NIPM Research Advances
The NIPM team published a paper on personalized medicine in *Today’s Practice* (pictured above). Drs. Jingchun Chen and Sam Chen published a paper on the association between schizophrenia and smoking in *Science Reports*. Dr. Mira Han published a paper on the mosquito genome in *Science*. Dr. Qing Wu reported in *Medicine* that depression is associated with a significantly increased risk death from myocardial infarction and coronary disease. The Schiller Lab published a functional genomics paper on the new C-terminome in *PLoS ONE* as well as one on gene editing as an approach to cure HIV in *Human Genetics*.

NIPM Research Funding
This year the NIPM team has submitted an $11.3 million COBRE application to the National Institutes of Health. Dr. Jingchun Chen was awarded a UNLV Faculty Opportunity Award grant, bringing NIPM’s funded awards to roughly $1.5 million. NIPM faculty has also submitted several grants to compete for a total funding amount in excess of $20 million.
NIPM Hires Assistant Professor Dr. Son Pham from Scripps Research Institute

Dr. Pham (pictured left) comes to NIPM from Scripps University and the University of California, San Diego, where he received his doctorate degree. Dr. Pham is interested in bioinformatics, where solutions of computational problems often contribute to new biological discoveries. His current research areas include the molecular mechanisms of neurological diseases (including the genetics of bipolar, schizophrenia, and autism spectrum disorders) and algorithms for genome assembly and genome comparison using graph theory. Dr. Pham starts July 1 and will be the eighth faculty member to join NIPM in its first 18 months as an institute.

NIPM 2016 Annual Retreat

On February 12, 2016, NIPM held its first annual retreat in celebration of the National Institute of Health's National DNA Day. The event was well-attended, and the crowd grew throughout the day, reaching nearly 100 attendees. NIPM researchers presented their research, focusing on the genetics of several diseases and the role of computer science in personalized medicine. The exciting keynote was presented by Dr. Keith Stewart, director of individualized medicine at Mayo Clinic. The afternoon session focused on advances in our understanding and future prospects for treatment of patients with Alzheimer's disease. Watch videos of each presentation on NIPM’s YouTube channel, NIPMatUNLV.

NIPM Clinical Services to Open

NIPM is partnering with the UNLV School of Medicine and Grant a Gift Autism Foundation to open its first medical genetics clinic, which will be located on the corner of Rancho and Pinto. Dr. Michael Nasiak expects the clinic to be open to patients, including adults, in June 2016. Contact Dr. Nasiak at Michael.Nasiak@unlv.edu to schedule an appointment.

NIPM External Advisory Board Grows

Gabe Rudy, VP of product management and engineering at Golden Helix, and Dr. Jerome Rotter, director of the department of pediatrics at UCLA, round out NIPM’s board. They join Dr. Jeffery Cummings from the Ruvo Center for Brain Health; Patrick Burke, VP of emerging products at Myriad Genetics; and Victor Wei, CEO of WHP Consulting.