UPDATE FROM DR. AHSAN

This summer and fall, we welcomed six new students, with Fatema Tuz Zahra joining us in the summer, and Andrew Baez, Carl (Joey) Greene, Daniela Rolph, Ahmed Morsy and Guanyu Tao in the fall. They are all very promising students with great potential. We also had to bid farewell to those who recently finished the program and received their doctoral degrees — Kito Barrow and Alejandra Fernandez this spring, and Jahidur Rashid this summer. In May, we celebrated graduation for Vindhya Edpuganti, who finished in the summer of 2015, Sukesh Voruganti and Neel Fofaria, who finished in the fall of 2015, and Alejandra Fernandez, who finished in the spring of 2016. In spring and summer of this year, our students gave 17 presentations at national meetings such as the American Heart Association, the Society of Toxicology, the American Association of Cancer Research, and the American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists. Impressively, two of our graduate students were invited to give podium presentations; these two students and several others received travel awards and scholarships for attending scientific meetings and presenting their research. Twelve students presented at Student Research Week in Lubbock, and 31 presented at School of Pharmacy Research Days in Amarillo, where two gave podium presentations and four received best poster awards. Impressively, 22 of our students published 13 manuscripts, wherein seven of our students were first author! I commend our students, who continue to hold the research standard high! This year, we hosted Kunal Taskar (Senior Investigator, GlaxoSmithKline, United Kingdom) as our Homecoming Alumni Speaker 2016. At a lunch meeting with our current students, Dr. Taskar spoke about his experience as a student in our program. Later, he gave a seminar titled, “Introduction to Membrane Transporters and Clinical Relevance of Transporter Mediated Drug-Drug Interactions.” His talk was a new perspective to pharmaceutical research in an industrial setting. In the spring, Nihar Kinarivala and Shikha both received Dean’s Scholars awards. This award from GSBS recognizes outstanding Ph.D. and MD/Ph.D. students who have shown exceptional academic ability and potential for research excellence, as evidenced by their GPA, GRE, and meeting abstracts, presentations and publications. Overall, these past two semesters were a brilliantly successful time.
**Fall 2016, Issue 18**

### Spring 2016 Graduates

**Kito Barrow, Ph.D.**  
Lab of Dr. Junxuan Lu  
**Dissertation Presented**  
February 3, 2016  
“Prostate cancer intervention by methylseleninic acid: strengthening a case for human translation”

**Alejandra Fernandez, Ph.D.**  
Lab of Dr. James Stoll  
**Dissertation Presented**  
March 23, 2016  
“Diet and exercise as potential anticonvulsant therapies in mouse seizure models”

**Md. Jahidur Rashid, Ph.D.**  
Lab of Dr. Fakhrul Ahsan  
**Dissertation Presented**  
May 31, 2016  
“PLGA-based inhalable particles of sildenafil and rosiglitazone for combination therapy in pulmonary arterial hypertension”

### Summer 2016 Graduates

**Debasish Basak, Lab of Dr. Kalkunte Srivenugopal**  
Friday, July 15, 2016 at 1:30pm  
AMASOP 335 / LUBHSC 2C101

**Tanvirul Hye, Lab of Dr. Xinli Liu**  
Friday, August 5, 2016 at 1:00pm  
AMAPAC 1110 / LUBHSC 2C101

**Alok Ranjan, Lab of Dr. Sanjay Srivastava**  
Wednesday, December 7, 2016 at 3:00pm  
AMAPAC 1110 / LUBHSC 1C111 / DALSW 514

**CONVOCATION MAY 14, 2016**

[l-r] Alejandra Fernandez, Neel Fofaria, Sukesh Voruganti, Vindhya Edpuganti


Vindhya Edpuganti was hooded by Fakhrul Ahsan  
Alejandra Fernandez was hooded by James Stoll  
Neel Fofaria was hooded by Sanjay Srivastava  
Sukesh Voruganti was hooded by Fakhrul Ahsan

Vindhya Edpuganti was hooded by Fakhrul Ahsan  
Alejandra Fernandez was hooded by James Stoll  
Neel Fofaria was hooded by Sanjay Srivastava  
Sukesh Voruganti was hooded by Fakhrul Ahsan
CONVOCATION MAY 14, 2016 (cont’d)

Alejandra Fernandez (center) with her father and mother

Vindhya Edpuganti (right) with her husband

Neel Fofaria (center) with his mother, brother, and mentor, Sanjay Srivastava (to the left), and his father, sister and sister-in-law (to the right), with James Stoll (in the background).

