

# ON THE INSIDE

For staff, students, and faculty of LSU Health Shreveport

July - September 2021

School of Medicine  
School of Graduate Studies  
School of Allied Health Professionals  
Graduate Medical Education  
Office of Research

**LSU Health**  
SHREVEPORT

## HONORS & APPOINTMENTS

Congratulations to the following **Family Practice residents in Alexandria** who were recognized by the Region 6 Office of Public Health Medical Director for their extraordinary efforts during Hurricane Ida. These residents treated 899 patients at the Alexandria Megashelter over a 32-day period with 100 of those patients being seen in a 24-hour period. These individuals were praised for their steady, personable, and competent efforts which resulted in outstanding patient care.

Dr. Ashley Billings      Dr. Kayelinda Heiner  
Dr. Ronak Shah          Dr. Brianna Shaffer  
Dr. Cade Burns          Dr. Stephen Finney  
Dr. James Shute         Dr. Lois Buller  
Dr. Bethany Citerella

**Harish Siddaiah, MD**, Associate Professor of Anesthesiology, was appointed to be an examiner for the APPLIED exams for the American Board of Anesthesiology.

**Sudha Pandit, MD**, Associate Program Director and Assistant Professor of Gastroenterology, was appointed to the American College of Gastroenterology Women in GI Committee.

The **Microbiology and Immunology Department** entered into a collaboration agreement with the Barrie Foundation to implement the Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship Program in Microbiology and Immunology. With this agreement, two new fellowships that include a research stipend and an annual living allowance will be offered to Galician undergraduate students each year.

**Andrew Yurochko, PhD**, Professor of Microbiology and Immunology, Director and PI of CAIPP, and Associate Director of Research for Feist-Weiller Cancer Center, was selected by LSU System President William Tate IV to serve on the Health and Medical Advisory Committee. The Committee is a group of experts in medicine, epidemiology, virology, and environmental engineering tasked with ensuring the administration has the most current information needed to make decisions that keep members of our LSU family safe.

**Richard Mansour, MD**, Professor of Medicine and Program Director of Hematology/Oncology Fellowship, and **Tamna Wangjam, MD**, Clinical Assistant Professor at Feist-Weiller Cancer Center, were honored by the American Cancer Society at the 2021 White Out Cancer Gala. Honorees are professionals in the NWLA area that are recognized for their distinguished talents and achievements.

**Samuel Igbiniedion, MD**, PGY-6, and **Arish Vasikaran, MD**, PGY-6, Gastroenterology and Hepatology Fellows, received an advanced endoscopy fellowship match. Dr. Igbiniedion matched at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center in Boston, MA. Dr. Vasikaran matched at GI Associates, LLC in Milwaukee, WI.

**Shelvia Grant, JD**, Project Coordinator of Administration and Finance, and **Jessica Latin, MA, LPC-S, NCC, PMH-C**, Gratis Clinical Instructor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Medicine, were honored by the Greater Shreveport Chamber's Young Professionals Initiative as members of "40 Under Forty" 2021 Class.

**Hugo Cuellar, MD, PhD, MBA, DABR, FAHA**, Chairman and Professor of Radiology, Neurosurgery and Neurology, was elected as a Fellow of the American Heart Association (FAHA), which recognizes scientific and professional accomplishments, volunteer leadership, and service to AHA.

**Cherie-Ann Nathan, MD, FACS**, Jack Pou Endowed Professor and Chairman of Otolaryngology-Head & Neck Surgery, was recognized by the American Head and Neck Society as the 2020 Winner of the

Margaret Butler Outstanding Mentor of Women in Head and Neck Surgery. This award recognizes individuals with significant impact and measurable outcomes in the mentorship of women in head and neck surgery. Dr. Nathan was honored at the AHNS International Conference on Head and Neck Cancer in July.

**Terry C. Davis, PhD**, Division Chief of Healthcare Disparities and Professor of Medicine and Pediatrics, was appointed to the National Institute for Nursing Research (NINR) Strategic Planning Group to propose research agenda.

