ELMER HADLEY AWARD

This award is given to honor the memory of Dr. Elmer Hadley, a prominent member of the Department of Biological Sciences. The award is given to a student with high academic achievement who has carried out an outstanding research project in the area of ecology, evolution, or conservation biology.

Honoree: Albert Yang
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Chris Whelan
Title of Research: Seed Preferences of Passer domesticus and other Native Granivores at the UIC Greenhouse Grounds

Honorable Mention: Claire Hemat
Faculty Advisor: Dr. David Wise
Title of Research: Fungal to Bacterial Gradient in Mycorrhizal Associated Forests

EDWARD G. RIEZ AND STANLEY K. SHAPIRO BIOCHEMISTRY AWARD

This award honors an outstanding graduating senior in Biochemistry and is jointly sponsored by the Departments of Biological Sciences and Chemistry. It is named in honor of Edward Reitz, a long-time faculty member of the Department of Chemistry, whose generous bequest endows various awards in the department, and Stanley Shapiro, Professor Emeritus and former head of the Department of Biological Sciences, whose tireless efforts were responsible for the development and promotion of the Biochemistry curriculum.

Honoree: Zhihua Li
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Peter Okkema
Title of Research: Conditional Inhibition of M4 Neuronal Activity via HisC11 Transgene Potentially Inhibits Pharyngeal Muscle Peristalsis

MARK A. WYATT AWARD

This award honors the memory of Mark Wyatt, a former Biological Sciences major and member of the Honors College. The award is given to a pre-medical biology junior who actively participates in the Honors College.

Honoree: Vivian Jin
Faculty Advisors: Drs. Joanna Burdette & Alan Schwartz
Title of Research: Fallopian Tube Epithelium Remodels Ovarian Stroma in High-Grade Serous Ovarian Cancer Through Loss of PTEN

HODGKIN AND HUXLEY NEUROSCIENCE AWARD

This award is given to an outstanding graduating Neuroscience student with a GPA above 3.70 and who performed an exceptional research project.

Honoree: Robert Ng
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Mary Jo LaDu
Title of Research: The Effect of Sex on Alzheimer’s Disease Pathology in EFAD Mice

Honoree: Hira Choudry
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Pauline Maki
Title of Research: The Effects of Pregnancy Intention on Perinatal Depression

LOUIS PASTEUR AWARD

This award is given to a graduating Biological Sciences major who meets the requirement for Highest Departmental Distinction in the major. Emphasis is placed on carrying out an exceptional research project and defending it before a faculty committee.

Honoree: Deborah Park
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Guofei Zhou
Title of Research: Targeting PDLIM5 For Lung Cancer

Honoree: Milan Patel
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Randal Dull
Title of Research: Effect of Norepinephrine-induced Acute Hypertension of Plasma Volume

Undergraduate Awards Day

Loyola University Institute of Environmental Sustainability

Keynote Speaker
Dr. Ray Dybzinski

Loyola University Institute of Environmental Sustainability

3:30 PM  750 S. Halsted St.
April 28, 2017  Student Center East
Cardinal Room
Welcome: Hormoz BassiriRad, Ph.D., Director of Undergraduate Studies

Keynote Address: Dr. Ray Dybzinski

Students Eligible for Departmental, High*, Highest Distinction & Phi Beta Kappa

Biochemistry

**Distinction:** A GPA of at least 3.50/4.00 in chemistry, biology and mathematics courses, and successful completion of biochemical research (CHEM 499 or BIOS 399).

**High Distinction:** A GPA of at least 3.70/4.00, and successful completion of CHEM 499 or BIOS 399.

**Highest Distinction:** A GPA of at least 3.80/4.00, and successful completion of CHEM 499 or BIOS 399.

Biological Sciences

**Distinction:** A GPA of at least 3.50/4.00 in biological sciences courses and also to students with a GPA of at least 3.30/4.00, and successful completion of BIOS 399 (Independent Research).

**High Distinction:** A GPA of at least 3.70/4.00 and successful completion of BIOS 399.

**Highest Distinction:** A GPA of at least 3.70 in the curriculum and also to students with a GPA of at least 3.40 in the curriculum, and successful completion of BIOS 399 or PSCH 399 (Independent Research).

