

Agonist

Official Newsletter for the
 Graduate Program in Pharmaceutical Sciences
 Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center
 Amarillo, Texas



Spring 2018
 Issue 21

UPDATE FROM DR. AHSAN

This fall, we welcomed eight new students to our program. Hos-sameldin Abdelrahman, Sarah Anderson, Derek Barthels and Saeideh Nozohouri joined as Ph.D. students; Racheal Akwii, Kinzie Sherrill, Nausheen Syeara and Juan Valdez joined as M.S. students. We also received four additional Ph.D. students this spring, and look forward to getting to know them over the next few months. This fall, three students defended their PhD dissertation and later obtained postdoctoral positions: Drs. A.G.M. Mostofa, Nihar Kinarivala and Kshitij Verma obtained positions at Moffitt Cancer Center, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center and Genentech, Inc. respectively. Congratulations to AGM, Nihar and Kshitij!! Our graduate students have been very productive in publishing peer-reviewed manuscripts and presenting their work at various scientific venues. Sixteen of our faculty-mentored graduate students have authored nine peer-reviewed publications: seven were first-authored papers and two co-first authored. Twenty-six students presented their research at national scientific events, two of them were podium presentations and [one being invited as a keynote speaker](#). We were privileged this November to host the "2017 Annual American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists (AAPS) TTUHSC School of Pharmacy's Alumni and Friends Reception at the Marriott Marquis in San Diego, California. This was a great opportunity for graduate school alumni and faculty members to converge from both national and international directions and share personal and professional updates with old friends and new acquaintances. We cannot thank enough our alumni for all their support for our students and the program. In December, we hosted guest speaker, Dr. Changxue Xu, an Assistant Professor with the Department of Industrial, Manufacturing, & Systems Engineering in the College of Engineering at Texas Tech University in Lubbock. His presentation titled "Biofabrication of three-dimensional vascular-like constructs" provided us with cutting-edge information which should prove to be especially beneficial to our research here. Participation in community service events reflects positively on our graduate students and our campus. Their interest in the overall health needs of people in the TTUHSC Amarillo area is reflected by their volunteer work with: "Ramps Across Texas" to build access ramps for the handicapped; the "Amarillo Heart Walk" supporting the American Heart Association; Eveline Rivers to help provide gifts for those in need; and collecting clothes for the Salvation Army to help people ward off harsh weather. We are proud of the selfless efforts of many of our students. Overall, we not only welcomed new students and awarded degrees to existing students but also extended help to our community.



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Agonist is published every fall and spring semester by the Graduate Program of Pharmaceutical Sciences (GPPS). For updates and new information, e-mail Susan at susan.king@ttuhsc.edu.

FALL 2017 GRADUATES



AGM Mostofa, Ph.D.

Lab of Dr. Kalkunte Srivenugopal

Dissertation Presented
August 15, 2017

"Serendipitous Non-Repair Functions in Replication and Cell Cycle for the Human DNA Repair Protein MGMT"



Kshitij Verma, Ph.D.

Lab of Dr. Paul Trippier

Dissertation Presented
November 3, 2017

"Discovery of Potent and Highly Selective Small-Molecule Inhibitors of Aldo-Keto Reductase 1C3 (AKR1C3)"

Nihar Kinarivala, Ph.D.

Lab of Dr. Paul Trippier

Dissertation Presented
November 10, 2017

"Design, Synthesis and Evaluation of Aromatic Carbamates as Neuroprotective Agents"



Spring 2018 DISSERTATIONS

Hanumantha Rao Madala

Lab of Dr. Kalkunte S. Srivenugopal

Friday, March 2, 2018 at 1:30pm

AMA PAC 1120 / LUB HSC 1C111

Md. Abul Kaisar

Lab of Dr. Luca Cucullo

Monday, May 7, 2018 at 1:30pm

AMA (TBD) / LUB HSC 1C111

NEW STUDENTS for Spring 2018



(L-to-R): Rachel Hudson, Angelica Carmona, Aditya Bhalerao, Farzane Sivandzade

Aditya Bhalerao, BS
Rashtrasant Tukadoji Maharaj Nagpur University
India
Lab: Dr. Luca Cucullo

Angelica Carmona, BS, Biochemistry
Mount Saint Mary's University
Los Angeles, CA, USA
Lab: Dr. Paul Trippier

Rachel Hudson, BS, MS, Animal Science
West Texas A&M University
Canyon, TX, USA
Lab: Dr. Ming-Hai Wang

Farzane Sivandzade, BS, MS, Chemical
Engineering
Sharif University of Technology
Iran
Lab: Dr. Luca Cucullo

