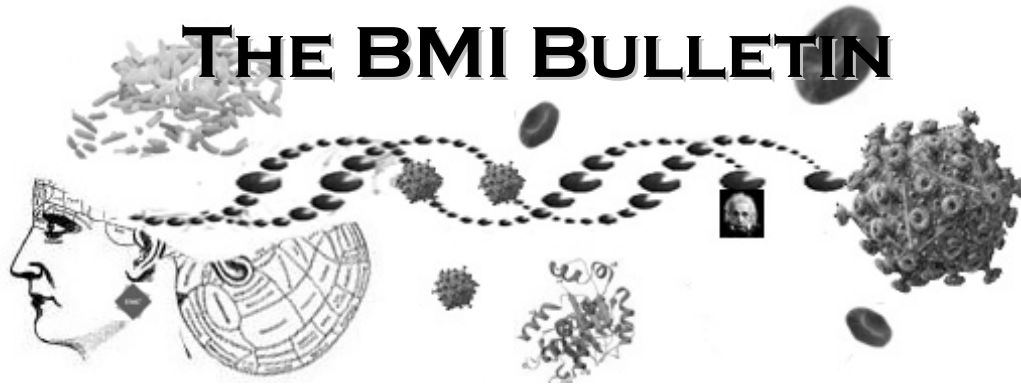


THE BMI BULLETIN



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<http://intermed.med.uottawa.ca/Associations/BMIGSA>

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FOCUS

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EVENTS

Career Day
January 23 2009
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BMIGSA Ski/Snowboard Trip
Feb 6-8 2009



Editor
Leslie Mitchell, VP Finance

It's almost time to put down the pipettors, to update your lab book one final time, and to say goodbye to the lab (well, at least for a few days hopefully!). I hope that everyone will get the chance to relax and rejuvenate by taking a bit of holiday time this month!

I'm very happy to report that although the holiday season has certainly been in full swing for a few weeks, this past Sunday night saw the department of BMI kick it into high gear. 110 of us got together at Tabaret Hall to attend the annual **BMI Winter Holiday Party**, hosted by the BMIGSA. While I am admittedly a little biased in making this judgement, I think the night was a tremendous success, filled with food and drinks, games and awards. You can expect a full re-cap of the Winter Holiday Party in the first bulletin in January, but for now I'd like to thank a few key people, without whom the event would not have succeeded. First of all, thanks to Monique Lalonde, the new Head Academic Administrator for our department, for ensuring the

financial success of the event. Secondly, kudos to Evelin Loit for supreme effort to finalize the details of the party – big and small. Finally, I'd like to mention Lem Racacho for his tireless DJ effort. The dancing at the end of the night was spurred on by the great music selection.

Onto the most important upcoming event – in early 2009 the BMIGSA will turn our attention to an event that is slightly more academic in nature: **Career Day**. While in past years this has been an event organized by the Faculty of Medicine, this year the BMIGSA has chosen to branch out to organize a more specific career day. We have recruited speakers that will be particularly interesting to our field of expertise. The general theme of Career Day 2009 will be exploring careers outside of the tradition academic options. The lineup of speakers is going to be amazing, but for now I will just tempt you with a single name: Dr. Rod McInnes, the CIHR Scientific Director. So, keep the **morning of January 23rd** available, and watch for further advertisements with the full list Career Day speakers.

That's all for now – happy holidays!!!

Cheers - Leslie

PROMOTING EQUALITY GIVES AN 'EDG' TO THE FACULTY OF MEDICINE

By Carey Greco

The Office of Equity, Diversity, and Gender Issues, or EDG, was established by the Faculty of Medicine in order to promote awareness and sensitivity toward concerns such as gender bias, harassment, intimidation, and other forms of discrimination. Its goal is to foster equality and diversity within the work and/or study environments of the faculty, to the benefit of undergraduate and postgraduate students, researchers, faculty members, and support staff. The office also mediates relevant conflicts at the level of admission, recruitment, and retention of staff and students.



THE EDG ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The EDG Advisory Committee is crucial for upholding the mandate of the EDG Office. Each department in the Faculty of Medicine assigns representatives to the Advisory Committee, including faculty and students. Members of this committee "act locally to monitor and promote equity issues within individual departments". They are then responsible for sharing concerns and relevant actions at monthly committee meetings, and contribute to the Faculty of Medicine policy development pertaining to these issues.

