

MD/PHD STUDENT PROFILES

Please click on a student's name to take you to their profile.

Profiles include:

- Entry year
- Home town
- Education
- Past research interest
- Current medical Interest
- Career goals
- What makes the student unique

Level L-1



[Steven Eastlack](#)

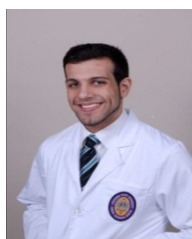


[Allyson Schreiber](#)

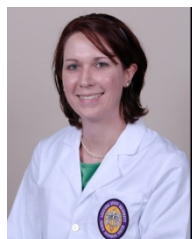


[Jeffrey Wang](#)

Level L-2



[Abdelrahim Abdel](#)



[Hannah Albritton](#)



[Natalie Halapin](#)



[Spencer Robichaux](#)



[Dustin Todaro](#)



[Michael Upchurch](#)



[Tomas Vanagunas](#)

Level- Graduate School

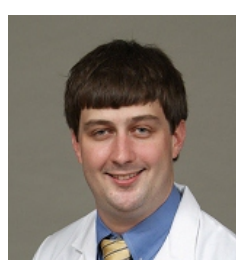


[Brendan Burn](#)



DePaolo, John Schweppe

[John DePaolo](#)



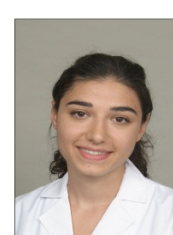
[Daniel Edwards](#)



[Monica Ertel](#)



[Stephen Ford](#)



Halabi, Anasheh

[Anasheh Halabi](#)



[Lori Hutcherson](#)



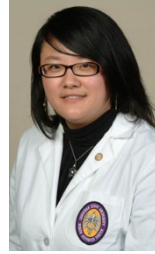
[Ferdous Kadri](#)



[Myles Ketchum](#)



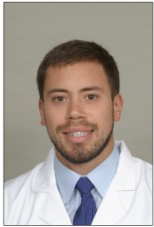
[Greg Lee](#)



[Minmin Luo](#)

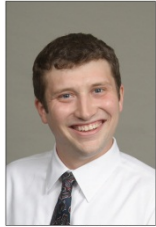


[Valarie McMurtry](#)



Molina, Miguel Federico

[Miguel Molina](#)



Nau Jr., Felix Joseph

[Felix Nau](#)



Nichols, Whitney Adelle

[Whitney Nichols](#)



Perricone, Adam Joseph

[Adam Perricone](#)

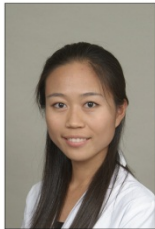


Ripple, Michael

[Michael Ripple](#)



[Jessica Shields](#)



Teng, Xu S.

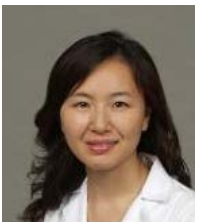
[Sophie Teng](#)



Tseng, Wei-Shun

[Alan Tseng](#)

Level L-3



[Sun Mi Choi](#)



[Ryan Craig](#)



[Mary Hulin](#)



[Matthew Auten](#)

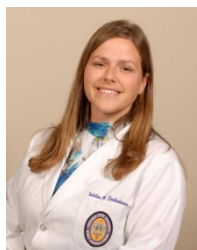
Level L-4



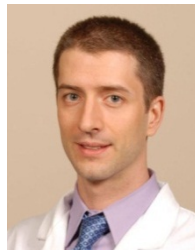
[Nick Melvan](#)



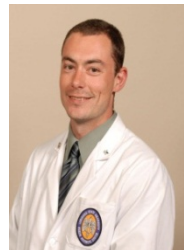
[Tiffany Niemoller](#)



[Tabitha Quebedeaux](#)



[David Stark](#)



[Jesse Sulzer](#)

Name: Steven Eastlack

Entry Year: 2012

Hometown: Sewell NJ

Education: BS, Millsaps College

Past Research Experience

Dr. Anglin Genetics Lab of Millsaps College biology department. Honors project, titled: Cell Cycle Regulatory Protein concentrations in *snxA1* mutants of *Aspergillus nidulans*." Pending publication: *Aspergillus nidulans* SNXA^{HRB1} is an SR family protein that functions in the CDC2/CYCLINB pathway. Journal: *Eukaryotic Cell*

Current Research Interest

Cancer biology, cell cycle regulation, immunology

Current Medical Interest

Oncology, hematology, infectious disease

Career Goal

Research and develop novel treatments to hematological cancers and treat patients with them.
Teaching graduate/medical classes

What makes you unique

I was homeschooled my entire life until college, I have an identical twin, and I am a Yankee (New Jersey native)

What makes you common

I like to watch football, relax when I can, and consume caffeine.

Name: Allyson Schreiber

Entry Year: 2012

Hometown: Albuquerque, NM

Education: Louisiana State University
BS, Biology (2008)

Past Research Experience

Pennington Biomedical Research Center
Joint Diabetes, Metabolism, and Endocrinology Program
Dr. Primeaux

Studied models of diet-induced obesity, fatty acid sensing by the tongue, and interaction of reproductive hormones and brain peptides involved in feeding behavior, specifically studied the effect of estrogen on QRFP-43 concentrations in the female rat brain.

Current Research Interest

I'm open to almost anything!

Current Medical Interest

Currently not sure. Excited to take more classes and find out!

Career Goal

The ability to practice medicine in an area that I can also supplement with my research.

What makes you unique

I've hiked the Grand Canyon from North Rim to South Rim.

What makes you common

I have brown hair.



Name: Jeffrey Wang

Entry Year: 2012

Hometown: Gangshan, Kaohsiung, Taiwan

Education: Louisiana State University and A&M
BS, Biochemistry

Past Research Experience

Louisiana State University

Department of Biological Sciences

Dr. Rui Lu (2009-2012)

Role of Dicer-related helicase-1 (drh-1) in small interfering RNA and virus-derived siRNA induced silencing of viruses in *C. elegans*.

Current Research Interest

N/A

Current Medical Interest

My current interest is in pathology, especially in oncology.

Career Goal

Change the way medicine is delivered

What makes you unique

Listen to electronic remix music

What makes you common

Strive for the betterment of people I care about



Name: Abdelrahim Abdel

Entry Year: 2011

Hometown: Staten Island, New York

Education: CUNY Brooklyn College
BA, Chemistry and BS, Biology (2011)

Past Research Experience

1. Water Quality Analysis in Jamaica Bay under the Division of Natural Resources of the National Park Service. 2007-2009
2. The Effect of PAA on KatG activity in Mycobacterium tuberculosis. 2011. Brooklyn College
3. Structural MRI Analysis of Huntington's disease Mouse Model: An Oral Presentation. SUNY Downstate.
4. Abdel, Abdelrahim; Weil, Madelyn; Baynes, Brittni; Whitaker, Annie; Gilpin, Nicholas. Nicotine Vapor Inhalation Escalates Nicotine Self-Administration. LSUHSC New Orleans. 2012. Addiction Biology (*Publication Pending*)

Current Research Interest

Neurobiological mechanisms of addiction, stress and anxiety. The embryological processes of the developing nervous system. The systemic dissemination of infection via immune evasion.

Current Medical Interest

Neurology, Pediatrics, Neurosurgery, Obstetrics, Emergency Medicine, Psychiatry, Infectious Disease, and Pathology

Career Goal

I seek to amalgamate my research background with my career in medicine. I hope to establish a career in translational research.

What makes you unique

I am the oldest of seven children.

What makes you common

I have 10 fingers and 10 toes.



Name: Hannah Albritton

Entry Year: 2011

Hometown: Zachary, LA

Education: Belhaven University,
BS, Biology (2009)
Southeastern Louisiana University
MS, Environmental Microbiology (2011)

Past Research Experience

Belhaven College

Biology Department, Dr. Alfred Chestnut (2007-2008)

In vitro studies of the rat blood parasite, *Trypanosoma lewisi*; studied affects effects of dihydroartemisinin (DHA) on *T. lewisi*.

University of Mississippi Medical Center

Molecular Parasitology Department, Dr. John C. Meade (2008)

In vitro studies of *T. brucei rhodesiense*, *T. cruzi*, *Leishmania donovani*, and *L. braziliensis* with artemisinin, derivatives of artemisinin, and ebselen.

Albritton, Hannah, Russell Chisolm, and John C. Meade. "In Vitro Studies of Artemisinin Derivatives and Ebselen with *Trypanosoma sp.*, *Leishmania sp.*, and Human Monocytes." *Mississippi Academy of Sciences, Seventy-Second Annual Meeting. Abstracts Issue 54.1* (2009). Abstract.

Belhaven College

Biology Department, Dr. Alfred Chestnut (2008-2009)

In vitro studies of the rat blood parasite, *T. lewisi*; studied effects of ellagic acid, beta-glucan, and vinblastine on *T. lewisi*.

Albritton, Hannah, Joshua Black, Emily Deaton, Meagan Holton, Angela Meadows, Jarrett Morgan, Sapna Naik, Christopher Richmond, and Jessica Wiseman. "The Effect of Ellagic Acid, Beta-glucan, and Vinblastine in Various Combinations of Rats Infected with *Trypanosoma lewisi*." *Mississippi Academy of Sciences, Seventy-Fourth Annual Meeting. Abstracts Issue 55.1* (2010). Abstract.

Southeastern Louisiana University
Microbiology Department, Dr. Gary Childers (2009-2011)
Environment microbiology research in water quality of the Tangipahoa River and other sites.

Albritton, H L, Schulz, C J, Childers, G W. "Fecal coliform and Enterococci relationships to rainfall and runoff in a rural watershed reveal intrinsic differences between these fecal pollution indicators." *Eos Trans. AGU*, 90(52), Fall Meeting. Suppl., (2009) Abstract H511-0868.

Southeastern Louisiana University
Microbiology Department, Dr. Gary Childers (2009-2011)
Environmental microbiology research in water quality of the Tangipahoa River with seasonal changes of the bacterial indicators enterococci and fecal coliforms and also seasonal variations of numbers and levels of antibiotic resistance of pathogenic vancomycin-resistant enterococci (VRE); decay rates due to various temperatures of *Enterococcus faecalis* and *Escherichia coli*; decay rates of environmental isolates of enterococci and VRE based on seasonal isolation.

