Don’t Quit
—Author unknown

When things go wrong, as they sometimes will,
When the road you're trudging seems all uphill,
When the funds are low and the debts are high,
And you want to smile, but you have to sigh,
When care is pressing you down a bit,
Rest, if you must, but don't you quit.

Life is queer with its twists and turns,
As every one of us sometimes learns.
And many a failure turns about,
When he might have won had he stuck it out;
Don't give up though the pace seems slow—
You may succeed with another blow.

Often the goal is nearer than,
It seems to a faint and faltering man,
Often the struggler has given up,
When he might have captured the victor's cup,
And he learned too late when the night slipped down,
How close he was to the golden crown.

Success is failure turned inside out—
The silver lining of the clouds of doubt.
And you never can tell how close you are,
It may be near when it seems so far,
So stick to the fight when you're hardest hit—
It's when things seem worst that you must not quit.

FLORIDA A&M UNIVERSITY
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Florida A&M University
Division of Research

Third Annual Principal Investigator Appreciation
and 2012 Researcher of the Year Awards Luncheon

Theme: “In Recognition of Research Excellence With Caring”

Dr. Bidhan C. Saha

Dr. Violeka Colova
(above far left in sunglasses)

Dr. Lewis Elgin Johnson

Dr. Hong Xiao
(above far right in green)

Dr. Ramesh Katam
(above center with blue gloves)

Foster Tanner Band Rehearsal Hall, 11:30 am to 1:30 pm, Friday, April 20, 2012
Florida A&M University

Honors ALL Principal Investigators (PIs) for your innumerable contributions to the research, education, service, training and development achievements of our institution! We proudly and purposefully

Salute the 2012
Researcher of the Year Awardees!!

Dr. James H. Ammons
President
Keynote Speaker

2012 FAMU Distinguished Researcher Award Recipient
Dr. Bidhan C. Saha
College of Arts and Sciences, Department of Physics

2012 FAMU Research Excellence Award Recipients
Dr. Violetka Colova
College of Agriculture and Fruit Sciences, Center for Viticulture and Small Fruit Research

Dr. Lewis Elgin Johnson
College of Arts and Sciences, Department of Physics

Dr. Hong Xiao
College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences
Division of Economic, Social and Administrative Pharmacy

2012 FAMU Emerging Researcher Award Recipient
Dr. Ramesh Katam
College of Arts and Sciences, Department of Biological Sciences

FLORIDA A&M UNIVERSITY appreciates the 2012 Selection Committee for the Investigator Awards (SCIA)

"Develop success from failures. Discouragement and failure are two of the surest stepping stones to success.” ~Dale Carnegie

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<td>Dr. Bobby Phillips</td>
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SINCERE THANKS EXTENDED

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Administrators, Faculty, Staff, Students, Researchers and Scholars
Division of Research
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Faculty Senate
Office of Communications
Department of Music
Physical Plant
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Sodexo
All Collaborators and Contributors
All Stakeholders and Supporters

“How far you go in life depends on your being tender with the young, compassionate with the aged, sympathetic with the striving and tolerant of the weak and strong. Because someday in your life you will have been all of these.” ~George Washington Carver

"Action is the foundational key to all success.” ~Pablo Picasso

“To strive—to seek, to find, and to never yield!” ~Anonymous
Florida A&M University
Division of Research

Third Annual Principal Investigator Appreciation
and
2012 Researcher of the Year Awards Luncheon

Theme: “In Recognition of Research Excellence With Caring”

Foster Tanner Band Rehearsal Hall    Friday, April 20, 2012    11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Presiding: Dr. Narayan B. Persaud
Professor of Sociology and President of the Faculty Senate

Opening Remarks
Dr. K. Ken Redda
Professor and Acting Vice President, Division of Research

Musical Selection
Soloist Deborah P. Jackson
Business Management Analyst, Office of the Controller

Occasion
Dr. Charles A. Weatherford
2011 Distinguished Researcher Award Recipient
Chairman, Department of Physics
Director, NSF CREST Center for Astrophysical Science and Technology
and the Center for Plasma Science and Technology

Invocation & Grace
Dr. O. Sylvia Lamar Sheffield
Research Communications Director, Division of Research

LUNCH IS SERVED—Bon Appétit!

