



Newsletter

Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology

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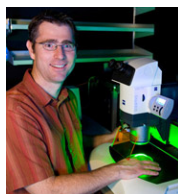
NEWS AND EVENTS

Prof Martin Stone appointed as new Director of MBio



Congratulations are extended to A/Prof Martin Stone, new Director of MBio. The MBio Graduate School is an initiative within the School of Biomedical Sciences that aims to provide its graduate students with an enriched and broadened student experience. The Graduate School offers scientific and professional development training programs to students in order to prepare them for a range of future careers.

Prof John Carroll (Head of School) stated, "Martin is a current member of the MBio committee and has experience with managing PG activities in the US. This combination of experience at home and abroad provides an excellent blend of skills that will benefit MBio."



Prof Mibel Aguilar expressed her thanks on behalf of the Department for his past service in the role of Deputy HDR Coordinator, "The Dept would like to thank Martin for his contributions to HDR management over the last 4 years, particularly as our representative on the MBio committee and also running the Departmental 3 Minute Thesis competition."

Dr Peter Boag (left) will now take up the position of Deputy HDR Coordinator.

The Stone Chemokine-Receptor Interaction Laboratory: <http://www.med.monash.edu.au/biochem/staff/stone.html>

The Boag Developmental and RNA Biology Laboratory: <http://www.med.monash.edu.au/biochem/staff/boag.html>

Prof Rob Pike, Deputy Dean (Academic Planning)



Having completed his term as Head of School of Biological Sciences, Prof Rob Pike has taken on the new role of Deputy Dean (Academic Planning) in the Faculty of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences. In December's edition of the *Microtome*, incoming Head of School Prof Steven Chown stated that Rob had a tremendous effect on the School after taking on the Head position, effecting a positive "transition in the School that few might have predicted would be so productive, smooth and powerful."

We probably best know Rob as our former Head of the Biochemistry Dept, but Prof Chown also acknowledged his contributions as a proteinase biochemist, "Prof Rob Pike has a substantial scientific profile. Based on a broad range of work in biochemistry, his outputs are both considerable and fascinating. Proteinase biochemistry is not the only subject that has captured his interest, but it has certainly benefited substantially from his insights."

The Pike Protease Laboratory: <http://www.med.monash.edu.au/biochem/staff/pike.html>

Recent Publications

1. **Lawen, A.** and D.J. Lane, *INVITED REVIEW: Mammalian iron homeostasis in health and disease: Uptake, storage, transport and molecular mechanisms of action.* *Antioxid Redox Signal*, 2012. **E-pub**: p. 1-137
2. Li, X., Z. Zhang, and **J. Song**, *Computational enzyme design approaches with significant biological outcomes: Progress and challenges.* *Comp Struct Biotech J*, 2012. **2**(3): p. 1-12
3. **Song, J., H. Tan, A.J. Perry,** T. Akutsu, G.I. Webb, **J.C. Whisstock,** and **R.N. Pike**, *PROSPER: An Integrated Feature-Based Tool for Predicting Protease Substrate Cleavage Sites.* *PLoS One*, 2012. **7**(11): p. e50300
4. **Speed, C.J.** *Analysis of a current learning environment for first year medical students in Australia.* Med Ed Publish, December 11, 2012. **E-pub**, 1-7.
5. Tan, S.X., Y. Ng, J.G. Burchfield, **G. Ramm,** D.G. Lambright, J. Stockli, and D.E. James, *The Rab GTPase-Activating Protein TBC1D4/AS160 Contains an Atypical Phosphotyrosine-Binding Domain That Interacts with Plasma Membrane Phospholipids To Facilitate GLUT4 Trafficking in Adipocytes.* *Mol Cell Biol*, 2012. **32**(24): p. 4946-4959
6. Zheng, C., M. Wang, K. Takemoto, T. Akutsu, Z. Zhang, and **J. Song**, *An integrative computational framework based on a two-step random forest algorithm improves prediction of zinc-binding sites in proteins.* *PLoS One*, 2012. **7**(11): p. e49716

OHS MATTERS

Everyone needs to have completed the Safety Induction BEFORE starting any lab/office work. This also includes any external collaborators, visitors, undergrad/summer/Hons/PhD Students and ALL staff, even if they are not carrying out any lab work, whether on full-time or part-time employment.

