Welcome Incoming 2017 USC School of Pharmacy Graduate Students!

The Fall 2017 USC School of Pharmacy class has arrived! The incoming class consists of 15 new PhD students in the Pharmaceutical and Translational Science Program, 13 new MS in Pharmaceutical Sciences students, and 3 new MS in Molecular Pharmacology and Toxicology students. 13 new MS Healthcare Decision Analysis students, 15 new MS in Reg Sci Program students, 5 new students in the Graduate Certificate in Reg Sci Program. The incoming class includes students from geographically diverse undergraduate institutions including McGill University in Montreal, The University of Michigan, Ohio State University, The George Institute of Technology, The Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University, Philadelphia University, The University of Richmond, among with many students coming from various University of California campuses, and other California universities.

Johannes van Dijk Named the Recipient of the Krown Fellowship Award!

The 2017-2018 Charles and Charlotte Krown Fellowship has been awarded to Johannes van Dijk, a fifth-year MPTX graduate student, in Dr. Clay Wang’s lab. Johannes studies the “Genetic engineering of fungal biosynthesis.” The Krown Fellowship is the most prestigious award given to graduate students at USC School of Pharmacy. The award carries a stipend of $5000 and also includes an allowance of $5000, to be used for travel, purchase of educational materials, supplies or other education and/or research-related items. To be eligible, students must have a minimum 3.4 GPA, have passed their PhD qualifying exam and be advanced to candidacy before Fall semester ends, and be a first author on at least one peer-reviewed journal article.

Congratulations to the AAPS-USC Student Chapter for the Moving Targets: Precision Medicine Symposium!

This was the 16th annual Moving Targets Symposium organized by the AAPS-USC Student Chapter. This year the symposium was geared towards expanding the knowledge on “Precision Medicine.” The symposium aimed to address new and upcoming topics, facilitate exchange of knowledge, foster new cross-disciplinary collaborations, and inspire the new generation of scientists. There were various speakers from academia, industry, and regulatory science; with the keynote presented by Dr. Jean Claude Zenklusen, the Director of The Cancer Genome Atlas at the NIH. There were over 200 attendees, with over 40 poster presenters from USC, UCLA, CSU Los Angeles, CSU Dominguez Hills, CSU Long Beach, CSU Northridge, Cal Poly Pomona, and Caltech. More information on the Moving Targets Symposium can be found at movingtargets.usc.edu.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Amen-USC Educational Outreach Seminar Series to Begin:

This seminar series will host a different Amgen scientist every Monday from 10:30 am to 12 pm in room PSC 108. The topics will include the identification of therapeutic targets and their role in disease; approaches to optimize therapeutic efficacy and safety; case studies from bench top to clinic; and information on process development and manufacturing of devices. Opportunity to tour the Amgen Thousand Oaks campus tour on October 1, 2017 is available for a limited number of students that attend this seminar series.

The Diversity, Inclusion and Access Academic and Professional Development Series to Begin:

“PhD Careers Week” for all graduate students in the last week of September (25-28), most seminars start at 12:00 pm at the University Park Campus. The seminar for Monday, September 25 will be “Choosing a Career Track” at 12-1 pm in the Doheny Memorial Library (DML). The seminar on Tuesday, September 26th will cover “Writing your Research Statement and Teaching Philosophy” at 12:30-1:30 pm in DML 232. “Cover Letter, CV and Resumes” will be covered on Wednesday, September 27th at 12-1 pm in DML 240. “Interviewing, Negotiating and Accepting Job Offers” will be covered on Thursday, September 28th from 12:30-2 pm in DML 240. Please forward any questions or comments to Ashley Brooks at brookesa@usc.edu.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Norris Medical Library Free Movie Screening on Thursday, September 28: “It’s Kind of a Funny Story” will be shown at 4:30-9 pm at the Aretsy Auditorium. The screening will be preceded by a meal provided by the In-N-Out truck, a table event featuring campus and community groups, Mindful USC meditation sessions, and therapy dogs (4:30-4 pm). The post-film discussion will focus on the self-care and well-being of healthcare professionals (9-9:30 pm). Reservations required. RSVP at http://tinyurl.com/funnymovie. For more information contact mmedinfo@usc.edu.

Stress, Mindfulness, and Support for Graduate Students. Wednesday, October 18, 10-11 am: The seminar will take place at the NEL East Conference Room. Mindfulness has been scientifically shown to reduce anxiety and stress, improve attention, boost the immune system, reduce emotional reactivity, and promote a general sense of well-being. Join us for a discussion on mindfulness, stress and support!

Southern California Clinical and Translational Science Institute (SC CTSI) and USC Keck School of Medicine Biostatistics Workshop Series, Thursday, October 19, 12:30 pm: The Lunch & Learn Biostatistics workshop will focus on “Study Designs and Data Collection Strategies” and will be held at NRT LG 503/504. Lunch will be provided. Register at tinyurl.com/uscsbiostat. For more information contact Alleen Djikian at djikian@usc.edu.

USC School of Pharmacy Office of Research and Graduate Programs

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CONGRATULATIONS

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Two new First-Author Publications from the Doctorate Program in Regulatory Science Students!

Darin Oppenheimer (DRSc ’17) published an article titled “Organizational Culture and Memory in Managing Risk in the Medical Device Industry” in Regulatory Affairs Professional Society, August 2017. Carolyn Wright, who started the DRSc Program in the Fall of 2016, published her article titled “Connected Device System Validation & Quality – Best Practices” in August 2017 in the Journal of Validation Technology.

Larry Rodríguez (PhSc program; Dr. Daryl Davies, advisor) received the 2017 Trainee Professional Development Award from the Society for Neuroscience.

Tejas Shah (Reg Sci ’17) was awarded the Aiko Maruya Award, which is presented to Reg Sci students that exhibit outstanding scholarship and leadership.

Amelia Spinrad was a recipient of the USC Staff Assembly Scholarship, which will be used to help her pursue a MS in Medical Product Quality (Reg Sci).