

upstategrad update

transforming students from consumers of knowledge into producers of knowledge Spring/Summer 2018

FINDING WHAT WORKS

Last week, I had a flashback to the movie “Ground Hog Day”, where things repeat over and over again without change. This wasn’t in the outside world but in my own behavior, and I was starting to sense some OCD on my part. I was actually doing laundry at the time, and I realized I had an extremely identical method that I used to sort and do laundry every week, right down to whether I washed dark clothes before whites. I actually had a detailed SOP (Standard Operating Procedure) for washing my clothes. As I was reaching for the Zolof, I stopped and said, maybe this isn’t so bad. Indeed, this was ingrained in me through years of research training. You needed to make sure that every time you performed a protocol and it worked, that you would repeat the exact same method the next time you performed it. Without this exacting duplication, experiments were much more difficult to reproduce. Thinking back I have clearly been obsessive about this from using identical tubes, to vortexing samples in the same way and for the same period of time right down to pipetting liquids on the sides of tubes in the same way. These were techniques that were never found in methods sections but ensured quality results.

I am sure many of you have developed similar habits that have made you successful scientists and experimentalists. So don’t hide your OCD, celebrate it and use it to your advantage. This may be in doing your next experiment or laundry on a Saturday afternoon. And as an aside, you should always do whites last, I will explain that another time.

– Mark E. Schmitt, PhD

Dean, College of Graduate Studies
schmittm@upstate.edu

LAMMERT DB, MIDDLETON FA, Pan J, OLSON EC, HOWELL BW.

The de novo Autism Spectrum Disorder RELN R2290C Mutation Reduces Reelin Secretion and Increases Protein Disulfide Isomerase Expression. J Neurochem. 2017

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CD11c+ T-bet+ memory B cells: Immune maintenance during chronic infection and inflammation? Cell Immunol. 2017 Jul 19

Galgano M, Toshkezi G, Qiu X, RUSSELL T, Chin L, ZHAO LR.

Traumatic Brain Injury: Current Treatment Strategies and Future Endeavors. Cell Transplant. 2017 Jul;26(7):1118-1130.

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The influence of macrophage growth factors on Theiler's Murine Encephalomyelitis Virus (TMEV) infection and activation of macrophages. Cytokine. 2017 Aug 8;.

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Treacher Collins syndrome mutations in *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* destabilizes RNA polymerase I and III complex integrity. Hum Mol Genet. 2017 Aug 14;.

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Changes in tonsil B cell phenotypes and EBV receptor expression in children under 5 years old. Cytometry B Clin Cytom. 2017 Sep 8. doi: 10.1002/cyto.b.21589.

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Reduced Slc1a1 expression is associated with neuroinflammation and impaired sensorimotor gating and cognitive performance in mice: Implications for schizophrenia.

PLoS One. 2017 Sep 8;12(9):e0183854. doi: 10.1371/journal.pone.0183854. eCollection 2017.

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bHLH-O proteins balance the self-renewal and differentiation of *Drosophila* neural stem cells by regulating Earmuff expression.

Dev Biol. 2017 Sep 9. pii: S0012-1606(17)30270-1. doi: 10.1016/j.ydbio.2017.09.011.

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Inverted Formins: a Sub-Family of Atypical Formins.

Cytoskeleton (Hoboken). 2017 Sep 16;.

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PTSD Blood Transcriptome Mega-Analysis: Shared Inflammatory Pathways across Biological Sex and Modes of Trauma. Neuropsychopharmacology. 2017 Sep 19. doi: 10.1038/npp.2017.220.

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Neural-specific deletion of the focal adhesion adaptor protein paxillin slows migration speed and delays cortical layer formation.

Development. 2017 Sep 21;.

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Targeting the alternative sigma factor RpoN to combat virulence in *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*.

Sci Rep. 2017 Oct 3;7(1):12615.

Zhang K, Fan Z, Wang Y, **FARAONE SV**, **YANG L**, Chang S.

Genetic analysis for cognitive flexibility in Trail Making Test in attention deficit hyperactivity disorder patients from SNP, gene to pathway. World J Biol Psychiatry. 2017 Oct 3;:1-29.

