

Biochemistry Student Association Newsletter

Upcoming BSA Events

BSA will be hosting **trivia** on the last Friday of the month - congratulations to John York for being the last winner of the year! The first trivia for the new year will be held on **January 22nd at 4pm**. Don't forget to sign up!

BSA **Colloquium** for the Spring has started! On **January 26**, Tata Kavlashvili will present her research. Students that have just passed their qualifying exams should present a 25-30 min talk on research plans and progress to date, and 5th year and above students should present a 1 hour talk on research progress. Come out, ask questions, and support your fellow Biochemists!

Student of the Month

Congratulations to Vaughn Thada for being Biochemistry's Student of the Month!



What year are you in?

6th

Whose lab do you work in?

Dave Cortez. I study how the DNA replication checkpoint kinase ATR is activated by two proteins, TOPBP1 and ETAA1.

What do you like best about the Biochemistry department?

There are many talented scientists in the department, both faculty and trainees, that are always willing to talk science with you.

What piece of advice would you give to other students?

Watch "The Last Dance" and approach science the way Michael Jordan approached basketball.

What is your favorite place to go in Nashville?

The Listening Room always has great music, but if the weather is nice, I am usually at the golf course.

Nominate a Biochemistry student that's doing cool science!
Email nicole.d.kendrick@vanderbilt.edu

Recent Student Publications

Kim B, **Arcos S**, Rothamel K, Ascano M (2020). Viral crosslinking and solid-phase purification enables discovery of ribonucleoprotein complexes on incoming RNA virus genomes. *Nat Protoc*.

Chen Q, Zhuo Y, Sharma P, **Perez I**, Francis DJ, Chakravarthy S, Vishnivetskiy SA, Berndt S, Hanson SM, Zhan X, Brooks EK, Altenbach C, Hubbell WL, Klug CS, Iverson TM, Gurevich VV. (2020) An eight amino acid segment controls oligomerization and preferred conformation of the two non-visual arrestins. *J Mol Biol*.

Stengel KR, Ellis JD, Spielman CL, **Bomber ML**, Hiebert SW. (2020) Definition of a small core transcriptional circuit regulated by AML1-ETO. *Mol Cell*.

Guiberson ER, Weiss A, Ryan DJ, Monteith AJ, Sharman K, Gutierrez DB, Perry WJ, Caprioli RM, Skaar EP, Spraggins JM. (2020) Spatially Targeted Proteomics of the Host-Pathogen Interface during Staphylococcal Abscess Formation. *ACS Infect Dis*.

McMillen JC, Fincher JA, Klein DR, Spraggins JM, Caprioli RM. (2020) Effect of MALDI matrices on lipid analyses of biological tissues using MALDI-2 postionization mass spectrometry. *J Mass Spectrom*.

Fall Rotations

Spring rotations are starting! Rotation 3 begins on **January 4** and in-person laboratory research will end on **February 26**. Rotation 4 will start **March 1** and in-person laboratory research will end on **April 10**.

Mental Health Committee

The first of its kind, the Vanderbilt Basic Sciences and the University Counseling Center have collaborated to create the **BRET Satellite Clinic**. This new Satellite Clinic will provide counseling services specifically to graduate students in biomedical research and will be located in much closer proximity to the biomedical research buildings than the current UCC location on the other side of camp. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the UCC's BRET Satellite Clinic will be offered **Mondays through Thursdays** through Telehealth Zoom. Services will be available 2-5 pm. More information about the BRET Satellite Clinic will be made available on the BRET website soon, as well as an introductory meeting with Dr. Silver, the primary provider for the BRET Satellite Clinic.

I hope you take advantage of the BRET Satellite Clinic to support your mental health and wellness needs. As always, please reach out if you have any questions.

COVID-19 and Reopening News

Graduate students, make sure you use the [VandySafe App](#) for COVID-19 Self-Monitoring daily before coming to campus. VU is still in Phase 2+. For more information, check out Vanderbilt's [Return to Campus page](#).

Biochemistry Twitter

For updates on events and departmental news, follow the Biochemistry Department twitter [@VandyBiochem](#)

Questions? Concerns?

If you have anything that you would like to be addressed by the department, you can submit it anonymously [here](#). This survey is regularly monitored by the BSA.