

# Commencement Program

**Mayo Clinic Graduate School of  
Biomedical Sciences**

September 11, 2021



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## Classes of 2020 and 2021

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# Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science

Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science is comprised of five schools.

- Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine
- Mayo Clinic Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences
- Mayo Clinic School of Continuous Professional Development
- Mayo Clinic School of Graduate Medical Education
- Mayo Clinic School of Health Sciences

Academic degrees are granted by the Mayo Clinic Board of Trustees on recommendation of the deans and the faculty of Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science.

The faculty is drawn from the clinical and scientific staff of Mayo Clinic and is augmented by area physicians. Faculty members participating in this graduation ceremony represent a total faculty of approximately 3,700.

# Mayo Clinic Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences

The mission of the Mayo Clinic Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences (MCGSBS) is to develop the next generation of leaders in biomedical science and education. First established in 1915, Mayo's graduate degrees were initially awarded in partnership with the University of Minnesota. Mayo Clinic Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences became an independent degree-granting institution in 1983. For the past quarter century, our world-renowned faculty have worked within Mayo Clinic's unique 3-shield environment of the clinic, research, and education to recruit, empower and nurture future scientists (M.S. and Ph.D.) and physician scientists (M.S./M.D. and M.D./Ph.D.) to explore the world and innovate in order to rapidly develop cures and solutions that solve unmet health care needs. Integral to the goals of Mayo Clinic Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences is the creation of a diverse workforce that is prepared to improve health equity through discovery and innovation.

Mayo Clinic Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences has also been a vital part of the expansion of Mayo Clinic into a three-site institution—from the original site in Rochester, Minnesota to major graduate training in

Jacksonville, Florida and both Scottsdale and Phoenix, Arizona. This novel configuration and nearly three-decade experience in distance graduate education has been showcased in the challenges presented by the recent COVID pandemic, demonstrating both the global reach and substantive local impact at each campus.

This special dual-year commencement is also the first for the Mayo Clinic Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences and articulates the critical nature of fundamental research in addressing major societal needs. Each of these graduates from the classes of 2020 and 2021 represent new cutting-edge technology, innovations in health care delivery, public policy and regulatory science, and new methods to make innovations more broadly available across the world through entrepreneurship, partnerships, and novel ventures.

## LEADERSHIP

### Dean

Stephen C. Ekker, Ph.D.

### Administrator

Karen S. Nation, MBA/HCM

# Commencement Program

SEPTEMBER 11, 2021

**Welcome and  
9/11 Moment of Silence** Fredric B. Meyer, M.D.

**Introduction of  
Anthony S. Fauci, M.D.** Gianrico Farrugia, M.D.

**Conferring of Honorary Degree and  
Robing of Anthony S. Fauci, M.D.** Gianrico Farrugia, M.D.  
Stella P. Hartono, M.D., Ph.D.

**Commencement Address** Anthony S. Fauci, M.D.

**Introduction of  
Franklyn G. Prendergast, M.D., Ph.D.** Stephen C. Ekker, Ph.D.

**Conferring of Honorary Degree and  
Robing of Franklyn G. Prendergast, M.D., Ph.D.** Fredric B. Meyer, M.D.  
Stephen C. Ekker, Ph.D.

**Commencement Remarks** Franklyn G. Prendergast, M.D., Ph.D.

**Dean's Commencement Address** Stephen C. Ekker, Ph.D.

**Announcement of  
2020 and 2021 Ph.D. Degrees** Bruce F. Horazdovsky, Ph.D.

**Student Address** Alaa Koleilat, Ph.D.

**Announcement of  
2020 and 2021 Masters' Degrees** Pamela J. McLean, Ph.D.  
John D. Fryer, Ph.D.

**Concluding Remarks** Fredric B. Meyer, M.D.

# Platform Participants

**Anthony S. Fauci, M.D.**

Honorary Degree Recipient  
Director, National Institute of Allergy and  
Infectious Diseases

**Franklyn G. Prendergast, M.D., Ph.D.**

Honorary Degree Recipient  
Mayo Clinic Distinguished Alumnus

**Gianrico Farrugia, M.D.**

President & CEO, Mayo Clinic  
John H. Noseworthy, M.D., and  
Jay Alix Chair  
Professor of Medicine and Physiology,  
Mayo Clinic College of Medicine  
and Science

**Fredric Meyer, M.D.**

Juanita Kious Waugh Executive Dean of  
Education, Mayo Clinic College of  
Medicine and Science  
Dean, Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine  
Alfred Uihlein Family Professor of  
Neurologic Surgery

**Stephen C. Ekker, Ph.D.**

Dean, Mayo Clinic Graduate School of  
Biomedical Sciences  
Professor of Biochemistry and Molecular  
Biology, Mayo Clinic College of  
Medicine and Science

**Bruce F. Horazdovsky, Ph.D.**

Associate Dean of Academic Affairs,  
Mayo Clinic Graduate School of  
Biomedical Sciences  
Associate Professor of Biochemistry and  
Molecular Biology, Mayo Clinic  
College of Medicine and Science

**Pamela J. McLean, Ph.D.**

Professor of Neuroscience, Mayo Clinic  
College of Medicine and Science

**John D. Fryer, Ph.D.**

Associate Dean-Arizona, Mayo Clinic  
Graduate School of Biomedical  
Sciences  
Professor of Neuroscience, Mayo Clinic  
College of Medicine and Science



## Honorary Degree Recipient and Commencement Speaker

**ANTHONY S. FAUCI, M.D.**

Dr. Fauci was appointed director of National Institute of Allergy & Infections Diseases in 1984. He oversees an extensive portfolio of basic and applied research to prevent, diagnose, and treat established infectious diseases such as HIV/AIDS, respiratory infections, diarrheal diseases, tuberculosis and malaria as well as emerging diseases such as Ebola and Zika. NIAID also supports research on transplantation and immune-related illnesses, including autoimmune disorders, asthma and allergies. The NIAID budget for fiscal year 2021 is an estimated \$6.1 billion.

Dr. Fauci has advised seven presidents on HIV/AIDS and many other domestic and global health issues. He was one of the principal architects of the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), a program that has saved millions of lives throughout the developing world.

Dr. Fauci also is the longtime chief of the Laboratory of Immunoregulation. He has made many contributions to basic and clinical research on the pathogenesis and treatment of immune-mediated and infectious diseases. He helped pioneer the field of human immunoregulation by making important basic scientific observations that underpin the current understanding of the regulation of the human immune response. In addition, Dr. Fauci is widely recognized for delineating the precise ways that immunosuppressive agents modulate the human immune response. He developed effective therapies for formerly fatal inflammatory and immune-mediated diseases such as polyarteritis nodosa, granulomatosis with polyangiitis (formerly Wegener's granulomatosis), and lymphomatoid granulomatosis. A 1985 Stanford University Arthritis Center Survey of the American Rheumatism Association membership ranked Dr. Fauci's work on

the treatment of polyarteritis nodosa and granulomatosis with polyangiitis among the most important advances in patient management in rheumatology over the previous 20 years.

Dr. Fauci has made seminal contributions to the understanding of how HIV destroys the body's defenses leading to its susceptibility to deadly infections. Further, he has been instrumental in developing treatments that enable people with HIV to live long and active lives. He continues to devote much of his research to the immunopathogenic mechanisms of HIV infection and the scope of the body's immune responses to HIV.

In a 2021 analysis of Google Scholar citations, Dr. Fauci ranked as the 35th most-cited living researcher. According to the Web of Science, Dr. Fauci ranked 9th out of 2.5 million authors in the field of immunology by total citation count between 1980 and January 2021. During the same period, he ranked 20th out of 2.4 million authors in the field of research & experimental medicine, and 132nd out of 992,000 authors in the field of general & internal medicine.

Dr. Fauci has delivered major lectures all over the world and is the recipient of numerous prestigious awards, including the Presidential Medal of Freedom (the highest honor given to a civilian by the President of the United States), the National Medal of Science, the George M. Kober Medal of the Association of American Physicians, the Mary Woodard Lasker Award for Public Service, the Albany Medical Center Prize in Medicine and Biomedical Research, the Robert Koch Gold Medal, the Prince Mahidol Award, and the Canada Gairdner Global Health Award. He also has received 50 honorary doctoral degrees from universities in the United States and abroad.

Dr. Fauci is a member of the National Academy of Sciences, the National Academy of Medicine, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and the American Philosophical Society, as well as other professional societies including the American College of Physicians, the American Society for Clinical Investigation, the Association of American Physicians, the Infectious Diseases Society of America, the American Association of Immunologists, and the American Academy of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology. He serves on the editorial boards of many scientific journals and as an author, coauthor, or editor of more than 1,300 scientific publications, including several textbooks.

National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases. *Anthony S. Fauci, M.D.*, 2021, [niaid.nih.gov/about/anthony-s-fauci-md-bio](https://niaid.nih.gov/about/anthony-s-fauci-md-bio). Accessed 30 Aug. 2021.

National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases. Photograph of Anthony S. Fauci, M.D., 2021, [niaid.nih.gov/about/anthony-s-fauci-md-bio](https://niaid.nih.gov/about/anthony-s-fauci-md-bio). Accessed 30 Aug. 2021.





## Honorary Degree Recipient and Commencement Speaker

**FRANKLYN G. PRENDERGAST, M.D., PH.D.**

Dr. Prendergast received his medical degree with honors from the University of West Indies in 1968. He was named best preclinical and best clinical student. After an internship he attended Lincoln College, University of Oxford, as a Rhodes Scholar where he obtained a B.A. with First Class Honors in 1971 and an M.A. in 1979. He began an Internal Medicine residency at Mayo Clinic in 1971 and subsequently obtained a Ph.D. in biochemistry from the joint Mayo Graduate School/University of Minnesota program in 1977.

Dr. Prendergast was appointed to the Faculty of the Department of Pharmacology at Mayo Graduate School immediately after completing his Ph.D. and rose through the ranks quickly to become a full professor in 1986, both in the Department of Pharmacology and in the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology. That same year, he was named the Edmond and Marion and Guggenheim Professor as well as the Chair of the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology. He was also named Mayo Distinguished Investigator.

Dr. Prendergast served extensively on several senior internal Mayo administrative committees in the interim between 1977 and 1986, most notably as a member of the Institutional Research Committee. In these capacities he played an integral role in establishing major research policies and facilities while simultaneously being very involved in the Mayo Graduate School and the Mayo Medical School as both mentor and administrator. In 1988 he was awarded Mayo Graduate School's Teacher of the Year award for his outstanding contribution to Graduate School education. For his research he was named as an Established Investigator of the American Heart Association in 1980.

Throughout his long research career Dr. Prendergast served extensively with the National Science Foundation and the National Institutes of Health in a wide variety of roles as a scientific reviewer and advisor. He was a charter member of the Council for the Division of Research Grants, a member of the National Advisory for General Medical Sciences, a member of the National Cancer Institute Board of Scientific Advisors, a Presidential appointee as a member of the National Cancer Advisory Board, and a charter council member for the National Center for Advancing Translational Services.

Dr. Prendergast was appointed as the Director for Research of Mayo Clinic in Rochester in 1989, serving for the subsequent four years in that capacity. In 1990 he was also appointed to Mayo's highest administrative committees: the Mayo Clinic Board of Governors and the Mayo Foundation's Board of Trustees. He served on these bodies continuously until 2009. In 1995 he was appointed as Director of the Mayo Clinic Comprehensive Cancer Center, a position he held until September 2006. He was responsible for leading the most substantive expansion, transformation and revivification of that enterprise in its history, which in turn helped to regain NCI Comprehensive Cancer Center Status. His last administrative role at Mayo was as the charter Director of the Mayo Center for Individualized Medicine. He retired from that position as well as from the Mayo Foundation in December 2014.

Throughout his academic career, Dr. Prendergast participated extensively in numerous NIH and NSF grant review groups, task forces and advisory committees. He served on the Board of Directors or the Scientific Advisory Board of several

biotechnology startups. Additionally, he was appointed as a non-executive member of the Board of Directors of Eli Lilly and Co., a post he held from 1995 until 2017. He has been awarded several honors, including honorary doctorates from Purdue University and the University of the West Indies as well as Distinguished Alumni awards from the University of the West Indies, the University of Minnesota and—most recently in 2019—the Mayo Clinic.

