

# 2025 Graduate Research Symposium



July 17 - 20, 2025

**DOC Graduate Research Symposium**  
**San Diego State University, San Diego, CA, July 17-20, 2025**

**THURSDAY, JULY 17**

1:30 pm – 4:30 pm     Registration and **Check-In – Tula Center**

2:30 pm – 4:30 pm     Industrial Poster Session – **Tula Center**

4:30 pm – 5:45 pm     Pizza Dinner – **Tula Center**

**THURSDAY EVENING Presiding: Byron Purse – San Diego State – Tula Center**

5:45 pm – 6:00 pm     **Welcome – P. Andrew Evans**

6:00 pm – 6:50 pm     **Andy McNally – Colorado State University**  
*Transforming Azines – Inside and Out*

6:50 pm – 7:10 pm     **Katherine Burton**  
Princeton University  
*Rapid Access to 3-Substituted Bicyclo[1.1.1]pentanes*

7:10 pm – 7:30 pm     **Matthew Elardo**  
University of Washington  
*Spectroscopic Analysis of Force-Induced Hardy-Cope Rearrangements in Bullvalene-Centered Polymers*

7:30 pm – 7:50 pm     **Julia Noel**  
University of Chicago  
*The Order of the Rings: Strategies and Tactics Toward the Total Synthesis of Cinnecassiol F*

7:50 pm – 8:10 pm     **Marcus Sak**  
Harvard University  
*Catalytic Principles in Phosphonium Dealkylation Towards P-Stereogenic Compounds*

8:10 pm – 8:30 pm     **Cade MacAllister**  
University of Wisconsin-Madison  
*Oxygen Migration into Carbon–Carbon Single Bonds by Photochemical Oxidation*

8:45 pm – 11:30 pm     Reception and **Poster Session 1 – Tula Center**

**FRIDAY, JULY 18 Presiding: Nicola Webb, Bristol Myers Squibb – Tula Center**

7:45 am – 9:00 am     Breakfast (Students) – **The Garden**

9:00 am – 9:40 am     **David Thaisrivongs – Merck**  
*The Largest Small Molecule: Design of Convergent Biocatalytic Cascades for the Manufacture of Enlicitide*

9:40 am – 10:00 am     **Samson Zacate**  
Cornell University  
*Catalyst-Controlled Regiodivergent Oxidation of Unsymmetrical Diols*

10:00 am – 10:20 am **Nicholle Chew**

Indiana University Bloomington

*Probing Chemoselectivity through new Redox-Switchable Catalyst Design*

10:20 am – 10:50 am Coffee Break – **Tula Center**

10:50 am – 11:40 am **Benjamin Cravatt – Scripps Research**

*Activity-Based Proteomics – Target and Ligand Discovery on a Global Scale*

11:40 pm – 12:00 pm **Manik Sharma**

Emory University

*Enzymatic Halide Recycling Enabled by Vanadium-Dependent Haloperoxidases for Biocatalytic Reaction Development*

12:00 pm – 12:15 pm **Group Photograph – TBA**

12:15 pm – 2:30 pm Lunch and **Poster Session 1 – Tula Center**

**WORKSHOPS: Presiding – Scott Sutton – Pfizer**

**WORKSHOP 1: Academia and Entrepreneurship**

2:30 pm – 3:00 pm **P. Andrew Evans – Academic Life**

*Navigating Academic Life in a Research 1 Chemistry Department*

3:00 pm – 3:30 pm **Erick M. Carreira – ACS Publications**

*Ten Tips for Scholarly Publishing*

3:30 pm – 4:00 pm **Chuck Frazier – Temporal Agriculture**

*Building from Scratch: Startups, Entrepreneurship, and Transforming Ideas into Successful Products*

4:00 pm – 4:15 pm Coffee Break – **Tula Center**

4:15 pm – 5:15 pm **WORKSHOP 2: Academic Life**

*Nicholas Ball (Pomona), Erick Carreira (ETH), Christina Cooley (Trinity), Benjamin Cravatt (Scripps), P. Andrew Evans (Queen's), Rudy Jazzar (SDSU), Julia Kalow (Northwestern), Andy McNally (Colorado State), Byron Purse (SDSU),*

