



# What's New in Biochemistry

## **PERSONNEL CHANGES:**

Gianno Pannafino left his Research Aide position in Bruce Knutson's lab to start grad chool at Cornell soon.
Kipling Tarsio graduated from SUNY Fredonia and will no longer be a Student Assistant in Xin Jie Chen's lab.
Danea Glover is graduating from SU and left her work-study position in Bruce Knutson's lab.
Leila Gheith also graduated from SU and left her work-study position in Bruce Knutson's lab.

#### **PUBLICATIONS:**

Karchin, J.M., Ha, J-H., Namitz, K.E., Cosgrove, M.S., and Loh, S.L. "Small Molecule-Induced Domain Swapping as a Mechanism for Controlling Protein Function and Assembly" Nature.com/Scientific Reports 7:44388/DOI: 10.1038/srep44388 3/13/17 http://www.nature.com/articles/srep44388.epdf?aut hor\_access\_token=RaV7zSmsU6D\_wSs1M-FDg9RgN0jAjWel9jnR3ZoTv0MpXaHFaUcmFMy F2Ha2Ln0z8QDwpapQnimV1isCjNV9MBf9V80Ir 51\_E03wxkuVhXr0feqRJ6d4lySXqTLDuVko Peng J, **Feng W**. Incision of damaged DNA in the presence of an impaired Smc5/6 complex imperils genome stability. *Nucleic Acids Research* 2016; 44:10216-10229 https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/27536003

Feng W. Mec1, the program manager of Nucleic Acids Inc. *Genes* 2017; 8(1). pii: E10. doi: 10.3390/genes8010010. Review. http://www.mdpi.com/2073-4425/8/1/10

Sharma S, Wilkens S. Biolayer Interferometry Of Lipid Nanodisc-Reconstituted Yeast Vacuolar H+-Atpase. Protein Science. 2017 Feb 27;. [Epub ahead of print] <u>https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/28241399</u>

Oot RA, Couoh-Cardel S, Sharma S, Stam NJ, Wilkens S. Breaking Up And Making Up: The Secret Life Of The Vacuolar H+-Atpase. Protein Science. 2017 Mar 1;. [Epub ahead of print] https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/28247968

### AWARDS, RECOGNITIONS, AND OTHER ACTIVITIES:

Congratulations to Jie Peng who successfully defended his PhD thesis on March 22<sup>nd</sup>!





Also, congratulations to Adam Blanden who passed his PhD thesis defense with honors on April 7<sup>th</sup>. Adam will be taking a year off to pursue his startup company before returning to medical school to complete the MD part of this MD/PhD degree.



Adam Blanden, Jason Gokey, and Subhrajit Banerjee celebrating.



Adam playing the classic party game "pin the zinc on p53". He lost (Subhra won).

Bruce Knutson's Medical Scholar's student (in Medical Technology Program), Paola Morocho, won a poster award at the CSTEP conference. <u>http://www.stepforleaders.org/sia/cstepconferences.</u> asp



Paola with her award.

Congratulations to Arijita Chakraborty who received the College of Graduate Studies' Graduate Student Association 2017 Research Presentation Award for Oral Presentation.

Congratulations also to Marissa Smith who received the College of Graduate Studies' Graduate Student Association 2017 Written Research Proposal Award. Congratulations to Diana Dunn who received the SUNY Chancellor's Award for Student Excellence and the John Bernard Henry, MD Endowed Scholarship Award (co-recipient).

Congratulations to Darin Dolezal who was choosen to be the flag bearer leading the graduate procession at the May commencement ceremony.

Many departmental members participated in the March for Science in both, Washington, DC, and here in Syracuse on Saturday, April 22, 2017.

From Steve Hanes: "While many members of BMB attended the March for Science in Syracuse, a few intrepid souls from BMB, Arijita Chakraborty, Ryan Palumbo, Tom Duncan and Steve Hanes went to Washington DC. Also making the trip was Lisa Ware from Global Health, and graduate students Katie Smith and Jacqualyn Shulman. It was quite the adventure for the Upstate Seven. We left at 2:15 am and drove to DC in time to hear the speeches beginning at 10 am at the Washington Monument, by among others, Bill Nye (Science Guy), Maya Lin (Architect, designer of the Vietnam Memorial) and Lydia-Villa Kamaroff (recombinant DNA pioneer; first to clone insulin in bacteria). After standing in the rain for several hours, we walked to the Lincoln Memorial, but stopped on the way to attend a warm reception at the National Academy of Sciences (NAS). There, we met world-renowned climate scientist, and former President of the AAAS (Science), Dr. Marcia McNutt, who is now president of NAS. Finally we Marched. With the massive crowds, it took nearly two hours to get from the Washington Monument to the Capital Building. There we met up with Josh Karchin, and Jing Bi Karchin and Dakshesh Patel, who were also marching. After a nice dinner, we headed home and arrived around 3:30 am. A memorable trip indeed. We encourage you all to write your congressional representatives to support research funding or the March will have limited impact."



Ryan Palumbo and Dr. McNutt at the National Academy of Sciences.



Ryan Palumbo, Jacqualyn Shulman, Steve Hanes, Arijita Chakraborty, and Katie Smith at the National Academy of Sciences.



The whole group with alumni in front of the Capital.



Arijita Chakraborty, Katie Smith, and Jacqualyn Shulman in front of Einstein statue at the National Academy.



Tom Duncan, Arijita Chakraborty, Ryan Palumbo, Katie Smith, Steve Hanes, Lisa Ware, Jacqualyn Shulman in front of the White house.



# 9/18/08 (b) Ozzie 7/17/10(rescued) 3/25/17 (d)

#### **PERSONAL NEWS**:

It is with great sadness that I note the passing of one of the department's mascots, Ozzy, Rich's beloved Bernese Mountain dog, passed away from cancer on March 25<sup>th</sup>.