

# The Kuchroo Times

Dear Kuchroo Lab Members,  
Here is the second installment of the Kuchroo Times. I hope everyone enjoyed the first issue and found it both informative as well as mildly entertaining. With the suggestion of Jozsef Karman, I will be adding a Science section to this newsletter so each week, everyone in the lab can get the opportunity to publish their work. I believe that if we can commit to this, we will be able to provide suggestions to individual lab members, get a general sense of the work everyone is doing, but also be the most frequently publishing lab in the world. I will include additional instructions as to the format of the Science section, but if everyone feels that this section is helpful, it may be implemented as a permanent addition to the Kuchroo Times. Thank you and enjoy!

## A Look Back Into the Past

So recently, I have put together a cost analysis of our mouse expenses here in the lab and the numbers are mind boggling. Before I share this information with you however, let's take a moment and track back the steps that it took for us to get to where we are at and what the future looks for us in terms of mouse cost and efficiency.

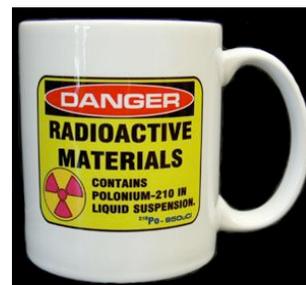
It was a dark, dark time where the depths of B11 lurked with cages of hundred year old mice and lost souls of the forgotten. Cages reeked with the pungent smell of apathy. 2006 was a dark year indeed. It was not until a thunderbolt from heaven was struck down upon that God forsaken place and immediately a fire was lit underneath the caretakers of the lair and a massive reconstruction took place. Within a week, a room once filled with more than 800 cages dwindled down to the 400's. A feat that would bring any rodent exterminator to tears was achieved that week. A week that will forever be remembered.

Here we are one hundred days later reminiscing of our tremendous effort put forth that day. Now in retrospect, let us see what has actually changed from that week and what we can expect for the future.

The average cost per day for each cage is \$1.50. We were once at 800 cages costing us an approximate \$37,200 a month on cage costs alone. Now compare this figure to the change that was made, decreasing our number from 800 to 450 approximately. This decrease in 350 cages calculates out to \$20,925 a month. A savings of over \$16,000 a MONTH. This decrease over the past five months has saved our lab close to \$80,000. Our war waged on B11 has made a significant change in our lab and all of you should be extremely proud of the accomplishments you have made. Now with this information under your belt, let us use this and take into account the importance of maintaining a manageable number of cages within our lab in order to ensure that we do not have any further massacres in B11 and so that peace will reign.

## Lab Improvement

I have been in several intense meetings with Bill Clapp who has been an avid supporter of our endeavors here in the Kuchroo Lab and am currently working on another gift to present to all of you hopefully. From the flash drives that we have received to the lab tool kit, these gifts are not merely instruments that aid us in our important scientific research, but also provide us with increased morale. For the past several weeks, I have spoken with Bill and have tried to negotiate getting mugs for everyone in the lab. Though I cannot justify purchasing 100 cases of filter tips in order to receive these mugs, Bill being the helpful person that he is, has gone forth in search of some mugs that have the older company logo on them to see whether he can donate them to our lab. If he is successful, then hopefully soon, we will have mugs that we can hold high with Kuchroo pride.



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## Spotlight

This week's spotlight falls upon Robin Merricks, our newest addition to our lab. I realize that I gave Manu that title in our previous issue, but let us welcome them both in this issue because they are both equal in terms of the greatness they bring to the lab. Robin, is our newest administrative assistant to Dr. Kuchroo, replacing Chris Bird. One little tidbit of information about Robin is that she used to be/ currently is a travel agent. She has been actively involved in the industry and can provide loads of helpful insights for anyone who may have questions regarding travel plans. She has also been doing an extremely good job and has been very helpful. She is truly a great addition to the lab and let's give Robin a warm welcome as she joins the Kuchroo Team.

## Etcetera



Have you ever been in a situation where your experiments just aren't working and you feel that a little bad luck might be in play? Ever have one of those days that just don't go right and you drop a mouse cage downstairs or have a piece of toilet paper hanging from your back when you leave the bathroom without noticing? Well I have, and though I'm sure most of you have never been transformed into a mouse over the course of your visit to the restroom, I have found a sure proof method of getting rid of your woes and worries. The answer lies in the magic ball of hope, life and happiness. A centrifuge that had laid dormant was recently brought back to life and has proven to be a true lifesaver.

Located over near **Error! Contact not defined.**'s bench lies the hidden treasure. There is a specific way of using this instrument however. You must first visualize the day you are having and the day you want to have. Without any doubt in your mind gently place your hand on top of the ball of power and gently press down until you feel your negative energy being sucked into and spun around within the centrifuge. When you feel like your knees are getting weak and the negative energy has had ample time to be sucked out, quickly release the ball and let out a deep breath of air. Not only will you feel better, but your day will also be much better as well. Become a believer. Try it out. You have nothing to lose!

## Reminders



Also today is Deneen's Birthday!!!

Apr. 12, No lab mtg. (VKK away)

Apr. 19, No lab mtg. (VKK away)

Apr. 26, No lab mtg. (VKK away)

Aurelie  
Sheng  
Ana