

# 2019 Postdoc Appreciation Award Nominees

## ***Shrinidhi Annadka***

***Department:*** Chemistry and Biochemistry

*“Shrinidhi completed two studies, one on the symmetry of hydrogen bonds, the other on basicities in cycloalkylamines”*

## ***Laura Antonucci***

***Department:*** Pharmacology

*“Laura is a very dedicated young scientist. She had done incredible work.”*

## ***Vanessa Barone***

***Department:*** SIO

*“Vanessa is a kind teacher who has mentored multiple undergrads...She is willing to edit abstracts on the weekend, answers questions late at night and be there when others needed help.”*

## ***Kyle Bentz***

***Department:*** Chemistry and Biochemistry

*“Exceptional laboratory leadership..., outstanding scholarship..., and department community citizenship (he co-chaired our Department postdoctoral symposium and is now chairing a UC-systemwide chemistry conference).”*

## ***Zsolt Bodai***

***Department:*** Chemistry and Biochemistry

*“Zsolt is an extremely diligent, passionate and helpful postdoc...and is always willing to lend a helping hand whether that be at the bench, reviewing a grant, prepping grad students for talks, or helping grad students write their fellowship applications.”*

## ***Roberto J. Brea***

*Department: Chemistry and biochemistry*

*“Roberto...has been a critical member of the Devaraj group and a great asset for UCSD in general...because of his hardworking nature, infinite patience with his colleagues and his excellent mentoring ability.”*

## ***Philip Bunting***

*Department: Chemistry and Biochemistry*

*“Phil’s willingness to take initiative has motivated all of the group members to follow suit...He really is an amazing addition to the group.”*

## ***Daniel Callies***

*Department: Institute for Practical Ethics*

*“Daniel is...one of the most enthusiastic and dedicated people at IPE. He really changes the atmosphere of the entire place.”*

## ***Saranya Canchi***

*Department: Biomedical Sciences*

*“Saranya...has helped me through the course of my masters project by motivating me and answering all my questions regarding my interest in bioinformatics.”*

## ***Thekla Cordes***

*Department: Bioengineering*

*“Best mentor and trainer in lab always helping out next generation of researchers.”*

## ***Grisel Cruz-Becerra***

*Department: Molecular Biology*

*“In addition to being an outstanding scientist, Dr. Grisel Cruz-Becerra stands out as a kind, caring, and generous mentor...She represents the very best of postdocs at*

*UCSD, and I expect that she will be a successful faculty member in the not-too-distant future.”*

## ***Jessica Deslauriers***

***Department:*** *Psychiatry*

*“Jessica is a stellar scientist. Her skill set is extremely versatile, enabling her to take on many different projects and...mentor numerous trainees...If anyone deserves recognition for their service to UCSD, their strong mentorship, their great teamwork, and their dedication to science it is Jessica.”*

## ***Stephanie DeLong***

***Department:*** *Public Health*

*“Stephanie...become an essential member of Dr. Silverman's team through her work and we are very appreciative of her project support as well as her mentorship of Dr. Silverman's PhD students.”*

## ***Tristan de Rond***

***Department:*** *Chemistry and Biochemistry*

*“Tristan has been an extraordinary mentor, particularly during my first year of graduate school...Working with him has helped my graduate experience immensely.”*

## ***Nelly El-Sakkary***

***Department:*** *SSPPS*

*“Nelly is an example of the traits being recognized by this award, because she balances mentorship, teamwork and dedication to research...she set up a mentoring program in our lab, recruiting students to the project, and helping them develop their own goals”*

## ***Alina Garbuzov***

**Department:** Neurosciences

*“Alina has taken on public advocacy and education... and has exhibited courage, strength, determination and incredible energy at both personal and professional levels. She is an inspiration to all.”*

## ***Natalie Goldberg***

**Department:**

*“As a Postdoctoral Representative on the Chancellor's Advisory Committee on the Status of Women (CSW)...Dr. Goldberg was a thoughtful participant in CSW discussions and brought valuable expertise to the committee. Dr. Goldberg's excellent university service deserves recognition!”*

