizing complex real systems.
 - b. Diagnosis and therapy support systems and systems for exchanging medical data through on-line and mobile platforms.
 - c. Mobile technologies.
- (II) Energy and its resources (pilot theme) - Generation and storage of energy from renewable sources and clean coal technologies e.g. Biomass, fuel cells, organic photovoltaic, energy efficiency.

We would appreciate your kind assistance in forwarding the submissions of forms for the Full Proposal through your Head of Department to Research Division, YLL SoM by 8 June 2007.

Further details and application forms are available at: https://www.nus.edu.sg/staff/ore/extl_grant/ore_funding_serc_singpol2.htm.

SoM Update

FORTHCOMING GRANT CALLS

National Research Foundation – Post Doctoral Fellowship Scheme

DEADLINE: 2 July 2007 (Monday)

The NRF has announced a new Initiative - NRF Research Fellowship (NRF RF) Scheme. Below are some of the features of the NRF RF Scheme:

Eligibility

1. The Fellowship is open to all areas in science and technology with no quota on specific disciplines.
2. Young talented post-doctoral fellows at or below the age of 35 should apply.
3. There is no restriction on nationality.

Terms & Remuneration

1. Gross annual salary is pegged to that of an Assistant Professor and ranges from S\$72,000 to S\$144,000 (approx. US\$47,300 to US\$94,700).
2. Successful applicants will receive research funding of up to US\$1.5 million dollars over three years.
3. Outstanding Fellows may be offered tenured track or permanent positions at the appropriate academic departments in NUS.

Heads are requested to forward (1) a one-page research interest/area write up (2) the CVs and (3) HoD's recommendation letter of the suitable candidates to Professor Philip Moore, Vice Dean, Research (c/o Ms Poonam Rai, Division of Research) by **2nd July 2007**.

As this is an extremely attractive scheme, heads of departments are strongly encouraged to 'scout' for outstanding candidates through talent searches etc and encourage them to choose NUS as their base institution.

More information on the scheme is available at the following website: http://www.nus.edu.sg/ore/fellowships/fellowship_nrf/elig.htm.

SoM Update

TIER 1 JOURNAL PUBLICATIONS

Anatomy

Zhou Yan, EA Ling, ST Dheen (2007) Dexamethasone suppresses monocyte chemoattractant protein-1 production via mitogen activated protein kinase phosphatase-1 dependent inhibition of Jun N-terminal kinase and p38 mitogen-activated protein kinase in activated rat microglia. *Journal of Neurochemistry* (2007, April 2, Epub ahead of print).

Biochemistry

Halliwell B and Gutteridge J MC. *Free Radicals in Biology and Medicine*. Fourth Edition. Oxford University Press.

Wang Z, Wang J, Tantoso E, Wang B, Tai Amy YP, Ooi London L.P.J, Chong Samuel S and Lee Caroline GL. Signatures of Recent Positive Selection at the ATP-Binding Cassette (ABC) Drug Transporter Superfamily Gene Loci. *Human Molecular Genetics* (in Press).

Zhang D and Armstrong J. Bax and the mitochondrial permeability transition cooperate in the release of cytochrome c during endoplasmic reticulum-stress-induced apoptosis. *Cell Death Differ*. 2007 Apr; 14(4): 703-715.

COFM and CME

Tai ES, Ordovas JM (2007). The role of perilipin in human obesity and insulin resistance. *Current Opinion in Lipidology* 18(2):152-156.

Lee J, Ma S, Heng D, Tan CE, Chew SK, Hughes K, Tai ES (2007). Should central obesity be an optional or essential component of the metabolic syndrome? Ischemic heart disease risk in the Singapore Cardiovascular Cohort Study. *Diabetes Care* 30(2):343-7.

Microbiology

Alonso S, Pethe K, Russell DG, Purdy GE. Lysosomal killing of Mycobacterium mediated by ubiquitin-derived peptides is enhanced by autophagy. *Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A*. 2007 Apr 3; 104 (14) : 6031 - 6.

