



The American Physiological Society
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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*

Luke Whitcomb – *Colorado State University*
Frank A. Dinunno, PhD – *Colorado State University*

Meeraal Zaheer – *Vassar College*
Benedict J. Kolber, PhD – *Duquesne University*

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.*