



Biomedical Engineering Graduate Program & Research Newsletter

School of Science and Engineering | Saint Louis University

Grants Awarded

BS/MS student, **Allison Faber**, advisor **Dr. Silviya Zustiak**, was awarded \$1,000 from Investigative Learning Experience (ILEX) grant for “*Observing Motility of Glioblastoma Cancer Cells Encapsulated in Hydrogels*” (01/01/2023 – 05/01/2024).

Undergraduate researcher, **Ether Dharmesh**, advisor **Dr. Silviya Zustiak**, was awarded \$1,000 from the Investigative Learning Experience (ILEX) grant to explore the “*Sustained Release of Small Molecules from PEG Microspheres formed by Precipitation polymerization in Aqueous Sodium Sulfate Solutions*” (01/01/2023 – 05/01/2024).

Student Proposal Defenses

Congratulations to **David Johnson**, advisor **Dr. Koyal Garg**, who successfully passed his oral examination for his Ph.D. degree on “*Multifaceted Approaches to Muscle Recovery Following Volumetric Muscle Loss Utilizing Various Additions to Biomimetic Sponge*” and advanced to doctoral candidacy on Thursday, January 12th.

Congratulations to **Emily Luc**, advisors **Dr. Silviya Zustiak** and **Dr. Irma Kuljanishvili**, who successfully passed her oral examination for her master’s degree on the “*Cell Spread and Viability Studies on Chemical Vapor Deposition Grown Single-Walled Carbon Nanotube/Zinc Oxide Nanowire Heterostructures Surfaces*” and advanced to master candidacy on Tuesday, January 24.

Congratulations to **Samuel Ruesing**, advisor **Dr. Silviya Zustiak**, who successfully passed his oral examination for his Ph.D. degree on “*Stabilizing Effects of Polyethylene Glycol Hydrogels on Encapsulated Proteins and Their Application to a Sustained Delivery Device for rhGALNS in the Treatment of Morquio A Syndrome*” and advanced to doctoral candidacy on Wednesday, January 18th.

Seminar Presentations

Dr. Yan Gai presented “*Spatial Sound Segregation and Virtual Reality Electrophysiology*” on Thursday, January 19th at an online seminar to collaborators from the University of Pittsburg and the University of Virginia.