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Graduate Program in Pharmaceutical Sciences Class of 2017-2018

WiSE - Women in Science Endeavors

by Daniela Rolph

Women in Science Endeavors (WiSE) is a yearly conference in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics for middle school girls in the Amarillo area. Girls participate in hands-on experiments and demonstrations led by women who work in these disciplines. The goal of the conference is to encourage girls to consider and pursue careers in STEM fields. This year's conference, titled "Be a STEM Gem," was held on November 11th, 2017 on the campus of Amarillo College. TTUHSC graduate students Heidi Villalba and Daniela Rolph joined School of Pharmacy alumna Amanda 'Mandy' White-side (class of 2014) to lead a workshop on perfume chemistry in which the girls learned about chemical structures and the olfactory system and made their own perfumes.

Heidi assisting attendees with making perfume.

Daniela helping middle school girls.



Daniela, Heidi, Mandy



GRADUATE STUDENT SEMINAR PROGRAM - FALL 2017

08/16/17 - Faculty Speaker: Abraham Al-Ahmad, Ph.D., Asst. Prof., Pharmaceutical Sciences, TTUHSC SOP Amarillo - Seminar course overview.

08/23/17 - Heidi Villalba - "The Effect of Myo-Inositol in Ischemic Stroke Injury: In-Vitro and In-Vivo Studies"

08/23/17 - Hanumantha Rao Madala - "IDH1 mutation-inspired inspired α -ketoglutaric acid mimics for GBM treatment"

08/30/17 - Nihar Kinarivala - "Design, Synthesis and Employment of Flupirtine-Derivative Chemical Probes for Neuroprotective Target Identification"

08/30/17 - Kshitij Verma - "Development of Potent and Highly Selective AKR1C3 Inhibitors for the Treatment of Castration-Resistant Prostate Cancer (CRPC) and Acute Myeloid Leukemia (AML)"

09/06/17 - Yoon Jung Lee, *Oral Qualifying Exam* - "Exercise and epilepsy: the impact of stress hormones and neurogenesis in seizure threshold"

09/06/17 - Md. Sanaullah Sajib, *Oral Qualifying Exam* - "Recombinant Slit2 therapy: An Alternative Therapeutic Approach to Diabetic Retinopathy"

09/13/17 - Faisal Alamri, *Oral Qualifying Exam* - "The Role of Selective D1 or D2 Activation by L-DOPA Treatment in Combination with Exercise on Enhancing Stroke Recovery"

09/13/17 - Sharavan Ramachandran, *Oral Qualifying Exam* - "Piperlongumine: A novel treatment option to overcome chemoresistance in melanoma"

09/20/17 - Md. Ashraf-Uz-Zaman, *Oral Qualifying Exam* - "Design, Synthesis and Evaluation of Hypoxia Activated Combination Therapy for the Treatment of Solid Tumors"

09/20/17 - Ali Keshavarz - *Oral Qualifying Exam* - "A microfluidic chip to emulate PAH-induced right-ventricular hypertrophy"

09/27/17 - Laxmij Iyer - "Tannic Acid is a Tissue-Specific Dual Modulator of Angiotensin Type 1 Receptor and Low-Density Lipoprotein Receptor: An Insight into the French Paradox"

09/27/17 - Md. Yousuf Ali - *Oral Qualifying Exam* - "Elucidation of the role of ACSL isoforms in regulation of energy metabolism and polarization of macrophage"

10/04/17 - Ahmed Alobaida - *Oral Qualifying Exam* - "Inhaled nitric oxide donors (NOD) for the treatment of pulmonary arterial hypertension (PAH)"

10/04/17 - Ekram Chowdhury - *Oral Qualifying Exam* - "Targeted delivery of microRNA-210 mimic and potential synergistic effects in combination with melatonin in ischemic stroke"

10/11/17 - Md. Anwar Hossain - *Oral Qualifying Exam* - "Dual-acting inhibitors in treatment of chronic wound infections"

10/18/17 - Ronak Patel - "Isogenic models of the blood-brain barrier from patient-derived stem cells: A step closer in designing a neurovascular unit in a dish"

10/25/17 - Nehal Gupta - "Novel therapeutic approach to overcome paclitaxel resistance in breast cancer by targeting HER2/ β -catenin signaling"

10/25/17 - Ali Sifat - *Oral Qualifying Exam* - "Effects of Maternal E-Cigarette Use on Neonatal Cognitive Function and Hypoxic Brain Injury"

11/01/17 - Srinidhi Jayaraman - "Do peptidases play a role in the pathophysiology of ischemic stroke – an investigational study"