Albritton H., C. Schulz, G. Childers, W. Fletcher. "Characterization of Isolated Enterococci and Vancomycin-Resistant Enterococci from the Tangipahoa River". *American Society of Microbiology (ASM) Annu. Meeting* (2011) Abstract.

Current Research Interest

Immunological response to *Chlamydia trachomatis* infection.

Current Medical Interest

Currently my favorite class is histology.

My favorite shadowing experience was in the Infectious Disease Department at the University of Mississippi Medical Center in Jackson, Mississippi. This is the area I want to practice medicine.

Career Goal

Infectious Diseases

What makes you unique

I can play handbells.

What makes you common

I wear glasses for nearsightedness.



Name: Natalie Halapin

Entry Year: 2011

Hometown: Indiana, PA

Education: Tulane University
BS, Neuroscience (08); MS, Neuroscience (09)

Past Research Experience

Tulane University – Daniel Lab, effects of estrogen on non-reproductive behavior

LSUHSC-NO Neuroscience Center of Excellence – Bazan Lab, NDP1 regulation of cell signaling during oxidative stress, Halapin NA and Bazan NG. (2010) Neurochemical Research.

LSUHSC-NO Biochemistry – Kim Lab, Eg5 motor domain-Microtubule crosslinking patterns with varying nucleotides

Current Research Interest

How to best study in medical school...

Current Medical Interest

My favorite shadowing experience, to date, was with a cardiothoracic surgeon at UH.

Career Goal

I'm not entirely sure at this point, but teaching, practice, and research are all going to be a part somehow.

What makes you unique

I've got red hair.

What makes you common

I strongly believe that I'm an awesome driver.



Name: Spencer Robichaux

Entry Year: 2011

Hometown: Mandeville, LA

Education: BS, Spring Hill College

Past Research Experience

Research Assistant, Dr. Watry: I worked on two projects: 1) determining surface tension and thermodynamics for *p*-nitrophenol and *p*-nitrophenolate (two chemical warfare stimulants) at oil/water interfaces to investigate remediation methods, and 2) synthesizing amino acid based surfactants and examining their surface tension and thermodynamics.

Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center - 2010 Summer Research Internship: The effects of alcohol on infections with HIV and the related simian virus SIV.

Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center - 2011 Lab technician: Monitoring the Establishment of Viral Reservoirs and Drug Resistant Genotypes in the SIV-Rhesus Macaque Animal Model

Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center - 2012 Summer Research Internship: Analysis of Viral Genotypic Diversity in the Ethanol-Treated, SIV-Infected Macaque Model.

Muntner P, Mann D, Robichaux S, Kim M, White C, Morisky D, Krousel-Wood MA. Low adherence to antihypertensive medication, statins and aspirin prior to percutaneous coronary interventions. Oral presentation at the Southern Societies for Clinical Investigation Regional Meeting, February 2008, New Orleans, LA. *J Invest Med* 2009

Robichaux S, The effects of alcohol on infections with HIV and the related simian virus SIV. American Society of Microbiology, October 2010, Hattiesburg, MS.

Robichaux S, Monitoring the establishment of viral reservoirs and drug resistant genotypes in SIV-rhesus macaques. 2011 Medical School Research Day, October 2011, LSUHSC New Orleans.

Current Research Interest

Establishment and maintenance of HIV reservoirs, HIV peripheral neuropathy, and interactions of HIV with blood-brain barrier

Current Medical Interest

Neurosurgery

Career Goal

Become a physician scientist that practices in southern Louisiana.

What makes you unique

I am a member of the Krewe of Bacchus, NRA and Ducks Unlimited.

What makes you common

I like to spend time outdoors hunting and fishing.



Name: Dustin R Todaro

Entry Year: 2011

Hometown: Greenville, South Carolina

Education: University of Louisiana at Lafayette
BS, Chemistry and Biology, minor in psychology

Past Research Experience

University of Louisiana at Lafayette
Department of Biology, Dr. Watson

Todaro, Dustin and Watson, G.M. Force-dependent discharge of nematocysts in the sea anemone *Haliplanella luciae* (Verrill). *Biology Open* 1: 582-587 (2012).

University of Louisiana at Lafayette
Department of Biology
Dr. Ennis and Dr. Mutoji

Investigated the various modes of transmission of *Mycobacterium marinum* infection utilizing Japanese Medaka as a model system.

Current Research Interest

I am currently interested cancer cell biology and molecular microbiology.

Current Medical Interest

Hematology-Oncology and medical microbiology

Career Goals

I would like to achieve a research residency following graduation, and ultimately take a position in academic medicine.

What makes you unique

I have a 4th Dan black belt in Tae Kwon Do.

What makes you common

Probably, a combination of a lack of sleep and non-stop studying since I started medical school.



Name: Garland “Mike” Michael Upchurch

Entry Year: 2011

Hometown: New Orleans, LA

Education: Tulane University

BS, Cell & Molecular Biology (2007)

Tulane University School of Medicine

MS, Human Genetics (2008)

Past Research Experience

Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation (OMRF)

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Immunobiology & Cancer

Dr. Lorin Olson, PhD

Senior Research Technician (2010 – 2011)

PDGFR α , PDGFR β , & mesenchymal stem cell development

Tulane University Health Sciences Center

New Orleans, Louisiana

Department of Physiology

Tulane Hypertension & Renal Center of Excellence

Dr. Hiroyuki Kobori, MD, PhD

Laboratory Research Technician (2008 – 2010)

Angiotensin-Renin system in renal hypertension

Tulane University Health Sciences Center

New Orleans, Louisiana

Hayward Genetics Center

Department of Urology

Dr. Suresh C. Sikka

Research Collaborator / Graduate Student (2008)

C-KIT / KIT ligand system in spermatogonial stem cell proliferation & differentiation.

Oregon Health Sciences University (OHSU)
Portland, Oregon
Department of Dermatology
Dr. Melissa H. Wong, PhD
Research Assistant (2005)
Wnt/ β -catenin signaling & characterization of intestinal stem cells

Tulane University
New Orleans, Louisiana
Molecular Neuroscience Core Facility
Dr. Thomas C. Stuart, PhD
Laboratory Aide (2004 – 2005)
Molecular neuroscience

Publications

[Romer A. Gonzalez-Villalobos, Ryousuke Satou, Naro Ohashi, Laura C. Semprun-Prieto, Akemi Katsurada, Catherine Kim, **G.M. Upchurch**, Minolfa C. Prieto, Hiroyuki Kobori and L. Gabriel Navar. Intrarenal mouse renin-angiotensin system during Ang II-induced hypertension and ACE inhibition. Am J Physiol Renal Physiol 298: F150-F157, 2010. First published online October 21, 2009; doi:10.1152/ajprenal.00477.2009](#)

Abstracts

Wencheng Li, **Garland M. Upchurch**, Ryosuke Sato, Hiroyuki Kobori, Yumei Feng. Up-regulation of brain (pro)renin receptor in hypertensive renin-angiotensinogen double transgenic mice. American Heart Association 64th Council for High Blood Pressure Research Hypertension 2010, Washington D.C., Oct 13-16, 2010.

Ryousuke Satou, Kayoko Miyata, Akemi Katsurada, MS, Omar W. Acres, **G M Upchurch**, MS, Maki Urushihara¹ and Hiroyuki Kobori. Regulation of angiotensinogen expression by interferon- γ via STAT1 activation in primary cultured rat mesangial cells. The American Society of Nephrology Renal Week 2009 - 42nd Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA, Oct 27-Nov 1, 2009.

Romer A. Gonzalez-Villalobos, Ryousuke Satou, Laura C. Semprun-Prieto, Naro Ohashi, Akemi Katsurada, **G. Michael Upchurch**, Minolfa C. Prieto-Carrasquero, Hiroyuki Kobori, and L. Gabriel Navar. Intrarenal RAS expression during Ang II-infusions and ACE inhibition. Experimental Biology Meeting 2009. New Orleans, LA, April 18-22, 2009.

Gonzalez-Villalobos RA, Satou R, Semprun-Prieto LC, Ohashi N, Katsurada A, Seth DM, **Upchurch GM**, Kobori H and Navar LG. ACE inhibition ameliorates the development of hypertension and augmentation of intrarenal Ang II content in chronic Ang II-infused mice. Jackson cardiovascular-renal meeting 2008. Jackson, MS 2008.

Current Research Interest

Life

Current Medical Interest

Surviving medical school

Career Goal

Changing the world

What makes you unique

DNA-environmental interactions

What makes you common

I'm made of cells just like you!



Name: Tomas Vanagunas

Entry Year: 2011

Hometown: Chicago, IL

Education: University of Chicago
BS, Chemistry

Past Research Experience

Feinberg School of Medicine, Northwestern University, Chicago, IL.

Dr. Terrence Barrett (2008-2011)

In vitro studies of β -catenin truncation and activation in several colon epithelial cancer cell lines (HT29 and HCT116) and within the normal colonic epithelial cell line, NCM460.

Tomas D. Vanagunas, Tatiana Goretsky, Rebecca B. Katzman, Terrence A. Barrett. "TNF induces epithelial β -catenin cleavage and chromatin binding." *Digestive Disease Week* (2011) Abstract.

Current Research Interest

N/A

Current Medical Interest

My current favorite class is Anatomy

My favorite shadowing experience was in gastroenterology because it was my closest clinical experience to date and allowed me better contact with those I was trying to help with my research experience.

Career Goal

To balance medicine and research, as well as rocking

What makes you unique

I can play many different instruments (Banjo, Baritone Saxophone, Didgeridoo etc.)

What makes you common

I wear glasses for nearsightedness.



Name: Brendan Ross Burn

Entry Year: 2010

Hometown: New Orleans, LA

Education: Birmingham-Southern College
BS, Biology Major, Math Minor (2008)

Past Research Experience

Aug 2007 – May 2008: Dr. Leo Pezzementi's Lab, Birmingham-Southern College.
Researching the effects of site-directed mutagenesis of *Ciona intestinalis* AChE T-subunit Ser20 residue on tetramerization and association with PRiMA *in vitro*.