**Krista Queen, PhD**, was named to the position of Director of Viral Genomics and Surveillance.

**Wayne Nix, MBA**, was named Chief Innovation Officer of Research.

**Will Olmstadt, MSLS, MPH, AHIP**, Executive Director of the Library, was approved as a professional member of Beta Phi Mu, the international library and information studies honor society.

**Martin Sapp, PhD**, Chairman of Microbiology and Immunology and Willis-Knighton Chair of Molecular Biology, was invited to serve as Chair of the Virus Entry and Trafficking Session of the 34th International Papillomavirus Conference being held virtually Nov. 15-19.

**Marie Vazquez Morgan, PT, PhD**, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Institutional Wellness and Clinical Associate Professor of Physical Therapy, received \$36,525 in grant funding from the LWCC Foundation for LSU Health Shreveport to support the Eat Right and Move program.

**Ashton Jorgensen**, Graduate Studies student in the Lin Lab, was awarded the Malcom Feist Predoctoral Fellowship for her grant proposal titled "The Effects of Neurogranin on Endothelial Activation."

**Rob Schilke**, Graduate Studies student in the Woolard Lab, was awarded an Ike Muslow Predoctoral Fellowship for his grant proposal titled "Macrophage-associated lipin-1 regulates B-oxidation to promote continuing efferocytosis."

**Mabruka Alfaidi, PhD**, Postdoctoral Fellow in the Department of Pathology at LSU Health Shreveport, is the 2021 recipient of the ATVB Investigator in Training Award from the Council on Arteriosclerosis, Thrombosis and Vascular Biology of the American Heart Association (AHA). Dr. Alfaidi virtually presented her selected poster abstract, "The Signaling Roles Of The Adaptor Protein Nck1 In Atherosclerosis," at the ATVB Investigator in Training Award Competition of the Vascular Discovery: From Genes to Medicine Scientific Sessions on Sept. 22.

**John A. Vanchiere, MD, PhD** been selected to serve as the Medical Director for the Clinical Trials Office, **Marin Yates, RN, BSN**, has been selected as the Director of the Clinical Trials Office.

## MEETINGS

**W. Christopher Newman, MD**, Assistant Professor of Neurosurgery, organized the 4th Virtual Brain Tumor Board held by the Congress of Neurological Surgeons (CNS) and the Society of Neuro Oncology (SNO). For the second consecutive year, Dr. Newman created the pre-questions, planned items for discussion and moderated questions during the course 4-part quarterly webinar.

**Nicholas Pelliccio, MD**, PGY-5 General Surgery, presented his work on Composite Mesh (Electromagnetic Induction Heating of Composite Mesh in the Treatment of Mesh Infections) at SAGES 2021 Annual Meeting – The Next Big Thing. Aug. 31-Sept. 3 in Las Vegas, NV.

## NEW Student Common Space



Student Commons, a welcoming new space for students opened on the ground floor of the library. The new study space offers a quiet area for solo or group study, along with a lounge featuring vending machines and a TV.

**Hugo Cuellar, MD, PhD, MBA, DABR, FAHA**, Chairman, Professor of Radiology, Neurosurgery and Neurology attended the International Stroke Conference March 17-19.

## PRESENTATIONS

**E.J. Mayeaux, Jr., MD, DABFM, FFAFP, DABPM-CI**, Professor of Family Medicine, Associate Vice Chancellor for Clinical Affairs, and Senior Associate Dean for Population Health and Primary Care, was an invited speaker for The International Federation for Colposcopy and Technology of the Cervix Virtual World Congress. He served on the IFCCP executive board for the last seven years and is a past president of the American society. He spoke on the new American cervical cancer prevention guidelines, vulvar biopsy, and vulvar skin surgical techniques. He also chaired a session during the Congress.

**Gopi Kolluru, PhD**, Assistant Professor of Research in Pathology and Translational Pathobiology, presented "Methamphetamine Causes Endothelial Dysfunction Via Reduction of Cystathionine Gamma Lyase and Hydrogen Sulfide Bioavailability" at the Vascular Discovery: From Genes to Medicine 2021 Scientific Sessions virtual event held Sept. 22-24.

