



Publications of the Week

### Layer-by-Layer Functionalized Gauze With Designed $\alpha$ -Sheet Peptides Inhibits *E. coli* and *S. aureus* Biofilm Formation

First Author: Sarah Nick | Senior Author: Valerie Daggett (pictured)  
Journal of Biomedical Materials Research | UW



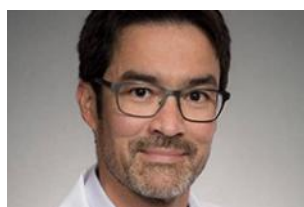
Microbial biofilms on wounds lead to longer hospital stays, mechanical debridement, and higher mortality. Alginate (ALG) and chitosan (CH) are widely used in wound dressings due to their adhesive and antimicrobial activity. Here, researchers describe a layer-by-layer functionalized gauze with alternating layers of ALG and CH loaded with  $\alpha$ -sheet peptides for controlled release and biofilm inhibition at a wound site. [Abstract](#) | [Press Release](#)

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Awards

### Dr. Mark Wurfel Receives Scientific Achievement Award

UW Medicine



Dr. Mark Wurfel (pictured), Professor of Pulmonary, Critical Care, and Sleep Medicine, is the 2025 recipient of the American Thoracic Society's Assembly of Allergy, Immunology, and Inflammation Scientific Achievement Award. This award is given to a member to recognize an established, internationally recognized investigator with a record of sustained exemplary achievement in the scientific areas of the Assembly. [Read More](#)

### UW Bioengineering Faculty Recognized with Society for Biomaterials Awards

UW Department of Bioengineering



Three faculty members from UW Bioengineering have been recognized by the Society for Biomaterials for their outstanding contributions in leadership, service, and research. These honors highlight their impactful work in advancing biomaterials science and shaping the future of the field. The awardees are Drs. Cole DeForest (pictured), Shelly Sakiyama-Elbert, and Kelly Stevens. [Read More](#)

### Dr. Mary-Claire King to Receive Public Welfare Medal

UW Medicine



The National Academy of Sciences announced that it is presenting its 2025 Public Welfare Medal to Dr. Mary-Claire King (pictured) for her pioneering genetic research and its transformative application to human rights. Dr. King is a Professor of Medicine and Genome Sciences at UW School of Medicine. The medal is the academy's most prestigious award, established in 1914 and presented annually to honor extraordinary use of science for the public good. [Read More](#)

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Local News

### Engineering Solutions for Heart Health

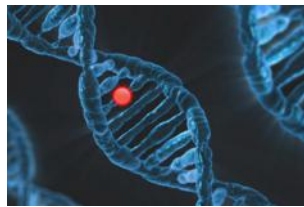
UW Department of Bioengineering



At the UW Institute for Stem Cell and Regenerative Medicine, researchers are unraveling the mysteries of the human heart through innovative engineering approaches and groundbreaking technologies. Leading these efforts are several UW Bioengineering faculty members, each approaching cardiac challenges from unique angles. This article dives into the work of Drs. Jennifer Davis, Patrick Boyle, Michael Regnier, and Nathan Sniadecki. [Read More](#)

### Roche Rolls Out New DNA 'Sequencing-by-Expansion' Approach

Fierce Biotech



Roche has put forward a new approach to genetic analysis, which it describes as sequencing-by-expansion — a proprietary method that pulls apart the DNA molecule and amplifies the signal of each individual base. The Seattle-based company said its technique can avoid the time requirements of cycle-based sequencing as well as the comparable difficulties in distinguishing true signals among the noise. [Read More](#)

### Could Certain Brain Cells Have a 'Superpower' That Shields Them from the Effects of Alzheimer's?

UW Medicine Memory & Brain Wellness Center



Alzheimer's disease is one of the most pressing public health challenges. As an aging-related disease, Alzheimer's prevalence is expected to grow as the population continues to age. Dr. Kevin Lin (pictured) is working on new statistical methods to better understand whether certain brain cells have a "superpower" that shields them from the effects of Alzheimer's. [Read More](#)

### In Memoriam: William Couser

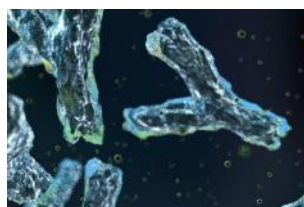
UW Medicine



Dr. William Couser (pictured) passed away on February 24. He served as Head of the Division of Nephrology from 1982-2002. Dr. Couser was one of the first researchers globally to investigate the pathogenesis of glomerular diseases and was among the pioneers in demonstrating that immune complexes could form *in situ* in the glomerulus — an essential advance in our current understanding of membranous nephropathy. [Read More](#)

### Newly Launched Seattle Cancer Therapy Startup Callio Therapeutics Raises \$187M

GeekWire



Biotech-focused investment firm Frazier Life Sciences has launched Callio Therapeutics, a cancer treatment startup with headquarters in Seattle and Singapore. Frazier led a \$187 million Series A round to get the company started. Callio has an exclusive license to work on cancer treatments that use multi-payload antibody-drug conjugates. [Read More](#)

### Promising Young Scientist: Jonas Koeppel Overcomes a Professional Dilemma and Later Joins 'Super Cool' SeaHub

Brotman Baty Institute



Drs. Jonas Koeppel (pictured, right) at the Seattle Hub for Synthetic Biology is asking more questions than ever before and identifying even more answers. His supervisor and mentor, Dr. Sudarshan Pinglay (left), affirmed his colleague's work and work ethic. "Jonas is extremely nimble, especially for doing the kinds of work that we do at SeaHub," said Dr. Pinglay. [Read More](#)

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Interesting Articles

### Expand Your Clinical Research Skills with the COBALT Curriculum

Institute of Translational Health Sciences (ITHS)



Clinical research is constantly evolving, and that means continuously developing new skills and knowledge if you want to stay ahead. ITHS wants to make that easier, so it has shared that the Competency-Based All-Level Training (COBALT) curriculum is now available on the ITHS TREE Learning Management System. COBALT is designed to help both new and experienced clinical research coordinators enhance their expertise. [Read More](#)

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### Upcoming Events in Seattle

March 11 1:00 PM	<b>Allen Institute for Immunology Seminar Series with Dr. Susan Kaech</b> Allen Institute
March 17 - 19 8:00 AM	<b>2025 Cell Types Workshop: Describe Your Neurons Like the Allen Institute</b> Allen Institute
March 18 6:00 PM	<b>Biotech Networks Speed Networking &amp; Writing Workshop</b> Stoup Brewing
March 19 12:00 PM	<b>PNRI's Science Matters Seminar with Dr. Richard Gibbs: Rare Disease, Common Disease, Somatic Mutation</b> Online
March 20 7:00 PM	<b>Sound Lab</b> Pacific Science Center

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### Science Jobs in Seattle

- Assistant Professor of Clinical Practice**  
Anesthesiology & Pain Medicine, Seattle Children's Hospital
- Assistant, Associate or Full Professor Without Tenure**  
UW Pediatric Cardiology
- Post-Doctoral Research Fellow**  
Fred Hutch
- Director, Quantitative Cellular Imaging**  
Allen Institute
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