Feb 2009 – August 2009: Dr. Nicolas Bazan's Lab, LSUHSC Neuroscience Center of Excellence.
Researching Trib-1 protein interactions with 15-lipoxygenase-1 during oxidative-stress induced apoptosis in human retinal pigment epithelial cell cultures.

January 2010 – August 2010: Dr. Chenbei Chang's Lab, Department of Cell Biology, University of Alabama, Birmingham. Investigating the temporal effects of Protein Inhibitor of Activated STAT (Signal Transducer and Activator of Transcription) on neurological development in *Xenopus laevis* embryos.

Current Research Interest

No specific current research interests, maybe neuroscience?

Current Medical Interest

My favorite medical course so far has been Gross Anatomy, whatever that leads to? Maybe surgery?

Career Goal

Hopefully at least partially maintaining a clinical presence while pursuing research interests, i.e translational research.

What makes you unique

I was born in Copenhagen, Denmark, grew up in Malaysia and Australia, and began university in a Mechanical Engineering degree at the University of Melbourne, Australia.

What makes you common

I rule at Mortal Kombat and Super Mario 3.



Name: Jack DePaolo

Entry Year: 2009

Hometown: Asheville, North Carolina

Education: Claremont McKenna College
BA, Philosophy, Politics and Economics
(2008)

Past Research Experience

National Institutes of Health
National Human Genome Research Institute
Bethesda, Maryland
Post-Baccalaureate IRTA Fellow in Medical Genetics Branch, Dr. Ellen Sidransky's lab,
investigating Parkinson Disease and Gaucher Disease
2008-2009

Jerry L. Pettis Memorial VA Hospital
Department of Ototoxicology
Loma Linda, California
Research Assistant
Fall 2007

Current Research Interest

Currently unknown, but interested in genetics and neurodegenerative disease

Current Medical Interest

Much of my medical interest in neurodegenerative disease comes from having a friend's father suffer from ALS, and from my experience at the NIH shadowing my former PI.

Career Goal

My long-term career goals include exploring better therapeutic options in diseases like Parkinson Disease and ALS while providing comfort and care to patients who suffer from these diseases. I am also compelled to represent physicians in the current (and future) healthcare debate(s), and generally be involved in healthcare policy decisions on either a state or national level.

What makes you unique

Probably the most unique quality is the obscurity and diffuseness of my philosophy, politics and economics major, and its seemingly inexistent relationship to what I am currently undertaking.

What makes you common

I think Magazine Street in New Orleans is one of the coolest streets in the world



Name: Daniel J Edwards

Entry Year: 2007

Hometown: Nashville, TN

Education: Louisiana State University
BS, Biological Sciences, Minor in Philosophy
(2007)

Past Research Experience

Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, Louisiana
Department of Biological Sciences

Dr. David Donze

Student Worker, Chancellor's Future Leaders in Research Program

Investigated the role of TFIIIC binding sites in the formation of heterochromatin barriers

August 2005 – May 2007

National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, MD

National Institute of Child Health and Human Development

NIH Summer Internship Program

Section on Developmental Biology, Dr. Igor Dawid

Investigated the role of TRAF6 in the development of *Xenopus laevis*

May 2006 – August 2006

Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Nashville, TN

Vanderbilt Summer Sciences Academy

Dr. Susan Wenthe

Investigated the structure and function of the nuclear pore complex in *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*

May 2005—August 2005

Current Research Interest

Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology

Dr. Arthur Haas

I am currently investigating the function of the ubiquitin ligase TRIM25.

Current Medical Interest

My current medical interests are varied, and I have no expectations of choosing a particular field until my clinical years have given me the proper context to do so. However, after two years of medical school, I have found myself interested in immunology, oncology, and infectious disease.

Career Goal

My career goal is to become a successful independent basic researcher at a major medical center, while also maintaining a presence in the clinical setting. Remaining active with regards to both disciplines will better prepare me to address scientific questions in a medical context, and vice versa.

What makes you unique

My hobbies include fishing and skeet shooting.

What makes you common

I'm right handed



Name: Monica Ertel

Entry Year: 2007

Hometown: New Orleans

Education: Louisiana State University
BS, Biological Science (2005)

Past Research Experience

2005- 2007

Boston Retinal Implant Project

Boston, MA

I worked with members of a surgical team to assist in animal surgeries to design a feasible method of sub-retinal implantation of a retinal implant. I also worked to design a battery of test to assess visual function in patients for whom the current methods of visual tests are unreliable.

2004-2005

Pennington Biomedical Research Center

Baton Rouge, LA

As a student worker, I performed basic molecular lab techniques using muscle tissue in a lab that focused on insulin resistance and Type II diabetes.

Publications

Rizzo J, Snebold L, **Kenney M**. "Development of A Visual Prosthesis: A Review of the Field and a Snapshot of the Boston Retinal Implant Project" in Visual Prosthetics and Ophthalmic Devices: New Hope in Sight. Tombran-Tink J, Barnstable C, Rizzo J.

Abstracts

Bazan NG, **Ertel MK**, Knott EJ, Elison JR, Zhou Y, Bergsma DR, Gjørstrup P, Gordon WC. (2009) "Laser-induced Choroidal Neovascularization is Reduced by Neuroprotectin D1" *Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology*. Fort Lauderdale, FL. Abstract No.

Kenney ML, Sinha P, Snebold L, Merabet L, Rizzo J. (2006) "Development of a Battery of Visual Tests to More Reproducibly Assess Vision in Patients with Severe, Acquired Blindness" *Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology*. Fort Lauderdale, FL. Abstract No. 5698.

Chen J, Snebold L, **Kenney M**, Brookman J, Rizzo J. (2006) "A Modified Method for Ab Externo, Sub-Retinal Prosthetic Implantation" *Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology*. Fort Lauderdale, FL. Abstract No. 3190.

Chen J, Kim S, Brookman J, Snebold L, **Kenney M**, Shire D, Rizzo JF. (2006) "Surgical Methods for Large Sub-Retinal Prosthetic Implantation" *Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology*. Fort Lauderdale, FL. Abstract No. 2562.

Current Research Interest

I am currently in the Neuroscience Center of Excellence working with Dr. Bazan and Dr. Gordon in a laboratory focused on retinal cell biology. My project focuses on investigating the therapeutic effects of over-expression of PEDF in a mouse model of age-related macular degeneration.

Publications:

[Sheets KG, Zhou Y, **Ertel MK**, Knott EJ, Regan CE Jr, Elison JR, Gordon WC, Gjorstrup P, Bazan NG. Neuroprotectin D1 attenuates laser-induced choroidal neovascularization in mouse. *Mol Vis*. 2010 Mar 2;16:320-9.](#)

Abstracts

Ertel MK, Sheets K, Zhou Y, Chan CC, Tuo J, Gordon W, Bazan N. Endoplasmic reticulum stress precedes photoreceptor degeneration in $Ccl2^{-/-}/Cx3cr1^{-/-}$ mice. *Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology*. Fort Lauderdale, FL. Abstract No. 4031/A424.

Current Medical Interest

While I am currently interested in pursuing a residency in Ophthalmology, I plan to enter my third year rotations with an open mind. My two favorite medical school classes were Biochemistry and MIP. So, I am also open to Infectious Disease as a possible career choice.

Career Goal

My goal is to become a physician-scientist in an academic environment. I would love to spend my clinical days seeing patients and teaching residents and medical students; and I want to spend my research days investigating the diseases I see in my patients.

What makes you unique

I have run 4 marathons and completed a half Ironman.

What makes you common

I love weekends.



Name: Stephen Ford, Jr.

Entry Year: 2010

Hometown: Metairie

Education: University of New Orleans
BS, Biology

Past Research Experience

Anthony Lab at the University of New Orleans studying genetic diversity within the MHC region of *Podarcis Erhardii* (Aegean wall lizard).

Current Research Interest

Autoimmunity, T_H17 cells, cancer genetics

Current Medical Interest

Neurology

Career Goal

I would like to be a practicing neurologist, as well as actively researching the immune system and its roles of combating and possibly contributing to autoimmune diseases and/or cancer.

What makes you unique

I am an identical twin.

What makes you common

I am a die-hard LSU and Saints fan.



Name: Anasheh Halabi

Entry Year: 2008

Hometown: Glendale, CA

Education: UCLA
BS, Neuroscience, Music History (2005)

Past Research Experience

As an undergraduate at UCLA (2001-2005) I was a research assistant at the Center on Memory and Aging determining patient eligibility for clinical trials and performing volumetric analyses on structural brain MRIs. Following graduation, I performed PET image analysis at the UCLA Wright Membrane Transport Laboratory (2005-2006) and volunteered at the UCSF Memory and Aging Center where I continued to hone skills in brain image analysis.

Current Research Interest

My current interest is neurogenetics. Our aim in the laboratory of Dr. Ed Grabczyk is to elucidate the role of DNA mismatch repair proteins in trinucleotide repeat expansion using a human cellular model of Friedreich's ataxia.

Career Goal

In the future I hope to be a physician-scientist in an academic setting. I am strongly committed to a career in academic medicine.

What makes you unique?

DNA

What makes you typical?

Enjoying New Orleans cuisine any chance I get.



Name: Lori Hutcherson

Entry Year: 2006

Hometown: New Orleans, LA

Education: University of Maryland, Baltimore County

Past Research Experience

University of Maryland, Baltimore School of Medicine/Maryland Psychiatric Research Center
Dr. Rosalinda Roberts

“The Ultrastructural Localization of Substance-P in the Human Striatum”

Publications

[Hutcherson L, Roberts RC. “The Immunocytochemical Localization of Substance P in the Human Striatum: A postmortem Ultrastructural Study.” Synapse 2005, Vol 57, No 4, 191-201.](#)

Current Research Interest

Center Cell Biology and Anatomy Department

Laboratory Weyand/Richter Lab

Project “Developing a nonhuman primate model of depression”

Current Medical Interest

favorite medical school course Medical Neuroscience

shadowing experience Neurosurgery

how has this interest changed? My interests really haven’t changed much. Perhaps third year of medical school will do the trick!