**Janmaris Marin Fermin, MD**, Post-doctoral Research Associate in Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery, won the Best of Skin Cancer Award for the project titled "Inhibition of Fibroblast Growth Factor Receptor (FGFR) Abrogates Ultraviolet-B (UVB)-Induced Skin Carcinogenesis" at the American Head & Neck Society 10th International Conference on Head and Neck Cancer in July.

**Gauri Shishodia, PhD**, Post-doctoral Research Associate and Fellow in Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery, won the Best of Basic Science Award for the project titled "Dependence of cell cycle checkpoint proteins in HPV+ and HPV- head and neck squamous cell carcinoma cells following 4NQO-induced DNA damage" at the AHNS 10th International Conference on Head and Neck Cancer in July.

**Md Maksudul Alam, PhD**, Post-doctoral Research Associate and Fellow in Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery, won Best of Basic Science Award for the project titled "mTOR Inhibitor Induces Autophagy and Reduces Tumor Vascularization to Prevent Tumor Growth of TP53 Mutant HNSCC" at the AHNS 10th International Conference on Head and Neck Cancer in July.

## INTERNATIONAL OUTREACH/ CONFERENCE

**Gopi Kolluru, PhD**, Assistant Professor of Research in Pathology and Translational Pathobiology, was invited as a major speaker for the 23rd International Conference on Oxidative Stress Reduction, Redox Homeostasis and Antioxidants; Paris Redox 2021, held Virtually Oct. 13-15. The title of his presentation was, "Decreased Availability of Nitric Oxide and Hydrogen Sulfide is a Hallmark of COVID-19".

## PUBLICATIONS

**Cherie-Ann Nathan, MD, FACS**, Jack Pou Endowed Professor and Chairman of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery, Director of Head and Neck Surgical Oncology Feist-Weiller Cancer Center; **Md Maksudul Alam, PhD**, Post-doctoral Research Associate and Fellow in Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery; **Janmaris Marin Fermin, MD**, Research Associate, Otolaryngology – Head & Neck Surgery; **Alok Khandelwal, PhD**, Assistant Professor of Research; et al.: "Rapalogs induce non-apoptotic, autophagy-dependent cell death in HPV-negative TP53 mutant Head and neck squamous cell carcinoma," *Molecular Carcinogenesis*, 2021.

**Cherie-Ann Nathan, MD, FACS**, Jack Pou Endowed Professor and Chairman of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery, Director of Head and Neck Surgical Oncology Feist-Weiller Cancer Center; **Tina Munjal, MD; Michael J. Brenner, MD; Konstantina M. Stankovic, MD, PhD; Howard W. Francis MD, MBA; Tulio A. Valdez, MD, MSc**; et al.: "Re-engineering the Surgeon-Scientist Pipeline: Advancing Diversity and Equity to Fuel Scientific Innovation," *The Laryngoscope*, August 2021. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1002/lary.29800>.

**Oren Rom, PhD, RD**, Assistant Professor of Research in Pathology and Translational Pathobiology; **Arif Yurdagul, PhD**, Assistant Professor of Physiology; **Christopher B. Pattillo, PhD**, Associate Professor of Molecular and Cellular Physiology; **A. Wayne Orr, PhD**, Professor and Director of the Research Division for Pathology and Translational Pathobiology, Director of the Center for Cardiovascular Diseases and Sciences; et. al.: "Dysregulated oxalate metabolism is a driver and therapeutic target in atherosclerosis," *Cell Reports*, Volume 36, Issue 4, July 27, 2021. [doi.org/10.1016/j.celrep.2021.109420](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.celrep.2021.109420).

**Donard Dwyer, PhD**, Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Medicine; **Saveen Sall, MD**, PGY-1, Psychiatry and Behavioral Medicine; **Willie Thompson, MD**, PGY-3, Psychiatry and



## Publications continued

Behavioral Medicine; **Aurianna Santos, MD, PGY-3**, Psychiatry and Behavioral Medicine: "Analysis of major depression risk genes reveals evolutionary conservation, shared phenotypes and extensive genetic interactions," *Frontiers in Psychiatry* 2021. doi.org/10.3389/fpsy.2021.698029.

