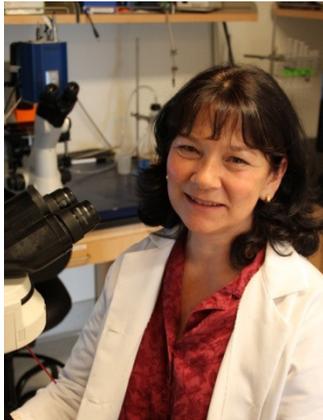


## The John A. Resko Award Faculty Research and Mentoring Award for 2010



The John A. Resko Faculty Research and Mentoring Award for 2010 has been awarded to **Allison Fryer, PhD**, Professor, Department of Medicine, and Associate Dean for Graduate Studies.

Dr. Fryer received her PhD from the University of London in 1986, was a postdoctoral fellow at the University of California, San Francisco and the University of Maryland, Baltimore. In 1990, she joined Johns Hopkins University where she rose to the rank of Professor before joining OHSU in 2003. Dr. Fryer is a Fellow of the British Pharmacological Society and a member of the Lung Cellular, Molecular, and Immunobiology Study Section at the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

Dr. Fryer's research is focused on how interactions between inflammatory cells and peripheral nerves cause the airway hyperreactivity characteristic of asthma. She has trained over 20 graduate and postdoctoral students in her laboratory, many of whom are now in faculty positions.

In his letter of nomination for the Resko Award, D. Lynn Loriaux, MD, PhD, Professor and Chair, Department of Medicine, writes:

"Dr. Fryer has 63 peer-reviewed publications. Of these, she is first or last author on 50. The focus of her research is mechanisms of airway hyperreactivity. She was first to show that M2 muscarinic receptors limit release of acetylcholine from parasympathetic nerves in the lungs. In animal models of asthma, she has shown that M2 receptors become dysfunctional due to blockade by an endogenous antagonist released from eosinophils (this finding was also significant in that she discovered the second endogenous antagonist). Dr Fryer has also shown that parasympathetic nerves in the lung are actively engaged in recruiting eosinophils via



**School of Medicine**  
*Oregon Health & Science University*

expression of chemotactic factors and adhesion molecules, providing a mechanism for eosinophil nerve interactions that may ultimately result in increased acetylcholine release and airway hyperreactivity. All of these studies materially advance our understanding of asthma, inflammation and may advance our understanding of other chronic inflammatory conditions.

Her international reputation as a scientist is evident by her service as editor on two outstanding journals, *The British Journal of Pharmacology* and *The American Journal of Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine* as well as by invitations to speak at and organize international conferences. She has mentored 14 thesis PhD students (of which nine have received their degrees), and 11 postdoctoral fellows. Her students and fellows are remarkably successful, in that most graduates from her laboratory have become leaders in industry or are assistant and associate professors in academia. In the classroom, Dr. Fryer's outstanding ability to lecture was recognized by three teaching awards from graduate students at OHSU.

As director of the Graduate Program in Molecular and Cellular Biology (from 2006 to 2008) and recently, Associate Dean of Graduate Studies in the School of Medicine, Dr. Fryer has done, and is doing, an extraordinary job. Though her tenure as director of PMCB was short, she is widely viewed as infusing new energy into the program including reestablishing and engaging the faculty steering committee, making important changes in the curriculum, improving the application process, and working with all of the graduate students to improve the general morale of this program, the quality of its students, and the quality and quantity of mentorship for all. She has brought the same energy and commitment to her position as Associate Dean where she has revised and updated Graduate Council By-Laws, reestablished committees to oversee course evaluations, student and faculty awards, and evaluate overlap between courses. She oversaw the merger of seven graduate programs, 150 students and over 50 faculty from the OGI into the graduate programs and graduate faculty of the School of Medicine. Recently, she has been an active advocate for supporting graduate education at the state, within the university, and to the foundation and alumni councils.

Dr. Fryer is recognized as one of OHSU's most successful scientists, but additionally she is one of the most committed faculty mentors, interacting with students at every level, in the classroom, in her laboratory and for all graduate students in the School of Medicine."



**School of Medicine**  
*Oregon Health & Science University*