11/01/17 - Abdullah Al Shoyaib - *Oral Qualifying Exam* - "Long-Acting Beta-Hydroxybutyrate (BHB) to Promote Motor Recovery Through Exercise After Ischemic Stroke in Mice"

11/03/17 - Kshitij Verma - *Doctoral Dissertation Defense* - "Discovery of Potent and Highly Selective Small-Molecule Inhibitors of Aldo-Keto Reductase 1C3 (AKR1C3)"

11/08/17 - Shyanne Page - *Oral Qualifying Exam* - "Determining the role of the System Xc- transporter in a patient-derived in-vitro model of the blood-brain barrier during ischemic stroke"

11/08/17 - Sreedhar Reddy Suthu - *Oral Qualifying Exam* - "Development of a Novel RON Targeted Antibody-Drug Conjugates using Cysteine Bridging Technology for Potential Treatment of Pancreatic Cancer"

11/10/17 - Nihar Kinarivala - *Doctoral Dissertation Defense* - "Design, Synthesis and Evaluation of Aromatic Carbamates as Neuroprotective Agents"

11/29/17 - Md. Abul Kaisar - "Novel Biomarkers of Smoking Toxicity at the BBB: Looking into Nrf2 Mitochondrial Transcriptomics"

11/29/17 - Faleh Alqahtani - "Evaluation of Blood Brain Barrier Integrity under Anesthesia with Ketamine or Volatile Anesthetic Agents"

12/08/17 - Guest Speaker: Changxue Xu, Ph.D., Asst. Professor, TTU College of Engineering, Dept. Industrial, Manufacturing, & Systems Engineering - "Biofabrication of three-dimensional vascular-like constructs"

PUBLICATIONS

≈**Alamri FF, Shoyaib AA**, Biggers A, **Jayaraman S**, Guindon J. and Karamyan VT. (2018). Applicability of the grip strength and automated von Frey tactile sensitivity tests in the mouse photo-thrombotic model of stroke. *Behav Brain Res.* 2018 Jan 15;336:250-255. doi: 10.1016/j.bbr.2017.09.008. Epub 2017 Sep 8..

≈**Chowdhury EA, Alqahtani F**, Bhattacharya R, Mehvar R, Bickel U. Simultaneous UPLC-MS/MS analysis of two stable isotope labeled versions of sucrose in mouse plasma and brain samples as markers of blood-brain barrier permeability and brain vascular space. *J Chromatogr B Analyt Technol Biomed Life Sci.* 2018 Jan 15;1073:19-26. doi: 10.1016/j.jchromb.2017.12.007. Epub 2017 Dec 6..

≈**Kim CG, Lee H, Gupta N, Ramachandran S, Kaushik I, Srivastava S, Kim SH, Srivastava SK.** Role of Forkhead Box Class O proteins in cancer progression and metastasis. *Semin Cancer Biol.* 2017 Aug 1. pii: S1044-579X(17)30092-5. doi: 10.1016/j.semcancer.2017.07.007. [Epub ahead of print]

≈**Kaisar MA, Villalba H, Prasad S, Liles T, Sifat AE, Sajja RK, Abbruscato TJ, Cucullo L.** Offsetting the impact of smoking and e-cigarette vaping on the cerebrovascular system and stroke injury: Is Metformin a viable countermeasure? *Redox Biol.* 2017 Oct;13:353-362. doi: 10.1016/j.redox.2017.06.006. Epub 2017 Jun 17.

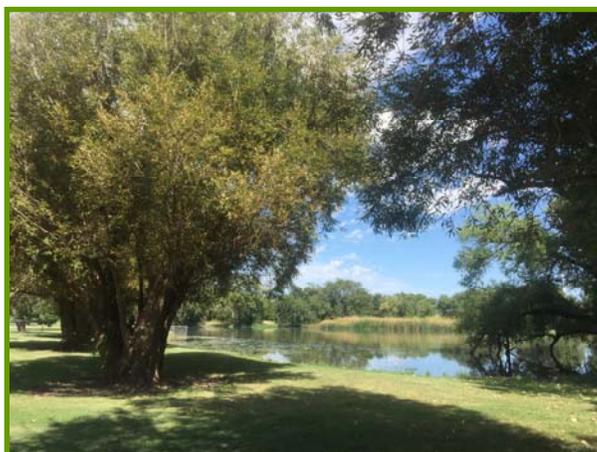
≈**Sajja RK, Prasad S, Tang S, Kaisar MA, Cucullo L.** Blood-brain barrier disruption in diabetic mice is linked to Nrf2 signaling deficits: Role of ABCB10? *Neurosci Lett.* 2017 Jul 13;653:152-158. doi: 10.1016/j.neulet.2017.05.059. Epub 2017 May 29.

