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From the Director

Congratulations to Dr. Kathryn Ziel, post doctoral fellow in the Department of Pharmacology and Director of the Center for Lung Biology's Art in Science Program. Dr. Ziel organized the successful opening of "Percipio" at the Mobile Museum of Art on November 14, 2003. "Percipio," a Latin term meaning to "learn through the senses," was chosen as the title for the inaugural exhibit, a collection of colorful images obtained by College of Medicine faculty, graduate students, post doctoral fellows, and technical staff while conducting their research. The exhibit will be on display at the Mobile Museum of Art through January 4, 2004.

A warm welcome is extended to new faculty:

Dr. Mark Taylor is a new Assistant Professor in the Department of Physiology. He received his Ph.D. in Physiology at the University of South Alabama and completed post-doctoral training in Pharmacology at the University of Vermont College of Medicine. Dr. Taylor's research focuses on cellular signaling pathways that regulate excitation-contraction coupling in vascular smooth muscle.



Dr. David Weber is also a new Assistant Professor in the Department of Physiology. Dr. Weber completed his Ph.D. in Physiology at the Medical College of Wisconsin, then pursued post doctoral studies at the Medical College of Georgia and in the Division of Cardiology at Emory University. The focus of Dr. Weber's research is on the role of reactive oxygen species as mediators of vascular smooth muscle cell migration.



Dr. Kane Schaphorst is a new faculty member in the Department of Medicine and the Center for Lung Biology. Upon completion of the M.D. degree at the

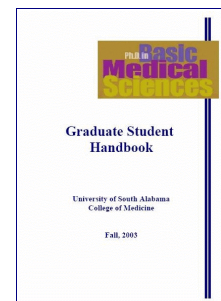
University of Nebraska Medical Center, Dr. Schaphorst completed an internship and residency in Internal Medicine and fellowship training in the Division of Pulmonary & Critical Care Medicine at Indiana University Medical Center. Prior to coming to USA, Dr. Schaphorst was an Assistant Professor in the Division of Pulmonary and Critical Care at Johns Hopkins. His research focuses on signal transduction mechanisms in the vascular endothelium which contribute to the pathobiology of acute lung injury.

Registration for the 2004 Spring Semester for Basic Medical Science graduate students is underway now and will continue through January 8, 2004. Spring semester classes begin January 12, 2004. Rotations for first year graduate students begin January 7, 2004.

The next semi-annual meeting of the Basic Medical Sciences Graduate Faculty is tentatively scheduled for Friday, February 13, 2004. Note that details of the election process for the Directorship will be distributed in early January.

The new BMS Graduate Student Handbook includes all forms utilized for the program, academic and program policies, contact information and other resources for graduate students. The Handbook is available on-line at:

<http://southmed.usouthal.edu/com/bmsphd>.



BSSO

At their October meeting, the BSSO selected Dr. McGee as their faculty advisor for the year. The annual T-shirt logo competition and sale was recently completed. Plans are underway for holiday service project and social events. Upcoming meetings will focus on survival skills such as grant writing and CV development. For more information, contact Karla McInnis, BSSO President.

The Graduate

From the University Graduate Council

Deadlines: The deadline for filing for graduation in the 2004 Summer term is February 13, 2004. The first submission deadline for written dissertations (courtesy check) to the Graduate School is Thursday, March 25, 2004. Note that both the closed and open defenses of the dissertation must be completed prior to submitting the document for courtesy check. The Spring deadline for final completion of written dissertations (with signature sheet, microfilming form, etc.) is April 8, 2004. Students should ensure that they are using the current edition of the "Guide for Preparing Theses and Dissertations" when writing their dissertation.

Dissertations: Dr. Stout, interim Dean of the Graduate School has announced that she will be reading theses and dissertations prior to signing. Note that the courtesy check by the Graduate School encompasses only formatting issues and does not review content. It is up to the student and the student's committee to ensure the quality of the dissertation. Geneva Bush Staggs, Reference Librarian in the Baugh Biomedical Library has found significant numbers of citation errors in dissertations submitted from our program to the Library. She has offered her services to help students address bibliographic format as the dissertation is being developed. You can contact her at gbush@jaguar1.usouthal.edu.

Curriculum Action Forms: The deadline for submission of curriculum action forms to the Graduate School for Summer/Fall 2004 is March 1, 2004. Remember that curriculum action forms must be reviewed by the College Curriculum Committee and the Graduate Office prior to submission to the Graduate School. Faculty or programs wishing to implement a new course or alter credit hours/grading for an existing course for either term should submit forms to the Graduate Office several weeks in advance of this deadline.

Funding Opportunities

Deadline 1/31/2004: The Diabetes Trust Foundation is currently accepting applications for the Buris R. Boshell Scholarship in Medicine and Clinical Scholars in Diabetes Fellowship. For information, go to: <http://www.diabetestrustfoundation.org>.

Deadline 1/15/2004: The Southeast Affiliate of the American Heart Association sponsors Predoctoral and Postdoctoral Fellowships, Beginning Grants-in-Aid, and Grants-in-Aid. For information, go to: <http://www.americanheart.org>.

Deadline 1/15/2004: American Physiological Society Postdoctoral Fellowship in Physiological Genomics. For information, go to: <http://www.the-aps.org/>.

Deadline 1/15/2004: American Physiological Society William T. Porter Fellowships. For information, go to: <http://www.the-aps.org/>.

Deadline 1/24/2004: Pulmonary Hypertension Association postdoctoral fellowships are coordinated through the American Heart Association. For information go to: <http://www.americanheart.org>.

Deadline 2/26/2004: Glenn/AFAR Scholarships for Research in the Biology of Aging. For information, go to: <http://www.afar.org/grants.html>.

Deadline 4/1/2004: American Cancer Society Postdoctoral Fellowships. For information go to: <http://www.cancer.org>.

Conference Announcements

The Southern Regional Meeting of the American Federation of Medical Research will be held in New Orleans, LA February 12-14, 2004. For information go to: <http://www.afmr.org>.

The Gulf Coast Physiological Society will meet in Mobile, AL March 5-6, 2004, sponsored by the Department of Physiology and the USA Medical Science Foundation. The abstract deadline is February 6, 2004. Program information, abstract forms and access to registration are available at: <http://physiology.usouthal.edu/gulfcoast/>.

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