Hello CMB alumni and students, and welcome to the 2012 edition of The Transcript. It has been two years since our last issue, as the 2011 edition was deferred due to CMB’s 50th Anniversary Celebration. Consequently, there is much to cover.

In any other era, it is likely that most of the attention in Wisconsin over the last two years would be focussed on the Green Bay Packers, who won the 2011 Superbowl, lost only a single game in the following regular season, and then abruptly and ingloriously imploded in their first playoff game. But during the same time frame, the Packers have had extremely strong competition from the Wisconsin political scene which has been tumultuous, to say the least. In November of 2010, the Badger State “flipped”, with Democratic majorities in the state Senate and House giving way to Republican majorities and Republican Scott Walker replacing retiring Governor Jim Doyle. Shortly after the election, Governor Walker moved to deny collective bargaining rights for state employees, an action which prompted massive, continuous protests here in Madison for much of the start of 2011. In case you were one of the few people in the US who missed the protests, there are plenty of YouTube videos out there (e.g. http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UeHahlFxy0c) that show the action. While Governor Walker ultimately got his way, many of the state residents were sufficiently upset that they launched a recall campaign. They had to wait a full year to do so (based on Wisconsin law) but as of March 30th, 2012, roughly twice the necessary number of signatures had been gathered, and the recall was on. The man bested by Governor Walker in the election for governor, Tom Barrett, was chosen in a primary election to face a rematch with Governor Walker in the recall election. The final result of the recall effort will not be known until after the election, which will be held on June 5th—after this issue of The Transcript will be sent to the printers but before it will be mailed. Nevertheless, as of this writing, most of us in Wisconsin watch with anxiety as Governor Walker and Tom Barrett vie with each other in the media.

As if all that weren’t enough, Russ Feingold, Democratic U.S. Senator from Wisconsin from 1993-2011, lost a reelection bid to Republican Ron Johnson. Feingold was widely respected for his long term efforts to enact campaign finance reform and for being the only senator to vote against the Patriot Act. Finally, in Madison, Paul Soglin was elected mayor in May of 2011. If some of you alumni are feeling a sense of deja vu, it might be because Soglin was also Madison Mayor from 1973-1979, and again from 1989-1997.

One of the consequences of the changes in state government was a severe cut in the UW budget. Everyone—administrators, faculty, staff, and students—felt it directly in the form of smaller paychecks, higher required contributions for healthcare and retirement, or both. These and other challenges proved to be too much for our
Chancellor, Biddy Martin, who left in 2011, after only 3 years at the helm. David Ward stepped in to serve as interim Chancellor, in a Soglin-like reprisal of the role he held from 1992-2001.

Budget shortfalls notwithstanding, the UW campus saw the completion of three CMB-related buildings that were still going up as of the last writing of the Transcript: The new Union South, which is already a popular meeting spot for CMB students and faculty (Figure 1), The Wisconsin Institute for Discovery/Morgridge Institute for Research which houses the labs of several CMB trainers and their students (Figure 2: see also http://discovery.wisc.edu/) and, the newest Biochemistry Building which is likewise home to many CMB trainers and students (Figure 3). All of these buildings are both impressive and beautiful, and if you find yourself on campus you owe it to yourself to visit them. The Wisconsin Institutes for Discovery is especially visitor friendly and besides labs, includes interactive exhibits, as well as a coffee shop, restaurant, and bar (Figure 4).

It has also been an eventful two years for the CMB Program. Some of the more noteworthy achievements by CMB trainers include the naming of Judith Kimble to the President Committee on the National Medal of Science in 2011, the winning of the King Faisal International Prize for Medicine by James Thomson in 2011, and the winning of the Franklin Medal of Science by Sean Carroll in 2012. The CMB Program itself was ranked as tied for 2nd among large Cell and Developmental Biology graduate programs by the National Research Council (see http://www.cmb.wisc.edu/node/43) and, as is usually the case, CMB students have published well and often in the last two years (see page 10) with a particularly stellar effort by Sa Kan Yoo (Huttenlocher lab) who in 2011 published first author papers in Nature and J. Leukocyte Biology (to go with his previous first author publication in Developmental Cell in 2010) and Melissa Budde (O’Connor lab) who managed three first-author papers in the Journal of Virology and one in Immunogenetics in the last two years. Finally, the program had its first ever anniversary celebration, the 50th, in May of 2011. Highlights from this event are also included (see page 8).