≈**Kaisar MA, Kallem RR, Sajja RK, Sifat AE, Cucullo L.** A convenient UHPLC-MS/MS method for routine monitoring of plasma and brain levels of nicotine and cotinine as a tool to validate newly developed preclinical smoking model in mouse. *BMC Neurosci.* 2017 Oct 11;18(1):71. doi: 10.1186/s12868-017-0389-5.

≈**Prasad S, Kaisar MA, Cucullo L.** Unhealthy smokers: scopes for prophylactic intervention and clinical treatment. *BMC Neurosci.* 2017 Oct 4;18(1):70. doi: 10.1186/s12868-017-0388-6.

≈**Kinarivala N, Patel R, Boustany RM, Al-Ahmad A, Trippier PC.** Discovery of Aromatic Carbamates that Confer Neuroprotective Activity by Enhancing Autophagy and Inducing the Anti-Apoptotic Protein B-Cell Lymphoma 2 (Bcl-2). *J Med Chem.* 2017 Dec 14;60(23):9739-9756. doi: 10.1021/acs.jmedchem.7b01199. Epub 2017 Nov 22.

≈***Sajib S, *Zahra FT, Lionakis MS, German NA, Mikelis CM.** Mechanisms of angiogenesis in microbe-regulated inflammatory and neoplastic conditions. *Angiogenesis*, 2017 Nov 6. doi: 10.1007/s10456-017-9583-4. [Epub ahead of print] {* = first author}



**“Serene and Green” at
Thompson Park, Amarillo, Texas
(during GSAA fall event)**



**Photos by Yoon Jung Lee,
GPPS Graduate Student, Research Assistant
in lab of Dr. James Stoll**

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AWARDS & SCHOLARSHIPS

Ahmed Alobaida: American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists, Graduate Student Research Award in Pharmacokinetics, Pharmacodynamics, and Drug Metabolism and Clinical Pharmacology and Translational Research, AAPS, San Diego, CA; November 2017.

Faleh Alqahtani: American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists Student Chapter, Travel Award, AAPS, San Diego, CA; November 2017.

Nehal Gupta: American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists Student Chapter, Travel Award, AAPS, San Diego, CA; November 2017.

Nehal Gupta: TTUHSC GSBS Dean's Scholars Award, Fall 2017.

Anwar Hossain: Panhandle Plains Student Travel Award, American Chemical Society Southwest Regional Meeting, Lubbock, TX; Oct.-Nov.2017.

Srinidhi Jayaraman: American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists Student Chapter, Travel Award, AAPS, San Diego, CA; November 2017.

Md. Abul Kaiser: TTUHSC GSBS Dean's Scholars Award, Fall 2017.

Taylor Liles: Full Tuition Scholarship to attend "Principles and Techniques in Mouse Behavioral Phenotyping and Pharmacology Workshop", Jackson Laboratory, Bar Harbor, ME; October 2017.

Hanumantha Rao Madala: Pathobiology for Investigators, Students & Academians (PISA) American Society for Investigative Pathology (ASIP) 2017 Trainee Travel Award, ASIP / PISA: Genome and Environment: Implications in Development, Regeneration, Injury, Immunity, and Malignancy, Pittsburgh, PA; September 2017.

Hanumantha Rao Madala: Pathobiology for Investigators, Students & Academians (PISA) Intersociety Council for Pathology Information, Inc. (ICPI) 2017 Trainee Travel Award, ASIP / PISA: Genome and Environment: Implications in Development, Regeneration, Injury, Immunity, and Malignancy Pittsburgh, PA; September 2017.

Hanumantha Rao Madala: Best Abstract Award, Pathobiology for Investigators, Students & Academians (PISA), Pittsburgh, PA; September 2017.

Shyanne Page: American Society for Investigative Pathology (ASIP) Pathobiology for Investigators, Students & Academians (PISA) 2017 Lawrence and Marion Muller Memorial Trainee Travel Award for Excellence in Neurodegenerative Disease Research, PISA, Pittsburgh, PA; September 2017.

Sharavan Ramachandran: Young Investigator Travel Fellowship Award, Symposia on Cancer Research 2017: Cancer Metabolism; UT MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX; October 2017.

Daniela Rolph: Mary Lou Clements-Mann Scholarship, TTUHSC GSBS; Fall 2017.

Md. Sanaullah Sajib: Mary Lou Clements-Mann Scholarship, TTUHSC GSBS; Fall 2017.