Hunter DD, Manglapus MK, Bachay G, Claudepierre T, Dolan MW, **GESUELLI KA**, **BRUNKEN WJ**.

CNS synapses are stabilized trans-synaptically by laminins and laminin-interacting proteins.

J Comp Neurol. 2017 Oct 12;:

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Dual enhancement of T and NK cell function by pulsatile inhibition of SHIP1 improves antitumor immunity and survival.

Sci Signal. 2017 Oct 10;10(500).

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Tumor suppressor Tsc1 is a new Hsp90 co-chaperone that facilitates folding of kinase and non-kinase clients.

EMBO J. 2017 Nov 10;:

MINCHENBERG SB, **MASSA PT**.

The control of oligodendrocyte bioenergetics by interferon-gamma (IFN- γ) and Src homology region 2 domain-containing phosphatase-1 (SHP-1).

J Neuroimmunol. 2017 Oct 28;:

DUSHUKYAN N, **DUNN DM**, **SAGER RA**, **WOODFORD MR**, Loisel DR, Daneshvar M, **BAKER-WILLIAMS AJ**, Chisholm JD, Truman AW, Vaughan CK, Haystead TA, **BRATSLAVSKY G**, **BOURBOULIA D**, **MOLLAPOUR M**.

Phosphorylation and Ubiquitination Regulate Protein Phosphatase 5 Activity and Its Prosurvival Role in Kidney Cancer.

Cell Rep. 2017 Nov 14;21(7):1883-1895.

HESS JL, Akutagava-Martins GC, **PATAK JD**, **GLATT SJ**, **FARAONE SV**.

Why is there selective subcortical vulnerability in ADHD? Clues from postmortem brain gene expression data.

Mol Psychiatry. 2017 Nov 28;:

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Detection and Analysis of Extracellular Hsp90 (eHsp90).

Methods Mol Biol. 2018;1709:321-329.

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Detecting Posttranslational Modifications of Hsp90.

Methods Mol Biol. 2018;1709:209-219.

presentations

RONALD MILLER, an MD/PhD Student in Neuroscience attended the Society for Neuroscience Meeting, held in Washington, DC, November 11-15, 2017. The title of Ron's presentation was "Contributions of the supragranular layers to the short term monocular deprivation response in adult macaque V1."



Anatomy & Cell Biology PhD Students **ROBERT CARROLL, ERICA COLICINO, CAMERON MACQUARRIE, LINDSAY RATHBUN, SUMANA SUNDARAMURTHY, CURTIS YINGLING & WEIYI XU** attended the Joint American Society for Cell Biology and the European Molecular Biology Organization 2017 meeting, Philadelphia PA, 12-2-6. Cameron presented "Building and Burning Bridges: Adaptor Protein Bbc1 Regulates Endocytic Actin Patch Assembly by Disrupting Interactions of Wsp1/Vrp1 with Myo1." Curtis presented "Understanding Muscle Cell Size Regulation by the *Caenorhabditis elegans* Formin FHOD-1." Weiyi presented "A Novel Role for Paxillin during Mammary Gland Morphogenesis."



CASSANDRA BARNES, a PhD Student in Biochemistry & Molecular Biology, and **SUNGSU LEE**, an MD/PhD Student in Neuroscience, Attended the Biophysical Society Annual Meeting in San Francisco, CA, 2/17-21. Cassandra presented "Species Differences in Visual Arrestin Multimerization Revealed by Analytical Ultracentrifugation." Sungsu presented "Actin Corrals G-Protein Coupled Receptors in Ciliary Membrane."

from our students



MICHAEL APPEL, an MS Student in Microbiology, successfully defended his thesis. Mike's advisor was Dr. **JENNIFER MOFFAT**. **Congratulations, Mike!**



NATELA DUSHUKYAN, a MS Student in Biochemistry, successfully defended her thesis. Natela's advisor was Dr. **MEHDI MOLLAPOUR**. **Congratulations, Natela!**



MD SHAFIUDDIN, a PhD Student in Biochemistry & Molecular Biology, successfully defended his dissertation. Shafi's advisor was Dr. **MARK SCHMITT**. Shafi has accepted a postdoctoral position in the Department of Medicine, Division of Infectious Disease at Washington University in St Louis, MO. **Congratulations, Shafi!**