To sum up, we’ve had a lot of excitement around here. And, if at times it seems like we could do with a bit less, at least we cannot complain that we are bored.

Bill Bement
CMB Program Chair

Welcome from the Chair...

Biology graduate programs by the National Research Council (see http://www.cmb.wisc.edu/node/43) and, as is usually the case, CMB students have published well and often in the last two years (see page 10) with a particularly stellar effort by Sa Kan Yoo (Huttenlocher lab) who in 2011 published first author papers in Nature and J. Leukocyte Biology (to go with his previous first author publication in Developmental Cell in 2010) and Melissa Budde (O’Connor lab) who managed three first-author papers in the Journal of Virology and one in Immunogenetics in the last two years. Finally, the program had its first ever anniversary celebration, the 50th, in May of 2011. Highlights from this event are also included (see page 8).

To sum up, we’ve had a lot of excitement around here. And, if at times it seems like we could do with a bit less, at least we cannot complain that we are bored.

Bill Bement
CMB Program Chair

Welcome from the Chair...

Class of 2010

Back row: Chris Hooper, Xingmin Zhang, Hao Zeng, Brian Keppeler, Joseph Bruckner, Ithai Lomholt-Levy, Tony Hanson, Daniel Pauw, Craig Barcus.

Front Row: Zhangli Su, Amber Lasek, Anqi Wang, Nicole [Haugen] Bertram, Asuka Eguchi, Ronghui Li, Toni Dummer, Brittany Jacobs, Jae-Sung You.

Missing: Heather Taff.

Class of 2011

Back row: Alison Lewis, Catherine Albright, Emily Jabe, Viswa Teja Colluru, DJ Nawandar, James Kirui.

Front Row: Meihua Kuang, Xin Gao, Kelly Werner, Sarah Neuman, Adam Boyless, Harisha Rajanala Sai, Nasim Jamali, Geonyoung Ahn.

Missing: Jeff Jensen, Justin Massey, Arick Park.
in the Oncology clinics. And one of the newer and exciting [technologies] was the one that turned off protein kinases. So I got very interested in chemicals that turned off protein kinases and using that as a strategy to attack cancer.

KRM: What are you currently researching?
MB: Now I’m interested in understanding how to figure out which kinases are worth turning off and tumorous and what effect that would have on cells that are cancer and non-cancer, both.

KRM: So how are you doing that?
MB: When I was training, I decided I wanted to be on the cusp of the next discovery and so I decided to not work on able kinase or on EGFR, which were the ones that were attracting a lot of attention, but to study on protein kinases which were of interest in human cell division but had not been studied as extensively as cancer drug targets. I started working with Prasad Jallepalli in Sloan Kettering on this kinase called “polo-like kinase”, which is essential for cell division. We thought, well if we could just find a chemical that could turn it off then we could learn a lot of really neat things about what it does. The problem was, we didn’t have our hands on such a chemical and although I developed screens, we never got so far as identifying such a chemical.

We happened to meet a group downstairs such a chemical. We thought, well if we could just find a chemical that could turn it off then we could learn a lot of really neat things about what it does. The problem was, we didn’t have our hands on such a chemical and although I developed screens, we never got so far as identifying such a chemical.

When I came here, my goals as a researcher and a clinician were to use some of those tools to understand kinase function in biology but also to develop treatment strategies. So if we did have a kinase inhibitor, and there are some out there, how would we use that and on which patients would it be useful for?