Doctor of  
Philosophy

# Doctor of Philosophy



**HINNAH RASHID ABID**

**B.S., Biomedical Engineering**

University of Wisconsin  
Madison, Wisconsin

**Ph.D., Clinical and Translational Science**

Class: 2020  
Advisor: Ian R. Lanza, Ph.D.  
Thesis: The Effects of Interleukin-6 on  
Skeletal Muscle Mitochondrial Physiology

**Position**

Senior Project Coordinator  
Medpace, Medical Devices  
Blaine, Minnesota



**MOHAMMED SAMEER AL SURAIH**

**B.S., Biochemistry and Molecular Biology**

College of Saint Scholastica  
Duluth, Minnesota

**Ph.D., Biochemistry and Molecular Biology**

Class: 2021  
Advisor: Nicholas F. LaRusso, M.D.  
Thesis: Cholangiocyte Senescence in the  
Pathogenesis of and as a Potential  
Therapeutic Target for Primary Sclerosing  
Cholangitis

**Position**

Postdoctoral Fellow  
Emerging Science Biology  
Pfizer  
Cambridge, Massachusetts



**STEPHANIE ANGUIANO-ZARATE**

**B.S., Clinical Laboratory Science**

University of Texas  
El Paso, Texas

**Ph.D., Clinical and Translational Science**

Class: 2020  
Advisor: Michael A. Barry, Ph.D.  
Thesis: Development of Adenovirus Vaccines  
to Combat Emerging Pathogens

**Position**

Laboratory Manager  
University of Wisconsin  
Biology Department  
La Crosse, Wisconsin



**KIRSTEN G. M. ASPROS**

**B.S., Biochemistry**

University of St. Thomas  
St. Paul, Minnesota

**Ph.D., Biochemistry and Molecular Biology**

Class: 2021  
Advisor: John R. Hawse, Ph.D.  
Thesis: Estrogen Receptor Beta Elicits  
Anti-Cancer Effects in Triple Negative  
Breast Cancer Through Suppression of  
NFkB Signaling

**Position**

Medical Student  
University of Minnesota  
Medical School-Twin Cities  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

# Doctor of Philosophy



## **HIROTAKA ATA\***

### **B.S., Biology, Biomedical Sciences**

University of South Alabama  
Mobile, Alabama

### **M.D.**

Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine  
Rochester, Minnesota

### **Ph.D., Clinical and Translational Science**

Class: 2021

Advisor: Stephen C. Ekker, Ph.D.  
Thesis: Toward Precision Molecular  
Surgery of Genomic DNA In Vivo

### **Residency**

Emergency Medicine  
Duke University Medical Center  
Durham North Carolina



## **KHALED AZIZ\***

### **B.S., Biology**

### **B.A., Chemistry**

East Carolina University  
Greenville, North Carolina

### **M.S., Molecular Biology**

East Carolina University  
Greenville, North Carolina

### **M.D.**

Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine  
Rochester, Minnesota

### **Ph.D., Biochemistry and Molecular Biology**

Class: 2020

Advisor: Jan van Deursen, Ph.D.  
Thesis: Clinical Implications of Chromosomal  
Instability in Human Cancers

### **Residency**

Radiation Oncology  
Johns Hopkins Hospital  
Baltimore, Maryland



## **AMELIA K. BARWISE**

### **M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., Medicine**

Trinity College  
Dublin, Ireland

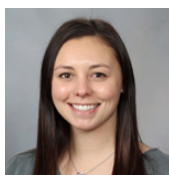
### **Ph.D., Clinical and Translational Science**

Class: 2020

Advisors: Mark L. Wieland, M.D. and  
Ognjen Gajic, M.D.  
Thesis: End of Life Care and Decision Making  
for Patients with Limited English Proficiency

### **Position**

Research Associate  
Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine  
Mayo Clinic  
Rochester, Minnesota



## **LAURA RAE ELSBERND BECHER**

### **B.S., Chemistry**

University of North Dakota  
Grand Forks, North Dakota

### **Ph.D., Immunology**

Class: 2020

Advisor: Svetomir N. Markovic, M.D., Ph.D.  
Thesis: T Cell Co-potential:  
a Path to Neoantigen Discovery

### **Position**

Research Scientist  
Rion LLC  
Rochester, Minnesota

\*denotes M.D.-Ph.D. dual degree program

# Doctor of Philosophy



**PAUL JACOB BELMONTE**

**B.S., Cell and Molecular Biology**

Grand Valley State University  
Allendale, Michigan

**Ph.D., Immunology**

Class: 2021  
Advisor: Virginia M. Shapiro, Ph.D.  
Thesis: The Role of ST8Sia6 in Immune  
Cell Development and Inflammation

**Position**

Field Medical Scientist  
Provention Bio  
Seattle, Washington



**SHERRI MARIE BIENDARRA-TIEGS**

**B.S., BioMolecular Engineering**

Milwaukee School of Engineering  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

**Ph.D., Molecular Pharmacology and  
Experimental Therapeutics**

Class: 2020  
Advisor: Timothy J. Nelson, M.D., Ph.D.  
Thesis: Evaluation and Modulation of  
Cardiomyocyte Subtype Development from  
Human Induced Pluripotent Stem Cells

**Position**

Postdoctoral Fellow  
University of California Davis  
Department of Biomedical Engineering  
Davis, California



**KEVIN MICHAEL BURTON**

**B.S., Cell and Molecular Biology**

Canisius College  
Buffalo, New York

**Ph.D., Biochemistry and Molecular Biology**

Class: 2021  
Advisor: Mark A. McNiven, Ph.D.  
Thesis: Cytoskeletal and Membrane  
Remodeling at the Leading Edge Drives  
Pancreatic Tumor Cell Invasion and Growth

**Position**

Research Fellow  
Mayo Clinic  
Rochester, Minnesota



**TYLER J. BUSSIAN**

**B.A.**

Depauw University  
Greencastle, Indiana

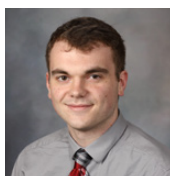
**Ph.D., Biochemistry and Molecular Biology**

Class: 2021  
Advisor: Darren J. Baker, Ph.D., M.S.  
Thesis: Cellular Senescence in  
Neurodegenerative Disease

**Position**

Research Fellow  
Mayo Clinic  
Rochester, Minnesota

# Doctor of Philosophy



**JONATHON SCOTT CALVERT**

**B.S., Bioengineering**

University of Pittsburgh  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

**Ph.D., Biomedical Engineering and Physiology**

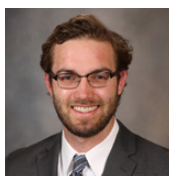
Class: 2020

Advisor: Kendall H. Lee, M.D., Ph.D.

Thesis: Evaluation of Motor Output  
Selectivity During Epidural and  
Transcutaneous Spinal Stimulation

**Position**

Postdoctoral Research Associate  
Brown University, School of Engineering  
Providence, Rhode Island



**DANIEL CLEMENS**

**B.S., Biology**

Taylor University  
Upland, Indiana

**Ph.D., Molecular Pharmacology and  
Experimental Therapeutics**

Class: 2021

Advisor: Michael J. Ackerman, M.D., Ph.D.

Thesis: Triadin Knockout Syndrome

**Position**

Clinical Genomic Scientist  
Invitae  
San Francisco, California



**SUSANNA C. CONCILIO**

**B.A., Biology**

Arcadia University  
Glenside, Pennsylvania

**Ph.D., Virology and Gene Therapy**

Class: 2021

Advisor: Stephen J. Russell, M.D., Ph.D.

Thesis: Exploration of the Protein Sequence  
Space of the Sodium Iodide Symporter (NIS)  
Across Chordate Evolution to Improve  
In Vivo Imaging

**Position**

Postdoctoral Fellow  
Mayo Clinic  
Department of Molecular Medicine  
Rochester, Minnesota



**BARSHA DASH**

**B.A., Biochemistry**

Mount Holyoke College  
South Hadley, Massachusetts

**Ph.D., Immunology**

Class: 2020

Advisor: Virginia M. Shapiro, Ph.D.

Thesis: Regulation of T Cell  
Maturation by NKAP

**Position**

Postdoctoral Fellow  
University of California San Diego  
La Jolla, California

# Doctor of Philosophy



**RYAN CHRISTOPHER DONOHUE**

**B.S., Biological Sciences**

University of Missouri  
Columbia, Missouri

**Ph.D., Virology and Gene Therapy**

Class: 2020  
Advisor: Roberto Cattaneo, Ph.D.  
Thesis: Measles Virus Quasispecies as  
Adaptation Determinant

**Position**

AAAS S&T Policy Fellow  
Executive Office of the President  
Office of Science and Technology Policy  
Washington, D.C.



**KRISTINA DRIZYTE-MILLER**

**B.Sc. (Hons), Biochemistry**

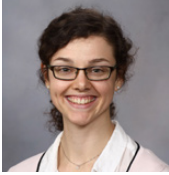
Lancaster University  
Lancaster, United Kingdom

**Ph.D., Biochemistry and Molecular Biology**

Class: 2020  
Advisor: Mark A. McNiven, Ph.D.  
Thesis: Regulation of Hepatocyte Growth  
and Metabolism by the Small Rab GTPases

**Position**

Postdoctoral Research Fellow  
The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill  
Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center  
Chapel Hill, North Carolina



**ELIZABETH ECKERT**

**B.S., Chemistry**

Viterbo University  
La Crosse, Wisconsin

**Ph.D., Clinical and Translational Science**

Class: 2020  
Advisor: Stephen J. Russell, M.D., Ph.D.  
Thesis: Oncolytic Vesicular Stomatitis  
Virus Encoding Murine and Human  
Chemokines for Modulation of the  
Tumor Microenvironment



**CAITLIN FERMOYLE**

**B.A., Biology**

Gustavus Adolphus College  
Saint Peter, Minnesota

**Ph.D., Biomedical Engineering and Physiology**

Class: 2021  
Advisor: Bruce D. Johnson, Ph.D.  
Thesis: The Impact of Exercise on  
Pulmonary Congestion and Respiratory  
Gas Exchange in Heart Failure with  
Preserved Ejection Fraction

**Position**

Postdoctoral Fellow  
Utah Vascular Research Laboratory  
Department of Internal Medicine  
Salt Lake City, Utah



# Doctor of Philosophy



**ALICIA KRISTINE FLEMING MARTINEZ**

**B.S., Biology**

University of North Florida  
Jacksonville, Florida

**Ph.D., Biochemistry and Molecular Biology**

Class: 2021

Advisor: Peter Storz, Ph.D.

Thesis: Oxidative Stress in Pancreatic  
Cancer: A Pathway to DCLK1+ Cancer Stem  
Cell Formation and A Role for MnSOD in  
Early Lesion Development

**Position**

Research Fellow  
Mayo Clinic  
Department of Cancer Biology  
Jacksonville, Florida



**ALEX GENEROUS**

**B.A., Biochemistry, Cell and Molecular Biology**

Drake University  
Des Moines, Iowa

**Ph.D., Virology and Gene Therapy**

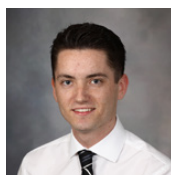
Class: 2020

Advisor: Roberto Cattaneo, Ph.D.

Thesis: Nectin-elicited Cytoplasm Transfer  
Characterization and its Exploitation by  
Measles Virus

**Position**

Associate Director, Science Communications  
National Cattlemen's Beef Association,  
Membership and Communications  
Centennial, Colorado



**JORDAN MARK GRAINGER**

**B.A., Biochemistry & Molecular Biology**

Washington University  
St. Louis, Missouri

**Ph.D., Molecular Pharmacology and  
Experimental Therapeutics**

Class: 2021

Advisor: Liewei Wang, M.D., Ph.D.

Thesis: Study of Genomic Aberrations  
and Drug Response in Breast Cancer  
and Metastatic Castration-Resistant  
Prostate Cancer

**Position**

Postdoctoral Research Fellow  
Sanofi  
Molecular Oncology  
Boston, Massachusetts



**DANIELLE MARIE HERNANDEZ**

**B.S., Secondary Education Biology and  
Integrated Science**

Northern Michigan University  
Marquette, Michigan

**Ph.D., Biochemistry and Molecular Biology**

Class: 2020

Advisor: Edward B. Leof, Ph.D.

