



The LSUHSC School of Medicine electronic news

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Month: December 2017

[Cardiovascular Center of Excellence Seminar Schedule for 2018](#)

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The LSUHSC Center of Excellence in Cardiovascular Research hosts an exciting Cardiovascular Biology Seminar Series! Renowned scientists from prestigious and innovative institutions visit our Center regularly, sharing ideas and inspiring us to become the best. Please take a moment to view the Cardiovascular Center of Excellence Seminar schedule. These seminars are golden opportunities to learn and visit with other scientists with similar interests.

Click on the following link to see the entire schedule for 2018:

https://www.medschool.lsuhs.edu/cardio_center/docs/2018%20Seminar%20Series%20Poster.pdf

[Medical Student Research Day](#)

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*Paula Gregory, Ph.D.
Assistant Dean of Medical Student Research*

On Friday, November 17th, forty-two medical students presented their research results at Medical Student Research Day. The winners from the 2017 Medical Student Research Day poster session are:



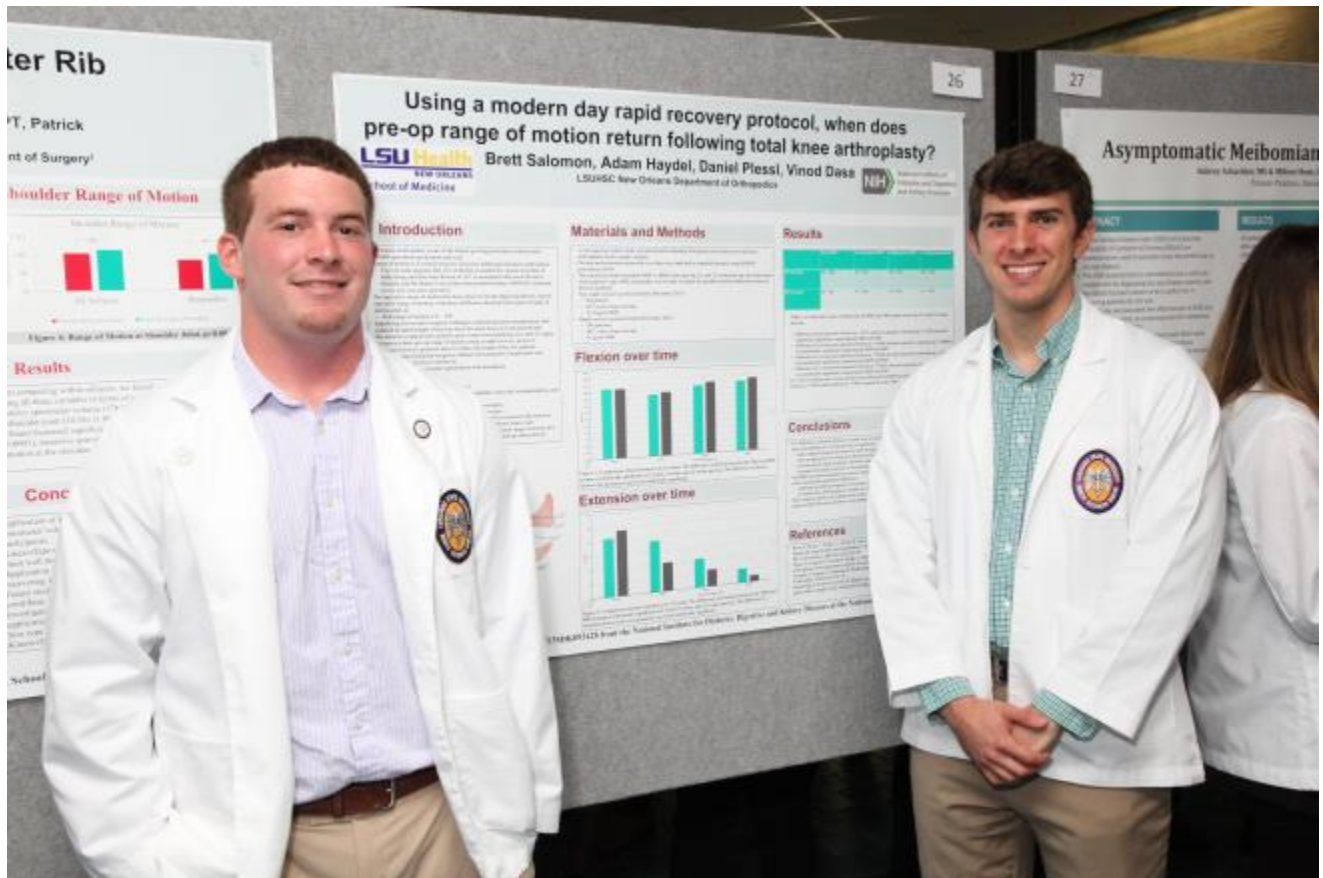
1st Place – Hunter Hidalgo (Mentor: David Lefer) “Novel Rodent Model of Heart Failure with Preserved Ejection Fraction (HF-pEF)”



2nd Place – Karen Nelson (Mentors: Christopher Parsons & Yussef Bennani) “HIV Outcomes in HIV+ Cancer Patients after Referral to Multidisciplinary Patient Navigation Program”



3rd Place – Patrick Johnson (Mentor: Jennifer Mooney) “Helmet Use and Outcomes in Louisiana”



4th Place – Brett Salomon (Mentors: Vinod Dasa & Daniel Plessi) “Using a modern day rapid recovery protocol, when does pre-op range of motion return following total knee arthroplasty?”