5:15 pm – 6:30 pm Dinner – **Student Union-Goldberg Courtyard**

**FRIDAY EVENING Presiding: Hillary Nguyen, Johnson and Johnson – Tula Center**

6:30 pm – 7:10 pm **Evan Hurlow – Cambrex**

*Development and Demonstration of an Organocatalyzed Asymmetric Povarov Cyclization Featuring Exceptionally Low Catalyst Loading*

7:10 pm – 7:30 pm **Ivan Hernandez**

University of California, Santa Barbara

*Structural Investigations of Phthalazinone Derivatives as Allosteric Inhibitors of Human DNA Methyltransferase 3A*

7:45 – 9:15 pm      **WORKSHOP 3: Industrial Life**

*Please see the assignments in the tables at the end of the document.*

9:15 pm – 11:30 pm    Reception and **Poster Session 2 – Tula Center**

**SATURDAY, JULY 19 Presiding: Christina Cooley, Trinity University – Tula Center**

7:45 am – 9:00 am    Breakfast (Students) – **The Garden**

9:00 am – 9:40 am    **Thomas Stratton and Kenneth Matthews – Gilead**

*Lenacapavir: A Story of Innovation from Discovery through Commercialization*

9:40 am – 10:00 am    **Gabriella Cooper**

University of California, Los Angeles

*Heterocycle-Mediated Hydrogen Bond Networks Enable Passive Permeability of Peptidomimetic Macrobicycles*

10:00 am – 10:20 am    **Juntao Sun**

Scripps Research

*A General Platform for Cu(II)-Catalyzed Hydrofunctionalization of Unactivated Alkynes via  $\pi$ -Lewis Acid Activation*

10:20 am – 10:40 am    Coffee Break – **Tula Center**

10:40 am – 11:30 am    **Joseph Kincaid – Pharmablock**

*MT Scale Continuous Flow Manufacturing in ACS Green Chemistry Award-Winning Projects*

11:30 am – 11:50 am    **Andrew Smith**

University of California, Berkeley

*Simple Generalizations of Stereoselectivity Drive the Algorithmic Discovery of New Enantioselective Solutions*

11:50 am – 12:10 pm    **Noah Bartfield**

Yale University

*Total Synthesis of Macrocyclic Haloimidazole Natural Products*

12:10 am – 12:30 pm    **Cody Ng**

University of British Columbia

*Novel Visible-Light-Mediated [2+2]-Cycloadditions for the Synthesis of Azetidines*

12:30 pm – 2:30 pm    Lunch and **Poster Session 2 – Tula Center**

**SATURDAY AFTERNOON Presiding: Jason Green, Vividion – Tula Center**

2:30 pm – 3:20 pm    **Nicholas Ball – Pomona College**

*Expanding the Toolbox of Sulfur-Fluoride Exchange (SuFEx)*

3:20 pm – 3:40 pm    **Kyra Samony**

Temple University

*Dual Hydroxytrifluoroethylation and Trifluoroacetylation Strategies via Designer Masked Reagents*

3:40 pm – 4:10 pm     **Coffee Break – Tula Center**

4:10 pm – 4:30 pm     **Sumeet Sahoo**  
                                  Purdue University  
*Dicobalt-Catalyzed N=N Coupling Reactions of Tertiary Alkyl Azides to Form Azoalkanes*

4:30 pm – 4:50 pm     **Connor Saludaes**  
                                  University of Texas at Austin  
*Asymmetric Ruthenium-Catalyzed Carbonyl Allylation and tert-Prenylation via Hydrogen Transfer to  $\pi$ -Unsaturated Hydrocarbon: Application Toward the Synthesis of Bafilomycin A1*

4:50 pm – 5:10 pm     **Justine Drappeau**  
                                  University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill  
*Site-Selective C(sp<sup>3</sup>)-H Functionalization of Diverse Methyl (Hetero)arenes Using Amidyl Radicals*

5:10 pm – 5:30 pm     **Cristian Vasquez Tapia Vera**  
                                  Colorado State University  
*Direct Aziridine Synthesis through a New Base-Promoted Oxidative Cascade Process*

