



Spring 2015

Grants

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AGUIRRE



BROWN



FOSTER

GRANTS

Gustavo Aguirre, VMD, PhD, received a three-year, \$219,647 AGTC:rAAV5-hCNGB3 grant for *Gene Therapy for Achromatopsia: Safety and Efficacy in a Dog Model*. He also received a two-year, \$633,477 AGTC grant for a Gene Therapy Clinical Trial for RPGR-XLRP.

Michael Atchison, PhD, received a \$456,000 NIH/General Med R01-GM-111384 grant from September 2014 through August 2018 to study *The role of YY1 in constitutive and inducible DNA loop formation*.

Narayan Avadhani, PhD, received a five-year, \$1,000,000 NIH/1RO1 ARO67066-01 grant to study *Ahr and osteoporosis*.

Tracy Bale, PhD, received a two-year, \$279,998 NIH/Mental Health R21-MH-104184 grant for *Maternal stress and the vaginal microbiome: Impacts on brain development*.

William Beltran, DVM, PhD, received a five-year, NIH/NEI grant of \$1,180,215 (Penn Vet sub-award) for *Photoswitchable channel blockers for treatment of blindness*. This is a multi-institutional (University of Washington, University of California-Berkeley, and Penn Vet) project aimed at testing and selecting optochemical compounds for the treatment of patients with end stage retinal degeneration. The goal is to identify in small and large (dog) models photoswitches capable of rendering non-photoreceptor cells of the retina photosensitive; to select the best compound based on its efficacy and safety profiles; and to file an Investigational New Drug (IND) application to plan future clinical trials in human patients. The Beltran Lab will also collaborate with **Gustavo Aguirre, VMD, PhD**. Dr. Beltran also received a \$198,585 FDN Fighting Blindness grant from September 2014 through August 2017 for the subcontract *Development of Optogenetic tools with increased light sensitivity for vision*.

Kendra Bence, PhD, received a \$1,440,000 NIH-NIDDK grant for *Neuronal Protein Tyrosine Phosphatases in Metabolism*. The grant spans from September 2014 through June 2018.

Dorothy Brown, DVM, received a two-year, \$51,200 grant from AlcheraBio LLC for Clinical Study: A dose ranging study to evaluate the field safety and effectiveness of a single intra-articular injection of CNTX-4975 in companion animal dogs with chronic, moderate-to-severe stifle joint pain associated with osteoarthritis.

Gudrun Debes, DVM, received a one-year, \$47,244 grant from the American Association of Immunologists to study *The role of T cell egress from the effector site in regulating inflammation*.

JD Foster, VMD, received a one-year, \$12,000 grant from the American Kennel Club to fund the evaluation of Fenoldopam CRI effects on glomerular filtration rate and renal sodium excretion in normal dogs. The study will evaluate whether fenoldopam may be a beneficial therapy for dogs with acute kidney injury and decreased urine output. Project collaborators include **Kristen Kelly, DVM**, and **Kenneth Drobatz, DVM**.

Qi Fu, graduate student in the Laboratory of **P. Jeremy Wang, MD, PhD**, received a three-year, \$128,028 NIH/NICHD F31 grant to study *The function of MOV10L1 in piRNA biogenesis*.

Ciara Gimblet of the Laboratory of **Phillip Scott, PhD**, received a \$128,793 NIH/NIAID F31 grant from September 2014 through July 2017 for *Understanding the role of IL-22 in cutaneous leishmaniasis*.

Robert Greenberg, PhD, received a two-year, \$275,000 NIH R21-AI-112713 grant for *A strategy for point-of-care molecular detection of parasitic helminth infections*.

Ronald Harty, PhD, received a \$238,838 NIH R41 AI113952 grant to study *Development of Small Molecule Therapeutics Against RNA Viruses*. The grant spans from April 2015 through March 2016, and his collaborators include Penn Vet's **Bruce Freedman, VMD, PhD**, and Drs. Jay Wrobel and Allen Reitz of Fox Chase Chemical Diversity Center.

