

**2025-2026 DEPARTMENT OF PHARMACOLOGY RESEARCH DISCUSSIONS**

BIOM/PHAR 295-- Leichtag 107

TIME SLOT A -- 9:00 - 9:30 AM TIME SLOT B -- 9:30 - 10:00 AM (20 min. presentation, 10 min. question/answer period)

For other AV needs, contact the Pharmacology Education Office at least one week prior to your presentation.

**ABSOLUTELY NO CHANGES WITHOUT PHARMACOLOGY EDUCATION OFFICE APPROVAL.**

Friday, September 26, 2025	A	Gosia Małgorzata Murawska	Dennis	Postdoctoral	Specificity of Lipid Enzymes Determined by Unmasking Fatty Acyl C=C positions in Complex Lipids Using Mass Spectrometry	mmurawska@health.ucsd.edu
Friday, October 3, 2025	A	Lenni Orduna-Castillo	Trejo	Postdoctoral	GPCR endothelial cytoprotective signaling	lordinacastillo@health.ucsd.edu
	B	Ben Gastfriend	Daneman	Postdoctoral	Insights into evolution of the blood-brain barrier from cross-species molecular analysis	bgastfriend@health.ucsd.edu
Friday, October 10, 2025	A	Gillian McMahon	Schoeneberg	Ph.D.	4D mitochondrial network assumes distinct and predictive phenotypes through human lung and intestinal epithelial development	gimcmahon@UCSD.EDU
Friday, October 17, 2025	B	Evan Wen	Zhang	Ph.D.	Spatially Diverse Transducer Coupling in GPCR Activation of ERK	ewwen@ucsd.edu
Friday, October 24, 2025	A	Calista Horta	Yang	Ph.D.	A receptor tyrosine phosphatase in ECM stiffness-induced EMT and tumor invasion	cahorta@health.ucsd.edu
Friday, October 31, 2025	A	Haixia Wei	McCommon	Postdoctoral	High-throughput single-cell metabolomics reveals distinct metabolic states of modulated CD4+ T cells	h9wei@ucsd.edu
	B	Sean Burke	Hibbs	Ph.D.	Computer-aided Drug Discovery	smburke@ucsd.edu
Friday, November 7, 2025	A	Tim Abel	Obara	Postdoctoral	Structural investigation of native neuronal nicotinic acetylcholine receptors	tfabel@health.ucsd.edu
	B	Eric Arkfeld	Schoeneberg	Ph.D.	Mechanisms of targeted protein degradation on the endoplasmic reticulum	earkfeld@UCSD.EDU
Friday, November 14, 2025	A	Julio Pimentel	Trejo	Postdoctoral	Whole-Cell Digital Twin Simulations from Lattice Light-Sheet Microscopy Data	jupimentel@ucsd.edu
	B	Sofia Endzhievska	Kufareva	Postdoctoral	The role of CYLD in suppressing PARI-p38 MAPK-p65 signaling in triple-negative breast cancer	sendzhievska@health.ucsd.edu
Friday, November 21, 2025	A	Elena Sofia Cardenas Alcoser	Gutkind	Postdoctoral	Unlocking orphan GPCRs by leveraging -omics and AI	ecardenasalcoser@health.ucsd.edu
	B	Medha Sharma	Newton	Postdoctoral	Targeting Gas-PKA pathway in Fibrous Dysplasia: The first GNAS (Gas)-driven monogenic disease	mes015@health.ucsd.edu
<b>Thanksgiving Holiday</b>						
Friday, December 5, 2025	A	Dane Ford-Roshon	Mendiola	Ph.D.	Neurovascular dysfunction alters microglial metabolism	dfordroshon@health.ucsd.edu
	B	Sean Harvey	Daneman	Postdoctoral	Endothelial-endogenous lipids modulate neuronflammation	ssharvey@health.ucsd.edu
Friday, December 12, 2025	A	Tomohiko Ishikawa	Gutkind	Postdoctoral	EGFR/HER3 targeting therapy enhances ICB efficacy on head and neck cancer	toishikawa@health.ucsd.edu
	B	Rosa Fontana	Yang	Postdoctoral	Proximity labeling proteomics identifies ITCH as a novel invadopodia regulator	rofontana@health.ucsd.edu
