# May-June, 2022

# What's New in Biochemistry

## **PERSONNEL CHANGES:**

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|--|---|
| Sarah Backe completed<br>her PhD degree in<br>Mehdi Mollapour's lab<br>and will continue<br>working in the lab as a<br>Postdoc.                                | adj<br>He<br>Gr   |
| Christina Shao joins<br>Wenyi Feng's lab as a<br>Student Assistant.  | Af<br>Sm<br>15 <sup>t</sup><br>inc<br>to<br>for<br>sup<br>yea |
| Jennifer Heritz joins<br>Mehdi Mollapour's lab<br>as a Graduate Assistant.   | All<br>Jes<br>a S<br>sur                                      |
| Catherine Campbell<br>graduated from SU and<br>left her Student<br>Assistant position in<br>Alaji Bah's lab and will<br>be attending medical<br>school at UCS. | A.<br>Sm<br>Au<br>as  |
| Joseph Mauro joins Xin<br>Jie Chen's lab as a<br>MD/PhD student.   | Ka<br>joi<br>as   |
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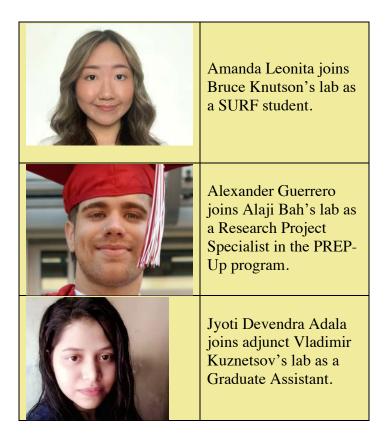
Rajanya Ghosh joins adjunct Samuel Herberg's lab as a Graduate Assistant.

After 25 years, Anne Smardon is retiring July 15<sup>th</sup>. She asked me to include: "I would like to thank the department for all the fun and support for the past 25 years. I will miss everyone!"

Allie Marcin joins Jessica Ridilla's lab as a SURF student for the summer.

A. Christine Tiltra-Smith joins adjunct Audery Bernstein's lab as a Graduate Assistant.

Kathryn Kielbasinki joins Wenyi Feng's lab as a SURF student.



# **GRANT INFO:**

Congratulations to Bruce Knutson who was awarded an NIH *Research Supplement to Promote Diversity in Health-Related Research* for Kario Baylor in the amount of \$90,023.

Congratulations to Akshay Patel who was awarded a two-year F30 NIH Predoctoral MD/PhD fellowship entitled: "Rab4A Control of Liver Dysfunction in Mouse Models of Systemic Lupus Erythematosus", \$51,752/year.

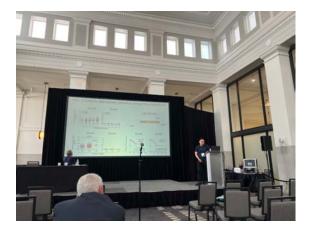
# **PUBLICATIONS:**

Xinbei Liu, Jessica L. Henty-Ridilla (2022) Multiple roles for the cytoskeleton in ALS. Experimental Neurology, 114143. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.expneurol.2022.114143.

Morgan L Pimm, Xinbei Liu, Farzana Tuli, Jennifer Heritz, Ashley Lojko, Jessica L Henty-Ridilla (2022) Visualizing molecules of functional human profilin. eLife, 11:e76485. <u>https://doi.org/10.7554/eLife.76485</u>

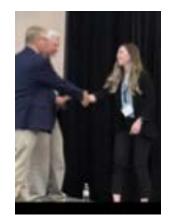
# AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS RECEIVED:

Xiang Li won a Young Investigator Travel Award from International Experimental Biology and Medicine conference and was selected for an oral presentation. The meeting was held in Memphis on April 29<sup>th</sup>- May 1<sup>st</sup>.





Baylee Porter won the Second Place Young Investigator Poster Award at the International Experimental Biology and Medicine conference.



Congratulations to Gargi Mishra who passed her Qualifying Exam on May 5<sup>th</sup>!!

Congratulations to Jessica Ridilla who received a President's Award for Excellence in Teaching!

### <u>UPCOMING EVENTS DURING THE NEXT</u> <u>TWO MONTHS</u>:

The departmental picnic will be at Jamesville Beach on Friday, July 22<sup>nd</sup>.

#### **Biochemistry & Molecular Biology Seminar** Series:

Monday, June 27, 2022, 12:00-12:30 pm, 103 WH Title: "Combining protein and DNA engineering to construct a luminescent biosensor" Presented by: HJ Sekhon, Graduate Assistant, Loh Lab

Monday, June 27, 2022, 12:30-1:00 pm, 103 WH Title: "Bioenergetic Independent Stress Signaling in The Heart" Presented by: Arnav Rana, Graduate Assistant, Chen Lab

Monday, July 11, 2022, 12:00-12:30 pm, 103 WH Title: "Mechanism of mitochondria-induced proteostatic signaling and progressive muscle atrophy during aging" Presented by: Nicholas Brennan, Graduate Assistant, Chen Lab

Monday, July 11, 2022, 12:30-1:00 pm, 103 WH Title: "V-ATPases as first responders during osmotic stress" Presented by: Kalai Saravanan, Graduate Assistant, Kane Lab

Monday, July 18, 2022, 12:00-12:30 pm, 103 WH Title: TBD Presented by: Nathan McKean, Graduate Assistant, Bah Lab

Monday, July 18, 2022, 12:30-1:00 pm, 103 WH Title: TBD Presented by: Kassidy Zimmer, Graduate Assistant, Wilkens Lab

### **Biochemistry & Molecular Biology Department Research Report:**

Tuesday, July 19, 2022, 4:00-5:00 pm, 103 WH Title: "More than ON and OFF: How do CRX and NRL set photoreceptor gene expression levels?" Presented by: Dr. Barry Knox's Lab

## **NEWS ABOUT ALUMNI:**

Penny received this email from Stuti Sharma on 5/11/22:

"I am very excited to announce that I will be joining the department of Biochemistry and Cell Biology at SUNY Stony Brook University from September 1st 2022, as assistant professor. When I stepped into the job market, it was already late in the cycle and I could only put in a few applications. I received only one interview call from Stony Brook and so I had a lot riding on it. With immense help from Stephan and Rebecca, I was able to put my best foot forward and make it work. I am so grateful for my training in the Wilkens lab, and in the Biochemistry and Molecular Biology department at Upstate. I hope current students in the department would consider my example as a testimonial to how great the environment at our department is. It really does not get much better than this!"

Best wishes, Stuti"