New Members of the Department
Welcome to Vennece Fowlkes PhD, a postdoctoral fellow in Dr. Christi Kern’s laboratory. Vennece recently received her PhD at USC working in the laboratory of Edie Goldsmith. She is supported on the Cardiovascular Training Grant and is examining the role of proteoglycans in cardiovascular development.

Ariel Washington is a volunteer in Dr. Christi Kern’s lab performing 3D reconstructions of the cardiac valves of the ADAMTS5 conditional mutants to determine which cell lineage(s) of the cardiac outflow tract requires ADAMTS5 for normal valve development. Ariel received her BS in Psychology from the Honor’s College at the College of Charleston in May 2012 and is currently working on her master’s in Clinical Counseling at the Citadel.

2012 Annual Enrollment
Employees are encouraged to read the 2012 Insurance Advantage to learn about plan changes, premium increases and benefit updates for the 2012 plan year. Employees will make changes to their insurance benefits through My Benefits, the website administered by the Employee Insurance Program, a division of the Public Employee Benefits Authority. Re-enrollment is required for Medical Spending and Dependent Care Accounts and can be completed online through FBMC Benefits Management. Annual Enrollment is from Oct 1 – 31, 2012. All premium and plan changes are effective Jan 1, 2013. During Annual Enrollment you may make the following changes:
• Change health insurance plan (i.e.: CIGNA to Standard)
• Add/Drop the State Vision Plan for employees and/or dependents (dependent documentation may be required)
• Enroll/Increase up to $50,000 of optional life insurance, in $10,000 increments, without medical evidence of good health
• Decrease/Cancel optional or dependent life insurance
• Enroll/Re-enroll in Medical Spending or Dependent Care Accounts (required)

Hurricane season ends Nov 30.
Stay aware! Visit the Risk Management website for MUSC’s Severe Weather Plan.

State Holidays in November
The following is a list of the Official State holidays in November for employees of the Medical University.
• Veterans’ Day, Monday, Nov 12
• Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, Nov 22
• Day after Thanksgiving, Friday, Nov 23

All employees who occupy FTE or research grant positions, regardless of their regular schedules, are entitled to these holidays. Should scheduling problems exist requiring that employees work, compensatory time can be granted. (Please refer to the Holiday Policy, No. 23, on the MUSC Human Resources Policies website).
Information Technology Update:

**Apple removes JAVA from OSX for security reasons**

There is a lot of confusion about Apple removing /disabling Java in Mac OS X. If you are not having issues using applications like ImageJ, or not having problems with any websites, then you don’t need to do anything.

If you are having issues with websites, it could be because the latest Java for Mac update has uninstalled the Apple-provided Java applet plug-in from all web browsers. To use applets on a web page, click on the region labeled “Missing plug-in” to go download the latest version of the Java applet plug-in from Oracle.

If applications like ImageJ aren’t working you will need to go to www.java.com to download and install the latest version of Java.

If you would like more information about this issue, HERE is an informative article.

**Department Website Updated**

You may have noticed the Department website has moved to the recently introduced MUSC web template. We are constantly looking for updated information and inaccurate links in the website. If you find errors or need to update information, please speak with Jeff Preacher (preacher@musc.edu).

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**Education**

**Guess the Anatomy Professor ...**

... from a recent entry in the CDM Class of 2016 Pumpkin Carving Contest, which took third place. (Obviously they were taught very good scalpel-handling skills!)

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**Research**

**Recent Publications**


Griffin AC 3rd, Kern MJ, Kirkwood KL. MKP-1 Is Essential for Canonical Vitamin D-Induced Signaling through Nuclear Import and Regulates RANKL Expression and Function. *Mol Endocrinol* 2012 Aug 16 PMID: 22899855


Research Proposals Recently Awarded

**NIH/NIGMS P30 award to Roger Markwald**: SC COBRE for Developmentally Based Cardiovascular Diseases, 1P30GM103342-01, Project Period: 8/1/12 - 4/30/17.

**NIH/NHLBI R01 award to Roger Markwald**: Mucopolysaccharide Metabolism in Congenital Cardiac Anomalies, 2R01HL033756-28A1, Project Period: 6/19/12 - 5/31/16.

**Phizer research award to Bryan Toole**: Evaluation of Hyaluronic Acid Dys-Regulation as the Driving Mechanism Behind the Apparent Increase in Cancers Seen with an SGLT2 Inhibitor, Project started 5/1/12.

