The School of Medicine held its 11th Medical Student Research Day on Monday, October 3rd. There were 88 participants, the largest number of students ever presenting. The MD/PhD program was very well represented with 14 posters.

Two MD/PhD students won in the Overall Competition, which included MD/PhD students at the MS-1, MS-2, and GS-1 levels, along with medical students in other MD-programs.

Congratulations!

1st Place Overall
Vinh A. Dao (MS-2)

3rd Place Overall
Raehannah Jamshidi (GS-1)

The MD/PhD category, which involves more sustained research, resulted in the following winners.

Co-Shared 1st Place—
Jade Zhou (GS-2)
David W. Melton (GS-2)

Congratulations to all students who participated!
The 3rd Annual MD/PhD Student Retreat was held Saturday, September 17th at the Greehey Children’s Cancer Research Institute.

14 students discussed their current research activity and 12 students presented posters.

The distinguished guest speaker at the event was Arthur Gutierrez-Hartmann, MD.

Dr. Gutierrez-Hartmann is a professor in the Departments of Medicine and Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics, and Director of the NIH-funded Medical Scientist Training Program (MSTP) at the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus.

The main focus of his laboratory is to determine the role of Ras/MAPK signaling and the Ets transcription factors in epithelial cell development and tumorigenic, with a focus on pituitary and mammary model systems.

Dr. Gutierrez-Hartmann’s keynote address “Peregrinations of a Persistent Scientist: Fateful Decisions in a Biomedical Career” was very well received by the students and faculty in attendance.

Martin Adamo, PhD, was recognized at the 3rd Annual Retreat for his many years of service and leadership to the MD/PhD Program and UTHSCSA.

Dr. Adamo is a Professor in the Biochemistry Department and a member of the MD/PhD Advisory Committee. He also served as the Director for the MD/PhD program from 2005-2011. The faculty, staff, and students are all grateful to Dr. Adamo for his continued service, leadership, and dedication to UTHSCSA and the MD/PhD Program.
Seven students represented the UTHSCSA at the 2011 APSA Annual Regional Meeting in Galveston.

Dr. Suzanne Thibodeaux, Danielle Victor, Susanna Maupin, and David Melton served as guest panelists for various discussions.

(L-R) Suzanne Thibodeaux, David Melton, Danielle Victor, Will Lavery, Elena Wisely, Susanna Maupin, Daniel Barron

**APSA Annual Regional Meeting**

Congratulations to Angela Boyd and Suzanne Thibodeaux who both recently received their PhD.

Suzanne’s PhD (Cancer Biology) dissertation was entitled “Regulatory T Cell Depletion Plus Interferon-alpha as an Immunotherapeutic Approach for Ovarian Cancer”.

Angela’s PhD (Microbiology) dissertation was entitled “The Role of Aberrant Inflammation in the Enhanced Susceptibility of Aged Mice to Pneumococcal Pneumonia”.

**Thibodeaux and Boyd Receive PhD**

**Recent Publications**

Dat Vo (GS-4) has recently had two publications.


F30 News

In August, two MD/PhD students submitted NRSA NIH F30 grant applications to the NCI. We have only heard from one of them, Diana Villarreal, who received a score of 20 (11th percentile) for her F30 application, which will very likely be funded. This will raise the F30/F31 awardees to four students out of the thirteen students in GS2 – GS4 level.

Dr. Sang Eun Lee is Diana’s primary mentor and Dr. Linda McManus is the F-troop leader. These two faculty provided great mentoring to Diana, and are partly responsible for her outstanding F30 proposal.

Congratulations to Diana!

F-Troop

The next round of weekly F-Troop meetings will begin Wednesday, January 11, 2012.

This round is to prepare for a submission deadline of April 8th.

F-Troop meets in the Medical Building Room 331.5B (Pathology Conference Room) and is led by Dr. Linda McManus.

Student Updates

Danielle Victor (GS-2) and Curt Callaway were married Saturday, October 29, at Fair Oaks Ranch Country Club.

Congratulations, Danielle & Curt!

Suzie Thibodeaux is the proud new mother of a baby boy!

Coen Robert Untereiner was born September 13th, weighing 9lbs. 4oz.

Congratulations!

Do you have exciting news to share?
Contact Angie Watts at wattsa@uthscsa.edu
**Around Town**

MD/PhD students have been spotted on the social scene! Dr. Cavazos held a summer cook-out at his home that many students, and their families, attended.

---

**2011 President’s Gala**

Several students represented the program at the 2011 President’s Gala held on September 17th at the Grand Hyatt San Antonio. The theme of the event was “Igniting Science, Advancing Health”.

Gala donors helped establish the Charles Butt and HEB Excellence Fund for the Future of Health.
Important Dates

Monday Nov. 21st
3:30 – 5:00 pm – Self-Study Task Force

Monday Nov. 28th – Tuesday Nov. 29th - MD/PhD Interviews
MD/PhD Applicants Dinner (Monday PM) and Interviews (Tuesday AM/early PM)

Monday Dec. 12th – Tuesday Dec. 13th - MD/PhD Interviews
MD/PhD Applicants Dinner (Monday PM) and Interviews (Tuesday AM/early PM)

Sunday, December 11th
6:30pm Holiday Party
Details to Follow

Monday Dec. 19th
3:30 – 5:30 pm – MD/PhD Advisory Committee

Bench to Bedside

Monday, November 14th at 5:30pm
AAB 114/116/118

Dr. Michael Lichtenstein, one of the CTSA Training Directors will be presenting a lecture and discussion about Clinical Translational Science and opportunities to earn a Certificate in Translational Science.

Mark your calendars now for upcoming Bench to Bedside Seminars.

Monday, January 9, 2012
Monday, February 13, 2012