Career Goal

Academic Medicine, Neurosurgery

What makes you unique

Probably my music choice – Depeche Mode mixed with Elvis and Joplin sums it up.

What makes you common

Either my love for crawfish or the Saints!



Name: Ferdous Kadri

Entry Year: 2010

Hometown: Slidell, LA

Education: Tulane University
Masters in Neuroscience (2010)
Texas A&M University
BS, Molecular and Cell Biology (2009)

Past Research Experience

Practical Genomics Lab, Texas A&M University

Research Assistant

August 2007-December 2007

- Identifying the phage gene and protein function prediction of Zip 11b phage of *Rhodococcus Equi* using Phage Genome Technologies
- Adapted to work environment and gained knowledge of skills such as using NCBI library, sequenced files, and bioinformatics to generate gene maps

Center for Phage Technology, Texas A&M University

Research Assistant

January 2008-May 2008

- Conducted the expression of putative proteins on a phage in relation to the breakdown of bacterial exopolysaccharide (EPS) by bacteria of the *Burkholderia cepacia* complex (Bcc), which is associated with cystic fibrosis (CF)

Department of Pharmacology, Tulane University Medical Center

Research Assistant

July 2009-May 2010

- Researching with *Mus musculus* and *Danio rerio* models in assessing depression, anxiety, and drug related disorders and its effects on the CNS and behavior

Publications

- [Cachat J, Canavello P, Elegante M, Bartels B, Hart P, Bergner C, Egan R, Duncan A, TienD, Chung A, Wong K, Goodspeed J, Grimes C, Elkhayat S, Suci C, Rosenberg M, Chung](#)
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- [Cachat J, Canavello P, Elegante M, Bartels B, Hart P, Bergner C, Egan R, Duncan A, Tien D, Chung A, Wong K, Goodspeed J, Grimes C, Elkhayat S, Suci C, Rosenberg M, Chung KM, Kadri F, Roy S, Gaikwad S, Stewart A, Zapolsky I, Gilder T, Mohnot S, Beeson E, Amri H, Zukowska Z, Soignier D, Kalueff AV. \(2010\) Modeling withdrawal syndrome in zebrafish. Behavioural Brain Research, 2010.](#)
- [Wong K, Elegante M, Bartels B, Elkhayat S, Tien D, Roy S, Goodspeed J, Suci C, Tan J, Grimes C, Chung A, Rosenberg M, Gaikwad S, Duncan A, Kadri F, Chung KM, Jackson A, Stewart A, Gilder T, Zapolsky I, Cachat J, Kalueff AV. \(2010\) Analyzing habituation responses to novelty in zebrafish \(*Danio rerio*\). Behavioural Brain Research. In press, 2010.](#)
- [Duncan A, Tien D, Wong K, Chung A, Cachat J, Goodspeed J, Grimes C, Elegante M, Suci C, Elkhayat S, Bartels B, Jackson A, Rosenberg M, Chung KM, Badani H, Kadri F, Roy S, Gaikwad S, Stewart A, Zapolsky I, Gilder T, Kalueff AV. \(2010\) The effects of chronic social defeat stress on mouse grooming behavior and its patterning. Behavioural Brain Research, 2010.](#)
- Stewart A, Kadri F, DiLeo J, Chung KM, Cachat J, Goodspeed J, Suci C, Roy S, Gaikwad S, Wong K, Elegante M, Elkhayat M, Wu N, Gilder T, Tien D, Kalueff AV. (2010) The developing utility of zebrafish in modeling neurobehavioral disorders. International Journal of Comparative Psychology, 2010.
- Jonathan Cachat, Adam Stewart, Leah Grossman, Siddharth Gaikwad, **Ferdous Kadri**, Kyung Min Chung, Nadine Wu, Keith Wong, Sudipta Roy, Christopher Suci, Jason Goodspeed, Marco Elegante, Brett Bartels, Salem Elkhayat, David Tien, Julia Tan, Ashley Denmark, Thomas Gilder, Evan Kyzar, John DiLeo, Kevin Frank, Katie Chang, Eli Utterback, Peter Hart, Allan V. Kalueff. (2010) Measuring behavioral and endocrine responses to novelty stress in adult zebrafish. Nature Protocol, in press 2010.

Current Research Interest

Open to new research ideas. Currently interested in neuronal plasticity in accordance with various stressors

Current Medical Interest

Neurology or Neurosurgery

Career Goal

Acquiring a position in a leading government research institute to have the available resources to pursue my research needs and being a staff Neurosurgeon

What makes you unique

I like to go hiking and explore the natural wonders. I was on a Step Team at Texas A&M. I have a subscription to Popular Science, GQ, Time, and National Geographic.

What makes you common

I drive a Honda Civic in hopes to upgrade.



Name: Myles Ketchum

Entry Year: 2010

Hometown: Covington, LA

Education: San Diego State University
BS, General Biology, Minor in Psychology (2010)

Past Research Experience

Alcohol Sensory Processing Laboratory
Department of Psychology, San Diego State University
Undergraduate Research Assistant
Laboratory Manager

August 2007 - April 2008
April 2008 – July 2010

Investigated the role of taste in alcohol preference and consumption in rats.

Cell and Molecular Biology Laboratory
Department of Biology, San Diego State University
Undergraduate Research Assistant

August 2009 – December 2009

Investigated the role of taste in alcohol preference and consumption in *Drosophila*.

Behavioral Pharmacology Laboratory
Department of Pharmacology, LSUHSC-NO
Medical Student Research Assistant

May 2011 – present

Investigate the neuroelectrophysiology involved in learning and memory tasks in rats.

Publications

Brasser, S.M., Silbaugh, B.C., **Ketchum, M.J.**, Olney, J.J., Lemon, C.H. (2012). Chemosensory responsiveness to ethanol and its individual sensory components in ethanol-preferring, ethanol-nonpreferring, and genetically heterogeneous rats. *Addiction Biology* 17 (2): 423-436.

Current Research Interest

Behavioral Pharmacology, Neuroelectrophysiology

Current Medical Interest

Career Goal

A career in academic medicine that includes teaching, conducting research, and active clinical involvement.

What makes you unique

I was accepted into the joint MD/PhD program as a second year student.

What makes you common

I love the food in Louisiana.



Name: Greg In Lee

Entry Year: 2009

Hometown: Elkhart, Indiana

Education: University of Michigan
BA, Cellular Molecular Biology (2005)
MPH, Hospital Molecular Epidemiology (2009)

Past Research Experience

Role of Oxidant Stress in Neonatal Myocardial Ischemia-reperfusion injury
Dr. John R. Charpie
2007-2009

Current Research Interest

Pulmonary disease in neonates; vaccine and drug development; surgical research

Current Medical Interest

During medical school I really enjoyed gross anatomy, pathology and pharmacology. I am still really interested in the surgical field of medicine but I don't know if I'll specialize. Also because I hadn't had the opportunity to go through any rotations, I'm not sure I can completely rule anything out yet, so I am keeping an open mind.

Career Goal

I would like to remain in academic medicine. I would love to teach future medical students while also maintaining an active lab, maybe even develop my own research company. It is extremely important to me that I am able to give back to my community and the programs that have allowed me to have such a fulfilling educational experience. I believe that only through teaching can you truly influence and mold the future generations of physicians.

What makes you unique

I love love love food. If food is involved I will be there. Oh and I also make it a point to do at least one charity a year.

What makes you common



Name: Minmin Luo

Entry Year: 2010

Hometown: Windsor, Ontario

Education: University of Windsor
BS(Honors), Biochemistry and Biotechnology (2010)

Past Research Experience

University of Windsor, Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry

Undergraduate Honors Thesis (2009-2010), Dr. Tricia Breen Carmichael, Dr. Bulent Mutus
Design and evaluate IDEs in microfluidic channels for monitoring platelet function

2008-2009, Dr. Tricia Breen Carmichael
Study of etch resistant properties of various thiol and selenol terminated alkanes

Summer 2007-2008, Dr. Tricia Breen Carmichael
Selectively metallize PEN by microcontact printing of aluminum (III) porphyrin complex

Publication:

[Miller, M.S., Filiatrault, H.L., Davidson, G.J.E., Luo, M., Carmichael, T.B. Selectively Metallized Polymeric Substrates by Microcontact Printing an Aluminum \(III\) Porphyrin Complex. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 2010 Jan 20;132\(2\):765-72](#)

Oral Presentation:

Luo, M., Kaur, H., Mutus, B., Carmichael, T.B. Monitoring Platelet Function by Electrochemical Impedance Spectroscopy. *Southern Ontario Undergraduate Student Chemistry Conference.* London, ON March, 2010.

Current Research Interest

I am interested in translational research, as well as in biomaterials and proteins.

Current Medical Interest

Being a first year student, I expect that my future experiences in research and in the clinical rotations will significantly impact my medical interests.

Career Goal

Ideally, I would like to be in academic medicine so that I can do research, teach, and maintain an active clinical practice.

What makes you unique

I am a Canadian student at LSUHSC-New Orleans.

What makes you common

I divide my time (somewhat effectively) between studying, sleeping, eating, and hanging out with my friends.



Name: Valarie McMurtry

Entry Year: 2010

Hometown: Shamrock, TX

Education: University of Oklahoma
BS, Microbiology, minor in Spanish and
Chemistry (2009)

Past Research Experience

Circadian rhythms and flowering time regulation by NF-Y proteins. University of Oklahoma, Holt Lab.

The effects of various proteins on telomeric movements during meiosis. Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation, Dresser Lab.

Current Research Interest

Generally interested in microbiology, immunology, and parasitology.

Current Medical Interest

I am looking forward to microbiology in the spring.

Career Goal

Combine research and practicing medicine in a way that would benefit all who are involved.

What makes you unique

I lived in South America for some time and enjoy the Latin style of dancing.

What makes you common

I love the food in New Orleans.



Name: Miguel Molina

Entry Year: 2008

Hometown: New Orleans, La

Education:

Louisiana State University

B.S. Biological Sciences (2007)

LSU Health Science Center, New Orleans

M.S. Physiology (2008)

Past Research Experience

Before entering the MD/PhD program I earned a masters in Physiology studying the effects of acute-alcohol intoxication on vascular reactivity following hemorrhagic shock.

