Additional awards
conferred on our Travel Awardees due to their presentations

Stephen Fried traveled to San Francisco, California for the 57th Annual Meeting of the Biophysical Society. Aside from giving his talk, "Vibrational stark effects in the active site of ketosteroid isomerase point to large electric fields driving chemical catalysis," he co-chaired his session on enzymes.

James Nishimuta traveled to San Antonio, Texas for the 2013 Annual Meeting of the Orthopaedic Research Society. His talk, "Extracellular matrix turnover in cartilage and meniscus tissues in response to adipokines," was particularly relevant in context of the current obesity epidemic; as a result, the ORS contacted him prior to the meeting to prepare a press release.

Jonathan Karr traveled to Breckenridge, Colorado for the 2013 Keystone Symposium - Precision Genome Engineering and Synthetic Biology: Designing Genomes and Pathways. He received an additional award, the Keystone/NSF scholarship, to give his talk, "Biological design and genome optimization using whole-cell models."

Chen Gu traveled to Vancouver, Canada for the 11th Asia Pacific Bioinformatics Conference. His talk, "Building Markov state models with solvent dynamics" has since been published by BMC Bioinformatics.

Limor Freifeld traveled to Salt Lake City, Utah for Cosyne 2013. To give her talk, "Lateral interactions tune the early stages of visual processing in Drosophila," she received an additional travel award from the conference organizers.

Dara Strauss-Albee traveled to Honolulu, Hawaii for the 2013 American Association of Immunologists Annual Meeting. She received an AAI Trainee Abstract Award for her work, "Quantifying the unanticipated diversity of the human NK cell repertoire."

Andrew Klein traveled to Waterville Valley, New Hampshire for the 2013 Gordon Research Seminar in Plant Metabolic Engineering. While there, his interactions with peers and principal investigators led to his being elected to serve as the Vice-Chair of the next Gordon Research Seminar.

Patrick Ye traveled to Shanghai, China for the 13th International Symposium for Therapeutic Ultrasound. He received the Nadine Barrie Smith Student Award for best student presentation at the conference for his work, "Frequency dependence of ultrasound neuromodulation."

Giancarlo Garcia traveled to Okinawa, Japan for the MicroTAS Conference 2012. The research he shared, entitled "Rapid and accurate profiling of trace amounts of microRNA with no amplification" was published in Analytical Chemistry.
Meghaan Smith traveled to Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania for the 2012 American Institute of Chemical Engineers Annual Meeting. She was one of eight graduate students and postdocs chosen to participate as a mentee in the inaugural 2012 AIChE Education Division Future Faculty Program.

Chinyere Nwabugwu traveled to Larnaca, Cyprus for the IEEE 12th International Conference on Bioinformatics and Bioengineering (BIBE). Her research work entitled "Mathematical modeling of the interactions between cellular programs in response to onco-gene inactivation" won second prize in the student paper competition.

Gabriel Billings traveled to San Francisco, California for the 2012 American Society of Microbiology General Meeting. His submission, "De novo synthesis of the cell wall in E. coli: Reversion of L-forms," was selected as a Young Investigator talk.

Katherine Steele traveled to Grand Rapids, Michigan for the 2012 Gait & Clinical Movement Analysis Society Conference. She received the Dr. Kevin P. Granata Student Award for most outstanding oral presentation for her talk, "How do muscle contributions to support and propulsion change during crouch gait?"

Debora Lin traveled to San Francisco, California for the MRS Spring Meeting 2012. Work related to her talk, “Investigating cell contractile forces on biocompatible conductive films,” was recently published in ACS Nano and highlighted in an article in Nanotechweb.

Monica Ortiz traveled to Aarhus, Denmark for DNA 18: The 18th International Conference on DNA Computing and Molecular Programming. She received an additional award from the DNA 18 committee for her talk, Engineered transmission of DNA messages among bacteria.

Sigrid Nachtergaele traveled to Biopolis, Singapore for the 2012 Hedgehog Signaling Meeting. Her work was selected from a pool of abstract submissions to present a talk entitled "Regulation of the Hedgehog pathway by oxysterols" on work that was recently published in Nature Chemical Biology.

Tiffany Chen traveled to Baltimore, Maryland for the XXVI Congress of the International Society for Advancement of Cytometry. She received the President’s Award for Excellence, an honor bestowed only once annually, for her talk, Automating signaling and cell cycle analysis in drug discovery: Determining the effect of chemotherapeutics on leukemic cells.

Pratap Rao traveled to Boston, Massachusetts for the 2011 Fall Meeting of the Materials Research Society. He received the Silver Medal Graduate Student Award for his talk, "Flame synthesis and applications of transition metal oxide nanostructures."

