

September Edition

September 4th, 2020

Volume 2, Issue 1

COVID-19

[HUB AT HOPKINS](#)

[JHU COVID RESOURCE CENTER](#)

[MARYLAND DEPT OF HEALTH](#)

[CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL](#)

PHASE ONE

The Johns Hopkins campus remains under Phase 1 restrictions. Please respect maximum occupancy signs and safety regulations. Help keep the Hopkins and Physiology community safe!

Announcements

FRIDAY SEMINAR MODERATORS

New Friday seminar moderators needed! Grad students and post-docs are strongly encouraged to help out! Contact [Latanya Heath](#) if interested.

If you haven't already, sign up for Friday Seminars [here!](#)

NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTORS

The newsletter team is looking for contributors! Anyone interested in writing content or helping out should contact [Sarah Chau](#) or [Kelli Johnson](#).

Upcoming Events

PHYSIOLOGY FUN DAY RETREAT

Alexa Wade, Brittini Moore, Kevin Hong Chen, and Yingzhi Ye have been working hard on this year's combined Fun Day and Annual Retreat on September 18th! Details to come!

Submissions

Someone new in your lab? Got an award and/or published a paper? Send [Sarah](#) or [Kelli](#) an email with the good news!

Contact Us

Newsletter Team

[Sarah Chau](#)

[Kelli Johnson](#)

Physiology Committee

[Dylan Sarver](#)

Physiology Department

[CMP Website](#)

Physiology Newsletter

Dr. William Guggino

Professor, Department Chair of Physiology Department

Dear Physiology Colleagues:

I want to welcome you to a new academic year filled with lots of new items: Zoom meetings, face masks and social distancing to protect our neighbors, family members, and ourselves. Unfortunately, not so new is the continued fight against social injustice and inequity. The combined effects of the virus and the social inequity that we are experiencing are challenging in many ways, however, I see reasons to be hopeful. The collective endeavors of our scientific colleagues will lead to a vaccine and treatments to overcome the virus. Our collective hard work, inner strength, and values will bring us a long way toward achieving social equity. When we look back upon the beginning of this academic year, we will certainly be grateful for having played a part both in overcoming the virus as well as fighting for justice, equality, and inclusion. We will have learned new tools that will help us continue our mission to improve health and quality of life for all. I am confident we will reach beyond this period and be at a better place soon.

- Dr. William Guggino

Get to know our newest members!

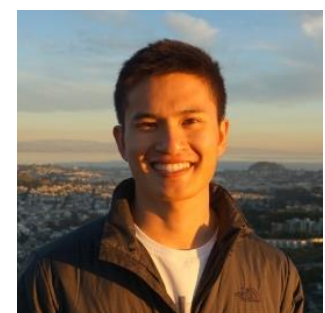


The first Physiology social event of the academic year welcoming the first-year students.



Jessica Hernandez

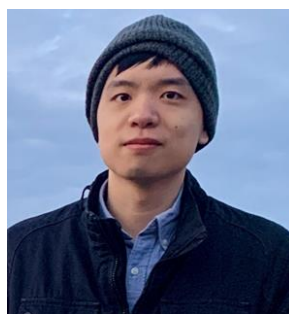
Jessica holds a BSc in Cell Biology and Genetics from University of Maryland, College Park. Following her graduation in December 2017, Jessica worked as a research assistant examining the evolution of segmentation genes in insects. Outside of the lab, Jessica enjoys gardening and spending time with her son.



Mackenzie Kui

Mackenzie completed his BSc in Biology at University of California, Santa Barbara. Prior to Hopkins, Mackenzie worked at Oncovalent Therapeutics, a startup focused on small molecule cancer therapies. In his spare time, Mackenzie enjoys rock climbing and working out!

