Bjorn R. Olsen, MD, PhD, Receives the 2019 King Faisal Prize in Medicine

Dr. Bjorn R. Olsen, professor of Developmental Biology, was recently selected to receive the 2019 King Faisal Prize in Medicine on the topic of Bone Biology and Osteoporosis. On the left, he is shown as an aspiring 22-year-old medical student at the University of Oslo in Norway.

Olsen is awarded the 2019 King Faisal Prize in Medicine for his outstanding contributions to the field of bone biology. He has made a series of key genetic discoveries which have enhanced the understanding of bone development, and the basis of inherited skeletal disorders, including osteoporosis syndromes. These contributions have earned him international recognition and acclaim in the bone and osteoporosis fields. As a King Faisal Prize recipient, Olsen will travel to Saudi Arabia this Spring to receive this prestigious Award.

Gili Naveh, DMD, PhD, Receives the Eleanor and Miles Shore Fellowship

Dr. Gili Naveh, assistant professor of Oral Medicine, Infection and Immunity, was recently honored with an Eleanor and Miles Shore Fellowship Award for Scholars in Medicine. The Naveh Lab studies the structure–function relations in the periodontal ligament, in particular, and in ligaments in general. She aims to lead new discoveries in ligament and bone regeneration therapies as well as new approaches to generate controlled and predicted tooth movement.

Michael Baron Receives Research Award

Michael Baron, DMD candidate class of 2020, received the Student Research Training Award for his project, “Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Chief Residents’ Perception of Training Deficits” under the mentorship of John Tannyhill III MD, DDS. The Award is funded by a grant from the Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Foundation.
NEW RESEARCHERS

**SARAH BUI, MS**, is the new research assistant in the Department of Oral Health Policy and Epidemiology. Bui has a BS in Health Promotion and Disease Prevention Studies and an MS in Global Medicine from the University of California. At HSDM, she will provide research and programmatic support to HRSA-funded national centers – the National Center for the Integration of Primary Care and Oral Health and the National Center for Equitable Care for Elders.

**TAKEHITO OCHI, DDS, PHD**, originally from Shiga, Japan, joined the Yang Lab as a research fellow in the Department of Developmental Biology. Ochi graduated with a DDS from Tokyo Dental College and PhD from Keio University researching mesenchymal stem cells and neural crest stem cells with somatic cells and iPS cell technology in the Department of Physiology. In the Yang Lab, he will focus on the skeletal stem cells in the craniofacial region.

**JIACHEN LIN, PHD**, joined the Yang Lab as a visiting graduate student in the Department of Developmental Biology. Lin comes to HSDM from the Department of Orthopedics at Peking Union Medical College Hospital, Beijing China. He received his MD degree from Shanghai Jiao Tong University in 2017. Lin has been investigating the genetic causatives underpinning human congenital scoliosis. In the Yang Lab, he will focus on the role of WNT/PCP signaling in skeletal development.

**BO LI**, joined the Yang Lab as a visiting graduate student in the Department of Developmental Biology. Li comes from Chengdu, China. He is a doctoral student at the West China School of Stomatology, Sichuan University, majoring in Orthodontics. In the Yang Lab, Li is working on the mechanism of Enpp1 signaling in regulating osteoblast differentiation and calcification in the joint and blood vessels, as well as the role of Wnt/PCP signaling in cartilage development.

MEET THE GIBBS LAB

The Gibbs Lab is a translational research lab focused on the neurobiology of the dental pulp and dental pain. **Jennifer Gibbs** is an endodontist who completed her PhD in neuropharmacology and her dental training at the University of Texas Health Science Center. She is currently the Division Director of Endodontics at HSDM.

The Lab is studying the mechanisms by which bacterial products activate or sensitize sensory neurons. In a recently funded R56 award from NIDCR, they have identified pathways involving both transient potential ion channels and Toll-like receptors and are pursuing how these receptors interface in sensory neurons to produce bacterial mediated acute pain.

Another ongoing study is to understand how sensory neurons can influence dental pulp stem cells in the mediation of repair and regeneration in the dental pulp. This project was funded by a grant from the American Association of Endodontics Foundation (AAEF), (Michot & Gibbs Principal Investigators). The Lab is completing a pilot cohort study to identify potential risk factors for more intense, or prolonged pain after endodontic surgery. Coupled to this study is an effort at biomarker discovery to identify molecular cues that predict pain outcomes. This research is funded by the AAEF (Gibbs Principal Investigator).

Dr. Benoit Michot is a postdoctoral research fellow in the Gibbs Lab in the Department of Restorative Dental and Biomaterials Sciences. Benoit completed his PhD in Neuroscience at the University of Paris, and was previously a postdoctoral fellow with Dr. Gibbs at NYU. This will continue his project on the mechanisms by which LPS activates sensory neurons. Benoit is also studying the neural modulation of dental pulp stem cells, using CGRP as a prototypical neuropeptide that is highly expressed in dental pulp.

**Sharon Casey** is a Research Associate in the Gibbs Lab in the Department of Restorative Dentistry and Biomaterials Sciences. She completed her undergraduate degree at the University College Cork in Ireland and completed her Master’s in Clinical Research at NYU this past May. Casey has expertise at the bench and in clinical research and is a certified study coordinator.
HSDM PUBLICATIONS

DEVELOPMENTAL BIOLOGY


ORAL MEDICINE, INFECTION AND IMMUNITY


ORAL AND MAXILLOFACIAL SURGERY


MULTI-DEPARTMENTAL


continued on page 4
PUBLICATIONS

ORAL HEALTH POLICY AND EPIDEMIOLOGY


RESTORATIVE DENTISTRY AND BIOMATERIALS SCIENCES


SCIENCE SPEAKER SERIES

FEBRUARY 20, 2019 • 11AM-12PM
HSDM REB AUDITORIUM • 190 LONGWOOD AVENUE

KAREN LYONS, PHD
Professor of Molecular, Cell and Developmental Biology; Professor of Orthopedic Surgery, David Geffen School of Medicine, UCLA
“Novel Crosstalk Between TGFβR1 and ALK1 in the Growth Plate”

APRIL 24, 2019 • 11AM-12PM
HSDM REB AUDITORIUM • 190 LONGWOOD AVENUE

OPHIR KLEIN, PHD, MD
Professor of Orofacial Sciences and Pediatrics, Larry L. Hillblom Distinguished Professor in Craniofacial Anomalies, Charles J. Epstein Professor of Human Genetics, University of California, San Francisco
“Renewal and Plasticity in Oral Epithelia”

SAVE THE DATES

• HSDM RESEARCH DAY
April 9, 2019, 9am –3pm, Research Poster Sessions

• DR. DONALD B. GIDDON LECTURE
April 9, 2019, 12pm –1pm, Daniel Zlott, PharmD

• DR. PAUL GOLDBACHER LECTURE
April 10, 2019, 3pm–4pm, Paul Sharpe, PhD

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