Chu JJ, Yang PL. c-Src protein kinase inhibitors block assembly and maturation of dengue virus. *Proc Natl Acad Sci USA* 2007 Feb 27; 104(9):3520-5.

JJH Chu, SCC Chiang and ML Ng. Immunization of flavivirus West Nile recombinant envelope domain III protein induced specific immune response and protection against West Nile virus infection. *Journal of Immunology* 2007; 178: 2699-2705.

Salagianni M, Wong KL, Thomas MJ, Noble A, Kemeny DM. An Essential Role for IL-18 in CD8 T Cell-Mediated Suppression of IgE Responses. *J Immunol* 2007; 178: 4771-4778.

Obstetrics and Gynaecology

Gluckman PD, Chong YS, Fukuoka H, Beedle AS, Hanson MA. Low birth weight and subsequent obesity in Japan. *Lancet*. 2007; 369:1081-1082.

Chan J, Waddington SN, O'Donoghue K, Kurata H, Guillot P, Gothenstrom C, Themis M, Morgan JE, Fisk NM. Widespread distribution and muscle differentiation of human fetal mesenchymal stem cells after intrauterine transplantation in dystrophic *mdx* mouse. *Stem Cells* 2007 Apr; 25(4) 875-884; In Press: Dec 21,2006 [Epub ahead of print].

Ophthalmology

Luu CD, Foulds WS, Tan DT. Features of the Multifocal Electroretinogram May Predict the Rate of Myopia Progression in Children. *Ophthalmology*. 2007 Mar 14; [Epub ahead of print].

Aung T, Kitajima S, Nomoto M, En J, Yonezawa S, Arikawa I, Goto M. Mycobacterium leprae in Neurons of the Medulla Oblongata and Spinal Cord in Leprosy. *Journal of Neuropathology and Experimental Neurology*. 2007 Apr; 66(4):284-294.

McIntosh RL, Mohamed Q, Saw SM, Wong TY. Interventions for Branch Retinal Vein Occlusion An Evidence-Based Systematic Review. *Ophthalmology*. 2007 Mar 29; [Epub ahead of print]

Cheung N, Wang JJ, Klein R, Couper DJ, Richey Sharrett AR, Wong TY. Diabetic Retinopathy and the Risk of Coronary Heart Disease: The Atherosclerosis Risk in Communities Study. *Diabetes Care*. 2007 Mar 26; [Epub ahead of print].

Chee SP, Bacsal K, Jap A, Se-Thoe SY, Cheng CL, Tan BH. Corneal endotheliitis associated with evidence of cytomegalovirus infection. *Ophthalmology*. 2007 Apr; 114(4):798-803. Epub 2007 Jan 3.

Ghanem RC, Napoli JD, Tobaigy FM, Ang LP, Azar DT. LASIK in the Presbyopic Age Group Safety, Efficacy, and Predictability in 40- to 69-Year-Old Patients. *Ophthalmology*. 2007 Mar 21; [Epub ahead of print]

Orthopaedic Surgery

Soon YH, Afizah MH, Hui J, Goh J, Lee EH. An analysis of soft tissue allograft anterior cruciate ligament reconstruction. A short term study of the use of mesenchymal stem cells to enhance tendon osteointegration. *American Journal of Sports Medicine* 2007 Mar 30 (Epub).

Afizah H, Yang Z, Hui JH, Ouyang HW, Lee EH. A comparison between the chondrogenic potential of human bone marrow stem cells (BMSCs) and adipose derived stem cells (ADSCs) taken from the same donors. *Tissue Engineering* 2007 Mar 20 (Epub).

TIER 1 JOURNAL PUBLICATIONS

Pharmacology

Hu L.-F., P. T.-H. Wong, P. K. Moore, J.-S. Bian (2007) Hydrogen sulfide attenuates lipopolysaccharide induced inflammation by inhibition of p38 MAPK in microglia. *J. Neurochem.* 100: 1121-1128. [Epub Dec 22, 2006].

