A Message from the Director

Introducing the new OCRID Newsletter – in honor of your 10th anniversary.

Dear OCRID Community,

As we celebrate OCRID’s 10th anniversary, it’s important to reflect on the journey that has brought us to this moment. Over the years, OCRID has grown from a small group of researchers and mentors to a vibrant community of scholars dedicated to advancing our understanding of infectious diseases.

In this issue, we are proud to highlight several of our Pilot Project Award Winners. These recipients have been instrumental in shaping the future of infectious disease research.

Dr. Charles V. Rice, OCRID investigator, received over $140,000 from the National Institute of Health (NIH) for a project focusing on antibacterial compounds to combat bacterial eye infections that frequently arise as a result of hospital-acquired infections. Dr. Shitao Li, Phase II project leader, also received a $1.7 million NIH R01 grant for a project investigating the mechanism in DNA Sensing Pathway to combat antibiotic resistance.

In addition, Dr. Michael Franklin, Associate Professor of Microbiology and Molecular Genetics, recently received a $2 million NIH Multiple PI NIH R01 grant. Dr. Franklin’s project aims to develop new treatments for tuberculosis and drug-resistant bacterial infections.

OCRID Director David Botstein

Upcoming Events:

- 9th Annual OCRID Retreat: April 9th in Stillwater. It will be held at the ConocoPhillips Conference Center. Make sure to mark your calendars!

OCRID recently received $11.1 million Phase II CoBRE funding. I am looking forward to seeing new faces at OCRID in 2019.

Best regards,

Dennis K. Slamon,
Director

Ronald Van Ben Bussche, Ph.D.
Associate Vice President for Research

Happy Holiday!

New Faces!

A very warm welcome to our new OCRID investigators.

Dr. Jiang is a Regents Professor of Microbiology and Molecular Genetics at the University of Oklahoma Health Science Center. He is now the PI of a $2 million NIH Multiple PI NIH R01 grant.

OCRID Phase II Project Leader and Investigator Received NIH R21 Grant

Dr. Stoytcheva received a $340,000 R21 grant from the National Institute of Health (NIH) to investigate the interactions of murine pulmonary macrophage subsets with Cryptococcus Neoformans. This project seeks to identify new targets for the development of novel therapeutic strategies.

Dr. Welliver and his team are working on developing a novel method to move from mice to men on the infection of influenza A virus. Their project is in collaboration with Biogen, Inc., a biotechnology company in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

OCRID Phase II Project Leader, Dr. Vail Received NH R11 and R12 Grants, Totaling Over $1 Million

Dr. Vail received two grants totaling over $1 million from the Oklahoma State University (OSU) Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources (IANR) to advance the Center for Environmental Health and Sustainability. These grants will support the development of new approaches to address challenges in environmental health and sustainability.

Dr. Welliver is a prevention expert who has been working on developing vaccines against infectious diseases. His project aims to identify new targets for the development of novel therapeutic strategies.

Dr. Welliver has been working on developing a novel method to move from mice to men on the infection of influenza A virus. Their project is in collaboration with Biogen, Inc., a biotechnology company in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

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