## ***Maryam Kashefi***

**Department:** Chemistry and Biochemistry

*“Maryam has been generous with her time and knowledge...Her commitment to mentorship and her hard work make an ideal candidate for recognition by the PDA.”*

## ***Christopher Lee***

**Department:** Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering

*“Dr. Lee is an exceptional scientist and mentor who thrives on engaging students in research. He spends countless hours working closely with high school, undergraduate, and graduate students to help them really understand their projects and achieve their scientific goals.”*

## ***Teresa Lind***

**Department:** Psychiatry

*“Teresa is one of the most supportive mentors I have worked with. She pushes me to improve my research skills while also offering a lot of support. She is definitely a rockstar mentor.”*

## ***Gema Lorden Losada***

***Department:*** Pharmacology

*“Exemplary postdoc who works hard, drives multiple projects, and is a great lab citizen.”*

## ***Richard McCosh***

***Department:*** Obstetrics and Gynecology and Reproductive Sciences

*“Rick works tirelessly to train people in the lab and help everyone succeed in their projects...he is a tremendous baker and makes yummy treats to celebrate lab accomplishments.”*

## ***Laetitia Mission***

***Department:*** Chemistry and Biochemistry

*“Leti is an extremely dedicated, passionate and organized scientist and a great asset to the Burkart lab as well as the whole department. She is also a fantastic mentor and a really good friend.”*

## ***Kavitha Mukund***

***Department:*** Bioengineering

*“She is one of the most outstanding researchers in my laboratory. She has published seminal papers including a most authoritative review on the functional networks in skeletal muscle.”*

## ***Alejandro Ojeda***

***Department:*** Psychiatry

*“Terrific, highly productive postdoctoral fellow, who brings new insights and skills to our team and enhances our science everyday.”*

## ***Marine Paquet***

***Department:*** Scripps Institution of Oceanography

*“Marine has been outstanding in helping the lab run smoothly during my absence on sabbatical...and is always available to me and others in the lab when we need help on any project.”*

## ***Ariane Pessentheiner***

***Department:*** *Medicine, Division of Endocrinology and Metabolism*

*“Ariane is an amazing postdoc with great potential for the future...She is as hard working as they come and has an amazing positive nature which is supplemented with a diligent and realistic attitude.”*

## ***Alexa Pham***

***Department:*** *Medicine*

*“Alexa is one of the most creative and innovative researchers I've worked with...her ability to go out of her way to help fellow researchers is truly outstanding!”*

## ***Marta Pratelli***

***Department:*** *Neurobiology*

*“Marta is a shining example of a productive and altruistic researcher who...is a patient listener, a great teacher, and a wonderful colleague.”*

## ***Raphael Ribeiro***

***Department:*** *Chemistry and Biochemistry*

*“Raphael is an amazing mentor and researcher...He also has a very interesting sense of humor that makes working with him so enjoyable.”*

## ***David Rios***

***Department:*** *Pathology*

*“Very funny and very good at making media!”*

## ***Nima Roohi***

**Department:** CSE

*“Nima is definitely the best postdoctoral researcher I have had...He has been both a great colleague and a devoted mentor to graduate students...I believe he will find excellent academic positions after his postdoc period.”*

## **Georges Saliba**

**Department:** CASPO

*“Georges brings an innovative attitude to atmospheric data analysis, grounded in good statistics but pushing the boundaries of observational limitations to suggest causal relationships.”*

## **Christopher Schmickl**

**Department:** Medicine

*“Chris sets a high standard for all of us in the lab... he is always willing to help teach staff and volunteers...He truly strives to put his patients above all else and to create research that improves their lives.”*

## **Danielle Schmitt**

**Department:** Pharmacology

*“Danielle...has taken a leadership role in promoting interactions and collaboration within the lab and within the scientific community...as demonstrated by her outreach work. She is a vital member of the Zhang Lab, the UC San Diego postdoctoral community and the broader community as well.”*