Kshitij Verma: American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists (AAPS) Graduate Student Research Award in Drug Discovery and Development Interface (DDDI), AAPS Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA; November 2017.

Fatema Tuz Zhara: Mary Lou Clements-Mann Scholarship, TTUHSC GSBS; Fall 2017.

Dr. Margaret Weis welcomed graduate students, faculty, staff and their guests to a festive holiday party at her home. Some who attended were (l-r): Daniela Rolph, Sarah Anderson, Iti Kaushik, Nehal Gupta, Ekram Chowdhury, Dr. Margaret Weis, Sanaullah Sajib, Snehal Raut, Behnaz Lahooti, Fatema Tuz Zahra, and Yoon Jung Lee.



CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

**American Chemical Society, Division of Medicinal Chemistry,
254th National ACS Meeting * Washington, D.C. * Aug. 20-24, 2017**



Kshitij Verma, Tianzhu Zang, Trevor M. Penning, and Paul C. Trippier. "Discovery of (E)-(4-(3-methylbut-2-en-1-yl)-3-(3-phenylpropanamido) cinnamic acid as Highly Potent and Selective Inhibitor of AKR1C3 for the Treatment of Castration-Resistant Prostate Cancer and Acute Myeloid Leukemia".



Pathobiology for Investigators, Students & Academicians

**Genome and Environment:
Implications in Development, Regeneration, Injury,
Immunity, and Malignancy**

September 25-27 • Pittsburgh, PA

**American Society for Investigative Pathology;
Pathobiology for Investigators, Students & Academicians
Pittsburgh, PA * Sept. 25-27, 2017**

Hanumantha Rao Madala, Surendra Reddy Punganuru, Kalkunte Srivenugopal. "IDH1 mutation-inspired a-ketoglutaric acid mimics for epigenetic therapy of higher grade gliomas".

Hanumantha Rao Madala, Surendra Reddy Punganuru, Kalkunte Srivenugopal. "Synthesis of a novel non-diuretic, brain-penetrating, ethacrynic acid analog and demonstration of its potent efficacy in orthotopic glioblastoma (GBM) models".

Shyanne Page, Alli Munsell, Abraham Al-Ahmad. "Modeling the Ischemic Blood-Brain Barrier Using Patient-Derived Induced Pluripotent Stem Cells".

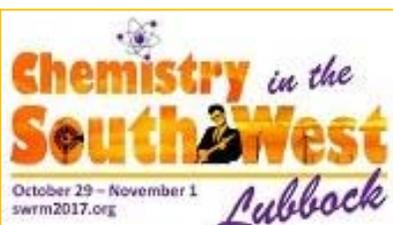
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS
**MD Anderson
Cancer Center**

**Symposia on Cancer Research
UT MD Anderson * Houston, TX * Oct. 5-6, 2017**

Sharavan Ramachandran & Sanjay K. Srivastava. "Capsaicin negatively regulated Warburg effect in pancreatic cancer and enhances the effects of gemcitabine".

**MicroTAS International
Conference * Savannah, GA
Oct. 22-26, 2017**

Taslim A. Al-Hilal, **Ali Keshavarz**, Wei Li, and Fakhru'l Ahsan. "Multi-Channel Chips to Simulate Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension (PAH) Pathophysiology and Screen Anti-PAH Drugs". [Presented by **Keshavarz**.]



**American Chemical Society, Southwest Regional Meeting
Lubbock, TX * Oct. 29 - Nov. 1, 2017**

Md. Ashraf-Uz-Zaman, Nehal Gupta, Sanjay Srivastava, Nadezhda German. "Making an Anticancer Agent from Penfluridol: SAR Approach".

Bader Huwaimel, Hezhen Wang, James Miller, Paul S. Brookes, and Paul C. Trippier. "Design and Synthesis of Mitochondrial Complex II Inhibitors as Potential Antineoplastic Agents".

Anwar Hossain, Md. Sanoullah Sajib, Abraham Jacob Al-Ahmad, Constantinos M. Mikelis, Nadezhda German. "Effect of the disulfide bridge on the biological activity of the gliotoxin".

Nihar Kinarivala, Ronak Patel, Abraham Al-Ahmad, Paul C. Trippier. "Discovery and development of functionalized aromatic carbamates for the treatment of neurodegeneration".

Ahmed Morsy, Nihar Kinarivala, Hezhen Wang, Paul C. Trippier. "Small molecule ABAD inhibitors as a therapeutic strategy in Alzheimer's Disease". **Podium Presentation**.