KRM: What is your lab right now?
MB: Right now there are three CMB graduate students and they’re pretty awesome. There are two technicians: one’s going to medical school this summer so she’s only here for the semester, and a Scientist.

KRM: What is your mentoring style?
MB: Well there are two aspects for this. One is mentoring and training, which is really what you’re asking. Another is making sure that [students] are not getting into roadblocks, which kind of goes hand-and-hand with that. So in terms of mentoring and training I guess I like to give people as much room as they need to explore a little bit, but I don’t want them to get so far off in left field that they’re not going to make progress. So I want to check in with them from time-to-time. And as they evolve over a few years into graduate school, I want them to become more independent. I don’t want to design their experiments, I want them to design their experiments. I want them to set their goals and if they’re really good, they’re going to start noticing things that they weren’t looking for. That’s really exciting to me.

So I want to see an evolution in independence and comfort; taking chances a little bit when designing experiments. I think that works well here because although I’m still around and in lab frequently, I’m away enough where they can play around in lab. But I also want them to, and I guess I never realized this as a grad student, to realize that lab is like a big playground. There has to be a purpose, but there’s no other job in the world where you can just go in and think of an experiment that morning and do it that day and not have to worry about where the money is coming from – for the most part. All this expertise is available to you and the sky is the limit to what you can do, if you can imagine doing it, I think a lot of us don’t imagine what is possible on a campus like UW. It’s hard to think of something that they can’t do because it’s just not here.

KM: So I ask this to everybody. What’s your favorite ice cream or custard in Madison?
MB: Well, you’d have to go with the UW Babcock ice cream. It’s great. Let’s go with the Berry Alvarez for flavor.

To see a full transcript of this interview, please contact the CMB Office.
Dr. Troy Hornberger Lab Profile

The Hornberger Lab has a special familial atmosphere where lab members constantly help each other on individual projects. There is a continuous team effort to ensure that everyone succeeds. The Hornberger Lab has a large undergraduate population, which is a rare characteristic.

Hornberger

continued his education in exercise physiology to earn a master’s degree at the University of Texas at Austin and a PhD degree in Chicago in one of the first labs to combine exercise physiology and molecular biology. After his PhD studies, he moved on to a postdoctoral position in La Jolla, California.

There are ten members in the Hornberger Lab: one postdoctoral fellow, four graduate students (two of which are in the CMB Program), and five undergraduate students.

Figure 1. Brittany Jacobs, Troy Hornberger, Jae-Sung You.

Dr. Hornberger completed bachelor’s degrees in biology and chemistry at Lake Superior University in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan.

C M B student Jae-Sung You is studying a lipid called PA (phosphatidic acid). He is trying to find evidence that PA links mechanical signals to the biochemical that regulates the changes in muscle mass.

Brittany has knowledge in athletic training, which is valuable experience to combine with her research.

CMB student Brittany Jacobs is making her contribution to muscle research by studying how the function of muscle proteins are affected by their location. More specifically, she is looking at where the protein mTOR is located in a normal state and when it has been activated. The CMB graduate student is also investigating where mTOR moves and what causes it to move.

There is a continuous team effort to ensure that everyone succeeds. The Hornberger Lab has a large undergraduate population, which is a rare characteristic.

CMB Faculty Trainer Awards & Honors

Alan Attie, Professor, Biochemistry
- The Marjia Dolmanovic-Chouinard Memorial Lectureship, Naomi Berrie Diabetes Center, Columbia University (November 2011)
- The AMC Rysch Lecture, Academic Medical Center, Amsterdam (September 2012)

Weibo Cai, Assistant Professor, Radiology
- Rusch Poster Award for Best Basic Research, UWCCC Annual Research Retreat (2012)
- Springer Prize, European Association of Nuclear Medicine (2011)
- Department of Defense Prostate Cancer Research Program IDE Award (2011-2014)

