

H. Anwar Ahmad, Ph.D.



Dr. H. Anwar Ahmad, a tenured professor Biology/Environmental Science at Jackson State University, possess a highly diversified education and experience in biological sciences, biostatistics, risk assessment, and information systems with over 25 years of teaching, research and consulting experiences at various institutes of higher learning.

Dr. Ahmad's formal education includes MS in computer information systems and MBA, besides BS, MS, and Ph.D. in biological/life sciences. He has taught several undergraduate and graduate courses in biological sciences, biostatistics, risk analysis, and computer sciences.

Besides teaching in traditional classroom setting to students and adult learners, Dr. Ahmad had exclusively developed and taught several online courses. One of those courses is quantitative risk assessment, developed under extramural funding, and offered to African and US mid-career professionals in international agriculture trade and food safety.

Dr. Ahmad has published over 80 full-length research papers, abstracts and conference proceedings in various scientific journals. His current research interests include: Neural Network Modeling of Physiological Variables; Biostatistics Education and Consulting; Microbial Risk Assessment; and Animal Growth Modeling.

Luma Akil, Ph.D.



Dr. Luma Akil is a technician scientific working at Bioinformatics and Biostatistical Core (BBC), an NIH funded multi-user core facility at Jackson State University -Center for Environmental Health, for the past four years. Through the BBC, she provides consulting services, such as experimental design and data analysis support to faculty, research associates and graduate students.

Dr. Akil also conduct trainings and workshops on various software packages such as SAS, SPSS, SYSTAT, Decision Tools, NeuroShell and others.

Dr. Akil received her doctoral degree in Environmental Science in 2013 and Master's degree in Environmental Science/Molecular Toxicology at Jackson State University (2009), and a Bachelor of Science in Biology from the University of Memphis (2001).

Dr. Akil's research is focused on environmental effects on human health, food safety, obesity and global disease epidemic.

Stella Anyangwe, MD, Ph.D.



Dr. Stella Anyangwe, is an Epidemiologist and Global Health Expert, and an Honorary Professor at the School of Health Systems and Public Health, Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Pretoria, Pretoria, South Africa. She retired from the World Health Organization in April 2013, after 17 years of service to the Organization, and she is now engaged in consultancies in Global Health. As Honorary Professor, she gives lectures to Diploma and Master's degree students in the following academic tracks in the School of Health Systems and Public Health: Health Policy and Management; Disease Control and Health Measurement.

From 1996 till April 2013, Dr. Anyangwe served WHO in various capacities. For 13 years (1998-2011) she was WHO Country Representative in four countries in the African Region (Seychelles, Mali, Zambia and South Africa), with major responsibilities being the coordination of WHO's technical support to those Member States. Her last assignment in WHO, from January 2012 till April 2013, was as the African Regional Adviser for Disaster Preparedness and Response. Before taking up her international appointments with WHO, she was Senior Lecturer in Epidemiology and Community Medicine in the Faculty of Medicine of the University of Yaounde, in Cameroon. Prior to obtaining her MPH and PhD degrees in Epidemiology at Tulane University, New Orleans, Dr. Anyangwe was a practicing physician and resident nephrologist in Cameroon.

Dr. Anyangwe has presented and published several scientific papers on a variety of public health issues, including HIV/AIDS and TB, human resources for health, the attainment of the MDGs by developing countries, geophagia, and primary health care.

Anthony E. Archibong, Ph.D.



Dr. Anthony Archibong received his Ph.D. from Oregon State University, in the area of Reproductive Endocrinology and conducted post-doctoral research in the Department of Animal Science, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, in Embryo Physiology. He subsequently conducted another post-doctoral research at the Oregon National Primate Research Center, in Gamete Science. He is currently an Associate Professor and Director of the Core Endocrine in the Department of Physiology at Meharry Medical College. He is also an American Board of Bioanalysis (ABB) Certified Andrologist.

Dr. Archibong's expertise is in mammalian reproductive biology and the molecular mechanism(s) of environmental influence on reproductive function. He is particularly interested in the adverse effects of environmental pollutants on the hormones that regulate male and female gonadal function, gamete interaction and pre-implantation embryo development; and preservation of fertility using stem cell technology. He is currently a reviewer for *Biology of Reproduction*, *Fertility Sterility*, *Asian Journal of Andrology*, *Toxicology Letters* and *Andrologia*. He is on his 16th year as a member of the Minority Affairs Committee of the Society for the Study of Reproduction, a committee saddled with responsibility of mentoring and encouraging Minority Students to take up profession in Biomedical Sciences.

Dr. Archibong holds a fertility patent based on his discovery; Bombesin-like peptides and their receptor antagonists for fertility and contraception.

Zikri Arslan, Ph.D.



Dr. Zikri Arslan is an Associate Professor of Analytical and Environmental Chemistry (Dept. of Chemistry), and a joint faculty member at the Environmental Science PhD program at Jackson State University, Jackson, Mississippi. He received his PhD in 2000 from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, MA in analytical chemistry with an emphasis on applied plasma source mass spectrometry for environmental analysis.

In summer of 2000, Dr. Arslan received a post-doctoral research award from the National Research Council (NRC) to work as post-doctoral fellow at NOAA/NEFSC Howard Marine Sciences Laboratory in Sandy Hook, NJ between 2000 and 2002 under supervision of Dr. Anthony J. Paulson. Later, he continued his post-doctoral research as an assistant research scientist (2002-2003) at the University of Maryland, Chesapeake Biological Laboratory under supervision of Dr. Dave Secor researching on micromilling protocols for identification of bluefin tuna stocks using otoliths.

Dr. Arslan's research focuses on the chemistry and instrumental analysis of trace elements, heavy metals (specifically arsenic, cadmium, mercury and lead) and nanoparticles from environmental and biological samples (water, soil, fish) with an emphasis to understand the pathways of accumulation, transport and their impact on environment and human life. Solid phase extraction methods using microorganism (yeast and bacteria) and chelating materials are developed for separation and detection of elemental species and nanoparticles. Particular interest is given to understanding the impact of engineered nanomaterials, including quantum dots and metals oxides on biological systems using animal models and aquatic species (fish, algae and artemia). He has published numerous papers in peer-reviewed journals and given presentations in national and international conferences.

Michael Aschner, Ph.D.



Dr. Michael Aschner serves as the Harold and Muriel Block Chair in Molecular Pharmacology at Albert Einstein College of Medicine. He served on numerous toxicology panels (Institute of Medicine, US Environmental Protection Agency, Center for Disease Control), and is a member of the Neurotoxicology and Alcohol study section (NIH). Research in our lab focuses on the following topics: (1) Modulation of *C. elegans* genes (*aat*, *skn-1*, *daf-16*) that are homologous to mammalian regulators of MeHg uptake and cellular resistance will modify dopaminergic neurodegeneration in response to MeHg exposure. (2) Under

conditions of MeHg-induced oxidative stress, Nrf2 (a master regulator of antioxidant responses) coordinates the upregulation of cytoprotective genes that combat MeHg-induced oxidative injury, and that genetic and biochemical changes that negatively impact upon Nrf2 function increase MeHg's neurotoxicity. (3) PARK2, a strong PD genetic risk factor, alters neuronal vulnerability to modifiers of cellular Mn status, particularly at the level of mitochondrial dysfunction and oxidative stress.

Dr. Aschner's studies are designed to (1) shed novel mechanistic insight into metal-induced neurodegeneration; (2) identify targets for genetic or pharmacologic modulation of neurodegenerative disorders; (3) increase knowledge of the pathway involved in oxidative stress; (4) develop improved research models for human disease using knowledge of environmental sciences.

Márcio Ribeiro Barbosa, MD, Ph.D.



Dr. Márcio Ribeiro Barbosa is a Plastic Surgeon who serves as Surgeon and Researcher in three hospitals in the Sao Paulo state. After obtaining his MD, he became a Resident Doctor from 1993 to 1996, in General Surgery at the Hospital of Clinics in the College of Medicine, University of São Paulo, doing a lot of scientific works in surgery and plastic surgery. From 1996 to 1999 he became a Plastic Surgeon, and was recognized as Specialist by the Brazilian Society of Plastic Surgery in 2000.

Dr. Barbosa's professional experience include: Oncoplastic Surgery in Institute of Cancer Arnaldo Vieira de Carvalho(1996), Female Oncoplastic Reconstruction Surgery in Female Hospital Perola Binyngton (1999), Infants and Pediatric Plastic Surgery in Pediatric Hospital Jesus Boy (1999) and Burns Unit of Hospital Tatuapé (1998) and Hospital of Clinics of College of Medicine of University of São Paulo (1994).

Dr. Barbosa was an assistant doctor in Plastic Surgery and a professor of residents in plastic surgery in Hospital Heliópolis from 2000 to 2002. He also took some post-graduate courses in research and various study fields thus obtaining post-graduation degrees in the following fields: Medicine of Sports (Federal University of São Paulo State - 1997); Acupuncture (Title of Especialization in Acupuncture - 2000); Nutrology (Hospital Portuguese Beneficent with Title of Nutrology - 2007); Politics, Management and Strategy (War Superior School Association - 2008); and Chemistry (Lavras Federal University - 2012).

