SCIENCE in SEATTLE

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Publications of the Week

The Placental Transcriptome Serves as a Mechanistic Link Between Prenatal Phthalate Exposure and Placental Efficiency

First Authors: Mariana Parenti *(pictured)* and Samantha Lapehn | Senior Author: Alison Paquette
Environment International | Seattle Children's Research Institute and UW

Prenatal exposure to phthalates, pervasive endocrine-disrupting chemicals, has been linked to child health outcomes. Placental transcriptomics data can reveal mechanisms by which environmental toxicants alter placental and fetal growth. This study aims to investigate the placental transcriptome as a mediator between prenatal maternal urinary phthalate metabolites and placental efficiency. **Abstract**

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Awards

Two Fred Hutch Students Receive American Society for Hematology Graduate Awards

Fred Hutch

Elana Thieme *(pictured, left)* and Mark Mendoza *(right)*, fourth-year graduate students at Fred Hutch amnd UW have received graduate awards from the American Society for Hematology. Their research projects examine different aspects of gene expression in immune system cells that can lead to bone marrow disorders, including myelodysplastic syndromes and pediatric leukemia. **Read More**

Benaroya Research Institute's Dr. Peter Linsley Receives Puget Sound Business Journal Lifetime Achievement Award

Benaroya Research Institute (BRI)

Dr. Peter Linsley *(pictured)* from BRI has been honored with the Puget Sound Business Journal's 2025 Lifetime Achievement Award. Dr. Linsley has spent nearly three decades advancing biotechnology and pharmaceutical research, transforming fundamental scientific discoveries into life-changing therapies. As a part of his career, Dr. Linsley founded and built BRI's Center for Systems Immunology. **Read More**

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Local News

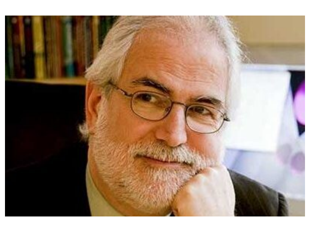
How Seattle Scientists Are Helping Research a Path to an HIV Cure

The Seattle Times

The world is a few steps closer to a cure for HIV, a hopeful sign illuminated by two recently published studies that feature the work of several Seattle researchers. The papers, which appear in the journal *Nature*, present new evidence of long-term, potential treatments for the virus that causes AIDS. The findings are cause for celebration, said Dr. Lillian Cohn *(pictured)*, an immunologist and Assistant Professor at Fred Hutch and one of the study's contributors. **Read More**

Combining At-Home Testing to Manage Inflammation-Related Diseases

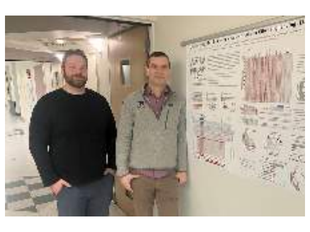
UW Department of Bioengineering



Dr. Paul Yager *(pictured)*, an expert in low-cost point-of-care diagnostic technologies, and his team at UW received $75,000 in support from the Innovation Gap Fund in June. The award has allowed the team to develop inexpensive, paper-based tests that will allow individuals to frequently monitor multiple biomarkers in blood or other biofluids in their homes. **Read More**

Promising Young Scientist: Elliott Swanson Charts a Cell's Complete Epigenome

Brotman Baty Institute (BBI)



Elliott Swanson *(pictured, left)*, a PhD student in lab of BBI's Dr. Andrew Stergachis *(right)*, co-led the development of DAF-seq, a single-cell, single-molecule approach that resolved how genetic variants shape genome function inside individual cells. "The power of new technologies is their abilities to accelerate discovery through a broad range of studies and research groups," says Swanson. **Read More**

ISB Named Winner of 2025 Amazon Web Services Imagine Grant for Nonprofits

Institute for Systems Biology (ISB)

ISB has been selected as a winner of the 2025 Amazon Web Services Imagine Grant, a public grant opportunity open to registered charities 501(c) nonprofit organizations who are using technology to solve the world's most pressing challenges. The grant will support ISB's efforts to launch Tarpon, a powerful generative AI platform designed to understand and create human T cell receptors. **Read More**

How Studying Cell Fitness in the Early Human Embryo Could Enhance Cancer, Fertility, and Regenerative Medicine Research

UW Institute for Stem Cell & Regenerative Medicine

Dr. Min (Mia) Yang *(pictured)* is a UW Assistant Professor of Obstetrics & Gynecology and a Faculty Member in the Institute for Stem Cell and Regenerative Medicine. Her laboratory is interested in the processes that drive and disrupt human development in its very earliest stages. Her team uses human pluripotent stem cell (hPSC) models to unravel mysteries at work in fertilization, implantation, and the initial phases of embryogenesis. **Read More**

A New Biosensing Tool for Cancer Research

UW Department of Bioengineering

Call it a bright idea. Dr. Elizabeth Wayne *(pictured)* is using the enzyme that gives fireflies their glow to study the white blood cells that attack cancer in the human body. With her team in the Department of Bioengineering, she has invented a new way of using bioluminescence to track the development of what are known as macrophages. **Read More**

Monod Bio and Gator Bio Partner to Develop Next-Generation Biosensors for Advanced Life Science Research

PR Newswire

Monod Bio, a leader in computational protein design, and Gator Bio announced a partnership to integrate one of Monod's proprietary AI-designed NovoBody™ protein binders into Gator's biosensor platform. Monod Bio is a Seattle-based biotechnology startup and a spinout from Dr. David Baker's lab at UW's Institute for Protein Design. **Read More**

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Upcoming Events in Seattle

December 31 9:00 PM	**Nova—New Year's Eve at Pacific Science Center** Pacific Science Center
January 14 11:00 AM	**Neuroscience Cell Types Webinar: Exploring the New Brain Knowledge Platform** Online
January 16 7:30 PM	**Professor Brian Cox: Emergence** Moore Theatre
January 26 8:00 AM	**Science on Tap** Ravenna Third Place - Cafe Arta
Sept. 23 - 25 8:00 AM	**Stem Cell & Developmental Biology Early Career Symposium** Allen Institute

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Science Jobs in Seattle

Assistant Director, DIDD Clinical Laboratory Operations
UW

Senior Scientist, Antibody Discovery & Engineering
Pfizer

Senior Research Associate, High Throughput Screening
Allen Institute

Flow Cytometry Technician II
Seattle Children's

Scientist, Potency and Functional Characterization
Bristol Myers Squibb

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