Kshitij Verma, Tianzhu Zhang, Trevor M. Penning, Paul C. Trippier. "Discovery of Highly Potent and Selective Inhibitors of AKR1C3 for the Treatment of Castration-Resistant Prostate Cancer and Acute Myeloid Leukemia". **Podium Presentation**.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS (cont'd)



**SOCIETY for
NEUROSCIENCE**

**Society for Neuroscience (SfN)
Washington, DC * November 11-15, 2017**

Ronak Patel, Shyanne Page, Abraham Al-Ahmad.
"Development of an in-vitro patient-specific neurovascular unit based on induced pluripotent stem cells".

**2017 AAPS ANNUAL
MEETING AND EXPOSITION**

NOVEMBER 12-15, 2017 | SAN DIEGO

AAPS * San Diego, CA * Nov. 12-15, 2017

Ahmed Alobaida, Jahidur Rashid, Taslim Al-Hilal, Fakhru Ahsan. "Inhaled PLGA Particles of Rosiglitazone as a promising targeted therapy for PAH".

Faleh Alqahtani, Raktima Bhattacharya, Ekram Ahmed Chowdhury, Reza Mehvar, Ulrich Bickel. "Differential Effects of Anesthetic Agents on Blood Brain Barrier Integrity as Determined by the Hydrophilic Marker [¹³C]Sucrose".

Ekram Chowdhury, F. Alqahtani, R. Bhattacharya, R. Mehvar, U. Bickel. "Stable Labelled Isotopes of Sucrose as Blood Brain Barrier Permeability Markers: Expanding the Application in Different In-Vitro and In-Vivo Models".

Nehal Gupta, Parul Gupta and Sanjay Srivastava. "Novel therapeutic approach to overcome paclitaxel resistance in breast cancer by targeting HER2/ β -catenin signaling".

Srinidhi Jayaraman, Rui Zhu, Naomi J. Wangler, Yehia Mechref, Thomas J. Abbruscato, David A. Ostrov, and Vardan T. Karamyan. "Discovery of Small Molecule Allosteric Activators of Peptidase Neurolysin".

Kaisar MA, Sajja RK, Cucullo L. "A convenient UHPLC-MS/MS method for routine monitoring of plasma and brain levels of nicotine and cotinine as a tool to validate newly developed preclinical smoking model in mouse".

Kaisar MA, Sajja RK, Prasad S, Vijay V, Desai V, Cucullo L. "MitoCHIP based transcriptomic profiling identifies Slc40a1 as a new biomarker of anti-retroviral drug induced BBB mitochondrial toxicity".

Yoon Jung Lee, Alejandra Fernandez, James Stoll. "Anticonvulsant Effects of Physical Activity in a Mouse Chronic Corneal Kindling Model".

Hanumantha Rao Madala, Surendra Reddy Punganuru, Kalkunte Srivenugopal. "Development of a novel non-diuretic brain-penetrating ethacrynic acid analog and demonstration of its potent efficacy in orthotopic glioblastoma (GBM) models".

Hanumantha Rao Madala, Surendra Reddy Punganuru, Kalkunte Srivenugopal. "IDH mutation-inspired alpha-ketoglutaric acid mimics for epigenetic therapy of higher grade gliomas".

Ali Sifat, Bhuvaneshwar Vaidya, Heidi Villalba, Mohammad Kaisar, Luca Cucullo, Thomas Abbruscato. "Nicotine and E-Cigarette Exposure Alters Brain Glucose Utilization And Stroke Outcome".

Kshitij Verma, Tianzhu Zang, Trevor M. Penning, and Paul C. Trippier. "Development of Novel Therapeutics for Castration-Resistant Prostate Cancer (CRPC) and Acute Myeloid Leukemia (AML): Design, Synthesis and Evaluation of Isoform Selective AKR1C3 Inhibitors".

**Inside 3D Printing Conference
San Diego, CA * Dec. 4-5, 2017**

**INSIDE 3D PRINTING
CONFERENCE & EXPO**

Hossam Kadry. "The Promise and Pitfalls of Currently Available Feeding Materials for 3D Printing of Pharmaceutical Products". **Invited Keynote Speaker.**

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**2017 AAPS ANNUAL TTUHSC SOP
ALUMNI & FRIENDS RECEPTION**
November 14 – 5:30-7:30PM
Marriott Marquis San Diego Marina -
Marriott Ballroom Salon 1; San Diego, CA

(l-r) Bhuvan 'Bob' Vaidya, Nilesh Gupta,
Kshitij Verma, Hanumantha Rao Madala,
Nehal Gupta, Amit Rawat



