



May 2018

## Getting to know our faculty members

### Have Research-Related News?



If you or a lab member have research-related news or awards you would like to see highlighted in the monthly newsletter, please email the details to Lindsey at [lmquade@uic.edu](mailto:lmquade@uic.edu) by the 26th of June for the next edition of the Research Newsletter!

### Faculty Awards



[Laura Sanchez](#) (left) was selected as a [Scialog Fellow](#) by the [Research Corporation](#) and the [Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation](#). This award is for highly promising early to mid-career investigators working on the chemistry or biology of the cell or a related research area. Laura will participate in the 2018 Scialog: Chemical Machinery of the Cell - a program of search and discovery for truly transformative scientific advances in our understanding of the cell.

[Zack Bulman](#) (centered) and [Greg Calip](#) (right) were each awarded [CCTS 2018 KL2 CATS Scholars Award](#). These two year awards provide a vigorous mentoring and career development program for clinical and translational scholars. The CATS Scholars Program is intended to accelerate the career progression of scientists who have demonstrated a commitment to clinical and/or translational research.

### Faculty News

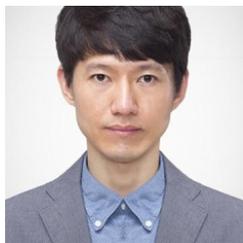


[Ashley Hall](#) (left) was interviewed by [FOX32 News](#) about the use of DNA data in the Golden State Killer case. The story was broadcast on FOX32 Chicago News at 9 pm on May 16, 2018 and unveiled the use of the public genealogy DNA databases and how they relate to criminal investigations.

[Katie Suda](#) (right) was named as consultant of the American Dental Association ([ADA](#)) Council on Scientific Affairs. The Council on Scientific Affairs oversees the Center for Evidence-Based Dentistry. One of the charges of the Center for Evidence-Based Dentistry is to formulate standards in oral health, including guidelines. As part of this role, Dr. Suda will participate in formulating the first guidelines on the therapeutic use of antibiotics for the treatment of oral infections.

# Spotlight on our Trainees

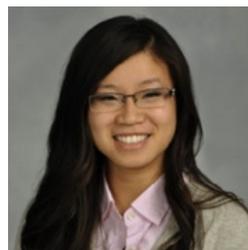
## Kyoung-jae Won wins ASPET Poster Award



Kyoung-jae Won (Postdoc, [Jeong lab](#)) won a poster award at the annual meeting for American Society of Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics ([ASPET](#)). His poster is entitled, "atRA induces cholesterol accumulation through CYP7A1 repression in the liver."

## Ruixuan Jiang awarded Predoctoral PhRMA Foundation Fellowship

PSOP Student Ruixuan Jiang ([Pickard lab](#)) was awarded a [predoctoral PhRMA Foundation Fellowship](#), which provides up to two years of funding for full-time students who will be engaged in thesis research. Dr. Jiang will pursue completion of her PhD dissertation, titled: "Improving Inputs of Healthcare Resource Allocation".



## Benish Alam receives NASTH Research Fellowship



PharmD Student Benish Alam ([Nutescu lab](#)) received the prestigious 2018 North American Society of Thrombosis and Hemostasis ([NASTH](#)) research fellowship. The [NASTH research fellowship](#) is a competitive award given to select students pursuing clinical and epidemiologic research in the field of hemostasis and thrombosis. Benish will work with her mentor on the project titled "Factors influencing the treatment selection of anticoagulation therapies in African

American patients with atrial fibrillation" and present her findings at the 2019 NASTH Annual Research Symposium. This is only the second time in the program's history that this prestigious award is given to a PharmD student among a competitive pool of MD and PhD student applicants, and the first time in the program's history that a faculty mentor has been selected twice.

## COP Students win at the Dr. Gary Kruh Cancer Research Symposium



BPS student Monica Shenin ([Tonetti lab](#), left), PSOP student Rachel Harrington ([Lee lab](#), center), and CBS student Subbulakshmi Karthikeyan ([Burdette lab](#), right) all won poster awards at the Dr. Gary Kruh Cancer Research Symposium on May 4th, 2018. Monica won the student poster competition in the Translational Oncology category ("Creating a high-throughput screen to discover novel compounds blocking the PKC /FOXC2/p120-catenin pathway in breast cancer"), Rachel won in Cancer Prevention and Control ("Characterizing multi-morbidity among early survivors of pediatric cancer"), and Subbu won in the Cancer Biology category ("Prolactin signaling drive tumorigenesis in human high grade serous ovarian cancer cells and in a spontaneous fallopian tube derived model")

This annual event brings together cancer researchers, faculty and students, and is named for the former University of Illinois Cancer Center director who succumbed to a traumatic brain injury in 2011. Dr. Kruh specialized in the treatment of patients with lung cancer. His research focused on understanding the molecular mechanisms that enable cancer cells to resist chemotherapy agents.

## Sofia Costa receives ASP Travel Award



Visiting student Sofia Costa ([Murphy lab](#)) won an American Society of Pharmacognosy ([ASP](#)) [Student Travel Award](#). The award will be presented at the Annual ASP meeting in Lexington Kentucky, July 21-25.

