



**SAINT LOUIS  
UNIVERSITY™**

— EST. 1818 —

**Summary Credentials of Mentors  
Available to Trainees in  
the M.D./Ph.D. Program**

**2020 – 2021 Academic Year**

**Saint Louis University School of Medicine**

<b>Participating Faculty Mentors for the Saint Louis University M.D./Ph.D. Program</b>			
<b>Name, Degree(s)</b>	<b>Rank</b>	<b>Primary Appointment; Secondary Appointment</b>	<b>Research Interests</b>
<b>Abate, Getahun, M.D., Ph.D.</b>	Assistant Professor	Internal Medicine; Molec. Micro. & Immunol.	Mycobacteriology; development of new therapeutics (drugs and immunotherapy) and vaccines for tuberculosis and nontuberculous mycobacteria.
<b>Ariel, Michael, Ph.D.</b>	Professor	Pharmacology & Physiology	Sensorimotor information processing of visual and vestibular inputs used for cerebellar and oculomotor control of brainstem reflexes.
<b>Armbrecht, Eric S., Ph.D.</b>	Associate Professor	SLU Center for Outcomes Research	Effectiveness/efficiency of chronic disease services, programs and products; Areas of focus: asthma, diabetes, and heart failure.
<b>Aurora, Rajeev, Ph.D.</b>	Associate Professor	Molec. Micro. & Immunol.	1) Molecular mechanisms leading to chronic inflammation, including diet, microbiota and hormones. 2) Mechanisms that resolve inflammation. 3) Crosstalk between immune and skeletal systems.
<b>Ayala, Yuna M., Ph.D.</b>	Assistant Professor	Biochem. & Molec. Biology	RNA binding protein function and link to neurodegeneration, including movement disorders and dementia
<b>Baldán, Àngel, Ph.D.</b>	Associate Professor	Biochem. & Molec. Biology	Control of sterol and lipoprotein homeostasis by non-coding RNAs. Control of hepatic and intestinal triglyceride metabolism
<b>Bishop, Jeffrey, M.D., Ph.D.</b>	Professor	Health Care Ethics	Historical, political, and philosophical underpinnings of various medical and scientific practices.
<b>Brien, James D., PhD</b>	Assistant Professor	Molec. Micro & Immunology	Emerging Viral Infectious Diseases; mechanisms of neutralizing antibody; virus selection by the adaptive immune response.
<b>Buchanan, Paula M., Ph.D.</b>	Associate Professor	SLU Center for Outcomes Research	Clinical and economic health outcomes in transplantation, diabetes, and cancer.
<b>Butler, Andrew A., Ph.D.</b>	Professor	Pharmacology & Physiology	Control of ingestive behaviors by the central nervous melanocortin system; control of glucose and lipid metabolism.
<b>Chen, Anping, Ph.D.</b>	Associate Professor	Pathology	Elucidating mechanisms of liver fibrogenesis, and searching for anti-fibrotic agents for the prevention and treatment of this disease.

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<b>Chakraborty, Anutosh , Ph.D.</b>	Associate Professor	Pharmacology and Physiology	Understand the mechanisms that cause metabolism diseases to identify and validate novel therapeutic target
<b>Chinnadurai, G., Ph.D.</b>	Professor	Instit. Molecular Virology ; Molec. Micro. & Immunol.	Oncogenesis and apoptosis regulation by adenoviral proteins and cellular BCL-2 family proteins. Role of a CtBP1 mutant allele in neurodevelopmental delays
<b>Dastvan, Reza, Ph.D.</b>	Assistant Professor	Biochem& Molec. Biology	Mechanistic principles of membrane transport and kinase release in neoplastic and neurodegenerative diseases.
<b>de Vera, Ian Michelle, Ph.D.</b>	Assistant Professor	Pharmacology & Physiology	Research Interests: Molecular mechanisms of pluripotency; drug discovery targeting orphan nuclear receptors; biomolecular NMR; X-ray crystallography; HIV/AIDS and COVID-19 drug discovery
<b>Di Cera, Enrico, M.D.</b>	Professor & Chairman	Biochem. & Molec. Biology	Structural enzymology of coagulation factors
<b>DiPaolo, Richard J., Ph.D.</b>	Professor	Molec. Micro. & Immunol.	Project 1: Understanding how to regulate inflammation to prevent/treat autoimmunity and cancer Project 2: Understanding immune responses to infectious agents and vaccines to optimize responses
<b>Farr, Susan, Ph.D.</b>	Professor	Internal Med; Geriatrics; Pharmacology & Physiology	Age-related dementia. Investigating mechanisms, potential treatments, & risk factors such as TBI & diabetes
<b>Flaveny, Colin A., Ph.D.</b>	Assistant Professor	Pharmacology & Physiology	Mechanisms of cancer metabolism and tumor immunology.
<b>Fleming, Robert E., M.D.</b>	Professor	Pediatrics, Biochem. & Molec. Biology	Processes regulating cellular iron transport
<b>Ford, David A., Ph.D.</b>	Professor	Biochem. & Molec. Biology	Biomolecule discovery of mediators and prognostic indicators of sepsis, inflammation and cardiovascular disease.
<b>George, Sarah L., M.D.</b>	Associate Professor	Internal Medicine; Mole. Micro. & Immunol.	Flavivirus vaccine development and measurement of cellular and innate immunity after flavivirus vaccination. Identifying cell types/molecular which

