Academic Retreat and Wu Lectureship

Thursday, October 15, 2015
Columbia University, Low Library
About the Retreat and Wu Lecture

This is the eighteenth year of the annual IHN Retreat, held in Columbia University's majestic Low Rotunda. In addition to a Keynote Wu Lecture by a renowned international expert in nutrition science, presentations of IHN's leading-edge work are given by students, post-doctoral fellows and faculty. This year’s Wu Lecturer is Charles N. Serhan, PhD, DSc.

Two awards are also presented at the Retreat. The first is the Marija Chouinard Award for Outstanding Research Presentation, which honors the memory of Dr. Chouinard, PhD, a former Nutritional and Metabolic Biology PhD student and post-doctoral fellow at the Russ Berrie Center. The award and an honorarium are given to a doctoral student or post-doctoral fellow who delivers the top research presentation at the retreat.

The second award is the Bernard F. Erlanger Award for Excellence in Research will be presented for the fourth time. This award and honorarium was established in 2012 by the IHN in honor of the late Dr. Erlanger’s commitment to education, mentoring and research. It is presented annually to a recent graduate of the Nutritional and Metabolic Biology PhD program, in recognition of outstanding research and achievement during their graduate training, their quality of their thesis, and the thesis defense. The recipient presents a short talk during the Retreat.
Charles N. Serhan is the Simon Gelman Professor of Anaesthesia (Biochemistry and Molecular Pharmacology) at Harvard Medical School and Professor of Oral Medicine, Infection and Immunity at HSDM. Since 1995, he has served as the Director of the Center for Experimental Therapeutics and Reperfusion Injury at Brigham and Women’s Hospital.

Professor Serhan received his bachelor of science degree in biochemistry from Stony Brook University and went on to receive the doctorate in experimental pathology and medical sciences from New York University School of Medicine. From 1981-86, he was a visiting scientist at the Karolinska Institutet, Stockholm and post-doctoral fellow with Professor Bengt Samuelsson. In 1987 he joined the faculty at Harvard and in 1996 he received an honorary degree from Harvard University.

Dr. Serhan received several awards and honors including an NIH MERIT Award (2000), the MacArthur Research Service Award (2003), and the Outstanding Scientist Award in Inflammation Research at BioDefense (2004). He delivered the 2005 Kreshover Lecture at NIH and in 2007 received the Dart/New York University Biotechnology Outstanding Achievement Award. In 2008 he delivered the Sir John Vane Memorial Lecture and received the William Harvey Outstanding Scientist Medal.

In 2010, Dr. Serhan delivered the Kern Lecture “In recognition of outstanding research on lipids” at the Kern Lipid Conference. He also received the Society for Leukocyte Biology 2010 Bonazinga Award for “excellence in leukocyte biology research, the highest honor that the society can bestow”. Dr. Serhan was elected to the rank of AAAS fellow in 2010. In 2011, he delivered the Lawrence Tabak Lectureship for excellence in Oral Biology at the University of Rochester “in recognition of contributions to the field of inflammation and new therapeutic approaches to promote resolution”. Professor Serhan is author of 505 publications, 5 books, and over 463 US patents.
Agenda

8:30 AM    Breakfast, Low Library Rotunda

9:00 AM    Welcoming Remarks
            Richard Deckelbaum, MD and
            Robert Schwabe, MD

9:10 AM    Jackie Lerea
            Mentor, Lori Zeltser, PhD
            Early intervention in a mouse model of childhood
            obesity

9:30 AM    Bryan Gonzalez
            Mentor, Dietrich Egli, PhD
            Stem-cell-derived beta-cells to model diabetes
            due to HNF1a deficiency

9:50 AM    LiJuan Zhang, MD
            Mentor, Stephen Tsang, MD, PhD
            Glucose and amino acid metabolism in
            photoreceptor neurons

10:10 AM   Coffee Break, Low Library Rotunda

10:30 AM   Shauna Downs, PhD
            Mentors Jessica Fanzo, PhD, Glenn Denning,
            PhD, and Richard Deckelbaum, MD
            Reducing trans fat in the Indian food supply: A
            food systems approach