## Vanessa Nepomuceno earns SIMB Travel Award

MCP student Vanessa Nepomuceno ([Murphy lab](#)) won a Society for Industrial Microbiology and Biotechnology ([SIMB](#)) [Diversity Travel Award](#). The SIMB Diversity Travel Award was established to promote diversity and to increase the participation of underrepresented minority groups in SIMB among the graduate students making presentations at any SIMB sponsored meeting.



## Sungjoon Cho selected as GLDMDG Student Abstract Presentation Winner



BPS student Sungjoon Cho ([Jeong & Lee](#) labs) was selected as the 2018 Student Abstract Presentation Winner by the Great Lakes Drug Metabolism and Disposition Group ([GLDMDG](#)) steering committee. Sungjoon presented his winning poster and delivered a presentation of his work entitled "Differential Microbiota in the Gut Modulates Susceptibility to Acetaminophen-Induced Hepatotoxicity in C57BL/6 Mice" during the GLDMDG Meeting in Indianapolis, IN on May 10-11, 2018.

## Karina Esparza secures GWIS Travel Award

BPS student Karina Esparza ([Onyuksel lab](#)) secured one of two Graduate Women in Science ([GWIS](#)) Travel Awards. The funds will help to defray Karina's costs to attend the American Association for Pharmaceutical Scientists ([AAPS](#)) Annual Meeting held in Washington, DC, on November 4-7, 2018.



## Katherine Zink receives Honorable Mention for Mentoring Award



MCP student Katherine Zink ([Sanchez lab](#)) received an Honorable Mention for the UIC Excellence in Undergraduate Mentoring Award. The award honors outstanding graduate student mentors for their work with UIC undergraduate or professional students. Recipients of this award demonstrate their contribution to the development and support of undergraduate or professional students outside of their regular duties as a teaching or research assistant. In doing so, contributions such as promoting intellectual growth, through research mentorship, fostering the development of skills in written and oral communication or assisting in applications for extracurricular opportunities are highly valued, among others.

## PSOP Students Bring Home Second Place at ISPOR Competition



PSOP students (from left to right) Ruixuan Jiang ([Pickard lab](#)), Danny Quach ([Walton lab](#)), Andrea Monteiro ([Pickard lab](#)), and Brian Talon ([Touchette lab](#)) competed in the [ISPOR](#) Student Research Competition. The Competition is a fast-paced, head-to-head quiz tournament to test their knowledge in Outcomes Research. The PSOP Team bested eighteen other teams and placed 2nd in the ISPOR Student Research Competition.

## More Research News

### PIIPS Fellows Selected



The [ASPET](#)-sponsored [PIIPS](#) program has begun its second summer! The PIIPS program is for UIC College of Pharmacy graduate students who have passed their candidacy exams and who are interested in careers in industry related to their field of study upon graduation. They will work over the summer at Pharmaceutical companies around the country to put their PhD training into practice, learn new skills, develop professionally, and make valuable contacts with industry leaders. Meet the 2018 PIIPS Fellows:

Obinna Mbachu (left, [Bolton lab](#)): [Adello Biologics](#)  
Loruhama Delgado-Rivera (center, [Thatcher lab](#)): [Pfizer](#)  
Brian Guo (right, [Che lab](#)): [Sirenas](#)

# CBC Grants Programs Announced



CHICAGO  
BIOMEDICAL  
CONSORTIUM

The Chicago Biomedical Consortium ([CBC](#)) has announced two award programs open over the summer:

[CBC Accelerator Award Program](#): LOI Deadline: 06/08/2018

The CBC's Accelerator Award Program supports translational research and provides university researchers with "early commercial guidance." Accelerator Awards will be used to support the initial, and therefore highest risk, stage of commercially-directed research focused on the development of a therapeutic or an associated biomarker or diagnostic. The program will encourage interactions between academic researchers and industry/ pharmaceutical experts early in the development of projects and provide advice to award recipients in setting and progressing toward commercialization milestones.

[CBC Catalyst Award Program](#): Deadline: 08/24/2018

The Catalyst Award Program enables Chicago scientists to pursue cutting-edge, high-risk /high-reward research. The program was designed to stimulate ground-breaking research through collaboration among CBC scientists. In addition to supporting basic biomedical science, starting this year, projects with translational potential will be considered. Projects should address important areas of basic biological/biomedical or translational research that are risky, innovative, and potentially transformative. Applicants submitting projects with translational potential will be required to submit a statement regarding the unmet clinical need and the potential impact on human health.

## Important Dates/Upcoming Events

[2018 Great Lakes Chapter ASPET Meeting](#)

Friday, 06/22/2018  
Loyola University Stritch School of Medicine

[2018 Chicago Mass Spec Day](#)

Friday, 07/20/2018  
College of Pharmacy, various

[4th Annual SURF Riback Mini Symposium](#)

Thursday, 08/02/2018  
MBRB 3rd Floor Lobby

[Research Day](#)

Friday, 02/08/2019  
College of Pharmacy, various

[View All College of Pharmacy Events](#)

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