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			control flavivirus replication in primary human cells. Establishing the mechanism of GB Virus C'sinhibition of HIV replication. Human vaccine clinical trials.
<b>Gonzalo-Hervas, Susana, Ph.D.</b>	Associate Professor	Biochem. & Molec. Biology	Mechanisms contributing to genomic instability in cancer and aging: nuclear architecture, chromatin structure, and DNA repair.
<b>Grucza, Richard, Ph.D.</b>	Professor	Family and Community Medicine ;SLU Center for Outcomes Research	"Epidemiology of substance use disorders (addiction) and policy influences: 1.) OUD treatment outcomes; 2.) Adolescent trends in substance use and conduct problems; 3.) Alcohol-related morbidity and mortality among older adults."
<b>Hawiger, Daniel, M.D., Ph.D.</b>	Associate Professor	Molec. Micro. & Immunol.	Regulation of T cell differentiation and functions by Dendritic cells to prevent autoimmune diseases and cancer.
<b>Heyduk, Tomasz, Ph.D.</b>	Professor	Biochem. & Molec. Biology	Molecular mechanisms of transcription regulation; protein structure and function; development of novel sensors for biomolecules.
<b>Hinyard, Leslie J., Ph.D.</b>	Associate Professor, Assoc. Dir. Academic Affairs - SLUCOR	SLU Center for Outcomes Research	Outcomes of interprofessional/collaborative practice; quality of life in diabetes; clinical and quality of life outcomes in oropharyngeal cancer.
<b>Hoft, Daniel F., M.D., Ph.D.</b>	Professor & Division Director	Internal Medicine; Molec. Micro. & Immunol.	Molecular immunologic studies of mucosally invasive intracellular pathogens.
<b>Kolar, Grant, M.D.,Ph.D.</b>	Associate Research Professor	Pathology & Ophthalmology	Role of G protein receptors in diabetes associated complications and pain.
<b>Kornbluth, Jacki, Ph.D.</b>	Professor	Pathology; Molec. Micro. & Immunol.	Tumor immunology; regulation of cell-mediated cytotoxicity.
<b>Korolev, Sergey, Ph.D.</b>	Associate Professor	Biochem. & Molec. Biology	"Mechanism of DNA repair proteins in genome stability and cancer. Drug design and inhibition of DNA repair pathways for cancer treatment."
<b>Liu, Jianguo, M.D., Ph.D.</b>	Professor	Internal Medicine; Molec. Micro. & Immunol.,	Molecular mechanisms of cytokine gene expression and their immunological activities in autoimmune, tumor and infectious diseases.

