

# Fall 2016 IMP Student Spotlight

## NRSA Fellowships



Daniel Chopyk

MD-PhD students, Daniel Chopyk (Anania Lab) and Gordon Dale (Jacob Lab), successfully secured NRSA fellowships this fall. Daniel's NRSA training grant was awarded through the National Institute on Alcoholism and Alcohol Abuse (NIAAA). The award will support his research project, titled "A pivotal role for junctional adhesion molecule-A in alcoholic liver injury" for up to 3 years. Gordon received his fellowship through the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID). His award will allow for continued studies into the contribution of gene conversion to B cell somatic hypermutation.

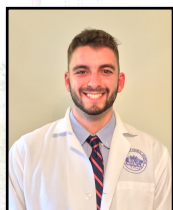


Gordon Dale

Additionally, Gordon shared his work at the 2016 International Congress of Immunology Conference (ICI 2016). Gordon's presentation described how gene conversion could account for a vast majority of somatic hypermutations in both murine and human B cells. This suggests that gene conversion plays a large role during the course of the antibody maturation. You can read more about Gordon's presentation as well as the other presentation at ICI 2016 here:

<http://react-profile.org/ebook/ICI2016/AbstractBook/#44>

## Awards



Mike La Muraglia

This fall Mike La Muraglia (Ford Lab) and Dave Mathews (Adams Lab) received Young Investigator Awards related to the Basic Science in Transplantation Meeting (BeST 2016). Mike received a travel award given by the American Association of Immunologists. They selected his abstract for his project titled, "The role of costimulatory and coinhibitory signaling of Tfh in the generation of donor specific antibody following transplantation" as one of 5 to receive this award with the goal of promoting research of young scientists at the BeST 2016 meeting.



Dave Mathews

Dave Mathews' Young Investigator Award was given for his abstract titled "CD122 Signaling Supports Costimulation Independent Rejection". His award included a talk at the meeting. His was only one of five talks awarded to presenters for the conference, out of 100+ abstracts submitted. The data presented outlined the Adams' lab investigation in murine and non-human primate models of transplantation where they identify a requirement for the high affinity IL-15R but not the IL-2R in costimulation independent re-call responses.



**Maria White**

Maria White (Lowen Lab) was chosen to present a poster at the largest international conference exclusively devoted to influenza prevention, control, and treatment: Options IX for the Control of Influenza. At this conference, Maria also received a “Distinguished Poster” award. Her poster was titled, "Quantifying the effects of RNA packaging signal divergence on influenza A virus reassortment." Maria explains, “The data presented showed how heterologous packaging signals on the ends of the HA segment restricted influenza virus reassortment efficiency. These HA packaging signals could therefore be a barrier to the emergence, through reassortment, of influenza viruses with pandemic potential.”



**C. Holly Lewis**

C. Holly Lewis received the Graduate Division of Biological and Biomedical Sciences Outreach and Community Service Award given at the Fall 2016 banquet. C. Holly was selected for her extensive outreach efforts. Specifically, she founded Sickle & Flow, a group of students, musicians, and healthcare workers who use art, community events, and blood drives to educate about and advocate for the sickle cell community. C. Holly is also a student coordinator for the Teddy Bear Hospital ATL as well as an organizing Chairperson for Critical Juncture 2017: The Work of Art. For more information about these organizations and events, please visit:

[Critical Juncture 2017: The Work of Art](http://www.CriticalJuncture2017.org)

[www.TeddyBearHospitalATL.org](http://www.TeddyBearHospitalATL.org)

[www.SickleandFlow.org](http://www.SickleandFlow.org)