Judith Kimble, Professor, Biochemistry
- Distinguished Award for Basic Sciences, American Academy of Microbiology (2012)
- National Academy of Sciences USA (2011)
- Henry Vilas Associate Award - UW-Madison (2011-12)
- King Faisal International Prize for Medicine (2011-12)
- Arthritis National Research Foundation Scholar (2011-12)
- Arthritis National Research Foundation Scholar (2011-12)

Jennifer Smith, Assistant Professor, Pediatrics
- AAI Junior Faculty Travel Grant (2011 and 2012)
- Arthritis National Research Foundation (ANRF), Beverly Howland Memorial Fellow (2011-12)
- Spondylitis Association of America Young Investigator Award (2011)
- Arthritis National Research Foundation Scholar (2011-12)

James Thomson, Professor, Cell & Regenerative Biology
- King Faisal International Prize for Medicine (2011)

Joel Pedersen, Associate Professor, Soil Science
- National Institute of Food and Agriculture (USDA-NIFA), ALA-FS (2012-2017)
- Arthritis National Research Foundation Scholar (2011-12)

David Wasserman, Professor, Cell & Regenerative Biology
- Henry Vilas Associate Award - UW-Madison (2012-13)
- NIH New Investigator Award (2011)

Ching Kung, Professor, Genetics
- National Academy of Sciences USA (2011)
- American Academy of Microbiology (2012)

Gary Lyons, Professor, Cell & Regenerative Biology
- Distinguished Award for Basic Sciences Teaching, UW SMPH (2012)

Erik Dent, Assistant Professor, Neuroscience
- AAI Junior Faculty Travel Grant (2011 and 2012)
- Arthritis National Research Foundation (ANRF), Beverly Howland Memorial Fellow (2011-12)
- Spondylitis Association of America Young Investigator Award (2011)
- Arthritis National Research Foundation Scholar (2011-12)

Rick Gourse, Professor, Bacteriology
- Department of Bacteriology Chair (2010)
- MERIT Award (2007-2017)

Jennifer Reed, Assistant Professor, Chemical & Biological Engineering
- NSF Career Award (2011)
- NIH Directors New Innovator Award (2011)
- AAMC Preceptorship (2011)

James Thomson, Professor, Cell & Regenerative Biology
- King Faisal International Prize for Medicine (2011)

Doug Weibel, Assistant Professor, Biochemistry
- NIH New Investigator Award (2011)

Weibo Cai, Assistant Professor, Radiology
- Rusch Poster Award for Best Basic Research, UWCCC Annual Research Retreat (2012)
- Springer Prize, European Association of Nuclear Medicine (2011)
- Department of Defense Prostate Cancer Research Program IDE Award (2011-2014)

Sean Carroll, Professor, Genetics
- Benjamin Franklin Medal in Life Science (2012)
- NIH Directors New Innovator Award (2011)
- AAMC Preceptorship (2011)

Ed Chapman, Professor, Neuroscience
- Kellett Mid-Career Award (2012) at UW-Madison
- Arthritis National Research Foundation Scholar (2011-12)
- Arthritis National Research Foundation Scholar (2011-12)

Erik Dent, Assistant Professor, Neuroscience
- 24th Annual Krieg Cortical Explorer Award, International Cajal Club (2012-13)
- Henry Vilas Associate Award - UW-Madison (2012-13)

Rick Gourse, Professor, Bacteriology
- Department of Bacteriology Chair (2010)
- MERIT Award (2007-2017)

Troy Hornberger, Assistant Professor, Comparative Biosciences
- Henry Vilas Associate Award - UW-Madison (2012-13)
- NIH New Investigator Award (2011)

Judith Kimble, Professor, Biochemistry
- Appointee for Member, President’s Committee on the National Medal of Science (2011)

Ahna Skop, Assistant Professor, Genetics
- Received tenure at UW-Madison (2011)
- Arthritis National Research Foundation Scholar (2011-12)
- Arthritis National Research Foundation Scholar (2011-12)

