Graduate College

The latest news and updates from OUHSC Graduate College

IN THIS ISSUE

Announcements
Graduate College Spotlight
Upcoming Events
Campus Resources
Social Media

Announcements:

Graduate College Summer Outreach Workshop – If you have an interest in scientific outreach or talking to younger students about science, please consider joining us for this year’s Graduate College High School Summer Workshop: Exploring Science and Disease Research, July 16, 2019 from 1-4:00pm. Lunch will be provided at 11:30am and set up begins at noon.

The Biomedical & Life Sciences Collection – Includes talks on the biochemistry of DNA and RNA by Dr. Douglas Houston of the University of Edinburgh, and on antibody engineering by Dr. Ian Wilkinson, Chief Scientific Officer of Absolute Antibody. Also included is a short talk on the biomedical student and learning in the age of online learning. View the complete collection at https://hstalks.com/biosci/

Graduate Student Association (GSA) – The Graduate College GSA will meet September 5th at 12-noon in BMSB 324. Students from all MS- and PhD-seeking programs are welcome and encouraged to attend! Lunch will be served.

Postdoc Association (PDA) – The OUHSC PDA will not meet in July. The August meeting will be Monday, August 5th at 12-noon in the Bird Library Faculty Atrium. All Postdocs are encouraged to come, network with peers and support your postdoc community over lunch.
Announcements Continued:

Professional & Career Development Seminar – Alan Alda Center for Communicating Science, Thursday, July 25th at 9:00-12:00pm in the Bird Library Auditorium (1st session – large group) and the Bird Library Faculty Atrium (2nd session – small group).

“This interactive session introduces participants to general principles in how to craft short, clear, conversational statements, intelligible to non-scientists, about what you do and why it matters. The session consists of an interactive presentation and discussion on interpreting technical material using examples and analogies to illuminate unfamiliar concepts to your audience. Participants will be actively engaged in improvisation exercises and will practice clarity in speaking to non-scientists about their work” (Alan Alda Center for Communicating Science).

Graduate College Spotlight:

Hunter Porter

Hometown: Edmond, Oklahoma

Undergrad Degree: Biology and Psychology, University of Central Oklahoma

Favorite Quote: “There are three kinds of lies: lies, damned lies and statistics” Benjamin Disraeli

What motivated you to apply to grad school, and why OUHSC? I applied to graduate school because I enjoy the process of testing ideas and developing new knowledge and ideally understanding from that. As for OUHSC, I love the collaborative community where it feels like every PI has an open door and is willing to help a student with a new idea.

How will you use your experience with Leadership at HSC to promote graduate education? I encourage anyone with a passion for research and learning to consider graduate school. I like to think my part is best played by helping people not fall through the cracks and navigating the many difficult decisions you make when considering graduate education and as a graduate student.

What are your career goals after Graduate School? After graduate school my goal is to continue working in academia. My current plans are to focus on translational research in ameliorating aging and using informatics to expedite the process of getting therapeutics from the lab and into the clinic.

What would you tell someone who is interested in pursuing graduate education? Get experience working in a lab as soon as you can. Experience the myriad failures that go into one positive result. Then find something you love studying enough to make that process fun.

Tell us about your recent experience with BIO2019 in Philadelphia. Going to BIO was an invaluable experience for me, even as a student who is about as set as one can be about studying academia. Getting to see technologies being developed from around the world and getting a glimpse at how discoveries from the lab make it into the market was amazing. I will say that experience does not require a trip to BIO, as I argued learned the most from the people representing Oklahoma. Get to know the tech transfer specialists at OU and OMRF and the representatives from the local Chamber of Commerce. They are some of the best people and certainly renewed my drive to do biomedical research.
Announcements Continued:

OK-WISE – Registration is now opened for the 2019 Oklahoma Woman Impacting STEM and Entrepreneurship (OK-WISE) Conference. First 50 students register free with code STUDENT. OK-WISE conference is August 23rd at the Hyatt Regency in Tulsa, Oklahoma. The second annual OK-WISE Conference will feature speakers and panelists from across the country with workshops and mentorship opportunities. Register at https://www.eventbrite.com/e/ok-wise-conference-2019-tickets-63806358536

The Graduate College is pleased to announce the defense of the following degrees:

Yifan Xu, PhD  
Pathology | Exosomal MicroRNAs in Pancreatic Cancer: Mechanisms of Selective Enrichment and the Potential for Biomarker Development  
Committee in Charge: WeiQun Ding, PhD; Zhizhuang Joe Zhao, PhD; Priyabrata Mukherjee, PhD; Guangpu Li, PhD; Doris M. Benbrook, PhD

Casey Cooper, PhD  
Occupational and Environmental Health | Development, Evaluation, and Demonstration of Air Sampling Methods to Assess Airborne Transport of Clostridium difficile Spores in the Healthcare Environment  
Committee in Charge: David L. Johnson, PhD; Margaret L. Phillips, PhD; Aaron M. Wendelboe, PhD; Bradley S. Stevenson, PhD; Jun Wang, PhD

Hannah Berrett, PhD  
Cell Biology | The role of E protein activity in effector program differentiation of invariant Natural killer T cells and Innate Lymphoid Cells  
Committee in Charge: Jose Alberola-Ila, MD, PhD; Xiao-Hong Sun, PhD; Eric Howard, PhD; Kimble Frazer, PhD; Mark Lang, PhD

Upcoming Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>July 16</td>
<td>Graduate College Summer High School Workshop: Robert M. Bird Library, 1-4:00PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 25</td>
<td>Alan Alda Center for Communicating Science Robert M. Bird Auditorium (LIB299) and Atrium (2nd floor), 9-12:00PM</td>
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Student and Postdoc Contributors – The Graduate College welcomes graduate student and postdoc contributions of ideas and stories for the monthly newsletter. Please contact us at gradcollege@ouhsc.edu to see how you can help out!

Resources

Student Health and Wellness Clinic: http://students.ouhsc.edu/SHWC.aspx  
Contact Casey Carter, Senior Clinic Manager, with questions: Office 405-271-9675 x30605; Cell: 405-625-9042; Email: Casey-Carter@ouhsc.edu

Student Counseling Services  
David L. Boren Student Union, Suite 300  
Phone: (405) 271-7336  
Toll-Free: (877) 577-5655  
Email: Counselors@ouhsc.edu

OUHSC Writing Center  
https://students.ouhsc.edu/Student-Services/WritingCenter

OUHSC Student Guide  
https://students.ouhsc.edu/StudentGuide

OUHSC Student Affairs  
https://students.ouhsc.edu/

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https://students.ouhsc.edu/Academic-Resources

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Graduate Student Association:  
Facebook  
facebook.com/groups/OUHSC.GSA

GPiBS:  
Twitter - ouhsc_gpibs

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Phone: (405) 271-2085  
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