



GSoLS INSIDER

Thomas H. Gosnell School of Life Sciences

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SPRING 2018

David A. Lawlor, Ph.D.



On May 20, 2018, we were deeply saddened to learn that our dearest friend and colleague, **Dr. David Lawlor**, had passed peacefully in his home that morning after a long battle with cancer. David was an Associate Professor in GSoLS, having started his career in the Department of Biology at RIT in 1996. He earned his B.A. in Microbiology at the University of Texas at Austin, an M.S. in Biology from the University of Texas at San Antonio, and his Ph.D. in Immunology from the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio in 1986. He completed a Post-Doc at Stanford University in Immunology. He spent time during graduate school in the U.S. Peace Corps in Philippines, and most recently spent his year on sabbatical working as a Doctor without Borders in Thailand. David also was extremely fond of the Malaysian student population in our department and traveled to Malaysia for an alumni event on his way to Thailand.

Another passion of his was the Mendon Youth Baseball League, and his fellow board member Eric Nelson had this to say about his incredible dedication to the organization:

“David became a member of the Board of Directors in 2003 through 2009 (I believe he left the Board after his first cancer diagnosis). We approached David about joining the Board after several members kept noticing this guy who always seemed to have a rake in his hand and was always helping out around the field complex — without anyone asking for his help! With his soft-spoken Texas accent and keen intellect, David was a terrific addition to our Board.



“Two of David’s biggest contributions to the League came in the form of our summer tournament and the Moffitt Field project. David volunteered to be the summer tournament director and pretty much single-handedly coordinated our summer tournament for about 6 or 7 years. As I recall, David was the one responsible for expanding our tournament to the 8U age group and was a big believer in having kids from our league (late middle school and high school age kids) serve as umpires for the 8U games. David’s calm, soft-spoken demeanor, along with the fact that he was at the field complex for every single day of the tournament, seemed to result in everyone knowing who he was. David took a leading role in the effort to put in our first (and only) 60/90 field — Moffitt Field. That was a HUGE project. The field opened in 2008 and David served as the Master of Ceremonies for the opening celebration.”

“One of my personal best memories of David was quite a few summers ago when he and I took on the project of scraping and staining the pavilion at our field complex. The two of us were up on ladders every day for almost a week — scraping away (awful job!) and talking about everything from our kids, baseball when we were kids, to ideas to improve the league. It all made a lousy job a fun experience and I am grateful for that time because it was an opportunity to really get to know David — a man who was very private and didn’t open up about himself very often.



Lastly, even after David left the Board and was dealing with his cancer treatments, he continued to be an active participant in our league. He continued to show up for every “work day” we had and was a member of the Grounds Crew that would meet at the fields every Friday evening and paint/stripe fields for Saturday games. As far as I know, David made his last appearance at our ball fields this past April 28 — to watch Opening Day games for the 2018 season.”



Since it was David’s wish not to have a funeral or memorial, we will be establishing an award in his name and honor to a student who exemplifies service and perseverance. We will also be planting a tree and dedicating the newly renovated Genomics Lab GOS-1231 in his honor. A celebratory event will take place in the fall of 2018 and more details will be shared later via social media (@RITGSols). If you would like to send a gift contribution to this scholarship when it’s available, please contact Dr. André Hudson at aohsbi@rit.edu or 585-475-4259.



ACHIEVEMENTS, HONORS AND AWARDS



David M. Baldwin Scholarship

Lily Cisco

Melissa Barton

Ashley Adair

Sydney VanWinkle

Maryah Glover

Nurul Humaira Mohd
Redzuan

*These students are recognized
for both excellence in the
classroom and extensive service
to the community at RIT and
beyond*