<b>Winter Break</b>						
Friday, January 2, 2026	A	Yingqi Zhu	Zhang	Ph.D.	A suite of genetically encoded cGAMP biosensors reveals cGAS signaling dynamics	yiz167@UCSD.EDU
	B	Hoang Nguyen	Taylor, S.	Ph.D.	TBA	hon005@UCSD.EDU
Friday, January 9, 2026	A	Anne Lyons	Zhang	Ph.D.	Illuminating the dynamic kinase with KARkey	anlyons@ucsd.edu
	B	Nileeka Balasuriya	Newton	Postdoctoral	Tor2c interaction motif (TIM) phosphorylation is essential for Akt	nwebbadage@health.ucsd.edu
Friday, January 16, 2026	A	Kuniaki Sato	Gutkind	Postdoctoral	Novel immunotherapeutic approach targeting YAP-driven transcriptional networks in HNSCC	kusato@health.ucsd.edu
	B	Xinya Su	Trejo	Postdoctoral	Src family kinases regulate GPCR-mediated Hippo signaling in breast cancer	x6su@health.ucsd.edu
Friday, January 23, 2026	A	Nick Bergkamp	Zhang	Postdoctoral	Spatial organization of ATTR-mediated ERK signaling	nbergkamp@health.ucsd.edu
	B	Tiffany Kao	Newton	Ph.D.	PKC Degradation	tkao@health.ucsd.edu
Friday, January 30, 2026	A	Nyssa Williams	Mendiola	Ph.D.	Type 1 interferon quality control mechanisms of microglia in neuroinflammation	n5williams@health.ucsd.edu
	B	Xiaojing Yang	Tukey	Postdoctoral	Maternal Milk 3'-Sialylactose Promotes Neonatal Intestinal Maturation and Prevents Hyperbilirubinemia by Regulating HNF4α Signaling	xy120@health.ucsd.edu
Friday, February 6, 2026	A	Leigh-Ana Rossitto	Daneman/ Chen	Ph.D.	Metabolic Interventions in Alzheimer's Disease	lrossitt@health.ucsd.edu
	B	Xinchang He	Zhang	Ph.D.	A Suite of Highly Sensitive Chemogenetic FRET-based Biosensors	xih034@UCSD.EDU
Friday, February 13, 2026	A	Erin Ehinger	Rao	Postdoctoral	Degrading transcription factors that impose T cell exhaustion	eehinger@jji.org
	B	Alexander Silva	Mendiola	Ph.D.	Epigenetic profiling and therapeutic targeting of oxidative stress in neuroinflammation	a9silva@health.ucsd.edu
Friday, February 20, 2026	A	Pham Vo	Gutkind	Ph.D.	TBA	pvo@ucsd.edu
	B	Khoa Doan	Yang	Ph.D.	Non-canonical EPHA2 signaling in breast tumor mechanotransduction	kddoan@health.ucsd.edu
Friday, February 27, 2026	A	Zachary Wang	Schoeneberg	Ph.D.	Self-supervised deep learning uncovers the semantic landscape of drug-induced latent mitochondrial phenotypes	ziw056@ucsd.edu
	B	Connor Cronin	Taylor, S.	Ph.D.	Rapid in vitro characterization of PKA signal termination	ccronin@UCSD.EDU
Friday, March 6, 2026	A	Sharath Krishnamurari Menon	Alexandrov	Visiting Ph.D.	HT-SpaceM-IF: Single-cell metabolomics and protein imaging	skrishnakumarmenon@health.ucsd.edu
	B	André A. Weber	Tukey	Postdoctoral	TBA	aaweb@health.ucsd.edu
Friday, March 13, 2026	A	Yuhan Zhang	Antal	Ph.D.	Disrupting KRAS Signaling and Immune Resistance in Pancreatic Ductal Adenocarcinoma	yu258@health.ucsd.edu
	B	Grace McAuley	Mendiola	Ph.D.	RNA regulators of neuroinflammatory disease	gmcauley@health.ucsd.edu
Friday, March 20, 2026	A	Brooke Tran	Daneman	Ph.D.	Role of blood-brain barrier lipids in neuroinflammation	brooketran@health.ucsd.edu
	B	Charlie Bayne	Gonzalez	Ph.D.	Metaproteomic Signatures of the Gut Microbiome in Cancer Immunotherapy Response	chbayne@health.ucsd.edu
