Promotions and Appointments

Congratulations to Silviya Zustiak, Ph.D. was promoted to Full Professor effective July 1st!

Publications

https://journals.physiology.org/doi/full/10.1152/ajpcell.00092.2023

doi:10.1002/jor.25591

Grants Awarded

PI Gary Bledsoe Ph.D., was awarded an SSE Seed grant titled “Distal Tibia Fractures Treated with Locked Intramedullary Nailing: Comparison of Reduction with Plating Versus Reduction Without Plating” from SLU School of Science and Engineering for $15,000.

PI Koyal Garg, Ph.D., received the Institute of Translational Neuroscience (ITN) research award of $10,000 for the project “Improving Functional Recovery from Traumatic Injuries through Enhanced Myofiber Innervation”.

PI Silviya Zustiak, Ph.D. and PI Paul Jelliss, PhD received a $3,000 FIRE SSE grant (renewal) for their project “Synthesis and optimization of poly-(DMA/SBMA) polymer as a lubricous coating for microgels: towards application in the treatment of knee osteoarthritis.”
Recent Graduates

Congratulations to Nicolas Corker, advisor Dr. Zustiak, who successfully defended his master’s thesis “Development of Imageable Nanocomposite Hydrogel Microspheres for Multi-Drug Delivery Applications” on Monday June 12th.

Congratulations to Shabnam Nejat, advisor Dr. Zustiak, who successfully defended her master’s thesis “Glioblastoma Spheroid Invasion and Motility in Dual-Stiffness Polyethylene Glycol Hydrogels” on Wednesday June 28th. She graduated with Distinction!

Conference Presentations

NIBIB 2023 Training Grantees Meeting

Hamidreza Moheimani, a postdoc in Dr. Zustiak’s lab presented a poster titled: “Autoclaved alginate hydrogels as cell scaffolds of varying viscoelasticity”.

In Vitro Models to Observe Glioblastoma Spheroids at Scaffolding Interfaces