2022:

Carley Conover, University of Nebraska - Lincoln

Carley Conover, Amanda Brinkworth PhD

“Optimization of tick attachment and detection of *B. burgdorferi* transmission into *in vitro* generated skin rafts”

Ethan Funke, University of Nebraska - Omaha

Ethan Funke, Leonardo da Silva Augusto PhD

"Intracellular parasite *Toxoplasma* exploits the unfolded protein response to acquire mitochondrial metabolites"

Alaina Mann, University of Nebraska - Omaha

Alaina Mann, Melissa Rosenthal, Caroline Ng PhD

"Investigating Plasmodial Bax Inhibitor 1 Proteins in Artemisinin Resistance"

Khwahish Sharma, Davidson College

Khwahish Sharma, Paul Fey PhD

"Growth analysis of Staphylococcus aureus in chemically defined medium lacking single amino acids"

Elizabeth (Ellie) Thomas, University of Nebraska - Lincoln

Elizabeth (Ellie) Thomas, Caitlin Molczk, Reegan Sturgeon, Mariam Garcia Escobar, Kosuke Nakano, Samuel Cohen, Rakesh Singh PhD

"CXCR1 and its role in cancer stem cell-like characteristics in pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma"

2021:

Thomas Ripperda, University of Nebraska - Lincoln

Thomas Ripperda, Guangshun (Gus) Wang, PhD, St. Patrick Reid, PhD, Yangshen Yu, PhD

“Inhibitory effects of ab initio Antiviral Peptides Efficiently Designed Based on the APD3”

Alyssa Jarabek, Valparaiso University

Alyssa Jarabek, McKenzie Lehman, PhD, Paul D. Fey, PhD

“Proline biosynthesis regulates proline transport in *Staphylococcus aureus*”

Leah Keim, Malone University

Leah Keim, Caroline Ng, PhD

“Bacterial ClpC/P Inhibitor Kills Artemisinin-resistant Malaria Parasites”

Elizabeth Thomas, University of Nebraska - Lincoln

Elizabeth Thomas, Rakesh Singh, PhD, Samuel M. Cohen, MD, PhD

“The CXCR1 Axis: A putative therapeutic cancer stem cell-like marker in pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma”

2020:

Due to COVID-19, program was suspended.

2019:

Oreoluwa Alatishe, City University of New York Hunter College

Oreoluwa Altishe, Lisa Jorgenson, Elizabeth Rucks, PhD

“Determining protein-protein interactions between chlamydial inclusion membrane proteins and the eukaryotic SNARE protein VAMP7”

Cindy Andujar, University of Puerto Rico Aguadilla Reg

Cindy Andujar, Scot P. Ouellette, PhD, Laura A. Fisher-Marvin, PhD

“Initial Characterization of the Role of Thioredoxin in Chlamydial Growth and Development”

Emily Bremers, University of Nebraska - Lincoln

Emily Bremers, Melissa R. Rosenthal1, Sukhithasri Vijayrajratnam 1, Mohamed A. Seleem2, Martin Conda-Sheridan2, Caroline L. Ng

“Identification of ClpC/P inhibitors that potently kill artemisinin-resistant malaria parasites”

Skylar Grimsley, Norfolk State University

Skylar Grimsley, M. Jane Morwitzer, St. Patrick Reid, PhD

“Association of Ebola Virus Nucleoprotein with Host Translational Machinery”

Amina Karage, University of Texas - Austin

Amina Karage, Akshay Nathan, Sasmita Panda, PhD, Sujata Chaudhari, PhD,
Vinai Thomas, PhD

“Physiological Significance of Superoxide Dismutase in *S. aureus*”

Sameer Kunte, Vanderbilt University

Sameer Kunte, Sugandha Saxena, Krishnaiah Maddeboina, Martin Conda-Sheridan, Rakesh K Singh

“Differential KRAS expression promotes PC proliferation and neutrophil chemotaxis via the CXCR2-axis”

Jack Pfeiffer, University of Missouri - Kansas City

Jack Pfeiffer, Paroma Roy, Katherine L. Maliszewski, PhD, Paul D. Fey, PhD

“Study of Competence for Natural Transformation in *Staphylococcus aureus*”

Jiayu Shao, John Hopkins University

Jiayu Shao, Yangsheng Yu, PhD, Kaihong Su, PhD

“Engineered Human Antimicrobial Peptides Inhibit Ebola Virus Infection”

Thomas Troia, Texas Christian University

Thomas Troia, Kurt Fisher, MD PhD

“Endogenous epitope tagging of human PGC1beta confirms interaction with ERRalpha in colon cancer cell lines”

Emily Wedlock, Northwest Missouri State University

Emily Wedlock, Diane Costanzo-Garvey, MS, Tyler Keeley, PhD, Leah M. Cook, PhD

“Genetic Expression of Prostate Cancer Cell Lines and Neutrophils in Conditioned Media”