**Amber Edinoff MD, PGY-4** Psychiatry and Behavioral Medicine; **Alan D. Kaye, MD, PhD, DABA, DABPM, DABIPP, FASA**, Provost and Vice-Chancellor for Academic Affairs, Chief Academic Officer, Professor of Anesthesiology, Professor of Pharmacology, Toxicology and Neurosciences; et al.: "Novel Interventional Techniques for Chronic Pain with Minimally Invasive Arthrodesis of the Sacroiliac Joint: (INSITE, iFuse, Tricor, Rialto, and others)," *Rheumatology and Therapy* 2021. doi.org/10.1007/s40744-021-00350-8.

**Amber Edinoff, MD, PGY-4**; **Amir Kaskas, MS2**; **Kyle Lewis, MS3**; **Grace Hunt, MS4**; **Alan D. Kaye, MD, PhD, DABA, DABPM, DABIPP, FASA**; **David Lewis, MD, MBA**, Interim Chancellor, Dean of School of Medicine, Professor and Chairman of Obstetrics & Gynecology; **Perry Barrilleaux, MD**, Assistant Professor of Obstetrics & Gynecology; **Omar Viswanath**, Clinical Professor of Anesthesiology; et al.: "Brexanolone, a GABA Modulator, in the Treatment of Postpartum Depression in Adults: A Comprehensive Review," *Frontiers in Psychiatry* 2021.

**Amber Edinoff, MD, PGY-4**; **Alan D. Kaye, MD, PhD, DABA, DABPM, DABIPP, FASA**; **Katherine Babin, MS4**; **Chance Hebert, MS2**; et al.: "Pharmacological Advances in Opioid Therapy: A Review of the Role of Oliceridine in Pain Management," *Pain and Therapy* 2021.

**Amber Edinoff, MD, PGY-4**; **Brook Girma, MD, PGY-3** Anesthesiology; **Cherry Horton, MD**, Assistant Professor of Pediatrics; **Katherine Trettin, MS4**; **Alan D. Kaye, MD, PhD, DABA, DABPM, DABIPP, FASA**; **Omar Viswanath**, Clinical Professor of Anesthesiology; et al.: "Novel Regional Nerve Blocks in Clinical Practice: Evolving Techniques for Pain Management," *Anesthesiology and Pain Medicine* 2021.

**Amber Edinoff, MD, PGY-4**; **Carolina Ochoa, MS2**; **Shelby Patti, MS2**; **Yahya Ghaffar, MS3**; **Alan D. Kaye, MD, PhD, DABA, DABPM, DABIPP, FASA**; **Omar Viswanath**, Clinical Professor of Anesthesiology; et al.: "Selective Serotonin Reuptake Inhibitors and Adverse Effects: A Narrative Review," *Neurology International*, Vol 13 (3). 2021.

**Amber Edinoff, MD, PGY-4**; **Leah Kaplan, MS4**; **Simin Khan, MD, PGY-1**; **Alan D. Kaye, MD, PhD, DABA, DABPM, DABIPP, FASA**, et al.: "Full Opioid Agonists and Tramadol: Pharmacological and Clinical Considerations," *Anesthesiology and Pain Medicine*. Vol 11 (4). 2021.

**Rebecca Clawson, MAT, PA-C**, Clinical Assistant Professor of Physician Assistant Program; **Emily Weidman-Evans, PharmD**, Clinical Professor of Physician Assistant Program; and **Ashley Fort-Chaffold, MPAS, PA-C**, Academic Coordinator, Clinical Assistant Professor of Physician Assistant Program: "Which Drug Is Best for a Patient with Type 2 Diabetes and Heart Failure," *Journal of the American Academy of Pas (JAAPA)*, July 1, 2021. doi.org/10.1097/01.JAA.0000743004.83284.cc.

