

Digestive Disease Research Development Center (DDRDC) Hosts Scientific Retreat and External Advisory Board Meeting

The Digestive Disease Research Development Center (DDRDC) will host a Scientific Retreat and External Advisory Board (EAB) Meeting on **Saturday, January 22, 2005**.

The Scientific Retreat will highlight research in the Working Groups of the DDRDC and the services provided by DDRDC cores, with a goal of promoting the opportunity for collaboration. The program which is outlined on page 2, will include a limited number of oral research presentations, presentations by each of the three DDRDC cores, a keynote address, and a poster session. The entire program will be open to DDRDC members and ALL others at UC and CCHMC who are interested in digestive diseases.

Posters should be related to digestive diseases. Undergraduate students, graduate students, postdoctoral fellows, investigators and others working in digestive diseases are welcome to attend the retreat and to submit an abstract for poster presentation even if they are not in the laboratory of a DDRDC member. Prizes will be awarded for the best posters. Please see the attached announcement and abstract submission form.

The EAB Meeting will include Drs. Allan Walker (Harvard Medical School), Gregory Gores (Mayo Clinic) and Philip Sherman (Hospital for Sick Children).

Who will benefit from attending?

The DDRDC Scientific Retreat will benefit all with an interest in the GI research field. It is a great opportunity to learn about cutting edge research in gastroenterology, hepatology and nutrition at CCHMC and UC, potential new collaborations, and opportunities for using the DDRDC Microarray, Bioinformatics and Integrative Morphology Cores.

Date: Saturday January 22, 2005, 7:30am – 3:30pm

Venue: Cincinnati Children's Hospital Research Foundation, Room 3381, & Old Pratt Library

Registration Deadline: Monday, January 14, 2005 (noon)

To Register: Registration is free, but you must pre-register.

Program

DDRDC Scientific Retreat & External Advisory Board Meeting

Date: Saturday January 22, 2005

Time : 7:30 AM - 3:30 PM

LOCATION: CCHR Research Auditorium R-3381 & Old Pratt Library

AGENDA

7:30 AM - 8:00 AM	Continental Breakfast
8:00 AM - 8:15 AM	Welcome & Introduction: Dr. Mitchell Cohen
8:15 AM - 9:15 AM	Differentiation: Moderator: Dr. Michael Bates Presenter: Dr. Aaron Zorn Title: "Embryonic Development of the Digestive System: Lessons from Xenopus" Presenter: Dr. Kathleen Goss Title: "Mechanisms of Tumor Suppression by APC Epithelial Cells" Presenter: Dr. Joanna Groden Title: "Mouse Models of Gastrointestinal Cancer"
9:15 AM - 9:45 AM	Microarray Core: Dr. Steven Potter
9:45 AM - 10:30 AM	Coffee Break and Posters (Old Pratt Library)
10:30 AM - 11:30 AM	Inflammation, Regeneration & Repair: Moderator: Dr. Brad Warner Presenter: Dr. Mike Leonis Title: "The Ron Receptor Tyrosine Kinase and Hepatic Tumorigenesis" Presenter: Dr. Jay Degen Title: "Mechanisms Linking Hemostatic Factors & Inflammatory Response in Acute Peritonitis" Presenter: Dr. Jorge Bezerra Title: "CD8 Lymphocytes are Key Effector Cells for Duct Obstruction in Experimental Biliary Atresia"
11:30 AM - 12:00 PM	Bioinformatics Core: Dr. Bruce Aronow
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM	Lunch (Boxed lunch with another opportunity for poster viewing)
1:00 PM - 1:45 PM	Keynote Speaker: Dr. Gregory Gores Title: "New Mechanisms of Steatohepatitis"
1:45 PM - 2:45 PM	Absorption & Secretion: Moderator: Dr. Jeffrey Matthews Presenter: Dr. Gary Shull Title: "Role of Basolateral Ion Transporters in Gastric Acid Secretion" Presenter: Dr. Stephen Zucker Title: "Bilirubin: an Endogenous Regulator of Inflammation" Presenter: Dr. John Lorenz Title: "Role of Uroguanylin in a Hepato-renal Reflex for Sodium Excretion"
2:45 PM - 3:15 PM	Integrative Morphology Core: Dr. David Witte
3:15 PM - 3:30 PM	Closing Comments: Dr. Mitchell Cohen