Thesis: IPF Pathogenesis is Dependent  
upon TGF $\beta$  Induction of IGF-1

**Position**

Regional Medical Affairs Director  
Mirati Therapeutics  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

# Doctor of Philosophy



**ERIN M. HIGGINS**

**B.S., Neuroscience**

University of Minnesota  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

**Ph.D., Molecular Pharmacology and  
Experimental Therapeutics**

Class: 2020

Advisor: Michael J. Ackerman, M.D., Ph.D.  
Thesis: Elucidation of MRAS-mediated  
Noonan Syndrome

**Position**

Postdoctoral Fellow  
Mayo Clinic Ventures  
Mayo Clinic  
Rochester, Minnesota



**AMANDA L. HUFF**

**B.S., Microbiology**

Arizona State University  
Tempe, Arizona

**Ph.D., Virology and Gene Therapy**

Class: 2021

Advisor: Richard G. Vile, Ph.D.  
Thesis: Targeting Mechanisms of  
Protein Degradation to Improve  
Viral Immunotherapy

**Position**

Postdoctoral Research Fellow  
Johns Hopkins University  
Oncology- Gastrointestinal Cancer  
Baltimore, Maryland



**BENJAMIN T. HIMES**

**B.A., Biology**

University of Pennsylvania  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

**M.D.**

Yale University of Medicine  
New Haven, Connecticut

**Ph.D., Immunology**

Class: 2021

Advisor: Ian F. Parney, M.D., Ph.D.  
Thesis: Extracellular Vesicle-mediated  
Immunosuppression in Glioblastoma

**Residency**

Neurologic Surgery  
Mayo Clinic  
Rochester, Minnesota



**RACHEL MARIE HURLEY\***

**B.A., ACS Chemistry, Biology**

Augustana University  
Sioux Falls, South Dakota

**M.D.**

Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine  
Rochester, Minnesota

**Ph.D., Molecular Pharmacology and  
Experimental Therapeutics**

Class: 2020

Advisor: Scott H. Kaufmann, M.D., Ph.D.  
Thesis: Impacting the Clinical Course of  
Epithelial Ovarian Cancer Through Novel  
Therapeutic Advances

**Residency**

Children's Hospital of Philadelphia  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

\*denotes M.D.-Ph.D. dual degree program

# Doctor of Philosophy



## CALLEY JENAE JONES

### **B.S., Biology**

Baylor University  
Waco, Texas

### **Ph.D., Biochemistry and Molecular Biology**

Class: 2021

Advisor: John R. Hawse, Ph.D.

Thesis: Elucidating the Mechanisms of  
Endoxifen Resistance in Estrogen Receptor  
Alpha Positive Breast Cancer

### **Position**

Science Writer  
American Association for Cancer Research  
Department of Communications and  
Public Relations  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania



## DAKOTA L. JONES

### **B.S., Bioengineering**

Syracuse University  
Syracuse, New York

### **Ph.D., Biomedical Engineering and Physiology**

Class: 2021

Advisor: Daniel J. Tschumperlin, Ph.D.

Thesis: Epigenetic Regulation of  
Lung Fibroblast Activation

### **Position**

Research Collaborator  
Mayo Clinic  
Rochester, Minnesota



## SOUDEBAH KARGAR

### **B.S., Civil Engineering**

Isfahan University of Technology  
Isfahan, Iran

### **M.Sc., Earthquake Engineering**

Sharif University of Technology  
Tehran, Iran

### **M.Sc., Mechanical Engineering**

University of Alabama  
Huntsville, Alabama

### **Ph.D., Biomedical Engineering and Physiology**

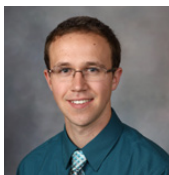
Class: 2020

Advisor: Stephen J. Riederer, Ph.D.

Thesis: Advances in Multi-Parametric  
Prostate MRI

### **Position**

Postdoctoral Research Scholar  
Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center,  
Medical Physics  
New York, New York



## KEVIN KELLY

### **B.S., M.S., Physiology**

Michigan State University  
East Lansing, Michigan

### **Ph.D., Clinical and Translational Science**

Class: 2020

Advisor: Bruce D. Johnson, Ph.D.

Thesis: Role of Body Fluid Volumes in  
Heart Failure Outcomes

### **Position**

Professor  
Green River College  
Biological Sciences  
Seattle, Washington

# Doctor of Philosophy



## **ALAA KOLEILAT**

### **B.S., Biology**

University of California  
Los Angeles, California

### **M.S., Biological Sciences**

University of Minnesota  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

### **Ph.D., Clinical and Translational Science**

Class: 2020

Advisors: Stephen C. Ekker, Ph.D. and  
Lisa A. Schimmenti, M.D.

Thesis: Zebrafish Hearing Science:  
Paving the Way to Better Patient Care

### **Position**

Clinical Fellow  
Laboratory Genetics and Genomics  
Mayo Clinic Laboratory Medicine and Pathology  
Rochester, Minnesota



## **SHAHEEN SHIRAZ KURANI**

### **B.S., Anthropology and Human Biology**

Emory University  
Atlanta, Georgia

### **ScM., Molecular Microbiology and Immunology**

Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of  
Public Health  
Baltimore, Maryland

### **Ph.D., Clinical and Translational Science**

Class: 2020

Advisor: Nilay Shah, Ph.D.

Thesis: Place and Poverty: Using Area  
Deprivation Index to Assess the Impact of  
Socioeconomic Disadvantage on Health  
Behaviors and Outcomes

### **Position**

Research Associate  
Mayo Clinic  
Department of Health Care Policy Research  
Rochester, Minnesota



## **JAMES KREMPSKI**

### **B.S., Biomedicine**

Midwestern University  
Glendale, Arizona

### **Ph.D., Immunology**

Class: 2020

Advisor: Hirohito Kita, M.D.

Thesis: Immunological Mechanisms of  
Sensitization and Tolerance to Peanut

### **Position**

Postdoctoral  
Stanford University  
Palo Alto, California



## **JAZEEL F. LIMZERWALA**

### **B.S., Biotechnology**

University of Mumbai  
Mumbai

### **Ph.D., Biochemistry and Molecular Biology**

Class: 2021

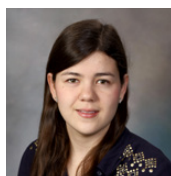
Advisor: Bruce F. Horazdovsky, Ph.D.

Thesis: Alterations in Centrosome Separation  
and the Actomyosin Cortex as a Source of  
Tumor Promoting Chromosomal Instability

### **Position**

Research Fellow  
Mayo Clinic  
Rochester, Minnesota

# Doctor of Philosophy



**MANUELA LOPERA HIGUITA**

**B.S., Electrical Engineering**

North Dakota State University  
Fargo, North Dakota

**Ph.D., Biomedical Engineering and Physiology**

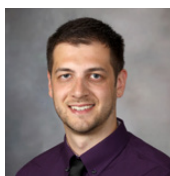
Class: 2021

Advisor: Leigh G. Griffiths, Ph.D., MRCVS

Thesis: Xenogenic Small Diameter Vein  
Extracellular Matrix Scaffolds for Use in  
Vascular Diseases

**Position**

Postdoctoral Research Fellow  
Mayo Clinic, Radiology,  
Neurovascular Research  
Rochester, Minnesota



**BRYCE ALEXANDER MANSO**

**B.Sc., Biology**

Pacific Lutheran University  
Tacoma, Washington

**Ph.D., Immunology**

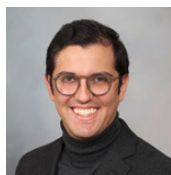
Class: 2021

Advisor: Kay L. Medina, Ph.D.

Thesis: The Role of TNF-alpha in Chronic  
Lymphocytic Leukemia Hematopoietic  
Dysfunction

**Position**

Postdoctoral Fellow  
The University of California Santa Cruz,  
Institute for the Biology of Stem Cells  
Santa Cruz, California



**GABRIEL MARTÍNEZ GÁLVEZ**

**B.S., Microbiology, Biomedical Engineering**

Universidad de Los Andes  
Bogotá, Colombia

**Ph.D., Biomedical Engineering and Physiology**

Class: 2021

Advisor: Stephen C. Ekker, Ph.D.

Thesis: A Hardware and Software Method to  
Facilitate Precision Genome Engineering

**Position**

Postdoctoral Fellow  
Kyoto University, Center for  
iPS Cell Research and Application  
Kyoto, Japan



**WILLIAM MATCHETT**

**B.S., B.A., Biology and Chemistry**

Augsburg University  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

**Ph.D., Virology and Gene Therapy**

Class: 2020

Advisor: Michael A. Barry, Ph.D.

Thesis: Single-Cycle Adenovirus Vaccines  
Against Mucosal Pathogens

**Position**

Postdoctoral Fellow  
University of Minnesota  
Department of Microbiology and Immunology  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

# Doctor of Philosophy



**APRIL LYN MCPHERSON**

**B.S., Biomedical Engineering**

University of Cincinnati  
Cincinnati, Ohio

**Ph.D., Biomedical Engineering and Physiology**

Class: 2020

Advisor: Clifton R. Haider, Ph.D.

Thesis: An Investigation Towards  
Understanding How Neural Contributions  
Affect Anterior Cruciate Ligament Injury Risk  
and Recovery

**Position**

Associate Data Scientist  
United States Olympic & Paralympic  
Committee, Sports Medicine  
Colorado Springs, Colorado



**CHRISTINE MEHNER**

**M.D.**

University Witten/Herdecke  
Witten, Germany

**Ph.D., Biochemistry and Molecular Biology**

Class: 2020

Advisor: Evette S. Radisky, Ph.D.

Thesis: Identifying and Addressing Roles  
of Proteases and Protease Inhibitors in  
Progression of Metastasis of Ovarian Clear  
Cell Carcinoma

**Position**

Postdoctoral Fellow  
Mayo Clinic, Department of Physiology and  
Biomedical Engineering  
Jacksonville, Florida



**CRYSTAL ADRIANNE MENDOZA**

**B.S., Cell and Molecular Biochemistry**

University of Texas  
El Paso, Texas

**Ph.D., Virology and Gene Therapy**

Class of 2021

Advisor: Hideki Ebihara, Ph.D.

Thesis: Generation of Novel Antivirals  
Against Emerging Tick-borne Viruses



**KATHERINE MINTER-DYKHOUSE**

**B.Sc., Hons, Cell Biology**

University of Durham  
Durham, United Kingdom

**Ph.D., Molecular Pharmacology and  
Experimental Therapeutics**

Class: 2020

Advisors: Clifford D. Folmes, Ph.D. and  
Timothy J. Nelson, M.D., Ph.D.

Thesis: Proliferation and Ploidy During  
Cardiac Differentiation of Human Induced  
Pluripotent Stem Cells

**Position**

Director of Contract Manufacturing  
and Laboratory Services  
Scienion US Inc.  
Phoenix, Arizona

# Doctor of Philosophy



## **TANDA MURRAY DUDENKOV**

### **B.S., Biological Sciences**

University of Maryland Baltimore County  
Baltimore, Maryland

### **M.H.S., Genetic Epidemiology**

Johns Hopkins School of Public Health  
Baltimore, Maryland

### **Ph.D., Molecular Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics**

Class: 2020

Advisor: Richard Weinshilboum, M.D.

Thesis: The Genetics of Aromatase Inhibitor-  
Related Phenotypes in Postmenopausal  
Women with ER+ Breast Cancer



## **SOMAIRA NOWSHEEN\***

### **B.S., Biology**

### **M.S., Molecular Biology and Biotechnology**

East Carolina University  
Greenville, North Carolina

### **M.D.**

Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine  
Rochester, Minnesota

### **Ph.D., Molecular Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics**

Class: 2020

Advisor: Zhenkun Lou, Ph.D.

Thesis: Regulation of DNA Double  
Strand Break Repair

### **Residency**

Dermatology  
University of California  
San Diego Medical Center  
San Diego, California



## **CHRISTOPHER R. PARADISE**

### **B.A., Biology**

Saint Olaf College  
Northfield, Minnesota

### **Ph.D., Molecular Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics**

Class: 2020

Advisor: Andre J. van Wijnen, Ph.D.

Thesis: The Role of Bromodomain-  
containing Protein 4 in Epigenetic Control  
of Skeletal Development

### **Position**

Senior Scientist  
Analytical Development  
Rion LLC  
Rochester, Minnesota



## **PAOLA ASERET RAMOS**

### **B.S., Biochemistry and Molecular Biology**

University of Texas at El Paso  
El Paso, Texas

### **Ph.D., Biochemistry and Molecular Biology**

Class: 2021

Advisor: Michael D. Jensen, M.D.

