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Chairman's Column

The month ahead looks busy, with a number of special occasions, including the opening ceremonies for the CryoEM Core. This important new research facility will provide significant opportunities for many of the faculty from several departments. Its success is the result of diligent work over several years by a number of faculty in our department – Stan Watowich played a key role – and other departments and centers, including Neuroscience and Cell Biology, Microbiology, Pathology, and the Institute for Infectious Disease, with external support from the Keck Foundation. This is a good example of collaborative interaction at its best. For purposes of administration, the Core will be within the Sealy Center for

Structural Biology. We are also lucky to have "Misha" as manager of the Core. Without his enthusiasm and hard work, we would not be having an opening ceremony at this time.

By now, I know most of you know Marianne Miller, our new Administrator. She is receiving a baptism by fire as we cope with various aspects of the budget process for next year. As you know, the Dean has instituted an alignment process that will require us to assign sources of income for every faculty member. While we have at our disposal figures for external research funding and teaching in the Medical School, we do not have that information yet for the MD/PhD

Program or the Graduate School – but we are working on it. Marianne and Margie have finished an inventory of our research space and our externally funded expenditures, and it looks good. We increased funding from 2004 to 2005 by 14%, and from 2005 to 2006 (so far) by 12%. These are expenditure figures and not award figures. Although they may not be the best indicator, they are showing increases, and that is good. The figures for dollars per square foot are similarly pleasing. This is no surprise. We all know that everybody is working hard, and our department has a firmly established collaborative culture. The numbers confirm this.

Administrator's Notes

Reminder: The Next Faculty Meeting will be Held on April 6, **3:00** pm, Basic Science Building 2nd Floor Auditorium. (This is a change to the normal monthly meeting schedule.)

Lab Renovation Work on the 6th Floor of BSB

The preliminary work for the construction phase of the lab renovation is nearing completion. The next step will be demolition of the remainder of the interior of the old Papaconstantinou lab area. As the plans are completed, I will send more information about what that work will

involve. The construction manager is very attentive to the need to minimize disruption to users of adjacent spaces. Certain effects are unavoidable, though, and we appreciate the cooperation everyone on the 4th, 5th and 6th floors has provided so far.

Chairman's Notes

When Rong-Shen contacts you about teaching in the Fall, please remember that we must all participate in this core mission of the Medical School. During my chats with faculty this last month as part of the evaluation process, I found that many of you were not aware of the advantages of participation in the Medical School selective course program originally developed by Brad Thompson, Werner Braun and Jeffrey Rabek. Given that all fourth year medical students must participate in a one-month rotation with a faculty member, this gives the opportunity to extend our teaching participation in a more flexible and, to many of us, more rewarding experience, working one-on-one with a student in a similar manner to what we all do when we participate in graduate student rotations. Please consider this approach to teaching, and contact Werner Braun for details.

This is a good time of year to review and update your website description for the Department and our Graduate Program. Feel free to include a more extensive description of the activities of your research group. Make it a welcome mat for our "virtual visitors".

As was announced at the last faculty meeting, our BMB graduate student association has initiated a fund drive to endow a student-funded award for students in our Program. While alumni and students will be the major contributors, faculty are asked to give generously. To that end, the Department will match personal contributions by our faculty up to a total of \$1,000. You may contact Debora Botting or Diana Ferrari if you wish to contribute.

This has been a very busy month for many at the University immersed in the preparation of the CTSA (Clinical and Translational Science Award). This is a replacement funding vehicle for the GCRC awards. It is dedicated to translational research with support for training, pilot grants and core facilities. A large number of faculty have been involved in putting it together. It requires partnering with another institution. Our partner in this effort is UT Austin. Several of our departmental faculty have played an important role in this effort and we thank them for their efforts.

There has always been some conflict between the deadline for the Newsletter and grant deadlines. A solution is to release the Newsletter on the first Friday of every month.

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Annual Equipment Inventory

It's inventory time again. Please give Mary Boyle your assistance with locating and identifying equipment to be accounted for. She has developed a very effective approach to managing this task, and she'll make it efficient and painless.