(l-r) Kshitij Verma, Hanumantha Rao Madala,
unnamed UMKC student, Nehal Gupta



(l-r) Drs. Quentin Smith
and Fakhrul Ahsan



(l-r) Drs. Fakhrul Ahsan, Vivek
Gupta, Sami Nazzal, Quentin Smith



(l-r) Jahidur Rashid,
Shahriar 'Abir' Absar,
Md. Abul Kaisar,
Ali Sifat



SPRING CONFERENCES



**International
Stroke Conference**
Los Angeles, CA
Jan.24-26, 2018



**Alzheimer's
Drug Discovery
Foundation**

**12th Annual Drug Discovery for
Neurodegeneration Conference**
Arlington, VA
Feb.4-6, 2018



AAAS ANNUAL MEETING
Feb 15-19 2018 ★ Austin, TX



SOT 2018 San Antonio
★ March 11-15 ★



AACR American Association
for Cancer Research

**ANNUAL MEETING
2018 CHICAGO**
April 14-18, 2018

APRIL 21-25, 2018 - SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

EXPERIMENTAL BIOLOGY

ABSTRACT
SUBMISSION




NAVBO
North American
Biology Organization

Vasculata 2018
July 23-26, 2018 - Washington University in St. Louis



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Student Research Week (SRW) is an interdisciplinary event organized every year by students of the **Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences (GSBS)** at TTUHSC Lubbock. The main objective of SRW is to showcase the research and build a platform for interaction from there. SRW provides an opportunity for students to present and explore new research, fostering interactions between students and faculty. It is one of the largest events at TTUHSC, including over 300 participants. Now in its **30th year**, the theme for this upcoming SRW is **“Protein Chronicles: From Unknown Structures to Essential Functions”**. This SRW is scheduled to take place **March 20-23, 2018**, with a vendor show on March 20th, the poster competition on March 21st-22nd, a fundraiser banquet on March 22nd, and the keynote addresses, select student presentations and awards ceremony on March 23rd.

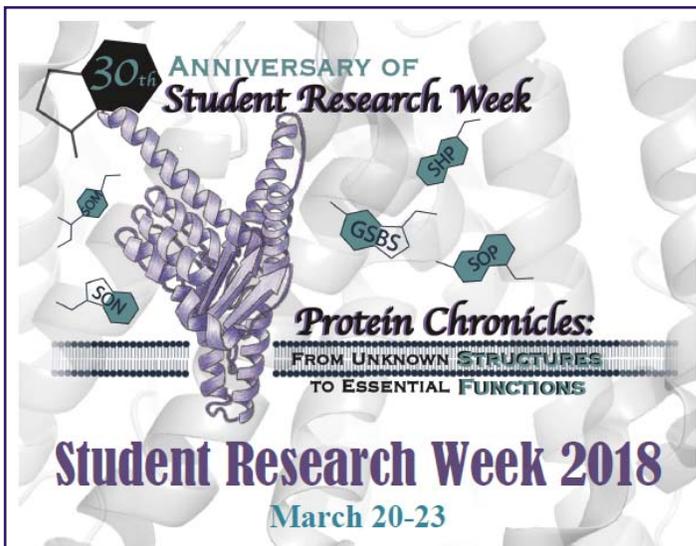
Keynote Speakers featured at the event:

- * Francisco Bezanilla, Ph.D.
- * Jane S. Richardson, Ph.D.

The theme aims to illustrate the very broad scope of protein research, from identifying molecular structures, to understanding the mechanics of how they function to drive life. While the event is hosted by the Graduate Student Association of GSBS, the poster competition is open to all research areas. The judging criteria are set up to evaluate a hypothesis and the methods used to research that hypothesis, along with the ability to clearly present those original ideas. The research presented does not have to be biomedical in nature.

For more information, go to:

<https://www.ttuhscl.edu/graduate-school-of-biomedical-sciences/student-research-week/>



Connecting Through Research

SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL
RESEARCH DAYS
Amarillo Civic Center - Heritage Room
June 13 - 14, 2018

Save - The - Date
JUNE 13 - 14, 2018
Amarillo, Texas



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY
HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER.

