

From: [Ashley Sullivan](#)
To: biochem_universe@lists.colorado.edu
Subject: *REVISED* April Biochemistry Newsletter
Date: Monday, April 10, 2023 11:59:40 AM

University of Colorado Boulder Department of Biochemistry

Biochemistry Graduate Newsletter

MONDAY April 10, 2023



Join our [Slack Workspace](#) for more frequent updates.



Got suggestions? Drop them into the [FLC suggestion box](#).



Consult our [Google Calendar](#) to see what's happening.

This newsletter is unofficial and run by graduate students. We hope it comes in handy!

Since we're only able to include the publications, achievements, and new departmental colleagues we know about, these lists may be incomplete. Please [send us a tip](#) if you have an event, opportunity, or piece of news you'd like to see featured in our next newsletter.

We are looking for new additions to the newsletter team. If you have any interest in science communication or want experience writing HTML, reach out to Rosie Garris (rosanna.garris@colorado.edu).

News & Announcements

Feel free to use the newsletter as a virtual version of the JSCBB bulletin boards. If you have any information you'd like to share with the department, please [let us know](#).

Upcoming Events

Research Discussions

[Biophysics Supergroup](#)

[Zoom Link](#) (Meeting ID: 999 6965 7587, Password: BIOPHYSICS)

Monday, April 24, 4 - 5:30 pm, JSCBB A115, Batey & Leindwand Labs
Followed by Pizza and Refreshments

Signaling & Cellular Regulation

Zoom Link (Meeting ID: 995 4820 8323, Password: SCR2022)

Monday, April 10, 4 - 5:30 pm, JSCBB B115 Spencer & Copley Labs

Electron Microscopy Users Supergroup

The EM Users meeting is open to all who are interested. Presentation topics include methods and current EM research going on in the CU Boulder EM community.

Usually takes place the last Wednesday of the month at noon.

Email Alli Schier (Allison.Schier@colorado.edu) to be added to the email list.

Biochemistry Seminars

Information regarding Biochem seminars can be found on the department [events page](#)!

Dr. Lin Tian | University of California Davis

April 12, 2023 | 3:30pm-4:45pm | In-person/A115 Butcher Auditorium

[Lab Website](#)

Synopsis: The Tian lab combines computational protein design, chemical biology, electrophysiology, optical imaging techniques, and inducible pluripotent stem cell (iPSC) technology to describe the logic of the neural circuitry. These tools are being created to record neural activity to better understand the brain mechanisms that lead to behaviors related to health and disease.

Dr. Michelle Wang | Cornell University

April 19, 2023 | 3:30pm-4:45pm | In-person/A115 Butcher Auditorium

[Lab Website](#)

Synopsis: The Wang laboratory works to elucidate the complex cellular mechanisms that resolve collisions, congestion, and roadblocks altering highway topology and traffic flow on busy 'molecular highways'. The lab has also pioneered multiple methods of DNA unzipping to aid in their research.

Dr. Anna Huttenlocher | University of Wisconsin

April 26, 2023 | 3:30pm-4:45pm | In-person/A115 Butcher Auditorium

[Lab Website](#)

Synopsis: The Huttenlocher lab's research is aimed at understanding the cellular and molecular mechanisms that regulate cell migration and wound healing using biochemical genetic and imaging approaches. They use live imaging, biosensors and photomanipulation to examine and control polarity of cell signaling during cell migration in live animals and understand how these mechanisms are altered in tissue damage and repair.

Social Events

It's been a wild semester! Join us to welcome the summer warmth and celebrate the end of a long semester with a simulated drive-in movie night (minus the driving). Come early for grilled cuisine (courtesy of STEM Routes graduate mentors), stick around to view a movie you all vote on! We'll stream the movie on a projector outside, so bring your picnic blankets and chairs! Please RSVP by Tues 4/25 using this [form](#).

Thursday, 4/27 Food at 6 p.m., Movie at 7 p.m. *LOCATION TO FOLLOW*
If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to Meg Palacio!

Publications and Achievements

Publications

Holly Black, Jessica Hanson, Julia Roberts, Shannon Leslie, Will Campodonico, Chris Ebmeier, Aaron Holling, Jian Wei Tay, Autumn Matthews, Elizabeth Ung, Cristina Lau, Alex Whiteley

["UBQLN2 restrains the domesticated retrotransposon PEG10 to maintain neuronal health in ALS"](#) eLife.

The Alex Whiteley lab's first paper just came out in eLife! Congratulations!

Accomplishments

Congratulations to *Miranda Juarros* on being awarded the NSF GRFP!

A belated welcome to *Dr. Myriam Moreno*, postdoctoral researcher in the Alex Whiteley laboratory!

