

# upstategrad update

transforming students from consumers of knowledge into producers of knowledge

may 2016

## FAILURE

Failure is one of those things that happen all the time in science. Indeed, science is especially brutal when it comes to failure. Failures happen in experiments, in planning experiments, in expected results, in manuscript and grant submissions, and even in reproducing experiments. Over time, we learn to live with failure and even to embrace it as a learning experience. Accepting failure and learning from it is a competency that is very hard to teach to students and even for seasoned scientists to remember. It is even harder to accept personal responsibility for it despite all the obvious signs.

George Church, a famous geneticist from Harvard, recently talked about repeating the ninth grade, failing out of graduate school at Duke and losing his grant funding immediately before going up for tenure. Despite these failures, he has succeeded and said, "If you are not failing, you're probably not trying as hard as you could be. Being petrified of failure means you are going to probably be a very extreme underachiever". In the end, we have to try, we need to take risks and we need to put ourselves out there despite those risks. When we fail, which we will do, we need to pick ourselves up and do it again with a smile on our faces because we know we will keep doing it better and will eventually succeed.

— **Mark E. Schmitt, PhD**

Dean, College of Graduate Studies  
[schmittm@upstate.edu](mailto:schmittm@upstate.edu)

# publications

HICKS SD, IGNACIO C, Gentile K, MIDDLETON FA.

**Salivary miRNA profiles identify children with autism spectrum disorder, correlate with adaptive behavior, and implicate ASD candidate genes involved in neurodevelopment.**

*BMC Pediatr.* 2016 Apr 22;16(1):52. doi: 10.1186/s12887-016-0586-x.

COUOH-CARDEL S, Hsueh YC, WILKENS S, Movileanu L.

**Yeast V-ATPase Proteolipid Ring Acts as a Large-conductance Transmembrane Protein Pore.**

*Sci Rep.* 2016 Apr 21;6:24774. doi: 10.1038/srep24774.

YANG Y, AKADA H, NATH D, Hutchison RE, MOHI G.

**Loss of Ezh2 cooperates with Jak2V617F in the development of myelofibrosis in a mouse model of myeloproliferative neoplasm.**

*Blood.* 2016 Apr 14. pii: blood-2015-11-679431. [Epub ahead of print]

Woodford MR, DUNN DM, Ciccarelli JG, Beebe K, Neckers L, MOLLAPOUR M.

**Targeting Hsp90 in Non-Cancerous Maladies.**

*Curr Top Med Chem.* 2016 Apr 13. [Epub ahead of print]

SCHULMAN JJ, WRIGHT FA, Han X, ZLUHAN EJ, SZCZESNIAK LM, WOJCIKIEWICZ RJ.

**The Stability and Expression Level of Bok is Governed by Binding to Inositol 1,4,5-trisphosphate Receptors.**

*J Biol Chem.* 2016 Apr 6. pii: jbc.M115.711242. [Epub ahead of print]

PATAK J, Zhang-James Y, FARAOONE SV.

**Endosomal system genetics and autism spectrum disorders: A literature review.**

*Neurosci Biobehav Rev.* 2016 Apr 2;65:95-112. doi: 10.1016/j.neubiorev.2016.03.022. [Epub ahead of print] Review.

Zhang Q, GAO M, Luo G, Han X, Bao W, Cheng Y, Tian W, Yan M, Yang G, An J.