Musical Selection
Soloist Deborah P. Jackson

Introduction of Speaker
Dr. Larry Robinson
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

Speaker
Dr. James H. Ammons
President

Awards Announcement
Dr. Bettye A. Grable
Associate Professor, School of Journalism and Graphic Communication
Recording Secretary, 2012 Selection Committee for the Investigator Awards

Closing Remarks
Dr. Narayan B. Persaud
Dr. Bidhan C. Saha
2012 FAMU Distinguished Researcher Award Recipient

Bidhan C. Saha, Ph. D., Professor, Department of Physics, College of Arts and Sciences, and Director of Physics Graduate Committee, Co-PI, National Science Foundation, CREST Center for Astrophysical Science and Technology (CePaST), earned his doctorate in physics from Calcutta University, India in 1978. His current research interests/areas of expertise are: Theoretical and Computational Atomic and Molecular Physics (AMP). In recent years, Professor Saha’s works elucidate the subtle dynamics of laser-assisted ion-atom collisions in closer detail and to guide future experimental activities that become feasible with present-day technology. For a wider magnetic field strength we recently have developed a hybrid algorithm adopting the B-spline and finite-difference set techniques for evaluating electronic structures of multi-electron atoms with phenomenal success. We also have initiated the laser assisted-electron-atom and electron-molecule scattering. At FAMU for the past 17 years. Dr. Saha’s advised countless undergraduate and graduate students, as well as post-doctoral fellows, has received the FAMU Service Award and was listed in Who’s Who in Science and Engineering, as well as Personalities of America. He also received nomination for the Fellow of American Physical Society, (2011).


RESEARCH INTERESTS/AREAS OF EXPERTISE: Theoretical and Computational Atomic and Molecular Physics (AMP), being at the interface of AMP with astrophysics, needs very accurate and complete AMP data to facilitate reliable interpretation and modeling of astronomical observations. Employing the quantum-mechanical prescriptions, he and his team investigate a wide range of problems in quantum collision theory. Dr. Saha’s research includes the investigation of charge transfer due to ion-atom and ion-molecule collisions for high energy range. They are developing a comprehensive set of total and state-selective charge transfer data for important reactions relevant to the astrophysical modeling. In recent years, Professor Saha’s works elucidate the subtle dynamics of laser-assisted ion-atom collisions in closer detail and to guide future experimental activities that become feasible with present-day technology.

REPRESENTATIVE PUBLICATIONS: Saha’s publication record fast approaches 100 to include:


COLLABORATORS: Dr. Saha’s earlier described research program takes collaboration with experimental and theoretical physicists globally, whereby FAMU interchanges visits with members and institutions, including: Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory; Los Alamos National Laboratory; Harvard Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory; Indian Association for the Cultivation of Sciences, Kolkata, India; University of Rajshahi, Rajshahi, Bangladesh; and Curtin University, Perth, Australia.

RESEARCH PERSPECTIVES: Atomic and molecular collisions are ubiquitous in nature and still remain challenging in spite of the availability of Supercomputers. The charge exchange collision is crucial for understanding the phenomena in studies of comets, the solar wind, and space weather. Relative intensities of spectral lines of the charge exchange X-ray/EUV emission are used for the remote diagnostic of the compositions and velocities of the solar wind plasma. To explain the unexpected discovery of X-ray emission from the comets and other astronomical objects, the charge exchange is increasingly recognized as a major player in spectra from deep space and magnetic fusion research. Our correct analysis of the X-ray produced via the solar wind and comets interaction may provide a powerful device in monitoring space weather inside the solar system. This may avoid the need for spacecraft to circle the Sun, state-of-the-art laboratory data and the impulse furnished by astrophysical observations and fusion research will remain invaluable for our research.

