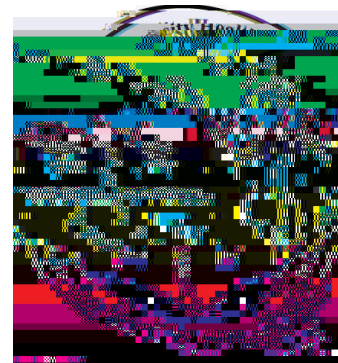




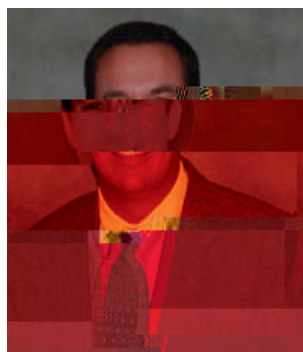
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The GPPS newsletter

Spring 2008 Issue 1



A word from Dr. Abbruscato



This is the first issue of the **Graduate Program in Pharmaceutical Sciences (GPPS) Newsletter**, "The Agonist", which will function to highlight the major activities of our graduate program on the beginning of the Fall and Spring semesters. It is designed to give information about past and upcoming events, news updates, Graduate Student Association of Amarillo activities and the latest contacts and updates from our graduates, and much more. We would like to first welcome two of our newest Graduate Students, John Thundyil (Dr. Arumugam's Lab) and Snehai Padhye (Dr. Wang's Lab), please see their bios in this issue. Also, we would like to welcome Merlin Morris, who has joined our graduate program office as the graduate student advisor. Merlin will be organizing this newsletter so please contact him (merlin.morris@ttuhsc.edu) for any news items or suggestions for this publication. I would also like to wish everyone a Happy New Year and best of luck in the upcoming Spring Semester.

Upcoming Events

TTUHSC Student Research Week

The 20th annual TTUHSC Student Research week will occur in Lubbock from March 11th through Friday the 14th. Student's are encouraged to present their research. Any student with original research is invited to participate. Fertilization is the theme for the we

Scholarships

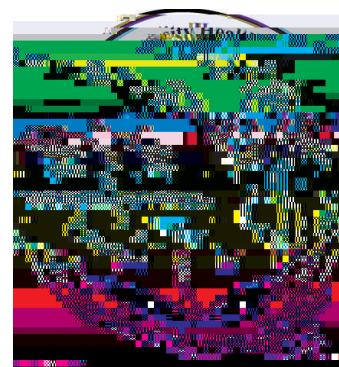
Amarillo Research Days and The Marsh Lecture

The 7th annual Research Days will take place June 4th -6th. It will be combined with the Marsh lecture. As in previous years; there will be podium presentations made by Pharmacy Science and Pharmacy Practice faculty, poster presentations, the annual dinner, and the awards ceremony. The Keynote speaker will be John Crabbe, Ph.D., Professor of Pharmacology & Behavioral Neuroscience at Oregon Health and Sciences University. The Marsh Lecture will be held Wednesday June 4th at 4p.m. in the Harrington Lecture hall. Another seminar is scheduled for Thursday, June 5th at noon.

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West Texas Chapter of the Society for Neuroscience

On December 7th, 60 scientists attended the West Texas Regional Society for Neuroscience meeting in Amarillo. This day-long meeting, which was externally funded by two grants obtained by the Amarillo organizers, brought together undergraduate and graduate students, post docs, and faculty from TTUHSC, TTU, University of Texas at El Paso, the Garrison Institute on Aging, and the South Plains Alcohol and Addiction Research Consortium. The meeting provided the opportunity to attend talks by internationally renowned researchers and to discuss research interests through informal conversations and poster presentations. Poster sessions were on the Blood Brain Barrier; Nicotine, Alcohol & Drugs of Abuse; Ischemia/Stroke and Epilepsy; and Alzheimer's Disease, Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis, and Learning. The guest speakers were:

Neuroscience and AAPS



Neuroscience 2007 Posters

Improved Left Ventricle Intracardiac Injection Method For Developing A Metastatic Tumor Model

K. Taskar, R. Mittapalli, V. Rudraraju, J. Egbert, K. Bohn, J. Gaasch, F. Thomas, P. Lockman, Q. Smith

From left to right graduate student Satya Goda, Dr. Julie Gaasch (GPPS Alumnus), and graduate students Kunal Taskar at Neuroscience

Slide Show: Neuroprotective effects of NGP1-01 after transient brain ischemia in mice
J. Hao, A. Mdzinarishvili, T. Abbruscato, J. Klein, C. J. Van Der Schyf, U. Bickel

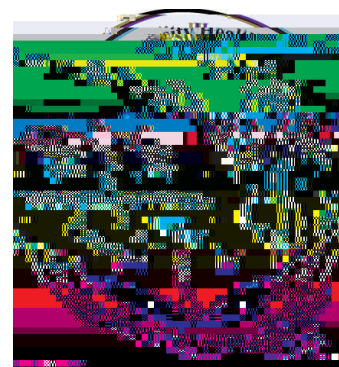
Permeability of D-[3H] glucose is decreased at the blood-brain barrier after chronic nicotine exposure
P. Lockman, **S. Vemula, T. Abbruscato, Q. Smith, D. Allen, V. Manda**

