

Department of Biochemistry Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine

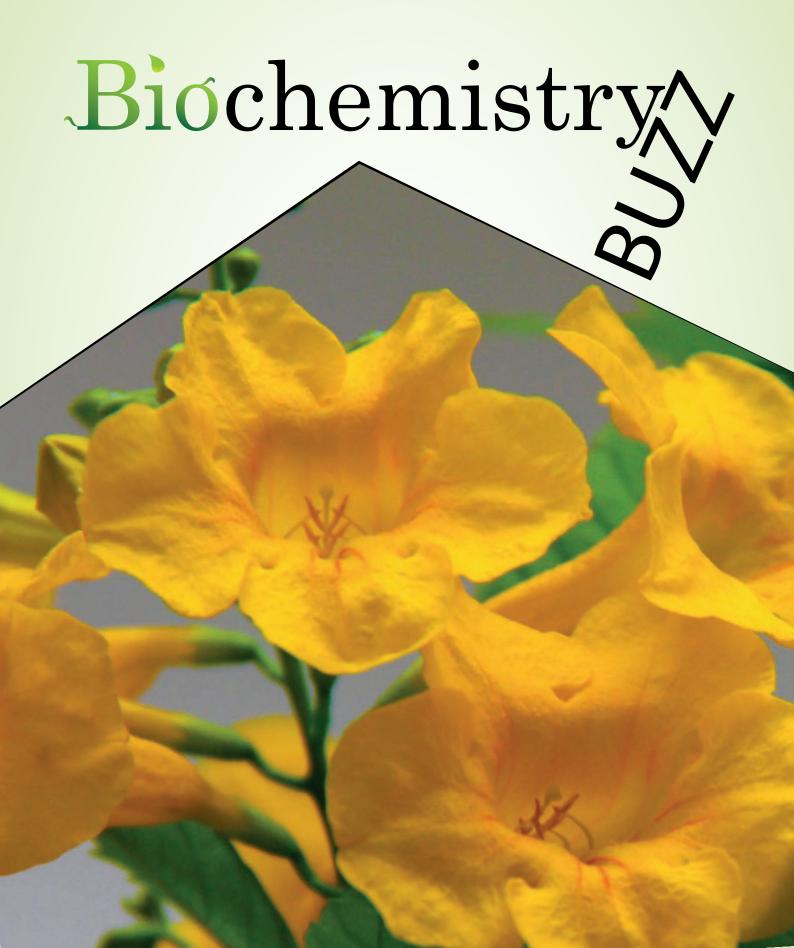


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HOD's message

Videamus animi partes, quarum est conspectus illustrior; Duo Reges: constructio interrete. Nam illud vehementer repugnat, eundem beatum esse et multis malis oppressum. Ad corpus diceres pertinere-, sed ea, quae dixi, ad corpusne refers? Quae cum dixisset, finem ille. Suo genere perveniant ad extremum; Quis istum dolorem timet?

Compensabatur, inquit, cum summis doloribus laetitia. Pudebit te, inquam, illius tabulae, quam Cleanthes sane commode verbis depingere solebat. Placet igitur tibi, Cato, cum res sumpseris non concessas, ex illis efficere, quod velis? Quoniam, si dis placet, ab Epicuro loqui discimus. Sed quoniam et advesperascit et mihi ad villam revertendum est, nunc quidem hactenus; In his igitur partibus duabus nihil erat, quod Zeno commutare gestiret. Tum Quintus: Est plane, Piso, ut dicis, inquit. Quare attende, quaeso.