**Enhancement of Radiation Sensitivity in Lung Cancer Cells by a Novel Small Molecule Inhibitor That Targets the  $\beta$ -Catenin/Tcf4 Interaction.**

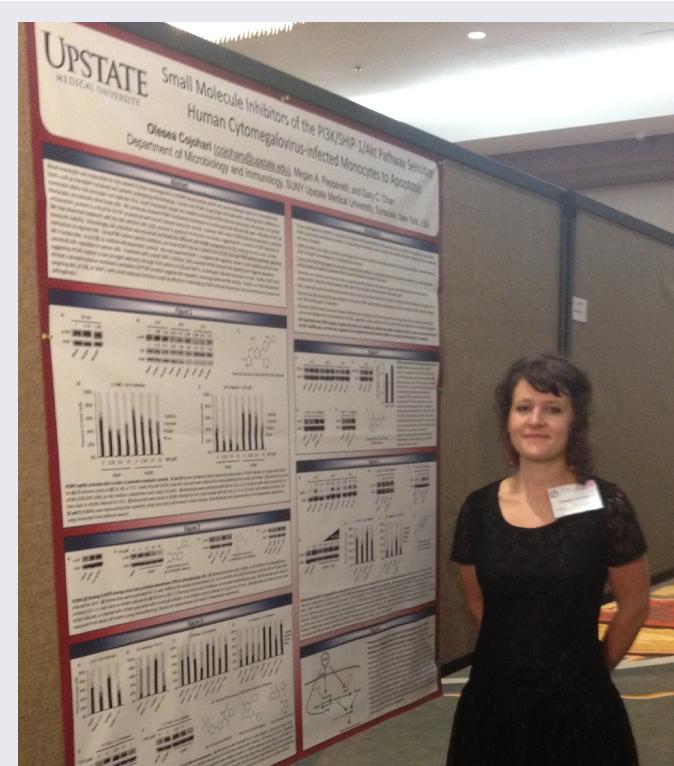
*PLoS One.* 2016 Mar 25;11(3):e0152407. doi: 10.1371/journal.pone.0152407. eCollection 2016.

MARTINEZ-DE LUNA RI, KU RY, Aruck AM, Santiago F, VICZIAN AS, San Mauro D, ZUBER ME.

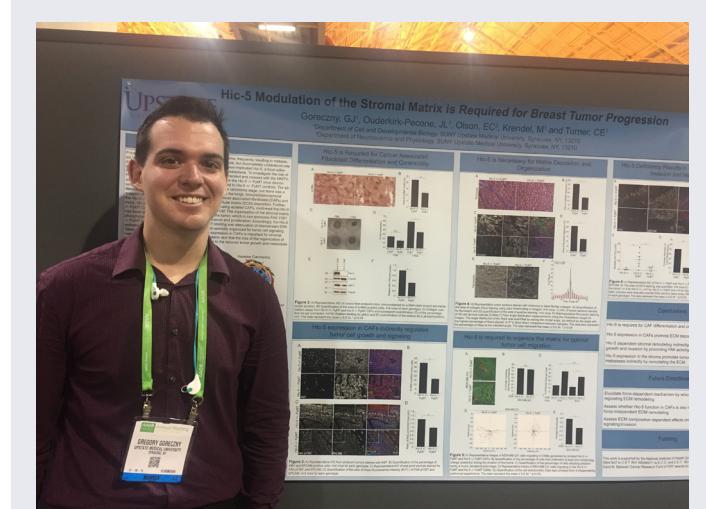
**Müller glia reactivity follows retinal injury despite the absence of the glial fibrillary acidic protein gene in Xenopus.**

*Dev Biol.* 2016 Mar 17. pii: S0012-1606(15)30360-2. doi: 10.1016/j.ydbio.2016.03.005. [Epub ahead of print]

