

Publications of the Week

Identification of Broad, Potent Antibodies to Functionally Constrained Regions of SARS-CoV-2 Spike Following a Breakthrough Infection

First Author: Jamie Genthoeir | Senior Author: Julie Overbaugh *(pictured)*
PNAS | Fred Hutch and UW



Discovery of durable, effective antibodies is critically important for SARS-CoV-2 as the global emergence of new variants of concern (VOC) has compromised the efficacy of therapeutic antibodies and vaccines. The authors describe a collection of broad and potent neutralizing monoclonal antibodies isolated from an individual who experienced a breakthrough infection with the Delta VOC. [Abstract](#)

Mitochondrial N-Formyl Methionine Peptides Contribute to Exaggerated Neutrophil Activation in Patients With COVID-19

First Author: Runa Kuley | Senior Author: Christian Lood *(pictured)*
Virulence | UW



Researchers assessed if N-formyl methionine (fMet) contributes to neutrophil activation in COVID-19. Elevated levels of calprotectin, neutrophil extracellular traps (NETs) and fMet were observed in COVID-19 patients, particularly in critically ill patients, as compared to healthy controls. The levels of NETs were higher in intensive care unit patients with COVID-19 than in ICU patients without COVID-19, suggesting a prominent contribution of NETs in COVID-19. [Abstract](#)

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Awards

Meet the 2023 Tietze Award Winners

Institute for Stem Cell & Regenerative Medicine (ISCRM)



Two ISCRM faculty members, Dr. Julie Mathieu *(pictured)*, Assistant Professor of Comparative Medicine, and Dr. Niclas Bengtsson, Assistant Professor of Neurology, have received prestigious awards from the John H. Tietze Foundation Trust that will help fuel promising research underway in their labs. Dr. Mathieu and her lab will use CRISPR-edited pluripotent stem cells and new *in vitro* models to uncover the molecular mechanisms contributing to spina bifida in patients with mutations to the gene GPR161. [Read More](#)

The Washington Research Foundation Awards \$500K Grant to UW Undergrad Research Program

425 Business



The Washington Research Foundation (WRF) has announced a \$500,000 grant to the Undergraduate Research Program (URP) at the UW, which will continue its support of the program for the next five years. WRF has awarded \$1.9 million to the URP since 2004, directly supporting 199 fellows. One WRF fellow, Olivia Brandon *(pictured)*, is double majoring in neuroscience and public health-global health. [Read More](#)

BBI Scientists Awarded \$12.5 Million NIH Grant to Study Genomic Variation Among Cells

Brotman Baty Institute



Researchers at the UW School of Medicine and Seattle Children's Research Institute in Seattle have been awarded a \$12.5 million grant from the US National Institutes of Health (NIH) to study variations in the genomes of normal cells that accumulate as we grow, develop, and age. The effort will be led by Dr. Andrew Stergachis, Dr. Jimmy Bennett, and Dr. Evan Eichler *(pictured)*. [Read More](#)

Three US Biologists Win Spanish Asturias Award for Scientific and Technical Research

The Seattle Times



US biologists Drs. Jeffrey Gordon, Peter Greenberg *(pictured)*, and Bonnie Bassler won Spain's Princess of Asturias Award for Scientific and Technical Research for 2023. The Princess of Asturias Award jury said the three were chosen for their contributions to research into the essential role of communities of microorganisms in life on earth. [Read More](#)

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Local News

Promising Young Scientist: Emma Wrenn's 'Commitment to Discovering and Advancing Truth' Matched Only by a Desire to Help Cancer Patients

Brotman Baty Institute (BBI)



Dr. Emma Wrenn's *(pictured)* childhood intrigue in science has evolved into an uncompromising commitment to understand how some tumor cells metastasize, some do not, and why. Dr. Wrenn, now 30, has studied and conducted research at all three BBI institutions: UW Medicine, the Fred Hutch, and Seattle Children's. "Emma really hit the ground running from day one" said Dr. Elizabeth Lawlor, who also serves at UW. [Read More](#)

Achieve Life Sciences Raises \$16.5M in Pursuit of Anti-Smoking Drug

Life Science Washington



Achieve Life Sciences, a Bothell-based biotech company, has raised nearly \$16.5 million. Achieve is developing a plant-based smoking cessation treatment called cytosinicline to help people quit smoking through reducing withdrawal symptoms and the feeling of satisfaction with smoking. "We are confident that cytosinicline has the potential to help the millions of people who are battling nicotine dependence," said John Bencich, Chief Executive Officer. [Read More](#)

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📅 Upcoming Events in Seattle

June 14 12:00 pm	Genetics, Ancestry and Health in Latin American Populations Online
June 24 6:30 pm	Seattle AWIS – Annual Awards Banquet UW Center for Urban Horticulture
June 16 7:30 pm	Leroy Hood and Nathan Price with Jim Heath: Can Data Stop Disease? The Great Hall
June 21 8:00 am	2023 Neuropixels and OpenScope Workshop Allen Institute
June 25 8:30 am	Defeat Multiple Myeloma 5K Magnuson Park

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📁 Science Jobs in Seattle

QA Regulatory Scientist

AGC Biologics

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Bristol Myers Squibb

Scientist II

Just - Evotech Biologics

Medical Director

Seagen

Director Clinical Quality Assurance

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