Dr. Barbosa currently serves as coordinator of Institute of Study and Research of Hospital Cruz Azul of São Paulo, Brazil, and works in research and bioethics. He is the Chief Plastic Surgeon in Hospital SBC, Emergency Clinic in Hospital Cruz Azul of São Paulo, and researches in CAM eggs models with nanocarriers, and treatment of waste water and its effluents.

Gerard Bastian, MD, Ph.D.



Dr. Gérard Bastian is currently head of the Oncopharmacology laboratory which is part of the Pharmacology department at the Pitié-Salpêtrière hospital in Paris. After obtaining his MD and PhD, he started at the Institute Curie in Paris as head of the pharmacokinetics department. He moved to the Salpetriere hospital in Paris, where he was in charge of the Clinical Research Laboratory of the Medical Oncology Department, which was under the direction of Prof. D. Khayat.

Since 2003, Dr. Bastian has been involved in translational research starting from the testing of new chemicals for their potential antitumor activities against human tumor cell lines; testing by Flow cytometry for the effect of such compounds on the cell cycle; the apoptosis induction and measuring the uptake and efflux inside the cells, nucleus and DNA.

Dr. Bastian is also involved in clinical trials, studying the pharmacokinetics of new drugs during phase I and Phase II trials with special focus on drug – drug interactions. He is a consultant at the French FDA, in charge of most of the phase I trial of new antitumor agents.

Jorge Luis Ble-Castillo, Ph.D.



Dr. Jorge Luis Ble-Castillo did his undergraduate studies in Chemistry at the National Autonomous University of Mexico (Mexico city), specializing in clinical biochemistry. After some years working in the clinical laboratory of some hospitals from the Mexican Institute for Social Security he finished a Mastership in Biomedical Sciences in the Juarez Autonomous University of Tabasco, after he obtained his Ph.D. degree in Medicine Research of the Superior Medicine School, National Polytechnic Institute in Mexico City.

Dr Ble is currently a Professor-Researcher in the Juarez Autonomous University of Tabasco. He participates in the teaching of biochemistry to medical and postgraduate students. His research interests are in the areas of biomedical research with special emphasis on metabolic alterations in chronic diseases. His current research involves investigations on the effects of banana resistant starch or magnesium supplementation on metabolic control in patients or animal models with obesity or diabetes. Additional interests include the study of metabolic alterations including oxidative stress in patients with obesity, metabolic syndrome and type 2 diabetes.

Dr Ble belongs to the National Researchers System of the National Council of Science and Technology (CONACYT) in Mexico.

Wayne Briner, Ph.D.



Dr. Wayne Briner is a 1987 graduate of Northern Illinois University who followed his doctoral work with a post doc at Tulane and LSU schools of medicine. He spent over 20 years as the director of the psychobiology program at the University of Nebraska with a research emphasis on metals toxicology.

Currently Dr. Briner is employed by Ashford University working with the neuroscience program and continuing his work on metals. He reviews and edits for several journals..

Edmond E. Creppy, Ph.D.



Dr. Edmond E. Creppy has been a Professor of Toxicology since 1989; First Class University Professor since 1996. He is a Pharmacist, Chemist and Dr Sc in Toxicology (1978) University Louis Pasteur of Strasbourg, Institute of Molecular and Cellular Biology, CNRS, (France).

Dr. Creppy is an honorary member of EUROTOX, Honorary President of the French Society of Toxicology; and Laureate of The National Academy of Medicine; Registered European Expert Toxicologist. Member of the International Experts' Order.

Dr. Creppy's field of interest include: Pathways of Natural substances in our Environment and prevention of their Toxicity. He is author of more than 250 international publications in journals including BBRC,

BBA, FEBS Letters, Phytochemistry, Tetrahedron Lett. Mutation Research, American Journal of Kidney Diseases, Brain Researches, New England Journal of Medicine. He is a member of the following scientific societies; Boards and Committees including IUTOX, EUROTOX, SOT (American Society, 1994), BST (British), African Society for Toxicological Sciences. Member of the editorial board and reviewer of Toxicology, Human and Experimental Toxicology, Archives of Toxicology; Toxicology and Applied Pharmacology, Life Sciences, BBA, FEBS Letters, Food Additives and Contaminants, Food and Chemical Toxicology, Toxicological Sciences, Toxicology Letters, etc. He is also a member of several board of Experts and Advisors at both national and international levels and a consultant for toxicological problems for both regulatory and experimental affairs.

In December 2013, Dr. Creppy was nominated at the national level, to the highest class in the highest category of salary, to the Exceptional Class of University Professors in France.

Himangshu S. Das, Ph.D.



Dr. Himangshu Das is currently a tenure track assistant professor at the department of civil and environmental engineering. He joined the department in Fall 2008 and since then he was involved in teaching 6 different undergraduate courses. These courses range from fundamental engineering courses (e.g., Engineering Mechanics: Statics and Dynamics) to civil engineering discipline focus courses (e.g., Engineering Fluid Mechanics, Water resources engineering).

Dr. Das has extensive research experience in the areas of mathematical modeling of fluid flow and sedimentation, storm surge modeling, Watershed/water quality modeling, 2D/3D circulation, shallow and deep sea geohazard analyses, and application of Geographic Information System (GIS) to address watershed and water quality problems.

Dr. Das has authored or coauthored more than 20 technical publications on coastal and near-shore processes and ocean engineering. He is a registered Professional Engineer (P.E.) for the State of Florida.

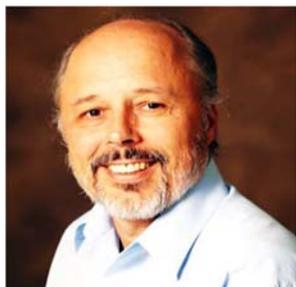
Victor M. Deflon, Ph.D.



Dr. Victor M. Deflon is a Professor of Inorganic Chemistry at the University of São Paulo, Chemistry Institute of São Carlos, Brazil. In 1998 he earned his Ph.D. at the University of Tübingen, Germany, and then he spent a six years period as Professor at the University of Brasília, Brazil, before starting his current position in 2006.

Dr. Deflon research interests include the potential medicinal use of coordination compounds, with emphasis in developing new complexes focusing the nuclear medicinal usage as well as transition metal complexes aiming the development of new metallodrugs directed mainly to neglected diseases.

Prescott Deininger, Ph.D.



Dr. Prescott Deininger currently holds the Joe W. and Dorothy Brown Chair in Oncology as a Professor of Epidemiology at the Tulane School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine and is the Director of the Tulane Cancer Center and serves as the co-Director for the Louisiana Cancer Research Consortium.

Dr. Deininger has been an executive editor for *Analytical Biochemistry* since 1990 and *Gene* since 2007, and serves on the editorial boards of several international journals, as well as numerous grant review boards. He has served a term on the Board of Scientific Counselors for the National Toxicology Program of the NIEHS.

Dr. Deininger was a graduate student with Dr. Carl Schmid at the University of California, Davis. He completed his dissertation entitled ‘Sequence Organization of the Human Genome’ in 1978. He carried out several years of postdoctoral training with Dr. Theodore Friedmann at the University of California, San Diego, followed by a year as a NATO fellow with Dr. Frederic Sanger at the MRC in Cambridge, England.

Among Dr. Deininger’s accomplishments during those years was the sequence of the polyoma virus genome; developing random shearing of DNA for shotgun DNA sequencing; initiating the EBV sequencing project; and isolation and analysis of the first clones of Alu repeats from the human genome. In 1981, he took a faculty position in the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology at LSU Health Sciences Center, New Orleans. In 1990, he developed the first dominant negative mutants while on sabbatical as an ACS Distinguished Fellow with Dr. Charles Stiles at the Dana Farber Cancer Institute and they hold the patent on the use of dominant negative mutants. His laboratory continues to be one of the major laboratories studying the role of human mobile elements in creating genetic instability.

Erika B. Dugo, Ph.D.



Dr. Erika B. Dugo serves as Technician for the RCMI-CEH Molecular and Cellular Biology Core Laboratory at Jackson State University. Her educational background includes a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology, as well as a Master of Science and Ph.D. in Environmental Science from Jackson State University.

Dr. Dugo worked as a Graduate Assistant in the Molecular Toxicology Laboratory and Cellomics and Toxicogenomics Research Laboratory, where her research focused on the cellular and molecular mechanisms involved in arsenic toxicity to human hepatocellular carcinoma (HepG2) cells. She worked for several years as a Teaching assistant for biology labs. She also served as a mentor for several high school and undergraduate students through the Summer Immersion and Summer Bridge programs at Jackson State University and Upward Bound Program at Tougaloo College.

Dr. Dugo has published several papers in peer-reviewed journals. She has presented her research by lecture and poster at over 20 national and international scientific conferences and received several accolades. She is a member of several professional organizations including American Association for Cancer Research (AACR), American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), American Biological Institute (ABI), and Phi Kappa Phi National Honor Society.

Jesse Edwards, Ph.D.



Dr. Jesse Edwards, III received his Bachelors of Science degree in Chemistry from Morehouse College. He earned his Ph.D. in Chemistry in the area of Computational/Theoretical Chemistry from Michigan State University. He was the first African American to earn a Ph.D. in a Physical Chemistry discipline from Michigan State University. After completing his Ph.D., he was awarded a Competitive Affirmative Action College of Natural Science Postdoctoral Fellowship at Michigan State. He joined the department of Chemistry at Florida A&M University (FAMU) and has advanced to the rank of Full Professor. While in this position he was recognized by the National Organization for the Professional Advancement of Black Chemists and Chemical Engineers (NOBCChE) as the Henry C. McBay Outstanding Teacher.

