

Mayo Clinic M.D.-Ph.D. Program Current Students *

Junior MD Phase (M1/M2)



Oluwafunto Akindona, B.A.
Carleton College
Research Interest:
Cancer biology



Sunny Bobori, B.S.
Illinois College
Research Interests:
Aging and cell senescence;
cardiovascular regeneration



Likem Boney, B.A.
Vanderbilt University
Research Interests:
Immunology, regenerative
sciences



Sachi Chaudhari, B.S.
The Ohio State University
Research Interest:
Immunology



Victor Collins, B.S.
The University of Akron

Research Interests:
Tissue engineering, 3D Bioprinting,
biomaterials, regenerative
medicine, cancer biology



J. Pedro F. Safi, B.S., M.S.
Carnegie Mellon University

Research Interests:
Cell and gene therapy,
regenerative medicine



Elijah Garcia, B.S.
University of California,
San Diego
Research Interest:
Immunology



Sophia Goldberg, B.A.
Princeton University

Research Interests:
Neuroimmunology, autoimmune
disease, immunotherapies



Caleb Grenko, B.S.
Davidson College

Research Interests:
Genetics, artificial intelligence,
experimental therapeutics,
Systems biology



Enmar Harfoush, B.A.
Rutgers University

Research Interest:
Neuro-Oncology



Axel Hidalgo, B.S., M.S., M.S.
University of Southern California

Research Interests:
Bioinformatics, systems biology,
cancer biology



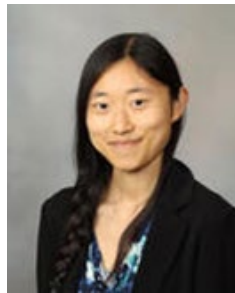
Elliana Huffman, B.S., M.S.

Drake University /
Iowa State University
Research Interests:
Biochemistry and molecular biology;
genetic cardiology



Trung Huynh, B.S.
University of Alabama
at Birmingham

Research Interests:
Regenerative sciences,
stem cells



Stella Ma, B.S.
University of Wisconsin, Madison

Research Interests:
Immunopathology



Asfia Numani, B.S.
Arizona State University

Research Interest:
Immunology

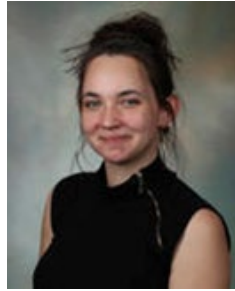


Juan Rojas Cabrera, B.S.
Winona State University

Research Interests:
Neuromodulation, movement
disorders, neuropsychiatric
conditions



Samantha Shao, B.A.
Harvard University
Research Interests:
Mood disorders, substance abuse
disorder, chronic pain, synaptic
plasticity



Victoria Stevens, B.S.
Yale University
Research Interests:
Computationally-based research



Vanessa Stubbs, B.S.
Florida Atlantic University
Research Interests:
Immunology, gene therapy



John Vu, B.S.
The Ohio State University
Research Interests:
Lung development, alveolar
organoids, congenital pulmonary
disorders



Taylor Witter, B.S.
California Polytechnic
State University
Research Interests:
Immunology, cancer biology

Research Phase (G)



Jacob Anderson, B.S.
University of Minnesota-Rochester
Molecular Pharmacology & Experimental Therapeutics
Dr. David Daniels, Advisor
Research Interest:
Development of novel chemical tools for the study and treatment of primary CNS neoplasms



Dallin Ashton, B.S.
Brigham Young University
Immunology
Dr. Haidong Dong
Research Interest:
T cell cytotoxicity in the tumor microenvironment



Maria Astudillo Potes, B.S.
Baylor University
Regenerative Sciences
Dr. Lichun Lu, Advisor
Research Interests:
Biomaterials and biomechanics



Sahej Bains, B.S.
Purdue University
Molecular Pharmacology & Experimental Therapeutics
Dr. Michael Ackerman, Advisor
Research Interest:
Suppression-replacement *KCNH2* gene therapy for type 2 Long QT Syndrome



Joseph Barnett, B.S.
Western Michigan University
Neuroscience
Dr. John Fryer, Advisor
Research Interests:
Biological psychiatry and sepsis associated brain dysfunction