Thesis: The Role of Ceramides in Skeletal  
Muscle Insulin Resistance Development

### **Position**

Clinical Chemistry Postdoctoral Fellowship  
Mayo Clinic  
Department of Laboratory Medicine  
and Pathology  
Rochester, Minnesota

\*denotes M.D.-Ph.D. dual degree program

# Doctor of Philosophy



**CODY N. ROZEVELD**

**B.S., Biochemistry and Biology**

Alma College  
Alma, Michigan

**Ph.D., Biochemistry and Molecular Biology**

Class: 2021  
Advisor: Gina Razidlo, Ph.D.  
Thesis: Metabolic Reprogramming in  
Pancreatic Cancer: Balancing Lipid  
Droplet Storage and Catabolism During  
Tumor Cell Invasion

**Position**

Postdoctoral Research Fellow  
Mayo Clinic  
Rochester, Minnesota



**ANNYOCELI SANTIAGO-DAVIS**

**B.S., Molecular Biology**

University of Puerto Rico - Rio Piedras  
San Juan, Puerto Rico

**Ph.D., Biochemistry and Molecular Biology**

Class: 2021  
Advisor: Bruce F. Horazdovsky, Ph.D.  
Thesis: The Role of BubR1 in Vascular Biology

**Position**

Postdoctoral Fellow  
Mayo Clinic  
Department of Molecular Medicine  
Rochester, Minnesota



**MATTHEW RICHARD SCHUELKE\***

**B.S., Bioengineering**

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign  
Champaign, Illinois

**M.D.**

Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine  
Rochester, Minnesota

**Ph.D., Immunology**

Class: 2021  
Advisor: Richard G. Vile, Ph.D.  
Thesis: Viroimmunotherapy for the  
Treatment of Diffuse Intrinsic Pontine Glioma

**Residency**

Pediatrics  
Children's Hospital of Philadelphia  
Physician-Scientist Program  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania



**MEGAN LEIGH KOHLER SETTELL**

**B.S., Molecular and Cellular Biology**

Winona State University  
Winona, Minnesota

**Ph.D., Clinical and Translational Science**

Class: 2021  
Advisors: Kip Ludwig, Ph.D. and  
Aaron J. Johnson, Ph.D.  
Thesis: Anatomy and Histology of  
the Pig: Implications for Vagus  
Nerve Stimulation

**Position**

Research Associate  
University of Wisconsin-Madison  
Department of Biomedical Engineering  
Madison, Wisconsin

\*denotes M.D.-Ph.D. dual degree program



# Doctor of Philosophy



## **CYNTHIA JANET SIEBEN (HOMMERDING)**

### **B.S., Cell Biology**

University of Minnesota-Duluth  
Duluth, Minnesota

### **Ph.D., Biochemistry and Molecular Biology**

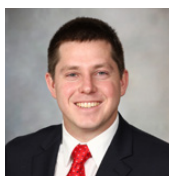
Class: 2020

Advisor: Jan van Deursen, Ph.D.

Thesis: Exploiting Mosaic Variegated  
Aneuploidy Syndrome Mutations to Elucidate  
BubR1's Role in Cancer and Aging

### **Position**

Postdoctoral Research Fellow  
Mayo Clinic  
Nephrology & Hypertension Research  
Rochester, Minnesota



## **JOHN ANDREW SMESTAD\***

### **B.S., Chemistry**

Wheaton College  
Wheaton, Illinois

### **M.D.**

Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine  
Rochester, Minnesota

### **Ph.D., Biochemistry and Molecular Biology**

Class: 2021

Advisor: L. James Maher III, Ph.D.

Thesis: Understanding Succinate-induced  
Global Transcriptional and Epigenetic  
Reprogramming and Identifying Unique  
Vulnerabilities Intrinsic to SDH-deficient Cells

### **Residency**

Internal Medicine  
University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics  
Iowa City, Iowa



## **MIRANDA MAY STANDIFORD**

### **B.S., Zoology and Psychology**

University of Wisconsin  
Madison, Wisconsin

### **Ph.D., Neuroscience**

Class: 2020

Advisor: Charles L. Howe, Ph.D.

Thesis: Microglial Responses to  
Citrullinated Myelin and the  
Consequences of Demyelination

### **Position**

Research Fellow, Biogen  
Multiple Sclerosis Research Unit  
Cambridge, Massachusetts



## **PHILLIP ANTHONY STARSKI**

### **B.S., Neuroscience and Psychology**

Central Michigan University  
Mount Pleasant, Michigan

### **Ph.D., Neuroscience**

Class: 2020

Advisor: Doo-Sup Choi, Ph.D.

Thesis: Neural Basis of Chronic and Binge  
Alcohol Exposure and Impulsive Behavior

### **Position**

Postdoctoral Fellow  
Indiana University School of Medicine  
Department of Psychiatry  
Indianapolis, Indiana

\*denotes M.D.-Ph.D. dual degree program

# Doctor of Philosophy



**ROSALIE MARIE DUNHAM STERNER\***

**B.A., Chemistry**

**B.S., Biology, Biochemistry, Cell and**

**Molecular Biology**

Drake University

Des Moines, Iowa

**M.D.**

Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine

Rochester, Minnesota

**Ph.D., Immunology**

Class: 2020

Advisor: Karen E. Hedin, Ph.D.

Thesis: Manipulating the Bone Marrow

Microenvironment in Hematological

Malignancy

**Residency**

Joint General and Cardiothoracic Surgery

Mayo Clinic

Rochester, Minnesota



**KARI LEAH TURKOWSKI**

**B.S., Accounting**

Saint Cloud State University

Saint Cloud, Minnesota

**Ph.D., Clinical and Translational Science**

Class: 2021

Advisor: Michael J. Ackerman, M.D., Ph.D.

Thesis: Genetic Architecture, Polygenic

Risk Scores, and Artificial Intelligence

Guided Risk Stratification in Congenital

Long QT Syndrome

**Position**

Postdoctoral Fellow

Mayo Clinic

Mayo Clinic Platform

Rochester, Minnesota



**JAMES KENNETH TREVATHAN**

**B.A., Physics**

Gustavus Adolphus College

St. Peter, Minnesota

**Ph.D., Biomedical Engineering and Physiology**

Class: 2020

Advisors: J. Luis Lujan, Ph.D., M.S. and

Kendall H. Lee, M.D., Ph.D.

Thesis: Characterization and Control

of Neurotransmitter Release and

its Implications for Closed-Loop

Neuromodulation Therapies

**Position**

Postdoctoral Fellow

Biomedical Engineering

University of Wisconsin

Madison, Wisconsin



**TAMIEL N. TURLEY**

**B.S., Biology**

Texas Woman's University

Denton, Texas

**Ph.D., Molecular Pharmacology and**

**Experimental Therapeutics**

Class: 2021

Advisor: Timothy M. Olson, M.D.

Thesis: Identifying the Genetic

Underpinnings of Spontaneous Coronary

Artery Dissection

**Position**

Research Fellow

Mayo Clinic

Cardiovascular Diseases

Rochester, Minnesota

\*denotes M.D.-Ph.D. dual degree program

# Doctor of Philosophy



## **STEFANIE NICOLE VELGOS**

### **B.S., Molecular Biosciences and Biotechnology**

Arizona State University  
Tempe, Arizona

### **M.S., Molecular Neuroscience**

Mayo Clinic Graduate School  
Scottsdale, Arizona

### **Ph.D., Clinical and Translational Science**

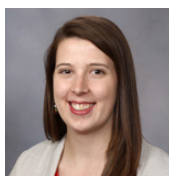
Class: 2020

Advisor: Yonas Geda, M.D.

Thesis: Emerging Non-Invasive Technologies  
in Cognitive Impairment

### **Position**

Clinical Applications Specialist  
Nexstim Inc.  
Phoenix, Arizona



## **CHRISTINA MARIE WEBBER**

### **B.S., Bioengineering**

Pennsylvania State University  
University Park, Pennsylvania

### **M.S., Biomedical Engineering**

University of Akron  
Akron, Ohio

### **Ph.D., Biomedical Engineering and Physiology**

Class: 2020

Advisor: Kenton R. Kaufman, Ph.D.

Thesis: A Comprehensive Description  
of Independent Function of Adults with  
Traumatic Brachial Plexus Injuries

### **Position**

Staff Fellow  
U.S. Food & Drug Administration  
Center for Devices and Radiological Health  
Silver Spring, Maryland



## **ALEX WESTON**

### **B.S., Biomedical Engineering**

University of Minnesota  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

### **Ph.D., Biomedical Engineering and Physiology**

Class: 2020

Advisor: Bradley J. Erickson, M.D., Ph.D.

Thesis: Automated Segmentation of CT  
Abdomen for Quantifying Body Composition  
Using Deep Learning

### **Position**

Senior Data Analyst  
Mayo Clinic  
Department of Health Science Research  
Jacksonville, Florida



## **ELIZABETH K. WIESE**

### **B.A., Biology & Biochemistry and Molecular Biology**

Gustavus Adolphus College  
St. Peter, Minnesota

### **Ph.D., Molecular Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics**

Class: 2021

Advisor: Taro Hitosugi, Ph.D.

Thesis: Keto Acids and Cancer Metabolism

### **Position**

Sr. Research Regulatory Analyst  
Mayo Clinic  
Office of Research Regulatory Support  
Rochester, Minnesota

# Doctor of Philosophy



**KATELYNN MARIE WILTON\***

**B.S., Biology, Computer Science**

Clarkson University  
Potsdam, New York

**M.D.**

Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine  
Rochester, Minnesota

**Ph.D., Immunology**

Class: 2021  
Advisor: Daniel D. Billadeau, Ph.D.  
Thesis: Regulation of Natural Killer  
Cell-Mediated Cytotoxicity by the  
Ena/VASP Protein Family

**Residency**

Pathology  
Brigham and Women’s Hospital  
Boston, Massachusetts



**ALEKSANDRA MARIA WOJTAS**

**B.S. & M.S., Biotechnology**

University of Silesia  
Katowice, Poland

**Ph.D., Neuroscience**

Class: 2020  
Advisor: John D. Fryer, Ph.D.  
Thesis: Pathobiology of Clusterin in  
Alzheimer’s Disease

**Position**

Postdoctoral Fellow  
Mayo Clinic  
Department of Neuroscience  
Jacksonville, Florida

\*denotes M.D.-Ph.D. dual degree program

# Doctor of Philosophy



**JACQUELINE ZAYAS\***

**B.S., Biology**

Florida International University  
Miami, Florida

**M.D.**

Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine  
Rochester, Minnesota

**Ph.D., Molecular Pharmacology and  
Experimental Therapeutics**

Class: 2021

Advisor: Liewei Wang, M.D., Ph.D.

Thesis: Individualizing Taxane  
Treatment in Breast Cancer

**Residency**

Medicine-Preliminary  
Medical College of Wisconsin  
Affiliated Hospitals  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin  
  
Dermatology  
University of Colorado School of Medicine  
Aurora, Colorado

\*denotes M.D.-Ph.D. dual degree program



# Master in Biomedical Sciences

# Master in Biomedical Sciences



**AMRO MOHAMED MERGHANI  
ABDELRAHMAN**

**M.B.B.S.**

University of Khartoum  
Khartoum, Sudan

**M.S., Clinical and Translational Science**

Class: 2021

Advisor: Mark J. Truty, M.D., M.S.

Thesis: Mixed Acinar Neuroendocrine  
Carcinoma of The Pancreas: Population-  
Based Epidemiological Study and Validation  
of Patient-Derived Tumor Xenograft Model

**Position**

Research Fellow  
Department of Surgery  
Mayo Clinic  
Rochester, Minnesota



**MARYAM MOHAMMED AL HAMDANY**

**B.S., Chemistry**

University of Mosul  
Mosul, Iraq

**M.S., Molecular Pharmacology and  
Experimental Therapeutics**

Class of 2021

Advisor: Doo-Sup Choi, Ph.D.

Scholarly Review: Dysregulation of  
Neurotransmitters and Suicide

**Position**

Vascular Access Technician  
Inpatient Lab Services  
Mayo Clinic  
Rochester, Minnesota



**FARES ALAHDAB**

**M.D.**

Damascus University, School of Medicine  
Damascus, Syria

**M.S., Clinical and Translational Science**

Class: 2020

Advisor: M. Hassan Murad, M.D.

Thesis: Measurements of Resilience and Grit  
Among Internal Medicine Residents: Validity  
and Correlations with Medical Knowledge,  
Professionalism, and Clinical Performance

**Position**

Assistant Professor of Medicine  
Research Associate  
Mayo Evidence-based Practice Center  
Mayo Clinic  
Rochester, Minnesota



**MOHAMMED ALI ALVI**

**M.B.B.S.**

Sindh Medical College,  
Dow University of Health Sciences  
Karachi, Pakistan

**M.S., Clinical and Translational Science**

Class: 2021

Advisor: Mohamad Bydon, M.D.

