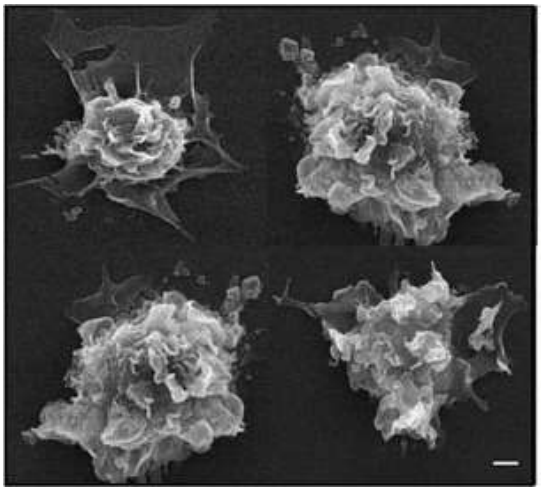
California State University, Fresno Department of Biology and Tri-Beta Biology Club presents

"Respiratory infections in the elderly: Lessons learnt from dendritic cells"

By Dr. Anshu Agrawal, UC Irvine

Friday, April 24, 2015, 3:00 PM in Science II Room 109



(Images courtesy of UC Irvine faculty page and Dr. Timothy B. Oriss laboratory profile.)

Increased susceptibility to respiratory infections is the hallmark of the elderly population. Influenza and Pneumonia infections are often prolonged and more severe in the aged population and are a major cause of morbidity and mortality. The underlying mechanisms are not well understood nevertheless changes in the immune system are considered the major culprit. Dendritic cells of the innate immune system are the initiators and regulators of the immune response. They not only fight infections but are also responsible for activating downstream adaptive immune T cell responses. In this seminar, I will talk about the age-associated changes in the functions of dendritic cells that account for the increased incidence of respiratory infections in the aged population. The underlying mechanisms responsible for the changes and possible therapeutic strategies will also be discussed.

**If you need a disability-related accommodation or wheelchair access, please contact Lindasue Garner in the Department of Biology at 278-2001 or e-mail lgarner@csufresno.edu (at least one week prior to event).*