Thirty-Fourth

*Daniel T. Watts*

Research Poster Symposium

(Abstract Titles and Authors)

A Scientific Forum for the VCU Community

Thursday, October 26, 2017

Hermes A. Kontos
Medical Sciences Building
Virginia Commonwealth University
In Memory of

Daniel T. Watts
(1917-1994)

The Daniel T. Watts Poster Research Symposium is named in honor of Daniel T. Watts, former Dean of the School of Basic Health Sciences and Graduate Studies who passed away in 1994 at the age of 77. Dean Watts was a nationally recognized pharmacologist. In 1946 and 1947, he worked on projects to determine human tolerance to the acceleration forces experienced in aviators’ ejection seats. From 1947 to 1953, he taught pharmacology at the University of Virginia. He served as chair of Pharmacology at West Virginia University from 1953 to 1966 before coming to the Medical College of Virginia in 1966, continuing to serve as Dean as the institution was incorporated into Virginia Commonwealth University in 1968. Dean Watts held interests in intercollegiate athletics as well as biomedical research and graduate education and represented the University in that capacity. He retired as Dean, Basic Health Sciences in 1982.

During his tenure at this institution he established the foundation of the research enterprise in basic health sciences that continues today. His legacy continues both in the breadth of research and educational programs particularly the development of Ph.D. training. The growth of research and graduate training build on the pioneering efforts of John C. Forbes and C.C. Clayton, establishing the traditions which continue today. Shortly after his retirement, the Poster Symposium was initiated as a tribute to Dr. Watts and his effort, serving as an illustration of the research and development for continuing generations of life/health science researchers.
Abstract

Titles
1. The Genetic and Environmental Relationship Between Childhood Behavioral Inhibition and Pre-Adolescent Anxiety
   **Jessica L. Bourdon**, Jeanne E. Savage, Brad Verhulst, Dever M. Carney, Melissa A. Brotman, Daniel S. Pine, Ellen Leibenluft, Roxann Roberson-Nay, & John M. Hettema
   Virginia Institute for Psychiatric and Behavioral Genetics

2. The Role of Sphingosine Kinase 2 in Alcohol-Induced Hepatic Inflammation and Injury
   **Eric K. Kwong**, Liping Tao, Xiaojiaoyang Li, Runping Liu, Phillip B. Hylemon and Huiping Zhou.
   Microbiology and Immunology

3. The Timing of Geographic Power
   **Anny-Claude Joseph**, Catherine A. Calder  David C. Wheeler
   Biostatistics

4. KCC2, A Novel Therapeutic Target in Traumatic Brain Injury
   **Pavel N. Lizhnyak**, Andrew Riddler, John T. Povlishock, Andrew K. Ottens
   Anatomy and Neurobiology

5. Estimating the Causal Effects of Air Pollution on Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma in Selected U.S. Cancer Registries
   **Keith W. Zirkle**; Marie-Abèle Bind; Elizabeth Cahoon; David C. Wheeler
   Biostatistics

6. The Role of Maternal Low Birthweight on Fetal Growth in Virginia
   **Sylvia Rozario, MPH, MBBS**; Saba Masho, MD, MPH, Dr.PH; Derek Chapman, PhD
   Family Medicine and Population Health

7. Kappa Opioid Receptors May Mediate Paclitaxel-Induced Changes in Affect-Like Behavior in Male Mice.
   **Julie A. Meade**, Wisam B. Toma, Yasmin Alkhaif, D.E. Selley, Ph.D., & M. I. Damaj, Ph.D.
   Pharmacology and Toxicology

8. Nitric Oxide Signaling and Ethanol Sensitivity in Drosophila
   **Rebecca Schmitt** and Mike Grotewiel
   Human and Molecular Genetics

9. B1 Cell IGE protects the Helminth, Nippostrongylus Brasiliensis From B2-IGE Induced Clearance
   **Yolander Valentine**, Rebecca K Martin, Daniel H Conrad.
   Center for Clinical and Translational Research
10. CNS Glia in Adult Drosophila Alcohol Sensitivity
   Kristen Lee and Mike Grotewiel
   Neuroscience

11. The 'Difficult Patient:' Can Positive Experiences with Providers Reduce Emergency Room Visits for Patients with Substance Use Disorders?
   Lauryn Walker, Heather Saunders, Maria Thomson, and Cathy Bradley
   Health Behavior and Policy

12. Investigating the Association Between Statin Use and the Vaginal Microbiome
   Erin M. Garcia, Gregory A. Buck, Kimberly K. Jefferson
   Microbiology and Immunology

13. The Role and Regulation of Desmosomes During Embryonic Development
   Navaneetha Krishnan Bharathan, Amanda J.G. Dickinson
   Human and Molecular Genetics

