

UCLA INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE PROGRAM FALL 2019

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NEWS

1. SCERC. UC Irvine professor and occupational physician **Dean Baker** has exhausted all his recalls, has finally retired, and also as Deputy Director of the SCERC.



Dean Baker and he is 4th from the left (flanked by **Hamid Arabzadeh** and **Travis Cribbs**) in this photo from his last SCERC Field Trip on **May 17 2019**. 1st year IH MPH student **Zarreen Amin** is 4th front from the right.



Oscar Arias resigns.

Oscar Arias resigned his position as Assistant Director of the SCERC on **Aug 16** to become Assistant Professor at the University of Wisconsin. We wish him well and appreciate all his efforts for the SCERC. Students will fondly remember his teaching in EHS 230A,B,C and the preparations for the clinical case studies.

2. IH PROGRAM.

Teni Adewumi-Gunn, Nathaly Aquino, Jack Arouchian, Cynthia Blackman, Nadia Ho, and Xingmei (Sherry) Liu graduated in **2019**. Cynthia is returning to do a PhD with Professor **Wendie Robbins**.

Tony Norton Memorial Fellowship winners were: **Abou Ibrahim-Biangoro; Nadia Ho; and Sherry Liu.**

Teni Adewumn-Gunn, Nathaly Aquino, Jack Arouchian, Cynthia Blackman, Travis Cribbs, and Nadia Ho were at the IH graduation/1st year IH student survival celebration held at the UCLA Faculty Center on **June 5**.

Awards for graduates noted in the 2019 Commencement book were: Edward A. Bouchet Graduate Honor Society: **Teni Adewumi-Gunn**; NIOSH Southern California Education and Research Center Fellowship: **Nathaly Aquino, Jack Arouchian, Cynthia Blackman, Nadia Ho**; Tony Norton Memorial Fellowship: **Nadia Ho, Sherry Liu**; Robert & Patricia Switzer Foundation Fellowship, : Delta Omega **Teni Adewumi-Gunn**.

There are 4 MPH IH freshpersons, 3 2nd year Master's students, and 4 PhD students.

EHSentials sponsored by SCERC, BSI and Kaiser Permanente will be held **Wed Oct 9 8a-5p** in Covell Commons on the UCLA campus. More soon.



Nathaly Aquino

Jack Arouchian

Cynthia Blackman

Nadia Ho



Sherry Liu

Dr. Teni Adewumi-Gunn

3. AIHCE

A. Banquet: The UCLA IH Program Banquet at the Minneapolis AIHCE was on **Mon May 20 8p** at Buca di Beppo Minneapolis. Some 24 attended some also being alumni from before **1989** who heard about it at the last minute. The banquet ended with a rousing rendition of the UCLA Fight Song that shook the rafters as led by Advisory Board member **Gerald Pineda** who was all decked out in UCLA finery. Many thanks to **Rob Kleinerman** for donating the red wine, and for being on the Tony Norton Award Fellowship Committee.



Buca di Beppo UCLA Banquet: Anticlockwise from upper right: **Cynthia Blackman**; **Michael Nguyen**; **Professor Hamid Arabzadeh**; **Professor Shane Que Hee**; **Gerald Pineda**; **Dr. Katy McNamara**; **Travis Cribbs**; and one of **Dr Robert Phalen's** students Other attendees included: **Zareen Amin**; **Nathaly Aquino**; **Dr Sean Banaee**; **Terry Choe**; **Nadia Ho**; **Katherine Johanski**; **Rob Kleinerman**; **Kinmon Leong**; **Sherry Liu**; **Dr. Robert Phalen** and his two students **Megan Ansari** and **Catherine Besmar**; **Vanda Puhlovich**; **Joe Raab**; **Michelle Rosales**; and others.

B. UCLA IH Awards. Both **Cynthia Blackman** ("Whole Body Vibration in MH-60S Helicopters: Risk Assessment in Relation to Lower Back Pain") and **Sherry Liu** ("Comparison of Permeation of Cyclohexanol Through Single and Multiple Layers of a Disposable Nitrile Glove") won awards (CB from the AIHA Ergonomics Committee; SL from the AIHA Opioids Responder Working Group] for their posters. **Congrats!**

1st Year MPH student **Zarreen Amin** picked up her national AIHF Lawrence R. Birkner/Ruth McIntyre Birkner Scholarship.



Cynthia Blackman, Travis Cribbs and Nathaly Aquino celebrate her poster win with an AIHCE official.



Zarreen Amin



After **Professor Que Hee's** talk on "Best Practices in Setting Up a Biological Monitoring Program –Advantages and Pitfalls." Standing from left: **Michael Nguyen; Nadia Ho; Cynthia Blackman; Zarreen Amin; Nathaly Aquino; Sherry Liu; Travis Cribbs; and Dr Shih-Wei Tsai (National Taiwan U).**



Travis Cribbs, Shane Que Hee, and Sherry Liu doing their stuff on the dais for the AIHCE UCLA Academic Track theme "Gloves—Essential Skin Protection."; Sherry's winning poster is draped over the podium.

4. EHS NEWS

Rebecca Szyszkowski (Greenberg), EHS Student Affairs Officer for 13 years, has resigned. She also ran the department's Curriculum Committee, and managed students at the Royce Hall graduation. She contacted intending and admitted students, and when they arrived on campus, listened sympathetically to their woes that could not be discussed with their Advisors. She took over processing IH students after **DT Evans** was fired in **2011**. We will miss her. **THANKS!**

The new Assistant to the Chair/Academic Personnel Coordinator and successor to **Nancy Arroyo (Gonzalez)** is **Yayoi Roth (Robinson)** who joined us in **Spring 2019**. **WELCOME!**

We also welcome our new faculty member **Jian Li, MD, PhD**, whose appointment is split 50:50 between EHS and the College of Nursing. He had been working in China and Germany with extensive experience in occupational health. He is an active member of the International Commission on Occupational Health (ICOH) Scientific Committees on Cardiology in Occupational Health, and on Work Organisation and Psychosocial Factors. During 2006-2010, Dr. Li received three Early Career Awards from the US National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) and other international research societies. Dr. Li's research interests are psychosocial factors, work stress and health, particularly on epidemiology and intervention evaluation. He has published more than 100 scientific articles in peer-reviewed journals.

The Department has lost some territory: the offices and laboratories of Professors **Collins** and **Schiestl** and those of Emeritus Professor **Eckhart** on the 7th floor of the Fielding School of Public Health are all being converted into office space. Professors **Patrick Allard** and **Jisung Park** revoked their split appointments with EHS.



Left to right: **Professor Li**; Center clockwise top left **Rebecca Szyszkowski (Greenberg)**, hubby **Paul**, **Jesse**, **Luca**; **Yayoi Roth (Robinson)**

5. ALUMNI NEWS:

New graduate **Dr Teni Adewumi-Gunn** will relocate with her engineering husband to Singapore.

New graduate **Jack Arouchian** , CIH, has returned to his position as industrial hygienist with the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power.

New graduate **Nadia Ho** has begun work at Northrup Grummon.

New graduate **Sherry Liu** has accepted a position as industrial hygienist with the University of Massachusetts Amherst.

Dr Airek Mathews has been hired at California State University Long Beach as an Information Technology Consultant to train faculty in best educational methods using technology .

Gerald Pineda has been promoted to corporate head office for Marathon Petroleum in Findlay , Ohio. Gerald was originally employed by Tesoro, who became TSO, who was eaten up by Andeavor, and who was eaten up by Marathon Petroleum. **Congrats!**