



BIOSPHERE

The Weekly Bulletin of Biology

Biology Colloquium: Friday, 13 April 2012, 2:00 pm in CR 5125

“Hematopoietic Stem Cell Based anti-HIV Gene Therapy”

Dong Sung An, M.D., Ph.D.

School of Nursing, UCLA

New Publications

The journal *Public Library of Science One (PLoS One)* is publishing a paper by **Silvina M. Kroetz**, Jagan Srinivasan, **Jonathan Yaghoobian**, Paul W. Sternberg, and **Dr. Ray Hong**: “The cGMP signaling pathway affects feeding behavior in the necromenic nematode *Pristionchus pacificus*.”

Bulletin of the Southern California Academy of Sciences has published a paper from the lab of **Dr. Larry Allen**: “Discordant phylogeographic and biogeographic breaks in California halibut.” This work is largely an extension of earlier work on California halibut population genetics conducted by students in the Allen lab. DNA was extracted from archived samples.

Former grad student **Nick Colvard** and **Dr. Peter Edmunds** have a paper in *Journal of Experimental Marine Biology and Ecology*: “Decadal-scale changes in invertebrate abundances on a Caribbean coral reef.”

Jessica Beach, **Laura Nary**, **Yasuko Hirakawa**, **Eli Holland**, **Rebecka Hovanessian**, and **Dr. Rheem Medh** have

a paper in *Journal of Molecular Signaling*: “E4BP4 facilitates glucocorticoid-evoked apoptosis of human leukemic CEM cells via upregulation of Bim.”

Checklist for Pre-dental Students

—Poria Edalat

Hi Everyone.

I am a graduating senior at CSUN, and I was recently accepted into several dental schools. I have chosen to go to USC Dental School. Dr. Oppenheimer asked me to write a summary of things to consider prior to applying to dental school.

A high GPA in both science and non-science is very important. Most schools require consistency in your GPA, which means that your GPA should not fluctuate.

DAT scores are next in importance. I spent approximately 10 hours a day for two months last summer studying for the DAT. An important and very helpful website for students studying for the DAT is www.studentdoctor.net (pre-dent section).

When applying to dental schools, four recommendation letters are required. I

asked two science professors and two dentists.

Many dental schools also look for extracurricular activity and research. These are extremely important because they want to see that you are involved outside your classes.

I did 200 hours of volunteer work at a dental office as well as activities with other organizations, such as the Down Syndrome Association.

And I did research with Dr. Oppenheimer for two semesters. At three of my interviews they asked me about my research, so schools are very interested in this aspect of your experiences.

There are some helpful professors you can email as well if you have questions. Dr. Oppenheimer was able to help me a few times.

If you are a hardworking student, you will not have a problem getting into dental school. Just stay focused!

Biosphere: The Weekly Bulletin of Biology

Department of Biology
California State University, Northridge
Editors: Paul Wilson and Robert Espinoza
For past issues: www.csun.edu/biosphere