REGISTRATION FORM

DDRDC Scientific Retreat & External Advisory Board Meeting

Date: Saturday January 22, 2005

Time : 7:30 AM - 3:30 PM

LOCATION: CCHR Research Auditorium R-3381 & Old Pratt Library

LAST NAME:	
FIRST NAME:	
ORGANIZATION:	<input type="checkbox"/> Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center: <input type="checkbox"/> University of Cincinnati: <input type="checkbox"/> Other: <input type="text"/>
E-MAIL ADDRESS:	

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: Monday January 14, 2005 (noon)

REGISTRATION INTRUCTIONS:

Print this file and fill in the information above and fax a copy to 513-636-5581

For more information and/or questions, Please email to diane.liu@cchmc.org or call 513-636-9605

Upcoming DDRDC Seminars

Conference Date	Presenter	Title	Location
Tues. Jan. 4, 2005	Dr. Maqsood Wani	" Regulation and Function of Intestinal-Enriched Transcription Factor, klf5."	CCHRF: R-3490
Tues. Feb. 1, 2005	Dr. Susan Waltz	"Ron Receptor Signaling in Acute Injury."	UC Mont Reid Library, MSB 2461
Tues. Mar. 1, 2005	Dr. Patrick Tso	"The Role of Apolipoprotein AIV in Food Intake and Body Weight Regulation."	UC Mont Reid Library, MSB 2461
Tues. Apr. 5, 2005	Dr. Dan Wiginton	"Development, Cell Differentiation, and Regulation of Gene Expression in Intestinal Epithelium."	CCHRF: R-3490

DDRDC Research Seminars are held on the first Tuesday of every month throughout the year. Seminars will run from 8-9am. If you are interested in presenting a research topic at one of these future meetings, please email Dr. Jorge Bezerra (jorge.bezerra@cchmc.org).

Interested in becoming a member?

By becoming a DDRDC member, you will receive discounts on many core resources and services. Your orders also will receive priority.

Full membership is open to all Cincinnati Children's and University of Cincinnati principal investigators involved in digestive disease research. Associate membership is open to junior faculty members who do not yet have independent funding.

If you are interested in joining, email the director at mitchell.cohen@cchmc.org. Further instructions will follow.

For a comprehensive list of current members and the latest information about the DDRDC, visit our website:

<http://www.cincinnatichildrens.org/ddrdc>

An Enthusiastic Turnout for the DDRDC Scientific Retreat and External Advisory Board Meeting

The Digestive Disease Research Development Center (DDRDC) held its Scientific Retreat and External Advisory Board Meeting on Saturday, January 22, 2005. The Retreat was open to DDRDC members and all others interested in digestive diseases at UC and CCHMC.

Nearly 100 people attended the retreat which included both invited oral presentations and a poster session. There were 36 abstracts submitted for the poster presentation. Three prizes were awarded for the best posters. First prize went to *Pranavkumar Shivakumar* for "Hepatic CD8+ Lymphocytes Regulate Bile Duct Obstruction in Experimental Biliary Atresia". Second prize went to *Sujit Kumar Monhanty* for "Obstruction of Extrahepatic Bile Ducts Occurs Through an IL-12 Independent Activation of Th1 Response". And third prize went to *Ming Tan* for "Identification of the Receptor Interacting Interface of Norovirus Capsid to Histo-blood Group Antigens".

Dr. Mitchell Cohen provided an overview of the DDRDC, its goals, services, and future plans. The Cores Director provided an overview of the three DDRDC Cores: Microarray, Bioinformatics, and Integrative Morphology.

Differentiation Working Group gave the following presentations.

