

PharmTox Fights COVID-19

Week of April 26-30, 2021

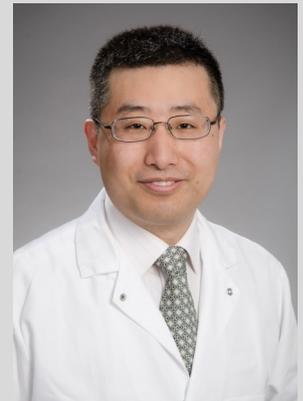
Catheryn Wilson Successfully Defends Dissertation



Congratulations to graduate student Catheryn Wilson on successfully defending on April 23 her PhD dissertation titled "Cannabimimetic and convulsant effects of synthetic cannabinoid receptor agonists, AB-PINACA, 5F-AB-PINACA, and 5F-ADB-PINACA in mice". Dr. Wilson's mentors are professor Paul Prather and associate professor William Fantegrossi. She joined the department in the Interdisciplinary Toxicology Graduate Program in 2015. Dr. Wilson's plans include returning to North Carolina to spend time with her family and she will begin a postdoctoral position at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill in July. Way to go, Dr. Wilson!

Welcome Dr. Huiliang Zhang

We are pleased to announce that Dr. Huiliang Zhang, an instructor in the Department of Laboratory Medicine and Pathology at the University of Washington - Seattle, will join our department as a tenure-track assistant professor in July, 2021. Dr. Zhang was chosen by our Faculty Search Committee headed by Dr. Prather to interview in our department for a faculty position just prior to the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic more than one year ago. Dr. Zhang is the principal investigator of an American Heart Association (AHA) Career Development Award, and has two R21 grants pending review at the NIH. He has 30 publications primarily related to ischemia-reperfusion injury in the heart, and the role of reactive oxygen species, mitochondrial dysfunction, and lipid overload in cardiac injury. He brings unique techniques to the department including sophisticated imaging of mitochondria *in vivo* using mito-specific indicators. He also has strong expertise in using many molecular methods and is interested in stem cell therapies for the aging heart. Dr. Zhang serves as a reviewer of AHA grants and a long list of journals. Welcome, Dr. Zhang!



Final Spring Seminars Arriving in May

- May 5: Elizabeth Byrnes, PhD (Associate Professor of Biomedical Sciences, Tufts University)
"Transgenerational effects of exposure to drugs of abuse"
- May 12: Steve Crowley, PhD (Professor of Nephrology, Duke University)
"Regulators of dendritic cell-mediated T cell activation in salt-sensitive hypertension"
- May 19: Theresa M. Carbonaro, Ph.D. (Pharmacology, US Department of Justice, DEA)
TBA
- May 26: Marco Pravetoni, Ph.D. (Associate Professor, Departments of Pharmacology and Medicine, Center for Immunology, University of Minnesota)
"Vaccines and antibody strategies to counteract opioid use disorders and overdose"