Neel (center) with his brother and sister-in-law

Neel (center) with his mother and father
NEW STUDENTS for SUMMER and FALL 2016

Summer/Fall 2016
(back, l-r) Andrew Baez, Carl (Joey) Greene, Daniela Rolph, Ahmed Morsy
(front, l-r) Fatema Tuz Zahra, Guanyu Tao

Summer 2016
Fatema Tuz Zahra, B.Pharm., M.Pharm.
University of Dhaka, Bangladesh
Lab: Dr. Constantinos Mikelis

Fall 2016
Andrew Baez II, B.S.
Texas Tech University, Lubbock, Texas
Lab: Dr. Ruiwen Zhang
Carl (Joey) Greene, B.S.
West Texas A&M University, Canyon, Texas
Lab: Dr. Hiranmoy Das

Ahmed Morsy, B.S.
German University in Cairo, Egypt
Lab: Dr. Paul Trippier
Daniela Rolph, B.S.
The University of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona
Lab: Dr. Hiranmoy Das
Guanyu Tao, B.S.
South China Normal University, China
Lab: Dr. Ruiwen Zhang
01/20/2016 — Shikha — “Tobacco Smoke and Hyperglycemia Pathophysiology of BBB Damage and Antioxidant Response Pathways”
02/03/2016 — Kito Barrow, Doctoral Dissertation Defense — “Prostate cancer intervention by methylseleninic acid: strengthening a case for human translation”
02/10/2016 — Faleh Alqahtani — “Microdialysis Technique for Measuring [13C] Sucrose and Metabolites”
02/10/2016 — Shyanne Page — “Modeling the ischemic blood-brain barrier in a dish using human induced pluripotent stem cells”
02/19/2016 — Guest Speaker, Wei Li, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Department of Chemical Engineering, TTU Lubbock — “Biodegradable Nano-Films for Capture and Non-Invasive Release of Circulating Tumor Cells”
02/24/2016 — Amer Alali — “PLGA-PEG Nanoparticles Encapsulating Novel Microtubule Inhibitor BPR0L075”
02/24/2016 — Md. Jahidur Rashid — “Inhaled Particles of Sildenafil: Pharmacokinetics and Anti-PAH Efficacy”
03/02/2016 — Guest Speaker, Jungkyu (Jay) Kim, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Department of Mechanical Engineering; Adjunct Professor, School of Medicine, TTU Lubbock — “PqsR Inhibitors: A Peace Offering”
03/16/2016 — Faculty Speaker, Fakhrul Ahsan, Ph.D., Professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, SOP; and Graduate Program Advisor, GPPS, TTUHSC Amarillo — “Hierarchy, Clarity, Brevity, and Urbanity in Scientific Writings and Presentations”
03/23/2016 — Alejandra Fernandez, Doctoral Dissertation Defense — “Diet and exercise as potential anticonvulsant therapies in mouse seizure models”
03/30/2016 — Ali Sifat — “Effects of Nicotine on Brain Glucose Utilization: Investigation of E-Cigarette Use”
03/30/2016 — Ismail Walbi — “DNA nanoparticle formulation using chitosan and sodium triphosphate ionic gelation method: synthesis and characterization”
04/06/2016 — Guest Speaker, Fengtian Xue, Ph.D., F.A.H.A., Assistant Professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, School of Pharmacy, University of Maryland, Baltimore, MD — “Small Molecule Inhibitors of the BCL6 BTB Domain for Diffuse Large B-Cell Lymphoma (DLBCL)”
04/13/2016 — A.G.M. Mostofa — “MGMT, a Human DNA Repair Protein and Anticancer Drug Resistance Determinant Interacts with PCNA and Functions as an S-Phase Checkpoint”
04/20/2016 — Guest Speaker, Insan Kim, Ph.D., Professor, Korea Institute of Science and Technology, Seoul, South Korea — “Introduction to Membrane Transporters and Clinical Relevance of Transporter Mediated Drug-Drug Interactions”
04/22/2016 — Alumni Speaker, Kunal Taskar, Ph.D., S Investigator, GlaxoSmithKline, Mechanism & Extrapolation Technologies, DMPK, UK; RD Platform Technology & Science — “Introduction to Membrane Transporters and Clinical Relevance of Transporter Mediated Drug-Drug Interactions”
05/04/2016 — Md. Yousuf Ali — “Cytokine Stimulation of NOS Activity is not Straightforward”
05/04/2016 — Maria (Heidi) Villalba — “An Investigation on the Role of Myo-Inositol in Ischemic Stroke Injury”