- 1) Dr. Aaron Zorn: "Embryonic Development of the Digestive System: Lessons from Xenopus"
- 2) Dr. Kathleen Goss: "Mechanisms of Tumor Suppression by APC Epithelial Cells"
- 3) Dr. Joanna Groden: "Mouse Models of Gastrointestinal Cancer"

Inflammation, Regeneration and Repair Working Group gave the following presentations.

- 1) Dr. Mike Leonis: "The Ron Receptor Tyrosine Kinase and Hepatic Turnorigensis"
- 2) Dr. Jay Degen: "Mechanisms Linking Hemostatic Factors and Inflammatory Response in Acute Peritonitis"
- 3) Dr. Jorge Bezerra: "CD8 Lymphocytes are Key Effector Cells for Duct Obstruction in Experimental Biliary Atresia"

Absorption and Secretion Working Group gave the following presentations.

- 1) Dr. Gary Shull: "Role of Basolateral Ion Transporters in Gastric Acid Secretion"
- 2) Dr. Stephen Zucker: "Bilirubin: An Endogenous Regulator of Inflammation"
- 3) Dr. John Lorenz: "Role of Uroguanylin in a Hepato-renal Reflex for sodium Excretion"

Dr. Gregory Gores from the Mayo Clinic gave a keynote presentation titled: "New Mechanisms of Steatohepatitis". Throughout the day, the External Advisory Board (EAB) members: Dr. Gregory Gores, Dr. Philip Sherman, and Dr. Allan Walker participated in the retreat and interacted with many DDRDC members. The EAB provided many helpful suggestions that will greatly assist us as we plan for expansion of our center and its services.

Upcoming DDRDC Seminars

Conference Date	Presenter	Title	Location
Tues. Mar. 1, 2005	Dr. Patrick Tso	"The Role of Apolipoprotein AIV in Food Intake and Body Weight Regulation."	UC Mont Reid Library, MSB 2461
Tues. Apr. 5, 2005	Dr. Dan Wiginton	"Development, Cell Differentiation, and Regulation of Gene Expression in Intestinal Epithelium."	CCHRf: R-3490

DDRDC Research Seminars are held on the first Tuesday of every month throughout the year. Seminars will run from 8-9am. If you are interested in presenting a research topic at one of these future meetings, please email Dr. Jorge Bezerra (jorge.bezerra@cchmc.org).

New Investigators

Dr. Simon P. Hogan joined the DDRDC in October 2004. Dr. Hogan's research is focused on cellular and molecular networks that underlie the development of gastrointestinal inflammation and associated dysfunction in gastrointestinal disorders. Current projects within the group focus on the role of individual Th2 cytokines and eosinophils in disease pathogenesis and characterization of the downstream signaling pathways employed by these molecules and cells to induce disease. Dr. Hogan's experimental approach is integrative, employing state-of-the-art molecular genetic techniques in association with model systems to identify the role of inflammatory cells and molecules in the events that underpin disease. Dr. Hogan is collaborating with DDRDC members Drs. Rothenberg and Denson on studies of inflammatory bowel disease.

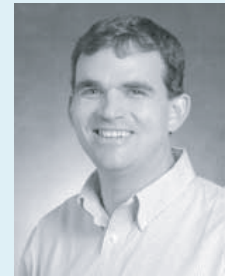
Dr. Gregory M. Tiao joined the DDRDC in February 2005. Dr. Tiao's research is focused on biliary atresia, which is the most common cause of persistent neonatal cholestasis. Surgical reconstruction of the extra-hepatic biliary tract is beneficial in a subset of patients but most progress to end-stage liver disease. As a result, biliary atresia is the number one indication for pediatric liver transplantation. The pathogenesis of biliary atresia is presently unknown, but an experimental mouse model of rotavirus-induced biliary atresia was established at CHRF. We have found that biliary injury can be induced by a specific rotavirus strain, rhesus rotavirus (RRV) in a susceptible murine host, BALB/c mice. The inflammatory cholangiopathy is initiated at the biliary epithelial cell level and mirrors the disease process that is found in infants. Our effort is focused on the pathologic recognition and infection of biliary epithelial cells (cholangiocytes) by a virus resulting in biliary atresia.