Jennifer Reed, Assistant Professor, Chemical & Biological Engineering
- NSF Career Award (2011)
- NIH Directors New Innovator Award (2011)
- AAMC Preceptorship (2011)

James Thomson, Professor, Cell & Regenerative Biology
- King Faisal International Prize for Medicine (2011)
- NIH New Investigator Award (2011)

David Wasserman, Professor, Cell & Regenerative Biology
- Henry Vilas Associate Award - UW-Madison (2012-13)
- NIH New Investigator Award (2011)

Ching Kung, Professor, Genetics
- National Academy of Sciences USA (2011)
- American Academy of Microbiology (2012)

Gary Lyons, Professor, Cell & Regenerative Biology
- Distinguished Award for Basic Sciences Teaching, UW SMPH (2012)

Erik Dent, Assistant Professor, Neuroscience
- AAI Junior Faculty Travel Grant (2011 and 2012)
- Arthritis National Research Foundation (ANRF), Beverly Howland Memorial Fellow (2011-12)
- Spondylitis Association of America Young Investigator Award (2011)
- Arthritis National Research Foundation Scholar (2011-12)

Rick Gourse, Professor, Bacteriology
- Department of Bacteriology Chair (2010)
- MERIT Award (2007-2017)

Troy Hornberger, Assistant Professor, Comparative Biosciences
- Henry Vilas Associate Award - UW-Madison (2012-13)
- NIH New Investigator Award (2011)

Judith Kimble, Professor, Biochemistry
- Appointee for Member, President’s Committee on the National Medal of Science (2011)

Ahna Skop, Assistant Professor, Genetics
- Received tenure at UW-Madison (2011)
- Arthritis National Research Foundation Scholar (2011-12)
- Arthritis National Research Foundation Scholar (2011-12)

Jennifer Reed, Assistant Professor, Chemical & Biological Engineering
- NSF Career Award (2011)
- NIH Directors New Innovator Award (2011)
- AAMC Preceptorship (2011)


In the Fall of 2011, the CMB website took on a whole new look. We hope you like what you will see at www.cmb.wisc.edu or by scanning the QR code at the bottom of this page. The website content has been reorganized to provide a more friendly entry point for the various users: prospective students, current students, faculty and alumni. With the new website, an alumni directory has also been added. This is a work in progress, and we hope to eventually have all 675+ alumni listed back to the 1960’s. If you would like to have your most current information added to the directory, please go to the alumni update page at http://www.cmb.wisc.edu/update_info. We will be continuously adding alumni spotlights on the front page of the alumni section as well. Please let us know if we can feature your story after graduating from CMB.
Building on campus and is really enjoying lab recently moved to the new Biochemistry senior research technician, Ulrika Müller. The researcher, Christen Geyer; and a long-time and Toni Dummer; one senior undergraduate students in the CMB Program, Tim Hoggard lab currently has four members: two PhD comprehensive studies for publication. The spend more time helping students produce a small to medium sized lab so that she can spend more time helping students produce comprehensive studies for publication. The lab currently has four members: two PhD students in the CMB Program, Tim Hoggard and Toni Dummer; one undergraduate researcher, Christen Geyer; and a long-time senior research technician, Ulrika Müller. The lab recently moved to the new Biochemistry Building on campus and is really enjoying their beautiful new work environment.

Dr. Catherine Fox
Lab Profile

Dr. Fox received her bachelor’s degree in Chemistry from the University of California-Riverside. She performed her PhD work with Marv Wickens at UW-Madison. She went on to perform postdoctoral work with Jasper Rine at the University of California-Berkeley where she became interested in the structure, function and regulation of eukaryotic chromosomes. In 1996 she was hired as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Biomolecular Chemistry and has continued her studies of eukaryotic chromosome biology using the model organism Saccharomyces cerevisiae (budding yeast). She has been a CMB trainer since 1996. Her lab is particularly interested in the mechanisms that control chromosome replication, and the roles of these basic mechanisms in controlling genome stability and chromosome structure and expression.