Dr. Edwards is a member of NOBCChE, the American Chemical Society, and the National Science Teachers Association. He also serves on the Executive Board of the FAMU United Faculty of Florida, the FAMU Faculty Senate, and other various committees on FAMU's campus.

Recently Dr. Edwards became a member of the Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Curriculum Advisory Board for the Florida Department of Education Office of STEM. Dr. Edwards has mentored and taught a number of students while at FAMU as evidenced by his work in chemical education being recognized as an outstanding paper in a recent National Symposium on Student Retention.

Jimmy T. Efird, Ph.D.



Dr. Jimmy T. Efird holds a joint appointment as Associate Professor in the Department of Public Health and as Deputy Director of the Center for Health Disparities, Brody School of Medicine, East Carolina University (ECU). He also serves as Director of Epidemiology and Outcomes Research for the ECU Heart Institute and is an Adjunct Associate Professor in the Department of Cardiovascular Sciences.

Prior to joining ECU, Dr. Efird was Director of the Biostatistics Facility at the John A. Burns School of Medicine (Honolulu, Hawaii) and an Associate Member of the Cancer Research Center of Hawaii. Additionally, he headed the Shared Resources Unit for the Hawaii EXPORT Center (diabetes disparities and associated complications in Native Hawaiians and Pacific peoples) and continues to serve as a Consulting Statistician for the Center for Native and Pacific Health Disparities Research.

Dr. Efird received his Ph.D. from Stanford University (Epidemiology with a concentration in Biostatistics). His expertise includes statistical methods for assessing gene-environment interaction, clinical trial design, computing power and sample size for correlated samples, and multiplicity adjustment for confidence intervals. He has served as a grant reviewer for NIH and the Susan B. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation. He currently serves as a Senior Statistical Consultant for The NCCR-funded RCMI Translational Research Network Data and Technology Coordinating Center.

Ebenezer Olatunde Farombi, Ph.D.



Dr. Ebenezer Olatunde Farombi is a Full Professor of Biochemistry in the Department of Biochemistry, Faculty of Basic Medical Sciences, College of Medicine, University of Ibadan, Nigeria. He holds a B Sc., M.Sc. and Ph.D Degrees in Biochemistry from the University of Ibadan. He had Postdoctoral training at the University of Liverpool, UK and also at the Institute of Food Safety and Toxicology, Denmark. He is currently the Dean, Faculty of Basic Medical Sciences, College of Medicine University of Ibadan and leads the University of Ibadan Biotechnology “Center of Excellence” project.

Professor Farombi’s research interests are on *Molecular Toxicology, Chemical carcinogenesis, Gastrointestinal pathology, Cellular oxidative stress mechanisms, Antioxidant pharmacology, Pharmaceutical indications of nutraceuticals as prophylactic agents, Nutrigenomics as well as Natural product Biotechnology.*

Professor Farombi has to his credit 130 scientific papers in international peer reviewed journals, 12 chapters in books and over 50 conference proceedings. He has edited a book titled “Nutritional Antioxidants in Cancer and Degenerative Diseases” with contributors from Nigeria, Cameroon, USA, Mauritius, South Africa, Japan and Denmark.

Professor Farombi has supervised over 80 BSc, 115 MSc and 15 PhD students. A Fellow of the Royal Society of Chemistry (Cambridge, UK), Professor Farombi is on the Editorial board of many international journals. He is presently the Editor-in-Chief of Toxicology Report the official journal of the West African Society of Toxicology (WASOT) and Chairman Editorial Board -Archives of Basic and Applied Medicine.

Ashton Hamme II, Ph.D.



Dr. Ashton T. Hamme II, Professor of Chemistry, earned his BS degree in chemistry from Jackson State University and his PhD at The Ohio State University, where he specialized in Synthetic Organic Chemistry. He entered the workforce for approximately 3 years as a Senior Research Chemist/Senior Research Scientist at Monsanto/Pharmacia Corporation in St. Louis, MO, where he performed medicinal chemistry related research in the area of cardiovascular drug discovery and is a co-inventor on more than 10 patents.

Professor Hamme’s research is focused on the total synthesis and derivatization of marine natural products and naturally occurring anti-cancer compounds, and the application of synthetic organic chemistry, specifically cycloaddition reactions, toward the functionalization and subsequent bioconjugation of carbon based nanomaterials such as single-walled carbon nanotubes for photo-thermal therapy.

Professor Hamme has served as a Principal Investigator on a variety of externally funded research grants from the National Institute of General Medical Sciences, the National Science Foundation, and the Central Mississippi Steel Magnolias Affiliate of Susan G. Komen for the Cure. Professor Hamme has published a number of scientific manuscripts as an independent researcher and serves as a member of the NIGMS Training, Workforce Development, and Diversity subcommittee. He is also the Co-Principal Investigator of NSF’s Louis Stokes Mississippi Alliance for Minority Participation, which focuses underrepresented minority students earning PhD degrees through STEM based research experiences and activities.

Fengxiang X. Han, Ph.D.



Dr. Fengxiang X. Han is currently Associate Professor of Environmental Chemistry in Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry at Jackson State University. His research interests cover a wide range of environmental sciences, including environmental chemistry and biogeochemistry of trace elements, heavy metals and radionuclides, pollution and remediation, environmental toxicology, environmental assessment and monitoring, environmental radiochemistry, carbon sequestration and global warming.

Currently Dr. Han teaches Environmental Chemistry, Nuclear Chemistry, Nuclear Waste Chemistry and Safety, Advanced Analytical Chemistry, and General Chemistry. He supervises both master and Ph.D. graduate students. He has published more than 75 refereed journal papers. He also published a book entitled “Biogeochemistry of Trace Elements in Global Arid Environments” by Springer.

Currently Dr. Han is in the editorial boards of Water Air and Soil Pollution (Springer), Soil and Sediment Contamination (Taylor and Francis), and chief-in-editor of Journal of Bioremediation and Biodegradation.

Aage Haugen, Ph.D.



Dr. Aage Haugen is a Professor and the Research Director at National Institute of Occupational Health, Section of Toxicology. He also holds an appointment as professor at Institute of Biotechnology, Norwegian University of Science and Technology. He received his Ph.D. degree from University of Bergen, and completed a postdoctoral training at US National Cancer Institute at the Laboratory of Human Carcinogenesis.

Dr. Haugen has devoted his research efforts on molecular mechanisms of lung carcinogenesis with special emphasis on genetic susceptibility to lung cancer. This has resulted in over 150 peer-reviewed publications.

Karina Sánchez Herrera, Ph.D.



Dr. Karina Sánchez Herrera has a Ph.D. in Biological Sciences and Health of Metropolitan Autonomous University (UAM). Currently she works as research professor of this institution. She has spoken at 32 conferences and congresses at national and international levels, has conducted research and participated in programs for student and academic exchanges in USA and France.

Dr. Herrera worked in several chemist and pharmaceutical industries as Pharmaceutical Chemist. She has worked in the teaching area for over 12 years in both public and private institutions and also worked as a specialist translator of manuals and guides for international companies like Agilent Technologies now Varian. She has published several research in internationally recognized scientific journals such as the Journal of Mycologie Medicale, among others.

Md. Alamgir Hossain, Ph.D.

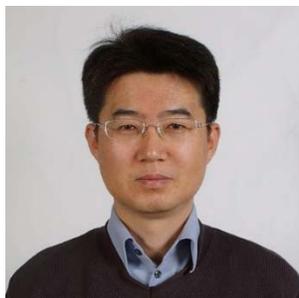


Dr. Alamgir Hossain is an Associate Professor of chemistry at Jackson State University. He received his bachelor's and master's degrees in chemistry from the University of Dhaka and a Ph.D. in supramolecular chemistry from Hokkaido University in Japan. He was a recipient of an Alexander Humboldt Fellowship for his postdoctoral work with Professor Hans-Jorg Schneider in Germany. Later, he moved to USA, and worked as a postdoctoral researcher with Professor Kristin Bowman-James at the University of Kansas.

Dr. Hossain is currently leading an independent research group consisting four doctoral, one masters and three undergraduate students, and one postdoctoral researcher. His research includes supramolecular and macromolecular chemistry focusing on non-covalent interactions between synthetic hosts and guest species, and developing new biomimetic sensors for anions of environmental and biological relevance. His research was highlighted in Chemical and Engineering News, featured in ACS's home page and covered in several chemistry journals.

Dr. Hossain has been named as the "Chemist of the Year 2012" by the Mississippi Section of American Chemical Society. He has also recently received National Science Foundation's prestigious CAREER award that helps him to recruit students from high school to graduate levels at Jackson State University.

Hyun-min Hwang, Ph.D.



Dr. Hyun-Min Hwang is an Assistant Professor of Environmental and Interdisciplinary Sciences at Texas Southern University (TSU) and serves Environmental Toxicology Ph.D. Program as a core faculty. He is also a Director of Summer Undergraduate Research Program of the College of Science and Technology at TSU. Dr. Hwang received his Ph.D. from Texas A&M University in the area of marine environmental quality assessment.

Dr. Hwang's research focuses on source apportionment of atmospheric particulate matter and pollutants such as PAHs and trace metals and their fate and transport and human exposure. His main research interests also include assessment of stormwater runoff pollution, low impact development design for pollutant load reduction, and remediation of contaminated water and soil.

