

## MARCH 2023 BIOCHEMISTRY NEWS



### CONGRATULATIONS TO...



Andrew Alpert, President of PolyLC Inc. (Biochemistry Ph.D. '80) for receiving the 2023 Distinguished Agriculture Alumni Award. The Distinguished Alumni Award was created in 1992 to recognize mid-career alumni of the College of Agriculture.

Dr. Kyle Cottrell was honored at the inaugural early career faculty research achievement. The inaugural event is a celebration of Purdue faculty members who have received Early Career Awards from various federal agencies. Kyle was honored for receiving a grant for his project titled "Identifying determinants of ADAR-dependency in triple-negative cancer".





**Isaiah Mensah** received a Graduate student/Postdoc Travel Award from ASBMB to attend the Discover BMB 2023 in Seattle. He presented a poster titled “Vezf1 is an insulator protein that promotes mesoderm formation via WNT signaling”.

He also participated in the “Science in a Flash” competition and placed 2nd in the competition! Science in a Flash is a creative challenge that requires you to explain your research to a general audience in just three minutes and one slide. This is very similar to the 3MT competition here at Purdue. The ASBMB Science Outreach and Communication Committee selects up to 10 graduate students and postdocs who have received travel awards to present

their work.

He received tremendous support from his advisor, Dr. Humaira Gowher, and was very fortunate to be selected to participate in this competition. He was thrilled to represent Purdue University and our department at the ASBMB meeting. His biggest fans were Karlie Tischendorf and Cal Schiff, both from our department and students in the class he T.A.s for Dr. Ogas. Cal came very prepared. (pictured)

## GOING THE EXTRA MILE...

**Dr. Clint Chapple**, a Distinguished Professor of Biochemistry, served on the external departmental review team for the Department of Biology at the University of North Texas in Denton Tx from February 27 to March 1.

**Marco Hadisurya** (Tao lab) received a travel stipend award to attend the US Human Proteome Organization (HUPO) 2023 in Chicago from March 5-8<sup>th</sup>. He presented an oral presentation titled “Preclinical validation of molecular markers in circulating extracellular vesicles for non-invasive detection and monitoring of renal cell carcinoma”.

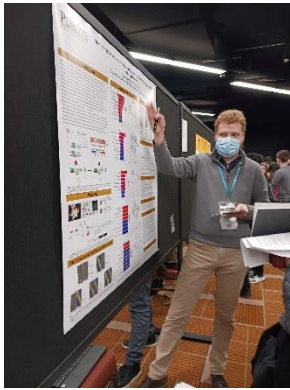
**Dr. Andy Tao**, Professor, gave an invited presentation at the 2023 USHUPO conference in Chicago on March 7<sup>th</sup> titled “profiling Phosphoproteome Landscape in Circulating Extracellular Vesicles from Microliters of Biofluids”.

**Dr. Vikki Weake**, Associate Professor, gave a talk at the International Society for Eye Research (ISER) meeting at the Gold Coast in Australia on February 21<sup>st</sup>, titled “Circadian Regulators Protect the Aging Eye Against Retinal Degeneration”.

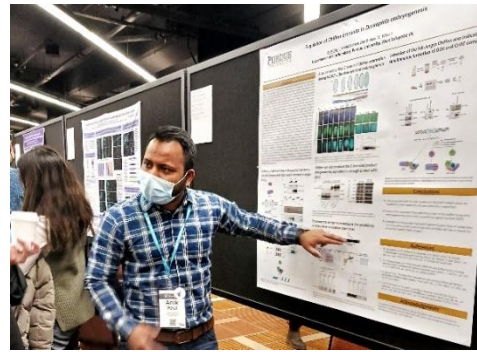
**Dr. Vikki Weake** attended the Annual Drosophila meeting in Chicago, March 1<sup>st</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>. She also co-chaired the sessions on “Gene Expression and Regulation”.

**Anik Paul, Seth Lammert, Claudia Kotanko, Sarah Stanhope, Sarah McGovern, and Grace Meng** (Weake lab) participated in the Annual Drosophila meeting in Chicago March 1<sup>st</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>.

**Sarah McGovern** gave a talk titled “The Role of the Circadian Transcriptome in Aging Photoreceptors”.



Seth Lammert



Annik Paul

Graduate Student **Ji Hee Lee** and postdoc **Xingqi (David) Huang** received travel grants to attend the 2023 American Society of Plant Biologists Midwest section's annual meeting taking place April 22-23 in Ames IA.

**Dr. Natalia Dudareva's** and **Dr. John Morgan's** labs visited West Lafayette Intermediate School on March 10, where they organized four, 45-minute-long live panels. A total of 160 students learned from graduate students and postdocs about (i) how plants synthesize and emit volatiles, (ii) their nature, functions, and importance for humans, and (iii) how scientists measure their levels. Students were also engaged in "recognize the scent" and "make a perfume" contests.



## GRANTS...

**Dr. Ann Kirchmaier**, Associate Professor, received a \$1000 IPIA International Travel Grant

**Dr. Ann Kirchmaier**, Associate Professor, received a \$2000 2023-2024 CURE Fellow Grant from the Office of Undergraduate Research, Purdue University

## RECENT PUBLICATIONS...

Milholland, K. L., A. AbdelKhalek, K. M. Baker, S. Hoda, A. G. DeMarco, N. H. Naughton, A. N. Koeberlein, G. R. Lorenz, K. Anandasothy, A. Esperilla-Muñoz, S. K. Narayanan, J. Correa-Bordes, **S. D. Briggs**, **M.C. Hall**. 2023. Cdc14 phosphatase contributes to cell wall integrity and pathogenesis in *Candida albicans*. *Frontiers in Microbiology*. 14:1129155.

Cottrell, K. A., S. Ryu, L. S. Torres, A. M. Schab, J. D. Walter. 2023. Induction of viral mimicry upon loss of DHX9 and ADAR1 in breast cancer cells.

Sun, J., X. Wang, Y. Ding, B. Xiao, X. Wang, M. M. Ali, L. Ma, Z. Xie, Z. Gu, G. Chen, **W. A. Tao**. 2023. Proteomic and phosphoproteomic landscape of salivary extracellular vesicles to assess OSCC therapeutical outcomes. *Proteomics*.

## **IMPORTANT DATES...**

Please join us for the Department of Biochemistry Seminar Series. All seminars will begin at 3:30 pm.

April 4- (Virtual) Dr. Athena Davenport, University of Tennessee, Center for Sickle Cell Disease

April 7<sup>th</sup> | **PFEN 241** | 1:30pm – 5:00pm | reception to follow | Symposium to Celebrate Dr. Clint Chapple's Appointment to the National Academy of Sciences

**\*\*April 11-12- Dr. Jerry Workman, Stowers Institute\*\* Pfen 241**

April 19-Dr. Rob Schuurink, University of Amsterdam, joint seminar with Botany, **Pfen 241**

**\*\*Axelrod Lecture**