Science Buffs

From space missions to minuscule microbes, Science Buffs is a graduate student-run STEM blog covering research at the University of Colorado Boulder and beyond. We are committed to making science more accessible to the general public and helping students and postdocs grow as writers. Learn more about us and getting involved at <https://sciencebuffs.org/>.

Updates from the Faculty Liaison Council

Our next meeting is scheduled for April 21st at noon and our next social event will be on April 28th around 3pm. The social event will be olympics, with several events for participants to compete in for prizes. Look out for more upcoming information!

As always, the department anonymous suggestion box can be found [here](#).

Updates from P2P

P2P is hosting Proposal Help Night Thursday, April 13th from 5:30 - 7:30 pm at Etai's. There will be free Q'doba for mentors and mentees! Mentees, please send your full proposal draft to your mentors by as soon as possible and at least by Tuesday, April 11th. The mentors need your proposal ahead of time so that they can best help you pick the proper controls, adjust your experiments to best answer your research questions, and clearly explain your expected results. We have coordinated with Debbie Wuttke, and past participants have found these help nights to be astoundingly beneficial! See you there!

Post-Doc Association Events and Announcements

PAC Boulder Coffee Hour

[April 10th from 10:00-11:00 am](#)

Norlin Library, Outside-- in front of the library

Come along and meet other postdocs over coffee, tea, and cookies at a coffee hour hosted by the Postdoctoral Association of Colorado Boulder (PAC Boulder). This week's coffee hour will be on CU Main Campus.

PAC Boulder Social

[April 20th from 5:30-7:30 pm](#)

The Rayback Collective

Join your fellow postdocs for food and fun at our monthly social at the Rayback Collective. This family-friendly event will be sponsored by the Postdoctoral Association of Colorado Boulder (PAC Boulder).

Means of Communication:

Twitter: [@PACBoulder](#)

Email: pac_universe@colorado.edu

Click "I'm interested" in this [calendar link](#) to have updates emailed to you.

Outreach and Teaching Opportunities

Updates from the Center for Teaching and Learning

If you are TAing a class this semester, would like to earn a teaching certificate, or

are simply interested in improving your teaching skills, the Center for Teaching and Learning (CTL) is here to help! Please don't hesitate to reach out to the departmental CTL Lead, Briana Aboulache (Briana.Aboulache@colorado.edu) for resources and information to help you achieve your teaching goals.

If you are interested in receiving teaching announcements throughout the year, please fill out this [form](#) to receive periodic teaching-related emails. You can check out the CTL certificates [here](#), track your certificate [progress](#), and find all upcoming CTL workshops/events [here](#).

Updates from SCOPE

S.C.O.P.E. is very excited for our upcoming Spring Event at Timberline PK-8 school in the month of May! We want to extend a huge thank you to all the volunteers that have offered their time so far as we could not do this without you! We can't wait to share our revamped curriculum with the students by exposing them to Chemistry (making slime), Biology (extracting DNA from strawberries), Microbiology (testing yeast growth conditions), and Microscopy (making the invisible visible).

With so much volunteer interest we have reached our maximum number of volunteers and will no longer be accepting volunteers for the Spring Event. However don't let that deter you as we have a Fall Event planned and are always looking for administrative help! If you are interested please stop by our [website](#) for more information!



The S.C.O.P.E. of the science world here on Earth



Chemistry



Biology



Microbiology

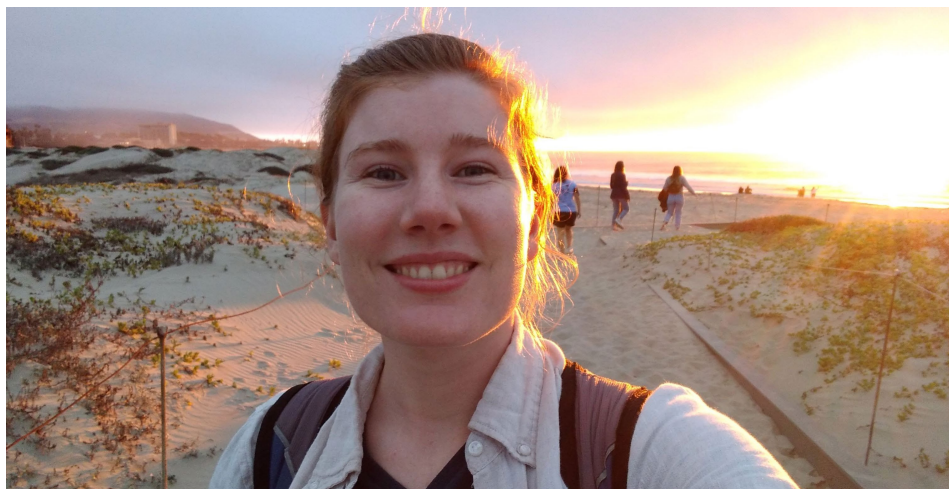


Microscopy

If you have an outreach opportunity you're excited about, please [let us know](#) so we can share it in the next newsletter.

