

PHARMTOX QUARTERLY

PHARMACOLOGY & TOXICOLOGY QUARTERLY

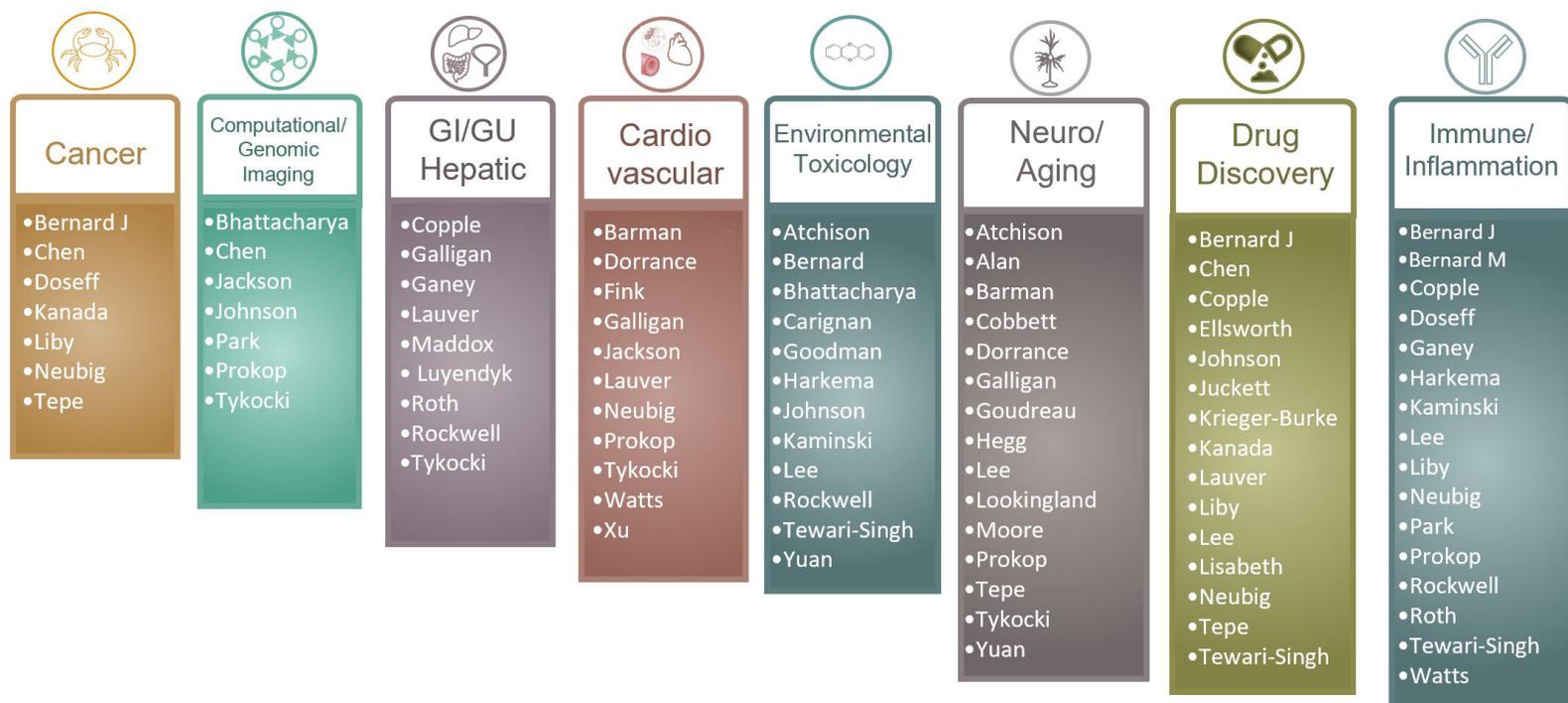
September, 2020 - PQ N. 10

Department Research: Strength in Diversity

Pharmacology & Toxicology at Michigan State University continues to grow as a department, adding new faculty each year with different and diverse research interests. Adding to our traditional strengths in Cardiovascular, Neuro, Hepatic/GI, and Environmental Pharmacology and Toxicology, we now have significant research foci in Cancer, Computational Pharmacology and Toxicology/Imaging/Genomics, GU pharmacology, and Drug Discovery plus an expanded focus on Inflammation and Immunopharmacology and toxicology. These major changes reflect outstanding new primary faculty and an increasing number of jointly appointed faculty. Below is a new graphic showing this expanded research focus and the faculty who make this possible. For more details, keep an eye on our website over the next months as each area will be fleshed out.

With the rapid pace of science, this diversity of interests in the department provides an outstanding environment for PhD student training and for collaborations to tackle challenging, cutting-edge research questions.

Research Foci



PHARMTOX QUICKNOTES

PharmTox Seminar Series

Our Pharmacology & Toxicology General seminar series begins Wednesday, September 23rd. They run every Wednesday @ 12pm via ZOOM during the Fall & Spring semester. Visit our department [website](#) and look at our Upcoming Department Events calendar on the main page.

