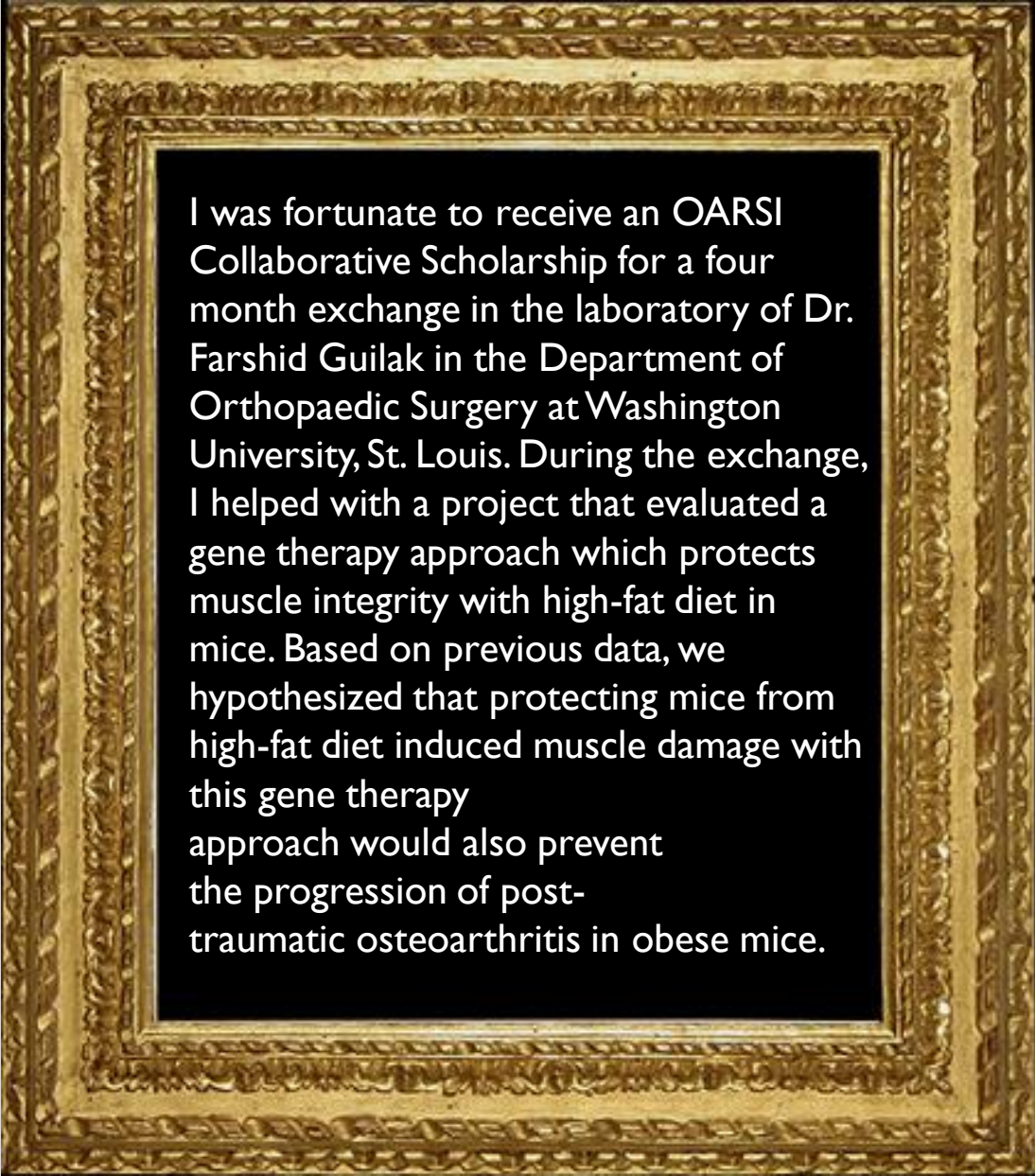



KELSEY COLLINS

2016 OARSI COLLABORATIVE SCHOLARSHIP

An ornate, multi-layered gold frame with intricate scrollwork and floral patterns, surrounding a black rectangular area containing white text.

I was fortunate to receive an OARSI Collaborative Scholarship for a four month exchange in the laboratory of Dr. Farshid Guilak in the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery at Washington University, St. Louis. During the exchange, I helped with a project that evaluated a gene therapy approach which protects muscle integrity with high-fat diet in mice. Based on previous data, we hypothesized that protecting mice from high-fat diet induced muscle damage with this gene therapy approach would also prevent the progression of post-traumatic osteoarthritis in obese mice.

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For my PhD project, I worked on an animal model system which evaluated the interactions between high-fat diet and musculoskeletal health, so this project represented an opportunity to learn new skills in a familiar context. As a result of this exchange, I was invited to return to Dr. Guilak's laboratory as a Post Doctoral Scholar, and joined the lab in August 2017. I wish to thank OARSI for the support and for facilitating this fantastic learning experience.

KELSEY COLLINS AND VISITING LAB

