Graduate Student Current Position & Notable Awards

Thomas Kwiatkowski Neurologist, Berkshire Medical Center, Pittsfield, MA (Genetics, Ph.D. 1993;

MD 1996 (MSTP)

Kimberly Ellison Molecular and Human Genetics Program, Ph.D., 1994

Laura Schaefer Sr. Staff Scientist, BCM (Genetics, Ph.D. 1996)

Siddharth Prakash Asst. Professor, UT Health Science Center, Houston, TX (Genetics, Ph.D.

1999; MD 2001 (MSTP); 2000 Award for Best Overall Medical Student in Basic Sciences and Clinical Clerkships, M.D./Ph.D. Program; 1999 M.D./Ph.D. Scientific Symposium Award for Poster Presentation; 1997 Graduate Student Symposium Poster Prize; 1996 M.D./Ph.D. Activities and Symposium Subcommittee; 1993 NIH MSTP Grant, applicable to M.D./Ph.D.

program at Baylor College of Medicine)

Christopher Cummings (now deceased) Asst. Professor, BCM, Director of Research Development, Jan

and Dan Duncan Neurological Research Institute, Houston, TX (Cell and Molecular Biology, Ph.D. 2000; Claude W. Smith Award: Best Student Performance in 2nd Year Graduate Studies, 1997; Claude W. Smith Award: Best Student Performance in 3rd Year Graduate Studies, 1998; Cell and Molecular Biology (CMB) Retreat, Best Poster Award 1998; Keystone

Symposium Student Scholarship, 1998; Graduate Student Symposium Platform Speaker Representing CMB, 1999; Keystone Symposium Student Scholarship, 1999; Honorary Member of the Japanese Society of Inherited Metabolic Diseases, 1999; Deborah K. Martin Achievement Award in Biomedical Research, Baylor College of Medicine, 2000; Sigma Xi Best Graduate Thesis

Award 2001 for Baylor, Rice, and UT)

Trena Cormier Scientist, Amersham Biosciences, San Francisco, CA (Cell and Molecular

Biology, Ph.D. 2000)

Patrick Cox Radiologist, Radia Inc, Ps., Everett, WA (Neuroscience, Ph.D. 2001; MD 2002

(MSTP))

Mona Shahbazian Principal Scientist, AcroMetrix Corp., Benecia, CA, (Genetics, Ph.D. 2002;

(NRSA Predoctoral fellowship)

Seung-Yun Yoo Manager, Market Research Team, Gilead Sciences (Neuroscience, Ph.D. 2003

(Honorable Mention, Student Platform Speaker), Baylor Graduate Student

Symposium, 2002)

Vincent Wang Private Practice, Seton Medical Center Hays, Kyle, TX (Developmental

Biology, Ph.D. 2003; MD 2004 (MSTP); Brass Scholar Award, 2000; 1999 McNair Scholarship, Baylor College of Medicine; Honors in Basic Sciences 1997; Achievement Award in Basic Science M.D./Ph.D. Program 1997;

(NRSA predoctoral fellowship)

Ann L. Collins Finance and Marketing Manager, Collins Structural Consulting, PLLC,

Creedmore, NC (Genetics, Ph.D. 2005; NRSA predoctoral fellowship)

Carmen Lam US Business Development Manager, United Laboratory Services, New York

(Neuroscience, PhD. 2006)

Bryan McGill Instructor, Division of Pediatric and Developmental Neurology, Department of

Neurology, Washington University, St. Louis, MO, (Neuroscience, Ph.D. 2007;

MD 2008 (MSTP); NRSA predoctoral fellowship)

Holly Cukier Research Asst. Professor, University of Miami, Miami, FL (Genetics, Ph.D.

2007; NRSA predoctoral fellowship)

Jennifer Gatchel Instructor, Psychiatry, McLean Hospital, Belmont, MA (Neuroscience, Ph.D.

2008; MD (MSTP) 2009; NRSA predoctoral fellowship)

George Miesegaes CMD/Product Quality Lead, FCA, Washington, DC (Cell and Molecular

Biology, Ph.D. 2008)

Matthew Rose Instructor, Psychiatry, Brigham & Women's Hospital, Boston, MA

(Developmental Biology, Ph.D. 2008; MD 2009 (MSTP);NRSA predoctoral fellowship; 2006 Best Paper Award Graduate Student Category, Dept. of

MHG, BCM)

Juan Crespo-Barreto Toxicology Reviewer, FDA, Washington, D.C. (Cell and Molecular Biology,

Ph.D. 2009 (NRSA predoctoral fellowship; Brain Disorders and Development

postdoctoral fellow)

Sharyl Fyffe Director Molecular Biology, Research, Ultragenyx Pharmaceutical, Novato,

CA (Genetics, Ph.D. 2008; 2007 John R. Kelsey, Jr., Student Speaker Award, BCM; 2007 Best Student Presentation Award, Dept. of MHG, BCM; 2008

MHG nominee Harold M. Weintraub Award, BCM)

Maria Chahrour Assistant Professor, UT Southwestern, Dallas, TX (Molecular and Human

Genetics, Ph.D. 2009; 2008 First place oral presentation award, Dept. of MHG Annual Retreat; 2008 Platform Speaker for the MHG Graduate Program and 2008 Beckman Platform Winner, Graduate Student Symposium, BCM; 2008 Travel grant, SABiosciences, to attend the Society for Neuroscience annual

meeting)