Thesis: Are All Outpatient Surgeries  
the Same? Evaluating the Differences in  
Outcomes of Patients Undergoing Routine  
Spine Surgery at Hospital Outpatient vs.  
Free-Standing Ambulatory Surgical Centers

**Position**

Preliminary Neurosurgery  
University of Minnesota  
Minneapolis, Minnesota



# Master in Biomedical Sciences



## HECTOR ALONSO QUINONES

### M.D.

Medicine, University of Puerto Rico  
San Juan, Puerto Rico

### M.S., Clinical and Translational Science

Class: 2020

Advisor: Michelle M. Mielke, Ph.D.

Thesis: Prostate Cancer, Use of  
Androgen Deprivation Therapy,  
and Cognitive Impairment

### Residency

Neurology  
University of Miami,  
Jackson Memorial Hospital  
Miami, Florida



## LINDSEY GRACE ANDRES-BECK

### B.A.

Saint Olaf College  
Northfield, Minnesota

### M.S., Molecular Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics

Class: 2021

Advisors: Doo-Sup Choi, Ph.D. and  
Kendall H. Lee, M.D., Ph.D.



## SUZETTE MARIE ARIAS MEJIAS

### B.A., Biology

University of Puerto Rico  
Cayey, Puerto Rico

### M.D.

University of Puerto Rico,  
Medical Sciences Campus  
San Juan, Puerto Rico

### M.S., Clinical and Translational Science

Class: 2020

Advisor: Alexander Meves, M.D.

Thesis: Precision Medicine by  
Targeting Cell Adhesion in Melanoma

### Residency

Veterans Affairs Caribbean  
Healthcare System  
San Juan, Puerto Rico



## SARAH ANNE CASTRO

### B.A., Biology

Western Connecticut State University  
Danbury, Connecticut

### M.S., Immunology

Class: 2021

Advisor: Larry R. Pease, Ph.D.

### Position

Senior Research Associate  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
Cambridge, Massachusetts

# Master in Biomedical Sciences



**DEREK CERVENKA**

**B.S., Molecular Biology**

Winona State University  
Winona, Minnesota

**M.S., Biochemistry and Molecular Biology**

Class: 2020  
Advisor: Alexander Meves, M.D.  
Scholarly Review: Tumor Mutation  
Burden and Melanoma

**Position**

Development Technologist  
Mayo Clinic  
Dermatology  
Rochester, Minnesota



**VICTOR G. CHEDID**

**B.S., Biology**

American University of Beirut  
Beirut, Lebanon

**M.D.**

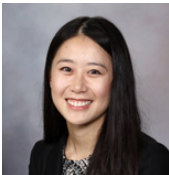
American University of Beirut  
Beirut, Lebanon

**M.S., Clinical and Translational Science**

Class: 2021  
Advisor: Michael J. Camilleri, M.D.  
Thesis: Evaluation and Treatment of Gastric  
Motor Dysfunction in Patients with  
Upper Gastrointestinal Symptoms

**Position**

Assistant Professor of Medicine  
Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology  
Mayo Clinic  
Rochester, Minnesota



**LESLEY CHU**

**B.S., Neuroscience**

University of California Los Angeles  
Los Angeles, California

**D.M.D.**

University of Pittsburgh  
School of Dental Medicine  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

**M.S., Orthodontics**

Class: 2021  
Advisor: John E. Volz, D.D.S.  
Thesis: Public Perception of Orthodontics  
and Retail Aligner Sales; Ethical Implications

**Position**

Orthodontist  
Smile Frederick Orthodontics  
Frederick, Maryland



**CHRISTINA M. DHEEL**

**B.S., Biochemistry**

Stony Brook University  
Stony Brook, New York

**M.S., Neuroscience**

Class of 2021  
Advisor: Jennifer M. Martinez-Thompson, M.D.  
Scholarly Review: Telemedicine in ALS

**Position**

Clinical Lab Technologist  
Molecular Genetics  
Mayo Clinic  
Rochester, Minnesota

# Master in Biomedical Sciences



**ALÍ DUARTE GARCÍA**

**M.D.**

Universidad Autonoma de Chihuahua  
Chihuahua, Mexico

**M.S., Clinical and Translational Science**

Class: 2020  
Advisor: Kenneth J. Warrington, M.D.  
Thesis: Epidemiology of Antiphospholipid  
Syndrome: A Population-Based Study

**Position**

Assistant Professor of Medicine,  
Rheumatology  
Mayo Clinic  
Rochester, Minnesota



**ALEXANDER C. EGBE**

**M.B.B.S.**

Abia State University  
Uturu, Abia, Nigeria

**M.P.H.**

John Moores University  
Liverpool, United Kingdom

**M.S., Clinical and Translational Science**

Class: 2020  
Advisor: Barry A. Borlaug, M.D.  
Thesis: Prognostic Implications of Inferior  
Vena Cava Hemodynamics in Ambulatory  
Patients with Tetralogy of Fallot

**Position**

Associate Professor of Medicine  
Senior Associate Consultant  
Department of Cardiovascular Medicine  
Mayo Clinic  
Rochester, Minnesota



**MATTEO FABBRI**

**M.D.**

University of Modena  
Modena, Italy

**M.S., Clinical and Translational Science**

Class: 2021  
Advisor: Veronique L. Roger, M.D.  
Thesis: Health Literacy and Outcomes  
in Heart Failure

**Residency**

Internal Medicine  
Jacobi/Albert Einstein College of Medicine  
New York City, New York



**ZULEIDY FERNANDEZ**

**D.M.D.**

University of Puerto Rico  
San Juan, Puerto Rico

**Advanced Education in General Dentistry**

New York University,  
Langone Medical Center  
New York, New York

**M.S., Periodontics**

Class: 2020  
Advisor: Daniel A. Assad, D.D.S.  
Thesis: Cardiovascular and Periodontal  
Disease Knowledge-Based Questionnaire

**Residency**

Periodontics  
Mayo Clinic  
Rochester, Minnesota

# Master in Biomedical Sciences



**ERIC JAMES FINNESGARD**

**B.A.**

University of Minnesota  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

**M.D.**

Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine  
Rochester, Minnesota

**M.S., Clinical and Translational Science**

Class: 2021  
Advisor: Thomas C. Bower, M.D.  
Thesis: The Natural History of Medically  
Managed Stanford Type B Aortic Dissection

**Residency**

University of Massachusetts Medical School  
Worcester, Massachusetts



**ANSH GOYAL**

**M.B.B.S.**

All India Institute of Medical Sciences  
New Delhi, India

**M.S., Clinical and Translational Science**

Class: 2021  
Advisor: Mohamad Bydon, M.D.  
Thesis: Opioid Prescription Practices  
Following Spine Surgery: Implications for  
Quality Improvement

**Residency**

Neurosurgery  
Mayo Clinic  
Jacksonville, Florida



**CHRISTOPHER SALVATORE GRAFFEO**

**B.A.**

University of Virginia  
Charlottesville, Virginia

**M.D.**

New York University School of Medicine  
New York City, New York

**M.S., Clinical and Translational Science**

Class: 2020  
Advisor: Bruce E. Pollock, M.D.  
Thesis: Novel Approaches to Modeling  
Outcomes After Stereotactic Radiosurgery  
for Pituitary Adenomas

**Residency**

Fellow in Skull Base Neuro-oncology  
Mayo Clinic  
Department of Neurologic Surgery  
Rochester, Minnesota



**JENNIFER GRAUBERGER**

**B.A., Chemistry**

Willamette University  
Salem, Oregon

**M.D.**

Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine  
Rochester, Minnesota

**M.S., Clinical and Translational Science**

Class: 2021  
Advisor: Andre J. van Wijnen, Ph.D.  
Thesis: Management of Isolated Diaphyseal  
Femur Fractures in Children: a 22-year  
Single Institution Experience

**Residency**

University of Massachusetts Medical School  
Worcester, Massachusetts

# Master in Biomedical Sciences



**R. GRAHAM GREENLAND**

**B.S., Biochemistry**

University of Detroit Mercy  
Detroit, Michigan

**D.D.S.**

University of Detroit Mercy  
School of Dentistry  
Detroit, Michigan

**M.S., Prosthodontics**

Class: 2021  
Advisor: Thomas J. Salinas, D.D.S.  
Thesis: Failure Strength Comparison of  
Acrylic Resin Denture Teeth within  
Auto/Heat Polymerized Acrylic Resins

**Position**

Maxillofacial Prosthodontist  
Greenland Advanced Oral Care  
Grand Rapids, Michigan



**MARIO HEVESI**

**B.S., Statistics and Biochemistry**

University of Wisconsin  
Madison, Wisconsin

**M.D.**

University of Minnesota  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

**M.S., Orthopedics**

Class: 2020  
Advisor: Aaron J. Krych, M.D.  
Thesis: Characterization and Storage of  
Cartilage for Use as Living Donor Allograft

**Position**

Scholar  
Department of Orthopedic Surgery  
Mayo Clinic  
Rochester, Minnesota



**ERIK DAVID HOKENSTAD**

**B.A., Political Science**

Saint John's University  
Collegeville, Minnesota

**M.D.**

University of North Dakota School of  
Medicine and Health Sciences  
Grand Forks, North Dakota

**M.S., Female Pelvic Medicine and  
Reconstructive Surgery**

Class: 2020  
Advisor: John A. Occhino, M.D., M.S.  
Thesis: Ergonomic Robotic Console  
Configuration in Gynecologic Surgery:  
An Interventional Study

**Residency**

Female Pelvic Medicine and  
Reconstructive Surgery  
Mayo Clinic  
Rochester, Minnesota



**ADAM LUKE JASPERSEN**

**B.S., Genetics, Cell Biology and Development**

University of Minnesota  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

**M.S., Biochemistry and Molecular Biology**

Class: 2021  
Advisor: John R. Hawse, Ph.D.  
Scholarly Review: The Structure and  
Function of Mitochondria in Disease

**Position**

Account Manager  
Zeiss Microscopy in  
the Bay Area, California

# Master in Biomedical Sciences



**ABBY ELIZABETH JEWELL**

**B.S., Biology**

University of Alabama  
Tuscaloosa, Alabama

**D.D.S.**

University of Missouri-Kansas City  
School of Dentistry  
Kansas City, Missouri

**M.S., Orthodontics**

Class: 2021  
Advisor: Chad M. Rasmussen, D.D.S.  
Thesis: The Incidence of Antero-Posterior Skeletal Combinations Utilizing the Goal Anterior Limit Line and Dental Combinations Utilizing Incisor Inclination

**Position**

Orthodontist  
Kansas City, Missouri



**TL JORDAN**

**B.A., Biology**

University of Minnesota  
Morris, Minnesota

**M.S., Immunology**

Class: 2020  
Advisor: Marina Ramirez-Alvarado, Ph.D.

**Position**

Electoral Grassroots Organizer  
Planned Parenthood



**FANG JIN**

**M.S., Anesthesiology**

Hebei Medical University  
Shijiazhuang, Hebei, China

**M.D., Clinical Medicine**

Shanxi Medical University  
Shanxi, China

**M.S., Neuroscience**

Class: 2021  
Advisor: Aaron J. Johnson, Ph.D.  
Scholarly Review: Brain Glioblastoma (GBM) Mouse Models

**Position**

Senior Technologist  
Immunology Department  
Mayo Clinic  
Rochester, Minnesota



**JEREMIAH B. JOYCE**

**B.S., Environmental Health**

Colorado State University  
Fort Collins, Colorado

**M.D.**

Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine  
Rochester, Minnesota

**M.S., Clinical and Translational Science**

Class: 2021  
Advisor: Richard Weinshilboum, M.D.  
Thesis: Using Multi-Domain Data to Predict Remission of Unipolar Depressive Episodes Following Antidepressant Therapy

**Residency**

Mayo Clinic School of Graduate Medical Education  
Department of Psychiatry and Psychology  
Rochester, Minnesota

# Master in Biomedical Sciences



**PARAS KARMACHARYA**

**M.B.B.S.**

Kathmandu University School of  
Medical Sciences  
Kavre, Nepal

**M.S., Clinical and Translational Science**

Class: 2021

Advisors: John M. Davis III, M.D., and  
Cynthia S. Crowson, Ph.D.