JAVIER SANCHEZ POZO, a MS Student in Biochemistry, successfully defended his thesis. Javier's advisor was Dr. **DIMITRA BOURBOULIA**. **Congratulations, Javier!**

from our students



REBECCA SAGER, an MD/PhD Student in Biochemistry & Molecular Biology, successfully defended her dissertation. Rebecca's advisor was Dr. **MEHDI MOLLAPOUR**. Rebecca now returns back to med school to complete MSIII & IV. **Congratulations, Rebecca!**



HEATHER NELSON, a PhD Student in Anatomy & Cell Biology, successfully defended her dissertation. Heather's advisor was Dr. **MICHAEL ROE**. Heather has accepted a postdoctoral position at Vanderbilt Medical Center in Nashville, TN. **Congratulations, Heather!**

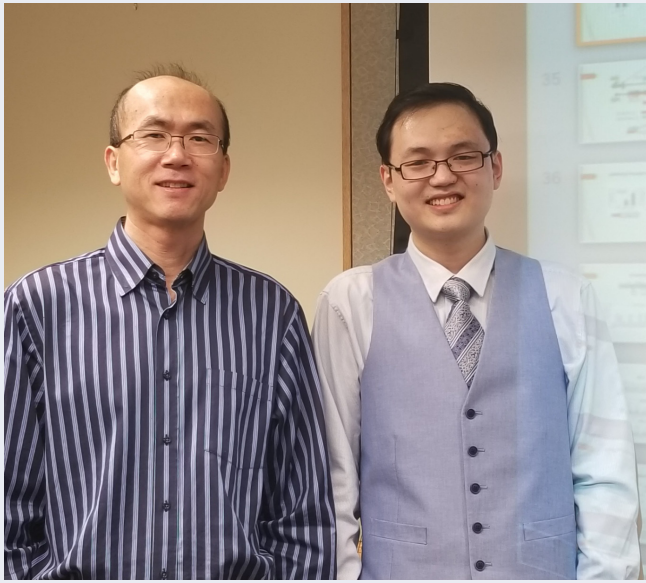


STUTI SHARMA, a PhD Student in Biochemistry & Molecular Biology, successfully defended her dissertation. Stuti's advisor was Dr. **STEPHAN WILKENS**. Stuti has accepted a postdoctoral position in Cell Biology at Harvard Medical School in Cambridge, MA. **Congratulations, Stuti!**



YUE YANG, a PhD Student in Pharmacology, successfully defended her dissertation. Yue's advisor was Dr. **GOLAM MOHI**. **Congratulations, Yue!**

from our students



SHANGDONG GUO, a PhD Student in Pharmacology, successfully defended his dissertation. Shangdong's advisor was Dr. **HONG LU**.
Congratulations, Shangdong!



ANNA HEGSTED, a PhD Student in Anatomy & Cell Biology, successfully defended her dissertation. Anna's advisor was Dr. **DAVID PRUYNE**.
Congratulations, Anna!



QIAN DU, a PhD Student in Neuroscience, successfully defended her dissertation. Qian's advisors were Dr. **FRANK MIDDLETON & DR. STEVE YOUNGENTOB**.
Congratulations, Qian!



from our students

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OF THE NEWLY MINTED "PHD CANDIDATES" - THE FOLLOWING STUDENTS HAVE OFFICIALLY PASSED THEIR QUALIFYING:

PEU SANTRA, a PhD student in Anatomy & Cell Biology, successfully passed her qualifying examination. Peu's dissertation advisor is **DR. JEFFREY AMACK. Congratulations, Peu!**

ALEXANDER BAKER-WILLIAMS, a PhD student in Biochemistry & Molecular Biology, successfully passed his qualifying examination. Alex's dissertation advisor is **DR. DIMITRA BOURBOULIA. Congratulations, Alex!**

JING LI, a PhD student in Pharmacology, successfully passed her qualifying examination. Jing's dissertation advisor is **DR. SAEED SHEIKH. Congratulations, Jing!**

THOMAS WINANS, a PhD student in Biochemistry & Molecular Biology, successfully passed his qualifying examination. Tom's dissertation advisor is **DR. ANDRAS PERL. Congratulations, Tom!**

