

LIVER DIGEST

June 9, 2023

A bi-weekly update of PLRC happenings



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• Funding Opportunities

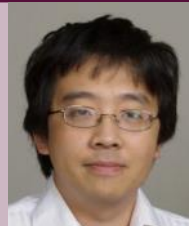
• Announcements

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• Want Ads :

- Open positions posted
- Jobseekers CV/resumes posted

FACULTY HIGHLIGHT



PLRC members **Bokai Zhu, PhD** and GSBC Core Co-director **Silvia Liu, PhD** publish an article in *Frontiers in Physiology* entitled, "**Preservation of ~12-h ultradian rhythms of gene expression of mRNA and protein metabolism in the absence of canonical circadian clock**".

[Zhu B, Liu S. 2023 May 2:2023.05.01.538977. doi: 10.1101/2023.05.01.538977. PMID: 37205336; PMCID: PMC10187213.](#)

Introduction: Besides the ~24-h circadian rhythms, 12-h ultradian rhythms of gene expression, metabolism and behaviors exist in animals ranging from crustaceans to mammals. Three major hypotheses were proposed on the origin and mechanisms of regulation of ~12-h rhythms, namely, that they are not cell-autonomous and controlled by a combination of the circadian clock and environmental cues, that they are regulated by two anti-phase circadian transcription factors in a cell autonomous manner, or that they are established by a cell-autonomous ~12-h oscillator.

Methods: To distinguish among these possibilities, we performed a *post hoc* analysis of two high temporal resolution transcriptome dataset in animals and cells lacking the canonical circadian clock.

Results: In both the liver of BMAL1 knockout mice and *Drosophila* S2 cells, we observed robust and prevalent ~12-h rhythms of gene expression enriched in fundamental processes of mRNA and protein metabolism that show large convergence with those identified in wild-type mice liver. Bioinformatics analysis further predicted ELF1 and ATF6B as putative transcription factors regulating the ~12-h rhythms of gene expression independently of the circadian clock in both fly and mice.

Discussion: These findings provide additional evidence to support the existence of an evolutionarily conserved 12-h oscillator that controls ~12-h rhythms of gene expression of protein and mRNA metabolism in multiple species.

Please acknowledge all support from the PLRC in your publications and presentations. Note the grant number and all CORES used. (NIH/NIDDK P30DK120531)

Please continue to share your relevant accolades (grants, publications, awards and other news worthy items) with us, as it relates to the PLRC mission, so we can share with all of our members.

Visit the PLRC website (www.livercenter.pitt.edu) for up-to-date news, and upcoming seminar and event information. Contact Aaron Bell (bellaaro@pitt.edu) if you have specific questions or suggestions.

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FACULTY HIGHLIGHT

Dr. Kari Nejak-Bowen, PLRC Enrichment Director, and **Dr. Paul Monga**, PLRC Director, coauthored a



review article in Hepatology entitled "*Wnt- β -catenin in hepatobiliary homeostasis, injury, and repair*"

Nejak-Bowen K, Monga SP. Hepatology. 2023 May 30. doi: 10.1097/HEP.0000000000000495. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 37246413.

Abstract: Wnt- β -catenin signaling has emerged as an important regulatory pathway in liver, playing key roles in zonation and mediating contextual hepatobiliary repair after injuries. In this review, we will address the major advances in understanding the role of Wnt signaling in hepatic zonation, regeneration, and cholestasis-induced injury. We will also touch upon some important unanswered questions, and discuss the relevance of modulating the pathway to provide therapies for complex liver pathologies that remain a continued unmet clinical need.

PLRC SEMINARS

• June 13 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm @ S123 BST



CORE

****HSLBC
Workshop ****
**HUMAN
SYNTHETIC
LIVER
BIOLOGY**



Alex Soto-Gutierrez

Alina Ostrowska

Live In-person Workshop presenting the unique and innovative resources available to PLRC

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Human Liver Tissue and Hepatocytes Resource-Related Research Project (R24Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

RFA-DK-23-012 NIH/NIDDK

The purpose of this Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) is to support a Human Liver Tissue and Hepatocytes Research Resource (HLTHRR) program to enable the continued availability of human liver tissue and hepatocytes to biomedical researchers. The research resource is expected to facilitate the procurement and preservation of human liver tissue and hepatocytes as well as the distribution of these materials to qualified biomedical researchers

Early Identification and Diagnosis of Non-Alcoholic Steatohepatitis (NASH) in At-Risk Populations.

This competitive program seeks to encourage organizations to submit grant applications for independent educational activities focused on healthcare professionals involved in the management of patients at risk for NASH.

Potential applicants are encouraged to identify and address the educational needs of healthcare professionals, with a focus on general practitioners and non-liver specialists, to increase the awareness of NASH for at-risk patients.