# presentations

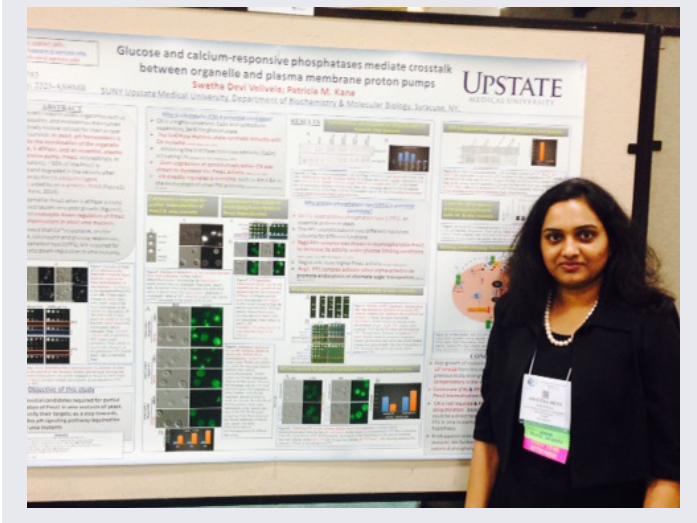


**OLESEA COJOHARI**, a PhD Student in Microbiology & Immunology presented at the International Conference on Antiviral Research held April 17th through the 21st in LaJolla, CA. The title of Olesea's poster was, "Small Molecule Inhibitors of the PI3K/SHIP-1/Akt Pathway Sensitize Human Cytomegalovirus-infected Monocytes to Apoptosis".



**GREGORY GORECZNY**, a PhD Student in Anatomy & Cell Biology, presented at the American Association for Cancer Research Annual Meeting, April 16th through 20th, in New Orleans. Greg's poster was titled, "HIC-5 modulation of the stromal matrix is required for breast tumor progression."

**SWETHA DEVI VELIVELA**, a PhD Student in Biochemistry & Molecular Biology, presented at the American Society of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology annual meeting, held April 2nd through 6th in San Diego, CA. Swetha's poster was entitled, "Glucose and calcium responsive phosphatases mediate cross-talk between organelle and plasma membrane proton pumps." Swetha was a recipient of an Graduate/Postdoctoral Travel Award of \$1,000 presented by the ASBMB.



# from our students



Several of our female graduate students are mentoring girls from around the globe as part of the “1000 Girls, 1000 Futures” program sponsored by the New York Academy of Sciences’ Global STEM Alliance. From left: Megan Peppenelli, Sarah Barger, Maria Popescu, Liz Snyder, Amber Papillion, Rose Pasquale, Jacqualyn Schulman & Olesea Cojohari. Read more about our student mentors and the “1000 Girls, 1000 Futures” program on our [With Distinction](#) blog!

**JAMIE PATAK**, an MD/PhD student in Neuroscience, successfully passed his qualifying exam last month. Jamie’s advisor is Dr. Stephen Faraone.

**Congratulations, Jamie!**

**THOMAS RUSSELL**, an MS student in Physiology, successfully defended his thesis last month. Tom’s thesis advisor is Dr. Li-Ru Zhao. Tom, who also completed his MD here, will begin his Residency in Neurosurgery at University of Illinois in June. **Congratulations, Tom!**



First Year PhD Student, Sumana Sunadaramurthy

The Upstate Art Club hosted the Third Annual Art Show at the Health Sciences Library during the month of April. This year featured 22 artists from the Colleges of Graduate Studies, Medicine and Health Professions, with media spanning photography, oil, acrylics, pastels, charcoal, ink wash, sculpture, and more! This year also featured portraits of dogs waiting for adoption at local shelters, a new initiative pioneered by Dawn Lammert, an MD/PhD student in Neuroscience.



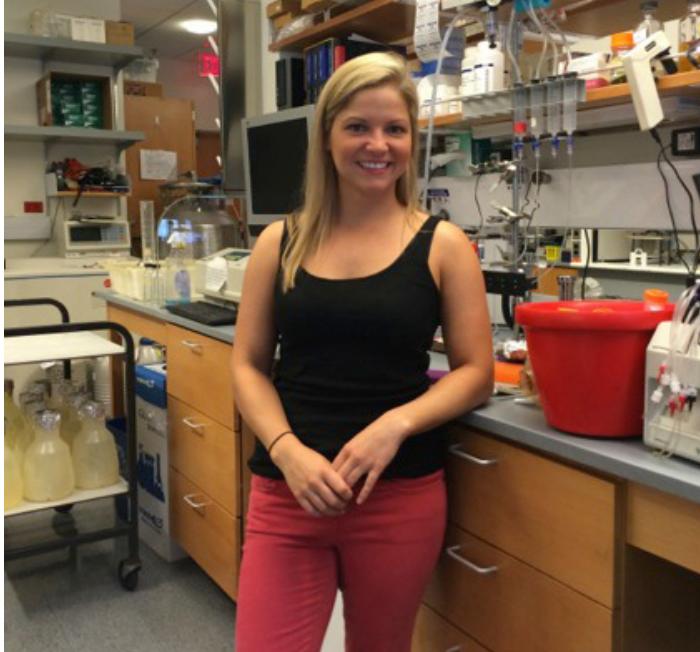
The International Student Association hosted the 10th Annual International Festival on April 29th. The International Festival celebrates the diverse community & culture here at Upstate.