**SC EPSCOR research award to Christi Kern**: Investigation into the Progression of Myxomatous Valve Disease Using a Microarray Approach, Project started 7/1/12.

**Clemson/AHA research award to Rick Visconti**: Controlled Assembly of Janus Magnetic Spheroids for the Fabrication and Maturation of Linear Blood Vessels, Project started 7/1/12.

**GEAR research award to W. Scott Argraves**: Identification of Factors for Accelerated Elastin Assembly in Vascular Constructs, Project started 10/1/12.

**GEAR research award to Chris Drake**: Evaluation of the SMC and EC Potential of Human Adipose Stem Cells, Project started 10/1/12.

**GEAR research award to Mike Yost**: Execution of the Bioprinted Tube Project, Project started 10/1/12.

Research Proposals Recently Submitted

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PI</th>
<th>Sponsor</th>
<th>Start Date</th>
<th>Requested</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Boockfor, Fredric</td>
<td>NIH</td>
<td>4/1/2013</td>
<td>$1,843,750</td>
<td>Cell Transdifferentiation in Endocrine Tissue</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hammad, Samar</td>
<td>NIH</td>
<td>4/1/2013</td>
<td>$1,843,750</td>
<td>Novel Role of Bioactive Sphingolipids in Autoimmunity-Associated Vascular Disease</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hammad, Samar (Markwald)</td>
<td>NIH</td>
<td>4/1/2013</td>
<td>$1,843,750</td>
<td>Pro-Inflammatory Role of Bioactive Lipids in PTSD</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hammad, Samar</td>
<td>DOD / CRI</td>
<td>4/1/2013</td>
<td>$323,672</td>
<td>Novel Role of Bioactive Sphingolipids in PTSD</td>
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<tr>
<td>Markwald</td>
<td>CLEMSON/NIH</td>
<td>9/1/2012</td>
<td>$30,796</td>
<td>Apoptosis Signaling Pathway-Based Modeling of Cell Injury Occuring during Laser Assisted Bioprinting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Misra, Suniti</td>
<td>SC EPSCOR</td>
<td>7/1/2012</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
<td>CD44v6 Regulates Tumor Cell Survival via microRNA and RECK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Misra, Suniti</td>
<td>Scleroderma Foundation</td>
<td>1/1/2013</td>
<td>$150,000</td>
<td>Hyaluron/CD44 Regulates TGF-B Induced ECM Synthesis in SSC Lung Fibrosis</td>
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<td>Misra, Suniti</td>
<td>NIH</td>
<td>4/1/2013</td>
<td>$1,878,670</td>
<td>CD44v6 Signaling Regulates Cell Survival and Motility Via MicroRNA and RECK</td>
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<td>Moreno, Ricardo</td>
<td>AHA</td>
<td>1/1/2013</td>
<td>$308,000</td>
<td>Atrial Septum Morphogenesis: Mesenchyme Diversity and Periostin Function</td>
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<tr>
<td>Muise-Helmericks, Robin</td>
<td>NIH</td>
<td>4/1/2013</td>
<td>$405,625</td>
<td>A TLR4/IFN Pathway to Scarless Wound Repair</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reaves, Titus</td>
<td>SC EPSCOR</td>
<td>7/1/2012</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
<td>The Role of CD36 in the Regulation of Microbial Induced Intestinal Fibrosis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reaves, Titus</td>
<td>NIH</td>
<td>4/1/2013</td>
<td>$405,625</td>
<td>Cellular Mechanism that Regulates Microbial Induced Intestinal Fibrosis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wessels</td>
<td>NIH/HLBI</td>
<td>7/1/2013</td>
<td>$1,475,000</td>
<td>The Epicardium and the Development of the Atrioventricular Junction</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Calendar

Oct 31  Faculty Meeting, BSB611, Noon.

Nov 2  MUSC Student Research Day, No classes.

Nov 7  NSF Project Thrust Leaders Meeting, COBRE Video Conference Room, BSB 606, 3 pm.

Nov 12  Veterans Day - MUSC Holiday.

Nov 14  NSF Project Thrust Leaders Meeting, COBRE Video Conference Room, BSB 606, 3 pm.

Nov 22  Thanksgiving Day - MUSC Holiday.

Nov 23  Day after Thanksgiving Day - MUSC Holiday.

Nov 28  NSF Project Thrust Leaders Meeting, COBRE Video Conference Room, BSB 606, 3 pm.

*Dates and Times subject to change. Check the website for up to date information.*