Research Tips

Vice Chancellor for Research: RJ Traystman, PhD

DR. T'S CORNER

Continuing Resolution (CR) Keeps Government Operating until April 28

President Obama signed a continuing resolution (H.R. 2028) funding federal programs through April 28, 2017, preventing a government shutdown after the previous CR expired. The Senate voted 63-36 to approve the measure, which includes $872 million to fight opioid abuse and support cancer research, among other provisions affecting biomedical research efforts. Additionally, the measure provides the full $352 million made available to the National Institutes of Health (NIH) in FY 2017 through the Innovation Account established in the 21st Century Cures Act. House Appropriations leaders report the current $1.07 trillion budget cap level is still maintained by funding operations at a rate 0.1901 percent below fiscal year 2016 levels. The stopgap measure would allow work on the FY 2017 spending bills to be completed in the 115th Congress, after President-elect Trump and his administration take office.

TWO INCUCYTE MACHINES FOR ALL UNIVERSITY RESEARCHERS TO USE

WHERE: In the PPSR Shared Resource - RC1-S, 5404B
COST: $25 for twenty-four hours, $18 one time scan
HOW: Contact Lori or Michelle at Lori.Sherman@UCDenver.edu or Michelle.Randolph@UCDenver.edu
303-724-3770.

Assays Available
- Scratch Wound Cell Migration & Invasion
- Chemotaxis
- Angiogenesis
- Tumor Spheroids
- Immune cell killing
- Phagocytosis
- Immune cell clustering
- Neurite analysis

A lunch and learn opportunity will be available on March 7, 2017 at 11AM at RC1-S 5105, please RSVP to Michelle.Randolph@UCDenver.edu.
RESEARCH CORNER

Tom Anchordoquy’s research involves formulation and drug delivery, broadly defined. His expertise is in liposome technology, which is referred to as “nanotechnology” these days. His laboratory has a predominant focus on using intravenously-administered lipid carriers to deliver therapeutics (especially DNA and RNA) to tumors in animal models. Tom is somewhat agnostic concerning the specific cancer because the main barriers to particle-mediated drug delivery (e.g., vehicle instability, drug release, interactions with blood components, immunogenicity, toxicity, targeting) are largely independent of the tumor type. He has also conducted extensive work on exosomes, and believes that this pathway may be utilized to improve drug distribution throughout solid tumors. Most recently, he is attempting to exploit the interactions between blood cells and his nanoparticles to deliver agents directly to circulating blood cells for the treatment of viral infections.

In addition to nanoparticles/drug delivery, Tom has extensive experience with formulating molecules for stability (e.g., freeze-drying) and incorporation into dosage forms (e.g., lotions, eye drops, oral preparations). When scientists at AMC identify a potent compound that is insoluble, they often come to Tom for help with developing a formulation that is suitable for human administration. He has founded two small companies, and one product (a lotion called Difinsa53®) that he formulated in his laboratory is commercially available for protecting the skin of cancer patients undergoing radiation therapy.

Tom received his BS in Biology from Oregon State University and MA and PhD in Zoology from the University of California at Davis. He then did a Postdoctoral Fellowship at CUBoulder and CUDenver. Tom is Professor in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH & SAFETY

NEW DEA application process changes and university requirements

As part of the change to how applications for use of controlled substances are processed by the US Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), new applicants and those renewing their DEA registrations will have a site visit or phone interview to review compliance with security measures. In addition, DEA may require filling out a questionnaire, submitting photographs to document compliance with security measures, and providing sensitive personal identifiable information (PII) at the discretion of the Diversion Investigator assigned to the researcher’s application.

The university will continue to perform annual audits through the Department of Environmental Health and Safety (EHS) for all university affiliated registration holders conducting research using DEA requirements and the university DEA policy. Information regarding the DEA and university requirements and policies are outlined on the EHS webpage: www.ucdenver.edu/dea

EHS will be sending an email to all registration holders to assist with some of the new requirements and will hold a Town Hall Meeting in the near future to address any questions regarding DEA registrations. The meeting will be a great opportunity to meet DEA investigators and get answers about the new application process.

FACULTY AWARDS FOR OUTSTANDING MENTORING OF STUDENT RESEARCH AND CREATIVE ACTIVITIES CU DENVER AND CU AMC

Nominations are now being accepted for the CU Denver and CU AMC Outstanding Mentoring Awards in recognition of exemplary mentoring by faculty of undergraduate and graduate students in research, creative, and other original scholarly activities conducted outside the traditional classroom on our campuses.

Two awardees, one from each campus, will be recognized at the CU Denver Research and Creative Activities Symposium (RaCAS) on Friday, 28 April 2017. In addition, one of the two awardees will be selected to deliver The LYNx Talk, a short keynote address 15-20 minutes in length that describes the awardee’s scholarly activities and philosophy regarding the mentoring of undergraduate and/or graduate students.

The awardees’ departments/units will each receive a $500 prize earmarked to support professionally relevant dissemination of scholarly work by undergraduate or graduate students in that department or unit (e.g., student travel to meetings, page costs, registration or entry fee).

A nomination form may be completed by a current student or alumnus, faculty member, administrator, or staff member, who may also write a letter of support; individuals may also self-nominate. To access the nomination form and obtain additional details, see: http://www.ucdenver.edu/student-services/resources/ue/urca/Pages/Outstanding-Faculty-Mentor-Award1108-3174.aspx

Nomination materials including personal statement, CV, and letters of support must be submitted as a single pdf to Leo.Bruederle@UCDenver.edu on or before 1 March 2017.

These awards have been made possible by the Office of the Chancellors for the University of Colorado Denver and the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus in collaboration with the CU Denver Office of Undergraduate Experiences.