Please filter this information to your lab head and everyone else in your lab group. It is your responsibility and your supervisor's that we keep everyone "Safety Inducted" and up-to-date!

Here is how to Safety Induct your new lab members/visitors/students:

1. Grab a copy of the GREEN Safety Manual, also located on the V drive at:
<V:\biochem\Admin-OHSE\MANUALS\SAFETY MANUAL 2010-11>
(New version will be up soon, but old version STILL applies)
2. Read the manual in full
3. Go to <http://www.monash.edu.au/ohs/training/safety-induction-program.html>
Click on the first link "Online Safety induction video"

Make sure you are the person logged into the computer otherwise last user will take the credit and not you. At the end where it says you have completed the Safety Induction, print a screen capture and send me a copy as proof of completion. (there is no print function available and if you leave the site I have no way of knowing that you have completed it and you may be asked to do it again.)

4. Fill in the "Acknowledgment Form" from within the Safety Manual and send me a copy.
5. Complete the Lab Safety Checklist with a member of your lab, and send me a copy.
6. Keep copies for your lab records too.

I will not be training anyone on any equipment/procedures unless they have completed their Safety Inductions and handed me proof.

Any new Staff appointments for 2013 of those who have been here for a while within the department are now flagging as *required to complete their Safety Induction* because they have never done this before.

Hope we can get everyone Inducted ASAP.

Keep any eye out for all new people and let me know asap who they are, throughout the year!

Ensure when any technician, service men, Reps etc enter your lab/office areas that they are abiding by Monash OHS rules and regulations. If not, they must be assisted and reported to the Safety Officer asap.

Cheers,

Irene Hatzinisiriou
Deptl Safety Officer

Environmental Sustainability At Monash

Anyone concerned with any environmental issues should contact Shani Keleher (shani.keleher@monash.edu) or visit

The Office of Environmental Sustainability (TOES) <http://www.fsd.monash.edu.au/environmental-sustainability>.

POSTGRADUATE MATTERS

PhD Graduates

Katherine Rosemary Martin

Thesis: "The consequences of over expression of RCAN1 on the brain and immune system and its implications for Down Syndrome"

Supervisor: Melanie Pritchard

Anja Sylvia Knaupp

Thesis: "Biophysical characterisation of the pathological Z variant of alpha-1-antitrypsin"

Supervisor: Steve Bottomley

HDR

Congratulations to Martin Stone who has been appointed as Director of MBio.

Peter Boag has taken over from Martin as Deputy HDR coordinator. Welcome Peter to the world of HDR!

The new system for scheduling and managing HDR milestones will begin in February/March. A number of students have already submitted their Panel memberships. A reminder to those who have not completed this to do so as soon as possible.

Link to MBio e-bulletin:
<http://www.med.monash.edu.au/mbio-gradschool/e-bulletin.html>

All queries on Postgraduate matters:
Please contact Prof Mibel Aguilar
mibel.aguilar@monash.edu

LATEST MEMBERS OF STAFF

Lab Head	New Staff Member	Position
Traude Beilharz	Man Chun Lee	RA
Phil Bird	Lars Joeckel	Occ Trainee
Faselli Coulibaly	Adrian McAlister	Casual RA
Oded Kleifeld	Angus McQuibban	Visiting Academic
Ruby Law	Revina Van Scherpenzeel	Occ Trainee
Kate Loveland	Andrew Major	Affiliate
Kate Loveland	Indumathy Sivanjah	Monash Affiliate
Jamie Rossjohn	Sidonia Eckle	Affiliate
Rossjohn/Margaret Bills	Felix Deuss	RF
Rossjohn/Margaret Bills	Richard Birkinshaw	RA
Rossjohn/Jennifer Huynh	Ying Zhang	Visiting Academic
Ian Smyth	Denny Cottle	RF
Tony Tiganis	Effie Hatzis	TA
Tony Tiganis	Keith Al-Hasani	RF
Tony Tiganis	Alexandra Ziegler	RF
James Whisstock	John Kotsanas	RA
Jackie Wilce	Simone Beckham	RF
Jackie Wilce	Ketav Kulkarni	RF
Lee Wong	Stuart Emmerson	Monash Affiliate

Seminars 2013 to be confirmed

Please send suggestions for future speakers to committee members:
Martin Stone, Travis Beddoe, Catherine Itman, Ana Traven or Peter Boag

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