RIT Legacy Awards

Maria Smith

Callie Donahue

Ashley Adair

Grace Morales

Research Scholars Awards

Jordan Cardenas

Abigail Frawley

Ashley Adair

Callie Donahue

Elizabeth Pattie

Grace Morales

Melissa Barton

Michael McGowan

Benjamin Hamilton

Nur Hadayah Mohd
Rasid



RIT Outstanding Undergraduate Scholars

Melissa Barton

Jordan Cardenas

Callie Donahue

Madison Ricco

Maria Smith

Elise Walsh

Excellence in Student Life Awards

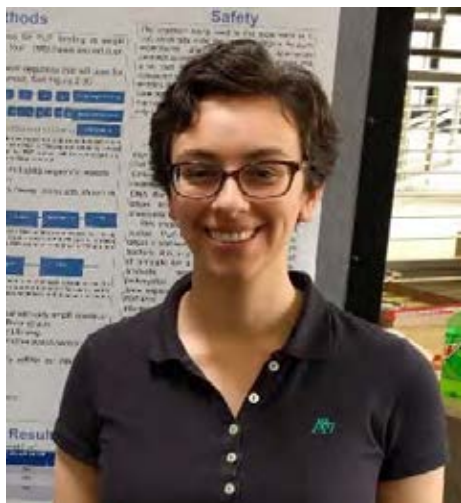
Maria Smith
Madison Ricco
Melissa Barton
Farid Barquet
Ashley Adair
Abigail Frawley
Jessica Fung

The Excellence in Student Life Award (formerly Alpha Sigma Lambda) was founded in 1964 to honor students who represent the guiding principles of Engagement, Scholarship and Leadership.



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Norman A. Miles Scholarship



Amanda Weiss, a rising fourth-year biotechnology and molecular bioscience major from Commack, N.Y., is the 2018 student recipient of the Norman A. Miles Scholarship. The scholarship is given to a entering their last year of undergraduate study with the highest grade point average across the university. A second component of the award allows the student to select an influential faculty member to be given the Norman A. Miles Award for Academic Excellence in Teaching. Weiss picked her mentor, **Dr. Maureen Ferran**. The faculty member receives the same amount as the student.

Norman A. Miles, former director of national development, retired from RIT in 1994 after 17 years on campus. He created the scholarship to recognize the critical impact of the student-teacher bond in the success of learning.



John Wiley Jones Student Scholar

Nicole Cavanaugh is a biotechnology and molecular bioscience major and an undergraduate student in the Hudson Lab at RIT conducting research related to antibiotic development. She is a member of the Honors Program at RIT and the National Society of Leadership and Success, the Biotechnology Club, Vis Viva Dance Company and a member of the College of Science Ambassadors program.

Nicole's goal is to earn a PhD in cell biology and work in the pharmaceutical industry as a research scientist.



Frederick Douglass Award

Loryn Johnson



COS Undergrad Delegate

Madison Ricco



Diversity & Inclusion Beacon Award

Ibrahim Cisse (third from the left) is a third-year Bronx native majoring in environmental science. Cisse has contributed to the community extensively by serving as a member or officer with a myriad of organizations on campus including RIT's Student Environmental Action League, the National Society of Black Engineers, the Organization of African Students and the HEOP Advisory Board.

ACHIEVEMENTS, HONORS AND AWARDS

RIT Presidential Awards for Outstanding Staff



COSSAC, including **Jennie Liedkie**

COS Staff Professional Development Grant Award

Jenn Santoru to travel to New Orleans, LA for a conference on social media in higher education

Amanda Dolan and **Allison Healy** to attend a conference for Administrative Assistants in Rochester, NY

COS Honors, Awards and Recognition



Dr. Elizabeth Hane
Outstanding
Leadership

Lecturer's Professional Development Grant

Dr. Sandi Connelly

2017 AY Connect Grants Program

Dr. Hyla Sweet, PI

Drs. Christy Tyler and
Kate Wright, Co-PIs

COS Leader Faculty Program

Dr. Dina Newman

COS Leader Faculty for Online Learning

Dr. Sandi Connelly

Nominees for COS Honors, Awards and Recognition

Jennie Liedkie, MS, Student Success

Amanda Dolan, MS, Outstanding Contributions

Dr. André Hudson, Student Success, Faculty Mentoring, Outstanding Scholar, Outstanding Leadership, Outstanding Contributions

Dr. Corey Ptak, Student Success, Distinguished Teaching

Dr. Julie Thomas, Faculty Mentoring, Outstanding Scholar, Outstanding Leadership

Dr. Christy Tyler, Faculty Mentoring

Dr. Maureen Ferran, Distinguished Teaching

Dr. Dina Newman, Distinguished Teaching, Outstanding Contributions

Dr. Hyla Sweet, Distinguished Teaching, Outstanding Scholar

Dr. Kate Wright, Distinguished Teaching

TENURE, PROMOTIONS, AND NEW HIRES

This year brought us many exciting changes, including Dr. André Hudson's first year as the GSoLS Department Head. We think he's done pretty well so far on top of everything else he still maintains in his workload and we look forward to seeing what more is to come! Let's also take a breath and recognize the changes that have happened since our last newsletter.

