



# What's the buzz?

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

September 2008

## Publications

### Stephen B. Liggett, MD



[Stephen B. Liggett, MD](#), professor, Departments of Medicine and Physiology, co-published an article entitled "A G Protein-Coupled Receptor Kinase-5 Polymorphism that Inhibits  $\beta$ -Adrenergic Receptor Signaling is Protective in Heart Failure" in *Nature Medicine* in May 2008. Dr. Liggett also co-published an article entitled "Alternative Splicing of the G Protein-Coupled Receptor Superfamily in Human Airway Smooth Muscle Diversifies the Complement of Receptors" in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, April 1, 2008; vol. 105 No. 13 pages 5230-5235.

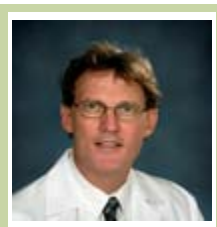
## Events, Lectures & Workshops

### Thomas Blanpied, PhD



[Thomas Blanpied, PhD](#), assistant professor, Department of Physiology, and a recent R01 National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) grantee, was one of four new NIMH investigators invited to present research at the 218th Meeting of the National Advisory Mental Health Council Open Policy Session in Bethesda, MD, in May 2008. Dr. Blanpied's R01 is entitled "Internal Dynamics of the Postsynaptic Density."

### Stephen B. Liggett, MD



[Stephen B. Liggett, MD](#), professor, Departments of Medicine and Physiology, was an invited speaker at the Johns Hopkins University Pediatric Pulmonary Research Conference in March 2008. His lecture was entitled "Unexpected Partners in GPCR Signaling in Airway Contraction/Relaxation Relevant to Asthma." Additionally, in April 2008, Dr. Liggett presented "Atypical Signal Switching Modulates Airway Contraction and Relaxation" at the Johns Hopkins University Asthma and Allergy Center, spoke at the Children's National Medical Center in Washington, DC, presenting "New Insights into Polymorphic Variation of the  $\beta$ 2-Adrenergic Receptor and  $\beta$ -Agonist Therapy," and presented a lecture on the "Pharmacogenomics of Asthma Treatment" at the Howard University College of Medicine.

## Loren P. Thompson, PhD



[Loren P. Thompson, PhD](#), associate professor, Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology & Reproductive Sciences, was an invited speaker at the International Conference on High Risk Pregnancy and Fetal Maternal Medicine in Xian, China, in May 2008. His lecture was entitled "Impact of the Adverse Intrauterine Environment on Fetal Growth and Organ Function."

## Alan Shuldiner, MD



[Alan Shuldiner, MD](#), Whitehurst Professor of Medicine, presented "Translating Type II Diabetes and Related Traits Whole Genome Association Studies" at the National Institutes of Health's Genes, Environment and Health Initiative Symposium on Translating Whole Genome Association Data into Clinical Practice in Bethesda, MD, in March 2008. Additionally, Dr. Shuldiner presented "Pharmacogenomics of Antiplatelet Agents" at the International Conference on Pharmacogenomics, in Busan, Korea, in April 2008.

## Grants & Contracts

## Margaret M. McCarthy, PhD



[Margaret M. McCarthy, PhD](#), professor, Department of Physiology, received a five-year \$1 million competing renewal National Institutes of Health pre-doctoral training grant from the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke for the "Training Program in Neuroscience."

## Stuart S. Martin, PhD



[Stuart S. Martin, PhD](#), assistant professor, Department of Physiology and Program in Oncology, received a two-year \$230,000 Maryland Stem Cell Exploratory Research Grant from the Maryland Technology Development Corporation for "Novel Therapies to Destroy Circulating Breast Tumor Stem Cells."

## H. Moo Kwon, PhD



[H. Moo Kwon, PhD](#), professor, Department of Medicine, received a five-year \$1.6 million competitive renewal R01 grant from the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases for his work entitled "Tonicity Signaling to TonEBP Transcription Factor."

## Appointments

### Stephen B. Liggett, MD



[Stephen B. Liggett, MD](#), professor, Departments of Medicine and Physiology, was inducted into the Interurban Clinical Club in Boston on April 4, 2008. Founded by Sir William Osler in 1906, the organization consists of physician investigators from Baltimore, Boston, Philadelphia, New Haven and New York.