NEWS

Welcome Incoming 2018 USC School of Pharmacy Graduate Students!

The 2018 USC School of Pharmacy class has arrived! The incoming class consists of 5 new PhD students in the Pharmaceutical and Translational Science Program, 7 new PhD students in the Health Economics Program, and 10 new students in the Doctor of Regulatory Science Program. We also welcome 8 new MS students in the Health Care Decision Analysis, Pharmacology and Pharmaceutical Sciences, Regulatory Sciences, and Clinical and Experimental Therapeutics Programs. The incoming class includes students from geographically diverse undergraduate institutions including Rutgers State University of New Jersey, Chaminade University of Honolulu, Purdue University, Georgetown University, Tulane University, with many students coming from various University of California campuses, and other California universities and several international universities.

Two graduate student publications from the MacKay Lab!

Zhe Li (PSCI Program; pictured on the left) and David Tyrpak (PSCI Program; pictured on the right) have published two articles this summer! Zhe and David were co-first authors on a publication titled, “Turnable Assembly of Protein-Micromotors in Living Vertebrate Embryos,” published in Advanced Biosystems, September 2018 edition. Zhe and David are first and second-authors, respectively, on a second publication titled, “A New Temperature-Dependent Strategy to Modulate the Epidermal Growth Factor Receptor” in Biomaterials, August 2018 edition.

Anh Truong received two fellowships: the JSPS Postdoctoral Fellowship & the Student Research Award!

Anh Truong (PSCI Program, Dr. Andrew MacKay, advisor) has been awarded the Japanese Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS) Postdoctoral Fellowship for his Research on the, “Thermo-Responsive Elastin-like-Lammin Peptide Scaffold in Tissue and Cell Engineering.” This fellowship will allow Anh to study abroad for 1 year at the Tokyo University of Pharmacy and Life Sciences. During that year, the fellowship will cover up to $24,000 of his stipend and an additional $10,000 for training-related expenses. Anh also received the Student Research Award from the American College of Pharmaceutical and Clinical Pharmacy (ACPAC) Research Institute! This award carries a $5000 award to be used for direct costs related to the conduct of the research project.

David Tyrpak has received an F31 Fellowship from the NIH!

David Tyrpak (PSCI Program, Dr. Andrew MacKay, advisor) has been awarded the NIDDK Ruth L. Kirchstein NRSA for Individual Predoctoral Fellowships (F31) Award from the National Institutes of Health for his research on, “Novel Temperature-Responsive Fusions of Clathrin and Caveolin to Explore TGβ Mediated Fibrosis.” These fellowships are awarded to promising predoctoral students to obtain individualized, mentored research training from outstanding faculty sponsors. These fellowships cover the student’s stipend, tuition, health insurance. Additionally, David will receive $4,200 to be used annually for training-related expenses.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Amen—USC Educational Outreach Seminar Series, Mondays Sep 10 – Nov 12, 10:30 am: This seminar series will host a different Amen artist every Monday from 10:30 am to 11:30 am in room PSC 104. 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. The seminar series will end with an opportunity to tour the Amgen Thousand Oaks campus on Friday, November 30th; this will be available for a limited number of students that attend this seminar series. For more information please email Liz.aguiniga@usc.edu.

Befriending Your Perfectionism Series, Thursdays, Sep 11 – October 31, 12-1 pm: The Eric Cohen Student Health Center is hosting an eight-week series. The sessions will be on the book Wisdom from the Couch, by Jennifer Atkinson, MD. Participants are required to register for a pre-group screening and attend all eight sessions; all workshops are on Thursdays from 12-1 pm. Location: Eric Cohen Student Health Center, 1510 San Pablo St. Suite 104, Los Angeles, CA 90089. For more information please call (323) 442-5631.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Graduate Women in Science 2nd Annual Picnic, Saturday, August 25, 12-3 pm: The Graduate Women in Science (GWIS) LA Chapter is celebrating turning 2 years old with a picnic! The event is free and open for everyone to attend. The first 15 people who show up will get a GWIS LA canvas tote bag! Location: McCarthy Quad, UPC, 3551 Trousdale Pkwy, Los Angeles, CA 90089. RSVP requested at http://meldung.com/gwis-picnic.

Krown Fellowship Candidates’ Presentation, Wednesday, September 5, 12-1:30 pm: This year there are three candidates competing for the Krown Fellowship: Adriana Blachowicz, Julianna Chen, and Jordanna Jayne! 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.

HSC Career Series CV/Resume Workshop, Tuesday, September 11, 12-1:30 pm: The HSC Career Series CV/Resume workshop is for all graduate students on the Health Science Campus and is co-sponsored by the School of Pharmacy, Keck School of Medicine, Public Health Sciences and the Graduate School. The workshop aims to teach all attendees how to improve their CV/Resumes; lunch will be provided for all attendees. Please RSVP for workshops at http://etl24fresumes@gmail.com.

Student Seminars (Wednesdays at noon in PSCC-104):

Sep 5: Zhe Li: Krown Fellowship Finalist
Sep 12: Changrim Lee (PSI, MacKay lab)
Sep 19: Joshua Chan (MPFX, Sillos lab)
Sep 26: Pouja Vaikari (EXPT, Alachkar lab)
Oct 3: Rachel Reyes (EXPT, Davies lab)
Oct 10: Taojian Tu (PSI, Sillos lab)

CONGRATULATIONS

Alícia Baker (DRS Program; Dr. Pacifici, advisor) defended her dissertation entitled, “Challenges in the Implementation of Risk Evaluation Mitigation Strategies (REMS); A Survey of Industry Views.” Dr. Baker is currently Senior Director in Clinical Strategy at Covance.


Larry Rodrigues (PSCI Program, Dr. Davies, advisor) has invited to become an Associate Member of the Neuroscience Scholars Program from the Society for Neuroscience.

Jonathan Salako (HLEC Program, Dr. Suen, advisor) has been invited to present two posters at the Society for Medical Decision Making (SMDM) 40th Annual North American Conference in Montreal, Quebec, Canada. His first poster is titled, “Cost-Effectiveness of Esophagectomy Post-Chemoradiation Versus Chemoradiation Alone in Squamous Cancer of the Esophagus”, and his second poster is titled, “Cost-Effectiveness of Novel Artificial Intelligence Platform ACure for Active Tuberculosis Treatment in Los Angeles County.”

Amalia Spinarad (Reg Sci program; Dr. Pacifici, advisor) presented a poster titled, “Improving the Quality of Clinical Trials in Academic Research Facilities: Developing Training Modules Utilizing an Implementation Science Framework” at the 2018 SoCal Region- al Dissemination Implementation and Improvement Science Symposium.

USC School of Pharmacy Office of Research and Graduate Programs

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