The Fox lab meets weekly for lab meetings that alternate in focus between formal presentations by one member, a ‘round-robin’ format where every member discusses recent work and challenges, and journal club presentations where a recent relevant paper from the literature is discussed. Dr. Fox expects and encourages self-motivation and independent thinking in her students. Students who are genuinely interested in the research questions being asked and who want to grow as independent and deep-thinking scientists do best in her laboratory environment. The research in the lab is very basic in nature, focused on aspects of chromosome biology that the lab believes are relevant to all eukaryotic organisms, including humans. Therefore, students that are interested in what Dr. Fox calls ‘fundamental problems in chromosome biology’ are encouraged to check out the lab!

Toni Dummer’s research project focuses on understanding how and why an evolutionarily conserved transcription factor called Fkh1 (forkhead homolog one) interacts with a conserved DNA helicase implicated in DNA replication and repair from yeast to humans. Her current hypothesis is that Fkh1 is much more than a ‘simple’ transcription factor but instead functions more directly in organizing chromosomes for efficient replication, repair and expression. Tim Hoggard is studying chromosomal elements known as DNA replication origins, the positions on chromosomes where DNA replication begins. He is particularly focused on learning how a protein complex called ORC (origin recognition complex) uses chromatin structure to properly ‘select’ DNA replication origins.

In their research, the Fox Lab uses a multidisciplinary approach that includes biochemistry, molecular biology, classical genetics and genomics to study chromosome structure and function. Every member uses some combination of these approaches in his or her own research project and is exposed to the entire array of approaches simply by working in the lab and hearing fellow members discuss their research. Dr. Fox prefers to run a small to medium sized lab so that she can spend more time helping students produce comprehensive studies for publication. The lab currently has four members: two PhD students in the CMB Program, Tim Hoggard and Toni Dummer; one undergraduate researcher, Christen Geyer; and a long-time senior research technician, Ulrika Müller. The lab recently moved to the new Biochemistry Building on campus and is really enjoying their beautiful new work environment.

The Fox Lab meets weekly for lab meetings that alternate in focus between formal presentations by one member, a ‘round-robin’ format where every member discusses recent work and challenges, and journal club presentations where a recent relevant paper from the literature is discussed. Dr. Fox expects and encourages self-motivation and independent thinking in her students. Students who are genuinely interested in the research questions being asked and who want to grow as independent and deep-thinking scientists do best in her laboratory environment. The research in the lab is very basic in nature, focused on aspects of chromosome biology that the lab believes are relevant to all eukaryotic organisms, including humans. Therefore, students that are interested in what Dr. Fox calls ‘fundamental problems in chromosome biology’ are encouraged to check out the lab!

Dr. Fox received her bachelor’s degree in Chemistry from the University of California-Riverside. She performed her PhD work with Marv Wickens at UW-Madison. She went on to perform postdoctoral work with Jasper Rine at the University of California-Berkeley where she became interested in the structure, function and regulation of eukaryotic chromosomes. In 1996 she was hired as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Biomolecular Chemistry and has continued her studies of eukaryotic chromosome biology using the model organism Saccharomyces cerevisiae (budding yeast). She has been a CMB trainer since 1996. Her lab is particularly interested in the mechanisms that control chromosome replication, and the roles of these basic mechanisms in controlling genome stability and chromosome structure and expression.

The Fox lab meets weekly for lab meetings that alternate in focus between formal presentations by one member, a ‘round-robin’ format where every member discusses recent work and challenges, and journal club presentations where a recent relevant paper from the literature is discussed. Dr. Fox expects and encourages self-motivation and independent thinking in her students. Students who are genuinely interested in the research questions being asked and who want to grow as independent and deep-thinking scientists do best in her laboratory environment. The research in the lab is very basic in nature, focused on aspects of chromosome biology that the lab believes are relevant to all eukaryotic organisms, including humans. Therefore, students that are interested in what Dr. Fox calls ‘fundamental problems in chromosome biology’ are encouraged to check out the lab!

