



DEPARTMENT OF PHYSIOLOGY

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Professor

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Assistant Professor

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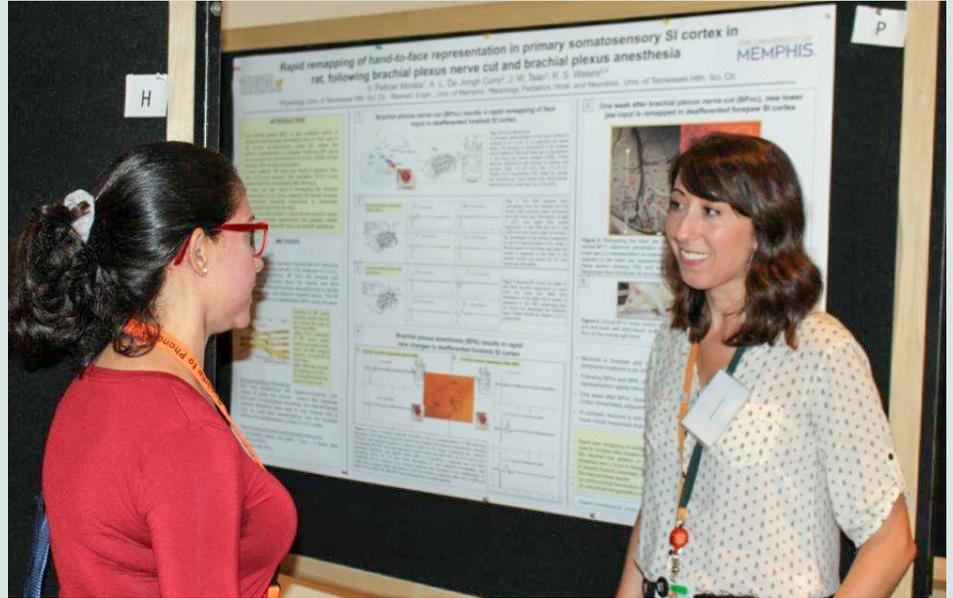
DRS. ADEBIYI AND SONI RECEIVE UTRF MATURATION AWARD

Dr. Adebowale Adebisi, Associate Professor of Physiology, and Dr. Hiteshkumar Soni, Instructor of Physiology were selected for one of the 2019 University of Tennessee Research Foundation (UTRF) Maturation Awards for their “Methods of Detecting and Reducing Acute Kidney Injury in Infants” project. This project was designed to increase the commercial readiness of an invention created, disclosed, and being prepared to be patented by Drs. Adebisi and Soni. The UTRF is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization that promotes the commercialization of UT intellectual property, encourages an entrepreneurial culture, contributes to state and regional economic development, and promotes research and education to benefit the people of Tennessee and beyond. In addition to being awarded \$15,000 in funding, Drs. Adebisi and Soni will be eligible to compete for an additional \$30,000 in Phase II funding next fall. Grantees were recognized at the UTRF Innovation Awards ceremony on December 4, 2018.

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSIOLOGY

GRADUATE RESEARCH COLLOQUIUM

Department of Physiology faculty, postdocs, and graduate students convened on Thursday, August 23, 2018, at the SAC for the 2018 Physiology Graduate Colloquium. The Colloquium, which was created to familiarize incoming students with Physiology department research, featured short talks by Physiology faculty as well as poster presentations by Physiology students and postdocs/research technicians. All physiology labs were represented in the poster presentation. The event, which was open not only to incoming Physiology graduate students but also to all incoming IBS students, attracted close to 20 students along with Physiology faculty, postdocs, staff, and visitors from across campus. Planning is already underway for the 2019 Colloquium. To learn more, contact Dr. Kaushik Parthasarathi at kparthars@uthsc.edu.



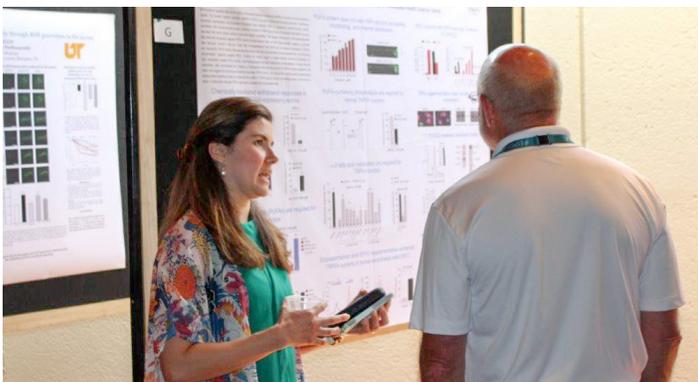
Dr. Violeta Pellicer Morata (right) speaking to a visiting scholar