Hannah Phillips, a PhD student in Neuroscience



# from our alumni



**MARGARET "MEG" STRATTON, PhD**, was on campus last month. While she was here, she joined us for a Career Development Workshop entitled: "Landing Your First Faculty Position" where she met with our graduate students and postdocs over lunch to share her experiences and advice on everything from finding a job in academia to starting your own lab and more! Meg earned her PhD from the Biochemistry & Molecular Biology program in 2010. She was recently appointed an Assistant Professorship at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, after completing her postdoc with Dr. John Kuriyan at the University of California, Berkeley.

**LAURA PRESTIA, PhD**, currently serves as a Technology Transfer Specialist in the National Cancer Institute (NCI) Technology Transfer Center (TTC) at the National Institutes of Health (NIH). In this position, Laura drafts & negotiates agreements, markets new technologies, and promotes research partnerships between NCI scientists and outside parties. The ultimate goal of this work is to further develop and commercialize federally funded research findings to improve public health.

Laura earned her PhD from the Neuroscience Program in 2014.

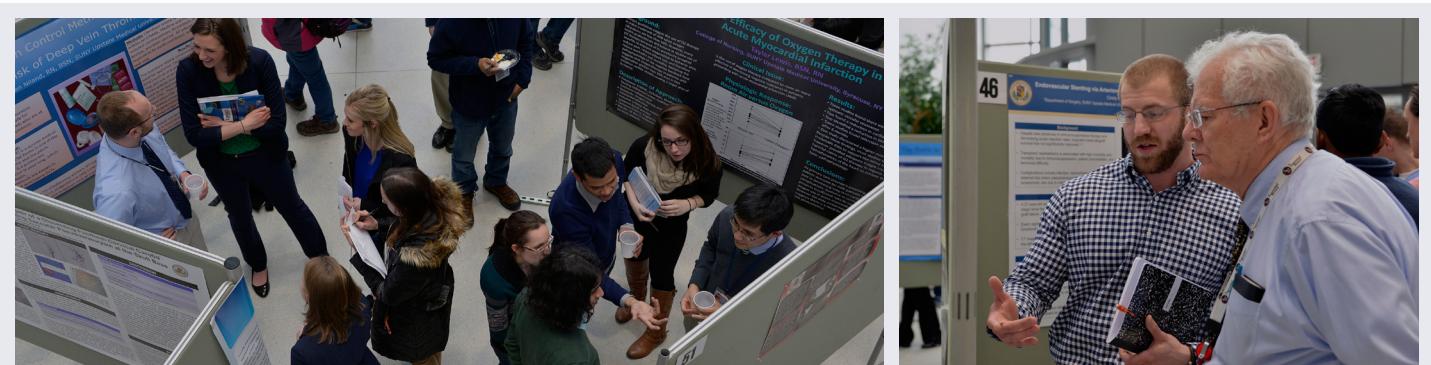
Keep up the great work, Laura!

We love hearing from you ... Drop by our website  
& let us know how you're doing!

