2019 Scholars (11)

**Robert Cascella, The University of Oklahoma**  
Mentor: James Battiste, MD, PhD  
Project: “Concomitant Mycoplasma Infection in Glioblastoma”

**George Chamoun, University of North Texas**  
Mentor: Priyabrata Mukherjee, PHD  

**Bailey Gardner, The University of Oklahoma**  
Mentor: Resham Bhattacharya, PhD  
Project: “Role of USP10 in Pancreatic Cancer”

**Eli Isenberg, The University of Oklahoma**  
Mentor: Darla Kendzor, PhD  
Project: “Tobacco Use in Mental Health among Homeless Adults in Oklahoma City”

**Amber Karim, The University of Oklahoma**  
Mentor: Stefan Wilhelm, PhD  
Project: “Controlling Interactions between Tumor Cells and Nanoparticles through Rational Nanoparticle Surface Engineering”

**Kira Morikawa, The University of Oklahoma**  
Mentor: Lauren Zenewicz, PhD  
Project: “Modulation of Epithelial Mesenchymal Transition by the Cytokine Interleukin 22”

**Shreya Nuguri, The University of Oklahoma**  
Mentor: Rajagopal Ramesh, PhD  
Project: “Combinatorial Therapy Targeting AXL and HUR in Non-small Cell Lung Cancer”

**Valerie Quach, University of Mississippi**  
Mentor: Hariprasad Gali, PhD  
Project: “Synthesis and In Vitro Evaluation of KSP*-CY5 for Fluorescent Imaging of HER2 Expression”
Neal Rangu, The University of Oklahoma  
Mentor: Michael Businelle, PhD  
Project: “History of Concussion in Homeless Adults is Related to Mental and Physical Health Problems”

Rachel Terry, Oklahoma State University  
Mentor: Joe Zhao, PhD  
Project: “Characterizing the Expression of PZR Isoforms in Glioblastoma Multiforme Cells”

Pham Vo, Iowa State University  
Mentor: Jie Wu, PhD  
Project: “Identification of KIF5B-RET Mutants Resistant to the RET Protein Tyrosine Kinase Inhibitor LOXO-292”

2018 Scholars (8)

McKenna Box, Oklahoma Christian University  
Mentor: Jie Wu, PhD  
Project: “Selective Rescue of SHP2 Mutant-Induced Erythroid Differentiation Blockade by an Allosteric Shp2 Inhibitor”

Quynh Chi Dang, Southern Methodist University  
Mentor: Asish Ghosh, PhD  
Project: “Heat Shock Protein 90 Regulates B Cell Receptor and Fibroblast Growth Factor Receptor Signaling Axes in B-Cell Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia”

Joseph Eid, The University of Oklahoma  
Mentor: Joe Zhao, PhD  
Project: “T396s Variation in Sh2b3 Linked With Red Blood Cell Count”

Kristy Johnson, Oklahoma State University  
Mentor: James Battiste, MD, PhD  
Project: “Migration Velocity of Glioblastoma Tumor Cells and the Effects of Radiation on Speed and Viability”
Avanish Madharavam, University of North Carolina
Mentor: Hiroshi Yamada
Project: “Shugoshin 1 Chromosomal Instability Mice Model Enables Brain Inflammation and Amyloid-Beta Deposit”

Linh Nguyen, Dickinson College
Mentor: Rajagopal Ramesh, PhD
Project: “Purification, Amplification, and Annotation of Mycobacteriophages”

Elizabeth Olah, Northern Ohio University
Mentor: Asish Ghosh
Project: “c-ABL Activates JAK2 Non-Canonical Signaling Pathway in B-Cell Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia”

2017 Scholars (8)

Adewunmi Adebamjo, Cameron University
Mentor: Joe Zhao, PhD
Project: “Comparative Analysis of the SHB3/LNK Gene in Mammals: A Key to Understanding Myeloproliferative Neoplasms”

Asim Ali, The University of Oklahoma
Mentor: James Battiste, MD, PhD
Project: “Targeting Glioblastoma Cells with (Z)-3,5,4’ Trimethoxystilbene Adversely Affects Viability and Migration”

