

VCU Research Strategic Plan

- **2005 – 2012: The Strauss Era**
- **> \$200 million from total University sources and directed to the SOM as the architect of the Plan**
- **86 new research faculty to be hired**
- **Graduate student enrollment to double**
- **Capital projects to provide more research space.**

Guiding Principle for the Strategic Plan

Foster interdisciplinary research by encouraging research in program areas identified as current strengths and in new areas where we are currently weak

Current Research Areas

- **Neurosciences**
- **Cancer Biology**
- **Addiction and Drugs of Abuse**
- **Pathogenic Microbiology and Vaccinology**
- **Allergy and Immunology**
- **Human Genetics**
- **Molecular Cardiology, Pulmonary and Vascular Disease**
- **Cell and Molecular/Lipid Signaling**

Current Research Areas

- **Gastrointestinal Physiology and Hepatology**
- **Reproduction and Regeneration Biology**
- **Chemical Biology**
- **Medicinal Chemistry, Drug Discovery and Structural Biology**

Developing Research Areas

- **Obesity and the metabolic syndrome**
- **Regenerative medicine**
- **Virology and host response**
- **Cancer epidemiology and immunology**
- **Omics and systems biology**

How Are We Doing?

Faculty Hires

**46 new research faculty hired with
strategic plan \$**

How Are We Doing?

Chairs or Directors Hired

- **Physiology and Biophysics (Logothetis)**
- **Human and Molecular Genetics (Fisher)**
- **Institute of Molecular Medicine (Fisher)**
- **Molecular Imaging Center (Zweit)**
- **Biostatistics (Sun)**

Diomedes Logothetis PhD

Chair, Department of
Physiology and Biophysics
VCU School of Medicine

PhD: Harvard Univ., 1987

Faculty: Harvard (1987 – 1993)
Mt. Sinai Sch. Of Med (NYC;
1993 – 2007)

Mt. Sinai: Prof. of Physiology and
Vice-Chair of Dept. of Physiol. &
Biophysics.

Director, MD/PhD Program

Dean, Graduate Sch. of Biol.
Sciences



Research Interests: molecular and
functional expression of ion channels,
transporters, and receptors in epithelial
cells.

Paul Fisher PhD

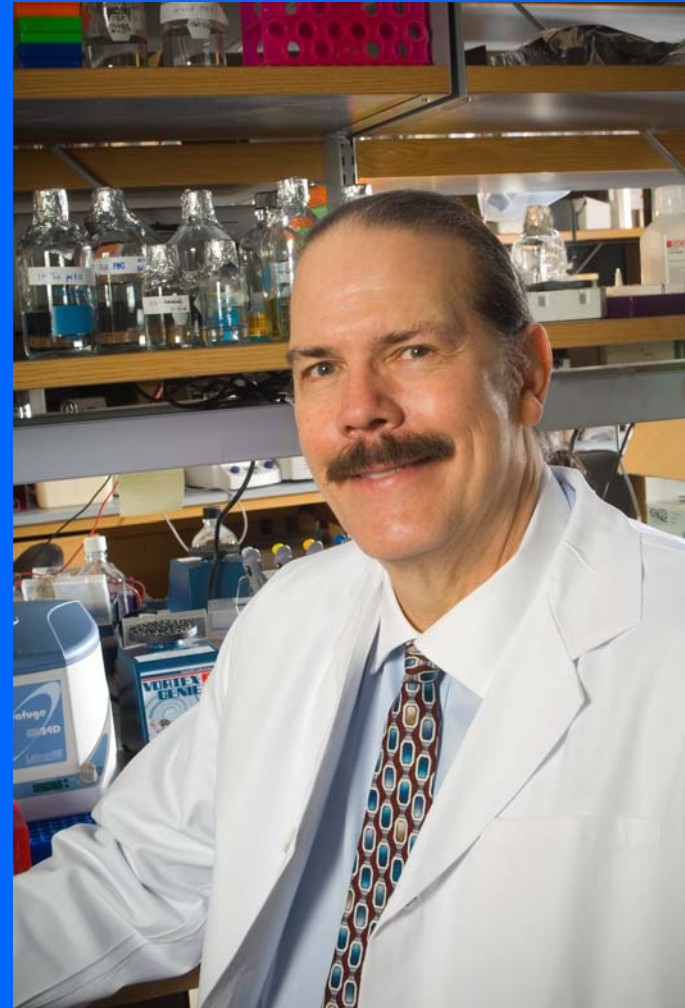
**Chair, Dept. of Human and Molecular
Genetics
Director, Institute of Molecular Medicine**

**PhD: Rutgers (1973) Mammalian Gen-
etics, Cell biology, Virology**

**Faculty: Columbia Univ. Medical Center
College of Physicians and Surgeons
(1981 – 2007)**

**Professor of Urology and Clinical Pathol-
ogy, Herbert Irving Cancer Center**

**Research Interests: Novel approaches to
cancer therapeutics (e.g., apoptosis
induction, astrocyte targeting in glioma
therapy, targeting molecules in signal
transduction pathways)**



Jamal Zweit PhD

Director, Center for Molecular Imaging, VCU Medical Campus

Previous Position: Manchester Positron Emission Tomography Centre (ManPET), Paterson Institute for Cancer Research, Christie Hospital NHS Trust and the University of Manchester, UK