“When you arise in the morning, think of what a precious privilege it is to be alive - to breathe, to think, to enjoy, to love.”

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Marcus Aurelius (AD 121-180)
Society of Toxicology, 55th Annual Meeting and ToxExpo
March 13-17, 2016 * New Orleans, LA


*Alok Ranjan and Sanjay Srivistave.  "Penfluridol suppresses glioblastoma tumor growth by inhibiting sonic hedgehog signaling."

*Shikha Prasad, Ravi Sajja and Luca Cucullo.  "Metformin prevents Cigarette Smoke-induced Nrf2 downregulation and BBB Endothelial toxicity: A new therapeutic use of an old drug?"

*Kshitij Verma, Tianzhu Zang, Trevor M. Penning, and Paul C. Trippier.  "Synthesis of Potent and Selective AKR1C3 Inhibitors for Acute Myeloid Leukemia Therapy"

American Heart Association, International Stroke Conference
February 17-19, 2016 * Los Angeles, CA

*Shyanne Page, Alli Munsell, Abraham Al-Ahmad.  "Modeling the ischemic blood-brain barrier in a dish using human induced pluripotent stem cells"

Alzheimer's Drug Discovery Foundation, 10th Annual Drug Discovery for Neurodegeneration Conference
March 6-8, 2016 * Miami, FL


*Ronak Patel, Shyanne Page and Abraham Al-Ahmad.  "The Neurovascular Unit in a Dish: Development of a Patient Specific in vitro Model using Stem Cells"

Center of Excellence for Translational Neuroscience and Therapeutics (CTNT), First Annual Meeting,
April 21, 2016 * TUTHSC Lubbock, TX


*Ronak Patel, Shyanne Page, Abraham Al-Ahmad.  "The Neurovascular Unit in a Dish : Development of an in vitro Patient Specific Model Based on Induced Pluripotent Cells"

*Taylor Liles, Ravi K. Sajja, Shikha Prasad, Plexin Jiang, Luca Cucullo.  "Vorinostat Induces P-glycoprotein and BCRP Drug Efflux Activity at the Blood-Brain Barrier: Implications for Limited Use in Combination Chemotherapy"
**CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS (cont’d)**

**American Association of Immunologists, Immunology 2016**
May 13-17, 2016 * Seattle, WA

*Jee Hyun Park, Li Yang, Faleh Alqahtani and Ulrich Bickel.* "Development of a Novel Preclinical Model Based on HLA-A2 Transgenic Mice to Evaluate T-Cell Receptor Mimic Monoclonal Antibodies as Therapeutic Agents against Brain Metastases of Human Breast Cancer"

*Jee Hyun Park, Oriana E. Hawkins, Navin K. Chintala, Jon A. Weidanz and Ulrich Bickel.* "Internalization of T-Cell Receptor Mimic Antibody RL6A by Brain Derived Endothelial Cells Analyzed by Flow Cytometry"

**American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists, National Biotechnology Conference**
May 16-18, 2016 * Boston, MA

*Kshitij Verma, Tianzhu Zang, Trevor M. Penning, and Paul C. Trippiera.* "Development of novel therapeutics for Castration Resistant Prostate Cancer (CRPC) and Acute Myeloid Leukemia (AML): Design and Evaluation of selective AKR1C3 inhibitors"

— Podium Presentation

**CYTO 2016, 31st Congress of the International Society for Advancement of Cytometry**
June 11-15, 2016 * Seattle, WA

*Jee Hyun Park, Oriana E. Hawkins, Navin K. Chintala, Jon A. Weidanz and Ulrich Bickel.* "Flow Cytometry Analysis of T-Cell Receptor Mimic Antibody (TCRm) RL6A Internalization by Brain Derived Endothelial Cells" — Podium Presentation

**North American Vascular Biology Organization, Vasculata 2016**
August 15-17, 2016 * Philadelphia, PA


*Amberillo Botanical Gardens, photo by Yoon Jung Lee*

"Wisdom is the art of knowing what to overlook."