We are pleased to welcome Dr. Simon P. Hogan and Dr. Gregory M. Tiao to the DDRDC as we continue to promote opportunities for collaborative digestive disease research in Cincinnati.

Cincinnati Digestive Disease Research Development Center (DDRDC) Pilot & Feasibility Project Awards

The DDRDC, through the CRRF, offered funding to support Pilot & Feasibility Projects to conduct basic, translational, or clinical outcome research relating to digestive diseases. The following principal investigators received competitive Pilot & Feasibility Project awards: Dr. Lee A. Denson, Dr. Simon Hogan, Dr. Mike A. Leonis, Dr. Kris A. Steinbrecher and Dr. Gregory M. Tiao.

Current evidence suggests that Crohn's disease (CD) is caused by a loss of tolerance to the normal enteric flora. Despite intense study over the past decade, the fundamental alterations in cellular signaling which lead to the chronic T cell-driven inflammatory response in CD are not well defined. Moreover, the effect of established anti-inflammatory therapies such as prednisone is not known. Dr. Denson and his team hypothesize that modulation of the STAT3/5 signaling network will reduce survival of Th1 effector cells, while promoting survival of regulatory T cells in CD, thereby promoting mucosal healing. The team will test this hypothesis in the context of a randomized clinical trial of growth hormone (GH) therapy in pediatric CD based at CCHMC. Their objectives are to define the colonic STAT3/5 activation state and associated pattern of global gene expression in active CD, and to determine the effect of both standard therapy and the addition of GH upon these parameters relative to mucosal healing. The primary significance of this study will be in defining the STAT dependent pattern of global gene expression in CD in a manner which will provide both much better understanding of the mechanism of action of standard therapy, and also lead to novel therapeutic approaches. Therapies which both reduce inflammation and restore tolerance will be most effective in achieving durable remissions in patients with CD.



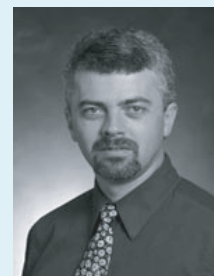
Lee A. Denson, MD

Although the histological presence of eosinophils in the mucosa of patients with ulcerative colitis (UC) is known, there is a limited understanding of the biological and pathological significance of eosinophils in UC. Dr. Hogan recently demonstrated a critical role for eosinophils and eosinophil peroxidase (EPO) in the clinical expression and pathogenesis of UC. Dr. Hogan and his team hypothesize that EPO regulates the local production of nitric oxide (NO) -derived reactive nitrogen metabolites(RNM) (ONOO-and NO-2) and the subsequent expression of disease. The objective is to elucidate the role of EPO in NO-derived RNM formation in experimental UC and to determine the significance of EPO-derived RNM in protein nitration and the pathophysiology of experimental UC. The team will employ a multi-disciplinary approach combining innovative in vivo experimental modeling (using unique experimental models and genetically altered mice) to delineate the contribution of eosinophils and EPO in RNM formation and subsequent immunopathogenesis of UC.



Simon P. Hogan, PhD

Hepatoblastoma (HB) comprises the largest percentage of hepatic malignancy in children; however, very little is known about the clinicopathologic or molecular features of HB that lead to tumor progression or predict clinical outcome. Genome-wide detection of allelic imbalances and gene expression profiling of human cancers have provided important insight into the pathobiologic mechanisms involved in human tumorigenesis, as well as diagnostic clues that can be used to predict clinical outcome. Dr. Leonis and his team hypothesize that genome-wide genetic characterization and gene expression profile analyses of childhood hepatoblastoma will yield distinct molecular signatures that will be of diagnostic and prognostic value. He will conduct a number of studies to test this



Mike A. Leonis, MD, PhD

hypothesis. These studies will provide a comprehensive understanding of the molecular processes involved in HB tumorigenesis. In addition, Dr. Leonis anticipates that these studies will open up new areas of investigation that will aid in the development of specific, mechanistically-based interventions for the treatment of patients with HB in the future.