Previous FAMU Researcher of the Year Award Recipients

Dr. Karam F.A. Soliman, Distinguished Researcher Award Recipient

Dr. Seth Abordepeey, Research Excellence Award Recipient

Dr. Gokhan Hacisalihoglu, Research Excellence Award Recipient

Dr. David H. Jackson, Jr., Research Excellence Award Recipient

Dr. Mandip Sachdeva, Emerging Researcher Award Recipient

Dr. Barack O. Abyoni, Emerging Researcher Award Recipient

Dr. Karunya K. Kandimalla, Emerging Researcher Award Recipient

Dr. Nelly N. Mateeva, Emerging Researcher Award Recipient

2010 Roster

Dr. Charles Weatherford, Distinguished Researcher Award Recipient

Dr. Lambeth Kanga, Research Excellence Award Recipient

Dr. Nazarius Lamango, Research Excellence Award Recipient

Dr. Jiang Lu, Research Excellence Award Recipient

Dr. Musililu Musa, Emerging Researcher Award Recipient

Dr. Subramanian Ramakrishnan, Emerging Researcher Award Recipient

2011 Roster
Dr. Ramesh Katam
2012 FAMU Emerging Researcher of the Year Award Recipient

RAMESH KATAM, Ph.D., earned his doctorate from Mississippi State University, 2005, in Plant Molecular Biology and joined the FAMU College of Arts and Sciences, Department of Biological Sciences, as an Assistant Professor in 2010. Research programs conducted in his team’s lab include: comprehensive proteome analysis of the peanut to improve the understanding of plant genetics and metabolism and assist in the selection and breeding programs for crop improvement; identifying candidate proteins of systems biology that mediate protein-protein interaction studies on peanut; protein analysis to define function of their associated genes; evaluating the inter-relationship between drought tolerance and aflatoxin contamination in peanuts; grape extract evaluation against anticancer activity and identification of potential biomolecules showing anticancer activity; determining the berry development of muscadine grape and accumulation of ruficalcule compounds; comprehensive monitoring of gene and protein expression of cancer and non-cancerous cells treated with grape extracts, and determining biomarkers for prostate cancer.


RESEARCH INTERESTS/AREAS OF EXPERTISE: Expression analysis of cellular and molecular responses during plant-pathogen interaction; differential expression of transcripts and proteins in plants under various developmental, and abiotic stress responses; proteome analysis of human and mouse cell lines under various abiotic stresses; effect of plant extracts on inhibition of cancer cell growth and their regulatory mechanism involving genes and proteins.

REPRESENTATIVE PUBLICATIONS: Dr. Katam’s research findings are globally published, some recent ones:


COLLABORATORS: FAMU’s College of Agriculture and Food Sciences (CAFS), College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences (CoPPS); College of Medicine, Florida State University; Tallahassee (FL) Community College; University of Florida (Gainesville); Penn State University, Harrisburg; West Virginia State University (Institute). Mississippi State University. University of California, Los Angeles, California; University of Nevada, Rino;rod, Haryana, India, Ambedkar Research Institute for Biotechnology and the Environment, Vellore, India, Andhra Pradesh, India. Mahbashi Institute of Technology, Maharashtra, Japan; University of Macquarie, Sydney, Australia; University of Malta, Kaalambat, Malaysia.

RESEARCH PERSPECTIVES: Dr. Katam has a vision of multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary approaches to derive a novel of thoughts and resolve several unanswered questions in the field of biology research. He firmly believes that collaboration and use of existing resources in advancing the knowledge would not only help in solving any biological problems. Hypothesis driven research will create the need for networking of various disciplines and will also enhance learning experiences for students. One of his focal research points is to understand the cellular processes regulated by protein-protein interactions, post-translational protein modifications and enzymatic activities that cannot be identified by gene expression studies. His research commitments and achievements are geared towards the benefit for humankind with all humility and modesty. During his career as a researcher and teacher, he has established a trusting relationship with many students at FAMU and beyond, and he regularly collaborates with many prominent scientists and specialists in various fields from the USA, India, and Australia.

Dr. Violette Colova
2012 FAMU Research Excellence Award Recipient

VIOLETTE COLOVA, Ph.D., Professor, Viticulture & Development Biology, College of Agriculture and Food Sciences (CAFS), Center for Viticulture & Small Research, has the Ph.D. degree in Cell Biology, Institute of Genetic Engineering, Agriculture Academy, Sofia, Bulgaria, 1991. She has made major contributions to the Viticulture Program for the past 12 years. This has been facilitated through research, teaching, and student training and development as (reflected in) the following research accomplishments: she has developed two patents for FAMU, her research productivity was recognized by the APS, and awarded the “Outstanding Achievement Award” in 2002 and 2014. She has also developed and taught two undergraduate courses in Biotechnology and Human Sustainability (AGG2050, AGG 2060, AGG4420); and trained 30 undergraduate students in various aspects of plant science, viticulture, microbiology, and biotechnology and lab protocol; supervised and graduated six graduate students.


