Celebration of the 25th Anniversary of
The University of Toledo-University of
Salford Exchange Program
Saturday, January 30, 2010

8:30 am Continental Breakfast Memorial Field House, Town Square

9:00 am Salford Alumni Research Symposium, FH 2100
Welcome Remarks
Patricia Komuniecki, Ph.D., Vice Provost for Graduate Affairs &
Dean, College of Graduate Studies, Professor of Biology
UT Director-Salford Exchange Program 1990-2009
Darren Brooks, Ph.D., Lecturer, School of Environment and life Sciences,
The University of Salford, Studies in the USA Course Tutor, 2005-present

9:15 Megan (Henderson) Ballinger, Ph.D. Postdoctoral Fellow @ The University of
Michigan. UT exchange student @ Salford 2000-01, B.S. Biology UT 2002,
Ph.D. Immunology, University of Michigan, 2007
“The role of IRAK-M in modulating acute lung injury”

UT exchange student @ Salford 2003-04, B.S. Biology UT 2005
“Different Mold Species Induce Distinct Inflammation in the Lungs of Mice”

10:15 Stephanie Coomes, Ph.D. candidate, The University of Michigan.
UT exchange student @ Salford 2005-06, B.S. Biology UT 2007
“Induction of transforming growth factor beta-1 impairs anti-viral immunity
in the lung late post-experimental bone marrow transplant”

10:45 Break

11:00 Ed Briercheck, M.D./Ph.D. candidate The Ohio State University, UT
exchange student @ Salford 2004-05, B.S. Biology UT 2006
“Natural Killer Cells: Controlling Infection and Curing Cancer”

11:30 Flo Pauli, Ph.D., Senior Scientist, HudsonAlpha Institute for Biotechnology.
UT exchange student @ Salford 2000-01, B.S. Biology UT 2002, Ph.D.
Molecular Genetics, Stanford University, 2007
“The ENCODE Project and genome-wide mechanisms of gene regulation by
the glucocorticoid receptor”

12 noon Lunch Break
1:30 Welcoming Remarks- Dean Nina McClelland, College of Arts and Sciences

Gareth Harris, Ph.D. candidate @ The University of Toledo.
BSc University of Sheffield 2004, MSc University of Salford, 2005
“Neuropeptides are essential for the serotonergic stimulation of aversive responses mediated by the ASH neurons in Caenorhabditis elegans”

2:00 Rachel Wragg, Ph.D. candidate @ The University of Toledo.
Salford exchange student @ UT 2003-03, BSc 2004 and MSc 2005 University of Salford
“Monoamines and peptides interact to modulate sensory-mediated glutamatergic signaling in Caenorhabditis elegans”

2:30 Kara (Buehrer) Kile, Ph.D. Visiting Assistant Professor of Neuroscience, Oberlin College. UT exchange student @ Salford 1997-98, B.S. UT Bioengineering 2000, Ph.D. Biomedical Engineering (Neural Engineering), Case Western Reserve University 2007
“Deep Brain Stimulation for Seizure Suppression”

3:00 Closing Remarks
Dr. Brian Ashburner, Associate Professor of Biology, The University of Toledo, Director, UT-Salford Exchange Program 2009-present

3:15 pm Alumni Reflections on the Exchange Experience
Opening Reflections by Patricia R. Komuniecki, Ph.D., Former Director

Moderator: David Pearson, Ph.D., DABR, Exchange at UT 1999-2000, BSc, 2000, The University of Salford; UT MS & PhD Physics degrees; Assistant Professor/Clinical Medical Physicist, Dept. of Radiation Oncology, UT COM

Participants:
- Eric Cole, Exchange at Salford 2003-04; B.S., UT Biology, 2005; UT M.S. 2007, research assistant @ Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center, future dental student @ University of Louisville
- Nikko Ronquillo, Exchange at Salford 2004-05; B.S., UT Biology, 2006; MD/PhD candidate @ The University of Utah
- Aaron Grabovich: Exchange at Salford 2004-05; B.S., UT Biology, 2006; UT MS.2007, Nova Southeastern University MS 2009. Anesthesiology Assistant
- Laura Halpin, Exchange at Salford 2006-07; B.S., UT Biology, 2008; MD/PhD student @ UTCOM
- Bobby Hieronimus, Exchange at Salford 2005-06; B.S., UT Biology, 2007; MD student @ UTCOM
- Alison Fedyna, Exchange at Salford 2007-08; B.S., UT Biology and B.A. UT Psychology, 2009; post-baccalaureate fellow at NIH

4:30-6:30 pm Alumni Reception
Libbey Hall