



What's the buzz?

A self-reported addition to SOMnews for the School of Medicine community to share their successes.

March 2008

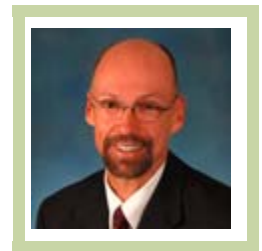
Publications

Mordecai P. Blaustein, MD; David Weber, PhD and Withrow G. Wier, PhD



[Mordecai P. Blaustein, MD](#), professor, Departments of Physiology and Medicine, and [David J. Weber, PhD](#), professor, and Thomas A. Charpentier, PhD, post-doctoral fellow, both from the Department of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology, co-authored a commentary entitled "Getting a Grip on Calcium Regulation" in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, Nov 20, 2007; vol. 104, No. 47, pages 18349-18350.

Additionally, Dr. Blaustein and [Withrow G. Wier, PhD](#) (right), professor, Department of Physiology, co-authored an editorial entitled "Local Sodium, Global Reach: Filling the Gap Between Salt and Hypertension" in *Circulation Research*, 2007; 101; 959-961. Dr. Weir also authored an article entitled "Gain and Cardiac E-C Coupling: Revisited and Revised" in *Circulation Research*, 2007; 101(6); 533-535.



Li Zhang, PhD

[Li Zhang, PhD](#), associate professor, Department of Physiology and Center for Vascular and Inflammatory Diseases, co-published an article entitled "CD11b Facilitates the Development of Peripheral Tolerance by Suppressing Th17 Differentiation" in the *Journal of Experimental Medicine*, 204:1519-24, 2007 edition.

Paul A. Welling, MD

[Paul A. Welling, MD](#), professor, Department of Physiology, co-authored an article entitled "Renal Defects Associated with Improper Polarization of the CRB and DLG Complexes in MALS-3 Knockout Mice" in the *Journal of Cell Biology*, 2007; 179(1); 151-164.



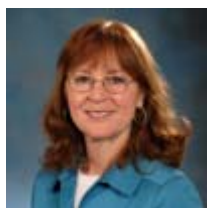
Stephen B. Liggett, MD

[Stephen B. Liggett, MD](#), professor, Departments of Medicine and Physiology, co-published an article entitled "Variable Length Poly-C Tract Polymorphisms of the b2-Adrenergic Receptor 3'UTR Alter Expression and Agonist Regulation" in the *American Journal of Physiology-Lung Cellular and Molecular Physiology*, Volume 294, Issue 2, February 2008.



Toni Antalis, PhD

[Toni Antalis, PhD](#), professor, Department of Physiology and Center for Vascular and Inflammatory Diseases, received a two-year \$100,000 grant from the Mary Kay Ash Foundation for her work entitled "Targeting Testisin as a Therapy for Ovarian Cancer."



Terez Shea-Donohue, PhD

[Terez Shea-Donohue, PhD](#), professor, Department of Medicine, received a competitively renewed five-year \$1.8 million R01 grant from the National Institute of Allergy and Infections Diseases for her work entitled "GI Nematodes & Gut Functional Responses to Inflammation."



Dudley Strickland, PhD

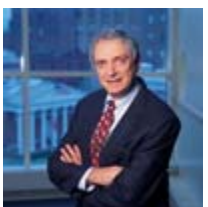
[Dudley Strickland, PhD](#), professor, Department of Surgery, and director, Center for Vascular and Inflammatory Diseases, received a five-year \$1,856,250 grant from National Institutes of Health for his work entitled "Regulation of Surface Receptors by LRP."

Events, Lectures & Workshops

Bradley E. Alger, PhD



[Bradley E. Alger, PhD](#), professor, Department of Physiology, was an invited speaker and session chair for the Gordon Research Conference entitled "Cannabinoid Function in the CNS" held in September 2007 in Les Diablertes, Switzerland. Additionally, Dr. Alger was also an invited speaker and session chair for the 17th Annual Neuropharmacology Conference entitled "Cannabinoid Signaling in the Nervous System" held in October 2007 in San Diego.



Mordecai P. Blaustein, MD

[Mordecai P. Blaustein, MD](#), professor, Departments of Physiology and Medicine, was an invited speaker at the University of Ottawa in September 2007 as part of the Frontiers in Heart Failure Research Distinguished Visiting Seminar series. His lecture was entitled "Salt Licks and Salt Tricks: How Salt Retention Causes Hypertension."

Dr. Blaustein also presented a lecture by the same name at the 2007 Mayerson-Di Luzio Lecture at Tulane University Health Sciences Center, which was co-sponsored by the Hypertension and Renal Center of Excellence at Louisiana State University and Tulane University's Department of Physiology

APS Inspirational Speaker Series. Additionally, in October 2007, Dr. Blaustein presented a seminar entitled "Endogenous Ouabain is Alive and Well (and Living in Baltimore)," at Washington University in St. Louis' Department of Cell Biology and Physiology.



Stephen B. Liggett, MD

[Stephen B. Liggett, MD](#), professor, Departments of Medicine and Physiology, was the featured speaker at the Merck Cardiovascular Research Retreat held in Red Bank, New Jersey, presenting "Polymorphisms within GPCR Pathways in Heart Failure Pathology and Pharmacogenomics."

Appointments



Stephen B. Liggett, MD

[Stephen B. Liggett, MD](#), professor, Departments of Medicine and Physiology, was appointed chair of the Molecular Mechanism Working Group in the Pharmacogenetic Research Network at the National Institutes of Health. Additionally, Dr. Liggett was selected to be on the editorial board of Clinical and Translational Science..

Honors & Awards



Bradley E. Alger, PhD

[Bradley E. Alger, PhD](#), professor, Department of Physiology, was elected conference co-chair for the 2009 Gordon Research Conference entitled "Cannabinoid Function in the CNS."