

What's New in Biochemistry

PERSONNEL CHANGES:



Emma Walen has joined Bruce's lab as a Student Assistant.



Adam Blanden completed the PhD part of his MD/PhD degree in Stewart Loh's lab and is taking a year off to work on his startup company before returning to medical school here at Upstate in 2018.



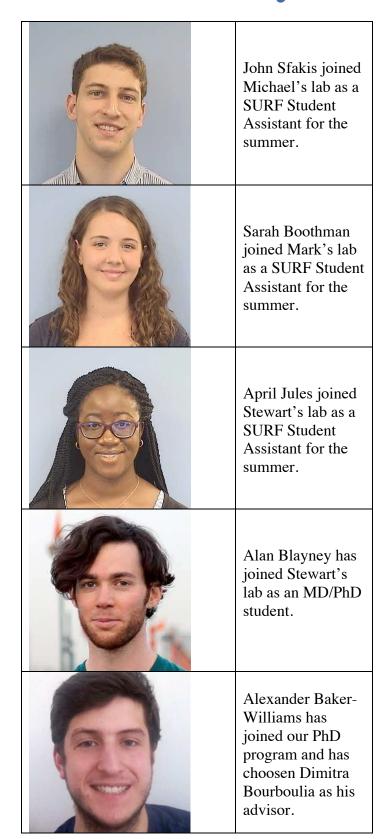
Nilda Alicea-Velazquez left her Postdoc position in Michael Cosgrove's lab for an Assistant Professor position at Central Connecticut State University.



Christopher
Demas has left his
Student Assistant
position in
Stewart's lab to
attend medical
school at Brown
University.



Kaitlyn Clapp joined Patty's lab as a SURF Student Assistant for the summer.





Diana Dunn completed her PhD degree in Mehdi Mollapour's lab. She has accepted a postdoc position at the University of Rochester in Dr. Joshua Munger's lab.



Jie Peng completed his PhD degree in Wenyi Feng's lab and is currently researching job opportunities.



Audrey Thorland joined Wenyi Feng's lab as a Student Assistant.

PUBLICATIONS:

Yu X, Blanden AR, Tsang A, Zaman S, Liu Y, Gilleran J, Bencivenga AF, Kimball SD, Loh SN, Carpizo DR.

"Thiosemicarbazones Functioning as Zinc Metallochaperones to Reactivate Mutant p53" Mol Pharmacol. 2017 Jun;91(6):567-575. doi: 10.1124/mol.116.107409. Epub 2017 Mar 20. https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/28320780

AWARDS, RECOGNITIONS, AND OTHER ACTIVITIES:

Congratulations to Diana Dunn who successfully defended her PhD thesis with honors on May 24th! It only took her 3 years and 9 months! Diana has accepted a postdoc position with Dr. Joshua Munger in the Department of Biochemistry and Biophysics at the University of Rochester.



Diana Dunn with advisor, Dr. Mehdi Mollapour at graduation.



Diana cutting the cake at her celebration.

Congratulations to Wenyi Feng who was chosen to receive the 2017 President's Award for Excellence in Basic Research by a Young Investigator.

Michael Jaskolka attended the Bioenergetics Gordon Research Conference from June 4-9th. He presented a poster entitled "Glucose Sensitive Interactions of the Yeast RAVE Complex" and was selected to give a short talk. Michael did manage to get a picture with Nobel laureate, John Walker. He also included a picture of the V-ATPase people making a V during the annual hike up Mount Kearsarge. Dr. Karlett Para, one of Dr. Kane's old students, is also pictured.



Nobel laureate, John Walker, with Michael Jaskolka



V-ATPase people making a V during the annual hike up Mount Kearsarge

PERSONAL NEWS:

Nilda Alicea Velazquez has accepted an Assistant Professor position in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry at Central Connecticut State University. She will be teaching Organic Chemistry and Biochemistry.

Daniel Loh graduated from Yale with a BS in chemistry on May 22. 2017. He is Stewart and Jenny's son and previously worked with Michael Cosgrove as a Student Assistant. He will be going to Harvard this fall for his PhD in chemistry. Although according to Stewart all

the labs he's interested in are basically doing biochemistry!



Daniel Loh at Yale graduation.

Summer Schmitt, Mark's daughter, graduated from Harvard this last May. During the commencement parade she managed to grab a selfie with Mark Zuckerburg who returned to finally get a degree. It made a great Facebook post. Summer is starting a job back in Boston in July working for the music speaker maker, Sonos. Dad knows what he is getting for Christmas.



Summer Schmitt with Mark Zuckerburg at Yale graduation.

Zach Popp, Patty's son, graduated as salutatorian for his class at CBA. He will attend Boston University, where he received a Presidential Scholarship, in the fall. He plans to study Biology and will be part of the Kilachand Honors College there. His dorm overlooks Fenway, which is the perfect setting for a lifelong Red Sox fan.



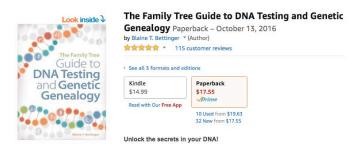
Zach getting ready for graduation.



Zach giving his speech at CBA graduation.

NEWS ABOUT ALUMNI:

Dave Amberg's former Ph.D. student and current intellectual property attorney, Blaine Bettinger, has written a guide to genealogical DNA testing "The Family Tree Guide to DNA Testing and Genetic Genealogy" and has co-authored the related book "Genetic Genealogy in Practice". These books are getting great reviews on Amazon; the Family Tree Guide in particular serves as an excellent resource for those considering DNA testing for genealogical purposes.



Dr. Yaxin Liu has accepted a Postdoc position at the Mitochondrial and Metabolism Center in the Department of Anesthesiology and Pain Medicine at the University of Washington.

Dr. Karlett Parra was promoted to Full Professor at the University of New Mexico and remains department chair.