Dr. André Hudson was promoted to Professor!



Dr. Feng Cui took on the role of Graduate Program Director for Bioinformatics (succeeding Dr. Mike Osier), and he was also awarded tenure and promoted to Associate Professor!

Dr. Elizabeth DiCesare was promoted to Senior Lecturer!



Dr. Elizabeth Hane is stepping down from her position as Associate Head, a position she has excelled at for the past four years (hence her award!) We thank her for her dedication and service to the department.

Dr. Kate Wright will be taking on the role of Associate Head beginning this July and we welcome her to the administrative office. We are excited to see what she brings to the table and hope we don't scare her too much!



Dr. Anutthaman "Hari" Parthasarathy joined the Hudson lab as a post-doctoral research associate

Narayan Wong, MS joined us this April as the newly minted Genomics Technician, Narayan is responsible for managing the Genomics facility and MiSeq Next Generation Sequencing machine for the department.



***We congratulate
all promotions
and welcome
our new hires to
the team!***

Sara Ali, Bioinformatics

"My name is Sara Ali and I am third year international student from Egypt. Being in a relatively new and small major like Bioinformatics and surviving through it till now was not easy but it was totally worth it. My first 2 years in RIT were one of the most difficult times I've ever experienced. I was not doing well in my classes-or at least not as good as I wanted- I was not sure of my major, and most importantly I was not enjoying what I was doing at all, specifically the computer science part of the major. After questioning everything, my major, my lab and CS skills, my career options and just before giving up, in the fall semester Junior Year, I took a class that changed everything. I took Introductory to Bioinformatics Programming with Dr. Osier and it flipped my life. Dr. Osier started teaching us programming from the very scratch. But after struggling with CS 1 and 2, it clicked. And all thanks to him, I am now enjoying every single thing I am doing. After being terrified of taking on CS class, this semester I am taking 4 programming classes and surprisingly I am not only doing well, but I also really like them. In my free time, I'd rather write a piece of code than doing something else. Now I enjoy what I do, I found my passion, and now I am sure I was on the right path all along but I just needed some patience and guidance and I eventually found them. So thanks, Dr. Osier! Bioinformatics is not an easy major but it's definitely worth the journey."

Do you have a story to share about your experience at RIT and in GSoLS? What are you doing now that you've graduated?

Share your story and updates with us at:

www.rit.edu/science/gsols/gsols-alumni-stories



Ashley Adair ('18, Biotechnology and Molecular Bioscience) is the first in her family to earn a college degree. She is also one of the first RIT students to graduate from a CASTLE program that equips STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) majors with skills for navigating college. Adair plans to pursue a master's degree in assisted reproductive technology, hopefully at her first choice school, Colorado State University.



Elise Walsh ('18, Biotechnology and Molecular Biosciences) (pictured above on far left) is very involved outside of the classroom, on top of being an excellent student. She is a member of the RIT Pep Band, the Service Chair for the RIT Biotech Club, in the Honors Program, is an NTID note taker, and is a lead peer adviser for the YearOne Program. She also is a research assistant with Dr. Feng Cui. Outside of RIT, she competes in events like the CrossFit Boomtown's ROCStrong for lifting, and the Reebok CrossFit Games Open. So far, Elise's community service and academic success have been recognized with her multitude of awards.

What's your title and length of service?

I'm a research technician in GSoLS. I started working at RIT in April 2018

What do you do in GSoLS?

I help faculty incorporate next-generation DNA sequencing into their research and teaching

What did you before you started working at RIT?

birth -> school -> pharmaceutical company

What are your hobbies/interests outside of RIT?

I like yoga, origami and deep-frying things

What's the best part of your day at work?

My favorite part of working at RIT is interacting with the other staff and faculty. Everybody has been very supportive and kind so far.



Narayan Wong, MS
Genomics Technician
GOS-2102



Julie Thomas, Ph.D.
GOS-1284

My research program focuses on a virus that infects the bacterium *Salmonella* called SPN3US. SPN3US is what is referred to as a “giant” phage as it and its relatives are amongst the largest and most complex phages isolated. Or in other words we are studying a really fantastic bacterial parasite and when we say “complex” it means that actually we know very little about why it is so good at destroying *Salmonella*.

