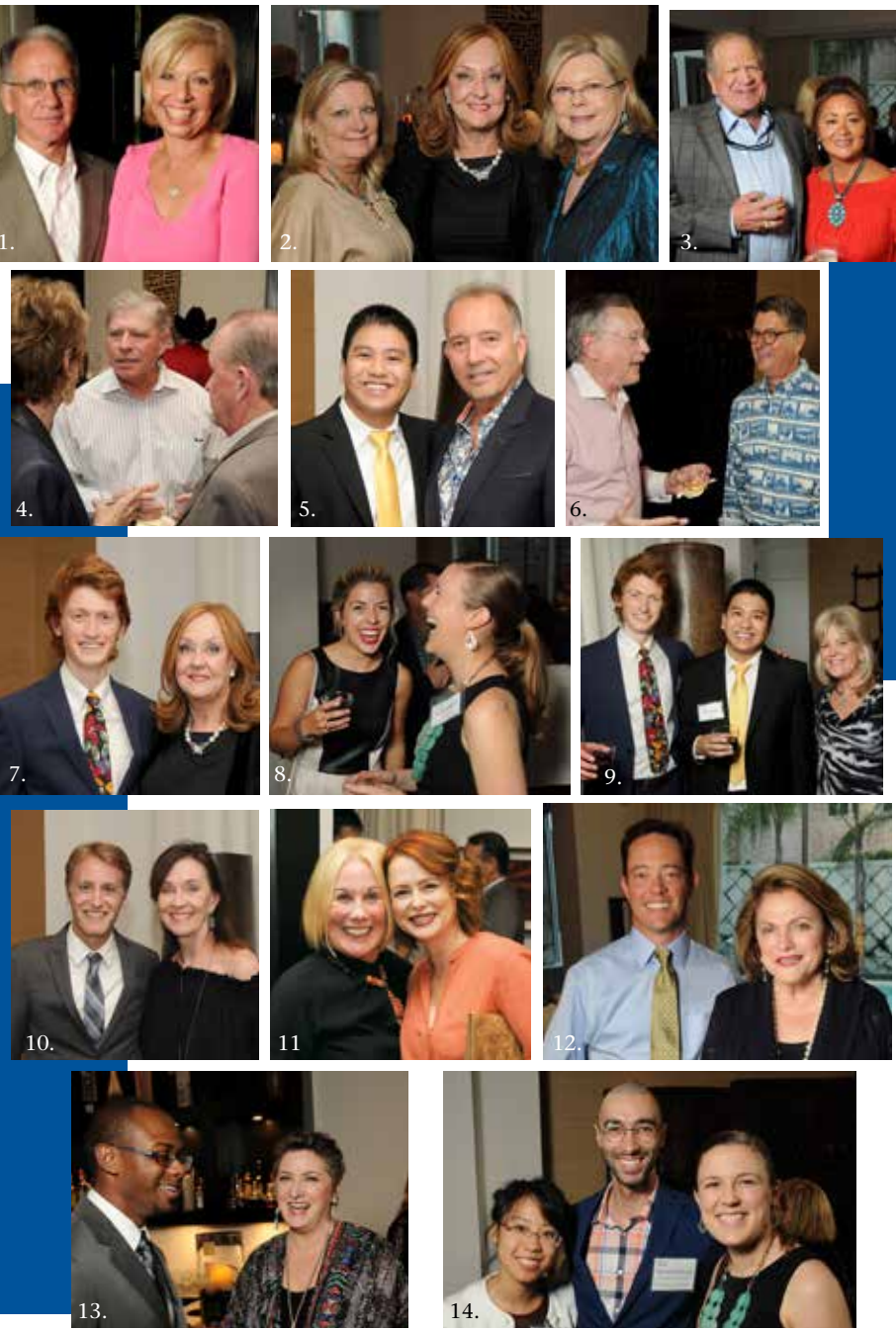


2016 BRASS Scholar Reception



1. Peter VanDerlofske and Françoise Marks
2. Jeanie Smith, Myra Wilson and Judi Johnson
3. Dr. Jim Bocell and Jeannette Bocell
4. Linda and Carl Kuykendall and Steve Brown
5. Michael Lam and Dr. James Bonar
6. Les Eckert and Kenny Rogers
7. Patrick Hunt and Myra Wilson
8. Carli Domencio and Elizabeth Campbell
9. Patrick Hunt, Michael Lam and Dr. Debbie Johnson
10. Zachary Kadow and Robin Simon
11. Elsie Eckert and Felicia Fogal
12. Beth Wolff and guest
13. Zachary Criss and Tamara Klosz Bonar
14. Joanne Hsu, Wanderson Rezende and Elizabeth Campbell
15. Kristyn Hoffman and Lisa Chandler
16. Michele Collins and Craig Moffatt

