Hypertension and Renal Center Recovers from Katrina

As pointed out in the last newsletter, Katrina and the post-Katrina flooding dealt Tulane and our Hypertension and Renal Center a devastating blow. Many things have been permanently changed and members of the Hypertension and Renal Center have had serious disruptions of their research programs. The faculty of the Medical School was substantially downsized and the Hypertension Center lost faculty, fellows, and staff. Nevertheless, we are pleased to report that our facilities slowly became available starting in early January. Importantly, the research programs have been resumed and the Molecular and Analytical CORE facilities are now fully operational. However, investigators using specially bred, transgenic animals are still in the process of restoring their colonies. Cell cultures and unique investigator derived products were also lost and are being rederived or procured from other sources. The Hypertension Center Seminar program is restarting this Summer and we will begin having visiting seminar speakers this Fall.

The COBRE grant from NCRR will be entering its fifth year of activity and for year 5 we will have added several new junior faculty investigators to replace individuals who have graduated from the program or who are no long on the faculty. The new junior faculty investigators and their projects are:

◊ Kristi Reynolds, PhD, MPH, Department of Epidemiology, “Effects of soybean protein on adipocytokines, systemic inflammation, and endothelial dysfunction”
◊ Keith Jackson, PhD, Department of Physiology, “Heme oxygenase in angiotensin II

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Dr. L. Gabriel Navar presented with Distinguished Mentor Award from the American Physiological Society

Dr. L. Gabriel Navar received the 2006 Bodil Schmidt-Nielsen Distinguished Mentor and Scientist award from the American Physiological Society, Women in Physiology Committee on April 3 during the Experimental Biology meeting in San Francisco. The Bodil Schmidt-Nielsen Award is named after the first woman President of the American Physiological Society and honors a member who is judged to have made outstanding contributions to physiological research and to have demonstrated a dedication and commitment to excellence in training of young physiologists. We extend our congratulations to Dr. Navar.
Katrina Recovery continued

(Continued from page 1)

hypertension
◊ Katie Hering-Smith, PhD, Departments of Physiology and Medicine, “Citrate transport in the proximal tubule”
◊ Jing Chen, MD, MSc, Department of Medicine and Epidemiology, “Endothelial dysfunction, adipocytokines, inflammation and chronic kidney disease”

We look forward to following their success and continued growth. Overall, we are very optimistic that the research programs in the Hypertension and Renal Center will return to full strength and continue to grow to a new level of activity. We greatly appreciate the support of our many friends at Tulane, in New Orleans, and throughout the country.

Recent Publications


Recent Publications


Tulane Investigators Participate in International, National, and Regional Meetings

**American Physiological Society/Experimental Biology 2006 meeting, San Francisco, CA, April 1-5, 2006**

Arise KK and Pandey KN. Protein kinase C mediates the angiotensin II-dependent transcriptional repression and expression of natriuretic peptide receptor-A gene.


Durante W, Johnson FK, Johnson RA, Peyton KJ. Metabolic syndrome promotes endothelial dysfunction and hypertension via the induction of arginase.


Hartfield JN, Haque M, Majid DSA, Francis J. Angiotensin II induced increase in eNOS is mediated through TNF-a.


Majid DSA, Scales J, Kopkan L, Jackson KE, Castillo A. Superoxide activity does not play a role in the mediation of pressure in natriuresis.


**46th Annual Conference on Cardiovascular Disease, Epidemiology, and Prevention of the American Heart Association, Phoenix, AZ, March 2006**


**Invited Speakers:**

Hamm, L Lee, M.D. “Acid-Base defense mechanism and failure” Maine Medical Center, May 17

Hamm, L Lee, M.D. “Acid-Base defense mechanism and failure” University of Pittsburgh, March 7
Presentations continued

Hamm, L Lee, M.D. “Relationship of Chronic Kidney Disease and Cardiovascular Disease” Vanderbilt University, June 1

K. Mitchell, Ph.D. University of Nebraska School of Medicine, “Physiology & Pathophysiology of the Kidney”, January 20, and “Genetic Clamping of Renin Gene Expression Induces Hypertension of Graded Severity in Cyp1a1-Ren2 Transgenic Rats” January 20

L. Gabriel Navar, Ph.D, ASH Winter Conference, Coconut Grove, FL, “Basic Science Department Concerns” January 13

L. Gabriel Navar, Ph.D, Baylor Medical School, Houston, “Intrarenal Renin-Angiotensin system in hypertension” February 22

L. Gabriel Navar, Ph.D, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA, “Regulating intrarenal and intratubular Ang II renin and angiotensinogen in hypertensive states” March 30

L. Gabriel Navar, Ph.D, Experimental Biology meeting, San Francisco, CA, “Being a successful mentor” April 3

L. Gabriel Navar, Ph.D, New York Medical Center, New York, NY, “The tubular RAS in hypertension” April 24; “Role of ATP in regulation of the renal microcirculation” April 25

L. Gabriel Navar, Ph.D, Medical College of Georgia, Augusta, GA, “The tubular RAS in hypertension” May 11

L. Gabriel Navar, Ph.D, APS meeting on Explorations in Biomedicine—Undergraduate Physiology Exploration Retreat, Denver, CO, “High blood pressure, cardiovascular health, and kidney function” June 10

Seminar series reinstated

Due to the Hurricane, we have had an extended interruption of the Hypertension and Renal Center seminar series. We are now excited to announce the reinstatement of the seminar series this summer. Beginning with the new COBRE junior faculty investigators, we will present lectures every other Thursday, at 4:00 pm, in Room 4700, the Pharmacology Library.

Current Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Presenter</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>June 29, 2006</td>
<td>Jing Chen, MD, MSc</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 13, 2006</td>
<td>Minolfa Prieto-Carrasquero, PhD</td>
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<td>July 27, 2006</td>
<td>Zubaida Saifudeen, PhD</td>
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<td>August 10, 2006</td>
<td>Kristi Reynolds, PhD</td>
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<td>August 24, 2006</td>
<td>Katie Hering-Smith, PhD</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 7, 2006</td>
<td>Keith Jackson, PhD</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 21, 2006</td>
<td>Ihor Yosypiv, MD</td>
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The directors invite faculty members interested in participating in the activities of the T.H.R.C.E. to submit your name, phone number, fax number, and e-mail address to the Program Coordinator by e-mail at htnctr@tulane.edu or regular mail to the address provided. Also, please forward all information (awards, publications, presentations and other news items) to this email address for inclusion in the next newsletter.