

MONTHLY UPDATE

DEPARTMENT OF BIOCHEMISTRY

December 2016

It is hard to believe that Christmas is upon us – it has been a busy month with much to celebrate with Peter Dearden's IPL, numerous award winners at the School of Biomedical Sciences Awards evening (well done Parry, Peter D, Marilyn Merriman, Tony Z and Murray) then over the weekend we have celebrated the graduation of many students. Well done everyone!

All the while I know everyone has been very busy with many student committee meetings, new summer students in the building, and papers to write before Christmas break even though we are working in a building site with much dust, noise and general disruption – we all look forward to the new labs on the first floor. Although I should warn everyone that the dust and disruption will likely continue next year as the first floor is completed and the CELS lab is refurbished.



*A guest appearance from Martina,
because she looks so happy - BC*

This is also the time of year when we say farewell to some staff. Early in December we farewelled Nicole who has made a great contribution to the Bioc192 office over the last semester (we hope she might come back sometime soon!), on Friday we had morning tea for Roger who will be finishing up in the IT office this week. Roger has been in the department since 2000 and has witnessed many changes in provision of IT in that time – we all wish Roger the best in his retirement. Lastly, at the end of the week we say goodbye to Murray after 40 years of service to the department. Please turn over as Bronwyn has made a page devoted to him, but I wish to convey my sincere thanks to Murray for his loyal service to the department over the years. You will be missed!

With that I wish you a very Merry Christmas – relax and enjoy the break with friends and family.

Catherine

Conferences

Recent attendance

Wayne Patrick - 25th FAOBMB Conference Manila, Phillipines (5-7th).

Liz Ledgerwood - Annual Meeting of the Society for Free Radical Research (Australasia), Griffith University, Australia, 5-7 December

Kurt Krause - AsCA 2016, Hanoi 5-9 December

Tony Merriman - International Symposium: Uric Acid Cardiovascular 30 Nov - 6 Dec

Ordering

FinanceOne availability means that ordering cutoff is 5pm Wednesday 21st December. Normal ordering will resume on Monday 9th January.

There will also be a 2 hour window (9-11 am) to process any urgent orders on Wednesday 4th Jan.

New arrivals

Valerie Tan will be working as an ARF with Steph Hughes starting in the new year.

IT

As you will know if you have been reading the daily emails, we have bought a departmental licence for the molecular imaging software Pymol. Instructions for installation are available on the intranet, or you can put in a request with the IT team to have it installed on your computer. You are permitted to use it on departmental and personal machines, and it runs on MacOS, Windows, or Linux.

Health & Safety

The first IBSC meeting for 2017 is 24th January. Submissions need to be in by Monday 16th January.

Have a safe and merry Christmas. Keep your hair and eyebrows tied back while flambéeing those puddings.

Building & Equipment

From the beginning of 2017 we will no longer have Murray Cockerill to look after our electronics, centrifuges, and other temperamental equipment. We wish Murray the very best for the future, and look forward to regular visits and promise coffee (and cake if we get enough notice) in exchange for keeping us up to date on his adventures around the world.

Peter Fleury will join Peter Small in the new year as a part time electronics technician, and the two of them will look after both the building and the equipment. The plants are already responding very positively to Peter Small's care!



21st May 2012: Murray receives the Dunedin North Rotary Club's "Pride of Workmanship" Award.



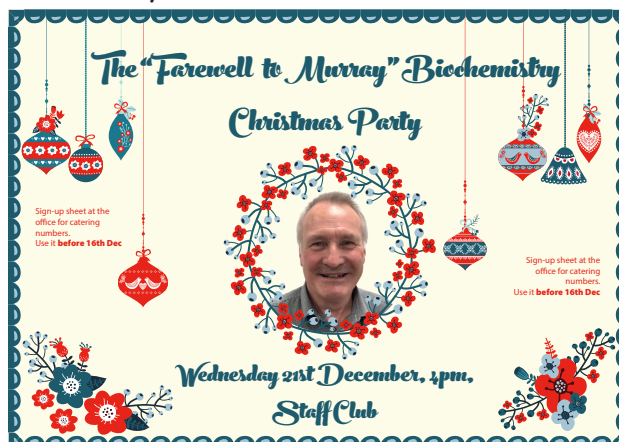
31st Dec 1999: Murray's first attempt to escape the Department.



18th August 2016: Murray is still here, celebrating his 70th birthday.



14th December 2016: Murray is awarded the BMS "Sustained Contribution" award.



21st December 2016: Murray's retirement function will be held concurrently with the Department Christmas party.

22nd December 2016,

GOODBYE & BEST WISHES MURRAY