

CEHS 2008 Poster Winners

The Center for Environmental Health Sciences (CEHS) at MIT held its annual poster session on May 22, 2008 in Morss Hall in Walker Memorial. The session highlighted the work of 17 of the Center's affiliated labs from eight MIT departments and featured more than 40 posters.

CEHS has as its overall mission the study of biological effects and processes of exposure to environmental agents in order to understand, and predict, how such exposures affect human health. To that end, the Center brings together 28 MIT faculty members from a total of eight MIT departments (in both the School of Science and the School of Engineering) plus one faculty member from the Harvard School of Public Health.

This year's CEHS prizes were made possible by the Myriam Marcelle Znaty Research Fund in two categories, Graduate Students and Postdoctoral Scholars. The Myriam Marcelle Znaty Research Endowment Fund was established nearly 30 years ago to support the research of young scientists at MIT.

The prize for first place is \$500, second place is \$100, and the third prize is a CEHS T-shirt, mug, pen, and lanyard in both the Graduate Student and Postdoctoral Scholar categories.

The first place winner of \$500 cash prize for the best Graduate Student poster is Aarthi Chandrasekaran from Prof. Ram Sasisekharan's lab presented her work on "Human Adaptation of Avian Influenza A Viruses"

There was a two way tie for the \$100 second prize. It was awarded to Tsz Yan Clement Chan, a Graduate Student in Prof. Peter Dedon's lab and Erika Noonan, a Graduate Student in Prof. Leona Samson's lab. Mr. Chan presented his work on "Metabolomic Approaches to Characterizing Changes in RNA Secondary Modifications in Cellular Responses to Toxins" and Ms. Noonan presented her work on "Modeling the Cell Decision Process in Responses to the DNA Lesion O⁶Methylguanine".

The third prize, which was a CEHS T-shirt, mug, pen, and lanyard was awarded to Jared Toettcher, a Graduate Student in Prof. Bruce Tidor's lab. Mr. Toettcher presented his work on "p53-dependent and – independent Mechanisms Act Synergistically to mediate Sustained Cell Cycle Arrest."

Winners in the Postdoctoral Scholar category included:

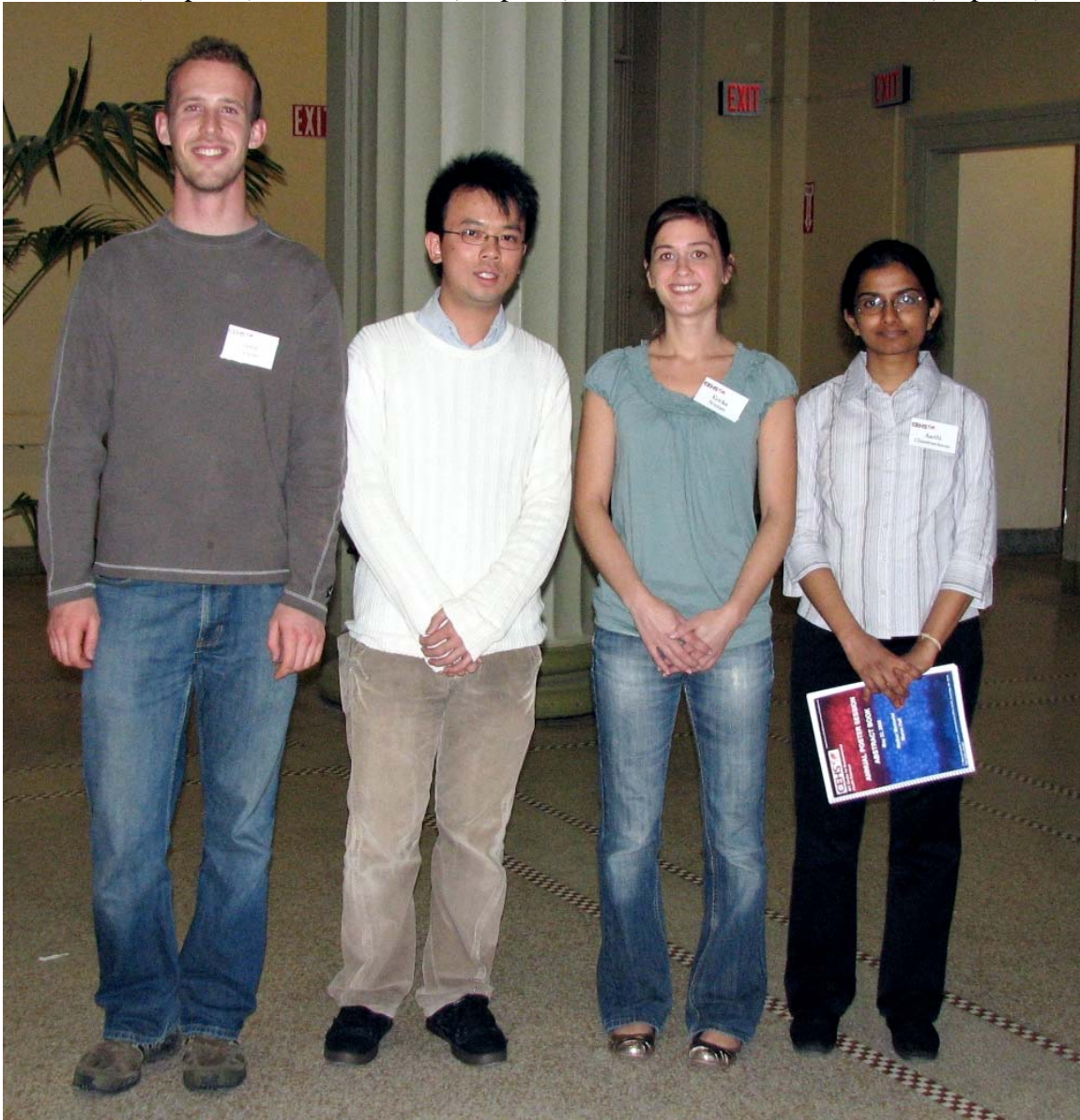
First prize of \$500 awarded to Scott M. Knudsen from Prof. Scott Manalis' lab, who presented his work on "Determination of Bacterial Antibiotic Resistance using a Suspended Microchannel Resonator".

Second prize of \$100 was awarded to Peter Slade from Prof. Steven Tannenbaum's lab, who presented his work on "Enhanced Identification of Biotin-Derivatized Peptides".

There was a two way tie for the third prize of a CEHS T-shirt, mug, pen, and lanyard. It was awarded to Dragony Fu and Johan Peter Svensson, both from Prof. Leona Samson's lab. Dr. Fu presented his work on "Exploration of Molecular Repair Pathways Mediated by Human AlkB Dioxygenases" and Dr. Svensson presented his work on "Identifying Novel Human Damage Response Proteins based on Yeast Orthology".

Pictures of winners:

Graduate student winners: (from left to right) Jared Toettcher (3rd place), Clement Tsz Yan Chan (2nd place), Erika Noonan (2nd place), and Aarthi Chandrasekaran (1st place).



Postdoctoral Scholar Winners: (from left to right) Johan Peter Svensson (3rd place), Dragony Fu (3rd Place), Peter Slade (2nd Place), and Scott Knudsen (1st Place).

