

**Department of Biochemistry and Biophysics 2024 Spring 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>

- MONDAY,**  
**January 29**  
K-207 (2-6408)  
**Ning Wang, PhD**, Assistant Professor, PhD, Department of Biology, University of Rochester, Rochester, NY  
“Role of Membrane-Curvature Generating Proteins in Organelle Biogenesis”  
Host: Dr. Mark Dumont
- January 31**  
**faculty candidate**  
**Madeline Sherlock, PhD**, Scientist, Dr. Jeffrey Kieft’s Lab, New York Structural Biology Center, New York, NY  
“Molecular Mechanisms of Translation Regulation by Viral RNA Structures”  
Host: Dr. Eric Phizicky
- February 7**  
**faculty candidate**  
1pm, Lower Adolph (1-7619)  
**Makaia Papasergi-Scott, PhD**, Postdoctoral Fellow, Dr. Georgios Skiniotis’s Lab, Department of Molecular & Cellular Physiology, Stanford University, Stanford, CA  
“Time-resolved cryo-EM of G protein activation by a GPCR “  
Host: Dr. Eric Phizicky
- February 14**  
**\*SPECIAL EVENT – for Faculty Only\*** Mentoring Workshop Series  
**Jeffrey Ring, PhD**, Health Psychologist, Leadership Coach, and Health Justice Champion, Los Angeles, CA  
“Best Practices for Impactful Teaching and Mentoring, Coaching and Sponsoring”  
Hosts: Dr. Lynne Maquat and Dr. Jeffrey Hayes (co-sponsored by a supplement to the NIH NIGMS T32 Training Grant in Cellular, Biochemical and Molecular Sciences)
- February 21**  
**faculty candidate**  
1pm, Lower Adolph (1-7619)  
**Meredith Skiba, PhD**, Postdoctoral Fellow, Dr. Andrew Kruse’s Lab, Department of Biological Chemistry & Molecular Pharmacology, Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA  
“Structural Insights into Angiotensin Receptor Modulation by Diverse Ligands”  
Host: Dr. Eric Phizicky
- MONDAY**  
**February 26**  
**faculty candidate**  
K-207 (2-6408)  
**Smriti Sangwan, PhD**, Post-doctoral Fellow, Lab of Prof. David Agard, Department of Biochemistry and Biophysics, University of California, San Francisco, CA  
“Molecular Mechanisms of Translational Regulation”  
Host: Dr. Eric Phizicky
- March 6**  
**faculty candidate**  
Ryan Case Method (1-9576)  
**Alex Johnson, PhD**, Postdoctoral Fellow, Dr. Philip Kranzsuch’s lab, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA  
“Bacterial Gasdermins and the Origins of Programmed Cell Death”  
Host: Dr. Eric Phizicky
- March 13**  
Ryan Case Method (1-9576)  
**Ronald Breaker, PhD**, Sterling Professor, Department of Molecular, Cellular and Developmental Biology; Professor, Department of Molecular Biophysics and Biochemistry; Howard Hughes Investigator, Yale University, New Haven, CT  
“Modern Riboswitches Reveal Ancient RNA Capabilities and Limitations”  
Host: Dr. Joseph Wedekind (co-sponsored by the RNA Structure & Function Cluster)
- CANCELLED**  
**March 18**  
**faculty candidate**  
K-207 (2-6408)  
**Tyler Weaver, PhD**, Postdoctoral Fellow, Dr. Bret Freudenthal’s Lab, Department of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology and of Cancer Biology, University of Kansas Medical Center, Kansas City, KS  
“Base Excision Repair in Chromatin: A Tug of War for DNA Damage”  
Host: Dr. Eric Phizicky
- March 20**  
1:00-3:00 pm;  
Panel: 3:15-4:15pm  
Class of ‘62 (G-9425)  
**Sarah Slavoff, PhD**, Associate Professor, Department of Chemistry and of Molecular Biophysics and Biochemistry; Member, Institute for Biomolecular Design and Discovery, Yale University, New Haven, CT  
“Dark Matter of the Human Genome”  
Graduate Student NIH NIGMS T32 Retreat in Cellular, Biochemical and Molecular Sciences  
Host: Dr. Lynne Maquat (co-sponsored by Graduate Women in Science)  
*NOTE: There will also be a **Wellness & Resilience Panel** for students/postdocs after talks.*
- April 17**  
**Deepika Polineni, MD, MPH**, Associate Professor of Pediatrics, Allergy and Pulmonary Medicine; Director, Cystic Fibrosis Center, Washington University School of Medicine, St. Louis, MO  
“The Changing Face of Cystic Fibrosis”  
Host: Dr. John Lueck (co-sponsored by Graduate Women in Science)
- May 8**  
**John McCorvy, PhD**, Assistant Professor, Department of Cell Biology, Neurobiology and Anatomy, Medical College of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, WI  
“Structure-based Design of GPCR Biased Agonists with Therapeutic Potential”  
Host: T32 graduate student, Grant Griebel and Dr. Jean Bidlack (co-sponsored by the NIH NIGMS T32 Training Grant in Cellular, Biochemical and Molecular Sciences, Dr. Lynne Maquat, PI & Dr. Jeffrey Hayes, Co-PI)