— William James, psychologist
FALL 2016 CONFERENCES

Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center and the Laura W. Bush INSTITUTE for WOMEN’S HEALTH
Lubbock, Texas * October 21, 2016

Baylor University
Waco, Texas
October 21-22, 2016

Lone Star Regional Chapter
of the Society of Toxicology

American College of Toxicology
37th Annual Meeting
November 6–9, 2016

American Heart Association
Scientific Sessions 2016
New Orleans, LA, USA
12 – 16 NOV, 2016

Society for Neuroscience
San Diego
November 12–16

2016 AAPS ANNUAL MEETING AND EXPOSITION
November 13–17, 2016
Colorado Convention Center, Denver

AES ANNUAL MEETING
December 2 - 6, 2016 | Houston Texas

MD Anderson Cancer Center
Symposia on Cancer Research
“Cancer Evolution: Mechanisms of Vulnerability and Resistance”
Houston, TX
October 6-7, 2016
The 28th Annual Student Research Week, hosted by the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center (TTUHSC) Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences (GSBS) in Lubbock, was held March 8-11, 2016. The theme this year was “Molecular Basis of Life + Disease”, and twelve (12) poster entries from junior and senior basic science researchers were presented by our GPPS students. Keynote Speakers included: Mario Capecchi, Ph.D., who was awarded the 2007 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine, and Susan Amara, Ph.D., Scientific Director at the National Institute of Mental Health and National Institutes of Health.

GPPS PRESENTERS:


Anwar Hossain, Narshimha Sattenapally, Stephanie DeLeon, Kendra Rambaugh, Hardin I Parikh, Nadezhda German. “Prevention of bacterial virulence by synthetic quorum sensing inhibitors”

Laxmi Iyer, Benard Ogola and Thomas Thekkumkara. “Hyperglycemia Induced Cell Injury in Renal Proximal Tubule Cells”.


A.G.M. Mostofa and Kalkunte S. Srivenugopal. “MGMT, a Human DNA Repair Protein and Anticancer Drug Resistance Determinant Interacts With PCNA and Functions as a S-phase Checkpoint”.

Page, Shyanne; Munsell, Alli; Al-Ahmad, Abraham. “Modeling the ischemic blood-brain barrier in a dish using human induced pluripotent stem cells”.

Ronak Patel, Shyanne Page, Dr. Abraham Al-Ahmad. “The Neurovascular Unit in a Dish: Development of a Patient Specific in vitro Model using Stem Cells”.


Heidi Villalba, Kaushik Shah, Thomas J. Abbruscato. “Optimizing Behavioral Test to Assess the Neuro-Protective and Restorative Effects of Myo-Inositol in Focal Ischemia”.

Dr. Quentin Smith, Dean of the TTUHSC School of Pharmacy in Amarillo (left), with GPPS graduate students attending SRW (l-r) Heidi Villalba, Alejandra Fernandez, Shyanne Page, Laxmi Iyer and Srinidhi Jayaraman.
Fifteenth Annual School of Pharmacy Research Days
June 1-2, 2016

