

## News at a Glance

We welcome the following new members of the Center for Environmental Genetics, whose nominations have been approved by the CEG Internal Advisory Board.



**Senu Apewokin, MD** (Clinical member), Associate Professor, UC College of Medicine, Department of Internal Medicine,

Division of Infectious Diseases. His research interests are in the efficacy of vaccinations and in infectious disease in transplant patients. In 2019, he received a CEG New to EHS Pilot award, "Association between PFOA Exposure and Humoral Responses to Pneumococcal Vaccines" (25K). He also has a K08 award from the National Cancer Institute, 06/01/20 – 5/31/2025, "Harnessing induced human intestinal organoids (IHIOs) and metagenomics to unravel host immune-microbiota interactions during cancer chemotherapy-associated clostridium difficile infections."



**Nalinikanth Kotagiri, PhD, MBBS** (Associate member), Assistant Professor, UC College of Pharmacy. His research interests are

primarily in therapeutic agents, but recently Dr. Kotagiri was awarded a \$484,000 DoD grant to protect skin from ultraviolet light: MRP Idea Award; "Engineering skin microbiome to generate natural sunscreens for prevention of melanoma" (Role PI. 7/1/21 – 6/30/24).

June | July 2021

**Michael T. Williams, PhD** (Full member), Associate Professor, UC College of Medicine, Department of Pediatrics, Division of Neurology, and Co-Director, Animal Behavior

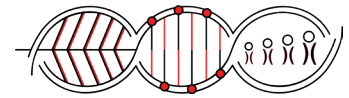


Core. Dr. Williams is interested in the study of developmental impacts, including genetic, environmental, and stress-related factors, on cognitive

ability and behavioral sequelae throughout the lifetime. He has particular interests in the developmental impacts of exposure to manganese. He is a multi-PI with Dr. Charles (Chip) Vorhees on NIEHS R01 ES032270, "Gene-pesticide interactions and ADHD" (8/2020–2/2025). He also is the Associate Director on NIH T32ES07051 (PI: Vorhees) Training Grant in Teratology.

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Funded by NIEHS award P30 ES006096

<http://med.uc.edu/eh/centers/ceg>

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## Save The Date

**Thursday August 5:** All CEG Meeting. Agenda will include the welcome of new members, 2022 Pilot projects program, the CEG competitive renewal and planning. 1:00–2:30 PM

**Tuesday November 16:** NIEHS Precision Health Community Forum, with a visit from NIEHS Director Rick Woychik, PhD, and other program leaders from NIEHS.

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## Recent Publications

Brown J, Baker L, Seroogy K, **Genter MB**. Intranasal carnosine mitigates alpha-synuclein pathology and motor dysfunction in the Thy1-aSyn mouse model of Parkinson's disease ACS Chemical Neuroscience. In press. <https://pubs.acs.org/journal/acncdm>

de Gannes M, Koch SE, **Puga A, Rubinstein J**. Developmental and lifelong dioxin exposure induces measurable changes in cardiac structure and function in adulthood. Sci Rep. 2021 May 17;11(1):10378. PMID: 34001975. [PMCID: PMC8129097](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/34001975/).

**Cecil KM, Brunst KJ**, Horowitz-Kraus T. Greater reading gain following intervention is associated with low magnetic resonance spectroscopy derived concentrations in the anterior cingulate cortex in children with dyslexia. Brain Res. 2021 May 15;1759:147386. [PMID: 33631208](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/33631208/). PMCID: PMC7980091.

Wang Y, **Wang HS**. Bisphenol A affects the pulse rate of *Lumbriculus variegatus* via an estrogenic mechanism. Comp Biochem Physiol C Toxicol Pharmacol. 2021 Jun 10;109105. [PMID: 34119654](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/34119654/).

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**Integrative Technologies Support (ITS) Core Funding Available:** CEG members are eligible for ITS Subsidies (*i.e.*, matching funds) for use of certain cores and services, including Bioinformatics support. PIs with currently funded CEG Pilot awards may receive *pro bono* Bioinformatics support for the CEG-funded project. Details and an application form can be obtained on the [ITS web page](#).