## **Carly Schnoebelen**

**Department:** Chemistry and Biochemistry

*“Dr. Schnoebelen (Carly) is a consummate professional, a gifted scholar, a generous collaborator, and an enthusiastic mentor to many graduate and undergraduate students...She is the epitome of a postdoctoral researcher and I welcome this chance to celebrate her!”*

## ***Catherine Schrankel***

***Department:*** SIO

*“Catherine Schrankel is an outstanding postdoc who has taken leadership roles in helping to organize projects within my lab. She...ranks as one of the best postdocs I've interacted with in my time at UCSD.”*

## ***Hideyuki Takehashi***

***Department:*** Pathology/Cancer Center

*“Hideyuki Takehashi is an immensely gifted yet fun-loving, modest and kind postdoctoral fellow...He has been an active and patient educator of high school student, college students, medical students and postdocs...he is by far the most brilliant and talented postdoctoral fellow I have ever had at UCSD.”*

## ***Saumya Tiwari***

***Department:*** Chemistry and biochemistry and medicine department

*“Saumya is very helpful, knowledgeable, supportive and humanitarian. I worked with her on projects in which she showed the highest level of morals and respect and cooperation I've ever seen among all post doc.”*

## ***Christa Trexler***

***Department:*** Medicine

*“As a Postdoctoral Representative on the Chancellor's Advisory Committee on the Status of Women (CSW)...Dr. Trexler was a discerning voice in discussions about the gender-based needs and concerns of postdoctoral scholars...The CSW wishes to acknowledge Dr. Trexler's excellent university service!”*

## ***Tatsuhisa Tsuboi***

***Department:*** Chemistry and Biochemistry

*“Tatsuhisa has served as a great source of information, mentoring, and is a great friend to our lab and scientific community.”*



## ***Shuai Wang***

***Department:*** Chemistry

*“Shuai is very motivated and hard-working, brings all the positives to the lab! He is a great mentor in the lab!”*

## ***Xiaoli Wei***

***Department:*** NanoEngineering

*“Dr. Wei...is highly intelligent, creative, and highly motivated. Her research productivity in my group has been unmatched in terms of quality and quantity...She will start an independent faculty position by the end of this year in a top research university.”*

## ***Claire Yu***

***Department:*** Nanoengineering

*“Outstanding research performance and excellent mentor for other students.”*

## ***Rizaldy Zapata***

***Department:*** Endocrinology & Metabolism

*“Rizaldy goes above and beyond in everything does and deserves recognition of what an outstanding postdoc he is!”*

## ***Brian Zgliczynski***

***Department:*** Scripps Institution of Oceanography

*“Dr Zgliczynski is a consummate team player...he works with junior colleagues to maximize potential through engagement and empathy...he is a leader who recognizes that his success, and the success of everyone around him, is linked to the fundamental philosophy of collaboration.”*

## ***Ying Zhao***

**Department:** Pharmacology

*“Because she has been proactively serving UCSD-PDA, as Board Member and as a Chair for last few years.”*

## ***Yunlong Zhao***

**Department:** Cell and Developmental Biology

*“Yunlong has an unparalleled commitment to research. He is remarkably efficient, creative and hard working.”*

## ***Jie Zhu***

**Department:** Biochemistry and Chemistry

*“Jie is very knowledgeable and willing to share and help. Also, he is very diligent and spends most of his spare time in library during weekends.”*

## ***Yangzhi Zhu***

**Department:** Nanoengineering

*“Dr. Zhu...volunteers to give rides to labmates between lab and dormitory. He has made very impressive and fast progress since he joined my lab.”*

## ***Xiaolin Zhu***

**Department:** Chemistry

*“Xiaolin is talented, caring, intuitive, dedicated, and focused in his pursuits. He has demonstrated excellence in all that he puts his mind to.”*