**Gopi Kolluru, PhD**, Assistant Professor of Research in Pathology and Translational Pathobiology (Equal First and Corresponding author); **Chris Kevil, PhD**, Vice Chancellor for Research, Dean, School of Graduate Studies, Director/P.I. Center for Redox Biology and Cardiovascular Disease COBRE, Professor, Departments of Pathology, Molecular and Cellular Physiology, and Cell Biology and Anatomy; **A. Wayne Orr, PhD**; **Paari Dominic, MD**, Associate Professor of Cardiology; **Steven Bailey, MD, MSCAI, MACP, FACC, FAHA**, Professor and Chairman of Internal Medicine; **Javaria Ahmad, MD, PGY-3** Internal Medicine Fellow; **Sibile Pardue**, Pathology Research Associate; **Juan Solorzano, PGY-2** Internal Medicine; **Keerthish Jaisingh, MD, PGY-3** Internal Medicine; **Megan Watts**, Internal Medicine Research Associate; et al.: "Decreased availability of nitric oxide and hydrogen sulfide is a hallmark of COVID-19," *Redox Biology*. July 2021; doi.org/10.1016/j.redox.2021.101982. Epub 8, May 2021.

**Stephan Witt, PhD**, Chairman of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology published a commentary on a high-powered article in *PLOS Biology*. <https://journals.plos.org/plosbiology/>.

**Santhanasabapathy Rajasekaran, PhD**, Fellow in Biochemistry, Molecular Biology, and **Stephan Witt, PhD** Hojan horses and tunneling nanotubes enable  $\alpha$ -synuclein pathology to spread in Parkinson disease," *PLOS Biology*, July 20, 2021. doi.org/10.1371/journal.pbio.3001331.

**Edna Ondari, PhD**, Postdoctoral Fellow in Microbiology and Immunology; **Esther Calvino-Sanles**, Summer Undergraduate Research Fellow (Foundation Barrie de la Maza); **Nicholas J. First**, Graduate Student; and **Monica C. Gestal, PhD**, Assistant Professor of Microbiology and Immunology: "Eosinophils and Bacteria, the Beginning of a Story," *International Journal of Molecular Sciences*, July 27, 2021. doi.org/10.3390/ijms22158004.

**Renas Zibari, MS4**; **Quyen D. Chu, MD, MBA, FACS**, Professor of Surgery, Chief of the Division of Surgical Oncology; **Bharat Guthikonda, MD, MBA, FACS, FAANS**, Professor and Chairman of Neurosurgery; **Hosein Shokouh-Amiri**, Clinical Professor of Surgery; **Gazi Zibari**, Clinical Professor of Surgery; et al.: "Medical Capacity-Building in War-Torn Nations: Kurdistan, Iraq as a Model," *Journal of American College of Surgeons*. Sept. 2020. doi.org/10.1016/j.jamcollsurg.2020.05.024. Epub June 18, 2020.

**Claudia Orellana, MD**, Clinical Assistant Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Medicine; **Amber Edinoff, MD, PGY-4**; **Prithvi Doppalapudi, MD, PGY-2**, Psychiatry and Behavioral Medicine; **Omar Viswanath**, Clinical Professor of Anesthesiology; et al.: "Paliperidone 3-month Injection for Treatment of Schizophrenia: A Narrative Review," *Frontiers in Psychiatry*. Sept. 21, 2021.

**James C. Patterson II, MD, PhD**, Professor and Chair of Psychiatry and Behavioral Medicine; Professor of Pharmacology, Toxicology and Neuroscience; **Amber Edinoff, MD, PGY-4**; **Kunal Maini, MD, PGY-3**; **Omar Viswanath**, Clinical Professor of Anesthesiology; **Alan D. Kaye, MD, PhD, DABA, DABPM, DABIPP, FASA**, et al.: "Aripiprazole lauroxil, a Novel Injectable Long-Acting Antipsychotic Treatment for Adults with Schizophrenia: A Comprehensive Review," *Neurology International*. In Press, 2021.

