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Biophysical Society Announces Winners of 2013 Minority Affairs Committee Travel Awards

Rockville, MD— The Biophysical Society has announced the winner of its Minority Affairs CommitteeTravel Awards to attend the Biophysical Society's 57th Annual Meeting at the Pennsylvania Convention Center in Philadelphia, February 2-6, 2013. The awards are meant to encourage participation at the Biophysical Society Annual Meeting by minority students and postdoctoral fellow currently studying biophysics. Recipients will be honored at a reception on Saturday February 2.

The 2013 recipients of the Minority Travel Award are:

Otonye Braide, University of Florida, "SELECTIVE MODIFICATION OF LIPID BILAYER DYNAMICS AND FLUIDITY PROPERTIES BY KL4 (MIMETIC OF SURFACTANT PROTEIN B)"

Jackson Chief Elk, University of California, Santa Cruz, "ADRENERGIC RECEPTORS USE PROTON CONDUCTION TO TRANSDUCE LIGAND BINDING ENERGY INTO ACTIVATING CONFORMATIONAL CHANGE"

Leroy Cooper, Brown University, "REDOX MODIFICATION OF RYANODINE RECEPTORS UNDERLIES ABNORMAL CALCIUM HANDLING IN AGING RABBIT HEARTS"

Juan Díaz, University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras, San Juan, "IS PROTEIN DESTABILIZATION A WIDESPREAD FACTOR IN GENETIC DISEASE?"

Ninotchska Del Valle Dorta, University of Puerto Rico at Arecibo, "ROLE OF VOLTAGE GATED CALCIUM CHANNELS (VGCC) IN MEDIATING MEHG INDUCED DOPAMINE RELEASE FROM PC12 CELLS"
Luis Colon-Perez, University of Florida, "GENERALIZED FRAMEWORK TO STUDY BRAIN WEIGHTED NETWORKS"

Maryvi Gonzalez-Sola, University of Puerto Rico, Medical Sciences, San Juan, "3D-RECONSTRUCTION OF THE ISOLATED ZEBRAFISH CARDIAC MUSCLE THICK FILAMENT"

Irisbel Guzman Sanchez, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, "OVERCOMING THE CELLULAR CROWDING EFFECT: VLSE-FRET IS

DESTABILIZED INSIDE CELLS”

Francis Insaidoo, Columbia University, “LOSS OF T CELL ANTIGEN RECOGNITION ARISING FROM CHANGES IN PEPTIDE AND MAJOR HISTOCOMPATIBILITY COMPLEX PROTEIN FLEXIBILITY: IMPLICATIONS FOR VACCINE DESIGN.”

Merrell Johnson, Indiana University-Purdue University, Indianapolis, “IONIC CONDUCTANCE THROUGH FIBRIN NETWORKS”

Maia Kinnebrew, University of California, Santa Barbara, “OLIGOMERIZATION AND ITS EFFECT ON FUNCTION IN 7-TRANSMEMBRANE PROTEINS”

Joanna MacKay, University of California, Berkeley, “TUNING CELLULAR MECHANICS AND MOTILITY THROUGH GENETIC MANIPULATION OF RHO GTPASE AND MYOSIN ACTIVITY”

Angela Mahaffey, Loyola University Chicago, “INVESTIGATING THE ELECTROSTATIC ROLE OF A CRITICAL ARGININE FOR THE CATALYSIS OF E. COLI ADP-GLUCOSE PYROPHOSPHORYLASE”

Jessica Morgan, California State University, Fullerton, “RELEASE OF IRON FROM CELLULAR IRON STORES IN LYSOSOMES: POTENTIAL INVOLVEMENT OF DIVALENT METAL TRANSPORTER 1 (DMT1) AND COMMON METABOLITES”

Erika Norabuena, Mount Holyoke College, “EFFECT OF THE SPIROIMINODIHYDANTOIN (SP) LESION ON NUCLEOSOME STABILITY”

Alan Stern, City College of New York, “ARTIFICIAL PROTEINS AS SELF-ASSEMBLING META-MATERIALS”

AdrianaTrujillo, San Diego State University, “EXPLORATION AND SUPPRESSION OF TAU-INDUCED CARDIAC AND SKELETAL MUSCLE DEFECTS IN A DROSOPHILA MODEL”

Matthew Weitzman, University of Delaware, “LIVE CELL FLUORESCENCE CORRELATION SPECTROSCOPY WITH REAL TIME PHOTOACTIVATION FEEDBACK”

The Biophysical Society, founded in 1957, is a professional, scientific Society established to encourage development and dissemination of knowledge in biophysics. The Society promotes growth in this expanding field through its annual meeting, monthly journal, and committee and outreach activities. Its 9000 members are located throughout the U.S. and the world, where they teach and conduct research in colleges, universities, laboratories, government agencies, and industry. For more information on these awards, the Society, or the 2013 Annual Meeting, visit www.biophysics.org.