Nihil opus est exemplis hoc facere longius. Sin tantum modo ad indicia veteris memoriae cognoscenda, curiosorum. Mihi quidem Antiochum, quem audis, satis belle videris attendere. Nunc ita separantur, ut disiuncta sint, quo nihil potest esse perversius. Tubulum fuisse, qua illum, cuius is condemnatus est rogatione, P. Videamus animi partes, quarum est conspectus illustrior; Quod autem principium officii quaerunt, melius quam Pyrrho; Apud ceteros autem philosophos, qui quaesivit aliquid, tacet;

Quis animo aequo videt eum, quem inpure ac flagitiose putet vivere? At ille pellit, qui permulcet sensum voluptate. Virtutis, magnitudinis animi, patientiae, fortitudinis fomentis dolor mitigari solet. Quod equidem non reprehendo; Sed quid attinet de rebus tam apertis plura requirere? Hoc est non modo cor non habere, sed ne palatum quidem.

Duae sunt enim res

quoque, ne tu verba solum putes. Compensabatur,

inquit, cum summis doloribus laetitia.

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit. Nobis aliter videtur, recte secusne, postea; Neque solum ea communia, verum etiam paria esse dixerunt. Videamus animi partes, quarum est conspectus illustrior; Duo Reges: constructio interrete. Nam illud vehementer repugnat, eundem beatum esse et multis malis oppressum. Ad corpus diceres pertinere-, sed ea, quae dixi, ad corpusne refers? Quae cum dixisset, finem ille. Suo genere perveniant ad extremum; Quis istum dolorem timet?

quaesivit aliquid, tacet;

Compensabatur, inquit, cum summis doloribus laetitia.



Staff Awards Congratulations

A/P Maxey Chung, was appointed the President of Asian Oceanian Human Proteome Organisation (AOHUPO) with effect of 1 January 2017 (3 years).

A/P Gan Yunn Hwen;

- Adjunct Associate Professor appointment at Mechanobiology Institute (MBI) with effect of 1 April 2017 (1 year)
- Appointed Member of the Institutional Biosafety Committee with effect from 1 January 2017 (3 years)
- Appointed Member of NUS Senate Delegacy with effect of 1 July 2017 (2 years)

A/P Caroline Lee, was awarded the Inspiring Mentor Award at NUS High School Research Congress. The event was held at NUS High School on 22 February 2017.

A/P Tan Tin Wee, together with a team of stellar editorial advisory committee through *AsianScientist* – a Singapore-based publisher Asian Scientist Publishing Pte Ltd – has launched the first of its kind in Asia, Supercomputing Asia. It is a new print title dedicated to track the latest developments in high performance computing across the region and making supercomputing accessible to the layman.

Source: https://www.asianscientist.com/2017/01/pr/asian-scientist-launches-supercomputing-asia-magazine/

A/P Yew Wen Shan, was awarded the NUS Annual Teaching Excellence Award for AY2015/2016

Dr Sudhakar Jha, along with his team at CSI, discovered that TIP60 interacts with 2 other proteins called DNMT1 and SNAIL2, to inhibit the spread of cancer cells. This is the first study which reports the novel function of TIP60 in regulating DMNT1-SNAIL2 axis, and subsequentl inhibiting metastasis, which is the spread of cancer cells to other parts of the body. This discovery was published in Journal of Molecular Cell Biology.

Source: http://news.nus.edu.sg/press-releases/nus-researchers-discover-novel-mechanism-stop-spread-breast-can-cer

Dr Lim Yoon Pin, and team, uncovered the WBP2 gene in 2011 which has been determined to cause the rapid proliferation of breast cancer cells. The test kit is based on the principle of molecular pathology, which premised that molecular transformation in cells occurs before any visible morphological changes in the cells. This may help to detect cancer earlier.

Source; http://news.nus.edu.sg/press-releases/nus-researchers-discover-novel-mechanism-stop-spread-breast-can

cer

StaffAwards

Faculty Teaching Awards for AY2015/2016

Congratulations



A/P Yew Wen Shan

Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine Educator of the Year

Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine Teaching Excellence Awards



A/P Thilo Hagen

Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine
Teaching Excellence Award



Dr Long Yun Chau

Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine Teaching Excellence Awards



Dr Lim Yoon Pin

Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine Teaching Excellence Award

Staff Promotion

Amanda Lim is re-appointed to **Senior Executive** from **Management Assistant Officer** with effect from 1 March 2017.