Jeff Zhao, University of Nebraska - Lincoln

Jeff Zhao, Keer Sun, PhD, Atul Verma, PhD, Christopher Bauer BS

“Influenza Induces Alveolar Macrophage Dysfunction to Promote Host Susceptibility to Streptococcus Pneumoniae Infection”

2018:

Mohammed Alfarra, University of Nebraska - Omaha

Mohammed Alfarra, Prabagaran (Praba) Narayanasamy, Seoung-ryoung Choi

“Targeting MenA for Drug Discovery Against MRSA”

Elizabeth Amato-Hanner, University of Kansas

Elizabeth Amato-Hanner, Janani Prahlad (UNMC), Jennifer L. Endres (UNMC), Mark A. Wilson, (University of Nebraska, Lincoln), Kenneth W. Bayles (UNMC)

“Structural and Biochemical Characterization of Staphylococcus aureus alpha-Acetolactate Decarboxylase”

Sameer Kunte, Vanderbilt University

Mohammad Awaji, Krishnaiah Maddeboina, Martin Conda-Sheridan, Rakesh Singh

“CXCR2 mediated Pancreatic Cancer proliferation is dependent on K-ras mutation”

Jordyn Ritnour, North Dakota State University

Jordyn Ritnour, Christopher Bauer, Shruti Bansal, Keer Sun

“Alveolar macrophage deficiency aggravates disease severity during influenza-S. pneumoniae

coinfection”

Charles Whitehead-Tillery, Virginia Union University

Charles Whitehead-Tillery, Sukhitharsi Vijayrajratnam, Caroline L. Ng

“The Detection of Malaria from Placenta Samples”

2017:

Dylan George, Peru State College

Dylan George, Dianne Wellems M.S., St. Patrick Reid Ph.D.

“The Lipid Sphingosine Kinases are associating with Stress Granules”

Gunnar Orcutt, Peru State College

Gunnar J. Orcutt, Pooja Roy, Fareha Razvi, and Paul D. Fey

“Catabolism Of Glucogenic Amino Acids In Staphylococcus aureus“

Don Nguyen, Michigan State University (MD/PhD SURP program)

Don Nguyen, McKenzie Lehman, PhD, and Paul Fey, PhD

“The Functional Importance of Proline Transporters in Staphylococcus aureus”

2016:

Madeline Cloonan, Truman State University

Madeline Cloonan, Seoung-Ryoung Choi, Joel Frandsen and Prabagaran Narayanasamy

“Menaquinone Biosynthesis Pathway Inhibitor Against MRSA Infection”

Kalika Mahato, University of Nebraska – Lincoln

Kalika Mahato, Kaihong Su, Yangsheng Yu, M. Hearth Holmes

“Anti-Mitochondrial DNA in Systemic Lupus Erythemasodus”

Mati Nemera, University of Notre Dame

Mati T. Nemera, Michelle L. Varney, Rakesh K. Singh

“Characterization of the CXCL8 promoter region in Kras-mutated pancreatic cancer cells”

Natalie Sturd, Carleton College

Natalie A. Sturd and Paul D. Fey

“Atypical enteropathogenic Escherichia coli are predominant in clinical samples”

Lucinda Simmons, Elmhurst College Elmhurst

Lucinda Simmons and Paul D. Fey

“Identifying Aap-dependent Staphylococcus epidermidis Biofilm Isolates from ica-negative High Shear Clinical Samples”

2015:

Jessica Vaughan, Western Kentucky University

Jessica Vaughan1, Yangsheng Yu1, Xiaobei Wang2, Dong Wang2, Kaihong Su1

“Serum Albumin Facilitates the Cellular Uptake of Dexamethasone Macromolecular Prodrug”

Courtney Venegas, Northwestern College

Seoung R. Choi, Ph.D. Joel Frandsen, B.S. and Prabagaran Narayanasamy, Ph.D.

“Novel Antibiotic Discovery by Targeting MstP”

Taylor Zitek, Nebraska Wesleyan University

Taylor A. Zitek, Michelle L. Varney, Rakesh K. Singh

“VEGF-C Signaling Axis Regulates Mammary Tumor Chemotherapy Resistance”

2014:

Kyle Lau, University of Minnesota-Twin Cities

Kyle Lau, Guangshun Wang, Biswajit Mishra

“Antibiofilm Activities of Human Cathelicidin LL-37 Engineered Peptides Against Methicillin Resistant Staphylococcus aureus”

Praveena Mylvaganam, University of Maryland College

Praveena Mylvaganam, Song Li, Yangsheng Yu, Yinshi Yue, Hongyan Liao, Wangqin Xie,

Jessica Thai, Ted Mikuls, Geoffrey Thiele, Michael Duryee, Harlan Sayles, Jeffrey Payne,

Lynell W Klassen, James R. O'Dell, Zhixin Zhang, Kaihong Su

“Circulating Plasmablasts in Rheumatoid Arthritis contain Autoantibodies that react with

P.Gingivalis and Citrullinated Antigens”

Jay Jiang, Washington University

Jay Jiang, Larry Schopfer

“Inhibition of Butyrylcholinesterase hydrolysis of Ghrelin by salts