Current Research Interest

Currently I am working in the Neuroscience center under the guidance of Dr. Nicolas Bazan studying the neuroprotective effects of NPD-1 as well as possible mechanisms.

Current Medical Interest

I am interested in a wide range of medical specialties including Neurology, Neuropsychiatry, and completely unrelated areas such as Integrative medicine.

Career Goal

My long term career goals are translational research oriented with an emphasis on treatments for neurodegenerative, auto-immune, and inflammatory diseases through selective modulation of the endocannabinoid system using novel cannabinoid derivatives. I would like to see a shift in the way we practice medicine to a more preventative approach.

What makes you unique

What makes you common

I think I know more than I do.



Name: Felix Nau Jr.

Entry Year: 2009

Hometown: St. Louis, MO

Education: The Evergreen State College
BS, Organic Chemistry and Biochemistry
Minor in Cell & Microbiology (2006)

Past Research Experience

Eliciting Fatty Acid Synthesis Pathways Using Isotopomers (^{13}C) in *C. elegans*
Dr. Mark Van Gilst Lab
Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, Seattle, WA

Current Research Interest

Endocrinology, Oncology, Pharmacology, and Experimental Therapeutics

Current Medical Interest

favorite medical school course = Neuroscience

Career Goal

Graduate from LSU with M.D./Ph.D. degree and begin to practice at home bedside translational research. I would like to open up my own BBQ place in AK after I retire.

What makes you unique

My first real paycheck was at the age of 15 from N.A.S.A.

What makes you common

I am a diehard St. Louis Cardinals fan.



Name: Whitney Nichols

Entry Year: 2008

Hometown: Mansfield, Texas

Education: Texas A&M University
BS, Biochemistry and Genetics (2008)

Past Research Experience

Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas
Department of Biochemistry & Biophysics
Dr. D Pettigrew
Research Assistant (2005-2008)
Enzyme kinetic studies

UT Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas, Dallas, Texas
Department of Immunology
Dr. Satterthwaite
Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship (2006, 2007)
FOXO transcription factors signaling pathway determination/comparison

Current Research Interest

Dr. Hagensee
Department of Microbiology, Immunology, and Parasitology
I am studying the potential interactions between Human Papillomavirus (HPV) and Epstein-Barr virus (EBV) in the progression of cervical dysplasia to carcinoma.

Publication

[Hinman, R. M.; Bushanam, J. N.; Nichols, W. A.; Satterthwaite, A. B., B Cell Receptor Signaling Down-Regulates Forkhead Box Transcription Factor Class O 1 mRNA Expression via Phosphatidylinositol 3-Kinase and Bruton's Tyrosine Kinase. *J Immunol* 2007, 178, \(2\), 740-747.](#)

[Hinman RM, Nichols WA, Diaz TM, Gallardo TD, Castrillon DH, Satterthwaite AB. Foxo3^{-/-} mice demonstrate reduced numbers of pre-B and recirculating B cells but normal splenic B cell sub-population distribution. Int Immunol. 2009 Jul;21\(7\):831-42.](#)

Abstracts

Nichols, W., Hinman, R., and Satterthwaite, A. 2006. Down regulation of FOXO family expression upon B cell activation. Poster Presentation, Summer Undergraduate Research Symposium, UT Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas, Dallas, TX.

Nichols, W., Hinman, R., and Satterthwaite, A. 2007. Expression of FOXOs and Their Target Genes Throughout Splenic B Cell Development and Activation. Poster Presentation, Summer Undergraduate Research Symposium, UT Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas, Dallas, TX.

Nichols, W., Herrel, N., Sutton, K., Stuckey, K., Smart, M., Oddo, H., and Hagensee, M. 2009. Detection of EBV in Residual Pap Smear Fluids in HIV⁺ Women. Oral Presentation, Medical Student Summer Research Symposium, LSU Health Sciences Center- School of Medicine, New Orleans, LA.

Nichols, W., Nelson, N., Sutton, K., Clark, A., Oddo, H., Love, N., and Hagensee, M. 2010. Detection of Co-Shedding Utilizing Residual Pap Smear Fluid of HIV⁺ Women. Poster Presentation, Graduate Research Day, LSU Health Sciences Center- School of Graduate Studies, New Orleans, LA.

Nichols, W., Nelson, N., Sutton, K., Clark, A., Oddo, H., Love, N., and Hagensee, M. 2010. Detection of EBV and HPV in Residual Pap Smear Fluids in HIV⁺ Women. Poster Presentation, South Central Branch-ASM Meeting, USM, Hattiesburg, MS.

Nichols, W., Nelson, N., Sutton, K., Clark, A., Oddo, H., Love, N., and Hagensee, M. 2011. Potential Interaction between Epstein-Barr Virus and Human Papillomavirus in the Progression of Cervical Dysplasia. Poster Presentation, American Society for Microbiology General Meeting, New Orleans, LA.

Nichols, W., Nelson, N., Sutton, K., Clark, A., Oddo, H., Love, N., and Hagensee, M. 2011. Epstein-Barr Virus as a Potential Biomarker for Cervical Dysplasia. Poster Presentation, International Papillomavirus Conference, Berlin, Germany.

Nichols, W., Nelson, N., Sutton, K., Clark, A., Oddo, H., Love, N., and Hagensee, M. 2012. The biomarker potential for Epstein-Barr Virus. Oral Presentation. American Federation for Medical Research- South Regional Meeting, New Orleans, LA.

Current Medical Interest

As of right now, I'd like to specialize in internal medicine with a sub-specialty in infectious disease. I feel that with the raise in antibiotic resistance, there will be a huge need for furthering our understanding of microorganisms and their interaction with medicine as well as the human body. My favorite medical school courses have been MIP and Pharmacology. I have been able to shadow physicians in internal medicine as well as family medicine.

Career Goal

My end goal is to perform translational Research with a focus on infectious disease. I want to see patients while still maintaining a presence in the laboratory. I would potentially like to work for the Center for Disease Control in some capacity.

What makes you unique

I'm tongue tied

What makes you common

I love college football, Geaux Tigers and Gig'em Aggies!



Name: Adam Perricone

Entry Year: 2009

Hometown: Harahan, Louisiana

Education: University of Alabama
BS (2009)

Past Research Experience

I performed research at the University of Alabama in Dr. Katrina Ramonell's lab from the fall of 2006 through the summer of 2009. The focus of Dr. Ramonell's lab is plant-pathogen interactions; specifically, examining a chitin-elicited innate immunity pathway. My research project examined the role of an E3 ubiquitin ligase that was identified through microarray studies in this chitin-elicited pathway.

During the summer of 2007, I attended and presented a poster at the Plant Biology and Botany Joint Conference in Chicago, Illinois. In the spring of 2008, I was awarded the American Society of Plant Biologists' (ASPB) Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship. As a result, I performed full-time research during the summer of 2008, and during the summer of 2009, I presented the results of this research at the ASPB and Phycological Society of America Joint Conference in Honolulu, Hawaii. Also during 2009, I was awarded the University of Alabama's Randall Undergraduate Research Award, and I published a review of literature pertinent to my research in the Journal of Health and Science at the University of Alabama.

Current Research Interest

I am currently performing research in Dr. Vander Heide's laboratory in the Department of Pathology. Our lab's goal is to characterize the proximal end of a cardioprotective signaling pathway that is activated by cell stress and mediated by the cytoskeleton using transgenic mouse models and an *in vivo* model of ischemia/reperfusion.

Current Medical Interest

Pathology and Cardiology.

Career Goals

My long-term goal is a career in academic medicine teaching and performing research. However, recognize that I am at the very beginning of a 7 or 8 year period where I am going to undergo rapid intellectual growth, so I am going to keep an open mind throughout my continuing education to different career opportunities. The flexibility that the dual degree affords me will be vital in aiding me to find the career that suits me best.

What makes you unique

In college, I had an interesting educational background: I discovered by chance that I found Eastern and Western culture and thought intriguing. I took a couple of Humanity courses in this area, and it is a subject that I plan on pursuing more in the future. I don't know if this background makes me unique, but I feel like it may give me a valuable outlook on medicine, research, and life in general.

What makes you common

The usual stuff: I like sports, movies, good food, good times, and so forth.



Name: Michael Ripple

Entry Year: 2009

Hometown: New Orleans, LA

Education: Louisiana State University
BS, Biological Sciences, Minor in English
(12/2007)

LSU Health Science Center

MS, Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics

Past Research Experience

Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center
Department of Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics
Dr. S. Cormier

Thesis: IL-4 Receptor- α Antisense Oligonucleotides: a Therapy to Prevent Respiratory Syncytial Virus-Mediated Asthma
June 2009

My Master's degree was done in the lab of Dr. Stephania Cormier in the Department of Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics. I studied the therapeutic value of IL-4 receptor- α antisense oligonucleotide in neonatal RSV infection. Previous projects include studies involving neonatal influenza infection and neonatal RSV infection in a model of allergic asthma.

Publications

[You D, Becnel D, Wang K, Ripple M, Daly M, Cormier SA. Exposure of neonates to Respiratory Syncytial Virus is critical in determining subsequent airway response in adults. *Respiratory Research* 2006, 7:107](#)

[Wang K, You D, Balakrishna S, Ripple M, Ahlert T, Fahmy B, Becnel D, Daly M, Subra W, McElduff J, Lomax L, Troxclair D, Cormier SA. Sediment from Hurricane Katrina: Potential to Produce Pulmonary Dysfunction in Mice. *International Journal of Clinical and Experimental Medicine* 2008, 1, 130-144.](#)

[You D, Ripple M, Balakrishna S, Troxclair D, Sandquist D, Ding L, Ahlert TA, Cormier SA. Inchoate CD8+ T Cell Responses in Neonatal Mice Permit Influenza-Induced Persistent Pulmonary Dysfunction. *The Journal of Immunology*, 2008, 181: 3486-3494.](#)

[Ripple MJ, You D, Giaimo JD, Sewell AB, Becnel DM, Cormier SA. Immunomodulation with IL-4 Receptor- \$\alpha\$ Antisense Oligonucleotide Prevents RSV-Mediated Pulmonary Disease. *The Journal of Immunology*, 2010, 185: 4804-4811.](#)

Poster Presentations

Ripple MJ, You D, Giamo J, Sewell A, Becnel DM, Cormier SA. Down-regulation of IL4R α using antisense oligonucleotides alleviates long-term pulmonary dysfunction induced by neonatal respiratory syncytial virus infection. 2009 Louisiana Gene Therapy Research Consortium Conference.

