

2017 UCB Amgen Scholars Program

Session I Oral Presentations

Wednesday, August 2nd | 125 Li Ka Shing | 9:00am-12:30pm

9:00



Ester Álvarez Benedicto

University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras

Faculty: Matthew Francis, Ph.D.

Title: Rational Design of pH Sensitive MS2 Virus-Like Particles for Drug Delivery Applications

9:15



Wendy Cao

Cornell University

Faculty: Christopher J. Chang, Ph.D.

Title: Liver-Targeting Copper Delivery

9:30



Kayli Martinez

Eastern University

Faculty: Evan Miller, Ph.D.

Title: Development of a Genetically-Targetable Silicon Rhodamine Voltage Sensitive Dye

9:45



Laura Wonilowicz

Virginia Tech

Faculty: Richmond Sarpong, Ph.D.

Title: Oxidative Transformations in the Synthesis of Phleghenrine D

10:00



Lynée Massey

University of Texas at San Antonio

Faculty: Richmond Sarpong, Ph.D.

Title: Synthetic Efforts Towards 9-Isocyanopupekeanane and 2-Isocyanooallopupekeanane

10:15



Victorio Jauregui

University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras

Faculty: Dean Toste, Ph.D.

Title: Synthesis of Bifunctional Phosphoric Acids as Novel Catalysts for the Enantioselective Petasis Borono-Mannich Reaction

10:30



Benito F. Buksh

University of Texas at Austin

Faculty: John F. Hartwig, Ph.D.

Title: A Mechanistic Study on the Oxidative Addition of Nickel Catalyzed Suzuki Cross Coupling

11:00



Adrian Davey

University of Maryland Baltimore County

Faculty: Bryan McCloskey, Ph.D.

Title: Exploring the Photoelectrochemical Oxygen Evolution Reaction by Using Manganese and Nitrogen-doped Reduced Graphene Oxides

11:15



Nicholas Ouassil

Columbia University

Faculty: Markita P. Landry, Ph.D.

Title: Determining the Catalytic Activity of DNA-Carbon Nanotube Hybrids in the Oxygen Reduction Reaction for the Production of Hydrogen Peroxide

11:30



Pedro Méndez Fernandez

University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras

Faculty: Phillip Messersmith, Ph.D.

Title: Antibacterial Coatings Through Sustained Quorum Sensing Inhibition

11:45



Madeleine D. Breshears

Bard College

Faculty: Daniel Neumark, Ph.D.

Title: Time-Resolved Photoelectron Imaging of Desorbed Iodide-Uridine Anions Formed in a Novel Source

12:00



Kai Littlejohn

Tuskegee University

Faculty: Grace O'Connell, Ph.D.

Title: 3D Bio-Printed Agarose-Alginate Hydrogel to Support Articular Cartilage Cell Differentiation

12:15



Dennis Huang

University of Pennsylvania

Faculty: Sanjay Kumar, Ph.D. & David Schaffer, Ph.D.

Title: Development and Characterization of a Novel 3D Hydrogel with Dynamically and Reversibly Switchable Stiffness

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Session II Oral Presentations

Thursday, August 3rd | 125 Li Ka Shing | 9:00am-12:45pm

9:00



Fredrick Leon (HHMI)

Emory University

Faculty: Nicole King, Ph.D.

Title: Transcriptional and Translational Regulation in the Closest Living Relative of Animals

9:15



Reena Debray

Duke University

Faculty: Britt Koskella, Ph.D.

Title: Experimental Evolution with Phage Does Not Reduce Bacterial Virulence on Plant Hosts

9:30



Taylor Harris

Fisk University

Faculty: Jennifer Lewis, Ph.D.

Title: Identifying Resistance to *Pseudomonas syringae* pv. *tomato* Race 1 in Wild Tomato

9:45



Brianna Marsh

University of Kansas

Faculty: Helen Bateup, Ph.D.

Title: The Impact of Tsc1 Gene Deletion on Dopamine Transporter

10:00



Jessica Du

University of California, Berkeley

Faculty: Stephan Lammel, Ph.D.

Title: Characterizing Brainstem-Midbrain Circuitry Mediating Aversion-related Behaviors

10:15



Angelica Rivera Rosa (HHMI)

University of Puerto Rico, Cayey

Faculty: Michael Rape, Ph.D.

Title: Characterization of UBR4 and UBR5 Interactors Involved in the Formation of K11/K48-Branched Ubiquitin Chains

10:30



Jesslyn E. Park (HHMI)

Winthrop University

Faculty: Jennifer A. Doudna, Ph.D.

Title: Expression and Purification of the Human GABPa β , a Therapeutic Target for Brain Cancer

11:00



Bridget Luckie

Clemson University

Faculty: Sarah Stanley, Ph.D.

Title: Establishing an In Vitro Model for Examining Neutrophil Response to Mycobacterial Infection

11:15



Pranav S.J.B. Rana (HHMI)

University of Idaho

Faculty: Russell E. Vance, Ph.D.

Title: Characterizing the Binding Specificity of hNAIP with Bacterial Ligands

11:30



Reuben Hogan

Washington University in Saint Louis

Faculty: Andreas Stahl, Ph.D.

Title: Coenzyme Q and its Uptake by the Scavenger Receptor Class B Type I

11:45



Lawrence Bacudio

University of North Carolina Chapel

Faculty: James Olzmann, Ph.D.

Title: Investigating the Degradation Pathway of the Lipid Droplet Protein PLIN2

12:00



Dylan Maghini

Davidson College

Faculty: ohn Dueber, Ph.D.

Title: Directed Evolution of Glucoside-3-Dehydrogenases for Use in the Microbial Indigo Synthesis Pathway

12:15



Brianna Lax

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

Faculty: Wenjun Zhang, Ph.D.

Title: Biosynthesis of a Metallophore in Actinobacteria

12:30



Elijah Karvelis

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Faculty: Adam Arkin, Ph.D.

Title: High-Throughput Profiling of Barcoded Double Mutants