10:50 AM   Introduction to the Wu Lectureship
            Richard Deckelbaum, MD

11:00 AM   18th Annual Wu Lectureship
            Charles N. Serhan, PhD, DSc
            Novel Mediators in the Resolution of
            Infectious Inflammation that Stimulate Tissue
            Regeneration

12:00 PM   Lunch and Discussions, Low Library Rotunda
1:00 PM  **Elizabeth Millings**  
Mentor, Rudolph Leibel, MD  
*Investigating the role of ILDR2 in hepatic steatosis and ER stress*

1:20 PM  **Jessica Napolitano, PhD**  
Mentor, Mary Gamble, PhD  
*Analysis of nutrient markers and arsenic metabolism in a population of US adults*

1:40 PM  **Changyu Zhu**  
Mentor, Utpal Pajvani, MD, PhD  
*The role of hepatocyte Notch signaling in the progression of Non-Alcoholic Steatohepatitis*

2:00 PM  **Diego Scerbo**  
Mentor, Ira Goldberg, MD  
*The role of KLF5 in obesity and diabetes associated inflammation*

2:20 PM  Coffee Break, Low Library Rotunda

2:40 PM  **Presentation of the Bernard F. Erlanger Award for Excellence in Research**  
**Dianne Dapito, PhD**  
Mentor, Robert Schwabe, MD  
Award presentation by Debra Wolgemuth, PhD

3:10 PM  **Liza Pon, PhD**, Nutritional and Metabolic Biology Training Faculty Member  
*Role for lipid droplet biogenesis and microlipophagy in adaptation to lipid imbalance*

3:40 PM  **Narek Israelyan, MS**  
Mentor, Kara Gross-Margolis, MD  
*Selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRIs) have critical and long-lasting effects on enteric nervous system development and gastrointestinal function*  
Introduction by Sally Lederman, PhD
4:00 PM  Presentation of the Marija Chouinard Award for an Outstanding Research Presentation at the Institute of Human Nutrition’s Annual Retreat
Award presentation by Richard Deckelbaum, MD and Rudy Leibel, MD

4:20 PM  Location change to Lerner Hall

4:30 PM  Wine and Cheese Reception, Lerner Hall

6:00 PM  Retreat Adjourned

Previous Marija Chouinard Award Recipients

2006
Jill Carmody
Hua Lin

2007
Sonia Hernandez
Caryn Shechtman

2008
Kalyani Bharadwaj, PhD
Aliki Kosteli

2009
Sonia Gulati
Rebecca Haeusler, PhD

2010
Andrew Muncaski, PhD
James Papizan

2011
Hongxia Ren, PhD
Liheng Wang, MD

2012
Haiquing Hua, PhD
Katherine Wert

2013
Chad Trent
Roxanne Dutia, PhD

2014
Lisa Burnett
Joanne Hsieh, PhD
The Marija Chouinard Award for an Outstanding Research Presentation

Marija Chouinard was a graduate student in the Institute of Human Nutrition at Columbia University from 1999-2005, earning a PhD with distinction for her thesis on *Positional Cloning of Genes Modifying Susceptibility to Type 2 Diabetes in Obese Mice*.

In 2004 she married Roland Chouinard, another graduate of the IHN PhD program. She continued her work on her PhD project as a postdoctoral fellow in the Division of Molecular Genetics, in the Department of Pediatrics, supported by a Ruth K. Kirschstein National Research Service NIH Award. Marija died on July 25, 2006 following the birth of her daughter, Lily.

Outside of biology, Marija was interested in physics, music and poetry. She was an accomplished pianist and had performed publicly. She will be remembered for her intelligence, curiosity, modesty, generosity, grace, commitment, tolerance, and kindness.

Marija had accomplished great things with her work on the molecular genetics of Type 2 Diabetes in mice and was header for greater accomplishments. She was intellectually intrepid and enormously energetic. She was exemplary as an emerging, outstanding original scientific investigator who was respected and liked by all.

Each year, the Institute of Human Nutrition and the Division of Molecular Genetics in the Department of Pediatrics presents the Marija Chouinard Award for an Outstanding Research Presentation to the best presentation at the annual IHN Retreat.