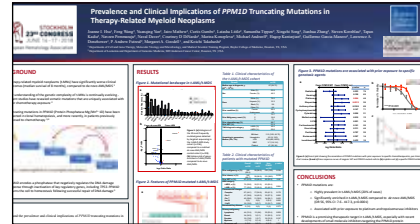


## BRASS Scholars Spotlight

### The Poster Presentation In Stockholm



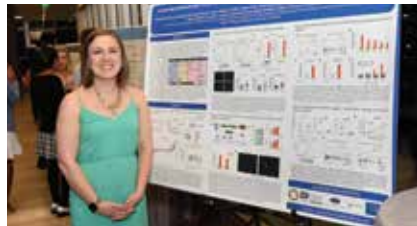
▲ Joanne Hsu, M.D./Ph.D. (2015-2016)



▲ Joanne's poster presented in Stockholm

In June 2018 BRASS scholar Joanne Hsu traveled to Stockholm with funding provided by BRASS to present her award-winning poster to a panel of judges and peers. Upon her return Joanne wrote to the BRASS Board, "I just returned from the annual European Hematology Association conference in Stockholm". It was an amazing experience. The poster presentation that I gave was very fun, and well received. I got to meet a lot of new people from all over the world, who were interested in the project and had great insights. Thank you so much again for the support and encouragement to go to these meetings. I feel so lucky every single day to have such a wonderful support system. Now I'm back to work in the lab ~ it's great to be back!"

### Posters Add Scientific Interest To 2018 Tea & Toddies



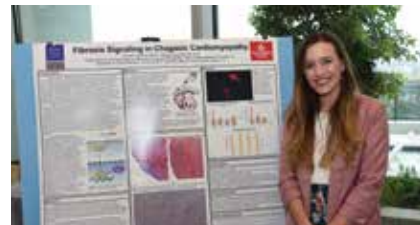
▲ Elizabeth Bowling, Ph.D. (2015-2016)



▲ Joanne Hsu, M.D./Ph.D. (2015-2016)



▲ Wanderson Rezende, Ph.D. (2015-2016)



▲ Kristyn Hoffman, Ph.D. (2016-2017)

Adding insight and intellectual interest once again this year to our Tea and Toddies fundraiser, four BRASS scholars set up their scientific posters and graciously shared with guests what their research entailed as well as their findings.

A scientific poster is a popular method of presenting research findings succinctly at meetings and conferences. Posters summarize a scholar's research project using a mix of text and diagrams/images.

A poster allows a scholar to condense the aims, methods, results and conclusions of their research into a portable form of presentation. It also allows interested peers to understand their research in their absence, simply by reading through their poster. Presenting research in the form of a poster at meetings or conferences can also boost the scholar's CV as it shows potential employers that they are motivated and creative.

### The Great Defense

This spring and summer, five of our M.D./Ph.D. BRASS scholars defended as they completed their five-plus years of intense research work. Each defense deftly and articularly explained their research, what it means to the world of biomedical research and why it is so significant. They will now return to medical school to complete their M.D. studies. BRASS congratulates these five outstanding scholars on a tremendous accomplishment!



Lin Zhu  
D. Sykora Scholar



Derrick Chu  
Sidney Faust Scholar



Amy Pohodich  
Sidney Faust Scholar



Amanda Koire  
D. Jordan Scholar



Michael Gundry  
Myra Wilson Scholar

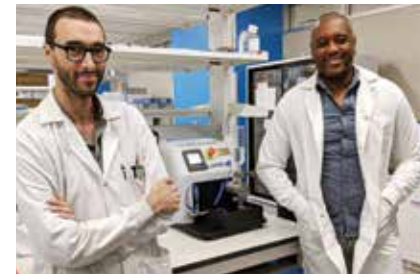
## BRASS Highlights

### Saluting Our BRASS Donors

The third floor of the Margaret M. and Albert B. Alkek Building at Baylor College of Medicine now proudly displays the BRASS Donor wall, honoring all those who have made our BRASS success story possible; the BRASS donors, our Honorary Lifetime members, our Angels of the Year, our Diana Brown Memorial Mentors of the Year, as well as all four of our endowed scholarships with each of their scholar recipients for the last 23 years. It showcases our partners in research funding; the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo, the David & Eula Wintermann Foundation, the Donald E. McMahon Foundation for research and recruiting, the Buck Bukowski Foundation for Scientific Travel and our William R. Brinkley Endowed Chair. It is impressive as it showcases the past 23 years of achievement as well as the focused future ahead for BRASS and its impact on the "Pursuit of Excellence in Biomedical Research." Heartfelt BRASS thanks to all of you who have made this possible!



