

Publications of the Week

Chromatin Architectures Underlying Plasmid-Based Assays for Regulatory Variant Effects

First Author: Benjamin Mallory | Senior Authors: Lea Starita (*pictured*) and Andrew Stergachis
Molecular Cell | Brotman Baty Institute and UW



Plasmids have fundamentally transformed how we resolve regulatory grammar across the tree of life. However, our understanding of how, or whether, chromatin structures form on plasmids transfected into mammalian cells remains limited. Researchers developed plasmid single-molecule chromatin fiber sequencing to accurately map chromatin architectures along individual, full-length transfected plasmid molecules at near-single-nucleotide resolution. [Abstract](#) | [Press Release](#)

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Awards

Dr. Nancy Davidson Receives National Cancer Award

Fred Hutch



Dr. Nancy Davidson (*pictured*), Executive Vice President and Chief Academic Officer at Fred Hutch, is the recipient of the David Karnofsky Science of Oncology Award from the American Society for Clinical Oncology (ASCO). Dr. Davidson, a medical oncologist and holder of the Raisbeck Endowed Chair for Collaborative Research, was honored during the 2026 ASCO annual meeting. [Read More](#)

Dr. Vishesh Kapur Elected President-Elect of the American Academy of Sleep Medicine

UW Medicine



Dr. Vishesh Kapur (*pictured*) has been elected as the 2026–2027 president-elect of the American Academy of Sleep Medicine (AASM). He will serve in this role for one year before assuming the presidency for the 2027–2028 term. Representing over 10,000 members, the AASM is the leading professional society dedicated to advancing sleep health. [Read More](#)

Announcing the 2026 Rita Allen Foundation Scholars

Rita Allen Foundation



The Rita Allen Foundation has named its 2026 class of Rita Allen Foundation Scholars, celebrating seven early-career leaders in the biomedical sciences whose research holds exceptional promise for revealing new pathways to advance human health. Dr. Aakanksha Jain (*pictured*), an Assistant Professor of Immunology at UW, is among this year's awardees. [Read More](#)

AIMBE Honors Chiu

UW Department of Bioengineering



The American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering (AIMBE) named UW Bioengineering's Professor Daniel Chiu (*pictured*) to its College of Fellows Class of 2026. The AIMBE College of Fellows represents the top two percent of medical and biological engineers globally. Membership honors researchers who have made outstanding contributions to engineering and medicine research. [Read More](#)

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Local News

A Bubble Tea Approach to Kidney Disease

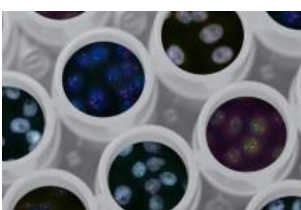
UW Civil & Environmental Engineering (CEE)



A new treatment for chronic kidney disease born out of CEE research might look more like a trip to a boba shop than a visit to the doctor. The concept: swallow tiny gel beads similar to the tapioca pearls in bubble tea, but loaded with bacteria designed to intercept harmful toxins in the gut before they ever reach the bloodstream. [Read More](#)

Friendship Forged in Community Leads to Collaborative Cancer Research

UW Institute for Stem Cell and Regenerative Medicine



From meeting 20 years ago at UCLA, Dr. Thelma Escobar and Dr. Tracie Delgado have moved up and down the coasts on separate career journeys. Today, they are both accomplished scientists, each contributing to the field through a combination of teaching and research. The Escobar lab at UW blends stem cell biology, immune biology, and biochemistry, while the Delgado lab at Seattle Pacific University investigates how viruses cause cancer. [Read More](#)

Q&A: Three UW Biology Researchers Discuss What It's Like to Study Mosquitoes 'All Day and All the Time'

UW News



While the majority of the world just wants to swat mosquitoes, three UW researchers — Dr. Willem Laursen, Jeffrey Riffell, and Andrea Durant (*pictured*) — find mosquitoes fascinating. "The incalculable misery that mosquitoes exert on humans and other animals certainly overshadows any appreciation for the importance of mosquitoes in nature. Many species of mosquitoes are critical to biodiversity and [are] fundamental to the food chain," says Dr. Durant. [Read More](#)

BioCentury Grand Rounds Conference Highlights Importance of Big Data

Allen Institute



In the halls and meeting rooms of Seattle's Hyatt Regency and the Allen Institute, one word was on almost everyone's lips: data. How to get it, harness it, share it, monetize it. Research data, patient data, financial data—it's all crucial for the scientists, biotech executives, and venture capitalists who attended this year's BioCentury Grand Rounds conference. [Read More](#)

Lost Women of Science's Katie Hafner Joins Mary Brunkow for Conversation on Recognition, Mentorship, and Opportunity

Institute for Systems Biology



Katie Hafner, a renowned New York Times journalist and author, spoke with Nobel laureate Dr. Mary Brunkow (*pictured*) about overlooked women scientists, the power of mentorship, and the work still needed to create opportunities for future generations of women in STEM. Founded six years ago, Lost Women of Science has documented the lives and work of women scientists across disciplines. [Read More](#)

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Upcoming Events in Seattle

June 26 7:00 PM	NERD NITE SEATTLE Old Stove Brewing Ship Canal
June 29 7:00 PM	Science on Tap Ravenna Brewing Co.
July 27 7:00 PM	Science on Tap Ravenna Brewing Co.
August 13 4:30 PM	Life Science Washington Annual Summer Social 2026 188 E Blaine St
Sept. 10 - 11 8:00 AM	Cascadia Mucosal Biology Symposium Allen Institute

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Science Jobs in Seattle

- Field Service Engineer**
STEMCELL Technologies
- Clinical Biorepository Associate I**
Fred Hutch
- Research Associate I, Genome Engineering**
Allen Institute
- Sr. Associate Scientist, Bioassay & Impurity Sciences**
Pfizer
- Research Assistant, Tumor Research Institute**
Providence Swedish

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