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<b>Nguyen, Andrew, Ph.D.</b>	Assistant Professor	Internal Medicine; Pharmacology & Physiology	Frontotemporal dementia; lysosome biology; lipid metabolism; nucleic acid-based therapeutics
<b>Macarthur, Heather, Ph.D.</b>	Associate Professor	Pharmacology & Physiology	Vascular control mechanisms; endothelial mediators; sympathetic neurotransmission.
<b>McCommis, Kyle, Ph.D.</b>	Assistant Professor	Biochem & Molec. Biology	Importance of mitochondrial function in the pathogenesis and treatment of heart failure, diabetes, and nonalcoholic fatty liver disease.
<b>McHowat, Jane, Ph.D.</b>	Professor	Pathology	Mechanisms of cigarette smoking-related diseases, including heart disease, cancer and inflammation.
<b>Montano, Adriana, Ph.D.</b>	Associate Professor	Pediatrics; Biochem. & Molec. Biology	Newborn screening of mucopolysaccharidoses; Morquio A disease Treatments for Lysosomal Storage Disorders Cardiovascular effects of glycosaminoglycan accumulation Oral tolerance Molecular mechanisms of the disease
<b>Peng, Guangyong, M.D., Ph.D.</b>	Professor	Internal Medicine; Molec. Micro. & Immunol.,	Tumor suppressive microenvironment; and tumor infiltrating Tcells ; tumor vaccine development and immunotherapy.
<b>Pinto, Amelia K., PhD</b>	Assistant Professor	Molec. Micro. & Immunol	Viral Immunology; innate and adaptive immune correlates of protections, vaccine efficacy, and the impact of weight and age associated immune defects on protection from viral infections.
<b>Pozzi, Nicola, Ph.D.</b>	Assistant Professor	Biochem. & Molec. Biology	Research Interests: mechanisms of thrombosis and immunothrombosis, autoimmunity, X-ray crystallography, single molecule spectroscopy, protein chemistry and protein engineering.
<b>Ray, Ranjit, Ph.D.</b>	Professor	Internal Medicine; Molec. Micro. & Immunol.	Virology; immunology; pathogenesis of hepatitis; virus-host interaction; molecular mechanisms of disease.
<b>Ray, Ratna B., Ph.D.</b>	Professor	Pathology; Internal Medicine	Transcriptional regulation; tumor biology; microRNA regulation in cancer; epigenetic regulations in cancer; chemoprevention; HCV mediated pathogenesis.

## Participating Faculty Mentors for the Saint Louis University M.D./Ph.D. Program

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<b>Salter, Erica K., Ph.D.</b>	Associate Professor	Health Care Ethics; Pediatrics	Clinical ethics consultation; pediatric clinical ethics; standards of medical decision-making.
<b>Salvemini, Daniela, Ph.D.</b>	Professor	Pharmacology & Physiology; Internal Medicine	Molecular mechanisms of chronic neuropathic pain and opioid-unwanted actions. Drug discovery and development of novel non-narcotic analgesics.
<b>Samson, Willis K. 'Rick', Ph.D.</b>	Professor & Core Program Director	Pharmacology & Physiology	Neuropeptides and the control of ingestive behaviors, cardiovascular function and stress hormone secretion.
<b>Skowrya, Dorota, Ph.D.</b>	Associate Professor	Biochem. & Molec. Biology	ubiquitin-proteasome system in health and disease (currently: autoimmune diseases/type 1 diabetes, protein aggregation-based diseases/alpha-1 deficiency)
<b>Sverdrup, Francis M., Ph.D.</b>	Associate Professor	Biochem. & Molec. Biology	Drug discovery; transcriptional regulation, chemical biology, epigenetic regulation of gene expression in facioscapulohumeral muscular dystrophy (FSHD)
<b>Tavis, John E., Ph.D.</b>	Professor	Molec. Micro. & Immunol.	Hepatitis B virus reverse transcription; Hepatitis B virus polymerase biochemistry; Hepatitis B virus drug discovery.
<b>Teague, Ryan M., Ph.D.</b>	Associate Professor	Molec. Micro. & Immunol.	T cell biology, tumor immunology & cancer immunotherapy
<b>Walker, John K., Ph.D.</b>	Assistant Professor	Pharmacology & Physiology	Application of synthetic & medicinal chemistry to drug discovery and the development of new small molecule drug therapies.
<b>Yosten, Gina L.C., Ph.D.</b>	Assistant Professor	Pharmacology & Physiology	Role of G protein-coupled receptors in diabetes- and obesity-associated cardiovascular disease; deorphanization of orphan GPCRs.
<b>Zahm, D. Scott, Ph.D.</b>	Professor	Pharmacology & Physiology	Neuroanatomical and functional organization of basal forebrain; neurodegeneration; role of peptides in psychostimulant and opioid actions.
<b>Zhang, Jinsong, Ph.D.</b>	Associate Professor	Pharmacology & Physiology	Epigenetic, transcriptional and signaling regulation of gene expression; leukemia fusion proteins; nuclear receptors in diabetes & cancer.

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