5:30 pm – 8:30 pm     Dinner     TBD

8:30 pm                     Drinks and Games: **Aztecs Lanes**

**SUNDAY, JULY 20 Presiding: Rudy Jazzar, SDSU – Tula Center**

7:45 am – 9:00 am     Breakfast (Students) – **The Garden**

9:00 am – 9:50 am     **Julia Kalow – Northwestern University**  
                                  *Molecular Engineering in Four Dimensions with Dynamic Polymer Networks*

9:50 am – 10:10 am     **Bo Couture**  
                                  University of Texas at Dallas  
*Biocatalytic C(sp<sup>3</sup>)-H Pyridomethylation of N-Heterocycles via Enzymatic Activation of Pyridyltriazoles*

10:10 am – 10:40 am     **Achyut Ranjan**  
                                  Texas A&M University  
*Synergizing Computation & Experiment for Mechanistic Insights and Sustainable Reaction Design*

10:40 am – 11:00 am     Coffee Break – **Tula Center**

11:00 am – 11:20 am     **Leah Patterson**  
                                  University of California, Davis  
*Structurally Diverse Silyl Lipids to Modulate Liposome and Lipid Nanoparticle Properties for mRNA Delivery*

11:20 am – 11:40 am     **Surya Pratap Singh**  
                                  University of Oklahoma  
*Carbenes as Catalytic Frontiers: Unlocking Sustainable Pathways to Stereoselective*

## Glycosylations

11:40 am – 12:00 pm **Taylor Spiller**

University of Michigan

*Copper Mediated Functionalization of Aryl Halides via Silver Nanoparticle Generated Aryl Radicals*

12:00 pm – 1:00 pm Lunch – **Tula Center**

12:00 pm – 2:00 pm Check out and Depart

### **THURSDAY PM & FRIDAY – POSTER SESSION 1 – Tula Center**

1. **Kyle Abo – University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign**  
*Development of a Library of Novel Anticancer Electrophilic Compounds via the Complexity-to-Diversity Approach*
2. **Jón Buldt – University of California, Davis**  
*How Mechanism Drives Innovation in Strain-Release Pentafluorosulfanylation*
3. **Matthew Carson – University of Pennsylvania**  
*Total Synthesis of Aporphine Alkaloids via Photocatalytic Oxidative Phenol Coupling and Biological Evaluation at the Serotonin 5-HT<sub>2</sub> and Adrenergic  $\alpha$ 1A Receptors*
4. **Minh Y Dang – University of Wisconsin-Madison**  
*Photochemical Engines for Alkene Dicarbofunctionalizations*
5. **Nhu Dang – San Diego State University**  
*Ni-Doped Perovskite for Photocatalytic Benzylic C–H Amination*
6. **Justin DeBow – University of California, Riverside**  
*Milder Generation of Aryloxenium Ions via Anchimeric Assistance and Total Synthesis of Eudesmanolide Sesquiterpene Lactone Adducts*
7. **Brady Dehnert – University of California, Los Angeles**  
*Synthesis through C(sp<sup>3</sup>)–C(sp<sup>2</sup>) Bond Scission*
8. **Amethyst Demeritte – Montana State University**  
*Design, Synthesis and Biological Evaluation of Imidazo[1,2- $\alpha$ ]pyrimidinium Derivatives*
9. **Vivek Gangadharan Pillai – University of Rochester**  
*Ligand Denticity and Substrate Chelating Ability Interact to Control Chemoselectivity in Nickel-Catalyzed Amide Cross-Coupling*
10. **Elguja Gojashvili – San Diego State University**  
*Rationalizing Steric and Electronic Parameters in the Assembly of Carbene Copper Hydride Nanoclusters*
11. **Dayne Goss – Stanford University**  
*The Synthesis and Biological Evaluation of N1-Modified Saxitoxin Congeners*
12. **Diego Granados – Princeton University**  
*Iridium Polypyridyl Carboxylates as Excited-State PCET Catalysts for the Functionalization of Unactivated C–H Bonds*
13. **Palak Gupta – University of Florida**

*Chemical Synthesis of Tagged and Natural Phosphatidylinositol Phosphates (PIPs)*