Thesis: Epidemiology of Psoriatic Arthritis:  
A Population-Based Study

**Position**

Instructor of Medicine,  
Division of Rheumatology  
Vanderbilt University Medical Center  
Nashville, Tennessee



**TONI PICERNO KILTS**

**D.O.**

Kansas City University of  
Medicine and Biosciences,  
Kansas City, Missouri

**M.S., Clinical and Translational Science**

Class of 2021

Advisor: William A. Cliby, M.D.

Thesis: Understanding of Extramammary  
Paget's Disease: Epidemiology Molecular  
Characterization and Outcomes Following a  
Change in Clinical Management

**Position**

Attending Physician  
Sarasota Memoria Hospital  
Sarasota, Florida



**TANA KIM**

**B.S., Molecular and Cellular Biology**

University of Illinois  
Urbana-Champaign, Illinois

**M.D.**

Medical College of Wisconsin  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

**M.S., Reproductive Endocrinology  
and Infertility**

Class: 2021

Advisor: Elizabeth A. Stewart, M.D.

Thesis: Decreased Gremlin 1 Expression  
in Cumulus Cells from Obese Women is  
Mediated by IL-10 and IL-1B in the  
Follicular Fluid

**Position**

Reproductive Endocrinologist  
Reproductive Medicine and  
Infertility Associates  
Woodbury, Minnesota



**CASSANDRA K. KISBY**

**B.S., Biological Anthropology and Anatomy**

Duke University  
Durham, North Carolina

**M.D.**

Duke Hospital  
Durham, North Carolina

**M.S., Female Pelvic Medicine and  
Reconstructive Surgery**

Class: 2020

Advisor: John A. Occhino, M.D., M.S.

Thesis: Exosome-Induced Vaginal  
Epithelial Regeneration in a Porcine  
Mesh Exposure Model

**Position**

Assistant Professor OB/Gyn  
Duke Hospital  
Durham, North Carolina

# Master in Biomedical Sciences



**MEGHAN M. KOZUB**

**B.S., Biology**

Northern Michigan University  
Marquette, Michigan

**M.S., Biochemistry and Molecular Biology**

Class: 2021  
Advisor: Martin E. Fernandez-Zapico, M.D.  
Scholarly Review: Single Cell  
RNA Sequencing

**Position**

Senior Research Technologist  
Mayo Clinic  
Rochester, Minnesota



**SEONG WOO (SCOTT) LEE**

**B.S., Biochemistry-Biology and  
Management Science**

University of California San Diego  
La Jolla, California

**D.M.D.**

Western University School of  
Science College of Dental Medicine  
Pomona, California

**M.S., Periodontics**

Class: 2021  
Advisor: Alan B. Carr, D.M.D.  
Thesis: Association of Immediate Dental  
Implant Survival with Periodontal Disease  
and Periodontal Maintenance Status

**Position**

Associate Periodontist  
Private Practice  
Rochester, Minnesota



**MARIA EUGENIA LOZADA**

**B.S., Cellular and Molecular Biology**

University of Puerto Rico  
San Juan, Puerto Rico

**M.D.**

University of Puerto Rico School of Medicine  
San Juan, Puerto Rico

**M.S., Clinical and Translational Science**

Class: 2020  
Advisor: Lewis R. Roberts, M.B., Ch.B., Ph.D.  
Thesis: New Clinically Based Staging System  
for Intrahepatic Cholangiocarcinoma:  
Establishment and External Validation

**Residency**

General Surgery  
University of Puerto Rico School of Medicine  
San Juan, Puerto Rico



**DANIEL ALEJANDRO MACIAS**

**B.S., Physiology**

University of Arizona  
Tucson, Arizona

**M.S., Biomedical Engineering and Physiology**

Class: 2021  
Advisors: Quinn P. Peterson, Ph.D. and  
Carlos B. Mantilla, M.D., Ph.D.

**Position**

Catheter Lab Coordinator  
Phoenix, Arizona



# Master in Biomedical Sciences



**DEEPA MAHESWARI NARASIMHULU**

**M.B.B.S.**

Madras Medical College  
Chennai, Tamil Nadu, India

**M.D.**

All India Institute of Medical Sciences  
New Delhi, India

**M.S., Clinical and Translational Science**

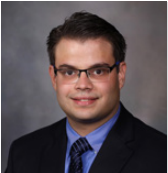
Class: 2021

Advisor: William A. Cliby, M.D.

Thesis: Optimizing Triage Strategies to Improve Outcomes After Primary Treatment for Women with Advanced Epithelial Ovarian Cancer

**Position**

Assistant Clinical Professor  
Division of Gynecologic Oncology  
Department of Surgery  
City of Hope Comprehensive Cancer Center  
Duarte, California



**MASSINI ALEXANDER MERZKANI**

**M.D.**

Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Honduras  
Tegucigalpa, Honduras

**M.D.**

Albert Einstein College of Medicine  
Bronx, New York

**M.S., Clinical and Translational Science**

Class: 2021

Advisor: Andrew D. Rule, M.D.

Thesis: Long Term Outcomes in Living Kidney Donors

**Position**

Assistant Professor  
Transplant Nephrology  
Washington University  
Saint Louis, Missouri



**ISMAIL MERT**

**M.D.**

Ankara University School of Medicine  
Ankara, Turkey

**M.S., Gynecologic Oncology**

Class: 2020

Advisor: Marina R. Walther-Antonio, Ph.D.

Thesis: Prediction of Future Development of Endometrial Cancer: Is There Any Bug Within the Endometrial Samples?

**Position**

Physician  
Advocate Health Care  
Chicago, Illinois



**KEVIN CHARLES MILLER**

**B.S., Genetics**

University of Wisconsin – Madison  
Madison, Wisconsin

**M.D.**

Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine  
Rochester, Minnesota

**M.S., Clinical and Translational Science**

Class: 2020

Advisor: Shaji Kumar, M.D.

Thesis: Strategies to Improve Outcomes in Multiple Myeloma: Preclinical Therapeutics Targeting MEK, HDAC and BCL-2 Proteins and Optimizing Autologous Hematopoietic Cell Transplantation

# Master in Biomedical Sciences



**ELENA MYASOEDOVA**

**M.D.**

Ivanovo State Medical Academy  
Ivanovo, Russia

**Ph.D.**

Russian Academy of Medical Sciences  
Moscow, Russia

**M.S., Clinical and Translational Science**

Class: 2020

Advisor: John M. Davis III, M.D.

Thesis: Optimization of the Flare Management  
in Patients with Rheumatoid Arthritis

**Position**

Senior Associate Consultant  
Division of Rheumatology  
Associate Professor of Internal Medicine  
Mayo Clinic  
Rochester, Minnesota



**ZUZANA NEDELSKA**

**M.D.**

Charles University  
Prague, Czech Republic

**M.S., Clinical and Translational Science**

Class: 2020

Advisor: Kejal Kantarci, M.D.

Thesis: Investigation of Coexisting  
Alzheimer's Disease-related Pathology in  
Patients with Dementia with Lewy Bodies  
Using Multimodality Imaging

**Position**

Research Affiliate  
Radiology  
Mayo Clinic  
Rochester, Minnesota



**ANITA NGUYEN**

**M.B.B.S.**

Barts and The London School of  
Medicine and Dentistry  
London, United Kingdom

**M.S., Clinical and Translational Science**

Class: 2020

Advisor: Hartzell V. Schaff, M.D.

Thesis: Surgical Myectomy in Patients with  
Obstructive Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy:  
Long-Term Outcomes Following Septal  
and Apical Myectomy

**Residency**

General Surgery  
Mayo Clinic  
Rochester, Minnesota



**PIERCE ANDREW REYNOLDS**

**B.S., Microbiology**

Northern Michigan University  
Marquette, Michigan

**M.S., Virology and Gene Therapy**

Class: 2020

Advisor: Richard G. Vile, Ph.D.

# Master in Biomedical Sciences



**ALAA SADA**

**M.D.**

University of Damascus  
Damascus, Syria

**M.S., Clinical and Translational Science**

Class: 2021

Advisor: Elizabeth B. Habermann, Ph.D.

Thesis: Adrenocortical Carcinoma:  
Comparison between Functional and  
Non-functional Neoplasms

**Residency**

General Surgery  
Mayo Clinic  
Rochester, Minnesota



**ELIA SECHI**

**M.D.**

University of Sassari  
Sassari, Italy

**M.S., Clinical and Translational Science**

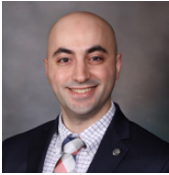
Class: 2020

Advisor: Eoin P. Flanagan, M.B., B.Ch.

Thesis: Inflammatory Myelopathies:  
Clinical and MRI Spectrum in the  
Era of Glial Autoantibodies

**Position**

Neurology Consultant, Neurology Unit  
Department of Medical, Surgical and  
Experimental Sciences  
University of Sassari  
Sassari, Italy



**KHALED SHAWWA**

**B.S., Biology**

American University of Beirut  
Beirut, Lebanon

**M.D.**

American University of Beirut  
Beirut, Lebanon

**M.S., Clinical and Translational Science**

Class: 2020

Advisor: Kianoush B. Kashani, M.D., M.S.

Thesis: New-Onset Atrial Fibrillation in  
Patients with Acute Kidney Injury on  
Continuous Renal Replacement Therapy

**Position**

Assistant Professor of Medicine  
Section of Nephrology  
Department of Medicine  
West Virginia University School of Medicine  
Morgantown, West Virginia



**AYSE IREM SONMEZ**

**M.D.**

Istanbul University Cerrahpasa  
Medical Faculty  
Istanbul, Turkey

**M.S., Clinical and Translational Science**

Class: 2021

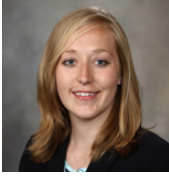
Advisor: Paul E. Croarkin, D.O., M.S.

Thesis: Dimensional and Spectroscopic  
Biomarkers of Adolescent Depression

**Residency**

University of Minnesota  
Department of Psychiatry and  
Behavioral Sciences  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

# Master in Biomedical Sciences



**MEAGAN E. TIBBO**

**B.A.**

Dartmouth College  
Hanover, New Hampshire

**M.D.**

Emory University School of Medicine  
Atlanta, Georgia

**M.S., Orthopedics**

Class: 2020  
Advisor: Matthew P. Abdel, M.D.  
Thesis: Novel Anti-Fibrotic Effects of  
Celecoxib and Ketotifen in a  
Rabbit Model of Arthrofibrosis

**Residency**

Department of Orthopedic Surgery  
Mayo Clinic  
Rochester, Minnesota



**DIOGO TORRES**

**B.S., Chemistry**

University of Florida  
Gainesville, Florida

**M.D.**

University of Virginia  
Charlottesville, Virginia

**M.S., Gynecologic Oncology**

Class: 2020  
Advisor: Saravut J. (John) Weroha, M.D., Ph.D.  
Thesis: Overcoming Platinum Resistance  
in Ovarian Cancer by Targeting  
Pregnancy-Associated Plasma Protein-A

**Position**

Gynecologic Oncologist  
Ochsner Health System  
Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology  
Division of Gynecologic Oncology Surgery  
New Orleans, Louisiana



**MARYSIA SUSAN TWEET**

**M.D.**

University of Minnesota  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

**M.S., Clinical and Translational Science**

Class: 2021  
Advisor: Sharonne N. Hayes, M.D.  
Thesis: Spontaneous Coronary Artery  
Dissection: Utility of Echocardiography

**Position**

Consultant, Cardiology  
Mayo Clinic  
Rochester, Minnesota



**SARASCHANDRA VALLABHAJOSYULA**

**M.B.B.S.**

Kasturba Medical College of Manipal  
Manipal, India

**M.S., Clinical and Translational Science**

Class: 2021  
Advisor: Shannon M. Dunlay, M.D., M.S.  
Thesis: Contemporary Outcomes of  
Cardiogenic Shock and Cardiac Arrest  
Complicating Acute Myocardial Infarction

**Position**

Clinical Fellow  
Interventional Cardiology  
Emory University School of Medicine  
Atlanta, Georgia

# Master in Biomedical Sciences



**ERIC J. VARGAS VALLS**

**M.D.**

Penn State College of Medicine  
Hershey, Pennsylvania

**M.S., Clinical and Translational Science**

Class: 2021

Advisor: Barham K. Abu Dayyeh, M.D., M.P.H.

