

LSUHSC School of Medicine Class of 2026

PhD Dissertations – Spring 2026

Jake Edward Randall Doiron

Mentor: David Lefer, PhD

Dissertation: *Hydrogen Sulfide Dysregulation in Heart Failure with Preserved Ejection Fraction*

Jacob Hameed Elnaggar

Mentor: Christopher Taylor, PhD

Dissertation: *Investigating the Temporal Dynamics of the Vaginal Microbiome Prior to Incident Bacterial Vaginosis*

Ashley Sarah Henderson

Mentor: Peter Winsauer, PhD

Dissertation: *Effects of GABAA Modulators on Learning in Rats after Shisa7 Knockdown*

Kristina Farragut Larter

Mentor: Lucio Miele, PhD

Dissertation: *Unraveling the Anti-Tumor Mechanism of Sulindac Sulfide in Triple-Negative Breast Cancer*

Oygun Mirzalieva

Mentor: Shyamal Desai, PhD

Dissertation: *The MUL1/ISG15 Axis Dysregulates Endoplasmic Reticulum-mitochondrial Contacts and Calcium Homeostasis in Ataxia Telangiectasia*

Tyler Prusisz

Mentor: Edward Trapido, Sc.D

Dissertation: *The Impact of Air and Oil Spill Pollution on Health in the Gulf South*

Carol Marie Upchurch

Mentor: Carmen Canavier, PhD

Dissertation: *Computational Modeling of CA1 Place Cells and PV+ Interneurons*