Dr. Fox received her bachelor’s degree in Chemistry from the University of California-Riverside. She performed her PhD work with Marv Wickens at UW-Madison. She went on to perform postdoctoral work with Jasper Rine at the University of California-Berkeley where she became interested in the structure, function and regulation of eukaryotic chromosomes. In 1996 she was hired as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Biomolecular Chemistry and has continued her studies of eukaryotic chromosome biology using the model organism Saccharomyces cerevisiae (budding yeast). She has been a CMB trainer since 1996. Her lab is particularly interested in the mechanisms that control chromosome replication, and the roles of these basic mechanisms in controlling genome stability and chromosome structure and expression.

The Fox lab meets weekly for lab meetings that alternate in focus between formal presentations by one member, a ‘round-robin’ format where every member discusses recent work and challenges, and journal club presentations where a recent relevant paper from the literature is discussed. Dr. Fox expects and encourages self-motivation and independent thinking in her students. Students who are genuinely interested in the research questions being asked and who want to grow as independent and deep-thinking scientists do best in her laboratory environment. The research in the lab is very basic in nature, focused on aspects of chromosome biology that the lab believes are relevant to all eukaryotic organisms, including humans. Therefore, students that are interested in what Dr. Fox calls ‘fundamental problems in chromosome biology’ are encouraged to check out the lab!

Dr. Fox received her bachelor’s degree in Chemistry from the University of California-Riverside. She performed her PhD work with Marv Wickens at UW-Madison. She went on to perform postdoctoral work with Jasper Rine at the University of California-Berkeley where she became interested in the structure, function and regulation of eukaryotic chromosomes. In 1996 she was hired as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Biomolecular Chemistry and has continued her studies of eukaryotic chromosome biology using the model organism Saccharomyces cerevisiae (budding yeast). She has been a CMB trainer since 1996. Her lab is particularly interested in the mechanisms that control chromosome replication, and the roles of these basic mechanisms in controlling genome stability and chromosome structure and expression.

The Fox lab meets weekly for lab meetings that alternate in focus between formal presentations by one member, a ‘round-robin’ format where every member discusses recent work and challenges, and journal club presentations where a recent relevant paper from the literature is discussed. Dr. Fox expects and encourages self-motivation and independent thinking in her students. Students who are genuinely interested in the research questions being asked and who want to grow as independent and deep-thinking scientists do best in her laboratory environment. The research in the lab is very basic in nature, focused on aspects of chromosome biology that the lab believes are relevant to all eukaryotic organisms, including humans. Therefore, students that are interested in what Dr. Fox calls ‘fundamental problems in chromosome biology’ are encouraged to check out the lab!

Dr. Fox received her bachelor’s degree in Chemistry from the University of California-Riverside. She performed her PhD work with Marv Wickens at UW-Madison. She went on to perform postdoctoral work with Jasper Rine at the University of California-Berkeley where she became interested in the structure, function and regulation of eukaryotic chromosomes. In 1996 she was hired as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Biomolecular Chemistry and has continued her studies of eukaryotic chromosome biology using the model organism Saccharomyces cerevisiae (budding yeast). She has been a CMB trainer since 1996. Her lab is particularly interested in the mechanisms that control chromosome replication, and the roles of these basic mechanisms in controlling genome stability and chromosome structure and expression.
Do you know the whereabouts of these CMB graduates? Please send any information (i.e. current employment, e-mail address, mailing address) you might have to: cmb@bocklabs.wisc.edu

Gaffney, Philip  Wang, Jun
Huang, Li-Chun  Wi, Chang-Yi
Nguyen, Lam Hong  Yuan, Bin
Perlman, Daniel