MARIA PRESTI, a PhD student in Biochemistry & Molecular Biology, successfully passed her qualifying examination. Maria's dissertation advisor is **DR. STEWART LOH. Congratulations, Maria!**

ASHLEY SWEENEY, a PhD student in Anatomy & Cell Biology, successfully passed her qualifying examination. Ashley's dissertation advisors are **DR. JASON HORTON & DR. MEGAN OEST. Congratulations, Ashley!**

MEI YUN LIN, a PhD student in Anatomy & Cell Biology, successfully passed her qualifying examination. Mei Yun's dissertation advisor is **DR. JASON HORTON. Congratulations, Mei!**

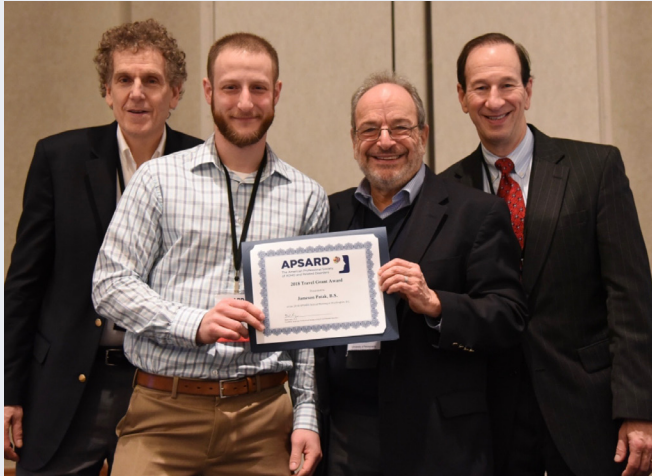


MADLINE CLARK, a MS student in Anatomy, was acknowledged in a review article written by Dr. Wenyi Feng, "Mec1/ATR, the Program Manager of Nucleic Acids Inc" for her artistic rendition of the Mec1-mediated pathways in the figures. One of the figures was featured on the cover. **Congratulations, Madeline!**



HEATHER NELSON, a PhD student in Anatomy & Cell Biology, was the Upstate recipient of the 2018 SUNY Chancellor's Award for Student Excellence! The Award is given to State University of New York students who have best demonstrated and been recognized for their integration of academic excellence with other aspects of their lives, which may include leadership, campus involvement, athletics, career achievement, community service or creative and performing arts. **Congratulations, Heather!**

from our md/phd students



JAMESON PATAK, an MD/PhD Student in Neuroscience, received a travel award to attend and present at the APSARD Annual Meeting - ADHD: Evolving Perspectives, held January 12 - 14th in Washington, DC. Jamie's award included a two night stay at the Washington Marriot, travel reimbursement, breakfast meeting with the APSARD leadership council and food allowance. As a travel awardee, Jamie was recognized alongside a group of MD's and PhD's. Jamie presented a poster titled: "The Endocytic Regulation of Autophagy and Cell Survival: Pathway Interactions for ADHD- and Autism-Risk Gene SLC9A9." **Congratulations, Jamie!**

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OF THE NEWLY MINTED "PHD CANDIDATES" - THE FOLLOWING STUDENTS HAVE OFFICIALLY PASSED THEIR QUALIFYINGS:

LAURA SZCESNIAK, an MD/PhD student in Pharmacology, successfully passed her qualifying examination. Laura's dissertation advisor is **DR. RICHARD WOJCIKIEWICZ**. **Congratulations, Laura!**

NICHOLAS NGUYEN, an MD/PhD student in Neuroscience, successfully passed his qualifying examination. Nick's dissertation advisor is **DR. STEPHEN GLATT**. **Congratulations, Nick!**

ERIC BARNETT, an MD/PhD student in Neuroscience, successfully passed his qualifying examination. Eric's dissertation advisor is **DR. STEPHEN FARAONE**. **Congratulations, Eric!**

MICHAEL GARONE, an MD/PhD student in Anatomy & Cell Biology, successfully passed his qualifying examination with honors. Mike's dissertation advisor is **DR. MIRA KRENDEL**. **Congratulations, Mike!**