Madison Granger, Oklahoma Baptist University
Mentor: Danny Dhanasekaran, PhD
Project: “Identification of Novel Oncogenic Long Noncoding RNAs in Ovarian Cancer”

Spencer Hall, The University of Oklahoma
Mentor: Jie Wu, PhD
Project: “Construction of CCDC6-RET Mammalian Cell Expression Vectors”

Whitney Hall, Oklahoma Christian University
Mentor: Asish Ghosh, PhD
Project: “Extracellular Vesicles Target T-Cell Function in B-Cell Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia”
Ali Khan, The University of Oklahoma  
Mentor: Rajagopal Ramesh  
Project: “Exosomes as a Theranostic for Lung Cancer”

Tammy Phillips, Oklahoma City University  
Mentor: Priyabrata Mukherjee, PhD  
Project: “Gold Nanoparticles Regulate Lipid Droplet Formation in Ovarian Cancer Cells”

Summer Simeroth, The University of Oklahoma  
Mentor: Resham Bhattacharya, PhD  
Project: “Cisplatin Induces Chemoresistant "Stem-Like" Phenotype in Ovarian Cancer Cells”

2016 Scholars (10)

Jan Bian, Oklahoma Christian University  
Mentor: Sukyung Woo, PhD  
Project: “Paclitaxel Treatment Increases Tumor-derived Exosome Production”

Garrett Boren, Oklahoma State University  
Mentor: Danny Dhanasekaran, PhD  
Project: “Long Noncoding RNA HEIH Acts as a Novel Biomarker for Ovarian Cancer”

Landon Hester, Oklahoma Christian University  
Mentor: Joe Zhao, PhD  
Project: “Clinical Implications of TRIM65 Amplification and Mutation”

Ryan Jones, Oklahoma Christian University  
Mentor: Priyabrata Mukherjee, PhD  
Project: “Roads Not Taken: Gold Nanoparticles Illuminate Cancer's Secrets by Unraveling New Molecular Targets”

Dusenge Kamali, Oklahoma Christian University  
Mentor: Resham Bhattacharya, PhD  
Project: “First Line Chemotherapy Induces Stemness and Multidrug Resistance in Major Types of Cancer”
Nadezda Mamedova, The University of Oklahoma
Mentor: Jie Wu, PhD
Project: “Construction of Baculoviral Vectors for RET Kinase Domain Mutants”

Julie Nguyen, The University of Oklahoma
Mentor: Doris Benbrook, PhD
Project: “Role of BCL-2 in the Mechanism of SHETA2 Cytotoxicity in Ovarian Cancer Cell Lines”

Kaitlyn Norton, Grinnell College
Mentor: Jennifer Vidrine, PhD
Project: “Food Insecurity, Risk Behaviors and Health Intervention in Oklahoma”

Benjamin Zhao, California Institute of Technology
Mentor: Asish Ghosh, PhD
Project: “Microna-21 Targets Anti-Angiogenic Thrombospondin-1 in B-Cell Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia”

Alex Zhu, Duke University
Mentor: James Battiste, MD, PhD
Project: “Viability of Human Glioblastoma Cells during Migration after Radiation”

2015 Scholars (10)

Garrett Boren, Oklahoma State University
Mentor: Joe Zhao, PhD
Project: “Genomic Sequence Variation: Indicate Possible Regulatory Differences in Mast Cell Protease Expression”

Jaili Dong, Case Western Reserve University
Mentor: Danny Dhanasekaran, PhD
Project: “Oncogenic LncRNA UCA1 in Ovarian Cancer: Regulation of Glucose Transporter, GLUT1”

Miranda Garlett, Southern Nazarene University
Mentor: Priyabrata Mukherjee, PhD
Project: “SMNDC1 as a Potential Therapeutic Drug Treatment for the Treatment of Epithelial Ovarian Cancer”
CJ Hornback, Southern Nazarene University
Mentor: Danny Dhanasekaran, PhD
Project: “Long Noncoding RNAs Play a Key Role in the Regulation of HSA-LET-7A in Ovarian Cancer”