Putting the 'EDG' in BMI

A BMI EDG Committee is being established as a more direct resource for students within our department. It will be responsible for overseeing EDG-related issues, and will be one of several departmental EDG Committees which are endorsed by the Faculty of Medicine EDG Office. For information, contact Dr. Ilona Skerjanc (iskerjan@uottawa.ca).

Have a Complaint?

- Questions or complaints that relate to equity, diversity and gender issues or harassment can be

discussed with the Director of the EDG Committee, Dr. Nahid Azad (edgissue@uottawa.ca).

- Sexual harassment complaints can be discussed with the Faculty of Medicine Director of the EDG Office or can be brought directly to the U of O Sexual Harassment Officer by calling 613-562-5222 (respect@uottawa.ca).
- Complaints of a more general nature can be addressed by the Conflict Resolution Team. If you have any questions please contact Dr. Rama Nair (rnair@uottawa.ca).
- Complaints about harassment can also affect your mental health. If you have concerns about your health, do not hesitate to contact one of these wellness offices:
 - for Students: Alumni and Student Affairs (medsao@uottawa.ca)
 - for Faculty/Support Staff: Faculty Wellness Program (wellness@uottawa.ca)

The contents of this article were summarized from material available online:

<http://www.medicine.uottawa.ca/genderequity/eng/>.

CULTURE CORNER

Culture corner

By Evelin Loit

Do you still need this one more special gift? Perhaps for yourself for all this hard work you have put in this year. I suggest you check out **Ottawa Christmas Craft Show** from **December 11th to 21st**



<http://www.signatures.ca/originals/home.html>).

There are many artists and vendors selling everything from clothes and jewellery to special spices and food. Among the others there are two of my very favorite jewellery artists - Christophe Poly and Metallic Evolution. The latter makes also very cool metal art for homes. Check them out. Besides the crafts and art you can also enjoy very fine concerts, given by **Cat Jahnke** from Winnipeg (<http://www.catjahnke.com>). She is pretty amazing!

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Another favorite musical group of mine is **King Singers** (www.kingssingers.com). And they are coming to **NAC** on **December 15th and 16th** to give a Christmas concert with NAC orchestra. I think they are going to be amazing! (<http://www.nac.ca/en/whatson/results.cfm?EventID=5502>)

And once all the crazy business of pre-Christmas/Holidays is over, make sure you get some good quality time in. Have a great meal (or a few), light a candle, and enjoy the time with family and friends! So in January we can all meet again refreshed and full of energy.

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays☺

Loit E, Wu K, Cheng X, Hincke MT, Altosaar I. Functional whole-colony screening method to identify antimicrobial peptides. *J Microbiol Methods*. 2008 Dec

Keleta L, Ibricevic A, Bovin NV, Brody SL, Brown EG. Experimental evolution of human influenza virus H3 hemagglutinin in the mouse lung identifies adaptive regions in HA1 and HA2. *J Virol*. 2008 Dec

Hopewell S, Pandey NR, Misquith A, Twomey E, Sparks DL. Phosphatidylinositol acts through mitogen-activated protein kinase to stimulate hepatic apolipoprotein A-I secretion. *Metabolism*. 2008 Dec

FOCUS ON BMI RESEARCH

Zhou H, Hou W, Denis NJ, Zhou H, Vasilescu J, Zou H, Figeys D. Glycoproteomic Reactor for Human Plasma. *J Proteome Res*. 2008 Dec 9.

Kim BJ, Lee H. Caspase-mediated cleavage of importin-alpha increases its affinity for MCM and downregulates DNA synthesis by interrupting the binding of MCM to chromatin. *Biochim Biophys Acta*. 2008 Dec