14. **Ryan Harbit – Florida State University**  
*Synthesis of Receptor Selective Psychedelics*
15. **Many Hemati – Boston College**  
*Metalloradical Catalysis for Enantioselective Synthesis of  $\beta$ -Lactams*
16. **Beeta Heydari – San Diego State University**  
*Leveraging Conformational Control in Diarylamines to Obtain Selective HER4 Inhibitors in Ovarian Cancer*
17. **Han-Hsiang Hsu – Texas A&M University**  
*Functionalization of Pyridines at the C4 Position via Metalation and Capture*
18. **Xiaoyu Huo – Texas Tech University**  
*Copper(II) Quinoxalinol Complexes for Catalytic Reactions of Alcohols*
19. **Sal Kargbo – University of Minnesota**  
*Energy-Activated and Diversifiable Aryne Precursors from Carboxylic Acids*
20. **Lebogang Kgoadi – University of Delaware**  
*Ni-Catalyzed Synthesis of Axially-Chiral Benzamides via Cross-Electrophile Coupling*
21. **Dawson Konowalchuk – University of Alberta**  
*Chemo- and Enantioselective Cross-Coupling of Symmetrical Dihaloalkenes*
22. **Yihuan Lai – Cornell University**  
*Electrochemical Approaches to Reductive Transformation in Organic Synthesis*
23. **Mariami Basilaia – San Diego State University**  
*Developing atroposelective methodologies towards pharmaceutically relevant scaffolds*

**FRIDAY PM & SATURDAY – POSTER SESSION 2 – Tula Center**

24. **Windsor Lundy – University of Delaware**  
*Enantioselective  $\alpha$ -Arylation of Amino Acid Derived Alkylpyridinium Salts*
25. **Kameron Medine – University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign**  
*Automated Modular Synthesis of Fatty Acids*
26. **Ian Merski – University of Utah**  
*Efforts Towards the Total Synthesis of the Neoansamycins and Ansalactams*
27. **Julianna Mouat – University of Wisconsin-Madison**  
*Translation of Nickel-Catalyzed C(sp<sup>2</sup>)-C(sp<sup>3</sup>) Cross-Electrophile Coupling to Non-Amide Solvents*
28. **Chandler Nelson – University of California, Santa Barbara**  
*Environmentally Friendly Miyaura Borylations Allowing for Green, 1-pot Borylation/Suzuki-Miyaura Couplings*
29. **Liam O'Grady – University of Delaware**  
*The Total Synthesis and Works of (–)-Psiguadial A*
30. **Marcus Vinicius Pinto Pereira Junior – Yale University**  
*Harnessing Peptide-Based Thiols for Enantioselective H-Atom Transfer Reactions*

31. **Luka Pochkhua – San Diego State University**  
*Electrochemical Synthesis of Hydropyridines and Mechanistic Insights into PCET in N-Alkylated Pyridinium Amides*
32. **Jarett Posz – Indiana University**  
*Developing Methods to Access Boron-Based Building Blocks*
33. **Carlos Quintanilla – University of California, Santa Barbara**  
*Chiral Bifunctional Phosphine Ligands Enable Cooperative Asymmetric Au(I) Catalysis*
34. **Divya Radhakrishnan – University of Florida**  
*Enantioselective Alkynylation of 2-Mercaptopyrimidine*
35. **Angela Ruiz – Indiana University**  
*Studies Toward the Total Synthesis of Cyathin D*
36. **Georgia Scherer – University of California, Los Angeles**  
*Strained Cyclic 7-Membered Allenes as Building Blocks for Heterocycle Synthesis*
37. **Katie Scotchburn – University of Toronto**  
*Synthesis of Cyclopropylamine Derivatives from Cyclopropanols and Sulfinamides via Electrophilic Homoenolate Chemistry*
38. **Ana Shalamberidze – San Diego State University**  
*Design and Synthesis of Fluorescent Nucleoside Analogues for Detection of Noncanonical Nucleobases in DNA*
39. **Emily Sherman – University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill**  
*Accessing Complex Scaffolds via Crystallization-Driven Stereoconvergent Platform*
40. **Matthew Spock – University of California, Davis**  
*Identification of Stereodivergent C-H Directing Abilities of Sulfonimidamides via the Synthesis of N-Sulfonimidoyl Lactams in the Castagnoli-Cushman Reaction*
41. **Cole Stearns – University of Florida**  
*Mixed Amide Paracyclophane Assemblies Emulating Supramolecular Copolymers*
42. **Jason Wu – Cornell University**  
*Cross Carbonyl-Olefin Metathesis (XCOM) of Unactivated Olefins*
43. **Jihyeon Yeo – Yale University**  
*Co(III)-Catalyzed Sequential C–H Bond Addition to Dienes and One-Carbon Electrophiles: Syntheses of  $\alpha$ -Quaternary Aldehydes and Amides*
44. **Yiwei Zhang – Brandeis University**  
*Total Synthesis of Enteropeptin by Catalytic Markovnikov Hydrothiolation*
45. **Victoria Zottarelli – University of Washington**  
*Contra-Thermodynamic Isomerization of Alkenes and Alkynes Facilitated by Selenium Catalysis*
46. **Bahar Heydari – San Diego State University**  
*Leveraging Atropisomerism in Quinolones to Obtain a Mutant Selective c-KIT Inhibitor in GIST*
47. **Emily Latif – University of California, San Diego**  
*Synthesis and Photochemical Reactivity of Novel Frustrated Lewis Pair Polymers*



