

Alumni Newsletter

Department of Physiology and Biophysics

University of Illinois at Chicago

November, 2008

Awards/Recognition Evening

On November 19, 2008 the Department held its 19th Annual Awards/Recognition Evening. Our students are part of our legacy and their training is one of our major missions. We revel in their accomplishments and it is great that we have the opportunity to make sure they receive the recognition they deserve. It is also a wonderful opportunity to be reminded of the outstanding faculty we have in our Department.

This year the Philip L. Hawley Distinguished Faculty Award was presented to Dr. John Kennedy. Kristine Ansenberger received the Mark R. Lambrecht Award for Scholarship and Commitment and Yalda Afshar received the Kate Barany Graduate Student Award.

Dr. Jesus Garcia, our current head of the Graduate Program, prepared a book for the Lambrecht's with updated information on all the past recipients of the Lambrecht Award and what it has meant for them and presented it to the Lambrecht's at the Awards Evening. This was very moving for all who were there. The link a PDF version of the file is:

<http://www.uic.edu/depts/mcpb/PDF/Lambrecht%20Album%202008.pdf>

I have posted some of the pictures I took during this event at the following URL.

http://www.uic.edu/depts/mcpb/Pictures/Awards_evening-2008/index.html

(there is an _ between Awards and evening (i.e. Awards_evening-2008)

Alumni Update

Dr. Fran Carr had a very nice article written about her by the University of Vermont on her stepping down as Vice President for Research and Dean of the Graduate College.

Frances E. Carr, Ph.D., Vice President for Research and Dean of the Graduate College, has announced she will step down from her position at the end of the fall semester, 2008. After an administrative leave, she will assume full-time faculty responsibilities as Professor of Pharmacology in the College of Medicine.

Since Dr. Carr joined UVM in 2003, the University has enjoyed continuing robust strength in sponsored research, despite an increasingly challenging federal funding climate. Dr. Carr played a central role in creating the Vermont Advanced Computing Center, launching the Vermont Center for Emerging Technologies, and establishing the Center for Clinical and Translational Science, among several key research initiatives to advance UVM. Under her leadership, graduate enrollment has grown significantly, including a substantial increase in doctoral students and new multidisciplinary graduate degree programs, including Neuroscience. In research expenditures, UVM throughout Dr. Carr's tenure has led all public institutions nationally with 15,000 or fewer students. Doctoral enrollment under Dr. Carr's leadership has grown by more than 40%, from 358 in the fall of 2003 to 516 in the fall of 2008.

Dr. Carr has also expanded UVM's national and international collaborations to advance research and scholarship, including new relationships with the University of Tasmania and with Beijing University, among others. She has been a champion of innovation and technology transfer, developing internal and external programs and partnerships to expand research applications, entrepreneurship and new business development, and supporting the launch of a nationally recognized program, UVMVentures. Dr. Carr has been a strong advocate of engaged partnerships in research and scholarship that improve economic vitality and quality of life in the region and nationally.

"In a few short years, we have made significant advances in securing the position of UVM among the premier small research universities in the country. It has been a privilege to have had the opportunity to work with such innovative and committed colleagues across the campus. I now look forward to joining my faculty colleagues," Carr said.

"Over the last five years," observed President Daniel Mark Fogel, "we have made significant advances in research and graduate education, and I would like to express my deepest appreciation to Dr. Carr for her dedication and service. Her work to enhance the vitality and vibrancy of research and advanced study at UVM has enhanced academic excellence not only on our campus but also across the nation and around the world." With respect to both the Graduate College and the Office of Research, Fogel said that an announcement about interim leadership would be forthcoming within the next few weeks.

Gift Giving

With Thanksgiving in a couple of days and the holiday season soon to follow we all have much to be thankful for. Many of us make contributions at this time of year. If you are so inclined, you can give a gift that will directly benefit your Department. We have two funds to which a tax deductible contribution can be made:

James L. Ferguson Memorial Fund
University of Illinois Foundation
1305 West Green Street
Urbana, IL 61801-2962

And

Mark Lambrecht Memorial Fund
(same address as above)

To make sure the checks get to the correct fund they should be made payable to the:

UIF James L. Ferguson Memorial Fund

Or

UIF Mark Lambrecht Memorial Fund

Final Thoughts

I hope this past year has brought you much joy and success and that the upcoming year will be even better.

Randal C. Jaffe, Ph.D.
Department of Physiology and Biophysics (M/C901)
University of Illinois at Chicago
835 S. Wolcott
Chicago, IL 60612

e-mail: rcjaffe@uic.edu
phone: 312-996-4933
web page: <http://www.uic.edu/~rcjaffe>