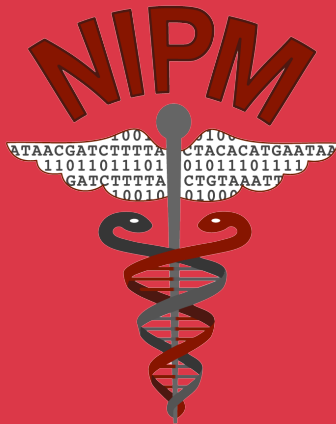


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2017 Summer Newsletter



Introducing Dr. Edwin Oh

Dr. Edwin Oh was appointed associate professor in NIPM and the UNLV School of Medicine. He received his doctorate from University of Michigan and a postdoctoral fellowship at Johns Hopkins. He previously served as faculty at Duke University. His career has focused on genetic and structural variants that contribute to human health and neurological disease.

Dr. Edwin Oh's Research Program

The primary questions that drive new NIPM faculty member Dr. Edwin Oh's research program are 1) what are the genetic and structural variants that contribute to human health and disease and 2) how do we interpret such variation to improve the cellular and molecular diagnosis of genetic diseases? To address these questions, Dr. Oh's lab utilizes next-generation sequencing platforms and studies animal models. Over the last decade, his work has been supported by RO1 investigator-led and Program Center grants from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) as well as fellowship awards from private foundations. Moving forward, his research will center on the dissection of organellar stress in developmental and late-onset neurological disorders such as schizophrenia, autism-spectrum disorders, and glaucoma.

Exciting New Clinical Research Project

NIPM is initiating new clinical research with NIPM adjunct faculty Dr. Robb Rowley to examine how screening for severe genetic mutations improves health care outcomes.

NIPM Research Funding

NIPM's \$11.5 million COBRE application to the NIH received a significantly higher score than last year's submission, and NIPM is currently awaiting a final funding decision. Dr. Qing Wu was awarded a new NIH R15 grant for \$360,000 titled "Developing Model-based Bone Density Reference Values for African-American Women." Congratulations to Dr. Wu and his team!

NIPM Next-Generation Sequencing and Genotyping Service Opens

Las Vegas's only advanced DNA genome sequencing facility, the NIPM Next-Generation Sequencing and Genotyping Service (NNGS), is now open. The facility was made possible by funding from the Governor's Office of Economic Development and will therefore be used for economic development purposes as well, with planned outreach to clinicians interested in genetic testing services. In addition to serving several UNLV clients, two other Las Vegas groups are pursuing NNGS services, and one has committed to a new collaboration that will supplement intensive use of NNGS by the anticipated COBRE grant mentioned above.

NIPM's Fall Seminar Series

The NIPM seminar series has integrated with the Lou Ruvo Center of Brain Health. Upcoming seminars will be given by Virendra Mishra, project staff from the Cleveland Clinic Lou Ruvo Center for Brain Health, on Aug. 18; new NIPM faculty member Dr. Edwin Oh on Sept. 13; and Dr. Mary Croughan, UNLV's new vice president for research and economic development, on Oct. 16.