PFIZER, Inc Opp ID: 7b662cf9-78f0-471b-8e58-f2f1552f7976

NOT-AG-23-008: Notice of Special Interest: Administrative Supplements for HIV/AIDS and Aging Research
(nih.gov) Due Date: May 22nd

Notice of Special Interest (NOSI): Administrative Supplements for Research on Sexual and Gender Minority (SGM) Populations (Admin Supp Clinical Trial Optional): <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/not-od-22-032.html>

Notice of Special Interest (NOSI): Research on the Health of Sexual and Gender Minority (SGM) Populations: <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/not-md-22-012.html>

Notices of Intent to Publish:

NOT-DK-23-006 Notice of Intent to Publish a funding Opportunity Announcement for A Consortium for Gut-Brain Communication in Parkinson's Disease (U01 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

NOT-DK-23-007 Notice of Intent to Publish a Funding Opportunity Announcement for A Consortium for Gut-Brain Communication in Parkinson's Disease (U24 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

NOFOs:

RFA-DK-22-023 Ancillary Studies to the NIDDK Inflammatory Bowel Disease Genetics Consortium

(R01 Clinical Trial Not Allowed) Next Due Date: November 8, 2023.

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FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

To see all NIH Grants sorted by week, please visit: [NIH Guide: 2023](#)
Or click below for recent weeks:

Week of: [May 26:](#) [Jun 2:](#) [Jun 9:](#)

[Click here](#) for all current [NIDDK](#) Funding opportunities

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- [Communityliveralliance.org](#)
DeLIVERing HOPE campaign: Liver Disease Awareness
Fresh-a-Fare Fundraiser @ Jamison lamb Farm in Latrobe



- **NIDDK Data Management & Sharing (DMS) Webinar Series.:**

The National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK) is excited to announce the **NIDDK Data Management & Sharing (DMS) Webinar Series**. This multi-part series will provide education and outreach to the NIDDK scientific community about data management and sharing topics. For more info and to register, visit [NIDDK DMS webpage](#).

- * The first webinar (**April 25, 2023, 12-1pm ET**), "Writing a DMS Plan," will provide an overview of DMS planning and highlight resources, including NIDDK-specific guidance and tools, that are available to investigators. In addition, participants will learn how data librarians can help investigators manage their data throughout the data life cycle and how one institution is supporting their investigators.
- * The second webinar (**May 31, 2023, 1-2pm ET**), "Finding a Repository for Your Data," will provide in-depth information to guide investigators in selecting the right repositories for their scientific data. NIDDK DMS resources and tools for selecting repositories will be presented, and the presentations will highlight how NIDDK programs, such as dkNET (NIDDK Information Network) and the NIDDK Central Repository, can be utilized. In addition, participants will learn how generalist repositories, particularly those participating in the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Generalist Repository Ecosystem Initiative (GREI), can aid investigators when an existing repository is not a good match for their data.
- * The third webinar (**June 27, 2023, 12-1pm ET**), "Metadata and Data Standards for NIDDK Research Data," will cover the importance and utility of metadata and data standards in maximizing the value of scientific data and how these standards intersect with the NIH DMS policy. Participants will learn about NIDDK DMS resources and tools to help select appropriate metadata and data standards when drafting a DMS Plan. In addition, several NIDDK and NIH projects that have developed and implemented rigorous data and metadata schema will share best practices, lessons learned, and how these efforts have enhanced the quality of the data.

- **FASEB "The Cholangiocarcinoma Conference: Molecular Drivers, Microenvironment & Precision Medicine" August 13-17, 2023 @ Palm Springs, CA ABSTRACTS DUE 6/11/23; LATE BREAKING 7/7/23**
[Meeting Registration & Abstract Submission OPEN NOW!](#) [Meeting AGENDA](#)

- **AASLD "THE LIVER MEETING" Nov. 10-14, 2023 @ Boston, MA.**
Meeting Registration opens Late July Abstract deadline Past Due (5/24/23)
[Abstract Travel Award deadline 6/15/23 application link](#)

- **ASIP "Tissue, Matrix, and Pathobiology: Joint Meeting of ASMB, HCS and ASIP"**
Oct. 22-25, 2023 @ Salt Lake City Utah.
Abstracts due by 6/28/23: [Abstract Submission Site](#) [Meeting Registration Site](#)

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WANT ADS

This section is available for PLRC members to communicate wants or needs in your laboratories.

Available positions / Collaboration ideas / Equipment needs

Please send any "wants/needs" to be advertised to Aaron Bell (bellaaro@pitt.edu)

OPEN POSITIONS:

- Postdoc/Technician: Bone cell Differentiation \$45K; PI: Harry Blair: US citizen ONLY! Contact: 412-383-9616 or hcblair@pitt.edu

JOB SEEKERS:

- An ECFMG certified medical graduate from Hyderabad, India, currently working as a research fellow at Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN in the department of Gastroenterology and Hepatology Artificial Intelligence lab is seeking a 1 yr paid research fellow position starting from June/July 2023 in Gastroenterology at UPMC ([More info and CV available here](#)) or email bellaaro@pitt.edu
- Research Assistant Professor, Pathology Dept, UPMC Hillman Cancer Ctr. With experience in Bioinformatics, proteomics, genomics, molecular biology. liz45@pitt.edu [link to CV](#)
- Senior Lab Scientist, UPMC Dept of Pediatrics, with broad molecular biology experience and work in liver and breast cancer. suk85@pitt.edu [Link to CV](#)