Andrew Ballard, working with Professor Christopher Jarzynski, was awarded a 2011-2012 Ann G. Wylie Dissertation Fellowship. The fellowship is a one-semester award to support outstanding doctoral students who are in the final stages of writing their dissertation. Wylie Dissertation Fellowships carry a stipend of $10,000 plus candidacy tuition remission and $800 toward the cost of health insurance. The Graduate School awards approximately 40 Wylie Dissertation Fellowships per year.

Davit Potoyan, student in the research group of Professor Garegin Papoian, has been awarded the Biophysical Society 2011 Student Research Achievement Award. Three hundred and nine society student members participated in this competitive event held during the Biophysical Society Annual Meeting on March 6 in Baltimore. Judges from the Society’s subgroups selected twenty winners, who were recognized at the awards ceremony on March 7th.

Dr. Jie Chen (2010), mentored by Distinguished University Professor, Devarajan Thirumalai, has received the inaugural University of Maryland Distinguished Dissertation Prize in the disciplinary area of Biological and Life Sciences. Her dissertation "Link Between Dynamics and Function in Single and Multi-subunit Enzymes" was nominated by the College of Computer, Mathematical and Natural Sciences. A campus-level Award Committee, chaired by Distinguished University Professor Michael A. Hearn (Astronomy), selected Dr. Chen’s dissertation. The Prize carries with it an honorarium of $1,000.
GRADUATE SCHOOL
GRADUATION POLICIES

Full-Time and Part-Time Status

The Graduate School uses a unit system in making calculations to determine full-time or part-time student status. Please note that graduate units are different from credit hours. The number of graduate units per credit hour is calculated in the following manner:

- Courses in the series: 600-897 carry 6 units per credit hour.
- Master's Research course: 799 carries 12 units per credit hour.
- Pre-candidacy Doctoral Research courses: 898 carries 18 units per credit hour.
- Doctoral Dissertation Research: 899 carries 18 units per credit hour. All doctoral candidates must pay candidacy tuition for which they will be registered for six (6) credit hours of 899; this defines all currently registered doctoral candidates as full-time.

All doctoral candidates must pay the flat candidacy tuition for which they will be registered for six (6) credit hours of 899; this defines all currently registered doctoral candidates as full-time.

To be certified as full time, a graduate student must be officially registered for a combination of courses equivalent to 48 units per semester. Graduate assistants holding regular appointments have full-time status if they are registered for at least 24 units in addition to the assistantship; holders of half-time assistantships are considered full-time if registered for 36 units. Audited courses do not generate graduate units and cannot be used in calculating full-time or part-time status.

Waiver of Mandatory Fees

A waiver of Mandatory Fees may be granted to any graduate student, including Doctoral Candidates, if the student will be away from the University for a semester or a year. An application for waiver of Mandatory Fees must be submitted to the Graduate School 30 days before the beginning of the semester for which the waiver is sought. The waiver may be granted for a semester or a year.

GRADUATION ELIGIBILITY

1. Meet all program requirements
2. Advanced to candidacy
3. In good standing as a student with the University
4. Registered for at least one (1) credit in the semester you wish to graduate
5. Graduate School approved Dissertation Committee six months prior to defense.
6. 12 credits of 899

STUDENT MEETINGS

Zuleykhan Tomova and Tyler Drye are organizing the student meetings for the 2011/2012 academic year. They can be contacted at ztomova@umd.edu and tdrye@umd.edu.

The meetings are organized entirely by Chemical Physics students and have as goals the exchange of useful information about the academic, administrative, and practical elements of graduate life. During the course of the meetings, incoming students meet and get to know the more advanced students in an informal atmosphere that reinforces the cohesive and cooperative nature of the Chemical Physics Program. The meeting format consists of presentations and discussions of research by students as well as discussion with representatives of university offices and services. Refreshments of the highest quality follow the presentations and discussions.

FIRST MEETING SCHEDULED

DATE: SEPTEMBER 21, 2011
TIME: 5:00 PM
LOCATION: IPST BLDG. ROOM 1116
2010 - 2011 GRADUATES

2010 Fall

Kamal Baloch, Ph.D.
University of Maryland, Material Science and Engineering, Assistant Research Scientist

Brooke Cranswick Hester, Ph.D.
Appalachian State University, Assistant Professor

Xiaofei Ma, Ph.D.
NIST, University of Maryland, Joint Research Associate

2011 Spring

Anand Ramanathan, Ph.D.
NASA Goddard Space Flight Center, Research Associate

Sandeep Somani, Ph.D.
Cambridge University, Post-doc

Hien Dao, M.S.
Continuing with University of Maryland Ph.D.

2011 Summer

Suriyanarayanan Vaikuntanathan, Ph.D.
University of California, Berkeley Research Associate

Jemellie Galang Houston, M.S.
Mettler Toledo, Autochem, Columbia, MD Software Test Engineer

2011 FALL INCOMING STUDENTS

Samantha Carpenter
Gettysburg College

Jonathan Larson
Auburn University

Matthew Murray
Gettysburg College

Leo Pebenito
Columbia University

Yang Shen
Hunan University

Zhixin Lu
Shandong Normal University
Maryland Electronic Student System (MEGS)

MEGS is a web-based tool for managing, tracking organizing and communicating with applicants and current students in graduate programs. MEGS work with the two University systems, Student Information System (SIS) and Opix/MEAD, the scanning and digital imaging program. MEGS offers a simple, one-stop interface for managing students records.

The Chemical Physics program is urging all current students to login to the MEGS system to update the personal and academic information. Students are able to login with their University ID and password at the url: https://apra.umd.edu/, once you are logged in to MEGS follow the below steps to update your current information.

1. Click “Graduate Students”
2. Insert your UID/SID or Name (last, first)
3. Click “M” for M.S. or “P” for Ph.D.
4. All tabs are available to update, any section with a “green pencil” is updatable.

A student is able to update their current information, submit a plan of study, qualifying examination results and dissertation committee nominations, etc. The submissions of information into MEGS will enable the student to track and monitor his/her progress through the program and assist with tracking for the Graduate Program Office. If you have any questions concerning MEGS or have problems logging in please contact: Debbie Jenkins, dajenkin@umd.edu or 301-405-4780.

International Coffee Hour

Wednesdays, 3:00-4:30 PM
Dorchester Hall, Ground Floor Lounge

September 7th - International Friends
September 14th - Office of International Services
September 21st - Baptist Collegiate Ministries
September 28th - Maryland English Institute
October 5th - Campus Recreation Services
October 12th - International Coffee Hour
October 19th - The Graduate School
October 26th - Office of Diversity and Inclusion
November 2nd - Center for Teaching Excellence
November 9th - Graduate Student Legal Aid
November 16th - International Spouses Organization
November 30th - Office of Undergraduate Admissions
2011 CHEMICAL PHYSICS/BIOPHYSICS
FALL RECEPTION

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2011

2:00 - 4:00 PM

2400 SECOND FLOOR ATRIUM
COMPUTER AND SPACE SCIENCE BLDG. (NEW WING)

ALL CHEMICAL PHYSICS/BIOPHYSICS STUDENTS
FACULTY and STAFF ARE INVITED

R.S.V.P. BY MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2011
Debbie Jenkins - dajenkin@umd.edu or 301-405-4780

Michael Coplan, Director
coplan@umd.edu
4201 Computer and Space Sciences Building
301-405-4858

Christopher Jarznyski, Associate Director
2203 Chemistry Building
301-405-4439
cjarzyns@umd.edu

Debbie Jenkins, Program Management Specialist
4203 Computer and Space Sciences Building
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