There is currently a lot of interest in phages as they have potential (some are already being used) for phage therapy of human, animal and plant pathogens as an alternative treatment for antibiotic resistant bacteria. In addition to genetics, we use a variety of techniques, including genomics, bioinformatics, proteomics and structure, to study SPN3US.

What do her students say about her?

“Her classes are interesting, and she has been my research mentor for two and a half years. She has been indispensable to me as she has allowed me to gain lab experiences, new skills, and has given me advice for anything and everything”

“She helped me figure out what I wanted to do after my undergrad and just has been a wonderful professor to take classes for and do research with. I have learned a lot from her.”

“I loved her enthusiasm for phage research; her class was one of my favorite classes at RIT that effectively balanced independence, intensive research and thought provoking questions”

One of my biggest successes so far has been surviving each Rochester winter! But seriously – when we first “introduced” the world to our giant phage genetic system in the Journal of Virology was huge. This was the first time my own students were co-authors (and several were undergrads) so that is something I treasure. This year we were awarded our first NIH grant to support our research on SPN3US, which we are really grateful for as it has transformed our research already and really energized my whole lab.

To this year's class -- It was an honor to get to know you. Onwards and upwards. Keep in touch!

To the incoming class – “Welcome!! Explore your interests as much as you can, make the most of this opportunity - your time in GSoLS will pass surprisingly quickly. And never forget “The world is a phage”.



GSoLS alum and newly appointed Board of Trustees member, **Dr. Rick Kittles ('89 Biology)** has established

a summer undergraduate/graduate research fund to support COS students conducting research with a COS professor with preference to supporting African-American students. The fund will also support registration, travel, lodging, and meals for students who present at conferences. The name of the fund is the BACC COS Summer Research Fund.

Dr. Kittles was awarded the 2018 Alumni Beacon Award, which is presented to distinguished alumni who shines as a model for others to follow. Kittles is an international leader on race and genetics, widely known for his research on prostate cancer and complex issues surrounding race, genetic ancestry and health disparities among African Americans and other ethnicities. Since May 2017, Kittles has served as professor and founding director of the Division of Health Equities within the Department of Population Sciences at City of Hope, a leading research and treatment center for cancer, diabetes and other life-threatening diseases based in Duarte, Calif. He is also associate director of health equities at City of Hope's Comprehensive Cancer Center. He holds a Ph.D. in biological sciences from George Washington University.



Former GSoLS student and Board of Trustees member **Austin McChord** gave RIT \$50 million, the largest donation ever made to the university and one of the largest ever in the region. McChord is the founder and CEO of Datto, a Connecticut-based data protection company. He was inspired to make the



donation by former RIT President Bill Destler, with whom he has developed a friendship. The gift is to be designated for fostering creativity and entrepreneurship at RIT and to advance RIT's cybersecurity and artificial intelligence capabilities.



Dr. Nikki Meadows ('08, Biotechnology) took time after graduation to decide what she wanted to do next, PhD or MD. She joined John Gottsch's lab at the Wilmer Eye Institute at Johns Hopkins, and studied the genetic basis of Fuchs Corneal Dystrophy. After this, she worked in Rima Rozen's lab at McGill University and completed her PhD in Human Genetics, where she studied how genes and nutrients affect the outcome of malaria.

After taking some time at home to teach science, she discovered the ASHG/NHGRI Genetics and Public Policy Fellowship, and moved on to genetics public policy. She was recently working as the Science and Technology Issues staffer for the late Congresswoman Louise Slaughter, and now is completing her fellowship on the health team for the Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pension on the Senate side. She hopes this brings her more exciting opportunities and experiences.

Dr. Robert VanBuren ('10, Biotechnology) is now completing his second year as Assistant Professor in the Department of Horticulture at Michigan State University. The VanBuren lab applies an integrative genomic, quantitative genetics, and evolutionary approach to understand the genetic basis of natural adaptations in plants for targeted crop improvement. Ongoing work centers around establishing genetic and genomic resources for the orphan grain crops and finger millet to improving yield, stress tolerance, and forage potential.



Robert used to work for Bioprep!