Nicotine alters the blood-brain barrier permeability of the HIV-protease inhibitor saquinavir
V. Manda, R. Mittapalli, W. Geldenhuys, Q. Smith, P. Lockman

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Neuroscience 2007 Posters

Characterization of the Ketogenic Diet in mice
K. Borges, **S. Seth-Willis**, **R. Samala**

Effects of phorbol ester on adenosinergic synaptic inhibition and recovery from energy deprivation in rat hippocampal slice
J. Fowler, **R. Sumbria**, G. Martinez

Metabolic adaptation of the blood brain barrier after oxygen deprivation (of) re.0007en deprivation (of) re.0007s, GnFowler, S Vemul 003 Tw 5

AAPS 2007 Posters

Aspirin Acetylates Multiple Cellular Proteins: Potential Novel Targets
L. Alfonso, J. Gunaje

Development and characterization of RGD anchored liposomes for targeting of low molecular weight heparin to venous thromboemboli
S. Bai, F. Ahsan

Pegylated dendrimeric micelles enhance pulmonary absorption and circulation time of low molecular weight heparin.
S. Bai, F. Ahsan

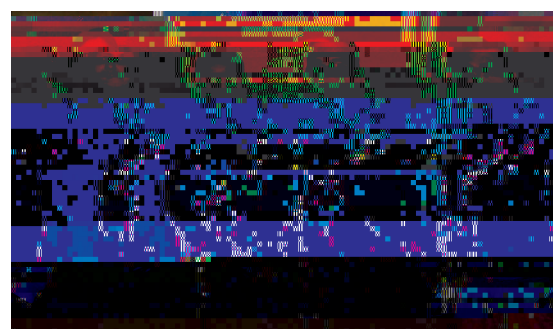
Chronic Nicotine Exposure Diminishes the Blood to Brain Transport of 3H -D-Glucose
T. Abbruscato D. Allen **J. Egbert** P. Lockman Q. Smith **S. Vemula**

A Computational Approach to Predict Blood Brain Barrier Permeability of Fluorescent Dyes
R. Mittapalli, A. Fitzgerald, **V. Manda**, P. Lockman,

Permeability of the Fluorophore Texas Red is not Subject to MRP-2 Medicated Efflux at the Blood Brain Barrier
R. Mittapalli, **V. Manda**, Q. Smith, P. Lockman

Formulation and Evaluation of Domperidone Rapidly Disintegrating Tablets
R. Mittapalli, M. Yamsani, P. Lockman,

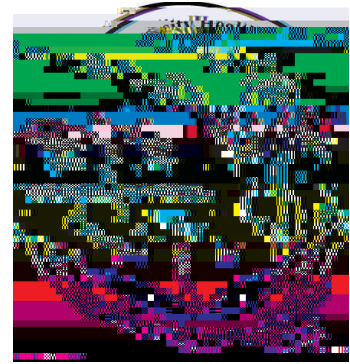
Effects of Diallyl Sulfide, a Garlic Constituent, on Warm Ischemia-Reperfusion Injury in Rat Livers
R. Mehvar, **I Shaik**



From left to right graduate student Ridhi Parasrampur, Post Doc Amit Rawat, and graduate students Vivek Gupta and Llyod Alfonso at AAPS.

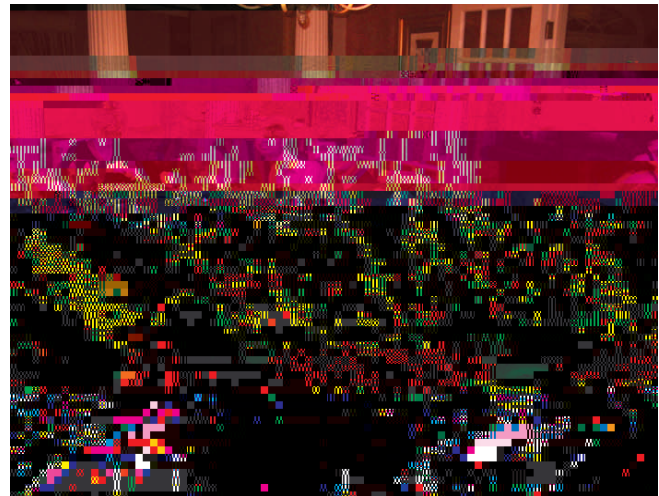
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As told by Kaci Bohn:

Our menu began with quiche as an appetizer, tomato bisque soup, sorbet to cleanse the palate, salad, and lastly two types of lasagna for the main course. The boys had to get up each time one of the girls left the table and had to be reminded to pull out the girl's chairs. Everyone learned the correct direction to scoop your soup with your spoon and the Indian students tried very hard to adapt to the American style of holding silverware. There were lots of laughs as we learned the do's and don'ts of proper eating!



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