It’s been a busy few months for the Department staff, so we’re a little behind in sharing news. We’re looking forward to getting fully staffed again to serve you better! To that end, I’m pleased to announce that after a long search process, we finally have a successor to Danae. Natasha Coen will start work as our new Program Associate next Friday (9/26). Please stop by to introduce yourself and welcome her. Natasha comes to us all the way from California, where she received a BA from UCLA. She moved to Tallahassee this summer to join her fiancée, a new graduate student in the Clinical Psychology program at FSU.

In other staffing news, we continue to search for a new Academic Specialist. We are accepting applications through tomorrow and hope to start interviewing candidates soon.

Our department has had a productive summer and here’s the proof!

*Brett Mulvey, Ursula Olcese, and Janel Cabrera of the Horabin lab published a paper on long non-coding RNAs in *BBA Gene Regulatory Mechanisms*.

*Branko Stefanovic was issued a patent for “Compositions and Methods for Inhibiting Collagen Production”.

*James Olcese and Stephen Beesley have published a paper titled “Clinical significance of melatonin receptors in the human myometrium” in *Fertility and Sterility*. 
*James Olcese, Gina O’Neal-Moffitt, and Sanjay Kumar have published “GENETIC DELETION OF MT1/MT2 MELATONIN RECEPTORS ENHANCES MURINE COGNITIVE AND MOTOR PERFORMANCE” in *Neuroscience.*

*Mike Blaber’s paper ”Evolution and design of protein structure by folding nucleus symmetric expansion” has been accepted by *Structure.*

*Mike Blaber’s paper entitled “Mutation Choice to Eliminate Buried Free Cysteines in Protein Therapeutics”, which was recently accepted for publication in *JPharmSci,* was selected by the Guest Editors for inclusion in the “Two Decades of Publishing Excellence in Biotechnology” Special Issue.

*Cathy Levenson and Tom Morgan had a paper “A gold nanoparticle pentapeptide-gene fusion to induce targeted gene expression in mesenchymal stem cells” published in the *Journal of the American Chemical Society.*

*Cindy Vied and Richard Nowakowski have published “A multi-resource data integration approach: identification of candidate genes regulating cell proliferation during neocortical development” in *Frontiers in Neuroscience.*

*The Megraw lab has had three recent publications:

Mother centrioles do a cartwheel to produce just one daughter.
Chen JV, Megraw TL.

Spermitrin: a novel mitochondrial protein in Drosophila spermatids
Chen JV, Megraw TL.
PLOS ONE, in press.

Drosophila pericentrin requires interaction with calmodulin for its function at centrosomes and neuronal basal bodies but not at sperm basal bodies.
Galletta BJ, Guillen RX, Fagerstrom CJ, Brownlee CW, Lerit DA, Megraw TL, Rogers GC, Rusan NM.

*Sanjay Kumar was issued US Patent #8722403: “Brain Specimen Preservation Chamber and Method”.*

*Graduate student Saad Abbasi’s paper with Sanjay Kumar-Regular-spiking cells in the presubiculum are hyperexcitable in a rat model of Temporal Lobe Epilepsy- accepted in *Journal of Neurophysiology* [In Press; PMID: 25210155]*


*Our first Spotlight on Science video featuring Dan Kaplan has gone live on our Ph.D. Admissions page: [http://med.fsu.edu/index.cfm?page=phdAdmissions.home](http://med.fsu.edu/index.cfm?page=phdAdmissions.home)*
Did you know?

The Department has an active social media presence. We’re currently on Twitter and Facebook and will be expanding soon to other networks. If you have ideas or would like to contribute, please let me (Tiffany) know. I’m always looking for new content and pictures. You can check us out here:

https://www.facebook.com/FSUBMS

https://twitter.com/  (@FSUBiomed)

Thanks for taking the time to read this. If you have any news to share, please let me know!