Rakesh Dixit and Urs A. Boelsterli. Healthy animals and animal models of human disease(s) in safety assessment of human pharmaceuticals, including therapeutic antibodies. *Drug Discovery Today* 12: 336-342 (2007).

Physiology

Lina H. K. Lim and Shazib Pervaiz, *Annexin 1: the new face of an old molecule* © 2007 FASEB The FASEB Journal. 2007;21:968-975.

Sun, Yu, Ottosson, A., Pervaiz, S., and Fadeel, B. Smac-mediated sensitization of human B lymphoma cells to staurosporine- and lactacystin-triggered apoptosis is apoptosome-dependent. *Leukemia*, April 2007 (In Press).

UPCOMING EVENTS, COURSES & WORKSHOPS

COFM

The Bull Run 2007 – Charity Fun Run in aid of SoM's new Masters in Public Health Programme

The Singapore Exchange (SGX) launched The Bull Run[®] 2007 for the fourth consecutive year. This iconic charity fun run in the Central Business District (CBD) will be held on 12 October 2007 at The Padang and will take on an Asian theme for the first time.

Over the past three years, The Bull Run[®] has raised more than S\$7 million for needy children and youths from selected charities. This year, The Bull Run Study Awards for the Master of Public Health (MPH) Programme, Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine, National University of Singapore is one of the beneficiaries as well!

NUS SoM, through its Masters programs in Public Health and Occupational Medicine established in 1973, has successfully trained health professionals to assume leadership and administrative roles in Public Health, Health Administration, Occupational Medicine, Clinical and Health Services Research. Many have become key Public Health leaders in their countries and globally. Alumnus Dr Margaret Chan, who received her formal public health training at our department in 1984/85, was recently appointed by the World Health Organization to be its seventh Director-General.

The Masters in Public Health Program, due to be launched in August 2007, will continue to emphasize methodological approaches to identifying health and healthcare needs; planning, implementing and evaluating programs and policies which are essential for the prevention and alleviation of ill-health in the community. As a multi-disciplinary program, it will enroll medical practitioners and other health professionals such as health care managers, health economists, sociologists, environmental health and occupational health officers, nutritionists and other members of the public health team. Applicants to the program include those who are sponsored by their institutions, as well as a substantial number who work with non-governmental organizations.

Please join in to support this good cause! For more details on the Bull Run as well as registration details, please log on to <http://bullrun.sg.com/>. For enquiries, please contact Ms Tina Kong at 62368383, E-mail: tina_kong@sgx.com

Diagnostic Radiology

Seminar "Preclinical Molecular Imaging using microPET, microCT and Optical Methods" jointly organized by DDR, SoM and Chemistry, FoS, NUS.

Speaker: Assistant Professor David Stout, Director, Crump Preclinical Imaging Center, Crump Institute for Molecular Imaging, University of California, USA

Date: 24 May 2007 (Thursday)

Time: 11 am

Venue: Executive Class Room (S8-03-14), Department of Chemistry, NUS

Jointly organized by DDR, SoM and Chemistry, FoS, NUS)

Medical Education Unit

Talk on "Medical Curriculum Development – A Focus on the Musculo-Skeletal System"

Jointly Organised by Medical Education Unit and Chapter of Rheumatologists, Academy of Medicine, Singapore

Speaker: A/Prof Leslie Schrieber, Dept of Rheumatology, University of Sydney, Royal North Shore Hospital. St Leonard's, Sydney, Australia

Chairman: Dr Lau Tang Ching, Dept of Rheumatology, Tan Tock Seng Hospital

Date: 11 May 07 (Friday)