[Medical Student Selected to Serve on National Board](#)

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Cathy Lazarus, M.D.

Associate Dean of Student Affairs



Year medical student Patrick Johnson has been selected to serve as a student representative to the newly formed National Board of Examiners Resident/Student Advisory panel.

The USMLE Medical Student and Resident Advisory Panel is composed of medical students and residents from across the U.S. and internationally and is charged to: 1) assist USMLE staff in working through operational issues directly impacting the examinee experience of the exam and 2) serve as a voice and resource to inform substantive policy questions from or before official USMLE committees. Topics the panel may be asked to address or weigh in on include strategic enhancements to the USMLE, communication strategies to examinees, performance feedback to examinees, the testing day experience of examinees, and changes in USMLE policy.

I know that he will do a great job representing himself, LSU and the medical student perspective. Congratulations!

Gold Humanism Award

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The Gold Humanism Society extended its congratulations to the following students & residents who were nominated and elected by their peers for Students of the Month for September, October, and November 2017!

September:

- L1s- Ashley Van & Mary Gabriel
- L2s- Kaylin Beiter & Brett Salomon
- L3s- Elaine Meyers & Margaret Johnson
- L4- Megan Rabalais
- Residents- Dr. Alex Cruz-Saldana, Neurology & Dr. Christopher Johnson, General Surgery

October:

- L1s- Catherine Fontenot
- L2s- Ryan Chan & Sarah Lungaro
- L3s- Allison Falcon & Andy Van Hook
- L4- Oanh Trong & Louis Anzalone
- Residents- Dr. Elyze Bevier-Rawls, General Surgery & Dr. Lindsay Lasseinge, Neurosurgery

November:

- L1s- Abigail Olinde
- L2s- Aubrey Schachter
- L3s- Paige Davis
- L4- Tuan Tran
- Residents- Dr. Henry Huson, General Surgery & Dr. Jacob Leonard, General Surgery

Their interactions with their peers, patients, and community have been noted, and they are to be commended on being such great members of the LSUHSC community. These students embody the GHHS pillars of Respect, Integrity, Service, and Empathy.

Congratulations again and keep on being golden!

Chancellor's Award for Graduate Student Work

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David Polhemus, Ph.D. received the School of Graduate Studies Chancellor's Award at Graduate Student Research Day held on November 3, 2017. David was a student in the lab of Dr. David Lefer in the Cardiovascular Center of Excellence.

The award is given each year to "a high ranking graduating student who has done the most to promote the health sciences and the School before the public. Selection is made by a committee of the faculty appointed by Dr. Joseph Moerschbaeher, Dean of the School of Graduate Studies, with consultation by members of the graduating class."



[School of Graduate Studies Jack Hines Award](#)

[December 19, 2017](#) ~ [ginalaborde](#) The School of Graduate Studies announced the winner of this year's Jack Hines Memorial Award during the Graduate Research Day Awards ceremony on November 3, 2017. The Jack Hines Award is given to a faculty or staff member who has demonstrated outstanding commitment to the School of Graduate Studies in honor of the beloved Jack D. Hines, III, former Director of the School of Graduate Studies. This year's recipient of the Jack Hines Award is Dr. Diptasri Mandal, Department of

Genetics. Congratulations Dr. Mandal!

[Graduate Research Day](#)

[December 19, 2017](#) ~ [ginalaborde](#)

The School of Graduate Studies held their annual Graduate Student Research Day on November 3, 2017. During this day-long event, graduate students from a variety of labs and departments presented their research either through posters, three minute talks (also known as an "elevator talk") and ten minute talks. Congratulations to all of the winners of this year's event!

Poster Winners:

- First place – Ayesha Umrigar, Department of Genetics (Mentor: Dr. Fern Tsien)
- Second place – Kirsten Termine, Department of Genetics (Mentor: Dr. Diptasri Mandal)
- Third place – Paul Stoulig, Department of Physiology (Mentor: Dr. Patricia Molina)

Three Minute Talk Winners:

- First Place – Zachary Stielper, Department of Physiology (Mentors: Dr. Patricia Molina and Dr. Nicholas Gilpin)

- Second place – Katelyn Robillard, Neuroscience Center of Excellence (Mentor: Dr. Jennifer Lentz)
- Third place – Thomas Flanagan, Department of Pharmacology (Mentor: Dr. Charles Nichols)

Ten Minute Talk Winner:

- Robert Fuchs, Department of Pharmacology (Mentor: Dr. Eric Lazartigues)

Welcome Newcomers!