This year, faculty members, graduate students, post-docs and residents converged at the Amarillo Civic Center Heritage Room in Amarillo, TX to showcase their research during the Fifteenth Annual School of Pharmacy Research Days held on Wednesday and Thursday, June 1st and 2nd. The Keynote Speaker on Wednesday was Marcie A Glicksman, Ph.D., Vice President of Biology for Orig3n, Inc. On Thursday, the Keynote Speaker was Joseph Saseen, Pharm.D., Professor and Department Vice Chair at the University of Colorado School of Pharmacy. Other speakers were: Carlos Alvarez, Pharm.D., Associate Professor for the Department of Pharmacy Practice on the School of Pharmacy's Dallas/Fort Worth campus; Constantinos Mikelis, Ph.D., Assistant Professor for the Department of Biomedical Science on the Amarillo campus; and Dr. Devin Lowe, Ph.D., an Assistant Professor for the Department of Immunotherapeutics and Biotechnology on the Abilene campus. Speakers for concurrent sessions were: Marta Collier, Director of Development, Grant Development at TTUHSC in Lubbock; Lisa McDonald, Director for the Kinetic Accelerator Innovated by TTUHSC; and Charles Seifert, Pharm.D., Regional Dean for the School of Pharmacy’s Lubbock campus.

Podium presentations were given Wednesday afternoon and Thursday morning by selected individuals, and the annual dinner and social were held Thursday evening at the Amarillo Country Club. Posters were judged Thursday afternoon, and awards were presented Friday afternoon to complete the event, with 28 entries from residents, and 41 from students and graduate students. Six of our GPPS graduate students gained recognition and were awarded during the final ceremony. The Laura W. Bush Institute for Women’s Health, hosted by TTUHSC, and P. Michael Conn, Ph.D., TTUHSC senior vice president for research, helped sponsor the event, which is a wonderful opportunity for researchers from all four campuses of the School of Pharmacy to come together and talk about their research, building toward future collaborations and friendships.

Podium Presentations:


• Nihar Kinarivala, Paul C. Trippier. “Investigation of Flupirtine Structure-Activity Relationship for the treatment of Batten Disease”.

Outstanding Poster Presentation Awards:

—> Junior Graduate Student Category:

• YoonJung Lee, Alejandra Fernandez, James Stoll. “Reduced Frequency of Spontaneous Electrographic Seizures in Pilocarpine-Induced Epileptic Mice Using a Triheptanoin Diet”.

• Anwar Hossain, Narsimha Sattenapally, Stephanie DeLeon, Kendra Rambaugh, Hardik I Parikh, Nadezhda German. “Prevention of Bacterial Virulence by Synthetic Quorum Sensing Inhibitors”.

—> Senior Graduate Student Category:

• A.G.M. Mostofa, K.S. Srivenugopal. “MGMT, a Human DNA Repair Protein and Anticancer Drug Resistance Determinant Interacts with PCNA and Functions as a S-phase Checkpoint”.

• Alok Ranjan and Sanjay K. Srivastava. “Glioblastoma Tumor Growth Suppression by Penfluridol through Akt Mediated Inhibition of Sonic Hedgehog Signaling”.

Graduate Student Presenters:

• Amer Saad Alali, Tanvirul Hye, Ismail Walbi, Xinli Liu. “Polymeric Nanoparticles Encapsulating Novel Microtubule Inhibitor BPROLO75.”


(continued on page 12)

• Debasish Basak, Kalkunte S Srivenugopal. “Redox-Mediated Inactivation of MGMT DNA Repair Sensitizes Human Gliomas to Alkylating Agents In Vitro and In Vivo”.

• Sujit Biswas, Tanvirul Hye, Xinli Liu. “Quantitative UPLC Analysis of Anticancer Agents Lapatinib and Capecitabine”.


• Nehal Gupta, Parul Gupta and Sanjay K. Srivastava. “Penfluridol Reduces Paclitaxel Resistance in Breast Cancer by Inhibiting HER2/β-Catenin Signaling”.

• Tanvirul Hye, Xinli Liu. “Engineered Biocompatible Peptide Increases Brain Delivery of PEGylated Nanoemulsion Via Transient and Reversible Opening of BBB”.

• Laxmi Iyer, Benard Ogola, Yong Zhang, and Thomas Thekkumkara. “Down-Regulation of Angiotensin Type 1 Receptor by Tannic Acid in Rat Aortic Vascular Smooth Muscle Cells: An Insight into the ‘French Paradigm’”.

• Taylor Liles, Ravi K. Sajja, Shikha Prasad, Peixin Jiang, Luca Cucullo. “Vorinostat Induces Blood-Brain Barrier P-glycoprotein and BCRP Activity: Implications for its Limited use in Combination Chemotherapy”.

