



Publications of the Week

The Variation and Evolution of Complete Human Centromeres

First Author: Glennis Logsdon | Senior Author: Evan Eichler (pictured)
Nature | UW and Howard Hughes Medical Institute



Patterns of human centromeric variation and models for their evolution and function remain incomplete, despite centromeres being among the most rapidly mutating regions. Here, using long-read sequencing, researchers completely sequenced and assembled all centromeres from a second human genome and compared it to the finished reference genome. [Abstract](#) | [Press Release](#)

Genetic Variation in Severe Cystic Fibrosis Liver Disease Is Associated with Novel Mechanisms for Disease Pathogenesis

First Author: Jaclyn Stonebraker (pictured) | Senior Author: Michael Knowles
Hepatology | Brotman Baty Institute, UW, and Seattle Children's Research Institute



It is not known why severe cystic fibrosis (CF) liver disease (CFLD) with portal hypertension occurs in only ~7% of people with CF. Here, researchers aimed to identify genetic modifiers for severe CFLD to improve understanding of disease mechanisms. These results will facilitate mechanistic studies and the development of therapeutics for severe CFLD. [Abstract](#)

A Proactive Intervention Study in Metabolic Syndrome High-Risk Populations Using Phenome-Based Actionable P4 Medicine Strategy

First Authors: Qiongrong Huang, Zhiyuan Hu, and Qiwen Zheng | Senior Authors: Qiang Zeng, Qiaojun Fang, and Leroy Hood (pictured)
Phenomics | Institute for Systems Biology



The integration of predictive, preventive, personalized, and participatory (P4) healthcare advocates proactive intervention. However, little is known about how to design an appropriate intervention mode to precisely intervene with personalized phenome-based data. Here, researchers report the results of a 3-month study on 350 individuals with high-risk metabolic syndrome that they named the Pioneer 350 Wellness project. [Abstract](#)

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Awards

Princess Imoukhuede Honored with the Professional Impact Award for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

UW Department of Bioengineering



Dr. Princess Imoukhuede (pictured), Hunter and Dorothy Simpson Endowed Chair and Professor in Bioengineering, received the American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering (AIMBE) Professional Impact Award for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. The award recognizes an AIMBE fellow who has made significant contributions to the progress of underrepresented minorities in medical and biological engineering. [Read More](#)

Dr. Karen Peterson Receives National Postdoctoral Association Distinguished Service Award

Fred Hutch



For nearly 25 years, Dr. Karen Peterson (pictured), Director of the Office of Scientific Career Development at Fred Hutch, has supported the career and professional development of postdoctoral researchers. At the National Postdoctoral Association (NPA) annual conference, Dr. Peterson received the NPA Distinguished Service Award in recognition of her profound, sustained contributions to improving the postdoctoral experience. [Read More](#)

Benaroya Research Institute Awarded \$4.1 Million National Institutes of Health Grant to Study Regulatory T Cells' Function in Immune System Homeostasis

Benaroya Research Institute (BRI)



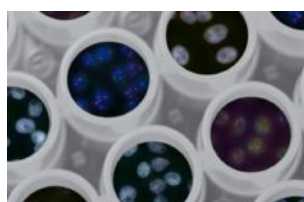
Benaroya Research Institute (BRI) announced its reception of four grants totaling more than \$5 million. These grants will support research into inflammatory bowel disease, multiple sclerosis, regulatory T cells, and type 1 diabetes. The project leads include Drs. Steven Ziegler, Jane Buckner, Ram Savan, Adam Lacy-Hulbert, James Lord, Estelle Bettelli, and Karen Cerosaletti (pictured). [Read More](#)

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Local News

Biotech Giant Genmab to Acquire Seattle Company ProfoundBio in \$1.8B Deal

GeekWire



ProfoundBio, a Seattle-based biotech firm developing drugs to treat ovarian and endometrial cancers, will be acquired by publicly traded Danish drugmaker Genmab in a \$1.8 billion all-cash deal. ProfoundBio specializes in antibody-drug conjugates, agents that recognize a molecular target via an antibody and deliver a toxin or other compound to cells. [Read More](#)

Inside the New Seattle Hub for Synthetic Biology, Which Uses DNA to 'Record Biology over Time'

GeekWire



Researchers opened the doors Monday to the new Seattle Hub for Synthetic Biology, a collaboration between the Allen Institute, the Chan Zuckerberg Initiative, and UW. The hub combines "academic creativity with startup-style industrial execution," said Dr. Jesse Gray (pictured), Senior Director of Scientific Operations and Strategy. [Read More](#)

Long-Read Sequencing Consortium Offers PhD Students a Role in Addressing Precision Medicine Challenge

Brotman Baty Institute



Working under the direction of BBI's Dr. Danny Miller, three graduate students, Sophia Gibson (pictured, left), Nikhita Damaraju (center), and Gus Gustafson (right), are working on research that promises to address one of precision medicine's greatest challenges. They are generating long-read sequencing data from 1000 Genomes Project samples, thereby improving the understanding of normal patterns of human genetic variation. [Read More](#)

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Interesting Articles

Will the Gates Foundation's Preprint-Centric Policy Help Open Access?

Nature



The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, one of the world's top biomedical research funders, will from next year require grant holders to make their research publicly available as preprints, articles that haven't yet been accepted by a journal or gone through peer review. The foundation also said it would stop paying for article-processing charges — fees imposed by some journal publishers to make scientific articles freely available online for all readers. [Read More](#)

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Upcoming Events in Seattle

- April 9**
6:00 PM
Biotech Networks Scientific Speed Networking Seattle Event
Stoup Brewing
- April 17**
9:00 AM
Life Science Innovation Northwest 2024
Seattle Convention Center
- April 17**
12:00 PM
PNRI's Science Matters Seminar: Applications of Human Brain Organogenesis
Online
- April 18**
2:00 PM
Biomedical Innovation Fireside Chats: Product Development
Online
- April 23**
4:00 PM
Research After Dark (RAD) Networking: Science Pitch Workshop
Fred Hutch

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Science Jobs in Seattle

- Research Scientist/Engineer 2**
UW
- Senior Science Writer**
Fred Hutch
- Associate Director/Director, Clinical Science**
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- Lab Assistant UVillage**
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