

# The GRADUATE *bulletin*

Latest news from the School of Graduate Studies in the Health Sciences

## Word from the Dean

We are headed toward the holiday season at full steam! We had an excellent **2018 Research Day** on October 26 (*page 2*), with oral presentations given by seven of our post-doctoral fellows, poster presentations by **80 students and post-doctoral fellows**, and a great lunch session during which our students heard from distinguished alumnus Dr. David Rogers. Congratulations to the 12 students and 5 trainees who won poster presentation awards (*see below*)! The last month has been a busy one in the School of Graduate Studies - with events like the **American Society of Microbiology South Central Branch meeting** on November 2-3 hosted by the Microbiology and Immunology department (*page 3*), SpookyU Halloween trunk or treat event (*page 3*), and many of our students receiving various awards and honors (*page 4*). Spring semester is right around the corner, with registration opening on November 5. We are excited about the **upcoming SGSHS Holiday Open House** on Tuesday, November 20! We're over halfway through the fall semester...keep up the hard work!



Dr. Joey Granger

## Congratulations to Research Day Award Winners!

Join us in congratulating the graduate students and post-docs who won poster presentation awards on October 26 at the SGSHS Research Day:

### Graduate students



(From left) Mary Darby Jackson, Ciara McKnight, Marcelo Sakiyama, Austin Zamarippa, Walker Wiggins, Olivia Travis, Sid Gaikwad, Sonja Dragojevic. (Not pictured) Kenji Maeda, Jason Engel, Tyler Lomax, Jared Cobb.

### Post-doctoral Fellows



(From left) Dr. Pallabi Pal, Dr. Erin Taylor, Dr. Laís Berro, Dr. Edgar Torres-Fernandez, and Dr. Kiran Soni.

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## Important Dates

**NOVEMBER 16**

COPD LECTURE SERIES: DR. BARAK GUNTER



**NOVEMBER 20**

SGSHS HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE

**NOVEMBER 22-23**

THANKSGIVING HOLIDAYS



**Flu shot  
deadline Dec 7!**  
Visit student/  
employee health  
today!



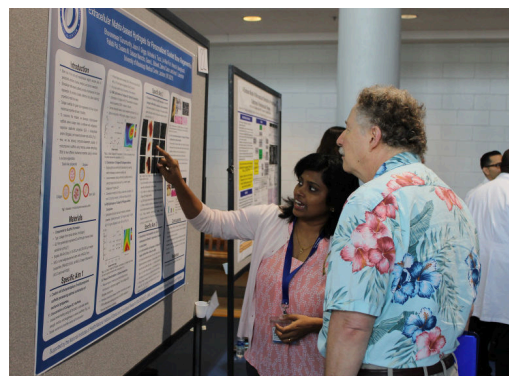
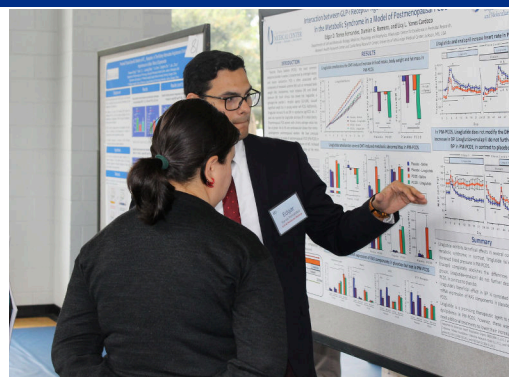
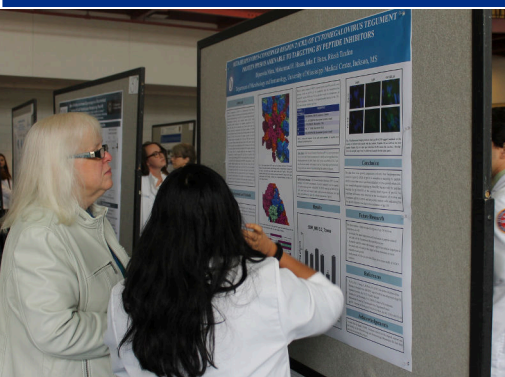
**63** graduate students  
and **17** post-docs/  
instructors  
presented  
posters on  
Oct 26



Dr. David Rogers (left), the 2018 SGSHS Distinguished Alumnus, poses with Dr. Joey Granger (right), Dean of the School of Graduate Studies before the morning presentations.

