



Vieira Lab Newsletter



Lab Meeting Schedule

- **When: January 4, 2008**
Topic: AXIN2 is Associated with Orofacial Cleft Birth Defects in Families with Positive Family History of Cancer
Presenter: Renato Silva
- **When: January 18, 2008**
Topic: Studies with PDGFC and Clefts
Presenter: Sowmya Narayanan
- **When: February 1, 2007**
Where: Salk 403
Topic: TGFA-IRF6 Interaction in the etiology of non-syndromic oral clefts: genetic and biological evidence
Presenter: Ariadne Letra

Upcoming Events

- **January 3rd, 2007**
SDM Clinical Research Scholar Program Workshop

Journal Club Schedule

The Journal Club schedule for the New Year has not yet been finalized. The new schedule will be included in the January newsletter.

Journal Club meetings are held on the 5th Floor Conference room of the Bridgepoint Building. Contact us for directions!

Dental Registry and DNA Repository News

The Dental Registry and DNA Repository now has a total of 627 participants, all of whom were recruited at the School of Dental Medicine. This successfully high volume of recruitment (currently at an 87% compliance rate) and retention would not be possible without the continued help and dedication of the DRDR student volunteers.

Although this project began just over one year ago, there are twenty undergraduate student volunteers, five dental students, one high school student and two dentists who were attracted to the project's innovative qualities enough to inquire about volunteering on this research study. Each of these students brought their own unique characteristics and talents to the table. The students have spent their time by assisting the project manager with recruitment efforts, participating in lab work attending lab meetings and by helping with additional, individual projects. Altogether, they have dedicated 1,236 hours to the DRDR (154.5 working days). Among the students with most dedicated hours are Adam Perl (285 hours), Courtney McFadden (177 hours), Greg Fitzgerald (138 hours), Michelle McMeans (89.5 hours), Maria Ferraro (70 hours), and Eric Turner (62.5 hours). Among the dental students, Matt Gornick (21 hours) and Zach Pitcher (15 hours) have helped the most. Two of the undergraduates, Maria Ferraro and Purvy Shah, were recently accepted as dental students here at the School of Dental Medicine, while current dental student and past DRDR volunteer, Matt Gornick, has received his acceptance into the orthodontics residency program.

This holiday season, the Vieira Lab would like to take a moment to sincerely thank these wonderful students for their continued hard work and dedication to make the DRDR the success that it is today. A special thanks to Jason Ashcroft, Christine Chung, Maria Ferraro, Carly Fitzgerald, Greg Fitzgerald, Matt Gornick, Julie Gum, Tara Kennedy, Hyemi Kim, Sabrina Malik, Harjeet Mangat, Courtney McFadden, Michelle McMeans, Kevin McMinn, Kelsey Morris, Abimbola Olutimehin, Cathy Park, Adam Perl, Zach Pitcher, Katy Rosen, Krystal Russell, Earl Santos, Purvy Shah, and Eric Turner. Also, we thank Drs. Wajeeha Naz and Celia Sasaki for their work for the project.



For newsletter questions, comments or suggestions please e-mail Melissa Carp at mgc4@denal.pitt.edu

