

Outstanding Graduate Students 2024–2025

Presented by the Graduate Council

April 15, 2025



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Hossain Abrar

College: **University College**
Level: **Master's**
Program: **Computer Science and Eng.**
Advisor: **Kishwar Ahmed, Ph.D.**



Awards Received; Papers Published

- First author at HiPC'24: "HPC Application Parameter Autotuning on Edge Devices" — developed LASP, the first to use stochastic optimization for autotuning on edge; delivered major performance gains.
- TARDIS scheduler accepted at JSSPP'25: achieved 18% temporal and 10–20% spatial cost reduction in HPC workload scheduling.
- Co-authored SST-based scalable scheduler (WSC'24): improved wait time accuracy, node utilization, and parallelization efficiency.
- NSF NCAR intern + visitor: built orchestration systems with 39% better transmission and 22% lower deployment costs.
- Awards: CRA-WP IDEALS Scholarship, Midwest RCD Symposium Scholarship, 4 travel grants.

Sachin Aryal

College: **University College**
Level: **Doctoral**
Program: **Molecular Medicine**
Advisor: **Jennifer W. Hill, Ph.D.**



Graduate Student Recognition Award

- Secured AHA Predoctoral Fellowship (1.05 percentile, 2025–26).
- Awarded University of Toledo Retirees Association Scholarship (2024).
- Research on gut–liver axis in blood pressure regulation published in *The Blade* (Jan 2024).
- AHA Council on Hypertension – Trainee Advocacy Committee
- APS Water and Electrolyte Homeostasis Section – Trainee Advisory Sub-committee.
- Ranked in top 5% of graduate students by faculty evaluation.

Olutayo Farinde

College: **University College**
Level: **Doctoral**
Program: **Chemistry**
Advisor: **Michael Young, Ph.D.**



Distinct Recognition in Student's Subject Field, First Author Publication in High Impact Journal

- Named 2025 Merck Next Gen Leader in Chemistry
- Won Distinguished Oral Abstract Award at NOBCCChE Midwest Regional Symposium (2024).
- Presented at 8+ scientific conferences; awarded ACS and ACS Organic Division travel grants.
- Published in Organic Chemistry Frontiers; co-author on paper under revision at Angewandte Chemie.
- First-author manuscript expected to be submitted to a Nature journal (pharmacophore-focused, high-impact work).

Derek Kluczynski

College: **University College**

Level: **Master's**

Program: **Biology**

Advisor: **Tomer Avidor-Reiss, Ph.D.**



Recognition for Papers Published

- First author on "Spermatozoa centriole quality determined by FRAC may correlate with zygote nucleoli polarization – a pilot study," published in *Journal of Assisted Reproduction and Genetics*.

Sanjana Kumariya

College: **University College**

Level: **Doctoral**

Program: **Molecular Medicine**

Advisor: **Islam Osman, Ph.D.**



Recognition for Papers Published

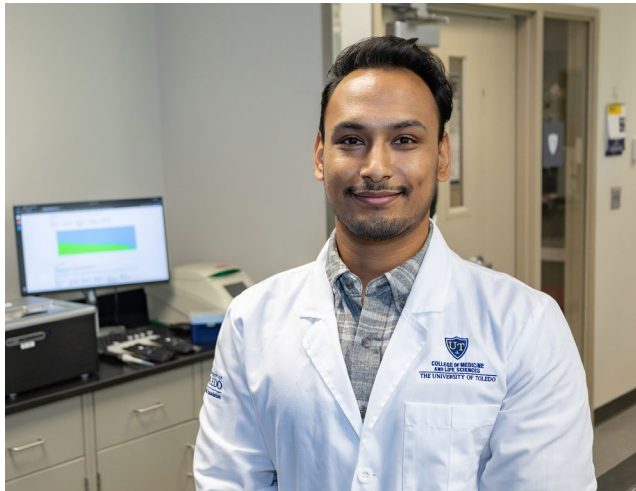
- 2 first-author papers published in *Biochemical Pharmacology* and *Physiological Reports*.
- 3rd first-author manuscript in preparation for submission to *Nucleic Acids Research* (IF > 15).
- Co-authored paper published in *Nature Scientific Reports*; 2 more co-authored manuscripts in progress.
- Finalist and 3rd place winner in Best Oral Presentation (Graduate Research Annual Forum, 2025).
- On track to achieve 3 first-author publications by end of third year—a standout accomplishment among peers.