2016 BRASS Scholar Reception

BRASS Celebrates the FIFTH Annual Judi and Jack Johnson Day



▲ Zachary Criss



Our 2016-2017 BRASS scholars were welcomed at the Scholars Reception on October 12 as BRASS celebrated the annual Judi and Jack Johnson Day. This was declared as an annual day of celebration five years ago by the BRASS scholars as a

tribute to the Johnsons for their generous support through the Wintermann Foundation. The Wintermann Foundation guarantees that every year, 12 BRASS scholars in the Baylor College of Medicine Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences will receive \$3,000 for funding for their research during years two through five of their graduate studies. BRASS Scholars use this funding for discretionary spending for research supplies, lab equipment and other needed agents to perfect their research process.



▲ Jarey Wang

BRASS Scholars Zachary Criss, Ph.D. and Jarey Wang, M.D./Ph.D. spoke of the importance of this research funding in their respective fields. Everyone agreed once again that Judi and Jack Johnson and the Wintermann Foundation are BRASS SUPER STARS!

► Mark Hamilton and Lin Zhu were selected as the HLS&R 2016 Outstanding Community BRASS Scholars. Myra Wilson presented them with certificates and cash awards. Also selected, but not able to be there to accept his award, was Michael Gundry.



BRASS Match Day

Match Day 2017 For BRASS Scholars Meagan Barry and Cathryn Hughes Cadwell

Meagan Barry, M.D./Ph.D., 2011-2012 Brass Scholar, matched at Alpert Medical School of Brown University. She will be going there for a residency in Emergency Medicine.

Cathryn Hughes Cadwell M.D./Ph.D., 2010-2011 Brass Scholar, matched at University of California - San Francisco (UCSF) in Anatomic Pathology/Neuropathology.



Each of these brilliant BRASS Scholars got the school that was their first choice, making it a GREAT Match Day!

We are honored to have had them both be such an important part of our BRASS family!

BRASS Officers 2017-2018

- | | |
|--|--|
| Founder Myra Wilson
President Elsie Eckert
Vice President Dr. James Bonar
Treasurer Lisa Chandler
Event Chair Linda Kuykendall
Second Vice President Don D. Jordan
2017 Scholar Selection Chair Robin Simon
Scholar Selection Committee Member Lisa Chandler
New 2017 Scholar Selection Committee Member Shelly Buffington
Baylor Liaison Dr. Matthew Baker | Recording Secretary Jo Ann Petersen
Scholar Liaison Peter VanDerlofske
Research Award Liaison Ed McMahon
Mentor Liaison Dr. Jim Bocell
Member At Large Jay Comeaux |
|--|--|

BRASS Giving

- | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Ms. Marsha A. Johnson | In Honor of Myra Wilson |
| Mr. Lenny Matuszewski | In Honor of Linda Kuykendall |
| Ms. Carolyn L. Faulk | In Honor of Myra Wilson |
| Mr. Henry T. Brooks | In Honor of Sidney and Don Faust |
| Mrs. Cora Sue Mach | In Honor of Sidney and Don Faust |
| Mr. John F. Bookout, Jr. | In Honor of Sidney and Don Faust |

MEMBERSHIP AND PROGRAM INFORMATION
<http://connect.bcm.edu/brassor> Please contact: 713.798.4145 or legler@bcm.edu



The Element April 2017

inside

- 2016-2017 BRASS Scholars Four Remarkable Students
- Brass Scholar Reception and Match Day Awards & Achievements
- BRASS Holiday Party Highlights and Photos



▲ Don Jordan, Carolyn Faulk, Rod and Mary Ellen Crosby share some great stories at the 2016 Holiday party graciously hosted by Carolyn Faulk at the Montebello highrise.



▲ BRASS members and scholars applaud, salute and thank Steve Brown for becoming a \$10,000 Lifetime Benefactor donor for the second time!



▲ BRASS Scholars Lin Zhu, Derrick Chu, Amanda Koire and Paul Fahey joined board members Peter VanDerlofske, Dr. Jim Bonar, Jay Comeaux and Dr. Matt Baker welcomed prospective BCM M.D./Ph.D. students at the BRASS breakfast on April 1. This breakfast is underwritten every year by the Donald E. McMahon Endowment Fund.

A Message from the BRASS President

Dear BRASS Members and Supporters:

I'm happy to report that BRASS has kicked off 2017 in grand style. With your continued support, in September, the Scholarship Committee was able to select four exceptional BRASS scholars for 2016-2017 from a total of 35 applicants and nine interviews.. Please see page two for more about these impressive new members to our BRASS family.

