

Department of Biochemistry and Biophysics 2025 Fall Seminar Series

Seminars to be held in-person in K-307 (3-6408) on select Wednesdays at 2 pm unless otherwise noted. Please see emailed seminar announcements for confirmation of room numbers. Details are also available on the Department webpage: <https://www.urmc.rochester.edu/biochemistry-biophysics/events.aspx>

August 15
FRIDAY

SPECIAL SUMMER SEMINAR

Xiang-Dong Fu, PhD, Chair Professor in RNA Biology and Regenerative Medicine, Westlake University, Hangzhou, China
“Dynamic U2AF cycling defines two phases of co-transcriptional splicing”
Hosts: Drs. Lynne Maquat & Yi-Tao Yu (co-sponsored by the RNA Structure & Function Cluster)

September 24

Nicholas Ingolia, PhD, Professor, Department of Molecular and Cell Biology, University of California, Berkeley, CA
“Global Analysis of the Networks Regulating mRNA Translation and Decay”
Host: Dr. Dmitri Ermolenko (co-sponsored by the Protein Synthesis Cluster and the RNA Structure & Function Cluster)

October 1

Dylan Taatjes, PhD, Professor, Department of Biochemistry, University of Colorado, Boulder, CO
“Mechanistic Insights for Human Gene Expression Through Biochemical Reconstitution and Transcriptomics”
Host: Dr. Eric Wagner (co-sponsored by the RNA Society & Lexogen)



October 8

Ryan Flynn, MD, PhD, Assistant Professor, Stem Cell and Regenerative Biology Department, Harvard University; Principal Investigator, Stem Cell and Regenerative Biology Program, Boston Children's Hospital
“Functional Roles of glycoRNAs”
Host: Dr. Paul Boutz (co-sponsored by the RNA Society & Lexogen and the RNA Structure & Function Cluster)



October 15

Britt A. Glaunsinger, PhD, HHMI Investigator; Professor and Chair, Department of Plant & Microbial Biology, University of California, Berkeley, CA
“Herpesviruses Induce Transcriptional Trickery to Control RNA Abundance and Fate”
Host: Dr. Mitch O'Connell (co-sponsored by Graduates Working in Science (GWIS) and the RNA Society & Lexogen)



October 29

Laura Bohn, PhD, Chair and Professor of the Department of Molecular Medicine; Professor, Dembling Endowment Fund for Drug Discovery and Human Health Research; Professor, Neuroscience; Chair, Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC), The Herbert Wertheim UF Scripps Institute for Biomedical Innovation & Technology, University of Florida, Jupiter, FL
“Modulating Opioid Receptor Activity to Improve Therapeutic Potential”
Host: Dr. Makaia Papasergi-Scott

November 5

Min-Hao Kuo, PhD, Professor, Department of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology; Faculty, Genetics & Genome Sciences Program; Faculty, Neuroscience Program; Faculty, Cell & Molecular Biology Program; Professor, BioMolecular Science Gateway; Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI
“Living Long and Happily Ever After – On Aging, Fat, and Alzheimer's Disease”
Hosts: Dr. Elizabeth Grayhack and Dr. Eric Phizicky

November 12

Xinnian Dong, PhD, HHMI investigator; Arts & Sciences Professor of Biology, Department of Biology, Duke University, Durham, NC
“Searching for Messages Carried by Messenger RNAs”
Hosts: Dr. Dmitri Ermolenko and Dr. Peng Yao (co-sponsored by the Protein Synthesis Cluster and the RNA Structure & Function Cluster)

November 19

Wendy Gilbert, PhD, Maxine F. Singer '57 Ph.D. Professor of Molecular Biophysics and Biochemistry, Yale University, New Haven, CT
“Decoding the Untranslated”
Host: Dr. Lynne Maquat (co-sponsored by Graduates Working in Science (GWIS), the Protein Synthesis Cluster, and the RNA Society & Lexogen)



December 3

Liang Tong, PhD, William R. Kenan, Jr. Professor, Department of Biological Sciences, Columbia University, New York, NY
“Molecular Insights into Human RNA 3'-end Processing”
Hosts: Dr. Clara Kielkopf and Dr. Eric Wagner (co-sponsored by the RNA Structure & Function Cluster)

December 10

Monica Pillon, PhD, Assistant Professor, Department of Structural Biology, Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, University at Buffalo, Buffalo, NY
“Eukaryotic Ribonucleases in Gene Regulation”
Hosts: Dr. Mitch O'Connell and Dr. Makaia Papasergi-Scott (co-sponsored by Graduates Working in Science (GWIS) and the RNA Structure & Function Cluster)