Since graduating from RIT, **Dr. Julio Rivera ('08, Biology)** joined Marguerite Butler's lab at the University of Hawaii at Manoa where he studied phylogenetics and performance of microhylid frogs from Papua New Guinea. During his time at UH, he co-designed a curriculum that allowed middle school students from PNG and Hawaii to share stories about their everyday life as well as talking about biodiversity in their respective islands. This past year he accepted a post-doc position at Arizona State University with Emilia Martins to develop phylogenetic techniques to model ancestral ranges of animals using phylogenies, fossil, and climate data to reconstruct ancestral traits of complex phenotypes.

NEWSMAKERS



Study abroad at RIT has been undergoing a quiet transformation in the past five years with the growth of short-term international programs, an increase in faculty-led opportunities and a stronger connection to RIT's global campuses. More than 400 students studied abroad in 2016-2017, a record number for the university and that figure is expected to increase in coming years. **Dr. Christy Tyler** and colleagues held a faculty-led trip to Russia last year and another visit this year with a new cohort of students. Last summer and this summer Urban Ecology students traveled to Malmö, Sweden with **Drs. Karl Korfmacher** and **Elizabeth Hane** to study green infrastructure. And **Dr. Robert Rothman** led another expedition to the Galápagos Islands in Ecuador.



Over 60 Alumni, Faculty & Students were in attendance for the Speed Networking event hosted by the College of Science Student Advisory Board (COSSAB), and organized by Biotechnology alumna **Madison Ricco ('18)** during Brick City Weekend 2017. They gathered to discuss research, graduate education, industry work, and more.



Dr. Paul Shipman helped our college celebrate National Native American month in November by giving a talk on his research titled "10 Years of Cherokee Science". Paul teaches free science summer

camp every year for youth of the Cherokee Nation in northeastern Oklahoma. Cherokee high school students now participate in a new program focused on field biology research on alligator snapping turtles, like the one pictured here.

The **GSoLS external advisory board** members were all invited to attend a full-day meeting during Brick City Homecoming. Members are: **Dr. Sesquile Ramon ('07 Biotechnology)**, **Travis Money ('04 Environmental Science)**, and **Dr. Terry Wright ('90 Biotechnology)**, and two external members, **Dr. Helene McMurray** (University of Rochester), and **Dr. Toby Bloom** (New York Genome Center). Dr. André Hudson is the sixth member as Chair and Head of the school.

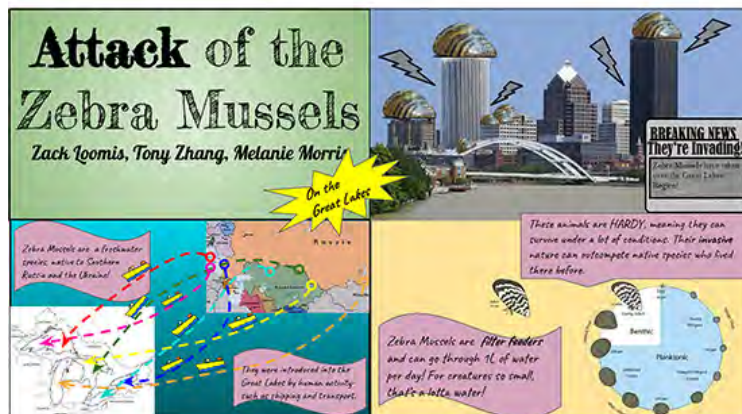
The first fall meeting included presentations from faculty, a student panel discussion, and a facilities tour and renovation discussion. In January 2018 the advisors provided re-commendations on topics such as curricular changes and updates, the expertise of future faculty hires, and potential partnerships with regional companies for co-ops, internships, and workforce training. If you are interested in joining the board, please contact André Hudson at aohsbi@rit.edu.



Dr. Sandi Connelly, principal lecturer, made good use of new technology being shared with higher education through Microsoft Artificial Intelligence Translator in her General Biology lectures this spring. On April 5, Microsoft announced its partnership with RIT to provide this service for students to receive live and automated transcription on their phones and computers. This initiative is aimed specifically at improving the quality of learning for students who are deaf or hard-of-hearing.

Congratulations to Drs. Kara Maki, SMS, **Kate Wright**, and Jeyhan Kartaltepe, SoPA, for organizing and running the first ever REU Bootcamp. 40 students came to learn about the Research for Under-graduate Scholars summer program.

