



BIOSPHERE

The Weekly Bulletin of Biology

Biology Colloquium: Friday, 25 April 2015, 2:00 pm in CR 5125

“A Trafficking Solution to a GPCR Signaling Problem: Novel Functions for Ubiquitin”

Joann Trejo, Ph.D.
Department of Pharmacology
UC San Diego

Fishing, Pain, & Ethics

CSUN's Distinguished Visiting Speaker Program presents Dr. Gene S. Helfman, of the University of Georgia. His talk, “Fish, pain, and the ethics of sport fishing,” will take place at 12:30–2 pm, Friday 24 April in CR 5126.

New Publication

Dr. **Dave Gray** and collaborators from Germany have a new paper out in *Journal of Evolutionary Biology*: “Conservation of multivariate female preference functions and preference mechanisms in three species of trilling field crickets.”

Deep-Sea Exploration

On 19 April, Dr. **Gilberto Flores** and **Nicholas Rhoades** will join an interdisciplinary team of scientists on a research expedition to one of the most seismically active regions of the world, the Eastern Lau Spreading Center (ELSC). The ELSC is a back-arc basin

located along the Australian–Pacific tectonic plate boundary in a remote region of the western Pacific Ocean near the Kingdom of Tonga. Once there, the team will use the remotely operated vehicle *Jason 2* to sample several deep-sea hydrothermal vent fields along the ELSC. Their goal is to examine how the microbial communities are shaped by the unique geochemistry of hydrothermal fluids found in this region of the world. You can follow their voyage by checking [their blog here](#).

Admitted to Med Schools, etc.

The Health Professions Advising Office, located within the Department of Biology Advising Office, keeps data on the admission and matriculation of CSUN students and alumni to health professions schools.

Data compiled for the 2013–14 admissions cycle reveal that in fall 2014, 63% (17/27) of undergraduate CSUN students and 78% (11/14) of post-baccalaureate CSUN students

applying to medical school were accepted. These are fantastic numbers, particularly in light of the ~40% acceptance rate for medical schools nationwide.

In addition, 37% (10/27) of CSUN students who applied to dental school were accepted, 62% (31/50) of those who applied to pharmacy school were accepted, and 19% (6/31) of those who applied to PA school were accepted. Finally, four students were accepted to podiatry school and two were accepted to optometry school.

Schools into which CSUN alumni were admitted for fall 2014 include USC, UC Berkeley, UC Irvine, UC San Diego, UC San Francisco, Boston University, Chicago Medical School, Cornell, Creighton, Loma Linda, Meharry, NYU, Ross University, St. Georges University, Touro, Tufts, University of the Pacific, Western, Southern California College of Optometry, and the California School of Podiatric Medicine.

At Experimental Biology 2015

The Oppenheimer lab presented two posters at the Experimental Biology meetings.

- “Hierarchy of anti-clumping salts,” by **G. Zem, O. Tosunyan, A. Hambarsoomian, K. Khatiblou, K. Lim, S. Niamat, E. Choi, C. Monroy, M. Chavez, N. Karaan, M. Basmajian, S. Kim, A. Kurginyan, S. Sorooshiani, L. Manzo, F. Bahri, A. Holverson, G. Chacon, N. Allatabkhsh, C. Irikyan, C. Tortorice, S. Balyan, N. Amer, S. Shtivelman, V. Vahdati, T. Kaur, S. Danalian, A. Allard, L. Jorshari, N.**

Kazmi, N. Sarkissian, K. Mkhitarian, C. Chavez, M. Havaei, A. Adzhemian, M. Takakura, Y. Huang, A. Haritounian, A. Arakelian, J. Bohorquez, M. Asatryan, Y. Herrera, L. Mayorga, A. Garcia, and S. B. Oppenheimer.

- “Reliability of yeast unclumping assay, a model for testing potentially clinically useful reagents,” by **G. Zem, B. Cooperman, F. Bahri, A. Mahjoubi, N. Warner, L. Malekian, R. Mirebrahimian, M. Pistalu, L. Khrayan, M. Patel, K. Pastrano, E. Choi, T. Baronian, O. Gilani, A. Cardenas, A. Hambarsoomian, D. Gomez, F. Gallegos, J. Holmes, V. Vahdati, L. Jorshari, P. Grigorian, K. Ohanessian, T. Baum, G. Majarian, K. Aladzhyan, H. Manasyan, N. Allatabkhsh, and S. B. Oppenheimer.**

All authors are Oppenheimer's students except G. Zem, who is a K–12 teacher and a long-time researcher in the Oppenheimer lab.

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Department of Biology

California State University, Northridge

Editors: Paul Wilson and Robert Espinoza

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