

Department of Biomedical Sciences Newsletter

Congratulations to **Dr. Kathy Thompson** and **Dr. Jim Georgitis** on their retirement. We wish them the best of luck in their future endeavors.

We said goodbye to **Dr. Hwyla Arafat** as she embarks on her new adventure at Drexel. Best of luck and we will miss you.

Congratulations to **Dr. Ian Meng** and the **COBRE team** for being awarded Phase 3 of the COBRE grant (more here: <https://www.une.edu/news/2022/une-receives-5-million-support-chronic-pain-research-industry-collaboration>)

Congratulations to **Dr. Ling Cao** (and co-pilot investigator, **Dr. Ben Harrison**) on being awarded a COBRE pilot project grant, with their project titled: "Effects of morphine on HIV Tat-associated sensory neuropathy".

Congratulations to **Dr. Katie Becker** on being awarded a COBRE pilot project grant titled: "The impact of saphenous nerve injury on bone mineral density in the mouse tibia".

Congratulations to **Dr. Frank Willard** on winning the COM OMS1 Faculty of the Year award. Congratulations also to **Dr. David Johnson** on being the runner-up for this award.

Congratulations to **Dr. Kyle Scully** on being the runner-up for the COM OMS2 Faculty of the Year award.

Congratulations to **Dr. Doug Spicer** on receiving "Faculty of the month" for March.

Welcome to **Dr. Harry Filippakis** as a new faculty member in the Department of Biomedical Sciences. His lab and office will be in Pickus.

Faculty meeting dates:

- July 27, 2022; 1-2 pm
- August 24, 2022; 1-2 pm
- September 28, 2022; 1-2 pm

Feel free to send any agenda items for discussion at our faculty meeting to Angela Morse.

2022 UNE COM Seminars:

All seminars hosted by the department will be posted on our seminar link on our site: <https://sites.une.edu/biomedicalsciences/seminar-series/>

Shared Governance Meetings:

UFA

Wednesday, August 17
via Zoom, 12-2pm

Wednesday, September 21
via Zoom, 12-2pm

Wednesday, October 19
via Zoom, 12-2pm

COMFA

Thursday, August 18
12-1pm

Wednesday, September 28
12-1pm

Thursday, October 20
12-1pm

NOTE: Publication costs for papers which have COM students as authors are eligible to be considered for up to \$250/student by the [SGA's educational enhancement fund](#) (link enabled). These requests are vetted by the finance committee of the SGA and processed by RSAS.



Please join me in welcoming **Dr. Harry Filippakis** as the newest faculty member in the Department of Biomedical Sciences. He received his PhD in Cellular and Genetic Etiology, Diagnosis and Treatment of Human Disease, from the University of Crete Medical School (Heraklion, Crete, Greece). He comes to us from the Pulmonary & Critical Care Unit in the Department of Medicine at Brigham & Women's Hospital (Boston, MA).

Save the Date: UNE COM Fall Research and Scholarship Forum

Research Forum Date: **September 30, 2022** - *Innovation Hall, Portland campus*

Celebrating the research and scholarship of the COM medical students with posters and oral presentations.

- COM Research & Scholarship Committee

[Faculty / Student / Staff Highlights:](#)

[New Publications \(from PubMed \(links enabled\)\)](#)

[Zika Virus Infection and Pathogenesis](#)

Theberge K, Derby S, Ramirez E, **May M.**

EMJ Microbiol Infect Dis. 2022

DOI/10.33590/emjmicrobiolinfectedis/21-00256.

[Ovariectomy increases paclitaxel-induced mechanical hypersensitivity and reduces anti-inflammatory CD4+ T cells in the dorsal root ganglion of female mice.](#)

Goode DJ, Whitaker EE, Mecum NE.

J Neuroimmunol. 2022 Apr 22;367:577878.

doi: 10.1016/j.jneuroim.2022.577878.

[How Science Educators Still Matter: Leveraging the Basic Sciences for Student Success.](#)

Haudek SB, Bahner I, Belovich AN, Bonaminio G, Brenneman A, Brooks WS, Chinn C, El-Sawi N, Habal S, Haight M, Ikonne U, McAuley RJ, McKell D, **Rowe R**, Taylor TAH, Thesen T, Vari RC.

Med Sci Educ. 2022 May 4:1-7.

doi: 10.1007/s40670-022-01549-2.

[New Publications \(from bioRxiv \(links enabled in blue\)\)](#) – a preprint, a preliminary version of a manuscript that has not completed peer review at a journal.