Samantha Horton, Oklahoma Baptist University
Mentor: Resham Bhattacharya, PhD
Project: “TGF-BETA, A Potential Clinical Target in Uterine Carcinosarcoma”

Nadezda Mamedova, The University of Oklahoma
Mentor: Sukyung Woo, PhD

Meghna Singh, University of Missouri - Kansas City
Mentor: Natarajan Aravindan, PhD
Project: “Guanylate Cyclase Signaling and the Development of High-Risk Metastatic Neuroblastoma”

Ryan Tierney, College of the Holy Cross
Mentor: Frank Hays, PhD
Project: “The P66SHC Adaptor Protein Inhibits the Caspase Cascade”

Zitong Wang, Cornell University
Mentor: Priyabrata Mukherjee, PhD
Project: “UBAP2 is a New Target for Pancreatic Cancer Research”

Rachel Wolansky, The University of Oklahoma
Mentor: Natarajan Aravindan, PhD
Project: “Role of HDACs in the Evolution of High-Risk Neuroblastoma”

2014 Scholars (8)

Kristen Damphousse, The University of Oklahoma
Mentor: Laura Beebe, PhD
Claire Hagensick, The University of Oklahoma
Mentor: Takemi Tanaka, PhD

Skyler Hying, University of Wisconsin
Mentor: Natarajan Aravindan, PhD
Project: “RD3 Loss Driven Mirnas Alterations Seitches Favorable to High-Risk Aggressive Neuroblastoma”

Austin McGinnis, Southern Methodist University
Mentor: Danny Dhanasekaran, PhD
Project: “Identification of HPV Insertion Sites Using Genome Walking”

Vy Pham, The University of Oklahoma
Mentor: Lawrence Rothblum, PhD
Project: “Inhibition of RDNA Transcription by Peptide that Targets POL I-RRN3 Interface Promotes Cell Death”

Mark Street, Oklahoma City University
Mentor: Resham Bhattacharya, PhD
Project: “Cisplatin Induces Acquired Resistance to Paclitaxel in Ovarian Cancer”

Cole Townsend, The University of Oklahoma
Mentor: Anupama Munshi, PhD
Project: “MIR-200C Restores Chemo- and Radiosensitivity in Triple-Negative Breast Cancer”

Anna Zhao, Vanderbilt University
Mentor: Joe Zhao, PhD
Project: “Glutamine Deprivation Induces Senescence and Activates P38 Map Kinase in Fibrosarcoma HT-1080 Cells”

2013 Scholars (8)

Jonathan Bates, Oklahoma Christian University
Mentor: Rajagopal Ramesh, PhD
Project: “IL-24 Inhibits Cancer Metastasis by Regulating the CXCR4/SDF-1 Axis”
Brandon Burkett, Oklahoma City University
Mentor: Xin Zhang, PhD
Project: “Tetraspanin CD151 Plays a Crucial Role in Laminin-Binding Integrin Mediated Cell-Matrix Adhesion”

Corinne Dinges, The University of Oklahoma
Mentor: Natarajan Aravindan, PhD
Project: “No Bioavailability after Hyperthermia Ameliorate Radiatoin Induced Stemness of Breast Cancer Cells”

Maximilian Lyon, University of Central Oklahoma
Mentor: Joe Zhao, PhD
Project: “Identification of HPV Insertion Sites Using Genome Walking”

Tom Pham, The University of Oklahoma
Mentor: Jennifer Holter, MD
Project: “FLT and FDG Imaging of Patients with Leukemia Undergoing Allogeneic Transplantation”

Vy Pham, The University of Oklahoma
Mentor: Lawrence Rothblum, PhD
Project: “Acetylation of the PAF49/PAF53 Heterodimer, SIRT7, and RDNA Transcription”

Richard Pody, The University of Oklahoma
Mentor: Rheal Towner, PhD
Project: “Assessing ELTD1 Antibody as a Glioma Treatment in Mice”

Christa Riggs, Ouachita Baptist University
Mentor: Danny Dhanasekaran, PhD
Project: “LPA Stimulates SER/THR-Phosphorylation of Argonaute-2 in Hypoxia-Stressed Ovarian Cancer Cells”