The continuous renewal and replacement of the epithelial lining of the intestine is a tightly controlled process that provides protective shedding of genetically compromised cells and an appropriate balance between differentiation and cell division. It has been shown that the membrane receptor guanylate cyclase C (GC-C) and its ligands represent a signaling system that suppresses intestinal epithelial cell (IEC) proliferation. Dr. Steinbrecher hypothesizes that GC-C signaling controls intestinal epithelial cell division through modulation of protein kinase C α and mitogen-activated protein kinase activity. He has devised two studies, which collectively will provide information concerning how this pathway can be manipulated to reestablish IEC homeostasis during intestinal inflammatory disease or cancer.



Kris A. Steinbrecher, PhD

Biliary atresia is the most common cause of neonatal cholestasis and if untreated results in end-stage liver disease and death. Biliary atresia is the number one indication for pediatric liver transplantation. Dr. Tiao and his team established an experimental mouse model of biliary atresia induced by a specific rotavirus species – rhesus rotavirus (RRV). The inflammatory cholangiopathy mirrors the disease process that is found in infants. The team also established a novel in vitro model of RRV infection of biliary epithelial cells (cholangiocytes). These models will be used to define the molecular mechanisms regulating the interaction between a virus and the biliary system testing the over-arching hypothesis that the biliary atresia results from the abnormal recognition and infection of cholangiocytes by a virus. The team will determine the mechanism by which the cholangiocyte is susceptible to RRV infection. Flow cytometry, blocking studies, and RNA interference will be used by the team to determine if a similar regulatory process occurs in vivo in the murine model of biliary atresia.



Gregory M. Tiao, MD

Upcoming DDRDC Seminars

Conference Date	Presenter	Title	Location
Thurs. Jun. 23, 2005 Time: 7:30-8:30am	Dr. Mark Currie	"Guanylate Cyclase-C, a Therapeutic Target for G.I. Disease"	CCHRF: R-3490
Thurs. July 7, 2005	No seminar		
Thurs. Aug. 4, 2005 Time: 7:30-8:30am	Dr. John Szucsik	"Manipulating the Smooth Muscle Actin Genes to Study Smooth Muscle Development and Function"	CCHMC: C-4114

New DDRDC Seminar Schedule Format

The DDRDC will begin a new and enhanced format of the research seminar series beginning in August. This will feature conferences by principal investigators on the 1st Thursday, research fellow presentations on the 2nd Thursday, journal club on the 3rd Thursday, and special topic reviews on the 4th Thursday. The seminar series will be held from 7:30-8:30am in CCHMC: C-4114. A detailed list of seminar topics and speakers will be distributed via email.

If you are interested in presenting a research topic at one of these future meetings, please email Dr. Jorge Bezerra (jorge.bezerra@cchmc.org).

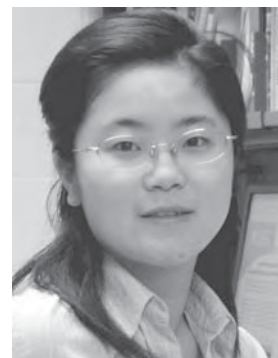
Newly Hired Bioinformatics Specialist Dedicated to the DDRDC Investigators

We are pleased to welcome Huan Xu, to the Bioinformatics Core of the DDRDC. Huan received her BS in Zoology from Nanjing University in China in 2001. In 2005 she received her MS in Molecular and Developmental Biology from University of Cincinnati. She joined the Division of Biomedical Informatics in February, 2005 and is dedicated to the DDRDC Bioinformatics Core. Her primary responsibilities include all aspects of microarray analysis support for DDRDC researchers at Cincinnati Children's and the University of Cincinnati. Huan can be reached by any of the following means