Currently, Dr. Hwang supervises two research projects, one sponsored by US Department of Agriculture Forest Services for source apportionment of fine sediment particles in stormwater runoff and another one sponsored by NSF RISE program to investigate environmental impacts of platinum group elements, as a PI and Co-PI, respectively.

Dr. Hwang has published 24 research papers in many peer-review journals and given more than 60 presentations in regional and national conferences.

Seyed Ali Johari, Ph.D.



Dr. Seyed Ali Johari completed his doctorate in Aquaculture with the "Application of silver nanoparticles for reduction of fungal infections during egg incubation period and possible effects of their release on the alterations of some genomic and physiological parameters in rainbow trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*)" at the Tarbiat Modares University (Iran) and under the supervision of Prof. Mohammad Reza Kalbassi in 2012.

During his PhD, he attended a seven-month training period in Hoseo Toxicological Research Center (Korea) under the supervision of Prof. Il-Je Yu, where he continued the aquatic toxicity of silver nanoparticles.

Currently, Dr. Johari holds position as Assistant Professor, Aquaculture Department, Faculty of Natural Resources, University of Kurdistan, Iran. His research activities include risk assessment of nanoparticles in the Aquatic Environments (Aquatic Nanotoxicology), and also applications of nanotechnology and biotechnology in Aquaculture.

Shafiq Khan, Ph.D.



Dr. Shafiq A. Khan is the Scientific Director of the Clark Atlanta University Center for Cancer Research and Therapeutic Development (CCRTD), a University Center of Excellence that focuses on research in prostate cancer. He also holds the position of Eminent Scholar in Cancer Cell Biology at Clark Atlanta University, an endowed chair funded by the Georgia Research Alliance. He is also the Director of the NIH/NIMHD Center of Excellence for Prostate Cancer Research, Education and Community Services. He is Professor in the Department of Biological Sciences and also serves as Director of the RCMI Program.

Dr. Khan earned his Master's degree in Biological Sciences from Quaid-i-Azam University in Islamabad, Pakistan, and his Doctorate in Reproductive Endocrinology in 1985 from the Karolinska Institute in Sweden. Dr. Khan was an Associate Professor in the Department of Cell Biology and Biochemistry at Texas Tech University, where he also served as the Director of Basic Research of the Southwest Cancer Center. Prior to this, he was affiliated with the University of Muenster in Germany, the University of Toronto and the University of Kansas Medical Center.

Dr. Khan has provided services to the World Health Organization (WHO) through numerous collaborations with researchers from London, Stockholm, and Muenster. He has more than 30 years of experience in areas of reproductive endocrinology and cancer research. He has published over 68 journal articles and several book chapters and has 2 patents.

Sunali Khanna, Ph.D.



Dr. Sunali Khanna is an eminent educationist who is serving as a faculty member of the Maharashtra University of Health Sciences, India. She teaches and also undertakes research in the areas of oral medicine, maxillofacial radiology and oral cancer at Nair Hospital Dental College, Mumbai. During the earlier years she won academic distinctions and was recognized by the International College of Dentists. She became the first and only candidate to qualify the D.N.B (Diplomate of National Board Examination) in Oral Medicine & Radiology till now. She has been conferred membership of the National Academy of Medical Sciences, New -Delhi.

Dr. Khanna's research highlights importance of environmental health issues in the public sphere. She has co-authored HIV/AIDS manual for health professionals in association with Mumbai District AIDS Control Society which is a big step towards developing community awareness particularly among doctors in interior and remote areas. She has participated as resource person/panelist in health awareness programs on the National Television. She is Director of Asian Academy of Oral & Maxillofacial Radiology.

Dr. Khanna is former Vice President, Treasurer and executive committee member of the Indian Academy of Oral Medicine & Radiology. She is on the expert panel of University Grants Commission of the federal government, which regulates and promotes higher education throughout the country. She has published 57 papers in reputed national (34) and international (23) journals. She has contributed chapters in textbooks of Cancer prevention (Trafford), Oral Radiology (Elsevier), Pediatric Dentistry & Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery. She is also on the Editorial board of esteemed National and overseas journals. She has obtained the Post Graduate Diploma in Hospital & Healthcare Management, Medico-Legal systems and Clinical Research from the Symbiosis International University.

Ranjani W. Kulawardhana, Ph.D.



Dr. Ranjani W. Kulawardhana is an Assistant Professor of Environmental Sciences (Department of Biology) at Jackson State University. She received her PhD in Ecosystem Science and Management (2013) from Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas. She completed her MSc (Special) in Integrated Water Resources Management at the Postgraduate Institute of Agriculture and BSc (Special) in Agriculture from the University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka.

Dr. Kulawardhana's research focuses on the application of geospatial technologies (i.e. GIS, Lidar and Multispectral Remote Sensing) for inventory, monitoring and assessment of natural resources and for the study of various environmental issues.

In her PhD dissertation, Dr. Kulawardhana developed a novel modeling approach for integrating remotely sensed vegetation estimates with field measurements for the estimation of biomass and carbon storage ability of coastal salt marshes of Galveston, Texas. Her current and future research programs will focus largely on the application of remote sensing and GIS technologies for the study of wetland ecosystems including coastal saltmarshes, in particular to evaluate their current and future roles in the global carbon cycle.

Over the recent past, Dr. Kulawardhana has been actively involved in various international collaborations and multi-disciplinary research programs. Her research findings have been published very frequently in high rank peer review journals including Remote Sensing of Environment, Estuarine Coastal and Shelf Sciences, and International Journal of Remote Sensing, where she also serves as an invited paper reviewer. She has given presentations at numerous international scientific conferences and also has published in conference proceedings. In recognizing her very high academic and research achievements at Texas A&M she was awarded two prestigious fellowships: Schlumberger Faculty for Future Fellowship, and Tom Slick Senior Graduate Fellowship

Sanjay Kumar, Ph.D.



Dr. Sanjay Kumar is Postdoctoral Research Associate at Molecular Toxicology Research Laboratory in the College of Science, Engineering & Technology, Jackson State University. He received his PhD in 2007 from Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), New Delhi, India in biochemistry and molecular biology with an emphasis on molecular mechanism of free heme toxicity in malaria parasite.

Dr. Kumar worked during graduation at premier research institute, Central Drug Research Institute (CDRI) with different prominent research scientists and published eight international publications in reputed scientific journals. He was recipient of Junior and Senior Research Fellowship Award from Council of Scientific and Indian Research (CSIR), India.

Dr. Kumar is currently serving as an editorial board member of Green Earth Research Foundation (GERF) Bulletin of Biosciences and active reviewer of Circulation Research, Open Journal of Medicine and Integrative Physiology (OJMIP) and Environmental Toxicology. He is a life member of Indian Society of Parasitology (ISP), associate member of American Association of Cancer Research (AACR) and American Physiological Society. He has presented their research finding in many National and International conferences / symposium in USA and aboard.

Dr. Kumar's research is related to antimalarial drugs designing, DNA vaccine development, cardiovascular complications (metabolic syndrome), restenosis and leukemia cancer biology. In United States, they focus mainly identification of role of TRPC channels in metabolic syndrome and neurite outgrowth in mammals using ion channels kinetics and advanced imagining techniques. In restenosis, Dr. Kumar's research groups used diverse array of molecular biological and cell signaling tools to identification of signaling mechanisms involved in smooth muscle cells migration, proliferation and neointima formation through balloon injury-induced rat carotid artery as an *in vivo* model. He is currently working to identify molecular mechanism of ant leukemic role of arsenic trioxide and cisplatin in human leukemia (HL-60) (*in vitro*) as well *in vivo* mice model of acute promyelocytic leukemia (APL).

Currently, Dr. Kumar research specially focuses on identification of role of arsenic trioxide & Cisplatin on growth inhibition, cell cycle modulation, cell death (apoptosis) and signaling mechanisms involved in APL leukemia cell death.

Joseph R. Landolph Jr., Ph.D.



Dr. Joseph R. Landolph, Jr., received a Ph.D. in Biophysical Chemistry from Univ. Calif. at Berkeley in Berkeley, Calif., (1976) under Prof. Melvin Calvin (Nobel Laureate). For his Ph.D., he studied metabolism of BaP and BaP-induced cytotoxicity and morphological transformation in cultured mouse liver epithelial cells and Balb/c 3T3 mouse fibroblasts. He performed postdoctoral study in chemical mutagenesis, morphological/neoplastic cell transformation, and carcinogenesis at USC/Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center under Prof. Charles Heidelberger (member, U. S. Nat'l. Academy of Sciences) from 1977 to 1980.

Dr. Landolph is currently Assoc. Prof. of Molecular Microbiology/Immunology and Pathology in the Keck School of Medicine, Assoc. Professor of Molecular Pharmacology in the School of Pharmacy, and a Member of USC/Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center at USC. His research interests/activities include studies of the genetic toxicology/carcinogenicity of carcinogenic nickel (Ni), chromium, and arsenic compounds and P.A.H.s. His laboratory studies the ability of carcinogenic Ni and chromium compounds to induce morphological/neoplastic transformation of 10T1/2 mouse embryo cells, and expression of oncogenes/inactivation of expression of tumor suppressor genes and de-regulation of global gene expression, in Ni-transformed cell lines.