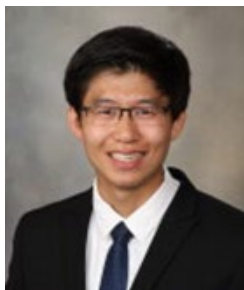
Shreya Bellampalli, B.S.
University of Arizona
Neuroscience
Dr. Arthur Beyder, Advisor
Research Interests:
Neuronal signaling and ion channel physiology



Angad Beniwal, B.S.
University of California, Los Angeles
Immunology
Dr. Nhan Tran, Advisor
Research Interests:
TWEAK-Fn14 drives immunosuppression and 5umor expansion in glioblastoma



Samantha Bouchal, B.S.
Duke University
Molecular Pharmacology & Experimental Therapeutics
Dr. John Fryer, Advisor
Research Interests:
Neurobiology, neuroinflammation, cancer



Justin Choe, B.S.
University of California-Berkeley
Immunology
Dr. Virginia Shapiro, Advisor
Research Interest:
Immunomodulatory approaches
for autoimmunity



Caroline Doherty, B.S.
Georgetown University
Molecular Pharmacology & Experimental Therapeutics
Dr. L. James, III, Advisor
Research Interests:
Experimental therapeutics,
pediatric oncology



Mihai Dumbrava, B.M.S.
University of Western Ontario
Regenerative Sciences
Research Interests:
Cancer Biology, immunotherapy,
and regenerative medicine



Matthew Flick, B.A.
University of California-Berkeley
Neuroscience
Dr. Leland Hu, Advisor
Research Interests:
Neuro-oncology,
neuroradiology



Armin Garmany, B.S.
Marshall University
Regenerative Sciences
Dr. Andre Terzic, Advisor
Research Interest:
Targeted therapies for heart failure
susceptibility



Ramin Garmany, B.S.
Marshall University
Molecular Pharmacology & Experimental Therapeutics
Dr. Michael Ackerman, Advisor
Research Interest:
Leveraging -omic technologies to
identify novel therapeutic targets
for hypertrophic cardiomyopathy



Abhinav Goyal, B.S. (Hon)
Columbia University
Biomedical Engineering & Physiology
Dr. Kendall Lee, Advisor
Research Interest:
Electrochemistry, artificial
intelligence, computational
neuroscience



Robin Heider, B.S.
Johns Hopkins University
Clinical & Translational Science
Dr. Karl Clark, Advisor
Research Interest:
Behavioral genetics, molecular
psychiatry, endocannabinoid
biology



Harvey Huang, B.A.S.
University of Pennsylvania
Clinical & Translational Science
Dr. Dora Hermes, Advisor
Research Interests:
Vision science, epilepsy,
intracranial EEG, neurostimulation,
computational neuroscience,
machine learning



Lucien Jay, B.A.
College of Charleston
Regenerative Sciences
Dr. Leigh Griffiths, Advisor
Research Interests:



Michael Jensen, B.S.
Oregon State University
Neuroscience
Dr. Kai Miller, Advisor
Research Interests:
Brain-computer interface; using
depth electrodes to understand
functional interconnectivity of
distributed motor networks



Jake Kloeber, B.S.
University of Rochester
**Molecular Pharmacology &
Experimental Therapeutics**
Dr. Zhenkun Lou, Advisor
Research Interests:
Genomic instability, chromosome
segregation, and DNA repair



Kevin Le, B.S.
University of Texas at Austin
Biochemistry & Molecular Biology
Dr. Cornelia Weyand, Advisor
Research Interests:
Human immunology, vascular
inflammation, atherosclerosis,
macrophage biology



Olivia Liseth, B.S.
University of Florida
Immunology
Dr. Richard Vile, Advisor
Research Interests:
Immunology, immunotherapies,
biomedical engineering



Jordan Marks, B.S.
Northeastern University
Neuroscience
Dr. Leonard Petrucelli, Advisor
Research Interests:
Neurodegenerative disease
pathogenesis, gene therapy



David Nascari, B.A.
University of Pittsburgh
Biochemistry & Molecular Biology
Dr. John Fryer, Advisor
Research Interests:
Regenerative medicine,
extracellular matrix biomaterials,
tumor microenvironment



Kianna Nguyen, B.S.
University of Colorado-Boulder

Regenerative Sciences
Dr. Alexander Revzin, Advisor
Research Interest:
Engineering biomaterial platforms
for regenerative medicine



Praveen Pallegar, B.S.
Stanford University

Neuroscience
Dr. Long-Jun Wu, Advisor
Research Interests:
Glial, neurodegeneration



