The Department of Pathology, Microbiology and Immunology celebrated Halloween at the Riverbanks Zoo! It was an enjoyable day with ghosts and goblins and all sorts of creative costumes. The PMI Department joined together for our Recognition and Appreciation Celebration Luncheon October 31, 2022. Our celebration was held in the Ndoki Lodge at Riverbanks Zoo and Gardens, Columbia, SC. We had a delightful experience with the Riverbanks Zoo animals and gardens, gorgeous fall colors and scenery. The luncheon was most enjoyable, with delicious food. We enjoyed the day honoring all our faculty, postdocs, staff, and students who excelled and received monumental awards throughout the year! All enjoyed a wonderful time talking, strengthening our friendships, laughing and enjoying our recognition and appreciation time together.

Together with a group of women leaders, Dr. Carole Oskeritzian was invited as a guest speaker by the USC’s Provost’s Advisory Committee on Women’s Issues (PACWI) to a lunch & learn session with the Graduate Student Association at the Russell House on November 1, 2022.

Dr. Carole Oskeritzian was competitively selected to participate in the 2022 Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) Mid-Career Women Faculty Leadership Development Seminar, Indian Wells, CA, December 6-9, 2022.

Dr. Swapan Ray serves as an Academic Editor for journals: Journal of Food Biochemistry, Cells, and Brain Science.


Dr. Prakash Nagarkatti was featured in Roll Call by Gopal Ratnam, October 12, 2022, “Underfunded states to get boost in high-tech research money”. https://rollcall.com/2022/10/12/underfunded-states-to-get-boost-in-high-tech-research-money/

Dr. Angela Murphy served as a reviewer for NIH/NCI Transition to Independence awards on October 19-20, 2022.

Dr. Swapan Ray served as a grant reviewer for the Florida Department of Health (FLDOH) James and Esther King Biomedical Research Program, October, 2022.
Dr. Swapan Ray served as a mentor for the Black Graduate and Professional Student Luncheon on USC’s main campus, November 3, 2022.

Dr. Swapan Ray attended the 2022 Oktoberbest – A Symposium on Teaching, at the University Conference Center, October 21, 2022.

Dr. Swapan Ray’s undergraduate research student Amanda Manea, who is an Honors College Senior with Mathematics and Biological Sciences double major, has been selected based on her academic and research achievements by the USC Columbia for submitting applications for the Marshall and Rhodes Scholarships, UK.

Dr. Carole Oskeritzian served as a grant reviewer (R01s and R21s) for the NIH/NIAID Hypersensitivity, Allergies and Mucosal Immunology (HAMI) - ZRG1 IIDB 57 virtual study section on November 9-10, 2022.

Dr. Carole Oskeritzian served as a grant reviewer for the NIH/NIAID Asthma and Allergic Diseases Cooperative Research Centers (AADCRC) – ZAI1-JTS-I-J1 virtual study section to review U19 applications on December 14-15, 2022.

The USC SOMC Women in Science and Medicine (WiSaM) committee chaired by Dr. Carole Oskeritzian hosted the inaugural SOMC Social Hour on November 3rd in the Dean’s Board Room. The event attended by over 20 SOMC and Prisma Health students, staff and faculty members who networked sharing baked goods, soft drinks, and conversations.

In partnership with Dean Hall and the Offices of Development, Student Engagement and Student Affairs, WiSaM coordinated the inaugural USC SOMC World Holiday Celebration, with hot cocoa, cookies and the lighting of our multicultural tree on November 29.

A warm welcome to Dr. Manikandan Palrasu, Ph.D. Mani joined PMI as a Research Assistant Professor in January 2022. He joins us from KOR Life Sciences/VikorScientific LLC, Charleston, South Carolina where he was a Scientist (Molecular Biologist). Mani was also an Assistant Scientist at the University of Miami. Mani will be working in the Nagarkatti lab.

**Publications**

Bullard BM, McDonald SJ, Cardaci TD, VanderVeen BN, Murphy EA. Non-Pharmacological Approaches for Improving Gut Resilience to Chemotherapy. *Current Opinion in Supportive & Palliative Care*. 2022 Sep 1;16(3):151-160.


Bullard BM, VanderVeen BN, McDonald SJ, Cardaci TD, Murphy EA. Cross talk between the gut microbiome and host immune response in ulcerative colitis: nonpharmacological strategies to improve homeostasis. Am J Physiol Gastrointest Liver Physiol. 2022 Dec 1;323(6):G554-G561.


**Presentations**