Phone: 513-636-1423

Email: Huan.Xu@cchmc.org

Room: CHRF 2001



Newly Hired Research Associate to Serve as the Program Manager of the DDRDC

Additionally, we are pleased to welcome Cynthia C. Wetzel, Ph.D. to the DDRDC. Dr. Wetzel received her BS in Biology from the College of Mt. St. Joseph in Cincinnati and her doctorate in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology at Wright State University in Dayton, OH. She was a Postdoctoral Fellow here at Children's Research Foundation in Dr. Sandra Degen's laboratory and then took a position in the College of Medicine at the University of Cincinnati as a Research Scientist and Laboratory Manager. Her primary responsibility will be to serve as the administrative manager and to assist in the preparation of DDRDC grant submission for July 2006. She can be reached by any of the following means

Phone: 513-636-9605

Email: Cynthia.Wetzel@cchmc.org

Room: CHRF 2001



Announcing two DDRDC Workshops on Bioinformatics:

Gene Expression Data Analysis Using GeneSpring

Wednesday October 19 at 1:00 – 4:00 pm
CCHMC: Location D- 2.43

DNA Sequence Analysis and Annotation: Resources and Methods

Thursday October 20 at 1:00 – 4:00 pm
CCHMC: Location D- 2.43

Seating is extremely limited.

Please contact Cindy Wetzel to reserve your spot by email: cynthia.wetzel@cchmc.org or by phone: 636-9605.

These workshops will be offered again in the Spring 2006.

Introducing the new LIVE MICROSCOPY CORE

Director: & Primary Contact: Chip Montrose, PhD

Phone: 513-558-5636

Email: mhm@uc.edu

The DDRDC is now offering opportunities to learn and use two-photon microscopy. The Live Microscopy Core recently developed in the Physiology Department at UC has 2 advanced Zeiss confocal microscopes for use, one of which has the additional equipment for two-photon microscopy. Two-photon excitation produces images with the same resolution as confocal imaging, but is applicable for deep tissue imaging in living specimens and/or local deposition of energy in three dimensions for other purposes (uncaging of fluorophores, targeted cell ablation, etc).



FUNDING OPPORTUNITY TO USE THE CORE

The DDRDC is making a limited number of \$500 grants available to our members to facilitate training and the first 10 hours of usage. If you are interested, please send Chip Montrose an email (mhm@uc.edu) containing:

- 1) Your name
 - 2) Contact information
 - 3) A Brief (2-3 sentence) description of what you desire to image
- Please include if you are a DDRDC member.

We are also happy to have users of the Live Microscopy Core who just need confocal microscopy, but for this introductory offer we will be striving to help those who need the two-photon capability.

After spending out your DDRDC grant the fees are still reasonable:

\$25/hr weekdays, \$15/hr nights/weekends.

For trained users the facility is accessible 24/7 by card key access!

Introducing the new CELL MANIPULATION CORE

Director: Jorge Bezerra, MD
Primary Contact: Reena Mourya, MPharm
Phone: 513-636-9731
Email: Reena.Mourya@cchmc.org
Room: CHRF 2030



A new DDRDC core will be available this fall: the Cell Manipulation Core.

The long term goals of the Core are to:

- 1) provide DDRDC investigators access to various intestinal, liver, and pancreatic cell lines
- 2) isolate primary cells from the liver and intestines
- 3) assist with protocols to modify gene expression in cell culture systems either through small interfering RNA (siRNA) or retrovirus/adenovirus-mediated gene transfer
- 4) phenotyping of cultured cells through fluorescence microscopy and flow cytometry.

In the initial phases of development, the Core will catalog and store cell lines that are relevant to the studies of digestive disease (such as HepG2 and Caco-2 cells), and generate “ready-to-use” tissue culture plates upon requests from DDRDC investigators. A file displaying the list of cells available at the Core can be viewed by at the DDRDC website after October 1, 2005.

<http://www.cincinnatichildrens.org/research/project/ddrdc/cores/>

Welcome to Two New Investigators

The DDRDC is pleased to welcome two new Associate Members since June 1, 2005.

Mohamed Tarek Shata, MD, PhD is an Associate Professor in the Division of Digestive Diseases, Department of Internal Medicine at the University of Cincinnati. Dr. Shata’s research centers around studying the immune regulation in viral Hepatitis C.