<b>César Chávez Holiday</b>						
Friday, April 3, 2026	A	Kyle Stark	Rangamani	Ph.D.	The spatiotemporal mediation of calcium by plasma membrane-endoplasmic reticulum contact sites in dendrites	kstarck@ucsd.edu
	B	Caesar Tawfeeq	Taylor, S./Sunahara	Ph.D.	An Arginine Tetrad Regulates AHD Opening and Nucleotide Exchange in Gs Proteins	ctawfeeq@ucsd.edu
Friday, April 10, 2026	A	Skylar Batty	Yang	Ph.D.	A novel mechanosensitive protein complex in breast cancer invasion	sbatty@health.ucsd.edu
	B	Oye Bosompem	Trejo	Ph.D.	TNF-α-driven TNFR1 signaling is regulated by ARRDC3 in invasive breast cancer	nbosompem@ucsd.edu
Friday, April 17, 2026	A	Thomas Hoang	Gutkind	Postdoctoral	TBA	tshoang@health.ucsd.edu
	B	Palliser Shomody	Zhang	Ph.D.	Illuminating the kinase with BRET based reporters	pshomody@UCSD.EDU
Friday, April 24, 2026	A	Emmet Francis	Rangamani	Postdoctoral	Mechanotransduction of YAP/TAZ	eafra@ucsd.edu
	B	Sidar Aydin	Daneman	Postdoctoral	The role of retinol transporter Stra6 in modulating the neuroinflammation	saydin@health.ucsd.edu
Friday, May 1, 2026	A	Andrea Pence	O'Donoghue/Chavez	Ph.D.	Design of therapeutic proteases	apence@health.ucsd.edu
	B	Elisavetta Ilyin	Schoeneberg	Ph.D.	Linking Mitochondrial Phenotype to Cell State Using Self-Supervised Deep Learning	eilyn@health.ucsd.edu
Friday, May 8, 2026	A	Daniel Mansour	Rangamani	Ph.D.	Actin organization in liquid-like condensates	dmansour@ucsd.edu
	B	Anneliese Gest	Zhang	Postdoctoral	Novel PKA Signaling Pathway Induced by Mitochondrial Dysfunction	age@health.ucsd.edu
Friday, May 15, 2026	A	Plaboni Sen	Yang	Postdoctoral	Unraveling Mechanotransduction Pathways Driving Breast Cancer Metastasis	pilsen@ucsd.edu
	B	Nicole McIntosh	Sunahara	Ph.D.	The role of the extracellular vestibule in b2-adrenergic receptor desensitization	nlmcintosh@health.ucsd.edu
Friday, May 22, 2026	A	Patrick Noerr	Rangamani	Postdoctoral	Biophysical modeling of mitochondrial trafficking in axons	pnoerr@ucsd.edu
	B	Qian Yi Zhang	Zhang	Ph.D.	Spatiotemporal regulation of mTORC1 activity	qyzhang@health.ucsd.edu
Friday, May 29, 2026	A	Diego Trujillo	O'Donoghue	Ph.D.	Evaluating the 20S proteasome of the early-branching eukaryote Giardia lamblia as a valuable drug target	dtrujill@health.ucsd.edu
	B	Ning Kuo	Gutkind	Ph.D.	Harnessing the XCL1-XCR1 chemokine-dendrite cell axis for cancer immunotherapy	n3kuo@health.ucsd.edu
Friday, June 5, 2026	A	Jessica Brustens	Taylor, S.	Postdoctoral	Capturing the high affinity potency of the PKA-specific BLU0588-type inhibitors	jbrustens@health.ucsd.edu
	B	Kevin Braza	Dennis	Ph.D.	Molecular simulations of the cytosolic phospholipase A2 and membrane association	mbraza@UCSD.EDU
Friday, June 12, 2026	A	Ilse Schaeffner	Hibbs	Ph.D.	Mapping Myasthenia Gravis Autoantibody Epitopes with CryoEM	ischaeffner@health.ucsd.edu
	B	Andre Modolo	Schoeneberg	Ph.D.	4D Live Cell Profiling Assay Using Lattice Light-sheet Microscopy	amodolo@health.ucsd.edu
	C	Anushka Poola	Antal	Ph.D.	Targeting the RNA-Binding Protein PUF60 as a Therapeutic Strategy for Triple-Negative Breast Cancer	apoola@health.ucsd.edu