RESEARCH INTERESTS/AREAS OF EXPERTISE: Focused on plant genotypy – environment interaction and quality improvement of American native grapes. As a research strategy I am positioning myself to integrate the emerging molecular information and tools (transcriptomics, proteomics and metabolomics) with my capacity in genetic transformation into practical applications such as using genomic sequences to improve nutritional and health benefits of American native grapes.

REPRESENTATIVE PUBLICATIONS: Has published more than 50 refereed publications and five book chapters to include: G. Davis, A. Arden, K. Krastanova, S. Sutton, J. Ocherry, V. ColovaTsohlov (2014). Development of a rapid and sensitive gene expression at chalcone synthase (CHS) enzyme suggests increased production of flavonoids in skin and synchronized red cell cultures of North American native grape berries. DNA Cell and Biology (In press)


COLLABORATORS: Her research program in viticulture and DNA recombinant technology is a member of the North American Research Network of Grape Functional Genomics (RN for GFG) and International Grape Genome Program (IGGP). She has trained six exchange students from Austria and Italy; worked with the FAMU Office of International Agriculture to build a strong globalised multidisciplinary program for minority students in South Africa, Italy, France, Austria, and Germany. Dr. Colova’s lab is regularly the recipient of visiting researchers/scientists from Italy, Austria, France, Israel, and Armenia, and she is the principal investigator of several grants for research and development and uses routine genetic transformation protocols for muscadine grape. She was able to secure research grants from the European Union (EU) and from the North American Grape Functional Genomics Network for two of FAMU’s post doctoral research associates to study and work for two months at the Institute of Vine and Wine Sciences, Bordeaux, France and ARO Volcani Center, Israel.

RESEARCH PERSPECTIVES: Dr. Colova feels she’s fortunate to be educated and trained in the best tradition of the “Old World” agriculture and viticulture and to further develop her knowledge and experience in the advanced and competitive environment of the “New World” higher education and research. She feels blessed with remarkable mentors, peers, and friends, and always to “work with great people in the right place at exactly the right time” which trained me very well to try “to do the best out of any situation.” What she’s been taught by her mentors, she is now teaching her students and pursuing continual research endeavors. “Know that the world already did it, understand what was not done, and decide that you can do it.” Her scholarly work is on the multidisciplinary research activities at the intersection of the agricultural and medical biotechnology and molecular farming.
LEWIS, PH.D., is an Associate Professor, College of Arts and Sciences, Department of Physics, who joined the FAMU faculty following a two-year term staff scientist position at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL) in Berkeley, CA where he worked on Extreme Ultraviolet (EUV) lithography and X-ray microscopy projects at the Advanced Light Source (ALS). Starting as an Assistant Professor in 2000, Lewis was promoted to the rank of Associate Professor and granted tenure in 2006. At FAMU, Lewis started the Laser Remote Sensing Laboratory (LRSL) to study the physics and technology of remote and/or rapid sensing techniques. This technology is useful in diverse areas such as homeland security and terrorist threat analysis, agriculture, environmental monitoring, nuclear proliferation monitoring, and public health. The laboratory currently uses Laser Induced Breakdown Spectroscopy (LIBS), Quantum Control and other spectroscopic techniques to study the physics and applications of hazardous material detection.

Professor Johnson graduated Magna Cum Laude from North Carolina State University (NCSU) in Raleigh, NC with a Bachelor's degree in Physics (1990). He earned his PhD (1997) in Physics from Duke University, working in the Free Electron Laser Laboratory under John M. J. M. Maday. He has co-authored over 30 scientific papers and conference proceedings, produced one Ph.D. and two Master's students, and raised and managed over $8 Million in research funding.


RESEARCH INTERESTS/Areas of Expertise: Laser-Induced Breakdown Spectroscopy (LIBS); Plasma Physics and Applications; LIBAR and Active Laser-Based Standoff Sensor Systems; Free Electron Lasers and Synchrotron Radiation Sources: Development and Applications; X-ray Spectroscopy; Extreme Ultraviolet and Advanced Lithography; and Physics Education

REPRESENTATIVE PUBLICATIONS:


Collaborators:
FAMU’s Institute of Public Health, CoPPS, also including, but not limited to the disciplines of behavioral sciences, epidemiology, biostatistics, and environmental health.

Research Perspectives: In her opinion, Dr. Xiao feels no research should be considered as good research if it doesn’t result in real-world benefit. The complex and ever-changing world we are living in requires researchers, especially health service researchers to take a multidisciplinary or interdisciplinary approach. No one can be the expert on all aspects that health service research entails.