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**ROBERT WOOD JOHNSON
MEDICAL SCHOOL**
University of Medicine & Dentistry of New Jersey

UMDNJ-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School / Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey / Princeton University MD/PhD Program

MD/PhD colloquia meetings

Room C-207

Tuesdays at 5pm

- **Sept. 18** *Annual Program Student Meeting*
- **Oct. 23**
- **Nov. 13**
- **Dec. 11**
- **Jan. 22**
- **Feb. 19**
AT CINJ, New Brunswick
- **March 11**
- **April 22**
- **May 27**

FUTURE DATES

2007/08 Recruitment days!
Friday, November 9, 2007
Friday, December 7, 2007
Friday, January 11, 2008

Welcome to our new students

We would like to welcome our six new students to the MD/PhD program.

Timothy Arlow graduated from Syracuse University in 2007 and did his first rotation before matriculation in the Murphy lab at Princeton.

Eric Chen graduated from Dartmouth College in 2006 and also did a pre-matriculation rotation in the Kang lab.

Christiaan R. de Vries graduated from Rutgers University and then spent some time at the NIH before joining the program, he rotated in the Lattime laboratory at the CINJ.

Clifton Fulmer graduated from

The College of New Jersey.

Bekah Gensure graduated from Boston University and joins us from Pittsburgh Pa.

Gerard Limerick is a graduate of Oakwood College and spent the summer in the laboratory of Estella Jacinto, one of our new program faculty members at RWJMS.

We look forward to your contributions to our program!



Timothy Arlow (right) receives his white coat from Program director Terri Goss Kinzy PhD at the RWJMS White Coat Ceremony Friday, August 10.

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MD/PhD Symposium at Rutgers University

UMDNJ-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School held its third annual MD/PhD program symposium August 2 at the Life Sciences Building, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey. Peter S. Amenta, MD, PhD, interim dean of Robert Wood Johnson Medical School opened the symposium along with Terri Goss Kinzy, PhD, Assistant Dean for Medical Scientist Training and MD/PhD pro-

gram director and Lori Covey, PhD, Rutgers liaison to the UMDNJ-RWJMS MD/PhD program. Samuel S-H Wang, PhD gave the keynote address discussing state of the art microscopic approaches to observe brain activity at a single-synapse level.

"The MD/PhD program is developing the next generation of medical and scientific leadership," explains Dr. Amenta. "I

am very proud of our students and their faculty mentors."

The symposium provided the MD/PhD candidates the opportunity to present their research findings to their peers, faculty advisors, administrators and invited guests. Overall, 13 research projects were presented and topics ranged from a computer-assisted quantification system for cancer markers to stem cells and biomaterials.



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Princeton University

THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW JERSEY
RUTGERS



**GRADUATE SCHOOL OF
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Perry Dominguez, Program Coordinator

http://www2.umdnj.edu/gsbpsweb/md_phd_program/index.htm

The MD/PhD program logo at the right, designed by M2 student Jean-Paul Abbond, reflects the many aspects of our MD/PhD program and the physician scientist. Today's health care and health sciences environment provides a compelling argument for combining a medical degree with a PhD. The logo reflects a few of the many scientific options available to our students, while also highlighting the integration of the physician role. These many facets of science and medicine center around a representative of the patient and society, as a symbol of service provided by the integration of the two disciplines. Graduates of the MD/PhD program are uniquely prepared to become leaders in biomedical research and academic medicine. The MD/PhD program at UMDNJ Robert Wood Johnson Medical School offers the opportunity for longitudinal integrated studies and interdisciplinary PhD training at any one of the three cooperating institutions: RWJMS, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey or Princeton University.



Milestones and Kudos

Alumni Drapkin, Ronny I., M.D., Ph.D.

My latest news is that I finally moved into the newly renovated laboratories in the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute-Jimmy Fund Building. I recently joined the faculty as an Assistant Professor of Pathology at Harvard Medical School and the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute & Brigham and Women's Hospital (DFCI/BWH) Center for Molecular Oncologic Pathology. It is exciting to set-up the lab and hire people. The focus of my research is on women's cancers, specifically gynecological malignancies.

Congrats to our five newly minted PhD's

Modulation of regulatory T cells overcomes systemic anergy to tumor-associated antigen and enhances the

antitumor effects on recombinant vaccinia virus vaccines

Emmanuel M. Gabriel Ph.D.

Factors affecting chromosomal rearrangements at DNA double strand breaks in *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*

Natasha Adelle Telesford Ph.D.

The role of stability and sequence specificity for tropomyosin binding to actin

Abhishek Singh Ph.D.

An assessment of plasticity: adult bone marrow stromal cells and fetal amnion-derived stem cells

Akiva J. Marcus Ph.D.

Functional characterization of the autism-associated gene, engrailed2, during postnatal cerebellar granule neuron development

Ian Rossman Ph.D.

Perry's Pearls:

Quick Reminder! All PhD-phase students are required to form a Research Advisory Committee with whom they must meet annually. This is one topic that will come up in your annual meeting with the program leadership. The intended format of this meeting is for the student to present:

An overview of his/her thesis project;

Progress since the last Research Advisory Committee meeting; and

Proposed work for the next one-year period.

Effective September 1, 2008 and in subsequent years, the GSBS at RWJMS will not allow fall registration by those students who have not held their annual meeting before August 31. Rutgers is . However, all students will tell you the benefits of these meetings. Please provide me with a copy of your forms when you complete your meetings.

-Perry Dominguez