Symposium 2013

The 3rd Annual Musculoskeletal Winter Symposium will be held on March 21, 2013, from 1-5pm, in the Eric P. Newman Educational Center. Our featured speaker this year is Dr. Vicki Rosen from the Harvard School of Dental Medicine. The topic of Dr. Rosen’s talk will be on the “Clinical Augmentation of Bone Repair.”

The Call for Abstracts is now open. All abstract submissions are due by 5pm on February 11, 2013. Please visit our website for submission instructions and forms:

http://www.musculoskeletalcore.wustl.edu/content/Calendar/2998/Winter-Symposium.aspx

Once all abstract submissions are received, 4-5 will be chosen for oral presentations. The majority of abstracts will be selected for poster presentations, at one of two sessions, during the Symposium.

If you have any questions, please contact Kamilla McGhee.

Pilot & Feasibility Studies

Proposals due February 15, 2013
Project Start Date: April 1, 2013

Please visit our website for additional information:

http://www.musculoskeletalcore.wustl.edu/content/Pilot-amp-Feasibility-Grants/2990/Call-for-Proposals.aspx

For more information about the MRC and the Cores, please click here:
http://musculoskeletalcore.wustl.edu
Animal Model Highlight

Scleraxis Mice

The Thomopoulos laboratory is using three Scleraxis mouse models to examine the role of this tendon-specific transcription factor on the development of the tendon-to-bone attachment. A scleraxis GFP reporter mouse is being used to examine tendon precursor cells during postnatal development and to study in vitro differentiation of adipose derived mesenchymal stem cells into tendon fibroblasts. A scleraxis “floxed” mouse is being used to delete scleraxis and determine its role on the formation of a functional attachment between tendon and bone. Finally, a scleraxis “cre” mouse is being used to target the deletion of specific molecules to tendon cells in developing animals.

News from the Cores

Core C: Expanded capability for frozen sections, and additional microtome!

Core C has purchased an additional microtome, allowing one unit to be used by trained core members for sectioning decalcified paraffin-embedded tissues. Beginning in Jan 2013, interested users can sign up for time on the microtome at the member discounted rate of $6.67 per hour. To ensure proper use of the equipment, users will have to attend a training session of approximately 1 hour and sign a responsible use agreement, and available times will be defined by Crystal. Disposable blades and slides for use with the microtome can be purchased through the core as well. Contact Crystal (idleburgc@wudosis.wustl.edu or 747-6034) to sign up for training or time on the microtome. Also new in 2013 is expanded capability for frozen sections. We are now able to cut non or minimally decalcified sections from bone, which can be used for detection of GFP tags, immunostaining, or laser capture techniques. These sections require extra time and materials including specialized film or tape, and are higher priced to account for this (member rate $10/section). Further, special reusable slides for laser capture (LCM) will be purchased by the core, and will be free of charge unless they are not returned. For these new services, please contact Crystal or Deb Novack (novack@wustl.edu or 454-8472) to discuss your experiment before you start, or at least before you submit your tissue, so that we can attempt to get the most out of your project. An updated list of our services and fees can be found on the core website (http://www.musculoskeletalcore.wustl.edu/content/Core/2980/C-In-situ-Molecular-Analysis-Core/Services/Fee-Schedule-and-Forms.aspx).