On September 23, Al Trullenque and Martha Molina once again generously hosted our annual scholars reception where more than 75 BRASS members had the opportunity to visit these four new scholars, as well as with 14 of our previous scholars. Special thanks to Jay and Linda Comeaux who helped to underwrite this fun event.

The second of December found us being hosted by Carolyn Faulk in the festively decorated Canova Room in her Montebello highrise where BRASS members, scholars and BCM affiliates enjoyed the annual BRASS Holiday Party. Guests graciously brought gift cards for all the scholars, which always adds fun and some shopping cheer to their holidays.

As we welcome in 2017, the Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo (HLS&R) has just drawn to a close and this is a perfect time to thank our Executive Committee Members Don D. Jordan and Ed McMahon. As Rodeo Committee Members, their belief in the BRASS mission has helped BRASS receive much needed critical funding for the BRASS scholars' research, lab equipment, and academic travel. On March 15, Texas Medical School Night, HLS&R announced BRASS would again receive \$95,000 to support and enhance the BRASS Scholars in their research pursuits and community outreach. Following the presentation Don D. Jordan hosted the BRASS Scholars, Dr. Adam Kuspa and BRASS board members in his suite for a very memorable RODEO evening!

The year ahead promises to be an exciting one for the BRASS Scholars and BRASS members. It is my pleasure to again serve as President of BRASS for the next two years. Returning was an easy decision for me because I love the BRASS Scholars and appreciate all of you who support them! ~ Elsie



▲ Elsie Eckert

BRASS Scholar Spotlight

BRASS Welcomes Four New 2016-2017 Scholars



▲ **Kristyn Hoffman**
Myra Branum Wilson
Scholar

Kristyn Hoffman grew up in Valparaiso, Ind. She graduated from Purdue University in 2012 with a degree in animal sciences, and continued her studies at Purdue's College of Veterinary Medicine. She earned her D.V.M. this past May. Throughout her undergraduate and professional coursework, she worked on various research projects using animal models of infectious disease and learned the intricacies of how to apply this research to human medicine. Kristyn is now a first-year graduate student in the Department of Molecular Virology and Microbiology. She hopes to apply her veterinary degree and what she learns at Baylor College of Medicine to studying animal models of viral, bacterial, or parasitic human pathogens so that we may one day have effective preventative or curative therapies against them. Kristyn's favorite hobby is traveling, and she has been fortunate enough to travel to Romania and Ecuador for service-based study abroad projects. When she is not traveling, she loves spending time with her two dogs and looks forward to exploring Houston. Kristyn is grateful for the wonderful opportunity to join the BRASS family. She is excited about becoming involved in the community through BRASS events.



▲ **Zachary Kadow**
Sidney Broadfoot Faust
Scholar

Zach Kadow was born in a small town in Northeast Wisconsin. He attended Drake University in Des Moines where he found a love for science working towards degrees in chemistry, biochemistry, and molecular biology. It was also during this period that he became exposed to medical research through the study of exercise on heart disease at a local medical school in Des Moines. To combine his passions for both medicine and research he decided to apply to MD/PhD programs across the country. His interview at Baylor College of Medicine was his first visit to Texas and he was immediately won over by the opportunities of the Texas Medical Center as well as by the amazing scientists and physicians that work here. Two years later he is now a first-year graduate student in the Developmental Biology graduate program and is still fascinated by the heart. His time in medical school has greatly shaped his research goals and he is now interested in studying the processes of heart development and regeneration due to the hope it offers for finding new treatments for cardiovascular disease. Zach has greatly enjoyed living in Houston the past two years. As a Midwest transplant, his favorite parts are likely the amazing food and warm weather that allows him to play tennis year-round. Growing up on the shores of Lake Michigan he has always enjoyed the outdoors and continues to camp and hike when he has the opportunity. Zach is honored to become a member of the BRASS family and is excited for this opportunity to advocate for biomedical research within the Houston community.