• Hanumantha Rao Madala, Surendra R. Punganuru and Kalkunte S. Srivenugopal. “Development of Stable and Brain-Penetrating Disulfiram Nanoparticles to Improve its Efficacy Against Malignant Gliomas”.

• Benard Ogola, Yong Zhang and Thomas Thekkumkara. “2-Methoxyestradiol Down-regulates Angiotensin Type 1 Receptor Through GPR30 Dependent Phosphoinositide 3-Kinase Pathway”.

• Shyanne Page, Alli Munsell, Abraham Al-Ahmad. “Modeling the Ischemic Blood-Brain Barrier in a Dish Using Human Induced Pluripotent Stem Cells”.


• Sharavan Ramachandran, Neel Fofaria, Sanjay K. Srivastava. “Novel Propanoic Acid Derivative Sensitizes Braf Mutated Melanoma Cells”.

• Jahidur Rashid, Fakhru1 Ahsan. “A Highly Sensitive LC-MS/MS Method for Concurrent Determination of Sildenafil and Rosiglitazone in Rat Plasma”.


• Shikha Prasad, Ravi K. Sajja, Luca Cucullo. “Metformin Activates Nrf2 Pathway and Prevents Cigarette Smoke-induced BBB Endothelial Dysfunction”.


• Sreedhar Reddy Suthe, Liang Feng, Ming-Hai Wang. “Antibody Drug Conjugates: Opportunities and Challenges”.

(continued on page 13)
Kshitij Verma, Tianzhu Zang, Trevor M. Penning, Paul C. Trippier. “Development of Novel Therapeutics for Castration Resistant Prostate Cancer (CRPC) and Acute Myeloid Leukemia (AML): Synthesis and Evaluation of Selective AKR1C3 Inhibitors”.


Dr. Paul Trippier (left) presented Srinidhi Jayaraman with certificate for her Podium Presentation.

A.G.M. Mostofa (center) received award from Dr. Trippier and Dr. Sanjay Srivastava for Outstanding Poster Presentation in the Senior Graduate Student Category.

Anwar Hossain (center) received award from Dr. Trippier and Dr. Srivastava for Outstanding Poster Presentation in the Junior Graduate Student Category.

Nihar Kinarivala (left) received certificate from Dr. Trippier for Podium Presentation.

Alok Ranjan (center) received award from Dr. Trippier and Dr. Srivastava for Outstanding Poster Presentation in the Senior Graduate Student Category.

Yoon Jung Lee (center) received award from Dr. Trippier and Dr. Srivastava for Outstanding Poster Presentation in the Junior Graduate Student Category.

Nihar Kinarivala (right) presenting research poster.

Anwar Hossain (left) presenting research poster.
AWARDS & SCHOLARSHIPS

◆ Anwar Hossain: Outstanding Poster Presentation Award, Junior Graduate Student Category, Fifteenth Annual Research Days, TTUHSC SOP, Amarillo, TX; June 2016.
◆ Nihar Kinarivala: Dean’s Scholars Award, Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences, February 2016.
◆ Nihar Kinarivala: Outstanding Young Investigator Scholarship, Alzheimer’s Drug Discovery Foundation (ADDF), March 2016.
◆ Yoon Jung Lee: Outstanding Poster Presentation Award, Junior Graduate Student Category, Fifteenth Annual SOP Research Days, TTUHSC, Amarillo, TX, June 2016.
◆ A.G.M. Mostofa: Outstanding Poster Presentation Award, Senior Graduate Student Category, Fifteenth Annual SOP Research Days, TTUHSC, Amarillo, TX, June 2016.
◆ Jee Hyun Park: Best Oral Presentation in Graduate Student Seminar – Fall 2015, Graduate Student Association at Amarillo, TTUHSC SOP, Amarillo, TX, January 2016.
◆ Jee Hyun Park: Phonathon Scholarship, TTUHSC SGA Phonathon Committee, awarded March 2016. (to be applied graduating term).
◆ Ronak Patel: Young Investigator Scholarship, Alzheimer’s Drug Discovery Foundation (ADDF), March 2016.
◆ Alok Ranjan: Best Oral Presentation in Graduate Student Seminar – Fall 2015, Graduate Student Association at Amarillo, TTUHSC SOP, Amarillo, TX, January 2016.
◆ Alok Ranjan: Graduate Student Best Abstract Award for 2016, Association of Scientists of Indian Origin (ASIO), Society of Toxicology (SOT), New Orleans, LA, March 2016.
◆ Alok Ranjan: Outstanding Poster Presentation Award, Senior Graduate Student Category, Fifteenth Annual SOP Research Days, TTUHSC, Amarillo, TX, June 2016.
◆ Shikha: Dean’s Scholars Award, Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences, February 2016.
◆ Shikha: Graduate Student Travel Support Award (stipend rec’d Feb’16), Society of Toxicology, to attend SOT 55th Annual Meeting and ToxExpo, New Orleans, LA, in March 2016.
This year, the ten-week 2016 Amarillo Biomedical Research Internship included the TTU Honors College program. Ten ABRI interns and two TTU Honors students were working in various School of Pharmacy labs in Amarillo and Abilene. Significant presentations were given to both groups almost every week by School of Pharmacy faculty and staff. The TTU Honors College program concluded with presentations on Friday, July 1st. The ABRI program concluded a few weeks later on Friday, July 29th, with podium presentations from each of the interns. The interns were presented a certificate after they enjoyed a luncheon with parents, faculty, graduate students and staff.