Drug Discovery Seminar Series

Our Drug Discovery seminar series began on Friday, September 11th. They run each Friday @ 9am via ZOOM besides a couple that begin @ 12pm. See our department [website](#) for the full calendar on the main page.

Alumni Day Oct 16

All though we had originally scheduled our Alumni Weekend for the middle of October, once again Covid-19 has changed our plans. We have moved our Alumni Weekend to a virtual Alumni Day. Friday, October 16th will be this year's PharmTox Alumni Day. Interested in Participating? Let us know by sending an email to PHM@MSU.EDU.

Malique Jones: TEBioED Award

Can you tell me about your award and what it means to you?

The Teaching Experiences for Bioscience Educators (TEBioED) Fellowship Award is a six-month online program created by the American Physiology Society and is supported by the National Institute of General Medical Sciences. This program is for graduate students or postdocs interested in becoming an educator in the field of physiology and enhancing their teaching methods. Upon completion of the program fellows receive a certificate and honorarium. Being awarded the TEBioED fellowship means that I will be partnered with a mentor that has years of experience as an educator and great insight on being both a distinguished scientist and educator. I have not yet had any teaching experiences at MSU, which is why I am excited to start the program to gain innovative teaching skills and insight for when I am offered a teaching opportunity in the near future.



Malique Jones

How did you hear about this award?

Earlier in the year, I was awarded the Martin Frank Diversity Travel Award for the Experimental Biology Conference and the program manager from this award sent an email encouraging all previous awardees to apply for the TEBioED fellowship, if we were interested in teaching.

This award obviously has a strong emphasis on teaching, do you see yourself in front of a classroom someday leading?

My ultimate aim is to become both a principal investigator and professor. As a graduate from Bennett College, a small liberal arts historically black college for women— I realized the value of having phenomenal professors in STEM. My intellectual curiosity grew from the rigorous and engaging courses developed by the professors at my undergraduate institution. Once I receive my PhD in Pharmacology and Toxicology, I hope to participate in the National Institute of Health Institutional Research and Academic Career Development Award (IRACDA) program as a post-doc to be able to educate and mentor minority college students in the sciences.

What is your current area of study?

As a member of the Tykocki Lab, my area of study consists of both Urinary Bladder Physiology and Pharmacology.

When not at work, what do you do for fun?

Outside of dreaming about my new experimental ideas, I truly enjoy crafting “Do It Yourself” projects, decorating, and rearranging my apartment. I find joy in creating and tinkering like Tinker Bell, the Disney character. Recently, I created and presented content for a 3-day College Ready Workshop to assist high school girls interested in applying for college, which was really fun and exciting.

6. What is one unique thing about yourself?

I enjoy writing and somewhat performing Spoken Word Poetry.

See more on Malique & Dr. Tykocki’s research at the link below.

[Dr. Nathan Tykocki Lab Website](#)

CVM PharmTox Faculty Search

The Department of Pharmacology & Toxicology is currently in the middle of a search effort to find a new Tenure-Stream Faculty member. The search committee, chaired by Dr. Bryan Copple, looked for faculty candidates with a background in pharmacokinetics. We are still in the interview process and look forward to sharing our eventual candidate.

Teaching during Covid-19 with Dr. Peter Cobbett

How has Covid-19 impacted your teaching?

I’m not in the same physical space with the students, which is something I normally enjoy. In addition, the technology needed for live lectures from a classroom podium is much more complex than doing the traditional classroom model.

What is the worst & best aspect of online teaching?

The obvious negative would be I’m alone in the classroom and don’t get in-person interaction that I would typically enjoy. One positive is I can’t get the virus from my students, and my students from me.

Do we ever return to “normal” or is this our new normal?

Yes, we will return to normal if normal is in person classes. But, the pandemic long term effects on how education works are not yet known. Will Covid-19 be one of many stimuli that changes how higher-education works?



Our Newest PhD Graduates



Dr. Jeremy Gingrich (Veiga-Lopez Lab)

The Effects of Endocrine Disrupting Chemicals on Placental Development and Function



Dr. David Ferland (Watts Lab)

Chemerin As A Link Between Hypertension And Obesity



Dr. Kevin Baker (Luyendyk Lab)

Mechanisms Regulating Tissue Factor: Factor VIIA-Dependent Coagulation In Liver Disease

Alumni Updates Wanted!

As a department we really enjoy when our Alum reach back out to us and give us updates on what they are doing. Not only does our Faculty enjoy knowing what our alum are doing, but it also really helps show our current students what can be done with an education from Pharmacology & Toxicology at Michigan State University. We would love to be able to share as many updates about our Alumni as we can in our Annual Newsletter set for November. If you have an update about your current position or have one for another fellow Alum, please feel free to share it!

Department Email: PHM@MSU.EDU

