NEWS

Publications from the MacKay Lab Students!

Changrim Lee and Hao Guo were first-author and second-authors, respectively, on a manuscript titled “Berunda Polypeptides: Bioweapon Rapamycin Carriers for Subcutaneous Treatment of Autimmune Dry Eye Disease” published in Molecular Pharmacaceutics, May 2019. Changrim was also second-author on an article titled, “Thermally-Responsive Loading and Release of Elastin-Like Polypeptides from Contact Lenses” published in Pharmaceutics, March 2019.

Aida Kouhi (Dr. Epstein and Dr. MacKay, co-advisors) was first-author on a publication titled, “Generation of a Monoclonal Antibody to Detect Elastin-like Polypeptides” published in Biomacromolecules, July 2019.

Hao Guo was second-author on a manuscript titled, “Molecular Targeting of Immunosuppressors Using a Bi-functional Elastin-Like Polypeptide” published in Bioconjugate Chemistry, September 2019.

David Tyrpak was first-author on a manuscript titled “Caveolin Elastin-Like Polypeptide Fusions Mediate Temperature-Dependent Assembly of Caveolar Microdomains” published in ACS Biomaterials Science and Engineering, November 2019.

Zhe Li (PSCI PhD Program graduate, 2018) was first-author on a publication titled, “The human peptide mediates ELP nanocoassembly and protects human retinal pigment epithelial cells from oxidative stress” that will be published in Nanomedicine: Nanotechnology, Biology and Medicine in the February 2010 edition. Zhe is currently a Postdoctoral Scholar at the UCLA School of Medicine.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Kortschak Center Presents: Dissertation Support Groups: The Kortschak Center will host dissertation/thesis writing support groups twice a week in the Spring semester on Wednesday mornings and Thursday afternoons. These support sessions aim to help address loneliness and other challenges associated with the process of writing a dissertation. The Kortschak Center will host the Dissertation Skills Academic Support Groups in VPD 301 (UPC). Along with providing a space to write, these sessions will discuss procrastination, time management, impostor syndrome, stress management, and self-care. Please email the Kortschak Center for additional information: kortschakcenter@usc.edu.

“Our Let’s Talk” Drop-in Counseling Sessions, Tuesdays, 12-1 pm: Counselors from the Eric Cohen Student Health Center will be in PSC B16 every Tuesday from 12:00 pm until 1:00 pm weekly for drop-in counseling session. No appointment is necessary to attend these session and your personal information will not be required for the session. Everyone is welcome to drop-in to talk about any areas of concern. These sessions are available at various location on HSC and UPC. For more information locations and times, please visit https://studenthealth.usc.edu/lets-talk-and-other-drop-in-programs.

School of Pharmacy Pharmaceutical & Translational Sciences Graduate Program Interview Weekend starts on Friday, January 31, 2020: Top prospective applicants for PHTS-PhD Program will be invited for an on-campus interview on Friday, February 1st. The applicants will also have the opportunity to listen to faculty research presentations and participate in a campus tour, a graduate student poster session and dinner. The prospective students will have the opportunity to mingle with faculty and current graduate students during the poster session on Friday, January 31st at 4:00 pm, please email Dr. Aguinaga at Lia.aguinaga@usc.edu if you are interested in presenting your poster. The program will end on Saturday with a social event that includes an excursion of Old Town Pasadena with current graduate students. For more information contact email rs ITEM@usc.edu.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Classes begin: Monday, January 13th

Interviewing and Negotiation Skills Workshop, Friday, January 17, 2019, 11:00 am in CHP G24/25: Please join us to learn about appropriate behavior during interviews and job negotiations. This workshop will cover types of job interviews, how to prepare for an interview, what to do after a job interview. It will also cover what types of things can be negotiated and how to negotiate appropriately. This session will be taught by Denise Johnson, the Career Services Manager at the USC Career Center, who has taught this workshop for many years. RSVP required: https://bit.ly/2PPh693.

Communicating Your Research Workshop Monday, February 24 at 11:30 AM in NRT LG 503/504: This workshop will be led by Lourdes Baezconde-Garbanati, PhD, MPH, who is known for her presentations in creativity and transdisciplinary nature, where academic disciplines and community talent converge with ingenuity to produce unique programs of research that advance science while fulfilling community needs. This workshop is designed to give students an understanding of effective and engaging ways to communicate your research across disciplines. RSVP required: https://bit.ly/2LHQzK.

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

Jan 6: Yaping Ju (PSCI, Hamm-Alvarez lab)
Jan 15: Alison Smith (PSCI, Epstein lab)
Jan 22: Pooja Valkeri (PSCI, Alachkar lab)
Jan 29: Runzhong Fu (CXPT, Hamm-Alvarez lab)
Feb 5: Santosh Peddi (PSCI, MacKay lab)
Feb 12: Jeff Dai (PSCI, Zhang lab)

CONGRATULATIONS

Aishwarya Gosai (MS RegSci Program) received the Regulatory and Quality Science Scholarship. This award carries a stipend of $5000 for a student in the Reg Sci Program that demonstrates merit and scholarship.

Miranda Helus (MS RegSci Program) received a stipend of $5000 as her award for the Advancement of Regulatory Science Scholarship.

Larry Rodriguez (PSCI Program, Dr. Davies, advisor) presented a poster titled, “PKA Receptor Cross-Talk in the VTA: Implications in Alcohol Addiction and Drug Development” at the Society for Neuroscience Conference in Chicago, IL.

Shweta Tiwari (MS RegSci Program) received a stipend of $5000 as her award for the Drug Development Scholarship.

Anh Truong (PSCI Program, Dr. Mackay, advisor) gave an oral presentation titled, “Characterization of elastin-like polypeptide-laminin α1 chain peptide in cell adhesion and spreading” at the Japanese Peptide Symposium. Anh was awarded the Young Investigator Award from the Japanese Peptide Society for his presentation.