# **December Edition**

December 4<sup>th</sup>, 2020 Volume 2, Issue 4

#### COVID-19

HUB AT HOPKINS

JHU COVID RESOURCE CENTER

MARYLAND DEPT OF HEALTH

CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL

The Johns Hopkins campus remains under Phase 1 restrictions. Help keep the Hopkins and Physiology community safe by respecting safety regulations and getting the flu shot!

#### **Announcements**

#### **HELP WANTED FOR DEPT WEBSITE**

The Physiology Department relies on the webpage to disseminate information to members of our department and the wider world. As the academic year ramps up, many updates are made to the site! If you have any skills in HTML, CSS, or any other web language, email Marsha Miller and help the department site stay up to date!

### **Upcoming Events**

#### **Dec 11: Rotation Talks Seminar**

Jessica Hernandez (Wong lab) Mackenzie Kui (Qiu lab) Henry Chang (Claypool)

#### Dec 16: Seminar

Dr. Ron Korstanje The JAX Laboratory "Using Genetic Diversity and Species Diversity to Tackle Kidney Disease"

#### **Contact Us**

Newsletter Team Sarah Chau Kelli Johnson

**Physiology Department** Physiology Website

# Physiology Newsletter

December is a cold and dark month, but there is light at the end of the tunnel. The promising news on the vaccines suggest better times next year. Nevertheless, we hope that everyone remains vigilant and stays safe through this holiday season. If you're feeling particularly alone, the Physiology Slack channel is up and running. Drop in and say hi to your fellow physiologists!

Sarah & Kelli

# **Physiology Slack Channel**

Aanishaa, James, and Jiachen recently set up the official Physiology Slack channel to facilitate communication within the department. We caught up with Aanishaa to see what the channel offers and how it might help us through the holidays.

**Sarah:** How do you think Slack will help increase engagement and/or cohesion of the department?

**Aanishaa:** Slack is a great platform for efficient communication. We are a close-knit department and up till now we enjoyed face to face banter with our fellow colleague but due to COVID it has been challenging to stay connected. Most of us are dependent on emails to communicate with one another. We hope slack can help foster better communication and increase graduate student relations.

**S:** What do you think members of the department would use this for?

**A:** Reagent borrowing, seminar discussion, event planning (journal club, happy hour, Fun day, etc). Problems with anything in the department are one of the top things we want Slack to be used for, but we are also interested in using Slack to increase graduate student interaction within our department.

S: And finally, what advantages/disadvantages do you think Slack offers over conventional email?

**A:** Advantages - Faster communication. Less formal than email.

Disadvantages - Cannot be successful without optimal participation in the department.

## **Publications**

The Qiu lab recently published the <u>cryo-electron structure and pH-sensing mechanism of the</u> proton-activated chloride channel (PAC) in *Nature*.

The Welling was part of a collaboration defining a <u>specific genetic variant of WNK1 that leads to inheritance of hyperkalemic hypercholoremic acidosis</u> in *JCI*.