PhD: Ph.D., Radiochemistry and Radiopharmacology of PET Imaging: Applications in Oncology, University of Manchester, Manchester, UK

Research interests: PET and MRI imaging of tumors esp. with regard to antiangiogenesis therapeutic agents

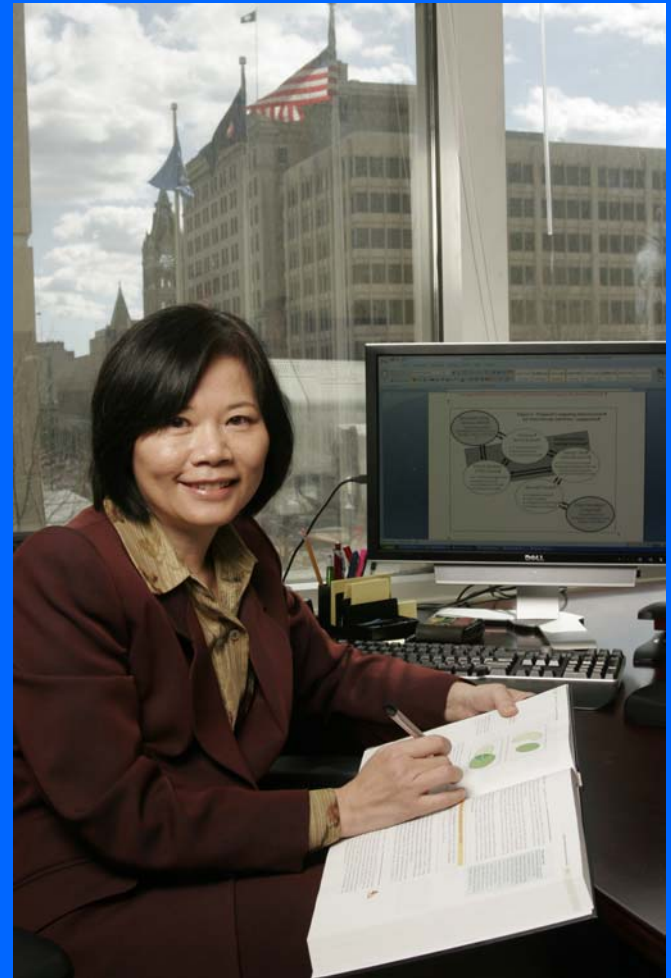
Shumei Sun PhD

Chair, Dept. of Biostatistics
VCU School of Medicine

PhD: Univ. of Pittsburgh (1983)
Biostatistics

Faculty: Brage Golding Distinguished Prof.
of Research, Wright State Univ.

NIH-funded research on adiposity,
disease risk factors, and lifetime health.
Statistical association of risk factors with
development of the metabolic syndrome



How Are We Doing?

Graduate Student Enrollment

Total Grad. Students 2004 = 189

Total Grad. Students 2008 = 272

MD/PhD student 2004 = 30 (class size 4)

MD/PhD students 2008 = 47 (class size 6 - 8)

How Are We Doing?

Research Training

- **Year-Out Program for Research – Medical Students**
- **Physician-Scientist Training Programs in Internal Medicine and Psychiatry – Housestaff**
- **Interdisciplinary Program in Biomedical Sciences (IBMS) – Graduate Students**
- **Task Force for Evaluation of the Graduate Curriculum**

How Are We Doing?

Research Funding

FY 04: # of NIH awards = 202

FY 08: # of NIH awards = 315

FY 04: NIH \$ = 59 million

FY 08: NIH \$ = 59 million

Capital Investments

New Construction and Renovations

Recent Investments

- **Massey Cancer Center Goodwin Lab Addition**
 - 60,000 square feet of dedicated research space to hold up to 250 researchers
- **McGuire Hall Annex Renovations**
 - \$1 million renovation for new department of Behavioral Health
- **Sanger Hall Renovations**
 - 3rd and 7th floor lab renovations for physiology, cardiovascular and pulmonary disease research
- **Richmond Academy of Medicine Renovations**
 - Planned renovations to accommodate CTSA activities open in November, 2007



On the Horizon

- **Medical Science Building II (MSB II)**
 - An additional 125,000 gross square feet scheduled to open in December 2008
- **New Medical School**
 - To be completed in 2012



VCU Research Strategic Plan: Where Are We Going?

Faculty Hires

- **Goal of 86 new research faculty in strategic plan (40 more)**
- **Physician-scientists (Chairs of Pediatrics and Neurology and Director of Neonatology)**

Where are We Going?

Graduate Programs

- **Increase quality and quantity of graduate students (recruiting)**
- **NIH funding for MD/PhD Program (MSTP)**
- **Comprehensive Review of Graduate Curriculum**
- **Increase student applications for individual training grants**
- **Enhance student summer research opportunities**

Where are We Going?

Infrastructure

- **Center for Clinical and Translational Research (CCTR)**
- **School of Public Health**
- **Improved Core Facilities**

Paul Fawcett hired as Director of Core Facilities

Search begun for Director of Structural Biology

Where are We Going?

Research Funding Targets

- **NIH Center and Program Project Grants (P's and U's)**
- **NIH Institutional Training Grants (T32's)**
- **NIH Research Facility Grants (?)**
- **Private Donor \$**

Bumps in the Road

Financial Uncertainty

- **NIH**
- **Private foundations**
- **Philanthropy**
- **State budget**
- **General financial malaise**