



# MINIM



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## CHAIRMAN'S CORNER

### *Farewell to Danny and Lynne*

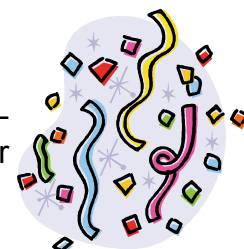
I still vividly remember a faculty meeting during the summer of 1986 in which I announced my resignation as Professor and Chairman of the Department of Biochemistry at the State University of New York at Stony Brook (now Stony Brook University). During the meeting, Danny immediately announced his resignation from the University. At that time, he had only been an assistant professor in the department for less than a year after leaving Dr. R. Roeder's laboratory at Rockefeller University. He bluntly informed the faculty attending the meeting that, "The only reason he decided to go to Stony Brook was because of Masayori." Although the Department of Biochemistry at Stony Brook had provided him with enough resources for his research, I felt very guilty that I made the decision to leave immediately after recruiting him. My decision to accept the position at Robert Wood Johnson Medical School (Rutgers Medical School) was made based on the extensive expansion of the life science community here and the hiring of a number of chairs and directors at both this medical school and Rutgers, while the resources at Stony Brook were shrinking.

Since Danny had already announced his resignation from Stony Brook, I asked him if he would be interested in moving to RWJMS. He accepted my offer and has been a member of our department for more than twenty years. I have been exceedingly proud and thrilled watching him develop his science and move up the academic ladder from Assistant Professor to a Howard Hughes Professor and Distinguished Professor. It has been a joy to see his papers published in the best scientific journals and to see him recognized as a world-renowned scientist. Very early on, Danny and I had an arrangement to compete with each other to see who would be published the most in the top scientific journals. We called it the "CNS Index", meaning papers that were published in Cell, Nature or Science. The papers were defined by a particular number; for example, a paper published in any one of these journals would receive one point and a research article in Nature and Science would be given five points.

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### *Great News....*

Congratulations to **Kiran Madura** who was recently promoted to full Professor and to **Yuh-Hwa Wang** who was promoted to Associate Professor with tenure.



## Publications

**Hampsey, M.** (2006) The Pol II initiation complex: finding a place to start. *Nat. Struct. Mol. Biol.* 13 (7):564-6.

Inoue, K., Chen, J., Tan, Q., and **Inouye, M.** (2006) Era and RbfA Have Overlapping Function in Ribosome Biogenesis in *Escherichia coli*. *J. Mol. Microbiol. Biotechnol.* 11(1-2):41-52.

Bandwar, R.P., Tang, G.Q. and **Patel, S.S.** (2006) Sequential Release of Promoter Contacts during Transcription Initiation to Elongation Transition. *J. Mol. Biol.* 360 (2):466-83.



Chen, L., Thiruchelvam, M. J., **Madura, K.** and Richfield, E.K. (2006) Proteasome dysfunction in aged human alpha-synuclein transgenic mice. *Neurobiol.* 23(1):120-6.

**Patel, S.S.** and Donmez, I. (2006) Mechanism of helicases. *J. Biol. Chem.* 281(27):18265-8.

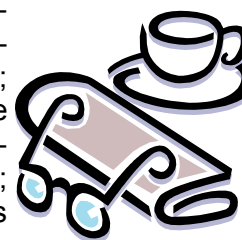
Zhu, L., Zhang, Y., The, J.S., Zhang, J., Connell, N., Rubin, H. and **Inouye, M.** (2006) Characterization of mRNA Interferases from *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*. *J. Biol. Chem.* 28(27):18638-43.

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## Departmental News

**Céline Gélinas** submitted an amended renewal application to the NIH for the July 1st deadline, on "Trans-acting function of the v- and c-Rel oncoproteins" \$1,150,000 direct costs requested for five years.

**Ann Stock** and members of her laboratory hosted ~12 high school student fellows of the New Jersey Association for Biomedical Research (NJABR) for a day at CABM. The students did some hands on experiments growing protein crystals, collecting X-ray data from the crystals they grew, and stereo viewing of macromolecules; learned about undergraduate research opportunities at Rutgers through the Aresty Center; heard about the paths to scientific and medical research careers from postdocs, graduate students, and medical students in the Stock lab; and heard a sampling of research projects being pursued in CABM laboratories including that of Céline Gélinas.



**Barbara Brodsky** received a priority score of 172 and 4.5 percentile on the grant entitled, "Expressed Bacterial Triple-Helical Products as Tissue Engineering Scaffolds". Dr. Masayori Inouye and John Ramshaw (Australia) serve as Co-PI's on the grant.

**Akira Sato** (Postdoctoral Fellow in Dr. R. Habas' lab) was awarded a two-year Postdoctoral fellowship from the New Jersey Commission on Cancer Research for his proposal entitled, "Characterization of a new modulator of Wnt signaling".

Congratulations to **Akira Sato** and his wife, Miyuki on the birth of their baby girl, Natsu, on June 20, 2006.

**Publications** (continued from page 2)**In Press:**

Falzon, L., Suzuki, M. and **Inouye, M.** (2006) Finding one of a kind: advances in single-protein production. *Curr. Opin. Biotechnol.*

Puglia, J., Wang, T., Smith-Snyder, C., Cote, M., Scher, M., Pelletier, J., John, S., Jonsson, C.B. and **Roth, M.J.** (2006) Comprehensive Linker-Scanning Analysis of the MuLV RNase H, MuLV and HIV-1 Integrase Proteins. *J. Virology.*

**Habas, R.** and He, X. (2006) Function of the Rho family of GTPases during embryogenesis. In Analysis of Growth Factor Signaling in Embryos Editors: Amy Sater and Malcolm Whitman. *CRC Press.*

**Accepted:**

Hwang, J. and **Inouye, M.** (2006) The tandem GTPase, Der is essential for the biogenesis of 50S ribosomal subunits in *Escherichia coli*. *Molecular Microbiology.*

**NOTE:**

In the June issue of MINIM, Kiran Madura's grant information was stated incorrectly. Below are the corrections:

Suzie Chen is the Co-PI on the grant from the NIEHS Center for Environmental Health Sciences pilot project entitled, "Investigating the Role of the Ubiquitin/Proteasome Pathway in Melanoma" for a period of 7/1/06-6/30/07.

The grant entitled, "Cancer-specific manifestations of the Ubiquitin/Proteasome pathway" from the New Jersey Commission on Science and Technology Partnering Grant (co-PI: S. Roy of ProFACT Proteomics, New Brunswick, NJ), the amount awarded was \$182,000 not \$128,000 as previously mentioned.

**Farewell...**(continued from page 1)

Two papers published back to back in any one of these journals would be worth ten points. An invitation to have work featured on a cover of a journal would earn one extra point. It was a great deal of fun to compete with Danny as long as I was winning the game. During the past five years, I was unable to match his productivity so I had to drop out of the race. Lynne has also been instrumental to Danny's success from the start and they now work together as a very strong team with complementary talents.

I will miss having Danny and Lynne at our medical school and it will be very difficult to fill the void that will be created by their departure. I'm sure I speak for everyone in our department and life science community when I extend our congratulations to Danny and Lynne and send them our warmest wishes for success and happiness at NYU.