Cecile Riviere-Cazaux, B.S.
University of California-
Los Angeles

**Molecular Pharmacology &
Experimental Therapeutics**
Dr. Terence Burns, Advisor
Research Interests:
Neuro-oncology experimental
therapeutics, clinical trial
development



Skylar Rizzo, B.S.
University of Florida

**Molecular Pharmacology &
Experimental Therapeutics**
Dr. Atta Behfar, Advisor
Research Interests:
Cardiology, regenerative medicine,
extracellular vesicles



Peter Rosen, B.S.
Brigham Young University

Dr. Jane Zhu

Research Interests:
Neuroblastoma, circular RNA



Jennifer Shin, B.A.
Yale University
Clinical & Translational Science
Dr. Kendall Lee, Advisor
Research Interests:
Optimization of functional
neurosurgery; Neurophysiology
of addiction, depression,
and OCD



Taylor Trentadue, B.S.
Duke University
**Biomedical Engineering &
Physiology**
Dr. Kristin Zhao, Advisor
Research Interests:
Orthopedic biomechanics and
musculoskeletal imaging



Caitlin VanLith, B.S.
St. Olaf College
Clinical & Translational Science
Dr. Lewis Roberts, Advisor
Research Interests:
Genetic epidemiology, public and
global health



Taylor Weiskittel, B.E., M.S.
B.E., University of Tennessee
M.S., University of Minnesota
Molecular Pharmacology & Experimental Therapeutics
Dr. Hu Li, Advisor
Research Interests:
Systems and synthetic biology,
machine learning, oncology,
immunology



Jessica Weng, B.S.
Rice University

Clinical & Translational Science
Dr. Sylvie Girard, Advisor
Research Interests:
Reproductive immunology;
Women's health, cancer



Lincoln Wurtz, B.A.
Ripon College

Neuroscience
Dr. Isobel Scarisbrick, Advisor
Research Interests:
Neurodegeneration, myelin repair



Grace Yu, B.S.
McGill University

Clinical & Translational Science
Dr. Saranya Wyles, Advisor
Dr. James Kirkland, Co-Advisor
Research Interests:
Computational biology, aging/
regeneration, genetics, dermatology



Sherry Zhou, B.S.
Massachusetts Institute of
Technology

Biochemistry & Molecular Biology
Dr. L. James Maher, III, Advisor
Research Interests:
Endocrine tumors, biochemistry
and chemical biology, oncogenesis,
cancer metabolism

Senior MD Phase (M3/M4)



Mylan Blomquist, B.S.
Arizona State University
Molecular Pharmacology & Experimental Therapeutics
Dr. Nhan Tran, Advisor
Research Interest:
Targeting recurrence in glioblastoma



Pedro Del Cioppo Vasques, B.S.
University of Chicago

Research Interests:
Neurodegeneration, glial cells



Ejlal Elaloui, B.S.
Johns Hopkins University

Research Interests:
Epigenetics, molecular biology



Ethan Grund, B.A.
Wesleyan University
Neuroscience
Dr. Charles Howe, Advisor
Research Interest:
Pentose phosphate inhibition in cytotoxic lymphocytes ameliorates neuroinflammatory disease



Kit (Catherine) Knier, B.S.
Marquette University
Clinical & Translational Science
Dr. Anthony Windebank, Advisor
Research Interest:
Promoting children's social and emotional health in the community



Arnaldo Mercado-Perez, B.S.
Johns Hopkins University
Biomedical Engineering & Physiology
Dr. Arthur Beyder, Advisor
Research Interest:
Linking Piezo2 to Actomyosin in GI Epithelial Mechanoreceptors



Malavika Nair, B.S.
University of Florida

Research Interests:
Neuroscience and regenerative medicine



Joseph Panos, B.S., M.S.
Ohio State University
Biomedical Engineering & Physiology
Dr. Chris Evans, Advisor
Research Interest:
Immunomodulation to improve the clinical performance of bone morphogenetic protein 2



Lindsey Randall, B.S.
University of Oklahoma

Research Interests:
Autoimmune diseases,
Pathology



Kenneth Valles, B.S., MPH
University of Colorado
Clinical & Translational Science
Dr. Lewis Roberts, Advisor
Research Interest:
Liver Disease Among Migrant
Populations: Improving prevention
and outcomes



Bailey Winter, B.S., M.S.
Michigan State University

Research Interest:
Deep brain stimulation

*Student participation is voluntary