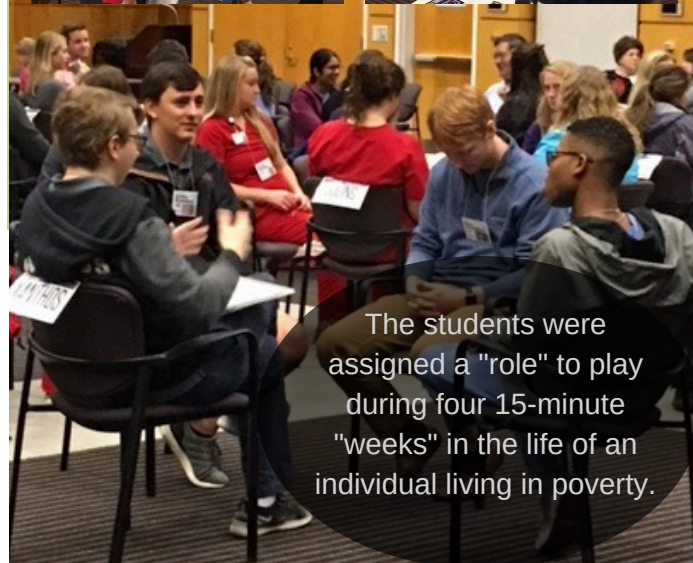
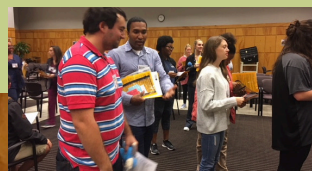
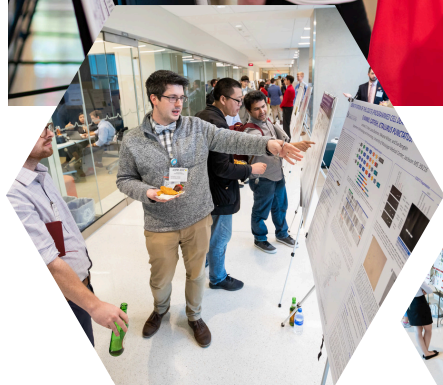


## SGSHS 2018 RESEARCH DAY RECAP





# ASM South Central Branch Meeting Hosted by UMMC Department of Microbiology and Immunology on Nov 2-3



The students were assigned a "role" to play during four 15-minute "weeks" in the life of an individual living in poverty.

85 graduate students enrolled in the **M.S. in biomedical sciences program** participated in a **Poverty Simulation** organized by the **Center for Bioethics and Medical Humanities** this fall.

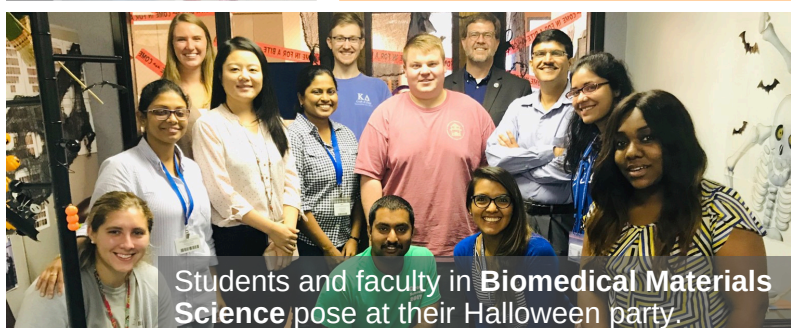


UMMC SpookyU

SGSHS students in their "super" garb.

First year graduate students in the PhD programs show off their new SGSHS lab coats.

(Top row, from left): Alex Roth, Andrew Ferriby, Owen Herrock, Amanda Criswell, Charles Barnes, Jaren Reeves-Darby, Lauren Corby, and Adesanya Akinleye.  
(Middle row, from left): Kadie Parker Nobles, Melissa Klamm, Madelyn Davis, Yvonne Zuchowski, Maria Jones-Muhammad, and Megha Satpathy.  
(Bottom row, from left): Shelley Rae Edwards, Courtney Daley Thompson, Kristianna Saelens, and Courtney Cates.



Students and faculty in **Biomedical Materials Science** pose at their Halloween party.





# Trainee KUDOS

**Jared Cobb**, a PhD student in Biomedical Materials Science, was inducted into Phi Kappa Phi Honor society, based on superior academic performance.

