
*Celebrating
Graduate
Education*



14TH ANNUAL

**GDBBS
AWARDS
BANQUET**

Recognizing the Achievements of our Students and Faculty

October 10, 2024

Druid Hills Golf Club, 740 Clifton Road, Atlanta, GA, 30307



EMORY

LANEY
GRADUATE
SCHOOL

Graduate Division of Biological
and Biomedical Sciences

GRADUATE DIVISION OF BIOLOGICAL AND BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES

The Graduate Division of Biological and Biomedical Sciences (GDBBS) within the Laney Graduate School (LGS) was established to foster interdisciplinary research. The overarching mission of the GDBBS is to enable Programs and faculty to provide quality scientific research training and mentoring that will enable our students to do their best work and achieve their own career goals. Because the faculty mentors are in academic departments that stretch across Emory's campus and beyond, accomplishing this goal of top-quality scientific training requires strong partnerships with leaders across the University.

With the support of the LGS, the GDBBS oversees and coordinates the training and mentoring of over 400 graduate students in eight interdisciplinary PhD Programs. There are currently over 360 world-renowned researchers amongst our training faculty. Our students continue to do amazing work, contributing to Emory's strengths in biomedical and biological research and developing as scientists and leaders. Students apply for and receive numerous fellowships, publish high quality research, teach in our classrooms, mentor others, and lead outreach efforts to the Atlanta community. Clearly, GDBBS students and faculty, with the support of the GDBBS staff, are doing great things that make Emory proud.

EMORY



EXPRESSIONS OF APPRECIATION FROM THE GDBBS DIRECTOR

On behalf of the Graduate Division of Biological and Biomedical Sciences, I would like to express my sincerest appreciation to all of you who took time out of your schedules to help us celebrate the achievements of students and faculty at this 14th GDBBS Awards Celebration. I am sorry to not be celebrating with you in person, as I am in the Brazilian Amazon doing fieldwork.

As Director, I have the opportunity to see the commitment that our faculty, students, and administrators make in order to support our students' development as scientists and as leaders. Indeed, this awards banquet could extend for days if we were to recognize all of them. My gratitude to the many student leaders of the Division Student Advisory Council and each of the programs within the Division for helping build community and for advocating for students. Thank you to the programs' faculty leaders and teachers, especially the Program Directors and Directors of Graduate Studies, who foster excellence in training and who go to extraordinary lengths to support individual students facing challenges. Finally, thank you to the GDBBS team and to all in LGS for what they do.

Congratulations to all GDBBS students for their achievements this year in scholarship, mentoring, teaching, and advocacy.

With warm regards from somewhere in the rainforest,



Nicole Gerardo
GDBBS Director

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*A special thank you to Dr. T. J. Murphy for his
sponsorship that allows us to use this event space.*

PROGRAM | 7:00PM – 9:00PM

OPENING GREETINGS

Nael McCarty, PhD
MSP Program Director

ENDOWED RESEARCH AWARDS

Graduate Program in Biology Academic and Professional Achievement Award
Margaret and Thomas Lew Graduate Award in Biomedical Sciences in Biochemistry
Margaret and Thomas Lew Publication Award in Biomedical Sciences in Biochemistry
Margaret and Thomas Lew 1st Year Award in Biomedical Sciences in Biochemistry
Ray Dingleline Doctoral Award
William and Catherine Rice Endowed Research Award
Keith Wilkinson Graduate Service Award
John B. Lyon Memorial Scholarship Award

GDBBS AWARDS

Distinguished Alumni Award
Graduate Career Award
Program Scholars of the Year
TATTO Teaching Award
Student Career Teaching Award
Student Leadership Award
Outreach/Community Service Award
Student Mentor Award
Faculty Mentor Award

RECOGNITION OF FELLOWSHIP & SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

CLOSING REMARKS

Nael McCarty, PhD
MSP Program Director

GDBBS AWARD RECIPIENTS

ENDOWMENT RESEARCH AWARDS

GRADUATE PROGRAM IN BIOLOGY ACADEMIC & PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Leila May Pascual (NS) — Advisor: Sam Sober, PhD

MARGARET AND THOMAS LEW GRADUATE CAREER AWARD IN BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES IN BIOCHEMISTRY

Will McFadden (BCDB) — Advisor: Stefan Sarafianos, PhD

MARGARET AND THOMAS LEW PUBLICATION AWARD IN BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES IN BIOCHEMISTRY

Will McFadden (BCDB) — Advisor: Stefan Sarafianos, PhD

MARGARET AND THOMAS LEW 1st YEAR AWARD IN BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES IN BIOCHEMISTRY

Steven Cai (BCDB) — Advisor: Stefan Sarafianos, PhD

Shreya Ravichandran (BCDB) — Advisor: Stefan Sarafianos, PhD

RAY DINGLEDINE DOCTORAL AWARD

Elijah Ullman (MSP) — Advisor: Stephen Traynelis, PhD

WILLIAM AND CATHERINE RICE ENDOWED RESEARCH AWARD

Anna Cole (CB) — Advisor: Chrystal Paulos, PhD

KEITH WILKINSON GRADUATE SERVICE AWARD

Louis Hopkins (IMP) — Advisor: Jyothi Rengarajan, PhD

JOHN B. LYON MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

Hannah Hrnecir (BCDB) — Advisor: Adam Gracz, PhD

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD

2024: James Olzmann, PhD (NS Graduate, 2007) — Advisor: Lian Li, PhD

PROGRAM SCHOLARS OF THE YEAR

Will McFadden (BCDB) — Advisor: Stefan Sarafianos, PhD

Ewelina Sobierajska (CB) — Advisor: Haydn Kissick, PhD

Juan Rodriguez (GMB) — Advisor: David Katz, PhD

Maria Cardenas (IMP) — Advisor: Haydn Kissick, PhD

Vedhika Raghunathan (MMG) — Advisor: Anice Lowen, PhD

Analia Vazquez Cegla (MSP) — Advisor: Nael McCarty, PhD

Jennifer Issac (NS) — Advisor: Malavika Murugan, PhD

Brooke Talbot (PBEE) — Advisor: Timothy Read, PhD

GRADUATE CAREER AWARD

Logan Kavanaugh (MMG) — Advisor: Graeme Conn, PhD

TATTO TEACHING AWARD

Cora Hirst (PBEE) — Advisor: Rustom Antia, PhD

STUDENT CAREER TEACHING AWARD

LM Bradley (PBEE) — Advisor: Dave Civitello, PhD

STUDENT LEADERSHIP AWARD

Megen Wittling (CB) — Advisor: Chrystal Paulos, PhD

STUDENT MENTOR AWARD

Juan Sebastian Duran-Ahumada (PBEE) — Advisor: Gonzalo Vazquez-Prokopec, PhD

FACULTY MENTOR AWARD

Jake Kohlmeier, PhD (IMP)

OUTREACH/COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

Nicole Roos (GMB) — Advisors: Leila Rieder, PhD