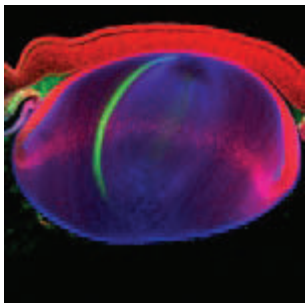
Mandatory Training Sessions for Research Faculty

In an e-mail message sent on March 30, Bill New, Associate Dean for Research Administration, notified research faculty of a new requirement to attend two one-hour training sessions: "Level of Effort Discussions for PI's" and "Financial Responsibilities for Sponsored Projects for PI's." According to Ann Elbert at OSP, this new requirement has been instituted through a joint mandate of the Dean of Medicine and the Office of Institutional Compliance with the support of the president. To make compliance as convenient as possible, OSP has developed two main options for fulfilling the requirement. Faculty members may contact OSP directly to schedule participation in specific training sessions, or we could arrange for group sessions to be presented at the department. Please send an e-mail message to Margie Wronski if you would be interested in joining a group session with other BMB

"To catch the reader's attention, place an interesting sentence or quote from the story here."



Faculty on the Road



This story can fit 150-200 words.

One benefit of using your newsletter as a promotional tool is that you can reuse content from other marketing materials, such as press releases, market studies, and reports.

While your main goal of distributing a newsletter might be to sell your product or service, the key to a successful newsletter is making it useful to your readers.

A great way to add useful content to your newsletter is to develop and write your own articles, or include a calendar of upcoming events or a special offer that promotes a new product.

You can also research articles or find “filler” articles by accessing the World Wide Web. You can write about a variety of topics but try to keep your articles short.

Much of the content you put in your newsletter can also be used for your Web site. Microsoft Publisher offers a simple way to convert your newsletter to a Web publication. So, when you’re finished writing your newsletter, convert it to a Web site and post it.

“To catch the reader's attention, place an interesting sentence or quote from the story here.”

Publications, Grants and Awards

colleagues and please indicate the days/times that would be most convenient.

Final Note

I want to thank everyone for the very warm welcome I've been given in my first month with Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (... and the Sealy Center for Molecular Science... and the Sealy Center for Structural Biology... and the Gulf Coast Consortia...) I appreciate all the patient explanation and valuable background information I've received. My plans to set up opportunities to talk with individual faculty and staff members have been slowed somewhat by our work on budget preparation, but I've certainly enjoyed the meetings I've had so far and I look forward to visiting each lab and department function. Thanks again for all your help.

Marianne Miller



Organization

Business Name

Primary Business Address

Your Address Line 2

Your Address Line 3

Your Address Line 4

Phone: 555-555-5555

Fax: 555-555-5555

E-mail: someone@example.com

Your business tag line here.

This would be a good place to insert a short paragraph about your organization. It might include the purpose of the organization, its mission, founding date, and a brief history. You could also include a brief list of the types of products, services, or programs your organization offers, the geographic area covered (for example, western U.S. or European markets), and a profile of the types of customers or members served.

It would also be useful to include a contact name for readers who want more information about the organization.



Back Page Story Headline

This story can fit 175-225 words.

If your newsletter is folded and mailed, this story will appear on the back. So, it's a good idea to make it easy to read at a glance.

A question and answer session is a good way to quickly capture the attention of readers. You can either compile questions that you've received since the last edition or you can summarize some generic questions that are frequently asked about your organization.

A listing of names and titles of managers in your organization is a good way to give your newsletter a personal touch. If your organization is small, you may want to list the names of all employees.

If you have any prices of standard products or services, you can include

a listing of those here. You may want to refer your readers to any other forms of communication that you've created for your organization.

You can also use this space to remind readers to mark their calendars for a regular event, such as a breakfast meeting for vendors every third Tuesday of the month, or a biannual char-

ity auction.

If space is available, this is a good place to insert a clip art image or some other graphic.



Caption describing picture or graphic.