Kris A. Steinbrecher, PhD is a Assistant Professor in the Division of Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition, Department of Pediatrics at Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center. Dr. Steinbrecher’s laboratory studies the role of nuclear factor-kB (NF-kB) in interactions between the intestinal epithelia and gut microflora.

We welcome these two new investigators to the DDRDC as we continue to promote opportunities for collaborative digestive disease research.



Upcoming DDRDC Seminars

All conferences will be held at CCHMC: Location C-4114
(Gastroenterology, Hepatology, & Nutrition Conference Room)

For current information see:

<http://www.cincinnatichildrens.org/research/project/ddrdc/seminar.htm>

Conference Date	Presenter	Title/Topic
Thurs. Sept. 1, 2005	Noah Shroyer, PhD Baylor College of Medicine	"Intestinal epithelial development: Math 1 and Gfi1 control secretory lineage differentiation"
Thurs. Sept. 8, 2005	Returning GI Fellows Presentation/Meeting	
Thurs. Sept. 15, 2005	Rebecca Carey, MD Nissa Erickson, MD	Journal Club
Thurs. Sept. 22, 2005	William Balistreri, MD	Neonatal Cholestasis
Thurs. Sept. 29, 2005	Jorge Bezerra, MD	Physician Scientist and Basic Research Paths
Thurs. Oct. 6, 2005	Kris Steinbrecher, PhD	"Role of GSK-3b in NF-kB-mediated gene expression"
Thurs. Oct. 13, 2005	Banky Osuntokun, MD	Journal Club
Thurs. Oct. 20, 2005	No Conference due to NASPGHAN Meeting	
Thurs. Oct. 27, 2005	Pranav Shivakumar, PhD	"Functional synergism of lymphocytes in the pathogenesis of experimental biliary atresia"
Thurs. Nov. 3, 2005	James Heubi, MD	Clinical Research Paths
Thurs. Nov. 10, 2005	No Conference due to AASLD Meeting	
Wed. Nov. 16, 2005	Sandra Kim, MD University of North Carolina	"Regulation of Mucosal Inflammation in Crohn's Disease by the Enteric Flora"
Thurs. Nov. 17, 2005	AASLD Review	
Thurs. Nov. 24, 2005	No Conference due to Thanksgiving Holiday	
Thurs. Dec. 1, 2005	Kathleen Heppner Goss, PhD	APC Tumor Suppressor and Wnt Signaling in Cancer

For all publications, please acknowledge the DDRDC as follows:
This project was supported in part by PHS Grant DK064403.

For more information regarding the DDRDC please contact one of the following:

Mitchell B. Cohen, MD	Director	mitchell.cohen@cchmc.org
Jorge A. Bezerra, MD	Associate Director	jorge.bezerra@cchmc.org
Cynthia C. Wetzel, PhD	Program Manager	cynthia.wetzel@cchmc.org



Yearly Progress Report For DDRDC Grant

It is that time of year again when we will need to gather information from you for the annual NIH progress report. Cindy will be contacting you in the near future for the following information:

- SUMMARY OF RESEARCH ACCOMPLISHMENTS
- COLLABORATIONS WITH OTHER DDRDC MEMBERS
- PUBLICATIONS AND ABSTRACTS
- GRANT SUPPORT

We have had a great year. Here are just a few of the items that we were able to accomplish this year: 1) We were able to fund 5 investigators in our Pilot and Feasibility Program, 2) Huan Xu was hired to assist investigators with the analysis of their microarray data, 3) We had a fabulous workshop offered by the Bioinformatics and 4) We have had a number of exceptional seminars. Next year we are planning to offer the Bioinformatics workshop again and workshops by the Integrative Morphology Core. Additionally we will continue to have outstanding seminars for next year. If you would like to tell us about your work by giving a seminar contact Cindy at cynthia.wetzel@cchmc.org.