Joanna Mattis traveled to Budapest, Hungary for the 2011 European Biophysics Congress and gave a talk entitled “An analysis of new and existing opsins for scientific application.” The paper she wrote in relation to her talk was subsequently submitted to Nature Methods.
Furqan Fazal traveled to Heidelberg, Germany for the Cellular Nano-Sciences Conference 2011. His talk, "Binding and translocation of termination factor rho studied at the single-molecule level," has since been published in the Journal of Molecular Biology.

Laura Sasportas traveled to Leiden, the Netherlands for the 2011 European Molecular Imaging Meeting. Her talk, "Quantitative, dynamic and long term in vivo imaging of intravascular circulating tumor cells in awake animals with a novel miniaturized fluorescence microscope," was nominated for the Young Investigator Award at the end of the conference.

Logan Grosenick traveled to Salt Lake City, Utah for the COSYNE 2011 Workshops. His talk, “Towards online feedback control of neural systems with optogenetics,” was cited in a research paper.

Yael Garten traveled to the Big Island of Hawaii for the 2010 Pacific Symposium on Biocomputing. The manuscript from her talk, “Improving the prediction of pharmacogenes using text-derived gene-drug relationships,” was published in the conference proceedings and indexed by MEDLINE. She was asked to co-chair a workshop the following year, which she did at the 2011 Pacific Symposium on Biocomputing in Hawaii.

Suchi Saria traveled to Washington D.C. for the 2010 American Medical Informatics Association’s annual meeting. She gave a talk entitled “Combining structured and free-text data for automatic coding of patient outcomes” and was a finalist for Best Student Paper.

Ben Almquist traveled to Boston, Massachusetts for the 2010 Materials Research Society Fall Meeting. He received a Materials Research Society Graduate Student Gold Award for his talk, “Lateral fusion of lipid membranes to nanoscale functionalized posts.”

Nahid Harjee traveled to Waikoloa, Hawaii for the IEEE Sensors 2010 Conference where he gave a talk entitled “Coaxial tip piezoresistive scanning probes with sub-nanometer vertical displacement resolution.” His paper was in the top 10% of accepted contributions and was selected for a special issue of the IEEE Sensors Journal (July 2011 issue).

Sarah Moore traveled to San Diego for the 24th Annual Symposium of the Protein Society in 2010. Her talk, “Engineering high affinity knottin peptides targeting tumor marker CAIX for cancer imaging and therapy,” was selected as a Young Investigator Talk which was an honor since only 16 talks over the 5 days were selected from 510 abstract submissions. She also received a Graduate Student Poster Award from the poster that accompanied the talk.

Hunter Shain traveled to Oslo, Norway for the 21st Meeting of the European Association of Cancer Research in 2010. He was the EACR-21 Presidential Session Award Winner for his talk, “An integrative structural and functional approach to pancreatic cancer gene discovery.”

Jeff Schlosser traveled to Philadelphia for the 2010 American Association of Physicists in Medicine Annual Meeting. He received 2nd place for the Young Investigator’s Award for his talk, "Real-time soft-tissue imaging concurrent with external beam radiation therapy delivery.”
Michael Llewellyn traveled to Philadelphia for the 2009 American Society of Biomechanics. He received the 
Journal of Biomechanics award for the most innovative research for his talk, “Orderly recruitment of motor 
units by optical stimulation in transgenic mice.”

Daniel Sternberg traveled to Amsterdam for the 2009 Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society. He received an additional student travel award sponsored by the Robert J. Glushko and Pamela Samuelson Foundation prior to his talk entitled “When should we expect indirect effects in human contingency learning?”

Ga Young (Kelly) Suh traveled to Nevada for the 2009 Summer Bioengineering Conference of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers. Her talk, “Hemodynamics in abdominal aortic aneurysm at rest and graded levels of exercise states using MR-imaging technique,” was 3rd place in student competition at podium presentation.

Robert Wilson traveled to St. Louis for the 2009 IEEE/RSJ International Conference on Intelligent Robots and Systems. He was a finalist for the Kuka Service Robotics Best Paper Award for “Improved multi-DOF haptics with spring drive amplifiers.”

Adam de la Zerda received the Young Investigator Award at the World Molecular Imaging Congress 2008 for his work, “Photoacoustic molecular imaging using single walled carbon nanotubes in living mice.” The following year, Adam received the Best Poster Presentation Award when he gave a talk at the SPIE Photonics West 2009 conference.


Craig Georgen received the 1st place award at the ISES Endovascular Fellows’ Competition at the International Congress XX on Endovascular Interventions in 2007.