**Juliana Fort, MD, MPH, MBA**, Clinical Associate Professor, Psychiatry and Behavioral Medicine, **Amber Edinoff, MD, PGY-4**; **Joshua Woo, MS2**; **Alan D. Kaye, MD, PhD, DABA, DABPM, DABIPP, FASA**; **Omar Viswanath**, Clinical Professor of Anesthesiology; et al.: "SSRIs and Clozapine: Potential Drug Interactions," *Neurology International* 2021.

**Mark Cogburn, DNP, PhD, APRN, LMFT**, Clinical Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Medicine; **Amber Edinoff, MD, PGY-4**; **Alan D. Kaye, MD, PhD, DABA, DABPM, DABIPP, FASA**; **Omar Viswanath**, Clinical Professor of Anesthesiology;

et al.: "Clozapine and Constipation: Clinical Considerations and Treatment Options," *Psychiatry International*. 2021.

**Mary Fitz-Gerald, MD**, Gratis Professor, Psychiatry and Behavioral Medicine; **Amber Edinoff, MD, PGY-4**; **Alan D. Kaye, MD, PhD, DABA, DABPM, DABIPP, FASA**; **Anusha Kallurkar, MD, PGY-4** Anesthesiology; **Matthew Colantonio, MD, PGY-4** Anesthesiology; **Debbie Chandler, MD, MBA**, Associate Dean of Student Affairs, Associate Professor of Clinical Anesthesiology; **Chizoba Mosieri, MD**, Associate Professor of Anesthesiology; **G.E. Ghali, DDS, MD, FACS, FRCS(Ed)**; **Charles Fox, MD**, Vice Chancellor for Shreveport Clinical Affairs, Professor and Chair of Anesthesiology; et al.: "Framework for creating an incident command center during crises," *Best Practice & Research Clinical Anesthesiology*. October 2021.

**Gauri S. Mankekar, MD, PhD**, Assistant Professor of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery, Neurotology; **Lindsay C. Boven, MD, PGY-4** Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery; **Payam Entezami, MD, PGY-4** Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery; **Camille Berry, AUD**, Audiologist; **Pooja Basnet, AUD**, Instructor and Clinical Specialist of Audiology; **Jerry McLarty, PhD**, Professor at Feist-Weiller Cancer Center: "Manuscript: Not too Late for Steroids: A Look at the Effects of Delayed Onset Steroid Treatment in Sudden Sensorineural Hearing Loss," *Annals of Otolaryngology and Neurology*. 2021.

**Xinggui Shen, PhD**, Assistant Professor of Pathology, et al.: "Sulfide catabolism ameliorates hypoxic brain injury," *Nature Communications*. May 2021. doi: 10.1038/s41467-021-23363-x. PMID: 34035265.

**Shyamal C. Bir, MD, PGY-4** Neurology; **Muhammad W. Khan, MD**; **Vijayakumar Javalkar, MD, MCh**, Assistant Professor of Neurology and Associate Program Director of Neurology Residency Program; **Eduardo Gonzalez-Toledo, MD**; **Roger E. Kelley, MD**, Professor and Chairman of Neurology: "Emerging concepts in vascular dementia: A review," *Journal of Stroke and Cerebrovascular Disease*, August 2021.

**Roger E. Kelley, MD**, Professor and Chairman of Neurology; edited by Gabriel I. Uwaifo, MD: "Traumatic and degenerative hypothalamic diseases," in the monograph titled "The Human Hypothalamus. Anatomy, Dysfunction and Disease Management," Springer Nature, 2021.

**Vijayakumar Javalkar, MD, MCh**, Assistant Professor of Neurology and Associate Program Director of Neurology Residency Program; **Roger E. Kelley, MD**, Professor and Chairman of Neurology; et al.; edited by Jose Biller, MD: "Neurological complications of syncope and cardiac arrest," in *The Handbook of Clinical Neurology*, series titled "Heart and Neurological Disease" in 2021.