Time: 6pm to 7.30pm

Venue: CRC Auditorium

Contact: dawn_low@nus.edu.sg

Event: Medical Education Round

Speaker: Dr Jeremy Lim, Head, Policy & Research, Singhealth

Date: 29 May 07 (Tuesday)

Time: 7.30am to 8.30am

Venue: CRC Auditorium

Contact: nicholas_wong@nus.edu.sg

UPCOMING EVENTS, COURSES & WORKSHOPS

Medical Education Unit

5th Asia Pacific Medical Education Conference (APMEC)

"Medical Education in a Flat World"

Trends, Issues, Priorities, Strategies (TIPS)

Dates: 24 & 25 Jan 08 (Pre Conference Workshops)

26 & 27 Jan 08 (Main Conference)

Please mark these dates down in your calendar and visit our website <http://medicine.nus.edu.sg/meu/apmec5/> for more exciting details!

For details of more Faculty Development Programmes, please visit the MEU events website <http://medicine.nus.edu.sg/meu/events.shtml>.

NLAM Clinician Scientist Unit

The next "Pitch for funds" round is scheduled for 24 July 2007, Tuesday.

Abstract submission closing date: **2 July 2007**.

For more information, please contact the CSU secretariat at email: cindykhoo@nus.edu.sg. Contact person is Mrs Cindy Khoo.

DNA Microarray Workshop

Hands-on Workshop for Clinician Researchers

Date: 22 - 23 May 2007 (Tuesday - Wednesday)

Venue: Clinical Research Centre Symposium Room 3, Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine, NUS

CSU will be sponsoring the attendance for full-time NUS Clinicians. Registration is on a first-come-first-served basis. For more information, please contact the CSU secretariat at email: cindykhoo@nus.edu.sg. Contact person is Mrs Cindy Khoo.

NUH-NUS Medical Publications Support Unit

Developing Clinical Practice Guidelines Workshop

Date: 23 & 24 July 2007, Monday & Tuesday

By: Scottish Intercollegiate Guidelines Network (SIGN)

More details are coming up soon!

For more information on above NUH-NUS Medical Publications Support Unit events, please contact the PSU Secretariat (Fax: 6872 1454; Email: psu@nus.edu.sg):

Ms Tan Shuyu, Tel: 6516 5586

Ms Jap Ren Fang, Tel: 6516 1049

Pathology

2007 Annual Meeting of the International Society for Biological and Environmental Repositories (ISBER)

This meeting will address scientific, technical, database/informatics, ethical and legal aspects of biobanking. It will feature plenary sessions, interactive workshops, commercial workshops, contributed papers, poster sessions, and focused roundtable lunch discussions. Invited speakers include Edison T. Liu (GIS, Singapore), Carolyn Compton (NCI, USA), Pierre Hainaut (IARC, France), Jan-Eric Litton (Karolinska Institute, Sweden), Yeonhee Lee (Seoul Women's University, Korea), Toshihiro Tanaka (RIKEN, Japan), Paul Downey (UK Biobank), Bartha Knoppers (Montreal, Canada), Arthur Caplan (Pennsylvania, USA), Alastair Campbell (Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine, NUS, Singapore), William Grizzle (Alabama, USA).

Date: Wednesday May 30 – Saturday June 2, 2007

Venue: Furama Riverfront Hotel, Singapore

Advance Registration Deadline: May 18, 2007 (Banquet ticket included):

ISBER Member - \$610 (US Dollars) – ISBER member rate extended to employers of Official Organizational members

Non-member - \$725 (US Dollars)

Online registration at: <http://www.isber.org/mtqs/2007/index.html>

Psychological Medicine

Public Symposium "Dementia – The Rising Tide"

Date: 2 June 07 (Saturday)

Time: 2.00pm – 5.00pm. Registration starts at 1pm.

Venue: Furama City Centre (Chinatown)

For registration, please call Allan at 6452 5085.

Jointly organized by Dept of Psychological Medicine, NUS and NUH as well as Gerontological Society, Singapore.