Dr. Landolph is an expert in chemically induced mutation and morphological/neoplastic transformation in murine/human fibroblasts. He has served as a grant reviewer for U. S. E.P.A.'s Health Effects Panel, for NIEHS, and as a member of the Chemical Pathology and Al-Tox-4 Study Sections of NIH. He has authored 66 scientific publications, given 192 invited scientific lectures, trained 97 B.S. students, 26 M.S. students, 13 Ph.D. students, and 31 postdoctoral fellows, and hosted 10 faculty and 4 high school teachers on sabbaticals.

Marek Lankosz, Ph.D.



Dr. Marek Lankosz is a professor at the Faculty of Physics and Applied Computer Science at the AGH-University of Science and Technology, Krakow, Poland. He is a Head of the Chair of Medical Physics and Biophysics. His scientific activity has mainly focused on XRF microanalysis, x-ray absorption micro-spectroscopy, infra-red micro-spectroscopy.

Dr. Lankosz's latest research interest includes application of synchrotron radiation in biological and medical research in relation to morbidities, with focus on tumour, Parkinson disease and Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis. The results of his studies were published in numerous articles.

Dr. Lankosz is lecturing on basic physics, nuclear physics, X-ray physics, dosimetry and medical physics, and conducted joint research with the Atominstitut of the Vienna University of Technology, the National Institute of Standards and Technology, Gaithersburg, USA, the European Synchrotron Radiation Facilities in Grenoble, France, DESY Photon Science, Hamburg, and IAEA, the International Atomic Energy Agency in Vienna, Austria. He has also been assigned numerous missions as an X-ray expert for IAEA.

Jerzy Leszczynski, Ph.D.



Dr. Jerzy Leszczynski, Professor of Chemistry and President's Distinguished Fellow at the Jackson State University (JSU) joined the faculty of the JSU Department of Chemistry in 1990. Dr. Leszczynski attended the Technical University of Wroclaw (TUW) in Wroclaw, Poland obtaining his M.S (1972) and Ph.D. (1975) degrees. During the period 1998 – 2008 Dr. Leszczynski had served as the director for the Computational Center for Molecular Structure and Interactions (NSF-CREST Center). Since October 2008 he directs new Interdisciplinary Nanotoxicity CREST Center at JSU.

Dr. Leszczynski is a computational quantum chemist whose vast areas of interest include: nature of chemical bonds, theoretical predictions of molecular potential energy surfaces and vibrational spectra, structures and properties of molecules with heavy elements, properties and structure of DNA fragments, and characteristics of nanomaterials. He also applies computational chemistry methods to environmental problems, surface chemistry and atmospheric chemistry. Two areas of his research contributions are the most noticeable: investigations of DNA fragments and development of novel techniques for investigation of properties and toxicity of nanomaterials.

Dr. Leszczynski has served as referee for over 50 journals (including the most prestigious such as *Nature Nanotechnology*, *Nature Chemistry*, *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A.*, *JACS*, *Angew.*, *Chem.*, or *Chem European J.*) and has published about 800 referred papers and over 60 book chapters. He has given over 900 presentations, with over 200 of those being invited presentations. His papers have been cited more than 15,000 times and according to the Web of Science his Hirsh Index amounts to 58. He is the recipient of the White House Millennium Award for Teaching and Research Excellence in Mathematics, Science, and Engineering. Other selected awards include: Member of the European Academy of Sciences 2002; Guest Professorship, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Shanghai, 2002; Honorary Doctorate, Dnipropetrovsk National University, 2003, Honorary Professorship, Wroclaw University of Technology, 2004; Member, European Academy of Sciences, Arts and Humanities, 2004; Award for Research Collaboration on Investigations of Interactions in Molecular Complexes and Active Centers of Enzymes, Polish Minister of Science and Higher Education, 2006; the Maria Sklodowska-Curie's Medal (Medal for prominent chemists working permanently abroad), Polish Chemical Society, 2007 and the USA Presidential Award for Excellence in Science, Mathematics, and Engineering Mentoring, 2009, Honorary Professorship, Chongqing Normal University, the title of Professor bestowed on him by the President of Polish Republic in 2010,

He is the chairman of the organizing committee for the annual International Conference Series on Current Trends in Computational Chemistry (since 1992); chairman of the organizing committee for Southern Schools on Computational Chemistry and Material Sciences Series (since 2001); editor of a book series: "Computational Chemistry: Reviews of Current Trends" World Scientific; Editor of a book series "Challenges and Advances in Computational Chemistry and Physics," (Springer); Editor of three volume "Handbook of Computational Chemistry" (Springer); Editor of a book series "Practical Aspects of Computational Chemistry" (Springer); Series Editor for "Lecture Notes in Chemistry" (Springer), and editor and member of editorial boards of eight journals.

Dora N. Mbanya, MD, Ph.D.

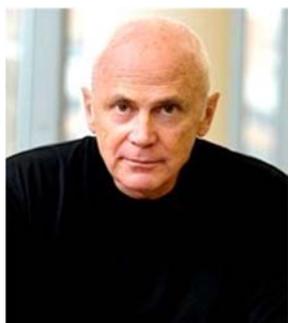


Dr. Dora Mbanya is Professor of Haematology in the Faculty of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, University of Yaoundé I, Cameroon and Head of Department in the said structure. She is also Consultant Haematologist in the Yaoundé University Teaching Hospital, where she currently heads the Haematology and Transfusion Service.

Dr. Mbanya has published several papers in scientific journals both at national and international levels and co-authored books in her field of interest (Transfusion Medicine and HIV/AIDS-related issues). She serves as Editor in Transfusion Medicine and Health Science & Disease, and is on the Expert Panel of the World Health Organisation for Transfusion Medicine..

Dr. Mbanya is a member of various professional societies including the British Society of Haematology, the International Society of Blood Transfusion and the African Society of Blood Transfusion. She heads the Cameroon Branch of the Society for Women and AIDS in Africa. She is married with four children

John A. McLachlan, Ph.D.



Dr. John A. McLachlan, received his undergraduate degree from the Johns Hopkins University where he was also co-captain of the varsity football team. He is currently the Celia Scott Weatherhead and Albert J. Weatherhead, III Distinguished Chair in Environmental Studies as well as holding joint Professorships in the Departments of Pharmacology and Ecology and Evolutionary Biology at Tulane University. From 1995 to 2012. Prior to coming to Tulane, he was Scientific Director at the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, NIH. While at NIEHS, Professor McLachlan developed the conceptual framework thirty years ago for what is now called *Endocrine Disrupting Chemicals*. He has published over 200 peer-reviewed papers and sixty review articles dealing with the environment and the reproductive

system and, in the process, helped introduce the concept of epigenetics to environmental research and thinking.

At Tulane, Dr. McLachlan's commitment to "use-inspired research" led him to explore community-based issues that could be approached in trans-disciplinary ways. A highlight of this effort was the use of the Mississippi River as an overarching metaphor for research and teaching. Faculty from the humanities, performing arts, natural sciences, social sciences came together around the ideas related to urban centers in river deltas. A highlight of this effort was the planning and design of *RiverSphere*, a research and cultural center located on seven acres of riverfront in the center of New Orleans.

In September 2005, Dr McLachlan confronted the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina by establishing the NSF-funded *Katrina Environmental Research and Restoration Network* to coordinate research and restoration and, since 2009, has been co-principal investigator on a multi-disciplinary NSF grant, entitled, *The "New Normal": The Impact of Trauma on Urban Ecological and Social Diversity* which studies how cities and communities function in the context of their natural ecosystems to gain a better understanding of resilience, recovery, and sustainability. His current research focuses on using the principles of hormone signaling to understand how factors as diverse as trauma, stress, heavy metals and environmental chemicals exert their adverse effects on human health. He emphasizes differentiating systems such as stem cells for his studies and thinking. His work, teaching and thinking is summarized on his web site, e.hormone.tulane.edu.

Howard W. Mielke, Ph.D.



Dr. Howard W. Mielke is currently a Professor in the Department of Pharmacology, Tulane School of Medicine. He is also an Adjunct Professor at Jackson State University. He earned his undergraduate degree in biology, chemistry and geography at Macalester College in St. Paul in 1963 and then joined the Peace Corps for a teaching program in Malawi, Africa. He received his MS in biology and his Ph.D. in geography at the Rackham School of Graduate Studies of the University of Michigan. He began research in urban geochemistry in 1971 while teaching at the University of California, Los Angeles, and continued his research at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County, Macalester College in

Minnesota, the Center for Regional and Urban Affairs of the University of Minnesota, and most recently New Orleans. His Baltimore study is recognized as pioneering research and highlighted the need to prevent urban accumulation of toxins and to remove lead from gasoline.

In 2004 he undertook a pilot project for a Housing and Urban Development Lead Technical Study to Xavier University entitled "Re-Cover New Orleans" whereby clean soils were brought into severely contaminated communities of New Orleans to reduce the potential for childhood exposure to lead and other residues that had accumulated in the soil. After Hurricane Katrina he was invited to join the faculty of Tulane University. His publications have international impact because they inform the scientific basis for proactive prevention of metal exposure. He has published numerous articles on the topic of metal residue accumulation and children's health in many cities.

Specifically, his research influenced policy for the removal of lead from gasoline, supported revised lead laws in New Orleans, Michigan, Canada, Mexico, Peru, the European Union, as well as a soil intervention program in Norway.