Luxmi is re-appointed to **Senior Executive** from **Specialist Associate** with effect from 1 March 2017.

Johann promoted from Teaching Assistant to Instructor with effect from 1 January 2017.



StaffAwards **Long Service Awards 2017**

...... 20 YEARS



A/P Gan Yunn Hwen



A/P Tang Bor Luen

...... 10 YEARS



A/P Dr Chen Ee Sin



Dr Kenneth Ban



Dr Sudhakar Jha



Dr Long Yun Chau



Dr Foo Jee Loon



Dr Lim Shen Kiat



Dr Russel Lee



Helpful NatureWins Heart

Fatihah's readiness to help others is well treasured by her bosses and colleagues.

Ms Fatihah Bte Ithnin

Assistant Manager
Department of Biochemistry
NUS Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine





GrantAwards

December 2017 - April 2017

MOE Tier 1 (Oct call)

Novel regulators of centromeric chromatin integrity and gemomic stability

Dr Chen Ee Sin \$ 179.500

Study the role of CSE in Age-related Macular Degeneration: Cytoprotection against oxidative stress-mediated inflammation and neovascularization in retina pigment epithelium

A/P Deng Lih Wen \$ 179,750

TCA cycle dysfunction and repair dictates pyruvate-induced HIF1a activation

Dr Long Yun Chau \$ 178,500

NUHS Open Call for Collaborative Research Grant (O-CRG) FY 2016

Development and Characterization of Preclinical Disease Models for Dilated Cardiomyopathy

Caused by Pathological Variants in LMNA gene

Dr Jiang Jianming \$ 200,000

NUS Young Investigation Award PI2016

Stress-induced lipid transporter Mfsd2b is critical for hematopoietic cell proliferation and formation

Dr Nguyen Nam Long \$ 486.100

Summit Research Program (Synthetic Biology) FY2016-FY2017
A/P Matthew Wook Chang

\$ 2,182,000

StudentAwards

AGSC 2017 AWARDS

The 7th Annual Graduate Scientific Congress (AGSC) 2017 organised by the NUS Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine held last week has closed with great success.

We would like to thank all students and staff for their enthusiastic participation and support.



Biochemistry Travel Fellowship January 2017 Call

Liew Wen Chiy

Supervisor: A/P Prabha Sampath

Tabaglio Tommaso

Supervisor: A/P Ernesto Guccione



Student Conferments

Congratulations

NG MEI YING, Msc

Supervisor: A/P Thilo Hagen Conferred Date: 30.09.2016

NG WEI XIONG JONATHAN,

Msc

Supervisor: Prof Markus Wenk Conferred Date: 31.10.2016 YU SUE, PhD

Supervisor: Wu Qiang Conferred Date: 30.11.2016

LI ZILIN, PhD

Supervisor: Lim Yoon Pin Conferred Date: 30.09.2016

XINLEI YU, PhD

Supervisor: Long Yun Chau Conferred Date: 31.12.2016

ZEINAB MAMOUEI, PhD

Supervisor: Wang Yue Conferred Date: 30.11.2016

CORONEL CARRION LUIS EDUARDO, PhD

Supervisor: Cheok Chit Fang Conferred Date: 28.02.2017 MAN MOHAN SHRESTHA, PhD

Supervisor: Han Weiping Conferred Date: 31.01.2017

SEMIH CAN AKINCILAR, PhD

Supervisor: Vinay Tergaonkar Conferred Date: 28.02.2017

NewStudent

January 2017 Student Intake

Daniel Lim Rui Xiang
Main Supervisor:
A/P Gann Yunn Hwen
Co-Supervisor:





Esra Balikci

Main Supervisor: Dr Haiwei Song Co-Supervisor: Prof Wanjin Hong

Toh Li Ping
Main Supervisor:
A/P Deng Lih Wen
Co-Supervisor:
Adjunct Dr Tam Wai Leong



Freezer Cleaning Week & Free Ice Cream



5th – 9th December 2016 marked the Department's inaugural "Clear Your Freezer Week" where all the research labs in the Department were busy thawing and cleaning their freezers, and throwing out unwanted items. The successful event ended with an ice cream treat from the Department. Ice cream vendor, Uncle Chua and his ice cream cart was engaged to serve the traditional ice cream (on waffle biscuit, bread or cone) to all Department staff who had worked hard to make the event a success. It was definitely a great way to say "Good Job" after a long week of cleaning!

Contributed by Dr Yap Lai Lai member of Department's Safety Committee.

Biochemistry Welcome Party

Organised by Department's Student Initiative, Biochemistry Graduate Student Association (BigSA)

Biochemistry Welcome Party was the first event organized by Biochemistry Graduate Student Association (BiGSA), a newly formed graduate student committee in the department. The purpose of this gathering was to welcome and initiate fresh graduate students who just started their PhD journey in Aug 2016 and Jan 2017. It would also act as a mean for them to interact and network with senior PhD students and hopefully allay their fears and concerns regarding grad school.

The event commenced with warm welcome speeches from Prof Markus Wenk and Prof Thilo Hagen. Two interactive games were planned as part of the ice-breaking session. The first game called 'Guess What Is Wrong' required each student to state three interesting facts about themselves –



one of those facts being incorrect. This game got the students actively involved and also helped them know more about each other. This was followed by a game of 'Charades' - a word guessing game mediated via miming. The students were divided into 4 teams. Each team was given 10 minutes to think of words for the opposing team to act, and 10 minutes to play the game. Team D (see the photo below) won the game and got a \$40 Starbucks voucher as the prize.

The event finished off with a closing speech by Liew Wen Chiy, the President of BiGSA. A dinner-cum- networking session was also organized, sponsored by the department outside M9. It was encouraging to see active participation from the newcomers for the welcome party and we are looking forward to a better event in the coming semester

Contributed by Ms Liew Wen Chiy, President of BiGSA



Group photo for Biochemistry Welcome Party.



























Winning team for Charades

Introducing BIGSA

Biochemistry Welcome Party is proudly brought to you by Team BiGSA.

Top left: Samson Ali, Michelle Fong Hei Tung and Luca Pignata. Bottom left: Alisha Ramos, Liew Wen Chiy, Pierre-Alexis Vincent Goy and Kakanga Moses.



Department Staff Welfare

Half Day Coffee Seminar @ Starbucks Fullerton Waterboat House & Lunch at Carousel, Royal Plaza on Scotts

Monday, 20 February 2017



Preparations began early to secure the best and affordable event packages in town! After rigorous comparing of exciting packages, the Department Staff Welfare team found that one event that would bring the staff together in a strong yet elegant coffee-aroma setting to learn "What is Coffee?" actually all about. The coffee seminar was held at Starbucks Fullerton Waterboat House. Our staff were fascinated by the different tastes when matched with various types of foods with the coffee. It was truly a learning experience for all of us!

After the coffee seminar, we had a wonderful lunch at Carousel at Royal Plaza on Scotts. Staff enjoyed themselves and we ended the event with a group photo for memories.

Contributed by Mr Chow Kean Pang, Member of Department Staff Welfare Event Click to see the video >> https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EPzxmSNj3uY



Head of Department's Address to Biochemistry Postgraduate Students

Wednesday, 22 February 2017

HOD, Professor Markus Wenk, addressed Department's postgraduate students on Wednesday, 22 February 2017, with the purpose to seek their thoughts on the kind of professional/personal skills that our postgraduates wished to acquire by the end of their studies and also the type of team building activities they hoped to participate during their studies. On this topic, HOD took the opportunity to formally introduce the newly formed Department postgraduate student association to the students – BiGSA, short for Biochemistry Graduate Student Association.

