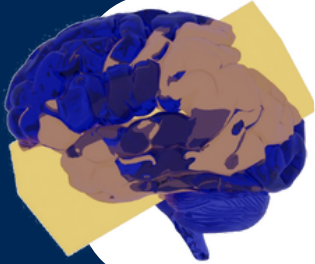


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NGP STUCO NEWSLETTER

VOL 23 | MAY 2025



MAIN TOPIC THIS WEEK...

Happy Spring Retreat!



THE LINKS

Neuroscience Program

Master Doc

Slack

Twitter

ROTATION TALKS

It's that time again! First years
are finishing up their final
rotation - come hear them tell
us all about it

May 5 | 11-1 | MSB B605

SAVE THE DATES!

May 1-2: Spring Retreat! San Luis Resort, Galveston

May 5: Rotation Talks, 11am-1pm, MSB B605

May 12: Mock Candidacy: Andy Delgado, 11am, MSB B605

May 19: Mock Candidacy: Beatriz Rios, 11am, MSB B605

June 2: Mock Candidacy: Paula Bender, 11am, MSB B100

June 9: Candidacy Exam Meeting, MSB B612

Students
Only!



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**Bridgitte Palacios**

What Bridgitte enjoyed most about Student Council was working closely with the passionate and supportive team whose unique contributions and shared dedication to building a vibrant student community made her experience truly incredible.

*Thank you for a wonderful year!
Love,
2024-2025 StuCo*

**Kenzie Peshoff**

Kenzie's favorite part of student council was the opportunity to get to know people across the program and design events catered to diverse research interests!

**Vicky Chuong**

Vicky's fave memories include developing close friendships with her fellow council members and wedding planning for both her and Bridgitte!

**Dounya Jalloul****Madison Shyer**

Madison's favourite memories of StuCo were all the times the council bonded over and supported each other in big events - school or personal!

**Paula Bender**

THE 2025-2026 NGP STUDENT COUNCIL

**Kiersten Scott****Phillip Urbanczyk****Mya Rodriguez**

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SCENES FROM THE RETREAT



SNAPS



Did someone go above and beyond? Did you get an award? [Fill out this form](#), and we will highlight your snaps, big or small!

Snaps to...



Mitchell Slapik, PhD (Advisor: Valentin Dragoi, PhD) for defending his dissertation! Incredible work, Dr Slapik!



Sergey Egranov, MS (Advisor: Valentin Dragoi, PhD) for a successful defense of his Masters Thesis! Congratulations, Sergey!



Madison Shyer (Advisor: you guessed it, Valentin Dragoi, PhD) for passing her candidacy exam! Yay, Madison!



Paula Bender and Kenzie Peshoff (Advisor: Kristin Eckel-Mahan, PhD and Long-Jun Wu, PhD) for receiving the inaugural NGP Research Awards! Well done, ladies!



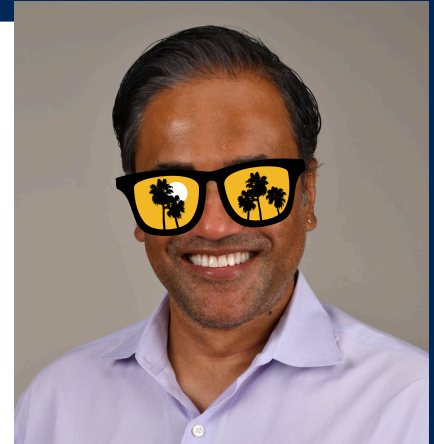
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KARTIK'S KORNER

Dear all,

I cannot believe that the semester has already come to a close! It has been an amazing year. Congrats to Paula Bender and Kenzie Peshoff who were awarded the student research awards! The program enjoyed listening to their talks detailing their findings and plans for the future during the retreat.



I would like to take this opportunity to give a shoutout to the outgoing student council members, Madison, Kenzie, Bridgitte and Vicky! It has been a real pleasure for Rodrigo and myself to work with all of you, and we will miss you in these roles! Also, I would like to congratulate the members of the incoming council, we look forward to working with you over the next year. You have some big shoes to fill!!!

Lastly, I am pleased to note that the incoming class should be comprised of a large number of students with primary interest in neuroscience. Our class next year is going to be substantially larger! Hopefully, all of you have a safe and fun summer and I look forward to being in touch in the fall.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

- Kartik Venkatachalam, PhD