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Ishan Manandhar

College: **University College**
Level: **Doctoral**
Program: **Biomedical Sciences**
Advisor: **Bina Joe, Ph.D.**



Recognition for Grant and Awards Received, Papers Published

- American Heart Association (AHA) Predoctoral Fellowship recipient (2024–2025) – prestigious national award.
- 13 peer-reviewed publications, including 4 first-author papers in top journals (*Am J Physiol-GI*, *Comprehensive Physiology*).
- Received Hypertension New Investigator Travel Award (AHA Hypertension Meeting 2023).
- Top 3 abstract nationwide at APS Meeting (2024, 2025); selected for oral presentations both years.
- Recognized at Toledo Heart Ball 2024 by regional AHA for impactful research on gut microbiota and hypertension.
- *Toledo Blade* (2 articles + Heart Ball recognition)

Magani Niyomdi

College: **University College**

Level: **Master's**

Program: **Cybersecurity**

Advisor: **Jared Oluoch, Ph.D.**



Recognition for Papers Published

- First-author paper presented and published at 2025 IEEE 4th International Conference on AI in Cybersecurity (ICAIC).
- Proposed the first comprehensive SOAR system for Connected and Autonomous Vehicles (CAVs).
- Full citation:
Niyomdi, M., & Oluoch, J. (2025). A Comprehensive Security Orchestration, Automation, and Response System (SOAR) for CAVs. IEEE ICAIC, pp. 1–14.

Olawale Oluwafemi

College: **University College**
Level: **Doctoral**
Program: **Spatially Integrated Social Science**
Advisor: **Bhuiyan Alam, Ph.D.**



Graduate Student Recognition Award

- Certified NASA GLOBE Trainer; awarded NASA–GLOBE Travel Grants for conferences in India and Ireland.
- Received US National Committee Registration Award for the International Cartographic Conference (2021), leading to 2 publications by the International Cartographic Union.
- Author of 2 books:
Malaria Occurrence in Nigeria
Landslide Events in Nigeria (LAP Lambert Academic Publishing, Germany)
- Published peer-reviewed research in *Journal of Geographic Information System* (Feb 2025):
“Spatial Modeling of COVID-19 Occurrence and Vaccination Rate across Counties in Ohio.”
- Featured in UT News (March 20, 2025) for dissertation on meningococcal meningitis—noted for real-world health impact.

Emily Spotts

College: **University College**
Level: **Doctoral**
Program: **Experimental Psychology**
Advisor: **Andrew Geers, Ph.D.**



Recognition for Papers Published

- Two first-author empirical papers accepted in top peer-reviewed journals based on data collected at UToledo.
- Publications:
 - Spotts et al. (in press). The effect of attribute framing on beliefs and attitudes toward branded and generic medications. Journal of Behavioral Medicine. DOI: 10.1007/s10865-025-00562-1*
 - Spotts et al. (in press). Individual difference factors that predict evaluations and acceptance of authorized concealment for the reduction of nocebo side effects. Patient Education and Counseling. DOI: 10.1016/j.pec.2025.108676*

Saeedeh Vanaei

College: **University College**
Level: **Doctoral**
Program: **Mechanical Eng**
Advisor: **Mohammad Elahinia, Ph.D.**



Recognition for Papers Published

- Total citations: 571 | h-index: 7 | i10-index: 6
- ~10 publications produced during Ph.D. studies at the University of Toledo (2023–2025)
- ~40+ citations on UToledo publications to date

Some recent impactful works include:

- *4D Printing Roadmap* (2024) – 26 citations
- *Effect of post-treatments on thermomechanical behavior of NiTiHf SMA via LPBF* (2024) – 7 citations
- *Orientation-Dependent Mechanical Behavior of 3D Printed Polylactic Acid Parts* (2023) – 3 citations

Thank you!