Dr. Adebowale Adebisi, Dr. R.K. Rao, Dr. Kaushik Parthasarathi, and Dr. Gabor Tigyi



Dr. Elena Parfenova, Dr. Valeria Vasquez, and Dr. Sal Mancarella



Dr. Rebeca Caires Mugarra presenting her poster



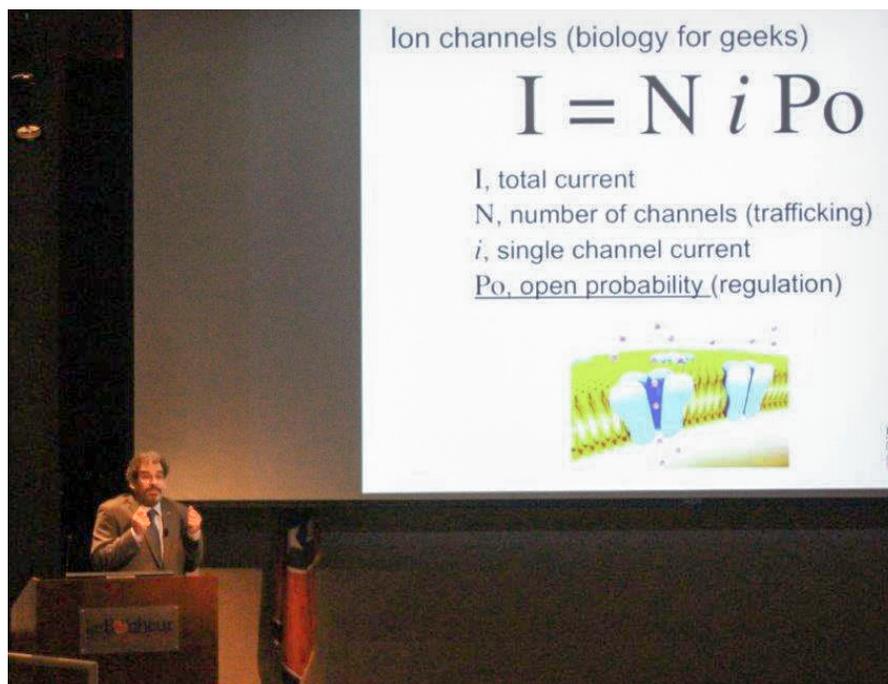
Dr. Kaushik Parthasarathi, Dr. Adebowale Adebisi, and Dr. R.K. Rao

TENNESSEE PHYSIOLOGICAL SOCIETY (TPS) AND PHYSIOLOGY DEPARTMENT RESEARCH RETREAT

Over 60 faculty, graduate students, and postdocs from across Tennessee gathered in the Le Bonheur Auditorium in Memphis on November 9, 2018, for the 9th annual meeting of the Tennessee Physiological Society, or TPS. The meeting, held in conjunction with the UTHSC Department of Physiology Research Retreat, featured 15 speakers including three graduate students and four postdocs. Dr. Steve A. N. Goldstein, Dean of the Stritch School of Medicine at Loyola University in Chicago, was the keynote speaker and presented on "Ion Channels in Health and Disease: Sumo Emerges from the Nucleus." An exciting poster session also highlighted the meeting. Dr. Julio Cordero-Morales, Assistant Professor in the Department of Physiology and current TPS president, said that the meeting was a wonderful opportunity for colleagues to come together and see all the exciting work being done in the field. For more information, contact Dr. Julio Cordero-Morales at jcordero@uthsc.edu.



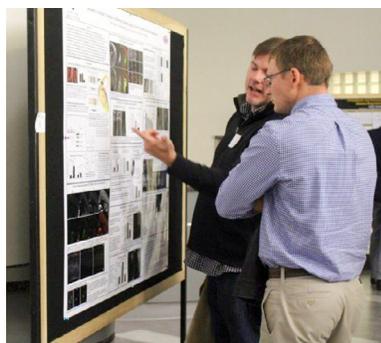
Physiology and Pharmacology Colleagues from UTHSC, Vanderbilt, and ETSU at the joint Tennessee Physiological Society Meeting/Department of Physiology Research Retreat,