Shipwrecks, invasive species, and industrial production are just a few topics of Lake Ontario researched by RIT students, with their findings on display until mid-May at the Port of Rochester terminal building. The displayed posters and miniature magazines available for visitors, are the result of student group semester projects in a Great Lakes class, taught last fall in RIT's science, technology and society department. Each display covers a different topic related to the history of Lake Ontario, with topics picked and researched by the students, said **Dr. Kaitlin Stack Whitney**, a visiting assistant professor who taught the class. **Zack Loomis**, a third-year environmental science major from Erie, Pa., was part of a team that researched the impact of zebra mussels in the lake.





The Galapagos Research Project, led by **Dr. Robert Rothman**, a professor in GSoLS, received a generous donation from Once Upon a Time, a foundation established by Texas hedge fund manager, Geoffrey Raynor. Mr. Raynor directed his foundation to send the donation in gratitude to Dr. Rothman for the advice and council that was shared as Mr. Raynor was preparing a family trip to the Galapagos Islands. Dr. Rothman has lead teams of RIT students to the Galapagos for many years to study evolution first-hand. His insight and knowledge about the ecosystem of the island chain is invaluable.

Dr. Dawn Carter and **Dr. Beth VanWinkle** will attend a 2.5 – day workshop at The Ohio State University this summer focused on integrating CRISPR-Cas9 technology into our undergraduate programs. The workshop will be run by Dr. Anil Challa (University of Alabama-Birmingham) and Dr. Michael Wolyniak (Hampden-Sydney College) and will cover both the CRISPR Cas9 technology and the zebra fish (*Danio rerio*) model system. They hope to incorporate CRISPR-Cas9 into their laboratory classes, using either the zebra fish or plants.

Dr. Dina Newman has been selected as a participant in the PKAL STEM Leadership Institute, taking place in Adamstown, MD in July. This five-day program is designed for early and mid-career STEM faculty who are working toward transforming undergraduate STEM education at their institutions. This experience forms the centerpiece of her participation in the new COS Faculty Leadership Development program and complements her current leadership roles in STEM education research and inclusive excellence.



Dr. Christy Tyler (associate professor, GSoLS) and **Chip Bachmann** (associate professor, CIS) were recently awarded a grant of nearly \$30,000 from the National Geographic Society for their project titled, “Improving estimates of salt marsh resilience and coastal Blue Carbon”. Their project was initially supported by a COS Dean’s Research Initiation Grant.

Two of our COS faculty members have been awarded scholarships funded by the Faculty Career Development office in the Innovative Learning Institute and the Office of the Provost to attend the five-day Faculty Leadership Program hosted by Cornell University. Professors **Dr. André Hudson** and **Dr. Christopher Collison** (SCMS) will participate in workshops designed to enhance leadership and personal effectiveness skills, reflect on career and personal goals, and connect with colleagues from other universities.



GLOBAL EDUCATION 2018



Malmö, Sweden
Urban Ecology



Drs. Karl Korfmacher and Elizabeth Hane took students and interpreters to Sweden to learn about how they manage urban ecology and embrace the natural world in their architecture and urban planning.



Moscow, Russia
Aquatic Ecology

Dr. Christy Tyler led a trip to Russia so students could study the ecology of arctic aquatic ecosystems,

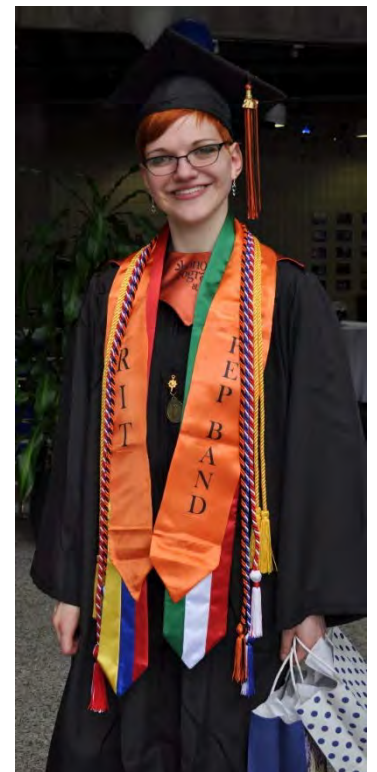


Galápagos Islands
Galapagos: Ecology and Evolution



Dr. Robert Rothman led another expedition of students and interpreters to explore Ecuador and the Galapagos Islands and learn more about its unique natural history and ecology.

