July Trainee Spotlight

Xinbei Li
PhD Student
Johns Hopkins University

Xinbei Li is an upcoming fifth year Ph.D. student in the Department of Biological Chemistry at Johns Hopkins Medical Institute. Under the mentorship of Dr. Mollie K. Meffert and Dr. Michael J. Caterina, Xinbei focuses her research on unraveling the intricate post-transcriptional mechanisms underlying neuropathic pain. She has been using single molecular detection techniques and next generation sequencing to elucidate the molecular events following sciatic nerve injury.

During her training, Xinbei developed a pioneering single molecular detection pipeline for spatially mapping small molecules, such as mRNA, within neuronal tissue, and led to the publication of a first-author method article on STAR Protocols, a Cell Press journal. Passionate about investigating non-coding RNAs regulations in injury response in the peripheral nervous system, Xinbei also published a first-author review article on Neurobiology of Pain.
Beyond her academic achievements, Xinbei also serves as the Twitter Team Lead in the USASP Communication Committee. Over the past year, she lead a dynamic Twitter team, raising public awareness of pain research by disseminating event schedules, funding resources, and cutting-edge research findings. She also supported the success of annual USASP conferences by fostering connections between virtual and in-person attendees. With a passion for unraveling the complexities of pain mechanisms and a commitment to effective scientific communication, Xinbei hopes to continue making meaningful contributions to her field.

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**ASPMN® 33rd National Conference**

![ASPMN® 33rd National Conference Banner](image)

**2024 USASP Meeting Updates**
The upcoming INRC meeting will be in the beautiful and vibrant Atlanta, GA from July 9th to July 12th 2023. The meeting is chaired by Dr. Anne Murphy (GSU) and Dr. Cathy Cahill (UCLA), hosted by the Neuroscience Institute at Georgia State University, and supported in part by National Institute on Drug Abuse.
Gulf Coast Consortia #Pain2023 Workshop

Lauren Donovan, Stanford University
Senescence of Primary Sensory Neurons as a Driver of Pain in Aging

Nader Ghasemlou, Queen’s University
Circadian Rhythms Drive a Sexually Dimorphic Response in Thermal Nociception

Xintong Dong, University of Texas Dallas
Genetic Dissection of Antimicrobial Peptide Signaling in Neuro-Immune Crosstalks

The Gulf Coast Consortia's #Pain2023 workshop series will continue on July 21st with *Neuroimmune Mechanisms on Pain*. Click here to register (registration closes at midnight July 20). The event will take place online, on July 21, 2023, from 1-2 pm (CDT).

Montreal Conference on Pain Circuit

This conference will take place at the IRCM (Institut de Recherches Cliniques de Montréal) located in downtown Montreal from **July 21-22, 2023**.

For more information: https://montrealpaincircuits.com

Save the Date for the AHS 2023 Scottsdale Headache Symposium
The American Headache Society's 2023 Scottsdale Headache Symposium will be held November 16-19, 2023 at the JW Marriott Camelback Inn in Scottsdale, AZ.

Featured Jobs and Training Opportunities

Stanford Post-Doctoral Fellowship in Pain Psychology

Members can sign into the USASP website to view additional job postings

New York, Doubleday, 2022. Hard Cover 273 pages, $28.95. Also available on Kindle

A Review of The Hard Sell

A fast-moving tale of criminal acts by the makers of aerosol fentanyl (Subsys).

John Kapoor and his senior employees were convicted of a Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act (RICO) and several other fraud charges for their marketing of Subsys. Their evil acts and the government’s pursuit and conviction are dramatically described by Evan Hughes who has written many well-received pieces for the NYC establishment. The story starts with the efforts to get FDA approval for their atomizer-delivered fentanyl. The FDA overruled its advisory panel and chose to allow this product on the market. Although the stipulation that it could only be used for cancer patients who had failed other opioids was part of the approval process, the sales force for this drug completely ignored this caveat. Instead, they targeted high-prescribing docs and then seduced them with money and attractive female sales reps into writing prescriptions for...
all who asked. Indeed, the Subsys marketing team created pill mills out of naïve or greedy doctors. There never was even a pretense of complying with the FDA regulations. The company, Insys, made a millionaire out of its primary shareholder, John Kapoor. No other Pharma company has drawn a RICO allegation from the government, and it appears that this was a well-deserved charge and conviction. The contrast is great with the Oxycontin story and the personal immunity of the Sackler family who controlled Purdue, the maker and seller of this so commonly abused drug.

Hughes has a rather breathless writing style and the book is a quick and easy read. How many tales like this will unfold in the years to come and continue to demonstrate the evils of capitalism in our health care system? Many lives were ruined by Kapoor and his employees: the patients, their families, and the Insys employees who pursued the almighty dollar rather than an ethical approach to their occupation.

John D. Loeser, M.D.

Upcoming Events

**July 9-12:** [International Narcotic Research Conference will be in Atlanta Georgia](#) July 9-12

**July 21:** #Pain2023 Workshop

**July 21-22:** Montreal Conference on Pain Circuit

**September 7-9:** [NeuPSIG 2023 International Congress on Neuropathic Pain](#)

More events can be found on the USASP Event [Calendar](#).

If your SIG or committee has updates or events you would like shared with USASP membership please email them using the contact below.

**Contact Info:**
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