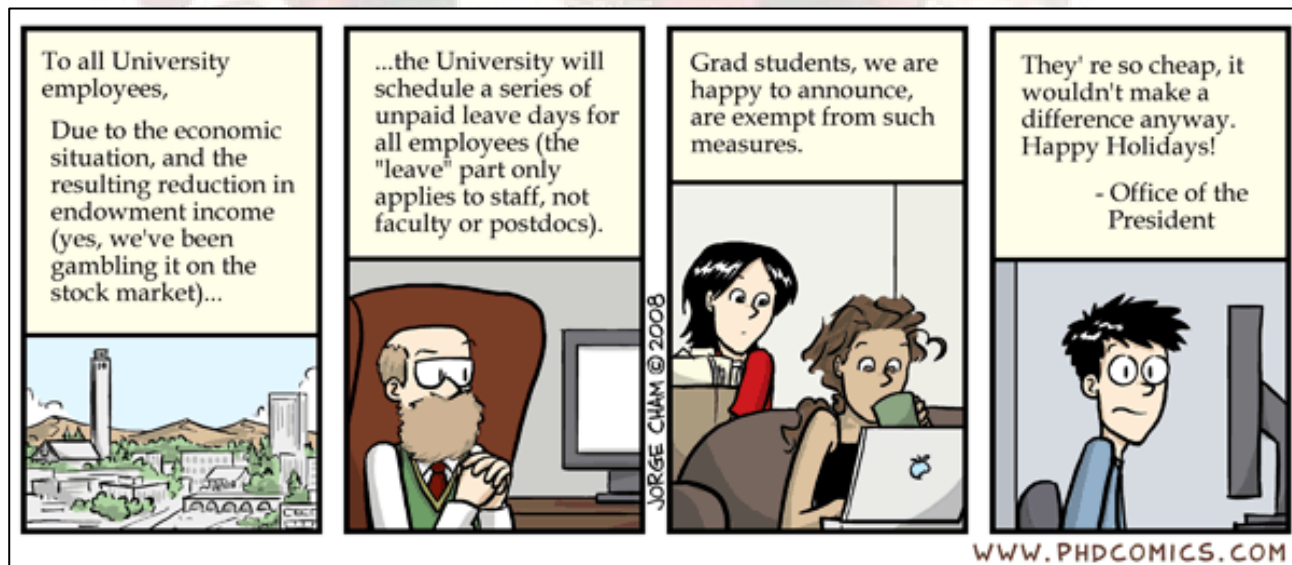
Kim BJ, Lee H. Lys-110 is essential for targeting PCNA to replication and repair foci, and the K110A mutant activates apoptosis. *Biol Cell*. 2008 Dec

Was your paper missed? Let us know so we can include it in the next issue! Contact us BMIGSA@gmail.com

SEMINARS & CLUBS

Good news everyone! All your seminars are easily accessible from the BMI departmental website via Google Calendar. You can find it here:

<http://www.medicine.uottawa.ca/bmi/fra/zEngSeminars.htm>



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The RNA Club

The RNA Club is a gathering of researchers with common interest in various aspects of RNA biology, (i.e. splicing, translation, RNA binding proteins, RNA viruses etc). The Club meets every second week to present and discuss latest data from participating laboratories in a "work-in-progress" format. The goal of the RNA Club is to bring together researchers with common interest, to allow graduate students and postdoctoral fellows to interact and talk about their projects with their peers, and to identify and foster collaborations among different research groups within the University of Ottawa.

For more information, or to get involved in the fall, please contact Dr. Martin Holcik e-mail: martin@mqcheo.med.uottawa.ca

GET INVOLVED

The BMI Bulletin Committee is always seeking creative and energetic Grad Students or Post Docs from the department to participate on in the creation of The BMI Bulletin through contribution of articles, ideas and/or feedback. If you're interested or would like more information please contact the BMI Bulletin Editorial Committee:

E-mail: BMIGSA@gmail.com

The BMI Graduate Student Association (BMIGSA) is ALWAYS looking for new and energetic individuals to represent the graduate student population, to help plan social events and to provide new insight and ideas to the group.

E-mail: BMIGSA@gmail.com

BMIGSA UPCOMING EVENTS

Mark your calendars!

BMIGSA & CMMGSA present

CAREER DAY

January 23, 2009

RGN 2003, 9am-12:30pm

Learn more about career options from invited speakers in the fields of research, vaccine development, marketing & sales, clinical microbiology, and biotechnology

COME WITH QUESTIONS, LEAVE WITH ANSWERS

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DO YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW WISH YOU WERE ON THE BMI BULLETIN DISTRIBUTION LIST? WELL NOW YOU CAN BE! DROP US A LINE WITH YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS TO BMIGSA@GMAIL.COM AND WE'LL ADD YOU TO OUR GROWING LIST OF SUBSCRIBERS!

THE BMI BULLETIN

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THE BMI BULLETIN

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