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University of Western Ontario
Department of Biochemistry,
Correspondent: Eric H. Ball

The Department is delighted to welcome **Ken Yeung** as a new Assistant Professor, jointly appointed with Chemistry to fill a proteomics position. His research interests lie in the field of capillary electrophoresis/mass spectrometry and bioanalytical chemistry. Ken's doctorate is from the University of Calgary, and he joins us after postdoctoral stints at Stanford and the University of Alberta.

Dr. Judy Ball officially retired in 2000, but has been drafted to continue to help with the introduction of the new Bachelor of Medical Sciences program. Judy joined Biochemistry in 1965, and worked extensively on viral tumorigenesis by MMTV. Another loss to the Department was the death of professor emeritus **K.P. Strickland**, who was active in the Department from 1955 to 1993, with a distinguished record in lipid research.

We were happy to congratulate several members of the Department for awards. **Drs. Victor Han** and **Robert Begele** were recipients of Tier 1 Canada Research Chairs. **Drs. Gary Shaw, Ilona Skerjanc** and **Shawn Li** obtained Premiers Research Excellence Awards while Shawn Li was awarded an NCIC Scientist as well as a CIHR scholarship. **Drs. Chris Brandl** and **Gary Shaw** became full professors and **Ilona Skerjanc** was promoted to Associate Professor.

In the coming year **Ilona Skerjanc** will be taking a sabbatical leave in the lab of Dr. M Rudnicki at the Ottawa Hospital Research Institute to study transgenic approaches to muscle differentiation. We expect she will need the time off from teaching to cope with her new responsibilities as a member of the Institute Advisory Board for the Institute of Musculoskeletal Health.