Eric Hyun The Duluth Clinic, Duluth, MN (Developmental Biology, Ph. D. 2010; MD

2011 (MSTP); NRSA predoctoral fellowship)

Hsiao-Tuan Chao Assistant Professor, Pediatrics, Neurology, and Molecular and Human

Genetics, BCM (Neuroscience, Ph.D. 2010; MD 2011 (MSTP); NRSA predoctoral fellowship; 2002 Alumni scholarship; 2002-present McNair Scholar, MSTP; 2004-10 Baylor Research Advocates for Student Scientists (BRASS) Scholars; 2006 Trentin Scholar; 2007 Best Publication of 2007 Award, MSTP; 2008 Best Oral Presentation of 2008 Award, 31st Annual Scientists Symposium, MSTP; 2009 Deborah K. Martin Award, BCM Graduate Student Research Symposium; 2010 BCM Alumni Association Outstanding Student Award; 2010 BCM Graduate School graduation speaker; 2010 Houston LS&R Outstanding Community Baylor Research Advocates for Students (BRASS) Scholar; 2011 Best Postdoctoral Publication Award, MHG Dept.; 2011 Top 10 Autism Research Fundings of 2010, Autism Speaks for Chao et al., Nature 2010; 2012 Drs. Benjamin and Margarie Mo Scholar,

Chinese American Doctors Association of Houston

Rodney Samaco Assistant Professor, BCM (Genetics. Ph.D. 2010; Autism Speaks predoctoral

fellowship; NIH Director's DP5 award)

Juliette Kahle Variant Curation Scientist, Counsyl, Inc., North Carolina; (Genetics, Ph.D.

2011)

Steven Baker Resident, Stanford School of Medicine (Developmental Biology, Ph.D. 2012;

1st Yr Academic Excellence Award MSTP; Excellence Award in Basic Science; 2010 and 2012 1st Place Poster Presentation MSTP Scientific

	Symposium; 1 st Place Poster Presentation, Graduate Student Symposium; NRSA predoctoral fellowship)
Christopher McGraw	Resident, UCSF; Developmental Biology, Ph.D.2012; BRASS Scholarship Recipient (5 yrs); Outstanding Oral Presenter Award, MSTP Symposium; Nominee, Deborah K. Martin; Achievement Award in Biomedical Research (most outstanding graduate student); NRSA predoctoral fellowship; 2013 BCM Graduate School graduation speaker))
Wei-Hsiang Huang	Postdoc Fellow, Stanford University; Developmental Biology, Ph.D. 2013 (AHA predoctoral fellowship)
Laura Heckman	CNS Preclinical Research Lead at Spark Therapeutics, Inc.; Molecular and Human Genetics, 2014 (NRSA Fellowship); 1 st Place Poster Award 2013 Graduate School Symposium, BCM
Hsiang-Chi (Sean) Lu	Neuropathology Residency, Washington Unversity, Ph.D. Developmental Biology, Ph.D. 2016
Wei Xie	Postdoc Fellow, Baylor College of Medicine, Integrative Molecular and Biomedical Sciences, Ph.D. 2017
Szu-Ying Yeh	Postdoc Fellow, Icahn School of Medicine at Mt. Sinai, New York, NY, Developmental Biology, Ph.D. 2017
Antonia De Maio	Postdoc Fellow, Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, MA; BCM, Developmental Biology, Ph.D. 2018
Vitaliy Bondar	Research Associate, Denali, San Fancisco, CA; Molecular and Human Genetics, Ph.D. 2018
Amy Pohodich	Resident, Providence St. Vincent Medical Center Oregon Science and Health University, Portland, OR; Neuroscience, Ph.D. 2018 (McNair Scholar; Brass Scholar)
Xiangling Meng	Research Associate, Stanford University; Neuroscience, Ph.D. 2018 (2014 Tenneco Travel Fellowship recipient)
Li Wang	Research Associate, UCSF; Molecular and Human Genetics, PhD, 2018 (2014 Autism Speaks Fellowship)
Callison Alcott	Resident, Boston Children's College, Boston, MA; Developmental Biology, Ph.D. 2019 (NRSA predoctoral fellowship)
Meike van der Heijden	Research Associate, BCM; Neuroscience, Ph.D. 2018 (American Heart Association predoctoral fellowship)
Gabriel Vasquez Velez	Resident Neurology, Washington University; Developmental Biology, Ph.D. 2019
Won-Seok Lee	Postdoctoral Associate, BCM; Integrative Molecular and Biomedical Sciences, Ph.D. 2020 (HHMI International Student Research fellowship)
Nathan Achilly	Medical Student, BCM, Developmental Biology, Ph.D. 2021 (NRSA predoctoral fellowship)
Larissa Nitscke	Postdoctoral Associate, BCM; Integrative Molecular and Biomedical Sciences, Ph.D. 2021 (Brass scholar)
Yingyao Shao	Sr. Analyst, Health Advances; Developmental Biology, Ph.D. 2021

Manar Zaghlula Postdoctoral Associate, BCM; Translational Biology and Molecular Medicine, Ph.D. 2021