**Danielle Porter**, a PhD student in neuroscience, received a \$32,813 grant from the NIH.

**Dr. Bhavisha Bakrania**, a postdoc in Dr. Granger's lab, received an AHA Postdoctoral Fellowship.

**Edgar Torres-Fernandez**, a postdoc in Cell and Molecular Biology, received two awards: ELSE School of Management Scholarship from Millsaps College, which is awarded to promising scholars who display the highest degree of scholastic aptitude and an award for his poster at American Physiological Society's Cardiovascular.

**Shaoxun Wang**, a PhD student in Experimental Therapeutics and Pharmacology, won an award in BioTek's first Imaging Perspectives competition.

**Amanda Criswell**, a PhD student in the School of Nursing, presented at The University of Mississippi School of Law-School of Pharmacy Interprofessional Opioid Symposium Panel Discussion and at The Opioid Crises: Nursing Implications Conference.

**Carolann Risley**, a PhD student in Nursing, received an offer to join the NIH Graduate Partnership Program (Predoctoral) by Nicolas Wentzensen, MD, PhD, Senior Investigator and Deputy Director of the National Cancer Institute's Clinical Genetics and Epidemiology Division

**Katie Hall**, a PhD student in Nursing, presented a poster at the 10th Annual EBP/Research Conference in New Orleans.

**Monica White**, a PhD student in Nursing, was accepted as Jonas Scholars for two years beginning August 7th, 2018.

**Stacey Naylor**, a PhD student in Nursing, was accepted as Jonas Scholars for two years beginning August 7th, 2018.

**Melissa Klamm**, a PhD student in Nursing, presented a poster at the Mississippi Nurses Association State Convention.

**Mohammad Hasan**, a PhD student received a travel award to attend the 2018 Meharry Translational Research Center (MeTRC) Health Disparities Grantees' Conference for and presented his research at American Society for Microbiology South Central Branch Annual Meeting.

## Recent Publications

- Kuna, M., Waller, J. P., Logue, O. C., and Bidwell, G. L. III. (2018) Polymer Size Affects Biodistribution and Placental Accumulation of the Drug Delivery Biopolymer Elastin-Like Polypeptide in a Rodent Pregnancy Model. *Placenta*. 72-73: 20-27.
- Risley, C., Geisinger, K. R., Robinson, J. C., Stewart, M. W., Zhang, L., Alexander, R., Raab, Stephen, S. S. (2018). Precancerous Cervical Lesions and HPV Genotypes Revealed in Previously Unsatisfactory Cervical Smear Tests after Inexpensive Glacial Acetic Acid Processing. *International Journal of Gynecology and Obstetrics*.

## Trainee Travel

**Tyler Lomax**, a PhD student in Physiology, used the **SGSHS Professional Skills Travel Program** to learn the Hyperinsulinemic-Euglycemic Clamp procedure under Dr. Luke Norton's guidance at the University of San Antonio.

## Faculty KUDOS

**Dr. Michael Garrett**, professor in Experimental Therapeutics and Pharmacology, received a grant from NIH/NHLBI for \$1,550,000 for the project "Genetic Targets of Hypertension End Organ Damage."



**Dr. Mary Marquart**, associate professor of microbiology and immunology, received a \$54,870 subcontract from the NIH and Lynntech for the project, "iCAP: An innovative device to rapidly resolve microbial keratitis."

**Dr. Amol Janorkar**, professor of biomedical materials science, received a \$40,000 grant from the Robert Hearin Foundation for the project, "UPSTART program."



## New Additions To GRADUATE FACULTY



Katherine Fouquier, PhD, RN, CNM, FACNM, Associate Professor of Nursing and Director of Lanier High Teen Wellness Clinic. Dr. Fouquier's research interests include behavioral health needs of adolescent, minority populations.



Frank Spradley, PhD, Assistant Professor of Surgery, Graduate Faculty in Physiology and Biophysics. Dr. Spradley's research interests include the effects of obesity and placental disease during pregnancy on the risk for hypertension in the mother and metabolic diseases in the offspring.



Yann Gibert, PhD, Associate Professor of Cell & Molecular Biology. Dr. Gilbert's research interests include the use of zebrafish as a model for human diseases and disorders and genome editing techniques (CRISPR/cas) and transgenic technologies to study metabolic genetic diseases.