Students appreciated the Address by HOD and hope to be involved in the activities organised by BiGSA in future.



Evénts

Biochemistry Safety Tea

Wednesday, 22 February 2017

The Safety Tea on 22 February 2017 was attended by close to 200 staff and students, and was held in LT35 at MD6. HOD, Professor Markus Wenk, gave an opening speech urging all staff to observe highest standards of safety in the labs and to put on safety glasses while working the lab. He also announced that the Department has been awarded the Commendation Award for 2016/2017 which will be held at the NUS Safety & Health Awards (NUSSHA) on 20 April 2017 at University Cultural Centre. After the speech, the Safety Committee continued the afternoon with updates of the relevant safety measures and sharing the learning outcomes from the accidents/incidents that had happened in the last few months. The safety tea ended with a delicious afternoon tea treat for all who attended the event.

Contributed by Dr Yap Lai Lai, member of Department's Safety Committee.



MD7 Firedrill

Thursday, 23 February 2017

In February 2017, the fire safety committee conducted an annual fire drill for the department. With the full cooperation of our staffs and students, they were led out of the department in a calm and orderly manner to our new assembly point at the multipurpose field by our fire wardens. MD7 was fully evacuated in 6 minutes with an attendance of 74.5%.

Contributed by Mr Melvin Dai, Department's Fire Coordinator.

DEPARTMENT OF BIOCHEMISTRY

MO 7 FIRE DRILL EXERCISE

The Department of Biochemistry will be conducting a fire drill on 23rd February 2017, Thursday | AM

DURING the drill, fire wardens will guide you to the nearest emergency exit. Upon hearing the fire alarm, please evacuate from labs/offices promptly and move in an orderly manner to the assembly point at the multi purpose field beside Block S17.

BEFORE the fire drill, please familiarize yourself with the route to the nearest emergency exit and the location of our assembly point.

PLEASE co-operate fully during the evacuation.

Staff and students from MD6, MD4 and CeLS are advised not to come to the building during the above period unless they wish to participate in the fire drill.

We apologize for any inconvenience caused. For clarification on the fire drill, please contact Melvin DAI at 6516 8799.

ASSEMBLY AREA









Evénts

Biochemistry Alumni Dinner

Thursday, 9 March 2017

In line with Biochemistry's 90th Anniversary theme, "Back to the Past", Department hosted a Biochemistry Alumni Dinner on Thursday, 9 March 2017 after working hours.

Former students such as Dr Zhou Lihan, Co-founder and Chief Technology Officer of MiRXES and their respective supervisors were present to grace the fruitful event. Through this event, it was gathered that networking is essential for future work experiences and internship is useful in providing students more exposure to the working life, before actually embarking to one. Above all, elegant dinner was served and attendees dined and chat throughout the event.

TIME	PROGRAM		
6 pm	Meet & Greet		
6.30 pm	Welcome address by HOD & Buffet Dinner		
7.30 pm	Alumni reflections		
8.30 pm	Closing address by Deputy Head		

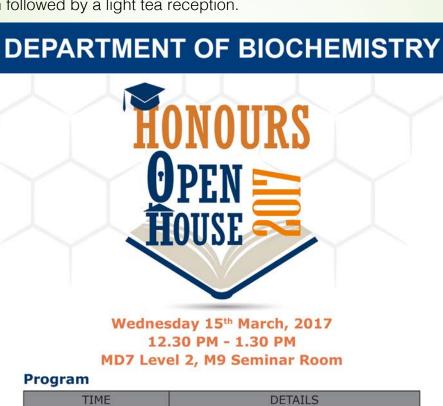


Evénts

Biochemistry Honours Open House 2017

Wednesday, 15 March 2017

Department held a Biochemistry Honours Open House. This open house is a "show and tell" for incoming honours students. HOD, Professor Markus Wenk, graced the opening of this event by welcoming and thanking the students who came. As Department's traditions, former and current honours undergraduate students shared their personal experience and the learning curves that they had learnt while doing honours projects with the Department. The event ended with a Question & Answer session followed by a light tea reception.



