

# BIOCHEMISTRY POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCHER STUDENT ASSOCIATION



September Newsletter



2023-2024 BPSA officers in 2023 department retreat

## Department Events in September

- **Sep 01**, 12:00 pm, 512 LH. Frontiers in Biochemistry Seminars: Linlin Zhao, University of California, Riverside, "Old Dog New Tricks – Mitochondrial Transcription Factor A in Mitochondrial Genome Maintenance".
- Sep 5, 12:20 – 1:10 pm, MRBIII 1220, MBTP/CSB Seminar: Walter Chazin. "A cancer biologist walked into a structural biology lab ..."
- **Sep 29**, 202 LH, School of Medicine Basic Sciences Apex Lecture: Michael Rapé, UC Berkeley, HHMI, "Ubiquitin-Dependent Quality Control in Development and Disease"

## Happy September!

Hope everyone is having a great start of the new semester! As always, if you have any comments or concerns, please fill out our [anonymous Google form](#). Have a great month!

- Lily (BPSA Communications Committee)

## Wellness



**Sep 8**, 4-5 p.m. in LH306AB. The Wellness Committee is planning an event on work life balance. Snacks and beverages will be provided. Click on the beautiful picture made by Wellness Committee officer Louis Otero to RSVP, or [here](#).

# News

- BRET Updated Care Resources information can be found for both [Graduate Students](#) and [PostDocs](#).
- Fall semester colloquiums will be in 202 LH at 12 p.m.:
  - **Sep 15:** Lily Yu (Kojetin Lab)
  - **Sep 22:** Subu Subramanian (Kuriyan Lab)
- ASPIRE events:
  - **Sep 08:** [PhD Career Stories: Research Development](#)
  - **Sep 14:** [ASPIRE Café - Grant Resources for Postdocs at Vanderbilt](#)
- **Sep 05** Fall 2023 open enrollment period ends.
- BSA has officially changed its name to BPSA (Biochemistry Postdoctoral Researcher and Student Association). Fresh name, same mission!
- The return of Mentor-Mentee program! Get involved using this [link](#).
- **Sep 20**, 9-10 AM in MRB3 U1202. Coffee and Conversations with Dr. Chuck Sanders.

## Check it out!

### Places to go:

- Aloha! Want to celebrate the long weekend on Island Time? Come to [Labor Day Luau @ Assembly Food Hall](#) on **Sep 03**.

### People to see:

- You can see a high-energy musical celebrating female empowerment and equality in TPAC's Polk Theater for [Dolly Parton's 9 to 5 The Musical](#) on **Sep 08-17**.
- Considered the greatest hip-hop group of all time, [Wu-Tang Clan & Nas](#) will be in town on **Sep 20** at Bridgestone Arena.

### Things to do:

- RUN THY RACE. DRINK THY WHISKEY. **Sep 17** [The Whiskey Run!](#) (I will be there).
- **Sep 23** [Cumberland River Compact Dragon Boat Festival](#).

*E. coli* in a scientific article



*E. coli* in a news article



## Trainee of the Month Sara-Catherine Conwell



**What year are you?** Entering 4th year.

**Whose lab are you in?** James Dewar.

**What do you like best about the biochemistry department?** I like that the Biochemistry department has a good mix of junior and senior faculty.

**What advice do you have for other students?** Growth and progress aren't always linear.

**What's your favorite experiment to run?** Denaturing gel analysis.

**What's your favorite place to go or favorite thing to do in Nashville?** I like finding new murals/street art.

[Click here](#) to nominate a fellow grad student or post doc for Trainee of the Month!

# Congrats to...

- F Peter Guengerich (Guengerich Lab). [Michael R. Waterman and Cytochrome P450](#)
- Madison B. Adolph (Cortez Lab). [CRISPR-dependent Base Editing Screens Identify Separation of Function Mutants of RADX with Altered RAD51 Regulatory Activity](#)
- Soziema Dauda, Jessica Collins (Osheroff Lab). [Actions of a Novel Bacterial Topoisomerase Inhibitor against Neisseria gonorrhoeae Gyrase and Topoisomerase IV: Enhancement of Double-Stranded DNA Breaks](#)
- Yihu Xie (Ren Lab). [Structural basis for high-order complex of SARNP and DDX39B to facilitate mRNP assembly](#)
- Zhen Wang (Schey Lab). [Spatially Resolved Proteomics Reveals Lens Suture-Related Cell-Cell Junctional Protein Distributions.](#)
- William Wan (Wan Lab). [Studying the Molecular Mechanisms of Ebola Virus with in situ Structural Biology.](#)
- Tyler Huth (Wan Lab). [Elucidating the Mechanism of Phosphatidylserine Exposure During Ebola Virus Assembly.](#)
- Sagar Khavnekar (Wan Lab). [TOMOMAN: Streamlining Cryo-electron Tomography and Subtomogram Averaging Workflows Using TOMOgram MANager.](#)
- Kate Clowes (Sander Lab) is awarded an F31 NIH predoctoral fellowship by the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute!
- Dr. Johnny Cordoba (Chazin Lab) for defending his dissertation on August 10th!
- Emily Hodges is named as [Dean's Faculty Fellows of the School of Medicine Basic Sciences!](#)
- Md. Jashim Uddin, research associate professor of biochemistry, has received the [Phi Beta Psi national research award for the second year in a row.](#)
- Jessica Collins (Osheroff lab) received Russell G. Hamilton Graduate Leadership Institute [Professional Development & Training Grants.](#)
- Jorge Rúa Fernández (Cortez lab) is selected for a 2023-2024 [Graduate School Travel Grant.](#)

## Faculty Trivia



It's the first day of the new semester and the Kojetin lab is having a gathering. Someone brought a fruit salad. Which of the fruits will Doug Kojetin not eat under any circumstances? (Click on the salad).



Want to feature your PI? Send fun facts to me ([xiaoyu.yu@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:xiaoyu.yu@vanderbilt.edu)). I'm sure we'd all love to learn about them.