Cell Manipulation Core: Ready to do Business

On December 15 at 7:30am in CCHMC room C-4114 (Gastroenterology, Hepatology, & Nutrition Conference Room), the DDRDC will review two recent developments. The first is the Cell Manipulation Core. This Core has begun assembling a series of cells commonly used in digestive research, and is now carrying out siRNA-based projects in order to assist you with future experiments. Attend the conference and learn what the DDRDC-Cell Manipulation Core can do for you.

The second part of the conference will focus on the development of the "Jaundice Chip." In collaboration with the Bioinformatics Core, Dr. Bezerra's group worked with Affymetrix to develop and test a re-sequencing gene chip that detects mutations in five of the most common genetic causes of chronic cholestasis in children. This is a powerful technology that expedites DNA sequencing and facilitates patient-based research.

Welcome New Investigators to the DDRDC

The DDRDC is pleased to announce **Timothy A. Pritts, MD, PhD**, an Assistant Professor in the Department of Surgery at the University of Cincinnati, as an Associate Member to the DDRDC. Dr. Pritts is currently exploring the role of Toll-like receptors in the pathogenesis of the systemic inflammatory response. He is also interested in the effect of injury on intestinal mucosal structure and barrier function.

Upcoming DDRDC Seminars

All conferences will be held at CCHMC: Location C-4114
(Gastroenterology, Hepatology, & Nutrition Conference Room)

Time: 7:30-8:30 am

For current information see: <http://www.cincinnatichildrens.org/research/project/ddrdc/seminar.htm>

If you are interested in presenting at one of the future meetings, please contact Cindy Wetzel.

Conference Date	Presenter	Title/Topic
Thurs. Dec. 1, 2005	Kathleen Heppner Goss, PhD Surgery	“APC, Beta-Catenin and Cancer: What’s Transcription got to do with it?”
Thurs. Dec. 8, 2005	Veena Venkat, MD Monica Garin-Laflam, MD	Journal Club Topic: New Leads in the Treatment of Obesity & Inflammatory Disorders
Thurs. Dec. 15, 2005	Reena Mourya, MPharm Cong Liu, PhD	“DDRDC: New Service, New Technology”
Thurs. Dec. 22, 2005	No Conference due to Christmas Holiday	
Thurs. Dec. 29, 2005	No Conference due to Christmas Holiday	
Thurs. Jan. 5, 2006	James Wells, PhD Developmental Biology	“Trying to Make a Beta-Cell from and ES Cell: Lessons from the Embryo”
Wed. Jan. 11, 2006	Scott Plevy, MD University of Pittsburgh	“IL-12/IL-23 Gene Expression: Inhibitory Pathways and IBD”
Thurs. Jan. 12, 2006	Lynelle Boamah, MD Brad Pasternak, MD	Journal Club
Thurs. Jan. 19, 2006	Xiaonan Han, PhD Gastroenterology	“Characterization of STAT5b as a Negative Regulator of Mucosal Inflammation”
Thurs. Jan. 26, 2006	David Rudnick, MD, PhD Washington University	Liver Regeneration
Thurs. Feb. 2, 2006	Olga Starodub, PhD Molecular & Cellular Physiology	“Microlesions in the Gastric Epithelium”
Thurs. Feb. 9, 2006	Nissa Erickson, MD Rebecca Carey, MD	Journal Club
Thurs. Feb. 16, 2006	Michael Konikoff, MD Gastroenterology	Clinical Trial of Fluticasone Propionate in the Treatment of Eosinophilic Esophagitis
Thurs. Feb. 23, 2006	TBA	Review Special Topics
Thurs. March 2, 2006	Jeffery A. Rudolph, MD Gastroenterology	Intestinal Crypt Cell Survival

For all publications, please acknowledge the DDRDC as follows:
This project was supported in part by PHS Grant DK064403.

For more information regarding the DDRDC please contact one of the following:		
Mitchell B. Cohen, MD	Director	mitchell.cohen@cchmc.org
Jorge A. Bezerra, MD	Associate Director	jorge.bezerra@cchmc.org
Cynthia C. Wetzel, PhD	Program Manager	cynthia.wetzel@cchmc.org