Dr. Mielke is a full member of the Society of Toxicology, on the Editorial Board of the Society of Environmental Geochemistry and Health, and member of the American Chemical Society. In addition to research interests, he is an avid traveler, camper, photographer, and sings tenor with the Symphony Chorus of New Orleans.

Telma Nery, MD, Ph.D.



Dr. Telma Nery has been a medical practitioner for 30 years, and graduated from Universidade Federal Fluminense (UFF), Brazil, with Medical Residence in Preventive and Social Medicine. Her specialization is in Occupational Medicine, Homeopathy, and Health Services Management.

Dr. Nery worked as Sanitarian Doctor in Primary Health Centre and later in the Surveillance State Sanitary Epidemiological Surveillance Center. She has consulted for UNESCO in environmental health areas along with the Ministry of Health of Brazil.

Dr. Nery has served as Occupational Doctor of large corporations in Brazil, with operations in environmental activities, such as Post Office, Sabesp, and Telesp. She coordinated and participated in research and norms in health considering environmental health and occupational health, in particular the National Institute of Social Security.

Dr. Nery coordinates a team of multidisciplinary health workers (doctors, engineers, and biologists) that develops the epidemiological surveillance of people exposed to health hazards and environmental events, with emphasis on guidance, publication, and research. She also coordinates partnerships for these activities with universities, and institutions that act in the area. In addition she is also works with people who are engaged in the environment as a Labor Doctor.

Dr. Nery has presented numerous papers at congresses and conferences in the field of Epidemiology and Environmental Health.

Ifeday Victor Ogungbe, Ph.D.



Dr. Victor Ogungbe is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry at Jackson State University. He received his academic training in Chemistry and Biotechnology at the University of Alabama in Huntsville and at Scripps Research Institute.

Dr Ogungbe's research interests are in the fields of chemical biology, pre-clinical drug discovery, and molecular recognition and interactions. He is a member of the American Chemical Society and the American Society of Pharmacognosy

Maricica Pacurari, Ph.D.



Dr. Maricica Pacurari is an Assistant Professor of Biology in the Department of Biology at Jackson State University, Jackson, Mississippi. Dr. Pacurari received PhD in 2006 from West Virginia University, Morgantown, West Virginia in cell molecular biology/biochemistry with emphasis on phospholipases A2 enzymes regulation and prostaglandins biosynthesis and their role in carcinogenesis.

Dr. Pacurari post-doctoral training began at School of Medicine, West Virginia University, under supervision of Dr. Guo followed by more training at CDC/NIOSH in the Division of Pulmonary Pathology and Respiratory Disease under the supervision of Dr. Castranova. Later, Dr. Pacurari continued her post-doctoral training at University of Alabama in Birmingham, School of Medicine in the laboratory of Dr. Sussane Oparil to study the role of uremia in endothelial dysfunction and chronic kidney disease.

Dr. Pacurari research is focused on the regulation of inflammation and the role of inflammation in fibrosis, endothelial dysfunction, and lung cancer. Current research is focused on the regulation of small RNA and their role in lung cancer and fibrosis. Also, currently the laboratory is funded, to develop *in vitro* methods to study lung fibrosis. A range of molecular and biochemical methods are employed in the lab firstly in *in vitro* system models, and later in *in vivo* models.

Dr. Pacurari has published in peer-reviewed journals and has given presentations at national scientific conferences. Dr. Pacurari is a member of American Heart Association, Society of Toxicology, and American Thoracic Society, and a reviewer of several peer-reviewed journals including Life Sciences, and Cell Molecular Biology.

Monica M. B. Paoliello, Ph.D.



Dr. Monica M. B. Paoliello is an Associate Professor of Toxicology in the Department of Pathology, Clinical and Toxicological Analysis, Center of Health Sciences at the State University of Londrina (UEL), Parana, Brazil.

Dr. Paoliello has a Ph.D. (2002) in Public Health from State University of Campinas (UNICAMP), Sao Paulo, Brazil. Her research interest is in Toxicology, Epidemiology and Environmental Health. She teaches in the Graduate Program in Public Health, and in the Pharmacy and Medical School, State University of Londrina. She also coordinates the Professional Master's Degree in Toxicology Applied to Health Surveillance at the National Health Surveillance Agency

(ANVISA, Brazil).

Dr. Paoliello was the President of the Brazilian Society of Toxicology (2006-2007). She has been a consultant at the National Health Surveillance Agency (ANVISA) and at Petrobras (Brazilian Oil Company).

Anita Patlolla, Ph.D.



Dr. Anita Patlolla is currently working as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Biology/Environmental Science Ph.D Program at Jackson State University, Jackson, Mississippi, USA. She received her BS and MS degrees in Genetics from Osmania University, Hyderabad, India, and a Ph.D in Environmental Science [Major concentration: Genetic Toxicology] from Jackson State University, USA.

Dr. Patlolla has published several research papers and chapters in reputed international peer-reviewed scientific journals and books. She has presented her research findings in several National and International conferences in the form of lectures and posters. Her articles are widely cited by other researchers in the field. She served as a reviewer for peer review journals in toxicology including Environmental Toxicology, Toxicologic Pathology, Basic & Clinical Pharmacology Toxicology, Prostaglandins, Leukotrienes & Essential Fatty Acids, MidSouth Computational Biology and Bioinformatics, EPA-IRIS Program, Journal of Applied Toxicology, Mutation Research, Toxicological Sciences and Hepatotoxicity. She served as chair of the "Nanotoxicology" and "DNA repair and Genotoxicity" session in the Annual Meetings of the Society of Toxicology. She is a member of several professional organizations including Society of Toxicology (SOT), The Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry (SETAC), American Nano Society (ANS), American Association of Cancer Research (AACR), European Association of Cancer Research (EARC), Environmental Mutagen Society (EMS), Emory Judson C Ward Consecutive Giving Society and Mississippi Academy of Sciences. Dr. Patlolla is editorial member for the following journals: Drug Metabolism and Toxicology, International Journal of Nano Studies and Technology (IJNST), Journal of Nanomedicine and Nanotechnology, Journal of Analytical and Environmental Toxicology, Journal of Nanomedicine Biotherapeutics, Austin Journal of Environmental Toxicology and Journal of Nanotechnology: Nanomedicine & Nanobiotechnology (NTMB). She is also an honorable Editor for MedCrave Journal of Toxicology. She received awards such as American Association of Cancer Research MSI Faculty Scholar for four years (2007-2010) in conducting outstanding research in the area of cancer.

Her main area of research is toxicity studies of nanostructures and heavy metals with biological systems, with an emphasis on elucidating the relationship between the physical and chemical properties (e.g. size, shape, surface chemistry, composition, and aggregation) of nanostructures or nanoparticles and heavy metals with induction of toxic biological response.

Dr. Patlolla has extensive experience on the toxicokinetics, molecular mechanisms of toxicity and histopathology of heavy metals and nanomaterials in animal models and in vitro models. She also has expertise in Genotoxicity Bioassay such as Chromosomal aberrations, Micronucleus Test and Comet assay etc. She is the first woman research faculty at Jackson State University ever to receive the prestigious independent funding from Air Force Research Laboratory/Air force Base (AFRL/AFB) in the area of Nanotoxicology.

Joann Powell, Ph.D.



Dr. Joann Powell received her Ph.D. from Meharry Medical College in biomedical sciences, with an emphasis in pharmacology. She continued her training as a postdoctoral fellow at Emory University School of Medicine and the Winship Cancer Institute in the Department of Hematology and Oncology.

Dr. Powell joined Clark Atlanta University's Center for Cancer Research and Therapeutic Development (CCRTD) in 2010 where she also has a joint appointment in the Department of Biological Sciences.

Dr. Powell's research focuses on investigating molecular mechanisms utilized by the aryl hydrocarbon receptor (AhR) to influence cancer cell progression. Her lab is also interested in investigating whether natural compounds that inhibit AhR signaling might be effective therapeutic agents for castrate resistant prostate cancer.

Aramandla Ramesh, Ph.D.



Dr. Aramandla Ramesh is an Associate Professor in the Department of Biochemistry & Cancer Biology at Meharry Medical College in Nashville, TN. Dr. Ramesh earned his first Ph.D. in Marine Microbiology from Annamalai University, India in 1986. He earned his second Ph.D. in Environmental Toxicology from Ehime University, Japan in 1992. His areas of expertise are bioavailability, toxicokinetics, and biotransformation, acute and subchronic toxicity of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs). Current research in Dr. Ramesh's laboratory focuses on colon cancer caused by benzo(a)pyrene (BaP), a fat-soluble, widely distributed environmental chemical that belongs to the PAH family of compounds. Studies in his laboratory have shown that exposure of rats and mice to BaP and other PAHs through saturated fat cause induction of

cytochrome P450 (CYP) family of enzymes resulting in the formation and distribution of reactive metabolites which stay in target tissues for a longer time and cause enhanced DNA damage. Ongoing research in his laboratory will eventually address the issue of how environmental factors (exposure to toxicants) and dietary practices (excessive intake of animal meat and fat products tainted with BaP)

contribute to colorectal cancer in African Americans (third leading cause of cancer related mortalities) relative to other racial/ethnic groups.

