

DEPARTMENT OF Biochemistry & Molecular Biology

BMB WEEKLY Vol. 54, No. 24 June 14 – 18

COLLEGE OF NATURAL SCIENCE | BMB.MSU.EDU

Please send submissions to Jeff Mason, masonje6@msu.edu

Don't forget to follow us on Twitter $@MSU_BMB$

Seminar Calendar

ALL REOCCURRING SEMINARS ARE FINISHED FOR THE SUMMER. THE FALL SCHEDULE WILL RESUME HERE WHEN SCHEDULES ARE FINALIZED.

Announcements

The QS World University Rankings portfolio released its second annual list of America's Top Universities, which ranks U.S. universities on metrics including research, employability, the learning experience, diversity and internationalization. For the second year, **MSU is in the top 8% of all U.S. universities**. <u>Read more</u>.

"**MSU Juneteenth Celebration**: From Freedom to Liberation" Saturday, June 19, 12:00 - 2:00 p.m. Michigan State University will host a university-wide and in-person celebration of Juneteenth to commemorate the freeing of enslaved African Americans in the United States. RSVP information and additional celebrations <u>here</u>.

"Navigating the PhD: **Managing Time and Academic Relationships** (Session 1)" Friday, June 11, 2021 - 9:00am to 12:00pm. This interactive online writing workshop is designed to help you develop an individualized plan for graduate writing, especially comprehensive exams, dissertation proposals, and dissertations. Session 1 is generally designed for students in the early years of their PhD study. <u>Read more and register</u> <u>here</u>.

"Climb to the Top of the Heap: **Essential Job Application Best Practices** Shared by a Ph.D. Hiring Manager" June 24 at 12:00 p.m. ET. AAAS hosts this webinar in which Josh Henkin, Ph.D., will cover how to accurately interpret a job description and identify necessary skills, compose industry-informed cover letters, and conduct successful job interviews. Register <u>here</u>.

Noteworthy News



Kristin Parent has received a 5-year, \$1.5 million National Institutes of Health (NIH) <u>Maximizing Investigator's</u> <u>Research Award (MIRA)</u> that will continue to support her line of research developing an in-depth understanding of the structural and biochemical mechanics behind phage infection.

Parent is one of the nation's leading experts of a class of viruses known as bacteriophage, or phage. Her pioneering research utilizes basic microbiology and cutting-edge cryo-microscopy to investigate, at the near atomic level, how phage use cell surface proteins to connect to, infect and reproduce inside some of the world's deadliest gut bacteria—bacteria like *Salmonella*, *E. coli* and *Shigella* destroying them in the process.

Read more <u>here</u>.

SPARTANS WILL.

If you've thought about **trying mindfulness** as a coping strategy for stressful times, burnout, parenting, anxiety etc., you can try it during a pop-up session (Zoom link passcode: 289556) on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 10 a.m. for a 15 minute session. These sessions involve being led through a mindfulness exercise. Participants typically have their cameras off and their microphones muted so it is a low pressure opportunity to give it a try.

Job / internship postings:

Rob Quinn is hiring a postdoc. A PhD in microbiology, physiology, biochemistry or related field is required. Experience with mass spectrometry, microbiome data and/or mouse husbandry are desirable. Duties include culturing bacteria, molecular biology, gene expression assays, mass spectrometry, metagenomics and mouse husbandry and experiments. Apply or find out more information <u>here</u>.

Recent Publications

Melnicki MR, Sutter M, Kerfeld CA. "Evolutionary relationships among shell proteins of carboxysomes and metabolosomes." *Current Opinion in Microbiology*. June 2021.

Manathunga M, Jin C, Cruzeiro VWD, Miao Y, Mu D, Arumugam K, Keipert K, Aktulga HM, Merz KM Jr, Götz AW. "Harnessing the Power of Multi-GPU Acceleration into the Quantum Interaction Computational Kernel Program." *J Chem Theory Comput.* June 2021.

Sosa Alfaro V, Campeciño J, Tracy M, Elliott SJ, Hegg EL, Lehnert N. "Elucidating Electron Storage and Distribution within the Pentaheme Scaffold of Cytochrome c Nitrite Reductase (NrfA)." *Biochemistry*. June 2021.