



# Laboratory Express

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Medical Laboratory Technology Program Newsletter  
Editor: Courtney Dalton

## Congratulations to Our Graduates!

### The Medical Laboratory Technology Graduating Class of 2011

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Jacqua Black *(Accepted a position at the OSU Medical Center)*

Rebekkah Cummins *(Accepted a position at Berger Health System)*

Sahra Dini *(Accepted a position at the OSU Medical Center)*

Lisa Foster

Liangyu Han

Cory Holcomb *(Accepted a position at the Fairfield Medical Center)*

Hannah Ike

Yanxia Li *(Accepted a position at OhioHealth)*

Carlos Marshall

Kimberly Mitchell *(Accepted a position at OhioHealth)*

Omar Mohamed *(Accepted a position with the Mount Carmel Health System)*

Farhan Mohamud *(Accepted a position with Nationwide Children's Hospital)*

Angela Newland

Tiffany Pinto *(Accepted a position with OhioHealth)*

Bianca Schaffer *(Accepted a position at the OSU Medical Center)*

Kavitha Shetty-Narasimha

Stephen Yu



## The Medical Laboratory Technology Program's First Annual Recognition Ceremony

This year, the Medical Laboratory Technology Program had the opportunity to begin a tradition that will last for years to come. The MLT Student Association planned and sponsored the event with the help of their advisor, MaryEllen Tancred. During this special evening, Sandra Arrighi and MaryEllen Tancred honored the students who had successfully completed the program's requirements.

During the evening, the graduating class, and their families and friends, had the opportunity to hear from keynote speaker Dr. Martin Kelsten, medical director at Dublin Methodist Hospital. The evening also brought the opportunity for the students to be individually honored by receiving a commemorative Medical Laboratory Technology keychain and a certificate from the MLT faculty. Rebekkah Cummins and Yanxia Li also received additional recognition for their leadership and academic achievements. The evening concluded with Sandra Arrighi leading the graduating class in the recitation of the ASCP Code of Ethics.

*The students recited the ASCP Code of Ethics. Photo second row: Yanxia Li, Kimberly Mitchell, Angela Newland, Tiffany Pinto, Bianca Schaffer, Kavitha Shetty-Narasimha, Stephen Yu Photo first row: Fatuma Aman, Jacqua Black, Victoria Bradford, Rebekkah Cummins, Sahra Dini, Lisa Foster, Mahamud Hassan, Cory Holcomb*

Photo by Allan Singer, MS, MT(ASCP)



*This is a new section of the newsletter. We are going to begin featuring an interesting article that has appeared in either the national or local news media that pertains to the healthcare field. We hope you enjoy.*

## Online Gamers Crack AIDS Enzyme Puzzle

By: AFP

Online gamers have achieved a feat beyond the realm of Second Life or Dungeons and Dragons: they have deciphered the structure of an enzyme of an AIDS-like virus that had thwarted scientists for a decade.

The exploit is published on Sunday in the journal Nature Structural & Molecular Biology, where -- exceptionally in scientific publishing -- both gamers and researchers are honoured as co-authors.

Their target was a monomeric protease enzyme, a cutting agent in the complex molecular tailoring of retroviruses, a family that includes HIV.

Figuring out the structure of proteins is vital for understanding the causes of many diseases and developing drugs to block them.

But a microscope gives only a flat image of what to the outsider looks like a plate of one-dimensional scrunched-up spaghetti. Pharmacologists, though, need a 3-D picture that "unfolds" the molecule and rotates it in order to reveal potential targets for drugs.

This is where Foldit comes in.

Developed in 2008 by the University of Washington, it is a fun-for-purpose video game in which gamers, divided into competing groups, compete to unfold chains of amino acids -- the building blocks of proteins -- using a set of online tools.

To the astonishment of the scientists, the gamers produced an accurate model of the enzyme in just three weeks.

Cracking the enzyme "provides new insights for the design of antiretroviral drugs," says the study, referring to the lifeline medication against the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV).

It is believed to be the first time that gamers have resolved a long-standing scientific problem.

"We wanted to see if human intuition could succeed where automated methods had failed," Firas Khatib of the university's biochemistry lab said in a press release. "The ingenuity of game players is a formidable force that, if properly directed, can be used to solve a wide range of scientific problems."

One of Foldit's creators, Seth Cooper, explained why gamers had succeeded where computers had failed.

"People have spatial reasoning skills, something computers are not yet good at," he said.

"Games provide a framework for bringing together the strengths of computers and humans. The results in this week's paper show that gaming, science and computation can be combined to make advances that were not possible before."

*Original article can be found at Yahoo!PluggedIn: <http://games.yahoo.com/blogs/plugged-in/online-gamers-crack-aids-enzyme-puzzle-161920724.html>*

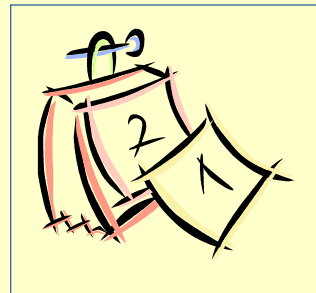
## Upcoming Important Dates:

1/20/12 @ 10am- Riverside Lab Tour (?)

02/07/12 @12pm- MLT Organization Meeting

02/28/12 @12pm- MLT Organization Meeting

3/02/12- Application for ASCP National Honor Award due



**REMINDER:** The ASCP is offering a National Student Honor Award. To qualify for the award the applicant must:

- Be a student member of the ASCP
- Have a minimum GPA of 3.3 on a 4.0 scale
- Demonstrate leadership and/or community service activity participation

The application can found at: <http://www.ascp.org/functional-nav/laboratory-science-students>

**The postmark deadline for applications is March 2, 2012!**

## Lab Rats Honored



- Erika Erb has accepted a position at the American Red Cross
- 2011 MLT Program Leadership Award: Rebekkah Cummins
- 2011 MLT Program Academic Achievement Award: Yanxia Li
- Winter 2011 Class Valedictorian: Yanxia Li

I would love to hear your ideas for newsletter topics. Please email me at [cdalton6@student.csc.edu](mailto:cdalton6@student.csc.edu)