Department Spotlight

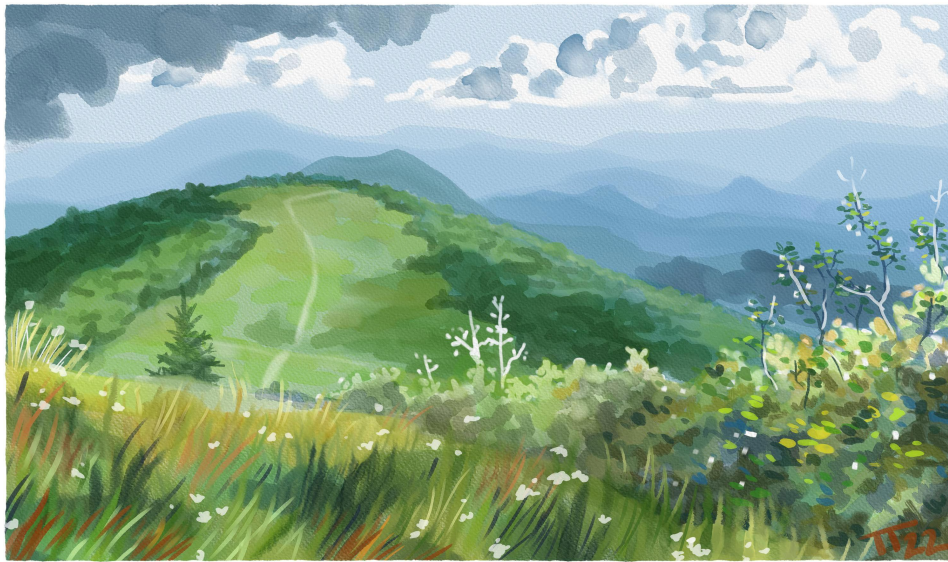
This is the section where we brag about something cool one of our fellow biochemists is doing outside of their research. Each month, we draw the name of one of our departmental colleagues at random to feature.



This month we're featuring Clair Huffine!

Clair grew up in northern Virginia and received an undergraduate degree in Biology and Chemistry from the University of North Carolina Asheville. Moving from one mountain range to the next, she began working on her graduate degree at the University of Colorado Boulder the Fall of 2020 (the most important world event that year, experts say). She is currently working on a PhD in Biochemistry in Dr. Jeffrey Cameron's lab and is researching the lifecycle of the carboxysome, a microcompartment found in cyanobacteria (commonly known as blue-green algae) that allows for cyanobacteria to convert atmospheric CO₂ into sugars for life. Clair plans to pursue a career focused on addressing climate change through applied research and scientific outreach.

With a love for all things green, Clair spends her weekends backpacking, tending her jungle of houseplants (complete with her "jungle-cat" Kiki), or fly fishing. She also works as a freelance artist, primarily creating digitally painted landscapes or graphic design work for board games.



Resources and Involvement Opportunities

Consolidated list of resources from the Office of Financial Aid

This comprehensive [list of crisis resources](#) provides free tools for dealing with wellness, health, financial hardship, and other challenges.

Incident Reporting Resources

Follow this [link for resources and support](#) in reporting concerns or incidents that you are aware of.

Center for Teaching and Learning (formally GTP)

To learn about CTL, visit their [website](#) or contact the department CTL lead [Chelsea Toner](#).

Counseling & Psychiatric Services (CAPS)

[CAPS](#) offers confidential, on-campus mental health and psychiatric services for a variety of concerns such as academics, anxiety, body image, depression, relationships, substance use and more. CAPS is available for in person and telehealth (virtual) appointments from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. All services will be held virtually through telehealth.

Services offered include counseling, psychiatry, workshops, process therapy groups, skill-based therapy groups, informal consultations, suicide prevention, eating concerns, ADHD treatment, addressing substance use, canine-assisted therapy, and virtual reality therapy.

oSTEM (Out in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math)

To learn more about oSTEM, visit their [website](#) or attend their [weekly meetings](#) on Mondays at 6:00 pm.

Buff Pantry

CU Boulder students can pick up food from Buff Pantry on a weekly basis. Visit their [website](#) for details.



United Campus Workers

To join or get more involved in UCW, visit their [website](#).



CU Café

To learn more or get involved in CU Café, visit their [website](#).



Women in Science and Engineering (WiSE)

To join or get more involved with WiSE, visit their [website](#) or contact [Katelyn Long](#).