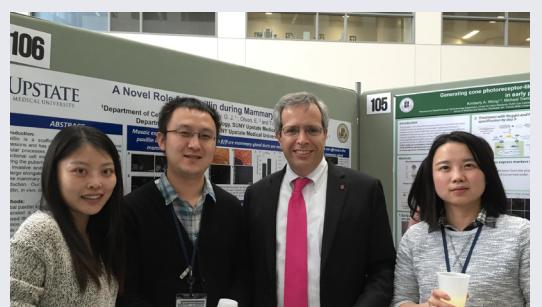
# around campus



## Inauguration of President Danielle Laraque-Arena



The **CHARLES ROSS MEMORIAL STUDENT RESEARCH DAY** was Friday, April 8th, featuring more than 100 student researchers. **MICHAEL CALIGIURI, MD**, our Keynote Speaker for the day, is Professor of Internal Medicine at Ohio State University and CEO of the James Cancer Hospital and Solove Research Institute. He is also the Director of the OSU Comprehensive Cancer Center. Pictured upper right: Michael Jaskolka, a PhD student in Biochemistry, presents his poster to Dr. Joseph Sanger, Chair of Cell & Developmental Biology; Pictured at right: Weiyi Xu, a PhD student in Anatomy & Cell Biology; Xu Wang, a postdoc in Pharmacology; our Keynote Speaker - Dr. Caligiuri; and Lili Wang, a postdoc in Pharmacology.



# in other news



Greg Goreczny, Anushree Gulvady, Ashleigh Jackobel, Heather Nelson, Marissa Smith and Kim Wong braved the wind, snow, and hail to complete the Syracuse half marathon.



Kimberly Wong and Anushree Gulvady ran the Earth Day Half Marathon on April 17th, which was part of the Two Half Marathons in Two Weeks Program.



The College of Graduate Studies Team for the American Heart Walk held last month at Onondaga Community College.



Students from the College of Graduate Studies participated on an intramural soccer team, "Pretzels." The team played 4x4 against six other Upstate teams on weekends. The team enjoyed great success and even made it to the playoffs, where they nabbed the title of runners-up after finishing a close game. The team is pictured at left.

Back row (left to right): Praise Austin, Arturo Barbachano-Guerrero, Subhrajit Banerjee, and Ashis Sinha

Front row (left to right): Heather Nelson and Anushree Gulvady (captain)

# upcoming events & save the dates!

## STUDENT WORKSHOP

### SAFE: Security Awareness for Everyone

Wednesday, June 15, 2016

12:00 PM | Weiskotten Hall 3113

*This workshop presented by Chief of University Police, Paul Waltz, will include an overview of what our university police and public safety officers are doing to keep the campus (and you!) safe and secure.*

## CAREER DEVELOPMENT

### Maintaining an Academic CV & Individual Development Plan

Wednesday, June 22, 2016

12:00 PM | Weiskotten Hall 3113

*How do you prepare a CV? Have questions about your IDP? You don't want to miss this workshop presented by the Dean of the College of Graduate Studies. Dr. Schmitt will teach you the do's and don'ts of creating and maintaining a CV and show you how to get the most out of your Individual Development Plan and/or Career Development Plan.*

## GSA ANNUAL SUMMER PICNIC

Friday, June 24, 2016

Begins at 12:00 PM

Oneida Shores County Park

*Join us for food, softball, and fun! All are welcome to attend!*

## SAVE THE DATE

### Biomedical Sciences Retreat

Thursday, September 15, 2016

8:00 AM - 6:00 PM

The Lodge at Welch Allyn, Skaneateles, NY

*Mark your calendars for the 16th Annual Biomedical Sciences Retreat. More details will be coming shortly!*

**AFTERNOON TEA** | Every Wednesday at 3:00 | WH 3120 or NRB 3708\* | \*First Wednesday of the month, tea is at the NRB.

**IS THERE SOMETHING WE MISSED??**

Email Jennifer Brennan at [brennanj@upstate.edu](mailto:brennanj@upstate.edu) to get it included in the next issue!