## Industrial Workshop Panels – Organized by Student *Last Name*

<b>Group A</b> ( <i>Angeles</i> )	<b>Group B</b> ( <i>Cooley</i> )	<b>Group C</b> ( <i>Evans</i> )	<b>Group D</b> ( <i>Purse</i> )
<b><i>Last Name:</i></b> <i>Abo – Gogoi</i>	<b><i>Last Name:</i></b> <i>Gojiashvili – MacAllister</i>	<b><i>Last Name:</i></b> <i>Medine – Samony</i>	<b><i>Last Name:</i></b> <i>Scherer– Zottarelli</i>
<i>Location: Patio</i>	<i>Location: Aztlan</i>	<i>Location: Lecture Hall</i>	<i>Location: Metzli</i>
Jaika Doerfler – Amgen Johnny Lee – Pfizer Hillary Nguyen – Janssen Sal Bernardino – Lilly Thomas Stratton – Gilead Jing Li – PharmaBlock Jitendra Gurjar – Novartis Raymond Turro – Takeda	Joseph Kincaid – Pharmablock Daniel Tao – Abbvie Craig Zifcsak – Adesis Annabel Ansel – Vividion Ethan Wappes – Merck Andreas Termin – Vertex Ving Lee – UDC Lisa Barton – Genentech	Evan Hurlow – Snapdragon Nicola Webb – BMS Thomas Lyons – Takeda Luke Hanna – Janssen Kevin Cole – Lilly Jennifer Allen – Amgen David Thaisrivongs – Merck Paul Armstrong – 3M Nick Cowper – Abbvie	Chuck Frazier – Temporal Ag. Jesus Moreno – BMS Kenneth Matthews – Gilead Robert Dyer – Adesis Donna Hayes – Merck Scott Sutton – Pfizer Ana Bulger – Amgen Samantha Green – Genentech

## **Speakers**

**Nickolas Ball, Pomona College**

**Benjamin Cravatt, Scripps Research Institute**

**Evan Hurlow, Snapdragon**

**Julia Kalow, Northwestern University**

**Joseph Kincaid, Pharmablock**

**Kenneth Matthews and Thomas Stratton, Gilead**

**Andy McNally, Colorado State University**

**David Thaisrivongs, Merck**

## **Sponsors**

**Adesis**

**Amgen**

**Boehringer Ingelheim**

**BMS**

**Cambrex/Snapdragon**

**FMC**

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**Gilead**

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**Merck**

**Novartis**

**Organic Syntheses**

**Pfizer**

**PharmaBlock**

**Sanofi**

**Takeda**

**Temporal Agriculture**

**Universal Display Corporation**

**Vertex**

**Zoetis**

## **Organizers**

**Angie R. Angeles, Vertex Pharmaceuticals**

**Christina Cooley, Trinity University**

**P. Andrew Evans, Queen's University**

**Byron Purse, SDSU**