Ripple MJ, You D, Giamo J, Sewell A, Becnel DM, Cormier SA. Inhaled IL-4 Antisense Oligonucleotide Prevents RSV-Mediated Asthma. 2010 American Thoracic Society International Conference.

Current Research Interest

I am currently working with Dr. Luis Del Valle in the Cancer Center on the oncogenic effects of JC virus in the colon cancer.

Current Medical Interest

I am very interested in pediatrics, possibly sub-specializing in hematology and oncology.

What makes you unique

I have a great passion for travelling. I would like to visit at least one new country every year.

What makes you common

I drink a lot of coffee.



Name: Jessica Shields

Entry Year: 2008

Hometown: Marlboro, MA

Education: Clark University
BA, Psychology, Neuroscience (2007)

Past Research Experience

Center for Comparative NeuroImaging (CCNI), UMass Medical School
Drs. Jean King and Craig Ferris
Small animal fMRI imaging, cognition, and behavior.

Publications

[King JA, Huang W, Chen W, Heffernan M, Shields J, Rane P, Bircher R, Difranza JR. A comparison of brain and behavioral effects of varenicline and nicotine in rats. Behav Brain Res \(2011\).](#)

[Febo M, Shields J, Ferris CF, King JA. Oxytocin modulates unconditioned fear response in lactating dams: an fMRI study. Brain Res \(2009\) 1302: 183-93.](#)

[Chen W, Shields J, Huang W, King JA. Female fear: influence of estrus cycle on behavioral response and neuronal activation. Behav Brain Res \(2009\) 201:8-13.](#)

[Shields J, King JA. The role of 5-HT1A receptors in the behavioral responses associated with innate fear. BehavNeurosci \(2008\) 122:611-7.](#)

Member & Presenter, SfN (Society for Neuroscience), 2006-2008.

Member & Presenter, AAN (American Academy of Neurology), 2011.

Current Research Interest

Department of Cell Biology & Anatomy/ Neurology
Dr. Anne Foundas
Brain & Behavior Program

I am interested in cognitive neurology and specifically study plasticity in 'healthy' and pathologic cognitive aging (i.e. Alzheimer's disease) via neuroimaging, transcranial magnetic stimulation, and electroencephalogram.

Current Medical Interest

Medical Neuroscience

Career Goal

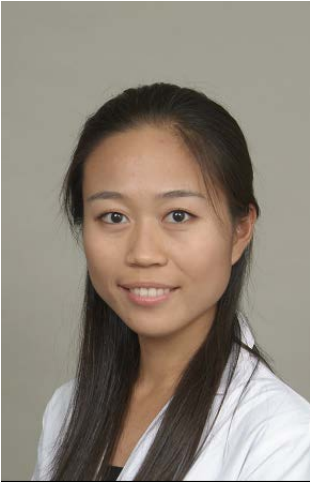
Becoming an academic neurologist and to be able to continue to translate research interests into clinical practice.

What makes you unique?

I lived on the Marshall Islands as a child.

What makes you a typical student?

I procrastinate with bad tv.



Name: Xu Sophie Teng

Entry Year: 2008

Hometown: St. Louis, MO

Education: Centenary College of LA
BS, Biochemistry (2008)

Past Research Experience

Inhaled Steroids and Innate Host Defense against Bacterial Pneumonia

Current Research Interest

Physiology

Current Medical Interest

My favorite medical school courses are Anatomy, Physiology, Biochemistry, and Clinical Pathology. I especially like Clinical Pathology because it teaches the clinical interpretation of patients' lab results and integrates the materials we learned into practical uses.

Career Goal

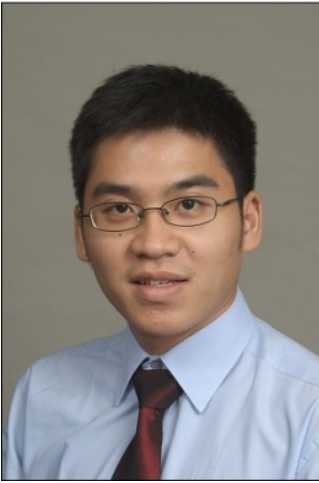
I would like to be involved in academic medicine where I can conduct research while doing clinical practices.

What makes you unique

I went to elementary school in China and middle school in Japan. I probably would like to learn another language after graduation.

What makes you common

I can do study-marathon just like any other med student. I enjoy being with friends and having fun when not studying.



Name: Wei Shun Tseng

Entry Year: 2009

Hometown: Los Angeles, CA

Education: Washington University in St. Louis
Major in Biology, Minor in Biomedical Physics, (2007)

Past Research Experience

Keck School of Medicine, Center for Stem Cell and Regenerative Medicine

Summer 2007 – 2009, Dr. Gregor Adams

Explored the role of adipocytes in the hematopoietic stem cell microenvironment

Washington University in St. Louis, Department of Biology

Summer 2004 – 2007, Dr. Erik Herzog

Studied circadian rhythms in mouse olfaction. Discovered a circadian pacemaker in the olfactory bulbs that could generate rhythm independent of the SCN.

Genome Sequencing Center, St. Louis

Spring 2007, Dr. Sarah Elgin

Pieced together and annotated novel sequences in the *Drosophila mojavensis* genome. Engaged in extensive education on the sequencing pipeline.

Publication

[Daniel Granados-Fuentes, Alan Tseng, and Erik D. Herzog, "A Circadian Clock in the Olfactory Bulb Controls Olfactory Responsivity", *Journal of Neuroscience*, November 22, 2006, 26\(47\): 12219-12225](#)

Current Research Interest

Department of Pediatrics

Dr. Mary Breslin

Use of promoters as targets for cancer gene therapy in small cell lung cancer.

Current Medical Interest

Right now I am currently interested in pursuing a career in oncology.

Career Goal

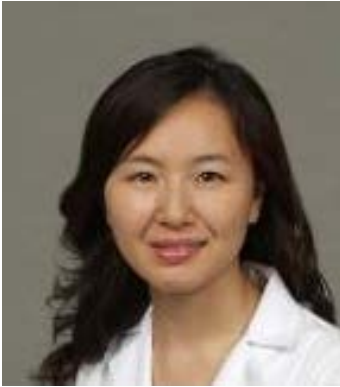
My long term goal is to be able to stay in academia to pursue both my practice and my research. I hope to be able to combine these two aspects together seamlessly, conducting clinical trials from my patient population, as well as provide novel treatments to patients from my research.

What makes you unique

I originally wanted to major in mechanical engineering.

What makes you common

I love New Orleans food.



Name: Sun-Mi Choi

Entry Year: 2006

Hometown: Los Angeles, CA

Education: University of California, Los Angeles
BS, Neuroscience; Microbiology, Immunology, and Molecular Genetics
MS Biological Chemistry

Past Research Experience

Medical Student Summer Research Fellow, Department of Pharmacology, Louisiana State University Health Science Center New Orleans, LA (May 2007- June 2007)

Staff Research Assistant, Department of Biological Chemistry, University of California Los Angeles, CA (January 2006- July 2006)

Graduate Research Assistant, Department of Biological Chemistry, University of California Los Angeles, CA (September 2004- December 2006)

Master's thesis Focus: The ultimate goal was to ascertain the function of Vaults, large cytoplasmic ribonucleoprotein complexes. Although their ubiquitous distribution suggests that vault is essential, the search for its function has remained elusive. Vaults are composed of three proteins and a unique small vault RNA (vRNA). I have been involved in both functional and structural analysis of vaults. Functionally, I was successful in expressing vRNA in *Drosophila* Schneider S2 cells to help determine its role in vaults. Structurally, I have showed that the N-terminal portion of the major vault protein (MVP) is responsible for holding the vault in a closed conformation.

Principle Investigator: Leonard H. Rome, Ph.D.

Laboratory Technician, Department of Biological Chemistry, University of California Los Angeles, CA (March 2004- September 2004)

Student Laboratory Helper, Department of Biological Chemistry, University of California Los Angeles, CA (September 2001- March 2004)

Student Laboratory Volunteer, Department of Oral Biology, University of California Los Angeles, School of Dentistry, Los Angeles, CA (June 2000- June 2001)

Current Research Interest

Immunology- Host pulmonary defense against bacterial pneumonias, Immune based therapy, and Tumor immunology

Current Medical Interest

Favorite Medical School course: Neuroscience

Favorite Shadowing experience: ENT clinic

Current Medical Interest: Med/Ped Hematology/Oncology, Neurology, ENT

Career Goal

Successful academic medicine as a physician scientist

What makes you unique

I'm female, Korean, MD/PhD student from California.

What makes you common

Wanted to become a physician because I want to help people.



Name: Ryan Craig

Year: 2006

Hometown: Baton Rouge, LA

Education: Louisiana State University

Past Research Experience

Dr. Shulin Li (LSU-SVM)

Gene targeted squamous cell cancer therapy

Publications

[Craig R, Cutrera J, Zhu S, Xia X, Lee YH, Li S. Administering plasmid DNA encoding tumor vessel-anchored IFN-alpha for localizing gene product within or into tumors. Mol Ther. 2008 May;16\(5\):901-6. Epub 2008 Mar 18.](#)

[Craig R, Li S. Function and molecular mechanism of tumor-targeted peptides for delivering therapeutic genes and chemical drugs. Mini Rev Med Chem. 2006 Jul;6\(7\):757-64. Review.](#)

Current Research Interest

Research Institute at Children's Hospital

Dr. Seth Pincus

Engineering Novel Antibodies for Treatment of HIV Infection or Ricin Intoxication

Current Medical Interest

Favorite medical school courses – Pathology and MIP

Interests – pediatrics, cancer, and infectious diseases

Career Goal

I would like to ultimately train as a pediatric oncologist and use my research background to conduct clinical trials as new therapies are developed

What makes you unique

I'm left-handed

What makes you common

I'm a male who loves the saints!



