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KINES NEWS

DIRECTOR’S CORNER

I should like to take the opportunity of my December newsletter to wish everyone a very happy Christmas and all success and health in 1999. I know this has been a very busy semester for everybody and the semester end has proven to be no less hectic.

One interviewee for our vacant position has already visited Simon Fraser University and two further interviewees are due to arrive during the week of December the 14th. I hope to be able to have a special School Meeting on Tuesday, December 22nd in order to discuss these applications.

While this has been a tight schedule, I think that it was a better proposition than leaving the interviews until after the Christmas break when everyone would be preparing for the new semester.

Don’t forget to attend the Kinesiology Christmas lunch on Thursday, December 10th at 11:00 a.m.

John Dickinson

FACULTY, ADJUNCTS & GRAD STUDENTS

Congratulations to GLEN TIBBITS on his achievement in being appointed to NSERC’s Grant Selection Committee for Animal Physiology.

While on study leave, DAN WEEKS and colleague, Digby Elliot at McMaster University submitted a grant proposal entitled, “Perceptual and motor behaviour in down syndrome,” to the US National Institute of Health. They received word recently that the $908,000 (Cdn) grant has been recommended for funding pending final approval from the US Senate. Co-investigators on the project include: HAL WEINBERG (Professor emeritus) and Eric Roy (Waterloo), as well as former student, Romeo Chua (Alberta), Shannon Robertson (Arizona State), and Brian Maraj (Louisiana State).

CHRISTINE MACKENZIE has heard that she has been awarded $715,000 over a 5-year period as an NSERC Strategic Grant. The collaborators on this project are Kellogg S. Booth from Computing Science Department at UBC, John Dill and Shahram Payandeh from Engineering Science at SFU and Kori Inkpen of Computing Science at SFU. This team will design and implement an enhanced virtual hand laboratory with integrated graphic audio and haptic displays and controls. Industrial partners include: Northern Digital Inc., International Telepresence (Canada) Inc., DSI Datatech Inc., International Submarine Engineering Ltd., Credo Interactive Inc., Mainframe Entertainment Inc., Infusion Systems, Radial Entertainment and Sun Microsystems.

DIANE FINEGOOD was an invited speaker at the Second International Symposium at Ajou University Institute for Medical Sciences on recent advances in diabetes research on November the 12th, 1998 at Suwon, South Korea. Her lecture was, “Beta cell mass dynamics and the pathogenesis of diabetes mellitus.” Diane also reports that the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation International has joined forces with the Medical Research Council of Canada in a funding program of diabetes research groups. She is directing a group of investigators from Vancouver, Alberta and Ontario who successfully passed the letter of intent stage for this network competition. She anticipates that the budget for this group proposal will be approximately $800,000 per year for 3 years. Her final application is due in Ottawa on January 15th.

In November, ANDY HOFFER reported on the collaborative research that he did at the Karolinska Institute earlier this year. This report was at two
meetings, the Doug Stewart Satellite Symposium on Motor Control in Tucson and the Society for Neuroscience Annual Meeting in Los Angeles.

ERIC ACCILI has been awarded an SFU President’s Research Grant worth $10,000. This award is for new and recently qualified faculty members for funds to help them initiate their research program and to enhance the likelihood of their attracting external funds.


A TV program featuring the EPU hyper/hypobaric chamber was aired on the Discovery Channel December 3rd and 6th on the show @discovery.ca. It featured some of the decompression eye bubble work developed by GAVRIL MORARIU (and Drs LEPAWSKY and Strath) and its possible use to help develop decompression schedules for Astronaut spacewalks (future work by the above with ANDREW BLABER.)

**DEFENCES**

**Successful defences:**

GAYLE HEINRICH M.Sc.
November 20th
Title: Learning a horizontal arm manipulandum task: the influence of visual feedback conditions and presentation order

LI ZHANG M.Sc.
November 24th
Title: Proliferation, differentiation and apoptosis in human oral premalignant and malignant lesions.

**Pending defences:**

December 18th at 9:30 a.m. in ASB 9896
DAN ROBINSON Ph.D.
The dynamic response of the seated human mechanical shocks

December 23rd 10 a.m. in Kines seminar room
K-JOHN CHEUNG M.Sc.
Comparison of LOH profile of oral premalignant lesions from low-risk sites with those from high risk sites.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**THIS WEEK!**

**Kines Christmas Luncheon**

Thursday, December 10th
Belcarra Room, Diamond Club
11:00 a.m.
Cost: Approx $16 (drinks extra)
Available Seating: 40

**NOTE:** Payment is to be made on the day of the dinner, with each person making payment for their bill directly to the DUC.

**Happy Holidays Everyone!**

Please submit your news items to: dickinso@sfu.ca / lazarosfu.ca