ABRI interns:
- Julian Alvarez ~ Dr. Ulrich Bickel, Pharmaceutical Sciences
- Abbie Biggers ~ Dr. Vardan Karamyan, Pharmaceutical Sciences
- Mikaelan Cucciarre-Stuligross ~ Dr. Abraham Al-Ahmad, Pharmaceutical Sciences
- Leighton Hooks ~ Dr. Sanjay Srivastava, Biomedical Sciences
- Elizabeth Innis ~ Dr. Xinli Liu, Pharmaceutical Sciences
- John Jackson ~ Dr. Luca Cucullo, Pharmaceutical Sciences
- Lisa Langan ~ Dr. Fakhrul Ahsan, Pharmaceutical Sciences
- Jordan Massingill ~ Dr. Nadezhda German, Pharmaceutical Sciences
- Ahmed Morsy ~ Dr. Paul Trippier, Pharmaceutical Sciences
- Rebecca Stark ~ Dr. Irene La-Beck, Immunotherapeutics and Biotechnology

TTU Honors College interns:
- Brooke Boston ~ Dr. Nadezhda German, Pharmaceutical Sciences
- Morgan Ryan ~ Dr. Xinli Liu, Pharmaceutical Sciences

Dr. Ahsan (right) presented a certificate to John Jackson.

Abbie Biggers received a certificate from Dr. Ahsan.
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(Continued on page 17)
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2013

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*For more detailed information on an alumni OR for any changes/ additions, please contact Teresa at Teresa.Carli@ttuhsc.edu
GSAA Officers for 2016-2017:
President, Heidi Villalba;
Vice-President, Shyanne Page;
Treasurer, Nehal Gupta;
Secretary, Yoon Jung Lee;
Student Senate Representative, Abdullah Al Shoyaib;
Historian, Ali Sifat;
International Student Representative, Ahmed Alobaida

Social & Community Service Events Planned for F’16:
*September
Back-to-School Picnic at Palo Duro Canyon
Habitat for Humanity
*October
Pumpkin Carving
American Heart Walk
*November
Zipline/Horseback Riding at Palo Duro Canyon
High Plains Food Bank
*December
Botanical Winter Lights [service event TBA]

GSSA Members Participated Sp’16 in:
*January
Movie Matinee
GSAA Journal Club (startup)
*February
Bowling Night
*March
International Night
Canned Food Drive
*April
March of Dimes, March for Babies
"Team Tatum" Burrito Fundraiser
Ski Trip
*May
Graduation Party

Congratulations!
Dr. Constantinos Mikelis and his wife, Natasha, had a new baby girl in spring 2016!
Welcome to Katerina!
more... GSAA Events

INTERNATIONAL NIGHT

“TEAM TATUM” FUND-RAISER

MARCH OF DIMES, MARCH FOR BABIES

SKI TRIP

GSAA Events