[Sustained morphine delivery suppresses bone formation and alters metabolic and circulating miRNA profiles in male C57BL/6J mice.](#)

Adriana Leis Carvalho, Daniel J Brooks, Deborah Barlow, Audrie L. Langlais, Breanna Morrill, **Karen L. Houseknecht**, Mary L. Bousein, Jane B Lian, **Tamara King**, Nicholas H Farina, Katherine J Motyl
bioRxiv 2022.04.15.484893
doi: <https://doi.org/10.1101/2022.04.15.484893>

[Inhibiting Spinal Cord-Specific Hsp90 Isoforms Reveals a Novel Strategy to Improve the Therapeutic Index of Opioid Treatment.](#)

David I. Duron, Christopher S. Campbell, Kerry Chou, Parthasaradhireddy Tanguturi, Paul Bejarano, Katherin A. Gabriel, Jessica L. Bowden, Sanket Mishra, Christopher Brackett, Deborah Barlow, **Karen L. Houseknecht**, Brian S.J. Blagg, John M. Streicher
bioRxiv 2021.04.14.439852
doi: <https://doi.org/10.1101/2021.04.14.439852>

Faculty Achievements:

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Congratulations to **Dr. Kyle Scully** on being the runner-up for the COM OMS2 Faculty of the Year award.

Congratulations to those faculty receiving “Faculty of the month” honors in our department:

Dr. Doug Spicer – March

Regional/National/International Presentations

Oral Presentations:

Dr. Diana Goode gave a talk titled “Neuron – CD4+ T cell communication in the dorsal root ganglion in healthy and paclitaxel-treated mice” at the 49th Maine Biological and Medical Sciences Symposium (MBMSS). MDI Biological Laboratory. Bar Harbor, ME. 04/22/2022.

Dr. Diana Goode gave a talk titled “Ovariectomy Reduces Anti-inflammatory CD4+ T Cells in the Dorsal Root Ganglion of Naïve and Paclitaxel-treated Female Mice” at the US Association for the Study of Pain Annual Scientific Meeting in Cincinnati, OH on 05/18/2022. See below image.



Pictured Dr. Diana Goode presenting her work at the US Association for the Study of Pain Annual Scientific Meeting in May. Photo courtesy of Dr. Derek Molliver.



UNE COM representation at the US Association for the Study of Pain Annual Scientific Meeting in Cincinnati, OH in May of 2022. Pictured are (from left to right) Dr. Derek Molliver, Dr. Diana Goode, Dr. Tamara King, and Dr. Katy Rudolph. Photo courtesy of Dr. Derek Molliver.

Poster Presentations:

Diana J. Goode, Emily E. Whitaker, and Neal E. Mecum. Neuron – CD4+ T cell communication in the dorsal root ganglion in healthy and paclitaxel-treated mice. 49th Maine Biological and Medical Sciences Symposium (MBMSS). MDI Biological Laboratory. Bar Harbor, ME. April 2022.

Eaton V, **King T.** (2022). Changes in GABAA Receptor Function Is Dependent on Osteoarthritis Pain State. This poster was presented at the United States Association for the Study of Pain Annual Meeting, May 2022; Cincinnati, Ohio, with the abstract published in J. Pain 23(5)11; doi.org/10.1016/j.jpain.2022.03.041

Geguchadze R, Barlow D, **Houseknecht KL**, **Molliver DC.** (2022). Regulation of eukaryotic elongation factor 2 kinase in mouse sensory neurons and anti-nociceptive effects of a selective inhibitor. This poster was presented at the United States Association for the Study of Pain Annual Meeting, May 2022; Cincinnati, Ohio, with the abstract published in J. Pain 23(5)26; doi.org/10.1016/j.jpain.2022.03.101

Goode D, Whitaker EE, Mecum NE. Ovariectomy reduces anti-inflammatory CD4+ T cells in the dorsal root ganglion of naïve and paclitaxel-treated female mice. This poster was presented at the United States Association for the Study of Pain Annual Meeting, May 2022; Cincinnati, Ohio, with the abstract published in J. Pain 23(5)58; doi.org/10.1016/j.jpain.2022.03.218

New Funding

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Other News:

Congratulations to **Dr. Tamara King** for being invited to serve as Member of the Neurobiology of Pain and Itch Study Section (NPI), Integrative, Functional and Cognitive Neuroscience Integrated Review Group (IFCN), Center for Scientific Review (CSR), National Institutes of Health (NIH) for a term beginning 07/01/2022 and ending 06/30/2026.

To celebrate Asian American Pacific Islander heritage month in May, **Dr. Ling Cao** was invited to produce a video message. Her video message, celebrating Asian American Pacific Islander (AAIP) Heritage Month will be used as a teaching tool regarding diversity in the profession. It was shared with the attendees at the American Association of Immunologists Immunology Teaching Interest Group during IMMUNOLOGY2022, May 6-10, 2022.