APS Awards $127,200 to Twenty-Four Undergraduate Summer Research Fellows

Bethesda, Md. (May 29, 2018)—The American Physiological Society (APS) is pleased to announce its 2018 Undergraduate Summer Research Fellowship (UGSRF) recipients. Fellowship recipients spend the summer in the laboratory of an established scientist and APS member. The UGSRF program recruits undergraduate students from the U.S. and abroad.

2018 UGSRF Fellows:
(APS member-hosts are listed under each Fellow’s name)

Yasmine Abushukur – University of Michigan
Linda Samuelson, PhD – University of Michigan

Aaron Albuck – Tulane University
Prasad Katakam, PhD – Tulane University School of Medicine

Christy Anderson – North Dakota State University
Sathish Venkatachalem, PhD – North Dakota State University

John Bielanin – University of Pittsburgh
Bill J. Yates, PhD – University of Pittsburgh

Cameron Burkholder – Pennsylvania State University
R. Alberto Travagli, PhD – Pennsylvania State University College of Medicine

Kevin Chen – University of Iowa Hospital
Justin L. Grobe, PhD – University of Iowa

Samantha Cohen – Brown University
Carlos Aizenman, PhD – Brown University
Susana del Carmen Castro Meza – Universidad de Sonora
Rudy Ortiz, PhD – University of California, Merced

Brianna Eassa – Le Moyne College
Lara DeRuisseau, PhD – Le Moyne College

Mohammed Haq – Benedictine University
Jayashree Sarathy, PhD – Benedictine University

Dain Jacob – University of Missouri
Jacqueline Limberg, PhD – University of Missouri

Hanna Kosnik – East Carolina University
Johanna Hannan, PhD – East Carolina University

Jordan Lee – Rutgers University
Debra Laskin, PhD – Rutgers University

Dengfeng Li – University of North Carolina at Greensboro
Snezana Petrovic, MD, PhD – Wake Forest University School of Medicine

Josie Llanora – University of Kentucky
Julie Pendergast, PhD – University of Kentucky

Patrick McWhorter – Youngstown State University
Stanley Andrisse, PhD – Howard University College of Medicine

Erika Nemeth – Stony Brook University
Peter Brink, PhD – Stony Brook University

Gopika Punchhi – Johns Hopkins University
Sheng Wu, PhD – Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine

Caroline Ramous – University of Utah
John David Symons, PhD – University of Utah School of Medicine

Matthew Siegel – Arizona State University
Taben Mary Hale, PhD – University of Arizona College of Medicine

Eliza Skoler – Carleton College
Allyson Hindle, PhD – Massachusetts General Hospital

Rachel Steckbeck – Messiah College
Patricia Silveyra, PhD – Penn State College of Medicine
Fellows are selected based on academic merit, the quality of the proposed experience and the availability of appropriate faculty mentors. Fellows must have fewer than nine months of research experience in a lab to be eligible. Special consideration is given to applicants whose socioeconomic background, access to educational opportunities and other life experiences suggest they would especially benefit from this type of program.

Each Fellow receives a $4,000 stipend during their 10-week research experience and an additional $1,300 in travel funds to present his or her research at the APS annual meeting at Experimental Biology 2019 in Orlando, which is expected to attract nearly 14,000 attendees. Research hosts receive $300 for student lab supplies.

UGSRF Fellows will participate in hands-on research and learn to develop a hypothesis, design and troubleshoot experiments, collect and analyze data, and write and present results. In addition, Fellows will have the opportunity to:

- network with other APS Fellows interested in and conducting biomedical or basic research,
- explore the nature of research and the scientific process,
- investigate physiology career options and what it takes to find career success,
- learn about scientific writing and draft a meeting abstract,
- learn about common ethical issues in figure and text preparation, and
- pose their career questions to members of the APS Advisory Board and APS Career Opportunities in Physiology Committee.

The UGSRF program is sponsored by the APS Career Opportunities in Physiology Committee and funded by the APS Council.
To set up an interview with one of the Fellows or a research host or to find out more about APS and its educational and award program initiatives, visit the APS website or contact Jessica Taylor, PhD, APS senior manager, higher education programs (301-634-7787), or Allison Hood, APS program coordinator, undergraduate programs (301-634-7233), or visit the APS UGSRF website.

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**About the APS Education Department:** APS supports a variety of educational activities, including programs and fellowships to encourage the development of young scientists at the undergraduate and graduate levels, with a particular focus on women and underrepresented minorities. APS also supports refresher courses and teaching awards promoting continued excellence in education at the professional level. APS is a proud past recipient of the Presidential Award for Excellence in Science, Mathematics and Engineering Mentoring (PAESMEM).

**About the APS:** Physiology is the study of how molecules, cells, tissues and organs function in health and disease. Established in 1887, the American Physiological Society (APS) was the first U.S. society in the biomedical sciences field. The Society represents more than 10,500 members and publishes 15 peer-reviewed journals with a worldwide readership.