Before joining the faculty at Meharry in 2001, Dr. Ramesh was a research specialist in the Departments of Family & Preventive Medicine, and Pharmacology at Meharry. His earlier research focused on acute and subchronic toxicity of PAHs found in hazardous waste sites that were in close proximity to minority communities. Dr. Ramesh's association with the Meharry Medical College-Vanderbilt University Environmental Health consortium allows him to combine his long standing research experience in classical PAH toxicology and work collaboratively with Vanderbilt colleagues from the Basic Sciences and Community Medicine departments to investigate the interplay between diet and environmental contaminant exposure using state-of-the-art analytical and molecular approaches. As a Robert Wood Johnson Health Policy Associate, his current research is focused on exposure of minority communities to environmental chemicals and health disparities.

Dr. Ramesh has extensively published in environmental chemistry & toxicology (more than 50 peer-reviewed publications, and 6 book chapters). He completed 4 National Institutes of Health (NIH)-funded projects in toxicology & chemical carcinogenesis. Two more projects are in progress. Dr. Ramesh served as a consultant to the Common Wealth Foundation, UK, International Development Research Centre, Canada, and Natural Environment Research Council (NERC), UK. He is also serving as a reviewer for research proposals submitted to the NIH, NSF, EPA, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, and NERC, UK. Dr. Ramesh also serves on the editorial boards of *Toxicology Mechanisms & Methods*, *ISRN Toxicology*, and *Polycyclic Aromatic Compounds*.

Paresh C. Ray, Ph.D.



Dr. Paresh C. Ray is a program director of NSF-PREM program, in the Department of Chemistry, Jackson State University, Jackson, Mississippi. Dr. Paresh Ray received his BS in Chemistry from Vidyasagar University, India and MS in Physical Chemistry from Kalyani University, India, in 1989 and 1992, respectively; and a Ph.D. in Physical Chemistry from Indian Institute of Science in 1997. He has been appointed to several positions including as a Research Scientist in Blacklight Power, New Jersey, as a Postdoctoral fellow in the University of Chicago, Illinois and Columbia University, New York.

Dr. Ray has published over 100 scientific publications including peer-reviewed manuscripts, book chapters and abstracts. He has presented over 60 seminars, lectures and courses on various topics of Nanoscience and Nanotechnology, Nanomaterial spectroscopy, Nano-Bio technology, nonlinear optics and PDT material.

Over the last decade, Dr. Ray has focused his attention on laser spectroscopy of nano-bio interface, RNA/DNA detection based on nanotechnology, Bacteria detection, Alzheimer's biomarkers detection, cancer detection, molecular level understanding of CVD process, CVD diamond, carbon nanotubes, nano particle synthesis and characterization, alternative energy source based on plasma technology, theoretical understanding of nonlinear optical process and supramolecular hydrogen bonding.

Hector O. Rubio, Ph.D.



Dr. Hector O. Rubio obtained his PhD program at New Mexico State University in 1989. He is retired of the National Research Institute of Forestry, Agriculture and Animal Production (INIFAP-Mexico). Presently, is a Professor-Researcher in the College of Zootechnology and Ecology of the Autonomous University of Chihuahua, where he is involved in different projects to determine the level of pollution in soils and water resources of Mexico.

Dr. Rubio has been an invited as professor at the Advanced Materials Research Center (CIMAV-CONACYT) since 2006.

Dr. Rubio has written four books, several book chapters and has about 50 peer-reviewed publications in different journals. He belongs to the National Researcher System of CONACYT-Mexico and is participating as a member of the biosecurity experts of the CONABIO-Mexico.

Dr. Rubio serves on the editorial boards of several journals as well as had served as reviewer of many publications. Dr. Rubio's work expertise includes head of the Department of Agriculture in the State of Chihuahua, Mexico.

Natalia Shtemenko, Ph.D.



Dr. Natalia Shtemenko, biochemist, graduated from chemistry department, Dnipropetrovs'k National University (Dnipropetrovsk, Ukraine) in 1976. She worked for Institute of Organic Chemistry, USSR Academy of Sciences 1976-1981, Institute of Biology of Dnipropetrovs'k National University 1981-1996, from 1996 till now days she is the Head of the Department of Biophysics and Biochemistry of the Oles Honchar Dnipropetrovs'k National University.

In 2007 – 2009 Dr. Shtemenko was a visiting Professor of Helmholtz Center for Environmental Research, Leipzig, Germany according to DAAD Grants. She is an active participant of the “NATO Science for Peace and Security Programm”, in 2011 she was a codirector of the NATO Advanced Research Workshop (ARW): “ENVIRONMENTAL AND FOOD SECURITY AND SAFETY IN SOUTHEAST EUROPE”, Dnipropetrovs'k, Ukraine.

As a Fulbright scholar in 2011-2012 and an invited researcher in 2013 she worked in the Texas A&M University (USA) in the Departments of Chemistry and Biochemistry. She is the head of Dnipropetrovs'k department of Ukrainian Biochemical Society; member of the International Society of Inorganic Biochemistry; takes part in the COST Action CM1105. Her research interests are in the areas of anticancer research, application of metal-organic substances in medicine, nanobiotechnology. In recent year she focused on the development of rhenium – platinum antitumor system that in an animal model completely eliminates cancer cells and shows itself as antioxidant and antihemolytic

Karam F. Soliman, Ph.D.



Dr. Karam F. Soliman is an Associate Dean and distinguished Professor of Basic Pharmaceutical Sciences at the College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences of Florida A&M University. He obtained his B.Sc. degree from Cairo University, the M.Sc. degree (1971) and the Ph.D. degree (1972) from the University of Georgia. His research interest is in the area of Neuroscience.

Among 100 Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) in the country, Dr. Soliman ranked the number one as the most Science published faculty member. His publications record includes 152 published research articles, 5 books, and 4 US Patents. He is also the nation's top trainer of African Americans holding Ph.D. degrees in Pharmaceutical Sciences. Nationwide, he was the major professor of 30% African American holding the PhD's in Pharmaceutical Sciences.

Dr. Soliman is the Principal Investigator and Program Director of NIH grant to support FAMU Pharmacy Research Center in Minority Institution (RCMI). In 2012, he received a center P20 Grant over five years from the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities. This grant is entitled: "Center of Excellence for Cancer Research, Training and Community Service". During the 2010 RCMI International Symposium on health disparities meeting, Dr. Soliman was honored by receiving the Fredrick G. Greenwood Award for "Exemplifying excellence in research and service to the RCMI community". His research has been supported by grants from NIH, NASA, Office of Naval Research and Department of Energy. During his tenure at FAMU, he was awarded federal grants totaling over \$ 68 million.

Jacqueline J. Stevens, Ph.D.



Dr. Jacqueline J. Stevens is an Associate Professor of and Program Director of the Minority Access to Research Careers Undergraduate Student Training in Academic Research (MARC/U*STAR) Program at Jackson State University.

Dr. Stevens received her Masters Degree in Cell Biology and Ph.D. in Molecular Biology from the University of California, Santa Barbara. Her research interests are in the areas of molecular biology and gene expression, cancer biology, and therapeutics. Previous studies in her laboratory have focused on the identification of differentially expressed genes in corneal epithelial cells in response to UV irradiation and the analysis of changes in gene expression related to DNA damage in the subsequent cataract formation. Her laboratory is investigating the cellular and molecular mechanisms of arsenic toxicity in various carcinoma cell lines including breast, lung, and colon cells. Research activities in her laboratory include i) studies to evaluate the apoptotic mechanisms, oxidative stress, cell cycle analysis, and genotoxic mechanisms; ii) studies to evaluate changes in stress proteins (Hsp70 and cfos), apoptotic proteins (caspase-3, bcl-2, cytochrome c, and p53), and additional proteins associated with arsenic trioxide toxicity; and iii) studies to evaluate gene expression in these cell lines by isolating and characterizing differentially expressed genes exposed to environmental toxins in colon, lung and breast carcinoma cells. Dr. Steven's research efforts are focused on the apoptotic mechanisms, oxidative stress, genotoxic mechanisms, and gene expression in these cell lines. She has published in peer-reviewed journals and made presentations at national and international scientific meetings including the 10th and 11th International Symposia on Metal Ions in Biology and Medicine in Bastia, Corsica, France and Cambridge, United Kingdom respectively.

Paul B. Tchounwou, Sc.D.



Dr. Paul B. Tchounwou is Associate Dean of Graduate and International Programs in the College of Science, Engineering and Technology. He is a Presidential Distinguished Professor who also serves as Director of DoD-Center of Excellence in STEM Education, Director of NIH-Center for Environmental Health, and Director of Environmental Science PhD Program at Jackson State University (JSU), Jackson, MS. He also serves as Adjunct Professor at Tulane University Health Sciences Center, New Orleans, LA, and Life Member of the scientific faculty of the International Biographical Institute in Cambridge, England.

Dr. Tchounwou joined JSU in 1996 as Director of the doctoral program in environmental science and Associate Professor of Biology/Toxicology, and was promoted to the rank of Full Professor with tenure in 2001. He served as Biology Department Chair from 2004-2006, Associate Dean from 2006-2011, and Interim Dean from 2011-2012. Over the past 16 years, Dr. Tchounwou has devoted considerable effort and energy to the development and success of STEM-related programs at JSU. As Interim Dean from 2011-2012, he provided a strong leadership for maintaining the stability of the College, and for moving its academic programs to new heights. Since joining JSU in 1996, he has secured over \$50 million in grantsmanship to support academic excellence.