Brett Kaufman, PhD, received a \$1,740,000 NIH NIGMS grant from January 2014 through September 2019 for *Molecular mechanisms of mitochondrial DNA deletion formation*.

Rachael Kreisler, VMD, received a \$53,524 grant from the Stanton Foundation from January through December 2015. She was awarded the 'Next Gen' Career Development Canine Research Fellowship to study *Economic Reasons for Dog Surrender to Animal Shelters*. She will collaborate with **James Serpell, PhD**.

Michaela Kristula, DVM, received a one-year, \$20,581 grant from Merck Animal Health for a pilot assessment of four hydrogel teat sealant formulations in dairy cattle.



KRISTULA



LOPEZ



WANG

GRANTS CONTINUED

Carolina Lopez, PhD, received a four-year, \$1,000,000 NIH NIAID R01-A1083284 grant for *A Novel Virus-Derived Adjuvant*. She also received a one-year, \$43,680 grant from the American Association of Immunologists for *Molecular Mechanisms Behind the Potent Immunostimulatory Activity of Defective Viral Genomes*.

Nicola Mason, BVetMed, PhD, received a one-year, \$60,000 grant from Aratana Therapeutics for evaluation of AT-014 in the treatment of canine osteosarcoma.

Thomas Parsons, VMD, PhD, received a \$31,483 Commonwealth of PA-USDA Swine grant from July 2014 through September 2015 for *Enteric Coronavirus Disease Cooperative Agreement*. He also received a one-year, \$80,000 grant from the ASPCA for the research fellowship and welfare training at Penn Vet Swine, as well as a \$79,573 Kraft Food Group grant from November 2014 through May 2016 for *New tools for measuring welfare: Cognitive bias and sleep patterns in swine*. In addition, Dr. Parsons received a \$30,800 PA Soybean Promotion Board grant from February 2014 through March 2015 for *Anticipating the next welfare challenge: Optimizing controlled disease in loose housed sows*.

Shelley Rankin, PhD, received a five-year, \$75,000 U18-FD-005164 grant for *Companion Animal and Animal Food Diagnostic Sample Analysis in Support of FDA Vet-LIRN Activities and Investigations*.

Erica Reineke, VMD, received a one-year, ACVIM Foundation Clinical Investigation Seed Grant of \$9741.60 to focus on feline

dyspnea, emergency ultrasound, and B-natriuretic peptide. The study will evaluate the ability of an emergency cardiac ultrasound performed by veterinarians in the emergency room and a blood test B-natriuretic peptide to differentiate between cardiac and non-cardiac causes of dyspnea in cats. Project collaborators include **Mark Oyama, DVM**, and **Melanie Hezzell**, Resident in Veterinary Cardiology (co-PI), along with **Kenneth Drobatz, DVM**, and **Cassandra Ostroski, DVM** (co-investigators).

Phillip Scott, PhD, received a four-year, \$1,000,000 NIH R01 A1106842 grant for *Protective and Pathologic Roles for CD8+ T cells in Leishmaniasis*.

Makoto Senoo, PhD, received a \$352,000 (FY2014) NIH/NIAMS grant to study *Intrinsic and extrinsic regulation of epidermal stem cells*. The grant spans from July 2014 through June 2019.

Bernard Shapiro, PhD, received a one-year, \$144,000 NIH/Child Health and Human R01-HD-061285-05S1 grant for *Hormonal Imprinting Predetermines Developmental Expression of Cytochrome P450s*.

Charles Vite, DVM, PhD, received a \$36,800 NIH/NINDS grant from October 2014 through March 2015 for *Novel Therapies for Globoid Cell Leukodystrophy*. It is a sub-contract with Washington University.

P. Jeremy Wang, PhD, MD, received a \$780,000 NIH/NIGMS R01-GM089893 grant from August 2014 through April 2018 for *Regulation of meiotic recombination in mice*.