2012 Scholars (12)

Lacy Brame, The University of Oklahoma
Mentor: HK Lin, PhD
Project: “The Effect of 5α-androstane-3β,17β-diol (3α-diol) on Androgen Metabolism in Prostate Cancer”
Tiffany Cheng, The University of Oklahoma  
Mentor: Ralf Janknecht, PhD  
Project: “Role of JMJD2B in Pancreatic Cancer”

Matthew Crow, University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma  
Mentor: Danny Dhanasekaran, PhD  
Project: “Effects of LPA on miRNA Profile in Ovarian Cancer”

Macey Lawson, Southern Nazarene University  
Mentor: Danny Dhanasekaran, PhD  
Project: “Defining LPA-Responsive Signaling Pathway(s) in Ovarian Cancer Cells”

Ryan Major, Oklahoma Christian University  
Mentor: Natarajan Aravindan, PhD  
Project: “MMP9 Reinforces Radiation-Induced Delayed Invasion and Metastasis of Neuroblastoma by means of Positive Feedback with NF-κB via both ERK 1/2 and IKK Activation”

Aniruddha Parkih, Vanderbilt University  
Mentor: Rajagopal Ramesh, PhD  
Project: “Combination Therapy Targeted to HuR and Epidermal Growth Factor Receptor (EGFR) in Lung Cancer”

Richard Pody, The University of Oklahoma  
Mentor: Rheal Towner, PhD  
Project: “In Vivo Molecular MRI of VEGF-R2 in Mouse GL261 Gliomas: Therapeutic Assessment”

Jeremiah Reasoner, Oklahoma Christian University  
Mentor: Lurdes Queimado, MD, PhD  
Project: “Head and Neck Cancer”

Christa Riggs, Ouachita Baptist University  
Mentor: David Crawford, PhD  
Project: “Identifying Proteins that bind to UBE2Q2 and Exosome Component 7”

Mary Siems, Southern Nazarene University  
Mentor: William Sonntag, PhD  
Project: “Cancer and Aging”
Stuardo Trigueros, The University of Oklahoma
Mentor: Anupama Munshi, PhD
Project: “HuR: An mRNA-Binding Protein as a Target for Breast Cancer Therapy”

Neilee Wood, Oklahoma City University
Mentor: Xin Zhang, PhD
Project: “Tetraspanin CD82 and Its Role as a Metastasis Suppressor”

2011 Scholars (6)

Lacy Brame, The University of Oklahoma
Mentor: HK Lin, PhD
Project: “Prostate Cancer Progression”

Kathleen Evans, The University of Oklahoma
Mentor: Danny Dhanasekaran, PhD
Project: “Transcription Factors that are Overexpressed in Ovarian and Pancreatic Cancer”

Sara Gower, Oklahoma Christian University
Mentor: Anupama Munshi, PhD
Project: “Breast Cancer Overview”

Ryan Johnston, University of Central Oklahoma
Mentor: Natarajan Aravindan, PhD
Project: “EF24, A Novel Monoketone Prevents Dissemination of Radiotherapy Associated Oncogenes in Distant Organs: A Preliminary Insight Using Neuroblastoma Model”

Tanya Watts, University of Notre Dame
Mentor: Danny Dhanasekaran, PhD
Project: “Effect of Lysophosphatidic Acid on the Phosphorylation of Transcription Factor STAT3 in HEY Cells”

Jacob Wayland, Oklahoma Christian University
Mentor: Natarajan Aravindan, PhD
Project: “Anti-Carcinogenic and Radio-Sensitizing Effects of Novel Monoketone EF24: A Preliminary Insight”
2010 Scholars (4)

Lacy Brame, The University of Oklahoma
Mentor: HK Lin, PhD

Kathleen Evans, The University of Oklahoma
Mentor: Danny Dhanasekaran, PhD

Connie Liu, The University of Oklahoma
Mentor: Natarajan Aravindan, PhD

Tonya Watts, University of Notre Dame
Mentor: Danny Dhanasekaran, PhD