School of Pharmacy
Office of Sciences



ALUMNI DIRECTORY

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GSAA BULLETIN BOARD

GSAA students participated Fall 2017 in:

September

- *Back to School Picnic, Thompson Park
- *Ramps Across Texas, building handicap ramps

October

- *Amarillo Heart Walk, American Heart Association
- *Ice Skating/Halloween Party

November

- *Bowling Night
- *Eveline Rivers Christmas Project, gift wrapping

December

- *Christmas Garden of Lights, Amarillo Botanical Gardens
- *Clothing Drive, Salvation Army, Goodwill

Social & Community Events Planned for Spring 2018 (tent.):

January

- *Tutoring for Children, High Plains Children's Home
- *Movie Matinee

February

- *Alive and Aware Health Explosion, Resource and Health Fair

March

- *Trampoline Fun Jump at Starz Gymnastics
- *Ski Trip - Denver, Colorado

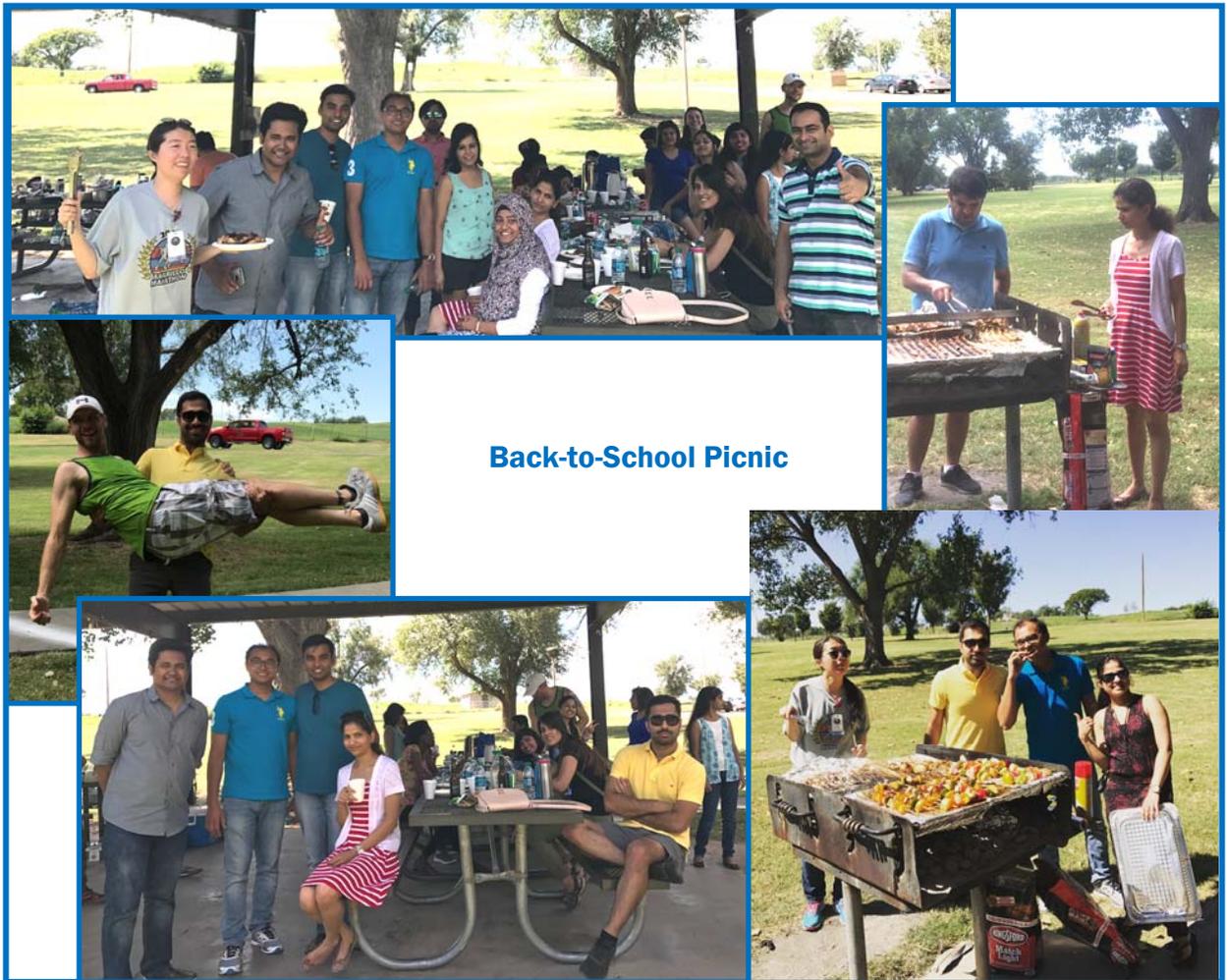
April

- *TBD

May

- *TBD

GSAA Events



Back-to-School Picnic

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... more GSAA Events ...



Ramps Across Texas



Amarillo Heart Walk



American Heart Association



... more GSAA Events

Christmas Garden of Lights,
Amarillo Botanical Gardens



Congratulations to Benard 'Ben' Ogola and his wife, Veronica, on the birth of a new baby girl!

Welcome to Malia!

Congratulations to Nilesch and Parul Gupta on the birth of their baby girl!

Welcome to Trividha!