Dr. Tchounwou is nationally and internationally known for his biomedical research. His work on arsenic trioxide pharmacology and toxicology was recently highlighted in the Fall 2011 issue of NCR-Reporter Magazine at the National Institutes of Health. Dr. Tchounwou has published 189 refereed papers in top-tiered journals and books. He is Editor-In-Chief of two international journals including the International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health (MDPI, Basel, Switzerland), and Environmental Toxicology-An International Journal (John Wiley & Sons, New York, USA). He was one of the Section Editors of Encyclopedia of Environmental Health published by Elsevier BV in 2011. He served as Guest Editor and is on the Editorial Board of several other journals including Journal of Cancer Science and Therapy, Journal of Environmental Biology; and Reviews on Environmental Health. Dr. Tchounwou served as Session Chair of scientific meetings, and made over 450 presentations at national and international conferences. Last year, he has been selected to serve as Expert Subject Reviewer for the Fulbright Specialist Program.

Dr. Tchounwou has received several awards for excellence in the profession, including the 2003 Millennium Award for Excellence in Research conferred by the Science and Technology Office at the White House; the 2001 National Role Model Award for Exemplary Achievements in Mentoring, Counseling and Guiding Others; the AACR Faculty Scholar Award for Cancer Research; the International Order of Merit for Superb Contributions to Biomedical Sciences; and the Decree of Merit for Outstanding Contributions to Toxicology and Public Health; and the 2013 AAAS Mentor Award conferred by the American Association for the Advancement of Science. He is a selected member of Delta Omega Honorary Public Health Society.

Dr. Tchounwou is affiliated with the American Association for the Advancement of Science; American Association for Cancer Research; American Public Health Association; National Environmental Health association, Society of Toxicology, and New York Academy of Science. Dr. Tchounwou is a Fellow of the American Biographical Institute, and is listed in eight different biographical references of national and international circulations.

Maria H. Torre, Ph.D.



Dr. Maria H. Torre is a Full Professor on Inorganic Chemistry and Director of the Estrella Campos Department (DEC) of the Faculty of Chemistry, Universidad de la República (UDELAR), Montevideo (Uruguay). She was the Assistant Director of PEDECIBA (Program of the Development of Basic Sciences) created by the United Nations Development Programme and UDELAR. She received her PhD degree in Chemistry, directed by Dr. Enrique J. Baran (UNLP, Argentina) and the Engineer Eduardo Kremer (UDELAR, Uruguay) in the subject “Study of new copper complexes with pharmacological activities”. Her research interests are Bioinorganic Chemistry, Medicinal Inorganic Chemistry, Medical Geology and Environmental Monitoring.

As a part of her work Dr. Torre developed new series of complexes with antimicrobial activities like Cu, Ni and Ag-sulfonamides, Cu and Zn polyols against bacteria, yeasts and fungus and Fe-quinoxaline derivatives as anti-mycobacterium complexes (patented in Brazil). Moreover she developed new metallic complexes with antitumor activity and she is studying the incidence of Cu deficiency in cattle in Northern Uruguay (causes, consequences and the alleviation with an injected copper-amino acid complex) and the Se deficiency in human beings.

She has published more than 70 articles in peer reviewed journals, presented her work in several meetings and she gave several lectures worldwide. She is a foundation member of the Medical Geology chapter and the Cancer Association, in Uruguay, and she is a member of the Pharmaceutical Chemistry Association.

William A. Toscano Jr., Ph.D.



William A. Toscano, Jr., Dr. (h/c) came to the University of Minnesota in 1999 as professor and Head of the Division of Environmental Health Sciences, School of Public Health, University of Minnesota.

Dr. Toscano is currently Professor of Toxicology (2014) in the same Division. He also is Visiting Faculty at the Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai, and Chiba University in Japan. Formerly he was Chair of Environmental Health Sciences, Tulane School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine (1993-1999), and an associate professor of Toxicology at the Harvard School of Public Health (1980-1990). He received a Ph.D. in Biochemistry from the University of Illinois, Urbana- Champaign (1978), and was a Postdoctoral fellow in Pharmacology at the University of Washington, School of Medicine, Seattle (1978-1980).

Dr. Toscano is a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and has an honorary Doctoral Degree from GEOMEDI University, Tbilisi Georgia, which recognized his work enhancing public health in Georgia.

Francis Tuluri, Ph.D.



Dr. Francis Tuluri is presently serving as Professor in the Department of Technology at Jackson State University, Mississippi. He has more than two decades of teaching and research experience at advanced universities of national and international reputation.

During his tenure, Dr. Tuluri has taught several courses encompassing multiple disciplines of science and engineering such as Engineering Physics, Energy, Semiconductor Physics and Devices, Robotics, and developed teaching methods utilizing technological teaching tools for pedagogy.

Dr. Tuluri's areas of research include Environmental Modeling and Simulations, Magnetic Resonance and Imaging, Liquid Crystals Display materials and devices, Energy, and Environmental impacts of air pollution on air quality and health. He has published over 40 research papers in peer reviewed journals of national and international reputation. He co-authored a book on Energy and Utilization Technologies.

Mohammad N. Uddin, Ph.D.



Dr. Mohammad Nasir Uddin is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at Texas A&M Health Science Center College of Medicine at Scott & White Healthcare.

Dr. Uddin obtained his bachelor's and master's degrees in biochemistry & molecular biology from the University of Dhaka in Bangladesh. He earned his PhD at Gifu University in Japan. He was a recipient of the Japanese Society for Promotion of Science Fellowship for his postdoctoral research. He served intermittently as a faculty member up to an associate professor for 12 years at

University of Dhaka. Besides his primary position at TAMHSC/COM, currently he holds positions as adjunct faculty in the Texas Bioscience Institute and a Staff Scientist at Scott and White Memorial Hospital, Temple, TX.

Dr. Uddin is an accomplished scientist with a research interest in translational medicine. He is currently leading an independent research group consisting of medical students and residents and research associates. His work centers on the pathogenesis of hypertension especially on the pregnancy-induced hypertension, preeclampsia, and the potential role of cardiotonic steroids in this condition.

Dr. Uddin's published work includes more than 100 peer reviewed articles on a variety of subjects, primarily related to the renin-angiotensin system and preeclampsia. Other areas of publication include diabetes mellitus and the identification and actions of a number of naturally derived substances.

Udensi K. Udensi, Ph.D.



Dr. Udensi K. Udensi is a Research Associate at the Research Centers in Minority Institutions (RCMI) Center for Environmental Health at Jackson State University. He obtained his MS degree in Medical Parasitology at the University of Lagos and MPH with concentration in Environmental Health at the University of Ibadan in Nigeria. In 2011, he became a certified Medical Technologist with the American Society for Clinical Pathology (ASCP) Board of Certification and in 2013 completed a Ph.D. in Environmental Science from University of South Africa. His research interests are in Ecotoxicology and Environmental Safety. He is currently investigating alterations in genome-wide expression profiles of human keratinocyte cell line exposed to chronic concentrations of arsenic.

Dr. Udensi's research provides new knowledge on biological processes not previously described in chronic arsenic toxicity. His research approach involves the integration of molecular biology, computational biology and visual analytics. The outcome provides novel data visualization approaches for research that generates toxicity profiles of environmental toxicants. He was part of the core staff at the Center for Bioinformatics and Computational Biology (CBCB) Jackson State University since 2009 and has been conducting research and workshops on Visual Analytics. He was a member of an National Science Foundation sponsored; "Visual Analytics in Biology Curriculum Network (VABCN)," and he is committed to the project of designing effective ways of improving Biology education by integrating Visual Analytics into Biology curriculum and developing learning communities for interdisciplinary courses.

Momoh A. Yakubu, Ph.D.



Dr. Momoh A. Yakubu obtained his PhD from the University Of Glasgow Department Of Materia Medica Stobhill Gene Hospital, Glasgow Scotland. He had several special training in Neuropharmacology of the Imidazoline Receptor at the University of Glasgow Department of Medicine and Therapeutics; Cellular and Molecular Mechanisms of American Trypanosomiasis: Parasite (*T. Cruzi*) Binding, Infectivity, and Multiplication Rat Heart Myoblast at Michigan State University Department of Molecular Microbiology and Genetics and Neurophysiology of Cerebral Microcirculation, Laboratory for Research in Neonatal Physiology, Brain Injury Research Center, University of Tennessee.

Dr. Yakubu is an Associate Professor in the Department of Environmental and Interdisciplinary Sciences and Coordinator of Graduate Environmental Toxicology Program. He is also a Senior Scientist and Head, of the Vascular Biology Unit of the Center for Cardiovascular Diseases, College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences of Texas Southern University, Houston Texas. His research interest focuses on the regulation of signaling molecules by pathological and toxicological insults with interest in identifying signaling molecules involved in cerebrovascular dysfunctions following exposure to environmental toxicants, subarachnoid hemorrhage, traumatic brain injury as well as pathology-induced brain dysfunction to serve as molecular neuroprotection and therapeutic targets to stem the consequences of cardiovascular disease that leads to cerebral vasospasm, stroke and neurological dysfunctions. His lab also focuses on interdisciplinary research aimed at investigating biological consequences of exposure to environmental toxicants with an integrated instrumental analysis using GC/MS, HPLC, ICP-MS, NMR, MALDI-TOF
