DR. CREASY RECEIVES TEACHING AWARD

Dr. Rebecca Creasy received the Marion Teaching Award. The award is given to a professor who is an exceptional teacher and who has demonstrated outstanding mentorship to underclassmen in our college.

NATASHA QAILES RECEIVES AWARD FOR RESEARCH POSTER

Ms. Quailes has been conducting research on xanthophylls (lutein and zeaxanthin) and their effect on an inflammation pathway that leads to apoptosis, a part of a disease known as diabetic retinopathy. Out of 150 posters at University of Texas Rio Grande Valley’s Research Symposium, she received the most votes for best poster and won an award for people’s choice.

DIETETIC INTERNSHIP FAIR IN WASHINGTON D.C.

Karen Geismar, Dietetic Internship Director, attended the Food & Nutrition Conference and Expo (FNCE) facilitated by the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics. FNCE took place in Washington D.C. on Sunday, October 21st. The Dietetic Internship Fair provides an opportunity for dietetic students to speak with the Dietetic Internship Director from programs across the country to learn more about their programs. This is in preparation for applying to Dietetic Internship programs.
FOOD SCIENCE STUDENTS COMPETE FOR NATIONAL TITLE

The Institute of Food Technologists (IFT) Student Association hosts the College Bowl to facilitate interactions from students across North America and demonstrate students’ knowledge. After prevailing as 2018 South-Central champions, the Texas A&M College Bowl team traveled to Chicago for the IFT18 Annual Meeting in July and competed against 7 other regional champions. After multiple rounds of intense competition, the Texas A&M College Bowl Team tied for 4th place in front of 300 food science students from across the continent.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR SUMMER 2018 NFSC GRADUATES!

NFSC SPOTLIGHT - ZAHRA MOHAMMAD

Zahra Mohammad, a PhD student under Dr. Alejandro Castillo, received multiple awards and scholarships this year from three professional organizations. She received the 2018 International Association for Food Protection (IAFP) Travel Scholarship, 2018 ASM Research Capstone Fellowship, and Outstanding Graduate and Postdoctoral Scholarship from American Society for Microbiology. In addition, she was awarded a Feeding Tomorrow Scholarship from the Institute of Food Technologists. These awards allowed her to present three researches at three professional organizations.
DR. NATIVIDAD ROBERT FUENTES RECEIVES AWARD

Dr. Natividad Robert Fuentes, a postdoctoral research associate in the lab of Dr. Robert Chapkin, was awarded Second Place Distinguished Postdoctoral Poster Presentation at the Texas A&M 3rd Annual Postdoctoral Research Symposium on September 19th, 2018.

ZAHRA MOHAMMAD RECEIVES AWARD AND PRESENTS RESEARCH

Zahra Mohammad received awards which allowed her to present her research at three professional organizations. These organizations include the International Association for Food Protection, American Society for Microbiology, and the Institute for Food Technologists.

ANNA SALVADOR RECEIVES AWARD

Anna Salvador, a rising third year nutrition PhD student in Dr. David Threadgill’s laboratory, received a travel award from the American Society for Nutrition at the Aegean Conference. The Aegean Conference is the first International Conference on Precision Nutrition and Metabolism in Public Health and Medicine. The conference was held in Crete, Greece on September 21-26, 2018. Anna presented a platform talk, ‘Implementing precision dietetics to predict metabolic health in a genetically heterogeneous mouse model’, where she described her work toward identifying a biomarker for metabolic sensitive to carbohydrate consumption.
FALL 2018

NFSC IN THE COMMUNITY

SHOPPING FOR WELLNESS

Karen Geismar, Dietetic Internship Director and two dietetic interns partnered with health professionals from Baylor Scott & White in Temple to produce “Shopping for Wellness”, also known as S4W. This event occurs on the second Saturday of the month. An interprofessional team goes to the HEB in Belton, Texas to discuss health and nutrition related to the monthly theme. The theme for September was related to brain health for National Alzheimer’s Month. Dietetic interns shared recipes that included brain-healthy foods and answered nutrition related questions.

FALL FESTIVAL

Fall family festival for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) and prenatal clinic clients along with community members was held on Saturday, October 6th. This was an interprofessional experience including nutrition, nursing, dentistry, pharmacy, psychology and public health students.

DIETETIC STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN OPERATION LONE STAR

The Texas A&M University Dietetic Program in Dietetics (DPD) collaborated with the Heath Science Center to provide health services to South Texans through Operation Lone Star. Operation Lone Star is an annual emergency preparedness exercise that helps South Texas communities get ready for disasters and provides free medical services.
EVENTS

DIETETIC INTERNSHIP PREPARATION WORKSHOP

The 2018 Dietetic Internship Preparation Workshop (DIPW) was held on Saturday, October 13th. This was the largest DIPW with over 200 students from across the state. Students had the opportunity to hear from six Registered Dieticians with varying specialties and diverse experiences. Additionally, students attended a presentation by Mrs. Karen Beathard, Didactic Program Director at NFSC, about the internship matching process. The following Dietetic Internship (DI) Programs Fair was the largest it had ever been, with 19 different programs represented. The fair gave students the opportunity to meet the program directors, network with them, and learn more about their internships.

STUDY ABROAD TEXAS 2018

During the month of July, a group of Food Science students embarked on a high-impact study away course in San Antonio. Better known as Study Abroad Texas-Food Science, this course allows students to connect and apply their knowledge of food chemistry, food processing, food safety, nutrition, and product development to real world applications in production of safe, nutritious and quality foods. The study away course also allows students to network with food industry professionals so that students can discuss future job opportunities and gain insight into professional growth as a food scientist.

GRAND CHALLENGES SYMPOSIUM

Scientists at Texas A&M University participated in a day-long Grand Challenges Symposium sponsored by the College of Agriculture & Life Sciences on the Effects of diet on cross-talk between gut microbiota and host physiology. The Symposium organizers, Robert Chapkin and Clinton Allred of TAMU’s Nutrition & Food Science, brought together an interdisciplinary group of researchers with complementary skills in nutrition, genetics, microbiology, computational biology, cancer cell biology, and chemoprevention. Ultimately, these researchers hope to submit a competitive research grant to the National Institutes of Health for the purpose of establishing a Center for Advancing Research on Botanical and Other Natural Products (Carbon) at TAMU.

Symposium speakers include: Drs. Wangqin Liu, Yuxiang Sun, Ivan Ivanov, Jimmy Crott, Christian Jobin, Yi Xu, and Johanna Lampe. (Texas A&M AgriLife photo).
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