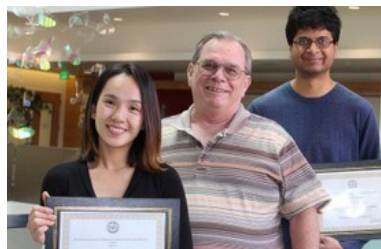


NEWS

Health Economics Students Earn Top Awards at ISPOR Conference



Health Economics students won awards for best student poster and best student podium presentation at the 21st annual meeting of International Society for Pharmacoeconomics and Outcomes Research (ISPOR), which took place in Washington D.C. May 21-25. Masters student **Nikhil Bhagvandas** won the Best Student Poster Research Award for his poster on the cost-effectiveness of three therapies used in the treatment of bipolar disorder depression. Second-year doctoral student **Yifan Xu** won the Best Student Podium Research Award for her presentation on comparative effectiveness of two treatments for patients with metastatic colorectal cancer. *Pictured (from left): Xifan Xu, Associate Professor Jeff McCombs and Nikhil Bhagvandas.*

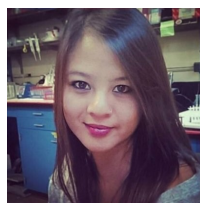
Masters Student Receives Aiko Maruya Award for Excellence in Regulatory Science



Yayuan Zheng, who received her MS in Management of Drug Development at the 2016 Commencement ceremony, was awarded the Aiko Maruya Award for excellence in Regulatory Science at the Senior Awards Banquet on May 7th. Dr. Eunjoo Pacifici presented her with the award. The Award is named in memory of Aiko Maruya, who was part of the first DRSc cohort, but who sadly passed away before she could finish the degree.

Pictured (from left): Yayuan Zheng and Dr. Eunjoo Pacifici, Assistant Professor of Clinical Pharmacy and Associate Director, International Center for Regulatory Science.

CXPT Graduate Student Competes for Innovation Prize at BCLA Entrepreneurship Summit 2016



Rising second year CXPT student **Rachel Reyes** (Daryl Davies lab), was selected to participate in the **Innovation Prize Competition**, taking place at Biotech Connection Los Angeles (BCLA) 2nd annual **Entrepreneurship Summit : Innovation and the Path To Market** at CNSI/UCLA on June 11th. Rachel will present her biotech innovation "***μSavePoint: [Potential] Future Start-up for Personalized Probiotics***". Contestants will be judged on originality, impact and potential market success from professional biotech investors and from audience votes. Fellow CXPT student **Charles Caldwell** serves as the marketing and outreach representative for BCLA, 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 academic and biotech communities. Visit their website for more details: <http://biotechconnection-losangeles.org/>.

PHARMACY GRADUATE ALLIANCE (PGA) CORNER

PGA Hosts Commencement Luncheon on Wednesday, June 22nd

The Pharmacy Graduate Alliance (PGA) will host the annual end-of-year Commencement Luncheon on Wednesday, June 22nd in PSC-104. Awards for the best teaching and research assistants will be announced and all students graduating in 2016 will be presented certificates. The new PGA board members will be introduced. Lunch will be provided. The new **PGA Board** will be as follows: Aida Kouhi (President), Charles Caldwell (Vice-President), Sunny He (Treasurer), Michele Chon (Secretary), Julianna Chen (Social Chair), Michelle Grau (MPTX rep), Larry Rodriguez (PSCI rep), Neil Desai (CXPT rep), Justin McGinnis (HE rep), Sneha Golle (Reg Sci rep), and Wade Thompson-Harper (staff member). Please email us at pga@usc.edu.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LinkedIn Workshop: As part of a **Graduate Programs Professional Development Series**, the Graduate Affairs office will be hosting a **LinkedIn Workshop** led by **Zach Marks**, cofounder and COO for **Oystir** on Thurs, July 21st from 3.30-6.00pm in PSC-104. (Space is limited, to sign-up see listing below). 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/>

Regulatory Science Introduces their 6th Graduate Certificate—Medical Product Quality: Starting Fall 2016, you can pursue the 12-unit graduate **Certificate in Medical Product Quality**, which is designed for students with a background in biological, pharmaceutical and biomedical sciences and biomedical engineering who seek to expand their expertise in the thriving sector of industry that oversees quality assurance and quality control. Many students who are pursuing other advanced degrees choose to simultaneously pursue a **Graduate Certificate or MS in Regulatory Science**. In the Medical Product Quality Certificate, students learn the essential tools that ensure the safety of drugs, biologics and medical devices in the United States and around the world, and how to apply this knowledge in the ever-expanding field of medical product development and manufacturing. For more information please contact regsci@usc.edu or 323-442-3521.

New Undergraduate Courses in Pharmaceutical and Regulatory Science (RXRS): Starting in Fall 2016, the Regulatory Science program in collaboration with the School of Pharmacy, will offer new undergraduate courses in Pharmaceutical and Regulatory Science (RXRS). Courses can be taken alone or built into a minor, "Science and Management of Biomedical Therapeutics". [Click here for a list of courses and course descriptions.](#) Graduate students are eligible to take 400-level RXRS courses. Please check with your academic advisor regarding eligibility.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Student Seminars (Wednesdays at noon in PSC-104; [Click here](#) for seminar schedule)

June 1: Jillian Romsdahl (MPTX, Wang lab)

June 15: Sean Wang (PSCI, Shen lab)

PGA Commencement Luncheon: Wed June 22nd from 12-2pm in PSC-104.

LinkedIn Workshop: Thurs July 21st from 3.30-6.00pm in PSC-104. Space is limited. To sign up, send an email to PHARgrad@usc.edu. [Click here for Flyer.](#)

USC School of Pharmacy Office of Graduate Affairs

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Upcoming Events



CONGRATULATIONS



Cindy Huang (HCDA masters student) received a 2nd place award of \$5000 at the PAN/AJMC Cost-Sharing Roundtable in Washington DC on February 26th.



Kevin Shah (HCDA masters student) is the recipient of the USC Asian Pacific Alumni Association (APAA) Distinguished Scholar Award for the 2016 – 2017 academic year.



Amanda Vu and Maya Shehayeb (dual degree PharmD/MS HCDA students) placed 2nd in the Academy of Managed Care Pharmacy (AMCP) National Pharmacy & Therapeutics Competition.



Suhaas Rayudu Aluri (2013 PSCI graduate, MacKay lab), has a new position as a Research Scientist at Eli Lilly and Co, NJ. For the past 3 years, he was a Senior Scientist at Oncobiologics Inc, NJ.