TIME	DETAILS		
12.30 pm	Guests to be seated		
12.30 pm - 12.40 pm	Welcome Speech by Education Director		
12.40 pm - 12.50 pm	Presentation by Module Coordinator		
12.50 pm - 1.10 pm	Presentation by Former Honours Student		
1.10 pm – 1.20 pm	Q & A		
1.20 pm - 1.30 pm	Interaction & Tea Reception		



Welcome to the family



Cheah Wai Yuen Research Fellow RO: A/P Yew Wen Shan Date joined: 08-10-2016



Han Ping Research Fellow RO: A/P Matthew Chang Date joined: 28-11-2016



Zhang Xiaoming Research Fellow RO: A/P Deng Lih Wen Date joined: 03-01-2017



Teo Wei Zhe Research Fellow RO: A/P Matthew Chang Date joined: 10-01-2017



Aow Shao Bing, Johanan Research Associate RO: A/P Matthew Chang Date joined: 16-01-2017



Gazi Sakir Hossain Research Fellow RO: A/P Matthew Chang Date joined: 01-02-2017



Vu Minh Thiet
Research Fellow
RO: Dr Nguyen Nam Long
Date joined: 01-02-2017



Ang Shy Min, Jean Research Associate RO: Professor Markus Wenk Date joined:13-02-2017



Zhang Lei Research Fellow RO: A/P Matthew Chang Date joined:23-02-2017

Welcome to the family



Neo Sin Hui Research Assistant RO: A/P Tang Bor Luen Date joined: 01-03-2017



Xue Bo Senior Research Fellow RO: A/P Matthew Chang Date joined: 02-03-2017



Maciej Bartosz Holowko Research Associate RO: A/P Matthew Chang Date joined:13-03-2017



Rahmah Specialist Associate RO: Ms Violet Teo Date joined: 20-03-2017



Yang Xiaoqing Research Assistant RO: Dr Kenneth Ban Date joined:30-03-2017



Alexander Triebl Research Fellow RO: Professor Markus Wenk Date joined:30-04-2017



Pranjul Mishra
Research Assistant
RO: A/P Matthew Chang
Date joined: 03-04-2017



Saravanan Prabhu Nadaraja Research Fellow RO: A/P Matthew Chang Date joined:06-04-2017



RO: Reporting Officer pg.22

Baby Jóy

Congratulations



Mageswari Ganesan's Baby Girl **Laveena Belu** 06.01.2017

Johann & Vivian's
Baby Girl

Jovian Tian
16.02.2017





Melvin's Baby Boy **Matthias Dai** 21.03.2017

Reséarch Publications

Oct 2016 to Apr 2017

Wong, S Y and **B L Tang***, "SIRT1 as a therapeutic target for Alzheimer's disease". *Reviews in the Neurosciences*, 27, no. 8 (2016): 813-825. (United States).

Hou, A H, K P Law, QT Tan, **Y P Lim** and G T H Louis-Marie, "In vitro Secretomics study of Pterygium-derived Fibroblasts by iTRAQ-based Quantitative Proteomics Strategy". *Experimental Eye Research*, no. 153 (2016): 14-22. (United States).

Chan*, CY, KHNg*, J Chen, JH Lu, **CG L Lee**, PH Tan, S.C Jordan, HYang and HKYap, "Novel role of Vav1-Rac1 pathway in actincytoskeleton regulation in Interleukin-13-induced minimal change-like nephropathy". *Clinical Science*, 130, no. 24 (2016): 2317-2327. (United Kingdom). (Clin Sci (Lond). 2016 Oct 5. pii: CS20160312; DOI: 10.1042/CS20160312; PMID: 27707912).