Neuroscience

**Distinction:** A GPA of at least 3.70/4.00 and successful completion of BIOS 399.

**High Distinction:** A GPA of at least 3.80/4.00, and successful completion of BIOS 399.

**Highest Distinction:** A GPA of 3.70/4.00 and successful completion of BIOS 399 or PSCH 399.

Biochemistry

Abdullah Adil
Samer Hassan
Zena Ibrahim
Ayesha Leitao
Ayola Leitao
Shimporte Liu
Jawad Syed
Roham Vashi

Biological Sciences

Juan P. Aguirre
Nihad T. Ammar
Krista D. Anderson
Crissel Marie Arban
Reham S. Awad
Meghana Babu
Prathiba Balakumar
Jonathan J. Beckerman
Anastasia Berezova
Aasia M. Bhavi
Fahad F. Bokhar
Jannie M. Bolotnik
Deana M. Canaveral
Enrique Ceppi
Jeslyn J. Chamakalayil
Duy Q. Chau
Michael B. Cheong
Kevin Chung
Sara L. Colin
Paul Dobria
Yang Bassi Dong
Dania Elkhadra
Joseph B. Epperson
Megan Olga Garcia
Miguel Garcia
Joseph T. George
Allison M. Giuffre
Yelin Ha
Jenny K. Hau
Claire M. Heshmat
Isheng Hou
Danmei Huang

Iriz G Ilumin
Namieh K. Issa
Sreshi Iyer
Fatiah Joseph
Kentoku Kato
Maha S. Khaden
Syeda Wara Khalid
Nour Khatib
Jungyun Ko
Kaitlin Anne Kolmar
Serena Y. Korkmaz
Euodias M. Lee
Nica Lorenz C. Lim
Lauren Margaret Lucas
Rupashree R. Mandala
Lizar Ace Mango
Sherwyn J. Martinez
Sally Mei
Danny Michael
Vanessa K. Mistry
Meghna Nagam
Ahmed W. Nasr
Lauren M. Newsome
Dragomir V. Oreshkov
Andrea Krstin Origenes
Johanna V. Papanikolla
Deborah Park
Joshua J. Park
Milan K. Patel
Neha B. Patel
Pooja B. Patel
Ronak C. Patel
Savan Patel
Don. N. Pham

Nikita N. Pillai
Janeen Rae Radwan
Rafid Rahman
Cesar Ramirez
Aleksandr Raskind
Lauren Christina Roby
Robin Roy
Alejandro Ruiz
Hamza S.K. Safiuddin
Iris Schwartz
Zoe Clarise Sheets
Mandip K. Singh
Katherine M. Sopyreh
Hammed A. Sonunke
Katheryna Stakhiv
Farah Sukkari
Nidhi Kirit Suthar
Jeremy Sutherland
Matthew B. Tan
Ammar M. Tarawneh
Kristen A. Tekiela
Vivian N. Vo
Kyle Wong
Albert F. Yang
Nicholas H. Yonan

Neuroscience

Gaurav Aghnibori
Abdullah A. Bheri
Emma Bono
Tiffany Cheng
Hira Choudury
Sherjeel Hassan
Maribel Heredia
Hugo Hidrugo
Usama Ibrahim
Ragda Ikar
Masun Jackson
Stephanie Jara
Joshua H. Lam
Joseph Lewis
Nethaum Mizyed
Omar Moukaddam
Robert Ng
Lee A. Pavlick
Elaine Rivera
Roberto Rodriguez
Priya Thakkar
Emily N. Vice
Mallory K. Webber

OUTSTANDING SCHOLARSHIP

**Biology of Cells and Organism (BIOS 100) Honorees:**

Naomi Ecanow, Syed Mahnnow, Mariam Mansour, Diana I. Rapoliti, Outila Soto

**Biology of Populations and Communities (BIOS 101) Honorees:**

Timothy Akintillo, Vanessa Jerger, Sol Savchuck, Vassiliina Tsolova

HIRSCH FAMILY AWARD

This award is given to an undergraduate Biological Sciences major who shows high academic achievement.

Honorees: Mark Chester Perkowski, Mohansrnivas Chennakesavlu, Erin Aubrey Conley

The 2017 Undergraduate Awards Day Department of Biological Sciences University of Illinois @ Chicago

Remembering his devotion to student mentoring & development

Guest Speaker: Dr. Ray Dybzinski

Dr. Ray Dybzinski is an assistant professor at the Loyola University Institute of Environmental Sustainability. His research focuses on how plants respond to environmental stresses. He is interested in mechanisms and traits that are key to adaptation of plants to their environment. Dr. Dybzinski earned a BS in Physics and a BA in Philosophy from Northern Illinois University. After a few years in the working world, he decided to pursue his intellectual curiosity and contribute to resolving society’s big challenges. In that spirit, he spent a year and half at University of Illinois at Chicago fortifying his background in ecology and evolution courses where he worked closely with Drs. BassiriRad and Brown. Those experiences affirmed his new-found passion and lead him to graduate program at the University of Minnesota, where he received a Ph.D. under the supervision of the eminent ecologist Dr. David Tilman. After his Ph.D., he went to Princeton and worked with Dr. Pacala as a post-doc and an associate research scholar. Dr. Dybzinski has been at Loyola University since 2015.

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BIOLOGY COLLOQUIUM AWARDS

**Best Professor:** David E. Featherstone, Ph.D.

**Runner Up:** Sam Ale, Ph.D.

**Best Teaching Assistant:** Sarah Zinn

**Best Student Leader:** Joseph Davis

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