Name: Mary E. Worrel

Entry Year: 2007

Hometown: Biloxi, MS

Education: Louisiana State University
BS, Biological Sciences, Minor in Psychology
(2007)

Past Research Experience

Louisiana State University Health Science Center School of Medicine
Department of Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics
Medical School Summer Research Program
A behavioral assay of abuse liability in genetically obese and lean rats
May – July 2008

Louisiana State University School of Veterinary Medicine
Baton Rouge, Louisiana
Student Worker, Chancellor's Future Leaders in Research Program
Responsibilities included culture and molecular analysis of oomycete specimens in a diagnostic laboratory as well as media preparation and general upkeep.
August 2003 – May 2007

University of Southern Mississippi Gulf Coast Research Laboratory
Ocean Springs, Mississippi
Laboratory Technician, Department of Parasitology
Responsibilities included specimen collection and molecular analysis of aquatic parasites.
June 2006 – August 2006

International Science and Engineering Fair
State of Mississippi Alternate Delegate 2001, Delegate 2002, 2003
Second Place Award Winner, 2002
Restoration of an Inland Bayou – a five year study on nonpoint source pollution and an investigation into oysters as a means of reducing fecal contaminants in Keegan's Bayou.

Current Research Interest

Department of Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics
PI: Dr. Peter Winsauer

I study the interaction of neurosteroids and ethanol at the GABA_A receptor in rats using molecular and behavioral techniques such as operant responding for ethanol and drug discrimination.

Publications

[Worrel, M.E., Gurkovskaya, O.V., Leonard, S.L., Lewis, P.B., Winsauer, P.J. Effects of 7-keto Dehydroepiandrosterone on Voluntary Ethanol Intake in Male Rats. Alcohol 45 \(2011\) 349-354. PMID: 21051179](#)

Hulin, M.W., Amato, R.J., and Winsauer, P.J. GABA_A receptor modulation during adolescence alters adult ethanol intake and preference in rats. Alcoholism: Clinical and Experimental Research. In Press.

Hulin, M.W., Amato, R.J., Porter, J.R., Filipeanu, C.M., Winsauer, P.J. Neurosteroid binding sites on the GABA_A receptor complex as novel targets for therapeutics to reduce alcohol abuse and dependence. Advances in Pharmacological Sciences. In Press.

Amato, R. J., **Hulin, M.W.**, Winsauer, P.J. A comparison of dehydroepiandrosterone and 7-keto dehydroepiandrosterone with other drugs that modulate ethanol intake in rats responding under a multiple schedule. Behavioural Pharmacology. Submitted June, 2011.

Current Medical Interest

The alcohol research I've done has rekindled my passion for mental health. While psych wasn't necessarily my favorite course in medical school, I was inspired early on in my undergraduate Physiological Psychology course to seek answers about the inner workings of the brain, and how physiological processes control our subjective experiences.

Career Goal

My long term goal is to have a career as a physician-scientist, treating patients as a clinician as well as conducting research either in my own laboratory or out of my clinic, conducting clinical trials of experimental medications.

What makes you unique

I started college hoping to become a veterinarian.

What makes you common

I have a biology degree.



Name: Matthew Auten

Entry Year: 2004

Hometown: New Orleans, LA

Education: Louisiana State University
BS, Biochemistry, Biological Sciences (2004)
Louisiana State University Health Science Center
PhD, Microbiology (2011)

Past Research Experience

Department of Pathobiological Sciences, LSU School of Veterinary Medicine
Dr. Elmer Godeny
Student Laboratory Worker, Aug 2000 - Dec 2003

Department of Biochemistry, Tulane University Medical Center
Dr. Jim D. Karam
Summer Research Internship, Summer 2001

Department of Biochemistry, Tulane University Medical Center
Dr. Yu-teh Li
Summer Research Internship, Summer 2002

Brigham Young University
Summer Research Internship in Bioinformatics, Summer 2003

Department of Microbiology, Immunology, and Parasitology, LSUHSC-New Orleans
Dr. Ronald Luftig
NCI Short Summer Research Experiences in Cancer, Summer 2004

Department of Microbiology, Immunology, and Parasitology, LSUHSC-New Orleans
Dr. Michael Hagensee
NCI Short Summer Research Experiences in Cancer, Summer 2004

Department of Microbiology, Immunology, and Parasitology, LSUHSC-New Orleans
Dr. Alistair Ramsay
Graduate Research, Dec 2006- September 2011

Current Research Interest

I have recently completed my doctoral research in the laboratory of Dr. Alistair Ramsay. My research focused on investigating means to enhance vaccine-induced immune responses, particularly with respect to pulmonary mucosal immunity and immunity in the context of CD4+ T cell immunodeficiency.

Current Medical Interest

I really enjoyed the hematology block of Clinical Pathology during the second year of medical school. Although I started the program with a strong interest in Infectious Disease residencies, I am seriously looking into Pathology.

Career Goal

I see myself remaining in academic medicine and focusing on translational research. My graduate training in vaccinology and immunology lends itself to numerous areas of research, and I am strongly considering pursuing a Pathology residency. I'd like to be able to maintain a clinical presence as a pathologist while exploring independent research in disease pathogenesis and vaccination.

What makes me unique

I am an amateur mixologist who loves to try new recipes in the kitchen. Apparently, you can take me out of the lab, but you can't take the "lab" out of me.



Name: John Nicholas (Nick) Melvan

Entry Year: 2006

Hometown: Waukesha, WI

Education: University of Wisconsin-Madison

Past Research Experience

A. Neurogenesis in FragileX Syndrome

Clive Svendsen PhD and Anita Bhattacharya PhD

1. Bhattacharyya A, McMillan E, Wallace K, Tubon TC, Capowski EE, and Svendsen CN. (2008). Normal neurogenesis but altered gene expression in human Fragile X progenitor cells. *Stem Cells and Development* 17(1): 107-118.

B. Retinal pigment epithelial control of retinal progenitor cell differentiation

David Gamm MD/PhD

1. [Gamm D.M., Melvan J.N., Shearer R.L., Pinilla I., Sabat G., Svendsen C.N., and L.S. Wright. A Novel Serum-Free Method for Culturing Human Prenatal Retinal Pigment Epithelial Cells. *Invest. Ophthalmol Vis Sci*. Vol. 49, No. 2, February 2008. PMID: 18235029](#)
2. [Gamm D.M., Wright L.S., Capowski E., Kim H.J., Shearer R.L., Melvan J.N., and C.N. Svendsen. Regulation of Human Retinal Growth and Cell Fate Potential by Retinal Pigment Epithelium and Mash1. *Stem Cells*. Vol. 26, No. 12, p. 3182-93. December 2008. PMID: 18802035](#)

C. Suppression of the innate immune response to infection by acute alcohol intoxication

Ping Zhang MD/PhD and Gregory Bagby PhD

Publications

1. **Melvan J.N.**, Bagby G.J., Welsh D.A., Nelson S., and Zhang P. Neonatal Sepsis and Neutrophil Insufficiencies. *Int. Rev. Immunol.* Vol. 29, No. 3, p. 315-48. June 2010. PMID: 20521927
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1. Siggins R.W., **Melvan J.N.**, Welsh D.A., Bagby G.J., Nelson S., and Zhang P. Alcohol Suppresses the Granulopoietic Response to Pulmonary *S. Pneumoniae* Infection with Enhancement of STAT3 Signaling. *J. Immunol.* Vol. 186, No. 7, p. 4306-13. April 1, 2011. *PMID: 21357267*
2. **Melvan J.N.**, Siggins R.W., Bagby G.J., Stanford W.L., Welsh D.A., Nelson S., and Zhang P. Suppression of the Stem Cell Antigen-1 Response and Granulocyte Lineage Expansion by Alcohol Intoxication during Septicemia. *Crit. Care Med.* Vol. 39, No. 3, p. 2121-30. September 2011. *PMID: 21602669.*
3. **Melvan J.N.**, Siggins R.W., Stanford W.L., Porretta C., Nelson S., Bagby G.J., and Zhang P. Alcohol Impairs the Myeloid Proliferative Response to Bacteremia in Mice via Inhibiting the Stem Cell Antigen-1/Extracellular Regulated Kinase Pathway. *J. Immunol.* Vol. 188, No. 4, p. 1961-9. February 15, 2012. *PMID: 22238460.*
4. Shi X., Siggins R.W., Stanford W.L., **Melvan J.N.**, Basson M.D., and Zhang P. TLR4/Sca-1 Signaling Promotes Hematopoietic Precursor Cell Commitment to Granulocyte Development During *E.coli* Bacteremia. (In review at *Journal of Infectious Disease*)

Current Research Interest

Doctorate of Philosophy (Ph.D.)

2008 – 2011

Department of Physiology

School of Graduate Studies

Thesis: “Alcohol Intoxication Suppresses the Stem Cell Antigen-1 Response and Granulocyte Lineage Expansion during Bacteremia”

Advisors: Drs. Ping Zhang and Gregory Bagby

Current Medical Interest

Basic Science – Pathology and Physiology

Clinical – Surgery, Critical Care

Career Goal

My career goal as a physician-scientist is to serve as a faculty member at a large academic medical center. After completing general surgery residency, I will jointly fulfill clinical responsibilities while continuing my laboratory interest in stem cell biology.

What makes you unique

Serving as a US student representative at the Meeting of Nobel Laureates and Students in Lindau, Germany.

What makes you common

Saints fan



Name: Tiffany Eady

Entry Year: 2005

Hometown: Sacramento, Ca

Education: UC Berkeley

Past Research Experience

I worked as a research assistant for the D'Esposito Lab at UC Berkeley. I studied fMRI and TMS brain images using functional data analysis including MATLAB and MRICRO. I helped run scans on subjects and developed methods to analyze data.

C.J. Fiebach; M.H. Rowland; T.D. Niemoller; M. D'Esposito. Neuroanatomical bases of working memory capacity: An inter-individual differences fMRI study. Society for Neuroscience, 35th Annual Meeting in Washington, DC, November 12-16, 2005.

