

The Department of Microbiology, Biochemistry, & Immunology  
Awards and Publications  
March 2015

Admitted to Ph.D. Program

Courtney Dill, Dr. Ruben Gonzalez's Lab  
Jeronay King, Dr. Shailesh Singh's Lab  
Crystal Lipsey, Dr. Ruben Gonzalez's Lab

Publications

Silva, A.J., W.P. Parker, P. Paula, J.C. Ayala, and J.A. Benitez. 2015. Role of methylthioadenosine/S-adenosylhomocysteine nucleosidase in *Vibrio cholerae* cellular communication and biofilm development. *Biochem. Biophys. Res. Commun.* In press.

Wang, H., J.C. Ayala, J.A. Benitez, and A.J. Silva. 2015. RNA-seq analysis identifies new genes regulated by the histone-like nucleoid structuring protein (H-NS) affecting *Vibrio cholerae* virulence, stress response and chemotaxis. *PLoS ONE* doi. 10.1371/journal.pone.0118295.

Silva, A.J. and J.A. Benitez. 2015. Biofilm development and stress response in the cholera bacterium: role of the histone-like nucleoid-structuring protein in: Frans J. de Bruijn (Ed.) *Stress and Environmental control of Gene Expression in Bacteria*, Wiley.

Danielle Daley's paper was accepted for publication in the special issue of "Hormone Molecular Biology and Clinical Investigation" (HMBCI) on: "Adiposopathy in Cancer and (Cardio) Metabolic Diseases: An Endocrine Approach – Part 2".

Awards

Dr. Adriana Harbuzariu was selected as a HDRTP scholar for two years and was the only one awarded this year from MSM. In the second year she will receive \$10,000 for research upon completion of the first year of training.

Tia Harmon Ph.D. student in Dr. Ruben Gonzalez's lab did a poster presentation in Barcelona at the European Organization for Research and Treatment of Cancer (EORTC) conference which has been published on the Nexcelom company website.

Danielle McKeithen, Dr. Qing He's Lab, received GAS Biomedical Sciences Outstanding Graduate Oral Presentation, March 2015: ASC Aids in Protection Against Infertility Post Chlamydia Infection

Patrick Carriere, Ph.D. Student in Dr. Shailesh Singh's lab was selected as one of the recipients of a 2015 AACR Minority Scholar in Cancer Research Award.

Former Ph.D. student in Dr. Jacqueline Hibbert's Lab, Dr. Patrice Capers, along with Dr. Gale Newman, Dr. Jonathan Stiles, and Dr. Jacqueline Hibbert published in the "Journal of Nutritional Science."

Zachary Kiser, Ph.D. student in Dr. Jacqueline Hibbert's Lab was selected to be the Co-coordinator of the southeast region for the National Science Policy Group. Zachary also leads the GEBS Science Policy and Advocacy Group (GSPAG) at MSM.

Hassana Salifu, Ph.D. student in Dr. Jonathan Stiles' lab, has been accepted for a Division AA Student Travel Grant at the American Society for Microbiology (ASM) 2015 General Meeting in New Orleans, LA, May 30 – June 2 Division AA: Free-Living, Symbiotic and Parasitic Protists. Hassana's abstract is: "The Effect of Iron Supplements on Heme in Pregnant Women with Malaria and Without Malaria

Viola Lanier and Dr. Adriana Harbuzariu, Dr. Ruben Gonzalez's lab, will be presenting at the AACR Annual Meeting 2015.

Honorees in the Employee Awards and Service Recognition Program included: Bettie Wright, 25 years, Dr. Ming Bo Huang, 20 years; Dr. Deborah Lyn, 20 years; Dr. Jacqueline Hibbert, 15 years; Dr. James Lillard, 15 years, Dr. Jonathan Stiles, 15 years, and Dr. R. Singh, 5 years.