NEWS

Jordanna Jayne Named the Recipient of the Krown Fellowship Award!

The 2018-2019 Charles and Charlotte Krown Fellowship has been awarded to Jordanna Jayne, a fifth-year CXPT graduate student, in Dr. Paul Beringer’s lab on September 5, 2018. Jordanna studies the “Rhinos Theta (θ)-Defensin -1 Attenuates Endothelium-Induced Acute Lung Injury by Inhibiting Pro-Inflammatory Cytokines and Neutrophil Recruitment.” 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 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 begins, and be a first author on at least one peer-reviewed journal article.

Maia Corpuz and Samuel Garza Receive Culted Student Diversity Scholarships!

Maia Corpuz and Samuel Garza (PHTS Program) were awarded the 2018-2019 Culted Student Diversity Scholarship on September 18, 2018. Dr. Martine Cutty, Associate Professor in the School of Pharmacy, established this award to encourage diversity in the graduate student body. Maia Corpuz completed her BS in Biology at the Chaminade University of Honolulu. Samuel Garza completed his BS in Biology at Cal State Los Angeles. The Culted Student Graduate Award is for first-year PhD students from an underrepresented minority background and carries an award amount of $2,500, which can be used for travel or purchase of educational materials that enhance the training experience.

Congratulations to the AAPS–USC Student Chapter for the Moving Targets: Pain Management Symposium!

The 18th Annual Moving Targets Symposium was held on August 17, 2018 and focused on pain management, with emphasis on combating the opioid crisis from an interdisciplinary perspective covering policy, clinical care, and breakthroughs in drug-discovery. This symposium is organized by the AAPS-USC Student Chapter pictured on the left. The list of speakers included Dr. Kim Janda, who spoke about an anti-heroine vaccine; Dr. Brian Schoichet, who spoke about developing an opioid product with reduced addictive potential; Dr. Scott Mosley, whose research focuses on optimizing drug selection through the use of genetic information; and Dr. Melissa Durham, who spoke from the perspective of a pharmacist in a clinical setting. Dr. Rosalie Pacula, whose research focuses on the effectiveness of policy interventions aimed at combating illicit drug behaviors was the Keynote Speaker. More information on the Moving Targets Symposium can be found at movingtargets.io.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Amgen—USC Educational Outreach Seminar Series, Mondays Sep 10 – Nov 12, 10:30 am: This seminar series will host a different Amgen scientist 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.

PhD Pathways: Career Planning and Preparation Series, Various Dates, Sep-Nov, 11:30-1 pm: This PhD Pathways Career series workshops are open to all graduate students at USC and are held at either the HSC or UPC campus. These events are co-sponsored by the School of Pharmacy, Keck School of Medicine, Public Health Sciences and the Graduate School. Most workshops will be held during lunch time and lunch will be provided for all attendees. Please RSVP for workshops at http://bit.ly/2BpwaAQ.

STEM Careers’ September 24, 12-1pm: MDC 240 – UPC

“Humanities and Social Sciences Careers’ September 27, 12-13:30pm: MDC 240 – UPC

“Public Speaking” October 3, 11-12:30pm, Hastings Auditorium – HSC

“Research Statement and Teaching Philosophy” October 5, 12-1:30pm, TTC 227 – UPC

“Optimizing LinkedIn for PhD Professionals” October 26, 1-3pm, SSB 116 – HSC

“Branding and Managing your Online Presence” November 7, 12-1:30pm, TBD – UPC

Befriending Your Perfectionism Series, Thursdays, Sep 11 – October 30, 12-1 pm: The Eric Cohen Student Health Center is hosting an eight-week series. The sessions topics will be based on the book Wisdom from the Couch, by Jennifer Kursten, PhD. Participants are required to register for a pre-screening and attend all eight workshops on 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 Brunch, Saturday, September 22, 11-1 pm: The Graduate Women in Science (GWS) LA Chapter is hosting Across the STEM Line Reunion and Networking Brunch allowing students and young professionals to re-connect with the speakers. The event is open for everyone to attend. Location: Choi Plaza, HSC. 1425 San Pablo St, Los Angeles, CA 90089. RSVP requested; https://tinyurl.com/gws-networking-brunch

USC Wellness Dog “Beau” on HSC Campus, Thursday, September 20, 12-1 pm: USC Student Health will host “Beau” the USC Wellness Dog in the Norris Medical Library in the Lower Atlinum. Students are welcome to “pet” their stress away!

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

Sep 19: Joshua Chen (MPTX, Stiles lab)
Sep 26: Pooja Vaikari (CXPT, Alachkar lab)
Oct 3: Rachel Reyes (CXPT, Davies lab)
Oct 10: Taijian Tu (PSCI, Stiles lab)
Oct 17: Rebecca Lim (PSCI, Xie lab)
Oct 24: Sophia Chen (MPTX, Stiles lab)

USC School of Pharmacy Newsletter

Graduate Program Newsletter

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CONGRATULATIONS

Hugo Ania (PSCI Program, Dr. MacKay, advisor) was selected to give an oral presentation titled, “Intracellular signaling using engineered protein microdomains” at the SACNAS 2018 Conference in San Antonio, TX October 11-13, 2018.

Jonathan Salgado (HLEC Program, Dr. Lakshawala, advisor) was selected as a research fellow by the MIT Center for the Developing World’s New Drug Development Paradigms (NEWDODS) Initiative. Over the course of the next year, Jonathan will re-search the financing and reimbursement of new curative medicines in the US at MIT.

Amelia Spindel (PhD Sci Program; Dr. Pacifici, advisor) will present a podium talk titled, “How Do You Ensure Clinical Trial Quality in Investigator Initiated Studies? Training for Research Professionals in Monograph Concepts” at the SOCCA 2019 Annual Conference in San Antonio, Texas, September 27 to 29, 2019.

Akh Truong (PSCI Program, Dr. MacKay, advisor) presented a poster titled, “Thermo-responsive estrogen receptor ligands for spatiotemporal control of signaling/gene regulation” at the International Pharmacy Federation in Glasgow, Scotland.


Zhuyuan Yao (PSCI Program, Dr. MacKay, advisor) will present a poster titled, “Use of the first monoclonal antibody to detect Estatin-like Polypeptides in Western blot, ELISA, and secondary immunofluorescence microscopy” at the 15th International Nanomedicine & Drug Delivery Symposium September 21-23 in Portland, OR.