Current Research Interest

Currently, I am working as a graduate student in the lab of Dr. Bazan in the Neuroscience Center of Excellence. We investigate the role of lipid mediators in stroke and traumatic brain injury. We use the middle cerebral artery occlusion model to simulate stroke in order to discover the neuroprotective properties of Docosahexaenoic Acid (DHA) and its lipid messenger Neuroprotectin D1 (NPD1).

¹Niemoller, T.D., ¹Stark, D.T., Bazan, N.G., The Omega-3 Fatty Acid Docosahexaenoic Acid (DHA) is the Precursor of Neuroprotectin D1 in the Nervous System. World Review of Nutrition and Dietetics, Vol. 99., P46, 2009. ¹These authors contributed equally to this work.

Niemoller TD, Bazan NG. Docosahexaenoic Acid Neurolipidomics. Prostaglandins Other Lipid Mediat 2009 October 3.

Current Medical Interest

I am fascinated by the brain. I absolutely loved medical neuroscience. It gave me a grasp of the basic structure and organization of the brain as well as an in depth look at the clinical manifestations that arise when either trauma or disease disrupt that organization.

Career Goal

I plan to be a neurologist with active participation in stage 2b and 3 clinical trials.



Name: Tabitha Morgan Quebedeaux

Entry Year: 2006

Hometown: Marrero, LA

Education: Loyola University- New Orleans

Past Research Experience

University of New Orleans. Department of Biology. New Orleans, LA.

Dr. Barry Bavister and Dr. Carol Brenner (2005-2006)

Detecting the presence of mitochondrial DNA mutations in primate embryonic stem cells.

Tulane University School of Medicine. US-Japan Biomedical Research Center. New Orleans, LA.

Dr. Akira Arimura (2002-2004)

Neuroprotection by pituitary adenylate cyclase activating protein (PACAP) in experimental models of oxidative stress.

Tulane University. Dept of Psychology. New Orleans, LA

Dr. Gary Dohanich (2000-2002)

Neuroprotective effects of estrogen in middle-aged female rats with β -amyloid and ibotenic acid hippocampal lesions.

Publications

[Harvey, AJ, Gibson, TC, Quebedeaux, TM, and Brenner, CA. \(2007\). Impact of assisted reproductive technologies: a mitochondrial perspective of cytoplasmic transplantation. Curr Top Dev Biol. 77: 229-49.](#)

[Gibson, TC, Pei, Y, Quebedeaux, TM and Brenner, CA. \(2006\). Mitochondrial DNA deletions in primate embryonic and adult stem cells. Reprod Biomed Online. 12\(1\): 101-6.](#)

Current Research Interest

Neuroscience Center of Excellence

Dr. Nicolas G. Bazan

I work with Dr. Alberto Musto to understand mechanisms underlying epileptogenesis. I utilize different experimental models of epilepsy to identify the cellular and electrophysiological changes that occur following status epilepticus. I aim to understand how neuroinflammation within the brain supports the development of epilepsy. In particular, I am investigating how the neuroprotective properties of NPD1, a bioactive mediator of omega-3 fatty acids, can attenuate induced cell death during epileptogenesis and the functional consequence of this protection.

Current Medical Interest

Favorite medical school course – Medical Neuroscience and Gross Anatomy

Career Goal

My plans are to enter academic medicine and conduct translational research. I am undecided about which medical field I will enter at this point. However, my personal interests are neurotrauma and neuro-oncology.

What makes you unique

I am a wife and mom of three children. Plus, I LOVE triathlons!

What makes you common

I entered medical school so that I can devote my career to helping others in need of medical care.

Name: David T. Stark
Home Address: 1100 Valence St., New Orleans, LA 70115
Cell Phone: (504) 975-0588
Email: dstark@lsuhsc.edu
FAX: (504) 599-0891
Place of Birth: Oklahoma City, OK

Education

(2013)	MD (in progress)		LSUHSC-NO
2011	PhD	Neuroscience (Advisor: Nicolas G. Bazan)	LSUHSC-NO
2004	BS (<i>cum laude</i>)	Biomedical Engineering	Tulane University
2000	High School Diploma (senior class president, voted “most talented”)		Arkansas School for Mathematics and Sciences Hot Springs, AR

Awards

2009- present	Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award for Individual Predoctoral MD/PhD Fellows (F30; National Institute for Neurological Diseases and Stroke) <i>Awarded to promising applicants with the potential to become productive, independent, highly trained physician-scientists. Application involves submission of an original research proposal for evaluation of scientific and technical merit through the NIH peer review system. Provides support in the form of a living stipend, tuition and fees, and an institutional allowance for training related expenses such as books, laboratory supplies, and travel to scientific meetings.</i>
2000-2004	Tulane University Dean’s Honor Scholarship <i>A four year, full tuition merit-based award. Typical scholarship recipients rank in the top 5 percent of the class, have a rigorous academic program with honors and advanced placement courses, have an outstanding record of extracurricular activities, and score near the top of the range on a college admission test.</i>
2004	Alpha Eta Mu Beta National Biomedical Engineering Honor Society <i>Membership criteria include distinguished scholarship in the field of biomedical engineering.</i>

Publications

Bazan NG, **Stark DT**, Petasis NA. (2012). Lipid Mediators: Eicosanoids, Docosanoids and Platelet-Activating Factor. In ST Brady, G Siegel, RW Albers, DL Price (Ed.), *Basic Neurochemistry (8th Edition): Principles of Molecular, Cellular and Medical Neurobiology* (pp. 643-662). New York, NY. Elsevier.

Synaptic and extrasynaptic NMDA receptors differentially modulate neuronal cyclooxygenase-2 function, lipid peroxidation, and neuroprotection. **Stark DT**, Bazan NG. *Journal of Neuroscience*. 2011 Sep 28;31(39):13710-21

Neuroprotectin D1 induces neuronal survival and downregulation of amyloidogenic processing in Alzheimer's disease cellular models. **Stark DT**, Bazan NG. *Molecular Neurobiology*. 2011 Apr;43(2):131-8

Omega-3 fatty acid docosahexaenoic acid is the precursor of neuroprotectin D1 in the nervous system. Niemoller TD, **Stark DT**, Bazan NG. *World Review of Nutrition and Dietetics*. 2009;99:46-54.

Apolipoprotein E modulates establishment of HSV-1 latency and survival in a mouse ocular model. Bhattacharjee PS, Neumann DM, **Stark D**, Thompson HW, Hill JM. *Current Eye Research*. 2006 Sep; 31(9):703-8

Poster Presentations

The morphonuclear analysis imaging method (MAIM): an unbiased approach to quantifying apoptosis in ARPE-19 cells demonstrates NPD1-induced inhibition of cell death. **Stark DT**, Knott EJ, Bazan NG. Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology. Fort Lauderdale, FL. May 2012.

Image analysis of nuclear morphology in an in vitro model of excitotoxicity. **Stark DT**, Bazan NG. Society for Neuroscience. Washington, DC. November 2008.

Establishment of an experimental model to study the roles of synaptic and non-synaptic NMDA receptors in neuroprotective lipid signaling. **Stark DT**, Bazan NG. National Student Research Forum. Galveston, TX. April 2007.

A mathematical model of acute herpes simplex virus corneal infection. Thompson HW, **Stark D**, Hill JM. Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology. Fort Lauderdale, FL. May 2004.

Work Experience

2004-2005 Research Associate
(James M. Hill laboratory,
animal models of HSV-1 keratitis)

LSU Eye Center, New Orleans

Community Service and Extracurricular Activities

- 2012 Bnai Brith Mardi Gras at Children's Hospital, New Orleans / Volunteer
- A community service project dedicated to bringing the music and pageantry of the Carnival Celebration to the patients of Children's Hospital, New Orleans*
- 2010-
present Krewe du Vieux Carre / Member
- A non-profit organization dedicated to the historical and traditional concept of a Mardi Gras parade as a venue for individual creative expression, featuring hand decorated, mule-drawn floats with satirical themes*
- 2010 Greater New Orleans Society for Neuroscience Brain Awareness Week / Volunteer Educator
- A community outreach program consisting of demonstrations and interactive activities for visitors to the Louisiana Children's Museum, New Orleans*
- 2005-2006 LSUHSC-NO School of Medicine Committee for Undergraduate Campus Visits / Committee Chair
- A professional development activity designed to keep potential applicants informed about the status of the LSU School of Medicine in New Orleans during the application cycle following Hurricane Katrina.*

Professional Societies

- 2011-
present Association for Research in Member
 Vision and Ophthalmology
- 2008-
present Society for Neuroscience Member



Name: Jesse Sulzer

Entry Year: 2006

Hometown: Mandeville, La

Education: University of New Orleans
BS, 2005

Past Research Experience

University of New Orleans
Department of Psychology
Jill Daniel PhD

Projects focused on the impact of female sex hormones on learning and memory.

Publications:

- [Daniel JM, Sulzer JK, Hurst JL Estrogen increases the sensitivity of ovariectomized rats to the disruptive effects produced by antagonism of D2 but not D1 dopamine receptors during performance of a response learning task. Hormones and Behavior. 2006 Jan;49\(1\):38-44.](#)

Current Research Interest:

Department of Physiology
Patricia Molina MD, PhD

Projects are focused on the impact of acute alcohol intoxication on outcomes from traumatic injury and hemorrhage.

Publications:

- Whitaker AM, **Sulzer JK**, Walker E, Mathis KW, and Molina PE. Sympathetic modulation of the host defense response to infectious challenge during recovery from hemorrhage. *Neuroimmunomodulation. In Press.*
-

- Mathis KW, **Sulzer JK**, and Molina PE. Systemic administration of a centrally-acting acetylcholinesterase inhibitor improves outcome from hemorrhagic shock during acute alcohol intoxication. *Shock. In Press.*
- **Sulzer JK** and Molina PE. Delayed resuscitation with physostigmine increases end organ damage in alcohol intoxicated rats. *Shock. Submitted.*

Current Medical Interest

Current medical interest is in trauma resuscitation and surgical critical care. My research focus and interactions provided through trauma and critical care faculty have provided a unique background and sparked an interest in this field.

Career Goal

My career goal is to achieve a position in academic medicine practicing surgical critical care. In addition, I hope to remain active in both clinical and basic research projects.

What makes you unique

I have 2 daughters.

What makes you common

I get up and come here every day.