Volume 9.14: April 13, 2026

Publications of the Week

## Functional Dissection of Noncoding Variants Associated with Rheumatoid Arthritis

First Authors: Ajay Jajodia *(pictured)* and Arpit Mishra | Senior Author: David Hawkins
Annals of the Rheumatic Diseases | Benaroya Research Institute and UW

Noncoding variants are critical to our understanding of the genetic basis of diseases and disorders such as rheumatoid arthritis (RA). In order to functionally fine-map RA-associated variants, researchers identified variants at enhancers marked in primary activated T helper cells and conducted massively parallel reporter assay in these cells. **Abstract | Press Release**

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Awards

## Fred Hutch Researchers Receive Prestigious R01 Awards

Fred Hutch

Three Fred Hutch research groups recently received prestigious R01 awards from the National Institutes of Health. These multi-million-dollar grants provide up to five years of support for large, multi-year investigations with clear outcomes and high potential for public health benefit. Drs. Bo Zhang, Yunda Huang, Maria Lemos *(pictured)*, and Karsten Eichholz will lead these projects. **Read More**

## New Grant Funds Research on Circadian Disruption and Its Potential Link to Liver Cancer

Fred Hutch

What is solar jet lag? According to Fred Hutch epidemiologist Dr. Trang VoPham *(pictured)*, it's when your internal clock, or circadian rhythm, is misaligned with the sun's clock. Thanks to a new grant from the American Cancer Society, Dr. VoPham is about to launch a five-year investigation into solar jet lag and whether it may be driving the most common form of liver cancer. **Read More**

## Three MolES Faculty Researchers Named AAAS Fellows

The UW Molecular Engineering & Sciences Institute (MolES)

The American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) has named MoleES faculty members Drs. David Baker, Maitreya Dunham *(pictured)*, and David J. Masiello AAAS Fellows. They are among 449 newly elected fellows from around the world, who are recognized for their "scientifically and socially distinguished achievements" in science and engineering. **Read More**

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Local News

## Immusoft Awarded $15 Million in Funding from the California Institute for Regenerative Medicine

Immusoft

Immusoft, a biotechnology company in Seattle, announced that the California Institute for Regenerative Medicine has awarded the company a $15 million grant to support the expanded clinical development of ISP-001. ISP-001 is the company's lead investigational therapy for the treatment of mucopolysaccharidosis type I, a rare and life-threatening lysosomal storage disorder. **Read More**

## "Computational Crystal Ball" Helps Predict Cell Behavior

Allen Institute

In biology, it's hard enough to understand how cells interact with each other. It's even more complex to predict how these cells will change over time as they do. A new study combining biological research and computational modeling could democratize this field, helping scientists forecast how cells change, with ramifications for cancer research, immunology, and other areas. **Read More**

## Enrollees Sought for Trial of Vaccine for *C. diff*

UW Medicine

Researchers at the UW School of Medicine are enrolling volunteers in the BEETHOVEN study, an investigational Phase 3 *Clostridioides difficile* vaccine trial. *C. diff*, is a leading cause of health care-acquired infection. The study will help researchers learn whether an investigational vaccine is safe and can help prevent *C. diff* infection in people 65 years of age or older. **Read More**

## Announcing the Next Editor-in-Chief of *ACS Nano Medicine*

The American Chemical Society Axial

The Publications Division of the American Chemical Society has announced that Dr. Suzie Pun *(pictured)*, Professor at the University of Washington, has been appointed as Editor-in-Chief of *ACS Nano Medicine*. Dr. Pun is the Washington Research Foundation Professor of Bioengineering at UW, where she also directs the Molecular Engineering and Sciences Institute. **Read More**

## Parasitic Tapeworm — A Risk To Domestic Dogs and Humans — Found in Washington Coyotes

UW News

New evidence suggests that a disease-causing tapeworm that has been spreading across the United States and Canada has arrived in the Pacific Northwest. The tapeworm, called *Echinococcus multilocularis*, lives as a parasite in coyotes, foxes and other canid species and can cause severe disease if passed to domestic dogs or humans. **Read More**

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## Upcoming Events in Seattle

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|---|---|---|
| April 17<br>5:30 PM | **UW Science Now with Beatrice Milnes, Sophia Chioma Chima, and Kathleen Durkin**<br>The Wyncote NW Forum |
| April 21<br>8:00 AM | **Life Science Innovation Northwest**<br>Seattle Convention Center |
| April 23<br>5:30 PM | **UW Science Now With Haley Walk, Ishaan Ambrish, and Ralph Tayyar**<br>The Wyncote NW Forum |
| April 25<br>8:00 AM | **2026 Cell Signaling Breakthroughs Symposium**<br>Renaissance Seattle Hotel |
| April 29<br>9:00 AM | **NW Nature & Health Symposium**<br>w̓ɔ̓ɬɔ̓ab̓ʔaltxʷ – Intellectual House |

**View All Events | Submit an Event**

## Science Jobs in Seattle

**Field Service Engineer**
STEMCELL Technologies

**Part-Time Community Programs Coordinator**
SoundBio Labs

**Research Technician I**
Benaroya Research Institute

**Research Assistant, Tumor Institute**
Providence Swedish

**Bioinformatics Analyst I/II**
Fred Hutch

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