NICK HUANG, an MD/PhD Student in Biochemistry & Molecular Biology with **DR. ANDRAS PERL**, received a prestigious Rheumatology Research Foundation Future Physician Scientist Award. The two-year, \$30,000 award is to be used for expenses related to Nick's research. This pre-doctoral scholar award is to enhance the research training of promising students who are matriculated in a combined MD/PhD or DO/PhD dual-doctoral degree training program and who intend careers as physician-scientists. This grant mechanism aims to support the nation's top emerging physician scientists and promote their interest in basic/translational investigative careers in rheumatology. This award will support dissertation research projects in scientific health-related fields relevant to the mission of the Rheumatology Research Foundation. The research training experience is expected to tangibly enhance the individuals' potential to develop into a productive, independent physician-scientist in the field of rheumatology.

Nick says, "I've always liked research; what drew me in is the way I think - 'Why?' I always want to know the 'why'. Sometimes it's painful, and you have to take things at face value, which can be frustrating." Nick's grant application centered on his primary research project, which investigates the role of a protein, Rab4a, in the development of lupus and other autoimmune diseases. "Our lab is one of the few working on Rab4a and autoimmunity," he said. "My project is unique - no one has linked this gene to metabolism and immunological development." Lupus, or Systemic Lupus Erythematosus (SLE), is a chronic disease that causes systemic inflammation affecting multiple organs, according to the American College of Rheumatology.



from our md/phd students



ZACHARY OAKS, an MD/PhD Student in Biochemistry & Molecular Biology, has officially earned his dual degree! Zach, pictured above with his dissertation advisor and MD/PhD Program Co-Director **DR. ANDRAS PERL**, graduated from the MD/PhD Program in May. Zach will begin his residency at UNC after completing a prelim year at St. Joseph's here in Syracuse. **Congratulations, Zach!**



On Friday, March 30th, **DR. MATTHEW STOLL** returned to the Upstate Campus for the MD/PhD Distinguished Alumni Day. Matthew Stoll, MD, PhD, MSCS, (Associate Professor of Pediatrics, Division of Pediatric Rheumatology at University of Alabama at Birmingham) graduated from the MD/PhD Program in 2011. His PI was Jerrie Gavalchin, professor of Medicine and Microbiology & Immunology. During his visit, Dr. Stoll met with faculty, current students in the program and gave an open lecture: "The Microbiota in Rheumatic Diseases: Past, Present and Future."

We are excited to welcome four first year MD/PhD students to campus:
JOSHUA HARRIS, GENTRY HEARN, ARNAV RANA, & HARSIMRANJIT SEKHON.

from our alumni



NEVA WATSON, PHD (Microbiology & Immunology '15) welcomed a son on January 24th at 7:50am. Colder Matthew Watson was born weighing 6lb 13oz and was 20 inches. **Congratulations, Neva!**

EDWARD DOHERTY, PHD (Microbiology & Immunology '15) was featured in a recent Arthritis Foundation News Blog – **“Researchers on the Path to a Cure - Spotlight on Dr. Edward Doherty.”** Ed is currently a Postdoctoral Associate in Medicine (Rheumatology) at the Yale School of Medicine where he also hosts a monthly podcast series, called **SpyCast**, where he explores career opportunities for graduate students and postdocs. Meanwhile, at home, Ed's wife is attending nursing school and his daughter is enjoying elementary school. **Congratulations, Ed!**

DIANA MITREA, PHD (Microbiology & Immunology '15) was featured in Science Daily – **“Key Inner Control Mechanism of Cell's ‘Smart Glue.’”** Diana is currently a staff scientist in Richard Kriwacki's lab, in the Department of Structural Biology at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. **Congratulations, Diana!**



ESTHER MUTONGI, MS (Microbiology & Immunology '17) announced her engagement earlier this year. Esther has been working at Bristol-Myers Squibb in Syracuse as an Associate Scientist. Her fiancé Jerome is a vocational rehabilitation counselor at the Syracuse VA. They will be having a traditional Zimbabwean wedding (lobola) in Zimbabwe in 2019. **Congratulations, Esther!**



