Second Border Biomedical Research Center Symposium
Health Disparities: From Molecules to Disease
September 27-29, 2015

PROGRAM

Sunday 27 September 2015

Location: Tomás Rivera Conference Room, Union East Bldg.,
500 W University Ave., UTEP

3:00 – 7:00 pm Registration Opens
6:00 – 6:20 pm Welcome – Rosa A. Maldonado, D.Sc. (Border Biomedical Research Center, Department of Biological Sciences - The University of Texas at El Paso)

Inauguration: Diana Natalicio (President of The University of Texas at El Paso)
Robert Kirken (Dean, College of Science, UTEP; BBRC grant PI, University of Texas at El Paso)

Iaugural session

Chair: Renato Aguilera (Director of the Border Biomedical Research Center - University of Texas at El Paso)
6:20 – 7:20 pm Dinner
7:00 – 7:45 pm Breast Cancer at El Paso
Zeina Nahleh, MD (Associate Professor of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, Chief Division of Hematology-Oncology Department of Internal Medicine, TTUHSC-Paul L. Foster School of Medicine)

Monday 28 September 2015

Location: Tomás Rivera Conference Room

MORNING SESSION

8:00 – 8:30 am Breakfast and Poster Set-up for the Day

Metabolic diseases

Chair: Charles Spencer (Assistant Professor, UTEP) and Shireen Saleque (Assistant Professor, CUNY)

8:30 – 9:25 am How obesity increases the risk for diabetes and cardiovascular disease
Alyssa Hasty (Associate Professor, Vanderbilt University School of Medicine)

Oral presentations to be selected from abstracts:

9:30 – 9:50 am From Bench to Bedside- Clinical Use of Beta Blockers against Malignant Tumors.
Brad A. Bryan (Tech University Health Sciences Center, El Paso, TX)

9:50 – 10:20 am A Change of Fortunes: Females are more susceptible to F. tularensis infection.
Charles T. Spencer (Department of Biological Sciences, University of Texas at El Paso)

10:20 – 10:30 am Break
Neurosciences and Neurological diseases

Chair: Dr. K Han (Director of the BBRC Neuromodulation Disorders Research Cluster)

10:30 – 11:20 am Alzheimer's disease
George Perry (Professor, University of Texas at San Antonio, Biology)

Oral presentations to be selected from abstracts:
11:20 – 11:40 am Nicotine Exposure modulate neuronal differentiation by altering Gβy–cytoskeletal mediated pathway.
Karen Castaneda (Border Biomedical Research Center, Department of Biological Sciences-UTEP)

11:40 – 12:00 am Modulation of Sensorimotor gating through PNC afferent structures.
Jose C. Cano (Border Biomedical Research Center, Department of Biological Sciences - UTEP)

12:00 – 12:20 am The effect of Piracetam on behavior and circulating lymphocytes in chronic psychological stress.
Mariana Grigoruta (UACJ)

12:20 – 1:20 pm Networking Lunch

AFTERNOON SESSION

1:20 - 3:15 pm Poster session 1

Cancer biology

Chairs: Dr. Marc Cox (Co-director of the BBRC Toxicology & Cancer Biology Research Cluster)

3:20 – 4:10 pm Androgen-independent prostate cancer
Donald J. Tindall (Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minnesota)

Oral presentations to be selected from abstracts:
4:15 – 4:30 pm ROCK2 is aberrantly upregulated in benign and malignant vascular tumors and is essential for angiosarcoma tumor growth.
CN Amaya (Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center—El Paso, Department of Biomedical Sciences)

4:30 – 4:45 pm A Novel Mechanism of Regulating Cytokine Receptor Signaling.
Blanca E. Ruiz-Medina (Border Biomedical Research Center (BBRC), The University of Texas at El Paso)

4:45 – 5:00 pm Molecular Mechanisms Maintaining Genome Integrity in Lymphocytes.
Bao Vuong (City College of New York)

5:00 – 5:15 pm Inhibition of LSD1 activity by Rcor3 regulates cellular differentiation and homeostasis.
Shireen Saleque (City College of New York)

Plenary session
5:20 – 6:15 pm Autophagic targeting of HIV-1 by members of the TRIM family of proteins
Michael Mandell (University of New Mexico, NM)

Tuesday 29 September 2015

Location: El Paso Natural Gas Conference Center

MORNING SESSION

8:00 – 8:30 am Breakfast and Poster Set-up for the Day
Infectious Diseases

Chair: Dr. Siddhartha Das (Director of the BBRC Infectious Diseases and Immunology Research Cluster)

8:30 – 9:25 am RNA viruses as virulence factors in protozoa
Stephen Beverley (Washington University, St. Louis, MO)

Oral presentations to be selected from abstracts:
9:30 – 9:50 am Detection of class 1 and 2 integrases and genetic cassettes among multidrug resistance Shigella in Costa Rica.
Kenia Barrantes (Instituto de Investigaciones en Salud (INISA, Universidad de Costa Rica).
9:50 – 10:10 am Role of CCR5 levels in HIV-1 evolution and pathogenesis.
Anjali JOSHI (Department of Biomedical Sciences, Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center)
10:10 – 10:30 am Sphingomyelin and ceramide interplay during Giardia lamblia encystation.
Trevor Duarte (Department of Biological Sciences, University of Texas at El Paso)

Toxicology

Chair: Dr. Elizabeth Walsh (Director of the BBRC Toxicology & Cancer Biology Research Cluster)

10:40 – 11:30 am Novel bioassays for classes of drugs with unusual toxicological profiles:
Measurements of host effects in response to therapy and their therapeutic implications
Yuval Shaked (Associate Professor, Molecular Pharmacology Rappaport Faculty of Medicine, Technion – Israel Institute of Technology)

Oral presentations to be selected from abstracts:
11:35 – 11:55 am The mechanism underlying ethanol-induced behavioral disinhibition
Gissel Aranda (University of Texas at El Paso)
Luz Maria Chacon Jimenez (Professor, University of Costa Rica),
12:15 – 12:35 am Low lead exposure results in glomerular hypertrophy in mice
John M. Basgen (Life Sciences Institute, Charles R. Drew University)
12:35 – 1:45 pm Networking Lunch

AFTERNOON SESSION

1:45- 3:00 pm Poster presentation session 2

Community engagement

Chair: Dr. Kristen Mena (Director of the BBRC Community Engagement Core)

3:00 – 3:50 pm Community Engagement and Research
Theresa Byrd (Chair and Associate Dean of the Department of Public Health, Texas Tech University)

Oral presentations to be selected from abstracts:
3:50 – 4:20 pm Perspectives on Community-engaged research
Amy Wagler (University of Texas at El Paso)
4:20 – 4:40 pm The epigenetic link between poverty, disease and the environment.
Hector A. Olvera (Associate Professor, Director of Research School of Nursing, Center for Environmental Resource Management, University of Texas at El Paso)
4:40 – 4:50 pm Break
Chair: Robert Kirken (Director of the BBRC, Dean of the College of Sciences - University of Texas at El Paso)

5:00 – 6:00 pm  Growing impact and threat of emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases on U.S. – Mexico border communities and beyond.  
Doug Watts, Ph.D. (Executive Director of Veterinary Services and Institutional Biosafety, Co-Director of Infectious Disease and Immunology, Border Biomedical Research Center, UTEP).

6:00 – 6:20 pm  Closing Remarks

7:00 - 9:30 pm  Dinner  (Location UGLC patio)