

University of Miami Miller School of Medicine

Miller School Pharmaceutical Scientist Honored as AAAS Fellow

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Peter Buchwald, Ph.D., associate professor in the Department of Molecular and Cellular Pharmacology, and Director of Drug Discovery at the Diabetes Research Institute, was recently elected as a 2014 American Association for the Advancement of Sciences (AAAS) Fellow.



Buchwald received the prestigious distinction for his “distinguished contributions to the pharmaceutical sciences, particularly in the area of multi-disciplinary approaches to drug design and delivery utilizing computer-aided applications,” stated the AAAS.

“Receiving this honor was a very pleasant surprise,” said Buchwald, who is among 401 newly elected fellows who will be officially pinned on February 14 at the AAAS’ 2015 Annual Meeting in San Jose, Calif.

By being elected to this rank, Buchwald joins a dozen other distinguished University of Miami AAAS Fellows.

“I honestly didn’t expect it because I’m still considered relatively early in my career,” said Buchwald. “It’s a really nice honor.”

AAAS is the world’s largest general scientific society. Fellows are elected by their peers for their scientifically or socially distinguished efforts to advance science or its applications.

Since joining the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine in 2006, Buchwald has focused his research on small molecule drug discovery for immune-modulation with the hopes of advancing the treatment and prevention of type 1 diabetes.

“The long-term goal for our current research is to prevent diabetes or reverse the onset of the disease as well as to help those who have already received a pancreas or islet cell transplant,” said Buchwald, who is currently studying drugs that would improve immunosuppression for organ transplant recipients and patients with autoimmune diseases.

The AAAS is an international non-profit organization dedicated to advancing science around the world by serving as an educator, leader, spokesperson and professional association. It also publishes the journal *Science*, as well as many scientific newsletters, books and reports, and spearheads programs. The AAAS serves 262 affiliated societies and academies of science, involving 10 million individuals.