Dr. Steve A.N. Goldstein presenting the keynote speech



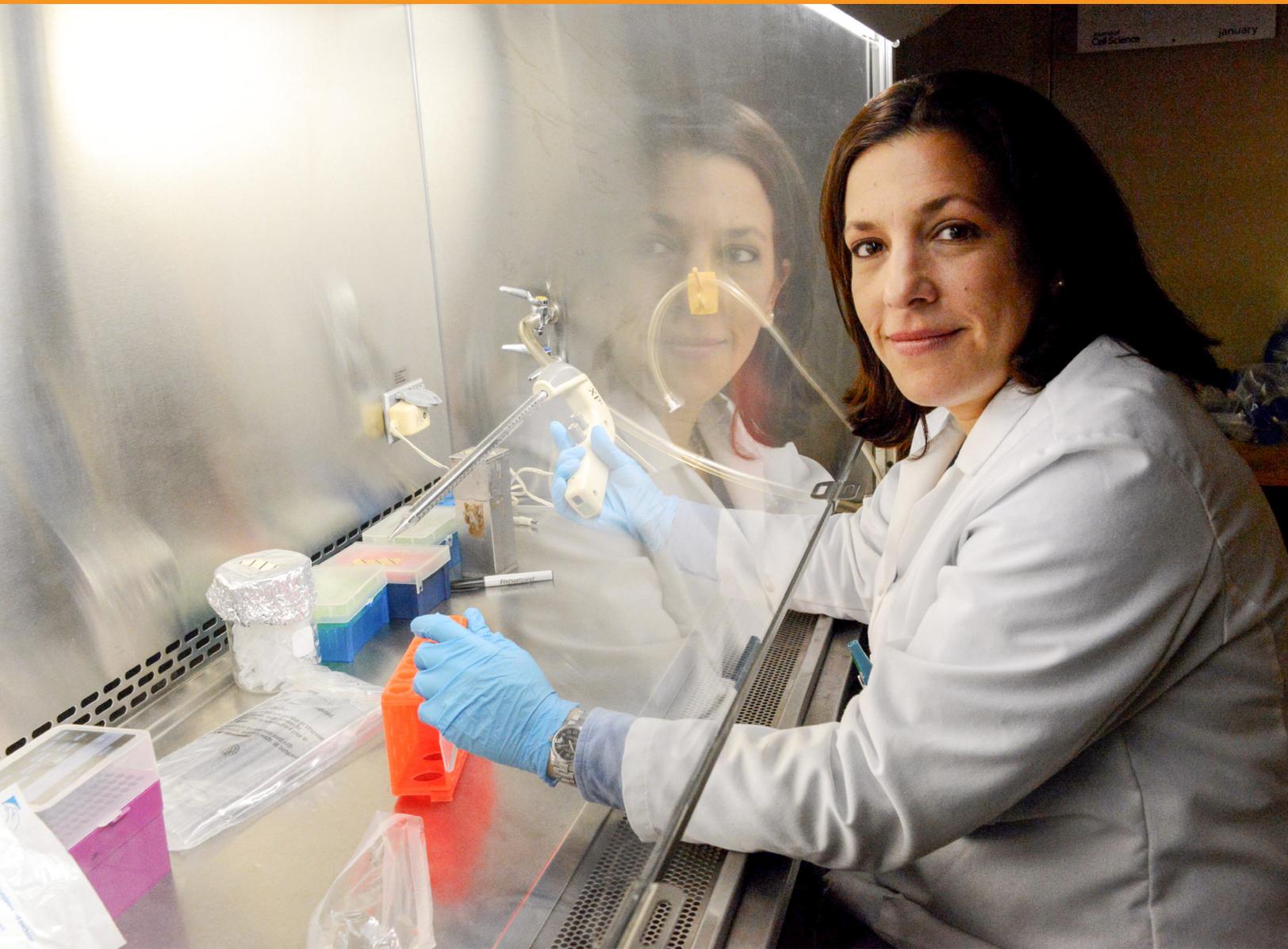
Dr. Valeria Vasquez, Dr. Julio Cordero-Morales, Dr. Sal Mancarella, and Dr. Adebowale Adebiji



Dr. Kevin Manz, Vanderbilt University student, presenting his poster



Dr. Purnima Singh (Department of Pharmacology) Dr. Don Thomason, and Dr. Zhongjie Sun viewing a poster presentation



DR. VALERIA VASQUEZ PUBLISHES ARTICLE IN PNAS

Dr. Valeria Vasquez, Assistant Professor in the Department of Physiology, recently received word that her manuscript “TRPV1 pore turret dictates distinct DkTx- and capsaicin-gating” has been accepted and approved for publication in the journal PNAS. Dr. Vasquez will be listed as corresponding author on this publication. Dr. Vasquez received her PhD in Molecular Physiology and Biological Physics at the University of Virginia, and she did postdoc

work at Stanford University before joining the Physiology Department at UTHSC. Dr. Vasquez’s lab aims to understand the functional, structural, and molecular mechanism by which mechanosensitive channels respond to mechanical stimuli and help delineate a general framework for their roles in health and disease. To learn more, contact Dr. Vasquez at vvasquez@uthsc.edu, or visit her lab website at corderovasquezlab.com.

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