14. Genetic and Environmental Influences on Cortisol Response to Trier Social Stress Test
   Chelsea Sawyers, Christina Sheerin, Merideth Eastman, Ananda Amstadter & Roxann Roberson-Nay
   Human and Molecular Genetics

15. Come Fly with Me: Using Amixicile to Target Periodontal Pathogens and Elucidating the Innate Immune Response in Drosophila melanogaster
   Kathryn M. Sinclair and Janina P. Lewis
   Microbiology and Immunology

16. Characterizing the Role of Vaginal Veillonellaceae Species in Women's Reproductive Health & Pregnancy
   Abigail L. Glascock, Vaginal Microbiome Consortium and Jennifer M. Fettweis
   Microbiology and Immunology

17. HICCOMPARE: An R-Package for Joint Normalization of HI-C Datasets and Differential Chromatin Interaction Detection
   John Stansfield & Mikhail Dozmorov
   Biostatistics

18. LIN52 Stability and Formation of Cell Cycle Gene Regulators, the DREAM and MMB Complexes
   A.N. Iness, J.G. Felthousen, and L. Litovchick
   Hematology, Oncology, and Palliative Care
19. Medical Mistrust in Black Breast Cancer Patients: Acknowledging the Roles of the Trustor and the Trustee
   Arnethea L. Sutton, Ph.D., Jun He, M.S., Megan C. Edmonds, MPH, Vanessa B. Sheppard, Ph.D.
   Health Behavior and Policy

20. The Association Between ACEs and Breast, Cervical, and Colorectal Cancer Screening Adherence
   Tierah M. West, Resa M. Jones, MPH, PhD
   Division of Epidemiology

21. Assessing the Uncertainty due to Chemicals below the Detection Limit in Chemical Mixture Estimation
   Paul Hargarten, MS; David C. Wheeler, PhD
   Biostatistics

22. The Modulatory Role of the α7 Nicotinic Acetylcholine Receptors (nAChRs) in a Mouse Model of Chemotherapy-Induced Peripheral Neuropathy (CIPN)
   Wisam Toma, S. Lauren Kyte, Julie Meade, Deniz Bagdas, Ganesh Thakur, John Bigbee, David A. Gewirtz, and M. Imad Damaj
   Pharmacology and Toxicology

23. Cyclophilin A Acts as a Molular Signaling Switch that Alters PRLR/JAK2 Complex Mediated Signaling and Functions in Breast Cancer
   Shawn Hakim and Charles V. Clevenger
   Center for Clinical and Translational Research

24. STAT3 is Necessary During the Induction Period of Brown Adipocyte Differentiation and STAT3-/- Preadipocytes can be Rescued through Wnt/Beta-Catenin Inhibition
   Marc T. Cantwell, Andrew C. Larner
   Biochemistry and Molecular Biology

25. The Impact of Chemotherapy on Nicotine Dependence in Animal Models
   Yasmin Alkhlaif and M. Imad Damaj
   Pharmacology and Toxicology

26. THE EFFECT OF VARENICLINE ON FREE-CHOICE ORAL CONSUMPTION OF NICOTINE
   Clare Diester, Deniz Bagdas1,2 & M. Imad Damaj1
   1Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology  2 The Center for the Study for Tobacco Products
   Pharmacology and Toxicology
27. Correlates of Adjuvant Therapy Attitudes in African American Breast Cancer Patients
   Megan Edmonds, MPH, Arnethea Sutton PhD, Vanessa Sheppard PhD
   Health Behavior and Policy

28. Remodeling the Brain Environment: The Role of Breast Cancer Exosomes in Brain Pre-Metastatic Niche Formation
   Megan Sayyad*1,2,3, Madhavi Puchalapalli 1,3, Jennifer Koblinski 1,3,4    1 Department of Pathology 2 Neuroscience Graduate Program 3 Massey Cancer Center 4 Cancer Mouse Models Core Pathology

29. cIAP2 in the CNS Impedes EAE Associated Neuroinflammation
   Debolina Biswas, Rebecca Martin, Angela Gupta, Micheal Surace, Daniel Conrad, Tomasz Kordula
   Biochemistry and Molecular Biology

30. The Sphingosine-1-Phosphate Gradient Regulates Breast Cancer Metastasis
   Melissa A. Maczis*, Kevin R. Lynch, Webster L. Santo, Sheldon Milstien, Sarah Spiegel
   Biochemistry and Molecular Biology

31. Role of Sphingosine-1-Phosphate in Non-Genomic Effects of Estrogen in Triple Negative Breast Cancer
   Melissa A. Maczis*, Sheldon Milstien, Sarah Spiegel
   Biochemistry and Molecular Biology