

## NEWS

### Graduate Commencement and Awards Lunch



The annual Graduate Commencement/Awards Lunch was hosted by the PGA on Wednesday, June 22nd in PSC-104. Certificates were handed out to all those graduating in this academic year. In addition, awards were given to students selected as the best TA and RA by each program:

**Best TA:** Hsuan-Yao Wang (PSCI); Daniel Brill (MPTX); Nhat Huynh (CXPT); Zifan Zhou (PMEP). **Best RA:** Yilong Yi (PSCI); Zhechu Peng (MPTX); Isaac Asante (CXPT); Andy Nguyen (PMEP)

*Pictured (from left):* Mihir Shah, Zhen Meng, Sheraz Khoja, Anna Papinska, Jugal Dhandhukia (PhD grads), Daniel Friere, Bianfei Xuan, Santosh Peddy (MS grads), with Dr Annie Wong-Beringer, Associate Dean for Graduate Affairs.

## Upcoming Events



### PSCI Graduate Student Wins 2nd Prize at BCLA Entrepreneurship Summit 2016



Rising 3rd year PSCI student **Jordan Despanie** (Andrew MacKay lab), earned 2nd prize in this year's Biotech Connection Los Angeles (BCLA) **2nd annual Entrepreneurship Summit : Innovation and the Path To Market** at CNSI/UCLA on June 11th. Jordan's innovative idea is to develop a novel therapeutic for the treatment of hemorrhagic shock (e.g. battlefield wounds, civilian emergencies) by generating a hemoglobin-based oxygen carrier nanomedicine. Jordan and his PI, Dr Mackay, have set up a biotech startup company SAIMA Biopharmaceuticals (visit the website at <http://www.saimabio.com/>). (Note: BCLA is a student- and postdoc-led initiative with the mission to connect academia and industry in the healthcare and life sciences domains by stimulating collaboration, innovation and driving ideas forward for the benefit of the greater LA area).

### Regulatory Science International Summer Visiting Scholar Program



The **International Center for Regulatory Science** is hosting the **2016 Summer Visiting Scholar Program** for approximately 30 students and faculty from Taiwan, China, and South Korea. This month-long program is designed to provide the participants with a broader understanding of the US biomedical industry and the associated regulatory requirements while exposing them to the US academic and social culture.

## PHARMACY GRADUATE ALLIANCE (PGA) CORNER

### AAPS-USC Student Chapter Hosts Moving Targets 2016 - Friday August 19th at the Radisson Hotel, UPC

The AAPS-USC Student Chapter cordially invites you to attend the 15th annual Moving Targets symposium. This year's theme will focus on "**Disease Driven Aging**". The one-day research symposium will explore how chronic diseases and associated therapies can accelerate the onset of age-related changes. The event will convene basic, translational and clinical researchers, working in the disparate fields of HIV/AIDS, oncology, metabolic disorders, and aging research. The free event includes breakfast, speaker presentations, lunch, poster competition and an evening reception. The deadline to sign-up is August 12th, so register now! Registration for the event is free and open to all. For more information on the event and registration, head to [www.movingtargets.la](http://www.movingtargets.la) today! The poster competition will include cash prizes, and your area of research need not be related to aging for participation! To submit an abstract, or to get more information, visit [www.movingtargets.la](http://www.movingtargets.la) or please contact Us at [movingtargets2016@gmail.com](mailto:movingtargets2016@gmail.com)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**LinkedIn Workshop:** As part of a **Graduate Programs Professional Development Series**, the Graduate Affairs office hosted a **LinkedIn Workshop** led by **Zach Marks**, cofounder and COO for **Oystir** on Thurs, July 21st in PSC-104. A total of 35 graduate students attended the session, and many brought their laptops so they could update their LinkedIn profiles in real time. Previously a consultant for McKinsey & Company, Zach Marks developed new strategies to hire talent from non-traditional sources. In addition to helping employers find highly skilled talent with graduate degrees, Oystir provides an online resource that enables job seekers to find opportunities based on their skills rather than titles on a resume. To learn more, visit: <https://www.oystir.com/about/>.

**Summer Research Fellowship Presentation Day:** The 8 PharmD students and 3 undergraduate students who received **Summer Research Fellowships** this year will give short (10-min) presentations of their project on Wed July 27th from 11-2pm in PSC-200. Please join us to hear about their work. The summer program is geared towards increasing learning and networking opportunities for undergraduate and PharmD students committed to pursuing either a professional or academic research career in pharmaceutical and translational sciences. Students spend approx. 10 weeks working on a research project with a faculty mentor during the summer. Visit the Summer Research Fellowship page on the [website](#).

**Summer Fellowship Boot Camp:** We are pleased to report that 5 of our graduate students—incoming PHTS students **Lucas Gutierrez** and **Hugo Avila**; rising 2nd years **Larry Rodriguez** (PSCI) and **Rachel Reyes** and **Rita Algorri** (CXPT) - have been accepted into the Graduate School's **Summer Fellowship Boot Camp** as part of its Diversity, Inclusion and Access (DIA) initiative. The boot camp will involve a 10-day intensive writing workshop from August 3-12th over at UPC in which participants will complete an application for a particular fellowship.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Summer Research Fellowship Presentation Day:** Wed July 27th from 11-2pm in PSC-200. Lunch will be provided. See [Flyer](#).

**Orientation week:** Mon Aug 15th through Thurs Aug 18th.

**Annual Moving Targets Symposium:** Fri August 19th at the Radisson Hotel from 12-2pm. Click here for [Flyer](#).

**Krown Fellowship Presentations:** Wed Sept 7th from 12-1pm in PSC-104. Lunch will be provided.

### USC School of Pharmacy Office of Graduate Affairs

Associate Dean: Annie Wong-Beringer, PharmD

Newsletter Editor: Kathryn Rich; Contributors: Rosie Soltero, Wade Thompson-Harper

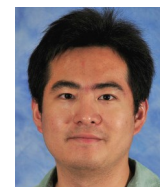
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Email: [PHARgrad@usc.edu](mailto:PHARgrad@usc.edu)

Website: <https://pharmgradprograms.usc.edu/>

1985 Zonal Ave, Los Angeles, CA 90089  
(323) 442- 1474

## CONGRATULATIONS



**Yilong Li** (PSCI program; Dr Julio Camarero, advisor) completed his dissertation defense on June 21st, 2016.



**Sheraz Khoja** (MPTX program, Dr Daryl Davies, advisor) has had a first-author paper accepted for publication in *J Neurochemistry*.



**Xue Han** (HLEC program; Dr Jeff McCombs, advisor, ) has been awarded a one-semester fellowship from the Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers Association.



**Nhat Huynh** (CXPT program; Dr Daryl Davies, advisor) presented a paper at the 39th Annual meeting of the Research Society on Alcoholism, which was held in New Orleans last month.



**Jordan Despanie** (PSCI program; Dr Andrew MacKay, advisor) has been awarded a 2-year NIH diversity supplement fellowship.