GRADUATION 2018!



FUNDED RESEARCH in GSoLS

The 2018 NIH Bootcamp program led by professors **Dr. André Hudson** and Dr. Hans Schmitthenner has awarded, among others,

Dr. Maureen Ferran, Associate Professor

See the full list of honored researchers here:

<http://www.rit.edu/news/story.php?id=66534&source=newsletter>

Dr. Karl Korfmacher and Dr. Elizabeth Hane (Urban Ecology) and several other COS faculty members were featured in the Provost Learning Innovations Grant Showcase held at the University Gallery this past November. Congratulations to them on their work and being chosen to have their innovations highlighted at the event!

Dr. Gary Skuse is the PI on a grant from NSF for \$150,939 for his project titled, "From Discovery to Market: Integrating Interdisciplinary Skills through a Collaborative Research-Based Laboratory Curriculum"

Michael McGowan, a fourth-year environmental science BS/MS major, was awarded a research grant from the New York State Wetlands Forum for his project "The effects of management, land use, and hydrology on denitrification and nitrogen fixation rates in created wetlands." He is one of two students from New York state awarded this competitive grant in 2018.



Dr. Julie Thomas is the PI on a \$426,882 grant from the DHHS National Institutes of Health to support the project titled "Characterization of a giant virion and its unusual cargo of ejection proteins."

Dr. Jeff Lodge is the PI on a \$10,000 grant from the Pollution Institute in conjunction with BioSand Bag Filter LLC, to support the project titled, "Biofilm Growth Acceleration testing."

Dr. André Hudson is the PI on a \$30,000 minority supplement grant from the National Institutes of Health to support the project titled "Genetic and structural analysis of L,L-Diaminopimelate Aminotransferase (DapL): An attractive target for the development of narrow-spectrum antibiotics."

Dr. Leslie Kate Wright is the PI with co-PI **Dr. Dina Newman**, GSoLS on a \$337,000 grant from the National Science Foundation to support the project titled "Research Experiences for Undergraduate in Model-based Reasoning in STEM Education at the Rochester Institute of Technology." Additional Key Personnel on the grant include Jennifer Bailey, KGCoe, Christina Collison Goudreau, SCMS, Scott Franklin, SoPA, Kelly Martin, CLA, and Ben Zwickl, SoPA.

Dr. Hans F Schmitthenner, SCMS, is the PI with Co-Pis **Dr. Irene Evans** and Joseph Hornak, CIS on a \$474,279 grant from DHHS, NIH to support the project titled, "High Relaxivity PSMA-Targeted Contrast Agents for MRI of Prostate Cancer"

Dr. Christy Tyler is the PI with Chip Bachmann, CIS, on a grant of nearly \$30,000 from the National Geographic Society for their project titled, "Improving estimates of salt marsh resilience and coastal Blue Carbon".

WHAT ELSE IS HAPPENING?

What's in a name? The Bioinformatics program has been considering a name change! What do you think of *Bioinformatics and Computational Biology* or *Molecular and Computational Biology*? Let us know!



Dr. Elizabeth DiCesare had her third baby on May 1. Welcome to the family Andrew!

This spring we hosted the **COS Distinguished Speaker, Dr. Kristin N. Parent**, who gave a talk titled, “**Host Entry Mechanisms of Salmonella and Shigella Phages**”.

Seminar Speakers Wanted!

Do you or someone you know want to come speak to our college and share your research or other insight? Please contact Dr. André Hudson at aohsbi@rit.edu to get started!



This winter local high school science teachers spent a “GSoLS Saturday” with Dr. Hudson learning more about what we do here and what information they can take back to their juniors and seniors deciding where to go after high school. Teachers who attended received professional credit for this event. If you're interested in attending the next one, please contact André Hudson at aohsbi@rit.edu.



RIT Biotech Club at March for Science

The start of classes this fall is August 27. We will have Labor Day off, September 3. The class schedule will be back to what it was in 2016-2017, so we're starting classes on the hour again.

Did you know? Rising seniors can enroll in both fall AND spring semesters during the spring enrollment period.



2018 Freshmen Research Symposium

Dr. Kate Wright having a conversation with GSoLS students about her research projects

Follow us on Twitter and Facebook at @RITGSOLS

WHAT A FANTASTIC YEAR!