▲ **Patrick Hunt**
Don D. Jordan
Scholar

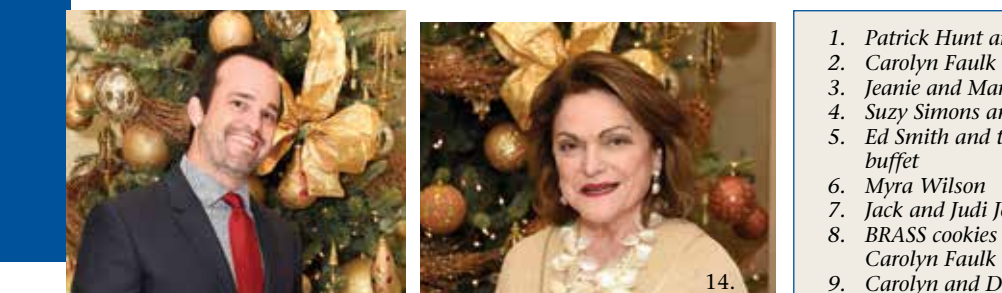
Patrick Hunt grew up in Plano, TX with his parents and 10 siblings. He graduated from the University of Texas at Austin as a member of the Dean's Scholars program. During his time in Austin, he conducted research in evolutionary biology as well as viral genetics. After graduation, he enrolled in the M.D./Ph.D. program at Baylor College of Medicine, where he completed clinical rotations in internal medicine, neurology and surgery before beginning graduate school. Patrick is a member of the Molecular and Human Genetics graduate program at Baylor College of Medicine and is interested in studying neurodevelopment and neurodegeneration. He is also interested in developing as an advocate for those with mental health concerns. Outside of school, Patrick loves to run and spends most of the year training for long distance races. He also enjoys swimming as well as reading. He is honored to join the BRASS family and is very excited about becoming more involved with BRASS events, especially the Brain Lab.



▲ **Michael Lam**
Don D. Sykora Scholar

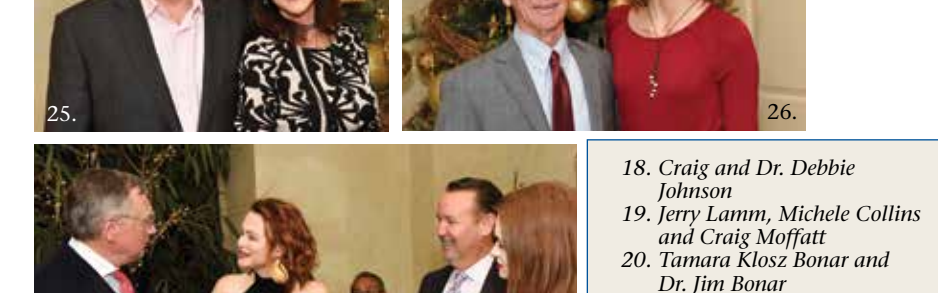
Michael Lam was born in Houston, TX, and raised in the burgeoning city of Sugar Land, Texas. He attended Rice University in Houston where he graduated summa cum laude with a Bachelor of Science in bioengineering with distinction in research and creative works. During college, he was under the mentorship of Dr. Junghae Suh Sun, whose work focuses on enhancing and re-engineering adeno-associated virus for improved cellular targeting in the context of heart disease such as a myocardial infarction or coronary artery disease. Michael is currently a first-year graduate student in the M.D./Ph.D. program and is part of the Translational Biology and Molecular Medicine Program. He is interested in cancer immunotherapy - leveraging immune cells to target hematological and solid malignancies and therefore impacting future treatments for these cancers. Michael has also had clinical experience through his clinical rotations in internal medicine, surgery, and neurology and he hopes to specialize in hematology/oncology where he hopes to deliver and improve upon current treatments for treating various malignancies. When not the lab, Michael enjoys baking, playing the guitar and traveling to different countries (and of course taking many photos). He enjoys being able to experience the culture and uniqueness of the foods in various regions of the world and hopes to continue visiting more and more countries. Michael is ecstatic and excited to be part of the BRASS community and hopes to spread his passion for biomedical research and serve as a liaison and advocate for science going on in Houston. He looks forward to being able to meet many more people in the community and volunteering at future BRASS events!

2016 BRASS Holiday Party



1. Patrick Hunt and Donna Stokes
2. Carolyn Faulk
3. Jeanie and Marshall Smith
4. Suzy Simons and Robin Simon
5. Ed Smith and the sumptuous buffet
6. Myra Wilson
7. Jack and Judi Johnson
8. BRASS cookies courtesy of Carolyn Faulk
9. Ed McMahon and Hershey Grace
10. Debby Leighton, Tamara Klosz Bonar and Linda Kuykendall
11. Dr. David Wright and Elsie Eckert
12. Dr. Matthew Baker and Emily Beth Wolff
13. Peter VanDerlofske, Justin Olszeski and Lin Zhu
14. Rod and Mary Ellen Crosby
15. Marsha Johnson and Robin Simon

2016 BRASS Holiday Party



18. Craig and Dr. Debbie Johnson
19. Jerry Lamm, Michele Collins and Craig Moffatt
20. Tamara Klosz Bonar and Dr. Jim Bonar
21. Linda Kuykendall and Don Jordan
22. Zachary Criss, Matt and Ktistyn Hoffman
23. Les Eckert and Carli Domenico
24. Lisa Chandler
25. Bob Hay and Niki Smith
26. Peter and Celine VanDerlofske
27. Les Eckert, Felicia and Jay Fogal and Addie Eckert