DIANA DUNN, PHD (Biochemistry & Molecular Biology '17) announced her engagement to Ramzi El-Hassan. Diana and Ramzi met while they were students at Upstate. Diana is currently a postdoc at the University of Rochester and Ramzi is a Urology resident. Diana, who graduated from Dr. Mehdi Mollapour's Laboratory, started her postdoctoral position at the University of Rochester in July. She was recently awarded a T90 training grant through the School of Medicine and Dentistry. Her work in the laboratory of Dr. Joshua Munger is primarily focused on the study of Human Cytomegalovirus (HCMV) infection, which is a major contributor to mortality in neonates and immunosuppressed individuals. Current treatments are associated with high toxicities and emergence of drug resistance in these patients. The long-term goals of Diana's postdoctoral work are to elucidate the underlying mechanisms governing HCMV-mediated metabolic reprogramming of host-cells for survival, and to use that information to identify novel targets for therapeutic intervention of acute HCMV infection.

ALUMNI, WE WANT TO BRAG ABOUT YOU! EMAIL (BALDUZZIT@UPSTATE.EDU) AND LET US KNOW WHAT YOU'RE DOING. WE'LL INCLUDE IT IN THE NEXT ISSUE!

surf 2018

We had 29 undergraduate students from eight different countries and from undergraduate institutions across the country researching with us this summer. The students work closely with a personal research mentor to develop a proposal and to complete the project over a 10 week period over the summer. The program is being sponsored by the College of Graduate Studies and by a grant from the SUNY Performance Improvement Fund. This grant has allowed us to place students into labs in all four colleges at Upstate (Graduate Studies, Medicine, Nursing and Health professions) and at SUNY ESF. The program includes interprofessional journal clubs, research seminars and career development activities. We also include social activities for students to bond outside the lab; including, a dinner at Dinosaur BBQ, a nature hike at Clark Reservation, and an Adirondack Kayaking trip down the Moose river. The experience concluded with a culmination poster presentation during our poster session, held on August 9th at 11:00 AM at the ESF Gateway Center. The poster session will include our SURF students, as well as REU participants from programs at ESF and Syracuse University.



around campus



Marc Cohen, President of the SUNY Student Assembly and a member of the Board of Trustees, visited Upstate last December. Marc represents all of the schools in the SUNY system (graduate and undergraduate) and is serious about advocating for students. An hour of Marc's time was dedicated to a spotlight on graduate research. Marc visited the laboratories of Dr. **LESZEK KOTULA** and Dr. **MIRA KRENDEL**, where he heard about our graduate students' research. Pictured above is Marc with the students he met with during his visit. From left: **ERIC PLANTE** (PhD Student in Anatomy & Cell Biology); Marc Cohen; **MICHAEL GARONE** (MD/PhD Student in Anatomy & Cell Biology); **ANGELINA REGUA** (PhD Student in Biochemistry & Molecular Biology); **ALAN BLAYNEY** (MD/PhD Student in Biochemistry & Molecular Biology); **PEI-JU LIU** (PhD Student in Anatomy & Cell Biology). Not pictured: **DISHAREE DAS** (PhD Student in Biochemistry & Molecular Biology).

Two Bio-Art Mixers were held: the first on February 8th and the second on April 4th. The Bio-Art Mixer is an event where art and life sciences meet, where faculty and graduate students are invited to share their research, to get ideas for their new projects or to simply view their own work from the perspective of a different discipline. The goal is to make the Bio-Art Mixer a foundation for future exhibitions, demonstrations and new collaborative projects involving art and life sciences, and to inspire interdisciplinary research across the universities in the region and to engage local communities. The Bio-Art Mixer is an initiative of Dr. **HEIDI HEHNLY**. We're happy to report that both mixers were a huge success. Thank you to everyone who came out to support!



On March 27th, our graduate students had the distinct opportunity to meet with Thomas Südhof, MD, the 2013 Nobel Laureate in Physiology or Medicine, before giving a public presentation for the Deans' Grand Rounds seminar series. "As a young scientist, meeting Dr. Südhof was not only inspiring, but also cultivating," said **FIZA HASHMI**, a student in the Biochemistry & Molecular Biology program. "It was an extraordinary opportunity to learn firsthand about his professional journey and to gain wisdom from one of the brightest minds in the world, which encouraged my own eagerness to contribute to the scientific community." Dr. Südhof is the Avram Goldstein Chair and Professor of Molecular and Cellular Physiology at Stanford University's School of Medicine. He is also an investigator at the Howard Hughes Medical Institute. His presentation was "Towards Understanding the Molecular Logic of Synapse Formation and Specification: Neurexins." Dr. Südhof shared the Nobel Prize with James E. Rothman (Yale University) and Randy W. Schekman (University of California-Berkeley and Howard Hughes Medical Institute) for their discoveries of machinery regulating vesicle traffic, a major transport system in cells.