Thesis: Relationship between Gastric Emptying, Bariatric Therapies and Weight Loss

**Position**

Advanced Endoscopy Fellow  
Mayo Clinic  
Gastroenterology  
Rochester, Minnesota



**PRIYA VIJAYVARGIYA**

**B.S., Pre-Med**

Pennsylvania State University  
State College, Pennsylvania

**M.D.**

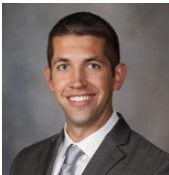
Sidney Kimmel Medical College –  
Thomas Jefferson University  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

**M.S., Clinical and Translational Science**

Class: 2021

Advisor: Michael J. Camilleri, M.D.

Thesis: Diagnostic Evaluation and  
Therapeutic Trial in Patients with  
Bile Acid Diarrhea



**CODY C. WYLES**

**B.S., Neurobiology**

University of Washington  
Seattle, Washington

**M.D.**

Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine  
Rochester, Minnesota

**M.S., Clinical and Translational Science**

Class: 2020

Advisor: Rafael J. Sierra, M.D.

Thesis: Disruption in PPARG Increases  
Osteonecrosis Risk Through Genetic  
Variance and Pharmacologic Modulation

**Position**

Mayo Clinic Scholar  
Department of Orthopedic Surgery  
Mayo Clinic  
Rochester, Minnesota

# A Farewell Thanks

As we transition beyond graduate school, we pause to truly thank those who have supported us along this journey. We hail our families, who have provided a lifetime of love and support during our growth as scientists. We are forever indebted to our mentors, who are champions of education, beacons of optimism in the face of disappointment, and brilliant examples of what we hope to become. We appreciate our lab mates, classmates, and friends, who rode the roller coaster with us, and the administrators who helped us to stay on track. We also thank our gracious benefactors for their continued financial support for our truly unique educational opportunity.

Our genuine and deep gratitude is extended to all who have helped us through the remarkable Mayo Clinic Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences experience. Please join us in celebration of this important time of transition.

*Mayo Clinic Graduate School of  
Biomedical Sciences  
Classes of 2020 and 2021*

# Awards





# About the Awards

## Dean’s Recognition Award

Dean’s Recognition Award recipients are chosen by the leadership of Mayo Clinic Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences. Recipients exemplify exceptional service to graduate school education.

## Teacher of the Year Award

Each year the graduate students select faculty members to receive Teacher of the Year Awards. The awards are given to faculty members who have made significant contributions to graduate student education.

## Outstanding Mentor Award

Outstanding Mentor Award recipients are chosen by the Mayo Clinic Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences predoctoral students to recognize effective mentors. Mentorship refers to the facilitation of individual student success and independence by providing appropriate tools and promoting skill learning in a mutually respectful environment with open communication. Effective mentors advise and help the mentee develop the numerous skills they need to be scientific leaders.

## Program Director’s Achievement Award

The inaugural Program Director’s Achievement Award recipient was chosen by M.D.-Ph.D. program leadership for outstanding research achievement during the period of enrollment in the Mayo Clinic Medical Scientist Training Program.

## RECIPIENTS

### Dean’s Recognition Award

- 2020  
Scott H. Kaufmann, M.D., Ph.D.  
Pamela J. McLean, Ph.D.

- 2021  
Bruce F. Horazdovsky, Ph.D.  
John D. Fryer, Ph.D.

### Teacher of the Year Award

- 2020  
Martin E. Fernandez-Zapico, M.D.  
Lewis R. Roberts, M.B., Ch.B., Ph.D.

- 2021  
Kathryn A. Knoop, Ph.D.  
LongJun (Long-Jun) Wu, Ph.D.

### Outstanding Mentor Award

- 2020  
L. James Maher III, Ph.D.
- 2021  
Haidong Dong, M.D., Ph.D.

### Program Director’s Achievement Award

- 2020  
Somaira Newsheen, M.D., Ph.D.



## 2020 Dean's Recognition Award

**SCOTT H. KAUFMANN, M.D., PH.D.**

Dr. Kaufmann was selected for the Dean's Recognition Award for his decades of commitment to the graduate school's cause as a dedicated mentor who has contributed to the success of many past and present students, the M.D.-Ph.D. Program's co-director and associate director for faculty affairs, and a well-respected graduate course teacher.

Dr. Kaufmann has mentored 14 graduate students (eight Ph.D. and six M.D.-Ph.D.) and 27 postdoctoral fellows in his lab. Among the 26 fellows who have finished training, 19 are in academic positions and four are working in the pharmaceutical industry. His history of mentorship, along with 17 years as associate director of the Mayo Clinic Medical Scientist Training Program (MSTP), led to his appointment as co-director of the MSTP in 2019.

Since 1994, Dr. Kaufmann has served as a consultant for the Division of Oncology Research in the Department of Oncology at Mayo Clinic in Rochester. He has been a professor of Pharmacology since 1999 and co-leader of the Mayo Clinic Cancer Center's three-site Experimental Therapeutics Program since 2003. He currently serves on the editorial boards of Clinical Cancer Research, Molecular Cancer Research, Cell Death & Differentiation and Faculty Opinions.

The overall goal of Dr. Kaufmann's research program is to improve the therapy of malignant diseases through enhanced

understanding of antineoplastic drug action. Toward this end, his laboratory group has focused on acute leukemia and more recently on ovarian cancer. His team has performed basic studies examining the biochemistry and biology of apoptosis, a cell death process that is triggered by a wide range of anticancer treatments. In addition, they have performed preclinical and translational studies on a variety of chemotherapeutics, including inhibitors of topoisomerases, DNA repair enzymes, and various kinases. Among his team's many accomplishments, Dr. Kaufmann's research provided the first biochemical evidence for anticancer drug-induced apoptosis and the first evidence that caspases play a role in this process.

Dr. Kaufmann received his Bachelor of Arts in Chemistry from Carleton College and his M.D.-Ph.D. from Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. He remained at Johns Hopkins for his postdoctoral training and rose to the rank of associate professor before he joined Mayo Clinic in 1994.



## 2020 Dean's Recognition Award

**PAMELA J. MCLEAN, PH.D.**

Dr. McLean was selected for the Dean's Recognition Award as a tribute to her years of service on the MCGSBS Florida campus as a dedicated leader, student mentor and graduate school teacher.

Dr. McLean has been training students and postdoctoral fellows for the past 15 years, first as faculty at Harvard Medical School and now at Mayo Clinic. She is currently mentoring two graduate students in the Neuroscience track and is currently on the thesis committee of eight Ph.D. candidates and has mentored 17 postdoctoral fellows and 15 undergraduate students. As the neuroscience program director, her duties included student recruitment, course development, teaching, service to the Graduate School advisory Committee and membership of the Mayo Clinic Medical Scientist Training Program admissions committee.

Dr. McLean's high-impact research centers on the role of the presynaptic protein, alpha-synuclein, in neurodegenerative diseases, with a specific focus on Lewy body dementia and Parkinson's disease. Her lab uses in vitro cellular models of alpha-synuclein aggregation and toxicity as well as in vivo targeted gene transfer with adeno-associated virus (AAV) to understand the molecular pathogenesis of these diseases with special emphasis on developing novel therapeutic approaches. This work has resulted in more than 90 original papers on alpha-synuclein biology since 2000.

Dr. McLean's research has been funded by multiple sources including NIH and the Michael J. Fox foundation. She is currently co-director of the American Parkinson's Disease Association Mayo Clinic Center for Advanced Research and the NIH funded consortium U54 Lewy Body Dementia Center without Walls.

Dr. McLean received a Mayo Clinic Excellence in Education award in 2015. She was also honored by the community that year, receiving the Jacksonville Business Journal's Health Care Hero award for Education. In 2020, Dr. McLean received a Mayo Clinic Distinguished Educators Award, recognizing her commitment and service to the education mission of Mayo Clinic. She has been an editorial board member of Molecular Degeneration since 2012 and the American Journal of Neurodegenerative Disease since 2013. She is a past standing member on the NIH study section NSD-B and currently serves on NST-2.

Dr. McLean received her Bachelor of Science in Biochemistry from the University of Glasgow in Scotland, received her Ph.D. in Pharmacology from the Boston University School of Medicine, and completed her postdoctoral training at the Massachusetts General Hospital and Harvard Medical School. She has been at Mayo Clinic in Jacksonville since 2012.



## 2021 Dean's Recognition Award

**BRUCE F. HORAZDOVSKY, PH.D.**

Since joining Mayo Clinic in 2002, Dr. Horazdovsky, Ph.D. has been actively involved in numerous educational efforts including curriculum and course development. He has served as associate dean for the graduate school since 2004 with a focus on academic affairs since 2019. In his service as associate dean, he oversees the health of the biomedical sciences curricula and research training programs, not only to meet our school's strategic goals, but to prepare students for the challenges they will face in their careers. He has directly mentored eight Ph.D. students, three postdoctoral fellows, one medical research fellow and 12 undergraduate students.

His other leadership roles include the director of the Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship Program, director of the Office of Postdoctoral Affairs and Research Training, and associate director of the Medical Scientist Training Program.

Dr. Horazdovsky has a joint appointment as a consultant for both the Biochemistry and Molecular Biology and Education Administration departments. He has been an associate professor of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology since 2005. His former research program focused on the regulation of intracellular protein trafficking events and how such events impact cell survival, growth, and differentiation.

He received his Bachelor of Arts in Microbiology from St. Olaf College and his Ph.D. in Molecular Biology from Case Western Reserve University. He obtained his postdoctoral training in Cell Biology at the California Institute of Technology and the University of California.



## 2021 Dean's Recognition Award

**JOHN D. FRYER, PH.D.**

Dr. Fryer received his Bachelor of Science in Microbiology from the University of Arizona, Tucson and his Ph.D. in Neuroscience from Washington University in St. Louis. He obtained his postdoctoral training at the Baylor College of Medicine. His lab studies the pathogenesis of Alzheimer's disease and related dementias as well as the long-term consequences of sepsis and critical illness on the brain. He began his service to Mayo Clinic began in Florida in 2011, where he was a consultant, assistant dean for MCGSBS in Jacksonville, associate program director for the neuroscience track, and a member of the Florida Executive Education Committee.

Dr. Fryer has been a source of guidance for many learners during his time at Mayo, including visiting scholars, undergraduate students, and graduate students. He is currently mentoring both Ph.D. and M.D.-Ph.D. students in his lab, and he has served on numerous Ph.D. thesis advisory

committees and several workgroups and task force groups. Upon relocating his laboratory to Arizona, he helped to develop the vision for MCGSBS-AZ's education programs and initiatives, which he continues to do in his current role as associate dean for the MCGSBS Ph.D. students and as the inaugural director for the M.D.-Ph.D. program in AZ. Dr. Fryer also works with local and regional educational institutions to build relationships to help foster external affiliations and collaborations with the MCGSBS.



## 2020 Teacher of the Year Award

**MARTIN E. FERNANDEZ-ZAPICO, M.D.**

Dr. Fernandez-Zapico is a Consultant in the Department of Oncology with joint appointments in the Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology (Department of Medicine). He holds the ranking of professor in the Departments of Medicine and Pharmacology. He directs the Cancer Biology Courses (I and II) and he is also involved in teaching several other graduate school courses and is currently mentoring four graduate students towards their Ph.D. degrees.

Dr. Fernandez-Zapico's career focuses on pancreatic cancer research with a specific emphasis on epigenetic mechanisms driving the biology of this dismal disease.

Dr. Fernandez-Zapico completed his doctoral studies at the University of Cordoba in Argentina, followed by a postdoctoral fellowship at Mayo Clinic in Rochester. His decades-long commitment to Mayo Clinic continues to this day. Dr. Fernandez-Zapico has been an instrumental member of Mayo Clinic Cancer Center's Specialized Program of Research Excellence (SPORE) in pancreatic cancer research, on which his cancer research has been consistently focused. While he currently serves on the SPORE's steering committee, he has served in numerous

other capacities including the director of the Developmental Projects Program, a member of the Pancreatic Cancer Discovery Team, and in several other roles.

Dr. Fernandez-Zapico's contribution to education is highly valued. His nominators say "this teacher is well-known as someone who genuinely cares for his students and their education. His passion for sharing his expertise shines through in each lecture, and his commitment to his role as an educator is remarkable. Students have lauded his fairness and how he structures his lectures to maximize learning and application of knowledge. Students have mentioned time and again how they truly enjoy the courses he teaches."