### Generous Funding Enhances The Center for Drug Discovery Lab



▲ Wanderson Rezende, Ph.D. & Dr. D.W. Young excellence.

Wanderson Rezende stands next to a state-of-the-art Cell Microfluidizer, a new addition to his lab, thanks to funding from the Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo grant monies. This is helping him in the HIV research field of synthesis of new PROTAC molecules to interact with other HIV proteins, such as the HIV integrase and the HIV capsid.

More than 35 million people globally are living with HIV making the HIV/AIDS pandemic the most significant global health problem of modern times. Wanderson's goal is to make a difference in the HIV research field by focusing on drug discovery and infection management with a goal of affordable curative treatment. The encouragement from BRASS has been paramount for Wanderson's progression in his career. Through BRASS financial support, he is able to access the latest scientific resources and equipment to elevate his research to a superior level of quality and

### BRASS Officers 2017-2018

Founder **Myra Wilson**

President **Elsie Eckert**

Vice President **Dr. James Bonar**

Treasurer **Lisa Chandler**

Event Chair **Linda Kuykendall**

Second Vice President **Don D. Jordan**

2019 Scholar Selection Chair **Dr. James Bonar**

Scholar Selection Committee Member **Steve Brown**

New 2018 Scholar Selection Committee Member **Michele Collins**

Baylor Liaison **Dr. Matthew Baker**

Recording Secretary **Jo Ann Petersen**

Scholar Liaison **Peter VanDerlofske**

Research Award Liaison **Ed McMahon**

Mentor Liaison **Dr. Jim Bocell**

### BRASS Giving

In Memory of **Tara Hazelwood**

Elsie Eckert

Myra Wilson

Baylor College of Medicine



# The Element

October 2018

inside

- ▶ BRASS Tea & Toddies Highlights and Photos
- ▶ BRASS Highlights The BRASS Donor Wall
- ▶ BRASS Scholars Spotlight Poster Presentations and Scholar Defenses



▲ Myra Wilson and Elsie Eckert present Don D. Jordan with The BRASS Trailblazer Proclamation and Award.



▲ BRASS scholar Elizabeth Bowling surprises Dr. Matthew Baker with the Diana Brown Memorial 2018 Mentor of the Year Award.



▲ Myra Wilson surprises Jeanie and Marshall Smith when she announces them as the 2018 BRASS Angels of the Year.

### A Message from the BRASS President

Dear BRASS Members and Supporters:

As we near the holiday season, BRASS Scholars and supporters alike are grateful to so many.

- ▶ Our donors for their continued, dedicated support of our BRASS scholars, who continue to be a part of outstanding contributions in research in the Baylor College of Medicine Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences.
- ▶ Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo for their continued belief in BRASS with their \$95,000 donation to support and fund the Scholars' equipment to carry out their research, trips for them to attend seminars and present their lab findings, and funding to support community outreach.
- ▶ Jack and Judi Johnson for contributing an additional \$50,000 to the David and Eula Wintermann Foundation BRASS Scholar Research Award Endowment, which funds discretionary research stipends for each BRASS scholar while they work to achieve their Ph.D.'s.
- ▶ Event underwriting from The SOUTHMORE luxury highrise, Carolyn Faulk, Don Jordan, Ed McMahon and Jo Ann Petersen.

With great enthusiasm we welcomed our four 2018-2019 scholars who were recently selected on Sept. 26 from a very impressive slate of applicants and were introduced at our Scholar Reception on Oct. 17, 2018.

- ▶ Kali Deans – M.D./Ph.D.
- ▶ Sarah Herzog – Ph.D.
- ▶ Matthew Penna - M.D./Ph.D.
- ▶ Linda Zhang - M.D./Ph.D.

If you did not have an opportunity to meet them at the Scholars Reception, please look for them at the upcoming BRASS Holiday party on Dec. 5. They are exceptional in so many ways, and as is the case with all our BRASS Scholars, you will really enjoy visiting with them. You'll find detailed stories for each of these amazing scholars in our next newsletter.

As always, the BRASS Board and I truly appreciate all of you for your continued belief in BRASS and our amazing Scholars. Our BRASS Scholarships have proven to be effective in attracting the best and the brightest students who add to the College's ever-growing expertise in biomedical research. We could not do it without your support! Best wishes for a happy and healthy holiday season.

Baylor  
College of  
Medicine



▲ Elsie Eckert

## 2018 BRASS Tea & Toddies - Celebrating 23 Years

### An Evening On The Rooftop Garden At The Southmore

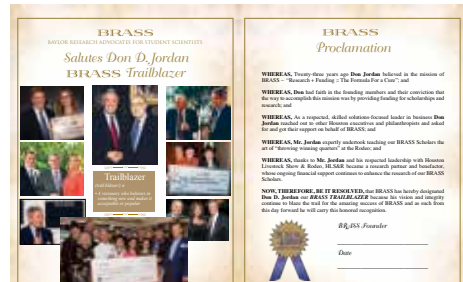
On April 5, 2018, the 23rd annual BRASS Tea & Toddies was held on the stunning rooftop garden of The Southmore, a luxury high rise in the Museum District. It was a celebration for the bright future of biomedical research and the ground breaking research being done by our BRASS Scholars.