Tang, B L, "Are Wnts retrogradely transported to the ER?". *Journal of Cellular Physiology*, 231, no. 11 (2016): 2315-2316. (United States).

Lim, S K, S Lu, H J Tan, Z Li, Z N Wee, J S GuaN, V P R Chichili, J Sivaraman, T C Putti, A A Daw, P H Tan, S Marius, M V David, S W Chan, W J Hong and **Y P Lim***, "Wnt Signaling Promotes Breast Cancer By Blocking ITCH-Mediated Degradation of YAP/TAZ Transcriptional Coactivator WBP2". *Cancer Research*, 76, no. 21 (2016): 6278-6289. (United States).

Jiang, H, H Hang, F Lin, **Y P Lim***, Y Hua, X Tong and S Zhang, "S100P is overexpressed in squamous cell and adenosquamous carcinoma subtypes of endometrial cancer and promotes cancer cell proliferation and invasion.". *Cancer Investigation*, 34, no. 10 (2016): 477-488. (United States).

Tang, B L, "C9orf72's Interaction with Rab GTPases-Modulation of membrane traffic and autophagy.". *Frontiers in Cellular Neuroscience*, 10 (2016): 228. (Switzerland).

Chew, W S, S Suku Maran, T T Federico, **M R Wenk**, J F Yeo, D R Herr and W Y Ong*, "Role of prefrontal cortical calcium-independent phospholipase A2 in antinociceptive effect of the norepinephrine reuptake inhibitor antidepressant maprotiline". *Neuroscience*, 340 (2016): 91-100. (United Kingdom).

Tang, B L, "Rab32/38 and the xenophagic restriction of intracellular bacteria replication". *Microbes and Infection*, 18, no. 10 (2016): 593-603. (France).

Chen, Y, N Fanny and **B L Tang***, "Rab23 activities and human cancer – emerging connections and mechanisms". *Tumor Biology*, 37, no. 10 (2016): 12959-12967. (Switzerland).

Tang, B L, "Rabs, membrane dynamics and Parkinson's disease". *Journal of Cellular Physiology*, 232, no. 7 (2016): 1626-1633. (United States).

Tang, B L, "Could Sirtuin activities modify ALS onset and progression?". *Cellular and Molecular Neurobiology*, (2016). (United States). [Epub ahead of print]

Fanny, N and **B L Tang***, "Unconventional protein secretion in animal cells". *Methods in Molecular Biology*, 1459 (2016): 31-46. (Germany).



Goodbye Dear Staff

Akshamal Mihiranga Gamage	Arunmozhiarasi Armugam	Bahareh Haji Rasouliha	Cheong Wei Fun
Chin Cheen Fei	Chin Ju Xin	Chng Si Hui	Choi Eungyeong
Choo Yin Yin	Chua Puay Suan Jasmine	David Jan Lubkowicz	Lee Wen-Hsin, Sandy
Lee Zheng Wei	Liang Junxin	Liang Xu	Lim Li Rong
Lin Fan	Lua Bing Jia Gavian	Lydia Zhuang Li	Nina Kurniasih Pratomo Juwono
Ramya Amaranathan	Rebecca Anne Jackson	Sangiah Umama- heswari	Shareef Mohideen Ismail
Stephanie Gan Jia-Hui	Tan Jun Rong	Tan Kaiquan	Tang Ming Yi, Richard
Teo Sin Yee	Theodora Chung Xue Ying	Wisna Novera	Wong, Adison
Wong Jocelyn	Yu Aiqun	Yu Kai	Zhao Wei
Oh Yu Song	Neo Ah Gek	Ng Yoon Qiu, Roy	

Farewell is not the end, but a new beginning

If we missed any news that you would like to share, please contact:
The Editorial Team, Biochemistry: bchsec@nus.edu.sg
ADVISOR Professor Markus Wenk

EDITOR Ms Violet

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DESIGNER Ms Rahmah