## School of Medicine Academic Societies

# MONTHLY SPOTLIGHT

## SEPTEMBER Hull Society

Dr. James Morris, Chair; Dr. Juliana Fort, Vice-Chair, and Student Officers, Ryan Schexaildre and Shruti Vaidyanathan did an amazing job on hosting the Meet & Mingle held at Savoie's Catering. During their event, the Hull Society emphasized the value of peer-to-peer mentorship and lifelong networking among society members.

## RESEARCH RECAP

The National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS) has awarded a one-year R56 grant for \$642,408 to **Stephan Witt, PhD**, Chairman of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, and Joseph Mazzulli, PhD, Assistant Professor at Northwestern University. The title of the grant is, "Examining the role of phosphatidylethanolamine and autophagic disruption in Lewy body dementias and Parkinson's disease." Dr. Witt is the Principal Investigator (PI) at LSUHS, and Dr. Mazzulli is the PI at Northwestern University. The research is based on a finding by the Witt Lab that supplemental ethanolamine promotes efficient intracellular trafficking of the Parkinson's disease-associated protein  $\alpha$ -synuclein (Wang et al. PNAS 2014).

**Oren Rom, PhD, RD**, Assistant Professor of Research in Pathology and Translational Pathobiology, was awarded an NIH/NHLBI R00 Award for his research titled "Mechanisms of glycine-based therapy for atherosclerosis."

**Oren Rom, PhD, RD** submitted a patent for novel research technology via the International Patent Application (PCT/US21/46357) for "N-acyl Amino Acid Products and Uses".



**Oren Rom, PhD, RD** and **Arif Yurdagul, PhD**, Assistant Professor of Physiology, submitted a provisional patent application (#63242805) for novel research methodology "Circulating Polyamines as Novel Biomarkers for Nonalcoholic Steatohepatitis."

**Rodney E. Shackelford, PhD**, Associate Professor of Research in Pathology and Translational Pathobiology, received a one-year, \$25,000 Grant-in-Aid intramural award from the Center of Excellence for Cardiovascular Diseases and Sciences (CCDS) for his project, "The Role of the CHK1 Kinase in Hydrogen Sulfide Regulation in Normoxia and Hypoxia."

**Gopi Kolluru, PhD**, Assistant Professor of Research in Pathology and Translational Pathobiology, was approved for \$60,000 in seed package support by the CCDS Board of Directors.

**Lynn Harrison, PhD**, Professor of Molecular and Cellular Physiology, and her research project, "Investigating Lunar Stress and Parkinson's Disease using an Alpha Synuclein Yeast Model," was selected by NASA's Space Biology Program as one of three space biology proposals to prepare for future research on the surface of the moon.

## GOLD HUMANISM HONORS SOCIETY

### STUDENT OF THE MONTH

September - Miranda Smith, MSIV

## SAGE Honor Society STAR

*SAGE is an honorary and service organization composed of medical students from all four years, each selected by members of the Curriculum Evaluation Committee. Each month, SAGE honors the teaching excellence of LSUHS faculty, residents and interns with the Superior Teaching Award and Recognition (STAR).*

August – Muhammad Khan, MD  
Resident Physician in the  
Department of Neurology

September – Krystle Trosclair, PhD,  
Assistant Professor of  
Neurosurgery

## Alpha Omega Alpha

*Founded in 1902, Alpha Omega Alpha is a national medical honor society comprised of over 4,000 students, residents/fellows, faculty and alumni. The criterion for nomination includes, but is not limited to, scholastic achievement which refers to excellence in physicianship, demonstrated professionalism, leadership capabilities, adherence to ethical standards, fairness in dealing with colleagues, achievement in medicine and/or research, and a record of service to school and community.*

### Leadership of the Louisiana Gamma Chapter of Alpha Omega Alpha Fall Inductees from the Class of 2022:

Ben Becnel  
Kyle Boudreaux  
Blaine Bulloch  
Nicholas Callais  
Hannah Hansen  
Patrick Ingrassia  
Christian Karam  
Linh Nguyen  
Mackenzie Noonan  
Kelsey Rooney  
Bryce Rushing  
Caroline Sagrera  
Robert Spraggins  
Samantha St. Pierre  
Winston Suh  
Katie Trettin