

## Annual Report-May 2012

The Ph.D. program in Integrative Physiology and Pharmacology graduated six students with Ph.D. degrees and two students with M.S. degrees in the 2011-2012 academic year. The program accepted four new students and one transfer from another Ph.D. program, leaving the current graduate student population at 18 students. Five students passed their comprehensive examinations, and four of these have successfully defended their dissertation proposals and advanced to candidacy.

The current (18) students were quite productive, having published a total of 22 peer-reviewed publications in highly reputable journals in their fields, and submitted 48 abstracts to professional research society meetings. The IPP students are members and active participants in national and international professional research organizations, including Amer. Assoc. Cancer Research (AACR), Amer. Soc. Pharmacol. and Exper. Therapeutics (ASPET), Amer. Physiol. Soc. (APS), Internatl. Cannabinoid Res. Soc. (ICRS), Res. Soc. Alcohol (RSA) and other organizations. Students were awarded four WFUGS Alumni Travel Awards and four professional research society travel awards to present their work at both intramural and national meetings, contributing over 40 posters or talks presented this academic year. Best poster awards earned by students for their presentations included the prestigious RSA Enoch Gordis Student Research Award; ASPET Behavioral Pharmacology division (1<sup>st</sup>); NC Tissue Engineering and Regenerative Medicine Soc. (1<sup>st</sup>); Amer Chemical Soc-Syngenta conference (2<sup>nd</sup>), WFIRM Research Day (1<sup>st</sup>); and WFUGS Research Day (3 runners-up).

Two IPP students were awarded Individual National Research Service Award (F32) NIH grants, a particularly highly regarded achievement, as less than 10% of the submissions are funded. One student earned a Quebec Urological Association Training Scholarship and an American Urological Association Foundation Research Scholar Fellowship. Two of our IPP students are officers in the U.S. Army. One IPP student participated in the WFU team that won 4<sup>th</sup> place in the Annual WFU Biotechnology Case Competition.

Six IPP students participated in teaching activities, either as lecturers or tutors at neighboring academic institutions. IPP students supported many service activities, including Graduate Student Association events, WFUGS Diversity day and other recruitment activities, and service as MMARS volunteers for graduate orientation. IPP students participated in community service activities, including Brain Awareness Council; Komen Race for the Cure; Kernersville Cares for Kids; Special Olympics; Alpha Sigma Phi; Amer Heart Assoc. Walk; and the Health Effectiveness Committee. Of particular note, one IPP student represented WFUGS as the Student Ambassador for the Office of Research Integrity Quest for Research Excellence Conference.