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We'd like to extend a warm welcome to the following faculty members who have joined the School of Medicine Family between the dates September 1 – October 31 2017!

Anesthesiology

- Lee Lambert, M.D. – Assistant Professor, Clinical

Medicine

- Lauren Richey, M.D. – Associate Professor, Clinical

Neurology

- Daniella Miller, M.D. – Assistant Professor, Clinical

Obstetrics and Gynecology

- Stacey Scheib, M.D. – Associate Professor, Clinical

Ophthalmology

- Kevin Kirchner, M.D. – Clinical Assistant Professor

Otorhinolaryngology

- Lacey Adkins, M.D. – Assistant Professor, Clinical

Radiology

- Douglas Casey, M.D. – Assistant Professor, Clinical

Surgery

- Jeffrey Carter, M.D. – Associate Professor
- Jennifer Gnerlich, M.D. – Assistant Professor, Clinical
- Fabienne Gray, M.D. – Assistant Professor, Clinical

Angela Amedee, Ph.D., Appointed Associate Dean for the Graduate School

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The School of Graduate Studies is pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. Angela Amedee to the role of Associate Dean, LSUHSC School of Graduate Studies. Dr. Amedee is a long-time faculty member in the Department of Microbiology, Immunology and Parasitology (MIP), having also served as MIP Graduate Coordinator for the past 16 years.

Dr. Amedee received her B.S. from Nicholls State University in 1986, and her M.S. and Ph.D. in Microbiology from the LSU School of Medicine in 1989 and 1992, respectively. She conducted her postdoctoral training at the Tulane National Primate Research Center and was subsequently promoted to Research Associate. In 1997 she accepted a position as a Research Assistant Professor in the Department of Pediatric Infectious Disease at Tulane University School of Medicine. Dr. Amedee joined the faculty of the LSU Health Sciences Center in February 2001, having since served on the thesis committees of 14 students and mentored 5 doctoral students in her lab.



Dr. Amedee is excited to translate her teaching and mentoring experience to her new role as Associate Dean, where she will be responsible for coordinating nine academic programs in the Graduate School, as well as directing recruitment, retention, and curriculum development for the MD/PhD, Interdisciplinary, and MS—Biomedical Sciences programs.

Please join us in congratulating Dr. Amedee on this new appointment!

Patricia Molina Selected for Minority Mentorship Award

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Patricia Molina, MD, PhD

Leslie Capo
Director of Information Services

The American Physiological Society (APS) has selected Patricia Molina, MD, PhD, Professor and Chair of Physiology at LSU Health New Orleans, as the second recipient of its prestigious A. Clifford Barger Underrepresented Minority Mentorship Award.

According to the Society, the A. Clifford Barger Underrepresented Minority Mentorship Award honors a member of the American Physiological Society who is judged to have demonstrated leadership, guidance, and mentorship of underrepresented minority students in the physiological sciences. The award promotes and embodies the APS goal of broad diversity among physiologists by recognizing outstanding mentors who make significant impacts on diversity in physiology. It recognizes mentoring as a highly valued professional activity that merits a high level award by the Society.

As Director of LSU Health New Orleans' Biomedical Alcohol Research Training Program, an NIH-funded grant that supports the training of MD and PhD pre- and post-doctoral fellows, Dr. Molina has helped trainees submit successful grant proposals. More than half of her predoctoral trainees obtained extramural funding under her guidance. Molina has worked to increase general recruitment and has been successful in recruiting a diverse group of trainees, including Hispanics, African Americans, females, and other individuals from underrepresented backgrounds. She has started new courses for graduate and medical students, as well as journal clubs for graduate students and weekly seminars from intramural and visiting distinguished researchers. One of her main initiatives as Physiology Department Chair has been to help junior faculty receive grant funding from major sources.

In 2016, Molina received the Aesculapian Excellence in Teaching Award from LSU Health New Orleans School of Medicine. She developed a Medical Spanish Elective for students in all health care professions to help them develop skills needed to work with Spanish-speaking patients.

Molina has mentored two high school students, 13 undergraduates, 13 graduate students, 15 medical students, 11 postdoctoral fellows, 1 post-resident, and two junior faculty members. Of these, more than half are women or underrepresented minorities. She also serves as a role model in her professional societies. She has met many trainees across many institutions that seek her guidance. Many of her trainees have gone on to make their marks on science, medicine, and education.

Molina will be honored as the recipient of the 2018 Barger Award during the 2018 Experimental Biology Meeting in San Diego in April.