Hosted and underwritten by The Southmore, more than \$25,000 was raised to help support and further the BRASS mission of "providing funding and support for the best and brightest students" through endowed scholarships and research awards.

Dr. Matthew Baker was awarded the *Diana Brown Memorial Mentor of the Year Award* and Jeanie and Marshall Smith were named as our *2018 Angels of the Year*. Both awards were richly deserved by the recipients.



Elsie Eckert and Myra Wilson present The BRASS Trailblazer Award to Don D. Jordan



The Don D. Jordan BRASS Trailblazer Award and Proclamation



Don D. Jordan thanks BRASS for the award

### BRASS Honors the Visionary Don D. Jordan as THE BRASS TRAILBLAZER

With heartfelt appreciation and admiration, BRASS is delighted to honor Don D. Jordan with the exclusive designation of being **THE BRASS TRAILBLAZER!**

Twenty-three years ago Don Jordan learned the mission of BRASS: "Research Is The Answer". He had faith in the founding members and their conviction that the way to accomplish this mission was by providing funding for scholarships and research. As a respected, skilled, solutions-focused leader in business he reached out to other Houston executives and philanthropists and asked for their support on behalf of BRASS...and they wrote checks. Three endowed BRASS scholarships: the Myra Branum Wilson, the Don D. Sykora and the Don D. Jordan scholarships were established by 1998. In 2008 the Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo, thanks to Don and his respected leadership with HLS&R, recognized the unfulfilled need of research funding for these dedicated scientists in the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences at Baylor College of Medicine.

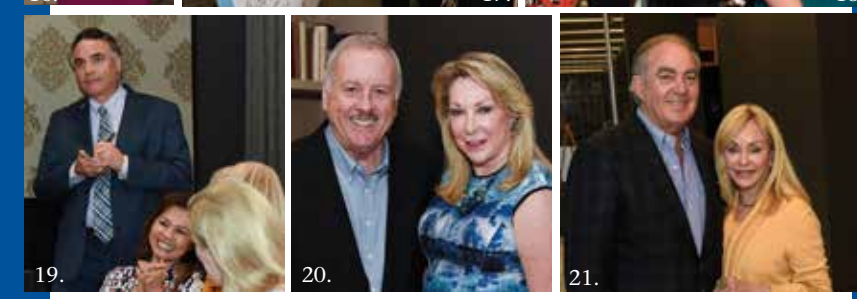
HLS&R became a partner and benefactor and its ongoing financial support of \$95,000 every year since 2008 has enhanced the advancement of countless critical discoveries in the labs of our BRASS scholars. After five decades of building, creating and making things happen, Mr. Jordan stands among a unique group of leaders in our community who have shaped Houston and made it a better place to live!

BRASS proudly salutes Don D. Jordan for blazing the trail with his vision, determination and integrity and for helping BRASS become such an amazing story of success.

## 2018 BRASS Tea & Toddies - Celebrating 23 Years



## Celebrating 23 Years



1. Dr. Adam and Julie Kuspa, Jeanie Smith, Francoise Marks and Peter VanDerlofske
2. Ed McMahon and Don D. Jordan
3. Elsie Eckert, Wanderson Rezende and Dr. Damien Young
4. Dr. Matthew and Amber Baker
5. Dr. Mingshan Xue and Dr. Tuan Chao
6. Debby and Bill Leighton, Judi McGee and Sidney Faust
7. Dr. Tuan Chao, Dr. Shelly Buffington and Dr. Minhshan Xue
8. Ed McMahon and Jeanie Smith
9. Patrick Hunt, Ed Smith and Elsie Eckert
10. The stunning buffet table at The Southmore
11. Les Eckert, Nancy Davis, Bob Bibb, Don Flowers and Lisa O'Leary
12. Justin Olszeski, Lin Zhu and Marshall Smith
13. Judi McGee and Sidney Faust
14. Jeanie and Marshall Smith, Francoise Marks and Peter VanDerlofske
15. Guests enjoying the evening's presentations
16. Linda Kuykendall
17. Wanderson Rezende and Robin Simon
18. Myra Wilson, Suzy Simons and guest
19. Dr. Adam and Julie Kuspa
20. Ed McMahon and Hershey Grace
21. Mike Waller and Judi McGee

### A Great Evening of Friends and Fun