The 12th Annual International Student Festival was held on March 23, 2018. The festival included performances and entertainment, free food featuring various cultures and cuisines and a prize for the best traditional attire. The International Student Festival is organized and sponsored by the International Student Association.

distinguished alumni day



The Graduate Student Association, assisted by the College of Graduate Studies, hosted the annual Distinguished Alumni Lecture on Friday 2/16/18.

SAMI NOUJAIM, PHD returned to campus to give a public seminar titled: "From Potassium Channel Structure to the Human Heart: How an Antimalarial Became an Antiarrhythmic." Sami graduated from the Pharmacology Program in 2007; his thesis sponsor was Dr. Jose Jalife. Sami is now an Associate Professor in Cardiology and Assistant Professor in Molecular Pharmacology & Physiology at the University of South Florida.

in other news



Anatomy & Cell Biology PhD Students **ANUSHREE GULVADY & HEATHER NELSON** participated in the Half Marathon held on February 25, 2018 in Syracuse. Heather placed third overall. **Congratulations, ladies!**



MD/PhD Students **NICK HUANG** (Biochemistry & Molecular Biology) & **LAURA SZCZESNIAK** (Pharmacology) participated in the Keuka Lake Sprint Triathlon held in Penn Yan on June 10th. The race included a 750m swim, 22k bike ride, and a 5k run. Nick & Laura both placed third in their age group. **Congratulations!**



As many of you know **TERRI BROWN** retired on Wednesday, May 23rd, after 19 years of dedicated service in the College and over 40 years at Upstate. We would like to thank Terri for her years of service and dedication to the College and wish her well in her next adventures. She is missed already!

in other news



AVIK DUTTA, a PhD Student in Pharmacology, married Zenia Kaul in Kolkata, India on February 5, 2018. Zenia received her PhD from Saha Institute of Nuclear Physics in Kolkata, India.
Congratulations to the happy couple!



ELIZABETH SNYDER, a PhD Student in Microbiology and Immunology, married **GEOFFREY EILL**, a PhD Student in Neuroscience, on April 21, 2018 at St. Peter's Lutheran Church in Verona, NY. The reception was held at the Dibbles Inn in Vernon, NY. The couple met during their time here at Upstate Medical University and bonded over their shared love of all things nerdy.
Congratulations to the happy couple!



MEI YUN LIN, a PhD Student in Anatomy & Cell Biology, got engaged on May 6th. Mei's fiancé is a fourth-year med student at NYIT. There are no wedding plans yet, as the couple will wait until they are both graduated and likely plan a romantic destination wedding in the Dominican Republic or Hawaii. **Congratulations to the happy couple!**

upcoming events & save the dates!

YOUR NEXT NIH F30, 31 & 32 FELLOWSHIP DEADLINE IS:

December 8, 2019

April 8, 2019

August 8, 2019

Visit [here](#) for more information.

AFTERNOON TEA:

Every Wednesday at 3:00

First Wednesday of the month, tea is at the NRB 3708 (call 6-7753), all others in the CGS Conference Room WH 3104.

NYS MENTORING PROGRAM - MENTORS NEEDED

Mentors needed to participate in the NYS Mentoring Program, which matches Upstate students with at-risk youth in the Syracuse City School District. Mentors commit one hour per week. More information available here: <https://www.ny.gov/programs/new-york-state-mentoring-program> contact Linda Veit at veitl@upstate.edu for more information. This is a great experience for anyone considering a career in teaching, looking for a way to get involved in their community or anyone looking for some teaching experience to bolster your CV.

IS THERE SOMETHING WE MISSED??

Email Tracy Balduzzi at balduzzt@upstate.edu to get it included in the next issue!