Dr. Fernandez-Zapico is the Associate Editor of Pancreatology and is on the editorial board for Cancer Research and Epigenomes. He is also a charter member of the National Institute of Health Clinical Oncology Study Section and other national and international associations.



## 2020 Teacher of the Year Award

**LEWIS R. ROBERTS, M.B., CH.B, PH.D.**

Dr. Roberts wears many hats—he is a professor of Medicine and director for research at the Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine, the associate director of predoctoral programs for the Mayo Clinic Center for Translational Science within MCGSBS, and co-chair for the Hepatobiliary Disease Group at the Mayo Clinic Cancer Center. Dr. Roberts has faithfully served Mayo Clinic for more than two decades, and countless students have him to thank for his dedication and passion for teaching. Dr. Roberts is currently mentoring three graduate students towards their Ph.D. degrees. Over the past 21 years, Dr. Roberts has mentored more than 180 individuals in a range of career stages, from transition to independence.

Students who nominated Dr. Roberts for the Teacher of the Year award say, “he has never missed an opportunity to cheerfully greet students nor to inquire after their well-being. With this habit, he has made a challenging or frosty day brighter for many of students. Though he is a practicing physician and scientist, he has never missed a thesis advisory meeting, and he can regularly be found at the mandatory CTS lunches. His consistent presence is evidence of his dedication to student success. This man is an

exemplary model of compassionate leadership and a commitment to training people to make advances in biomedical science.”

The overall goal of his research is to understand the epidemiology and molecular pathogenesis of hepatobiliary cancers (including hepatocellular carcinoma, cholangiocarcinoma, and gallbladder cancer) and to apply this knowledge to improving their prevention, diagnosis, prognostic prediction. He has a strong interest in cancer health disparities and is committed to reducing the burden of illness and death from hepatobiliary cancers in the United States and globally.

Dr. Roberts completed medical school at the University of Ghana Medical School. Following a Medical and Surgical internship in Ghana, he completed his Ph.D. in Physiology and Biophysics at the University of Iowa. Dr. Roberts went on to complete his Internal Medicine residency and Gastroenterology fellowship at Mayo Clinic in Rochester.



## 2021 Teacher of the Year Award

**KATHRYN A. KNOOP, PH.D.**

Dr. Knoop is a senior associate consultant in the Immunology department as well as a faculty member and assistant professor in Immunology and Pediatrics. Since starting at Mayo Clinic in 2019, she has made a significant impact to education initiatives within the Immunology track. In her first few months at Mayo Clinic, she took on a leading role in a departmental journal club that needed a new faculty director. She also established an academic skills workshop to help students develop their non-scientific skills such as CV/resume building and networking. Dr. Knoop currently mentors two graduate students, two Graduate Research Employment Program (GREP) students and has also mentored five post-baccalaureate students over the past five years.

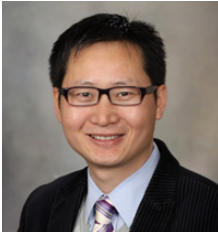
Though the early stages in any medical career are extremely demanding, Dr. Knoop was careful to set aside enough time to focus on improving educational opportunities in the Immunology track—time which is much appreciated by the students who have benefited from these improvements. Those who nominated Dr. Knoop for the TOTY Award echoed this gratitude: “Dr. Knoop serves not only as an exceptional mentor to the trainees in her lab, but she has also made it clear that she is always available to do whatever she can in order help any student succeed in their

scientific, career, or personal goals. Students praise her for being genuinely interested in the work of the students here and can always be counted on to ask thoughtful and insightful questions and participate in discussions during student seminars.”

Dr. Knoop’s research goals focus on how exposure to the microbiota can influence the development of the intestinal immune system during early life and how alterations affect oral tolerance and systemic disease. She has been a social media editor for *Mucosal Immunology* since 2017.

Dr. Knoop received her Bachelor of Science in Biochemistry from Drake University and her Ph.D. in Immunology and Molecular Pathogenesis from Emory University. She obtained her postdoctoral training in Mucosal Immunology at the Washington University School of Medicine.





## 2021 Teacher of the Year Award

**LONGJUN (LONG-JUN) WU, PH.D.**

Dr. Wu is a consultant with joint appointments in the Neurology and Immunology departments. He has been a professor of Neurology since 2019 and Neuroscience since 2020. He has taught in numerous Core, Immunology and Neuroscience MCGSBS graduate school courses during his five years at the Mayo Clinic.

Dr. Wu is currently mentoring four graduate students towards their Ph.D. degree and has served on more than 15 student thesis advisory committees. Student nominators had the following to say about his contribution to their education: “Dr. Wu’s enthusiasm is contagious and quickly spreads to the class. He is a cheerleader and educator in his mentorship.”

Dr. Wu’s research primarily focuses on the neuroimmune interaction in normal and diseased brains, with specific emphasis on the function of microglia. He has published more than 130 peer-reviewed articles with around 10,000 citations. The ultimate goal of Dr. Wu’s research is to identify microglia-specific therapeutic targets that will complement existing strategies for the treatment of epilepsy, neuropathic pain, ischemic stroke and autoimmune diseases.

Dr. Wu serves as Associate Editor for Molecular Brain and Neuroscience Bulletin. He is also an editorial board member for multiple journals including Glia, Brain Behavior & Immunity, Frontiers in Neuroscience, etc. He is currently a standing member of a NIH study section, and a committee member of several well-respected organizations including Society for Neuroscience, American Epilepsy Society and American Society for Neurochemistry.

Dr. Wu received his Ph.D. in Neurobiology and Biophysics from the University of Science and Technology of China. He did his postdoctoral training at the University of Toronto and Harvard Medical School.



## 2020 Outstanding Mentor Award

**L. JAMES MAHER III, PH.D.**

As the inaugural recipient of the Outstanding Mentor Award, Dr. Maher embodies and exceeds every criteria of the award.

A common theme from his nominators was their appreciation for the environment he has created in his lab, where everyone feels mutually respected. He has a genuine desire to help everyone in the lab reach their individual goals while maintaining a healthy work-life balance. He empowers everyone to think creatively and believes everyone's scientific ideas are valued regardless of their experience, expertise or education level. Dr. Maher's passion for teaching extends to both students' day-to-day progress and overall development as scientists.

Dr. Maher has mentored 23 students on their paths to a Ph.D. degree and has served on more than 70 additional Ph.D. thesis supervisory committees. He has developed and led enrichment activities for underrepresented students, supporting their biomedical research training during his tenure as program director for two long-term NIH grants. He has also supported the MCGSBS by his past service as both Dean and Associate Dean.

This is not the first recognition of his commitment to education at Mayo Clinic, as Maher is a four-time recipient of the

MCGSBS Teacher of the Year Award, and a past recipient of the MCGSBS Dean's Recognition Award.

Dr. Maher has served as a consultant for the Biochemistry & Molecular Biology department at Mayo Clinic in Rochester since 1995. He has been a professor of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology since 1999, and Bernard Pollack Professor of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology since 2015.

The overall goal of Dr. Maher's research program is to better understand nucleic acid biophysics, biology, engineering, and cancer. He attributes much of the success—including 27 years of continuous NIH funding—not only to his own mentors when he was a trainee, but to the continuing inspiration provided by his students' exceptional creativity.

Dr. Maher received his Bachelor of Science and Ph.D. in Molecular Biology from the University of Wisconsin – Madison. He obtained his postdoctoral training at the California Institute of Technology.



## 2021 Outstanding Mentor Award

**HAIDONG DONG, M.D., PH.D.**

Dr. Dong is the epitome of an outstanding mentor. As his nominators say, “he listens to his students’ concerns and struggles and offer solutions to their problems. He is truly invested in our future careers. It is one of the most diverse labs I know, and the environment created is very welcoming and inclusive.

Dr. Dong encourages you to be at your best in what you do the best but also challenges you to work on your weaknesses. He tells us (his students) that he wants us to be the leaders in the field- and for us to achieve that we need to acknowledge what we are best at and what we can learn from others. Dr. Dong not only cares about the research and data you are generating in the lab (which he always says- follow your data) but also our overall well-being.”

Dr. Dong has mentored three students to their Ph.D. degrees, has four students in progress and serves on thesis advisory committees for an average of five students per year. He also serves as course director for the department weekly journal club (Current Topic of Immunology) and bi-annual tutorial (Tumor Immunology).

Dr. Dong started at Mayo Clinic in 1998, currently has a joint appointment as a consultant for both the Urology and Immunology departments and is a co-leader of cancer immunology and immunotherapy

program at Mayo Clinic Cancer Center.

He co-discovered tumor-associated PD-L1 (a backbone of current cancer immunotherapy) in 1998-2002 and has been a professor of Immunology since 2018. His research program focuses on cancer immunology and how to use immunotherapy to prolong the survival of patients with advanced or metastatic cancers. His laboratory’s long-term goal is to understand the regulatory mechanisms shaping anti-tumor immunity and translate discoveries in cancer immunology into effective cancer immunotherapy.

He received his M.D. from China Medical University in Shenyang, China. He received both his Master of Science in Pathophysiology and his Ph.D. in Tumor Immunology from Dalian Medical University Graduate School in Dalian, China.



## 2020 Program Director's Achievement Award

**SOMAIRA NOWSHEEN, M.D., PH.D.**

Dr. Nowsheen was a 2020 graduate of the Mayo Clinic M.D.-Ph.D. program and is currently pursuing a residency in Dermatology at the University of California San Diego Medical Center after a transitional year at Gundersen Lutheran Medical Foundation in Wisconsin. She completed her Ph.D. thesis research in the laboratory of Dr. Zhenkun Lou in the Molecular Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics track. Dr. Nowsheen's research interests include methods to improve cancer therapy by using the approach of personalized medicine and by targeting DNA repair pathways to enhance the therapeutic ratio of various treatments.

Dr. Nowsheen completed her bachelor and master's degrees at East Carolina University in Greenville, North Carolina. She was on the Dean's List in 2004-2008, the Chancellor's List in 2005-2006 and received the Undergraduate Research Award in 2005. Along with her research mentor AG Georgakilas, Dr. Nowsheen authored and co-authored 19 publications about their research on repair of clustered DNA lesions and other aspects of cancer biology.

After working for several years as a research technologist, Dr. Nowsheen entered the Mayo Clinic M.D.-Ph.D. program in June 2012 and completed Ph.D. thesis research between 2014 and 2018. Dr. Nowsheen co-chaired the

M.D.-Ph.D. Annual Retreat in 2015 and was an M.D.-Ph.D. Student Representative during the 2015-2016 academic year. During the course of her research training, she received the Laura J. Siegel Breast Cancer Fellowship Award, the Vera Langan & Kieckhefer M.D.-Ph.D. Fellowships and the Agnes Hansen Award from the Xi Chapter of Graduate Women in Science. During her Ph.D. training she contributed to 20 publications from the Lou Laboratory. In addition to other findings, her laboratory studies identified the protein L3MBTL2 as a previously unrecognized component of the cell's DNA damage response machinery. In 2018, Dr. Nowsheen defended her Ph.D. thesis and returned to medical school.

During her clinical years, Dr. Nowsheen was a contributing author to 10 additional papers, including three first-author publications describing the risk of cardiac toxicity in breast cancer patients after Herceptin treatment.

Though her numerous publications from her activities during M.D.-Ph.D. training are an extraordinary achievement on their own, Dr. Nowsheen's work is also noteworthy for how they've enhanced the work of her peers, extending her substantive contribution to basic and clinical research while a student at Mayo Clinic. These accomplishments made her the unanimous choice as recipient of the first MSTP Directors' Achievement Award.

# Benefactor Funded Scholarships

**Corella and Bertram F. Bonner M.D.-Ph.D. Scholarships**

Corella and Bertram F. Bonner, Sr.,  
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Vera Jones Langan

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Predoctoral Fellowship in MCGSBS**  
Harry C. and Debra A. Stonecipher

## Congratulations from the Mayo Clinic Alumni Association

The officers and Board of Directors of the Mayo Clinic Alumni Association welcome you as the newest members of the alumni association. The association’s mission “Connecting our alumni and bringing Mayo Clinic values to the world” is central to our purpose, nurturing mutually beneficial relationships between Mayo Clinic and the remarkable individuals who participate in its education programs. Formed in 1915 by alumni who wished to maintain scientific and social contacts with the people and programs of Mayo Clinic, you now join the ranks of esteemed Mayo Clinic alumni and alumnae. Your colleagues can be found in more than 80 countries, on the faculty of the world’s leading medical schools and in leadership positions of national and international scientific organizations. We are proud to count you among our respected colleagues.

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