Yi "Henry" Cheng



Yi graduated from Taipei Medical University with a BSc in Respiratory Therapy in 2016 where he decided to pursue a PhD in the US during his sophomore year. Yi also holds an MSc in Pharmacology from the National Taiwan University and worked as a visiting researcher for a year at Washington University in St. Louis. Yi has worked in labs examining pulmonary and liver fibrosis, innate immunity, and pancreatic cancer. Outside the lab, Yi plays the saxophone in wind ensembles, symphonic and wind bands, as well as spending time as a conductor. He is also a fan of baseball, classical music, and Japanese anime.

Next Chapter

We congratulate those who have moved onto the next phase of their careers!

Ashley Stewart



I cannot believe my time as a member of the Physiology Department has come to an end! I loved having the chance to spend time with and learn from you all over the past several years during Mandatory Fun Days, department seminars, and our first retreat.

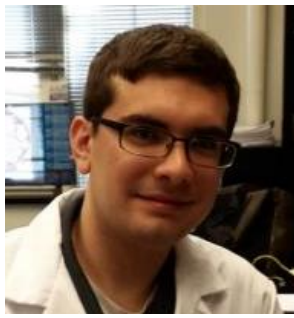
Thanks to my advisor, Will, whose enthusiasm for science has motivated me throughout my time in his lab. Thank you to the various members of the department, both in labs and in the Physiology office, who have provided ample support and guidance during my time here. Finally, thank you to my classmates and friends who were there for me every step of the way.

Ashley Stewart

With poise and clarity, Ashley delivered a fantastic thesis seminar. As her Ph.D. advisor, I couldn't be prouder and happier for her accomplishments. She will officially start her new job working for a consulting firm in September! The entire Wong lab wishes her all the best in her future undertakings. Three big cheers to Ashley!

Dr. G. William Wong

Due to the newsletter's summer hiatus, we did not announce the good news for two members of the Pluznick lab. Our belated congratulations to Brian Poll and Mira Smith!



Brian Poll

Brian graduated from PhD program back in June 2020 and is currently a post-doctoral fellow in Knepper lab at the NIH. Brian received his BA from University of Chicago and was a PhD candidate at Johns Hopkins School of Public Health before joining Jen Pluznick's lab to study the influence of metabolites produced by the gut microbiome affects blood pressure. He also tied the knot in August 2020!



Tilmira "Mira" Smith

Mira was a post-bac student and was a participant of the Johns Hopkins Doctoral Diversity Program. A native of Michigan, she is the first in her family to obtain a college degree and she did so with great distinction. Mira graduated *magna cum laude* from Eastern Michigan University prior joining Jen's lab in 2018. She was accepted to Wayne State Medical School and is currently in her first year of medical school.

Fellowship & Awards

Dr. Shuying Sun was awarded the Johns Hopkins Catalyst Award for her research in RNA methylation in ALS in June 2020! Congratulations Dr. Sun!

Publications

Our colleagues have been very busy this summer despite, or perhaps due to, limited bench time.

Ashley Stewart of the Wong lab published an article examining [Protein modifications critical for myonectin/erythroferrone secretion and oligomer assembly](#) in the Jun 2020 issue of *Biochemistry*.

Feng Gao and members of the Reeves lab explored a [non-mosaic transchromosomal mouse model of Down syndrome carrying the long arm of human chromosome 21](#) in a Jun 2020 article in *Elife* in collaboration with Junhua Yang and Zhaozhu Qiu.

Brian Poll and Umar Cheema (Pluznick lab) reviewed the effect of [gut microbial metabolites \(SCFA's and TMAO\) blood pressure regulation](#) in the Jul 2020 issue of *Physiology*.

Michelle Acoba and **Nanami Senoo** of the Claypool lab discuss [Phospholipid ebb and flow](#) in a Jul 2020 review in *JCB*.

Kelli Johnson from the Donowitz lab published [Cholinergic-induced anion secretion in murine jejunal enteroids involves synergy between muscarinic and nicotinic pathways](#) in the Aug 2020 issue of *Am J Physiol Cell Physiol*.

Stefanie Tan and members of the Wong lab examined the role of [CTRP12 on triglyceride synthesis and export in hepatocytes by suppressing HNF-4 \$\alpha\$ and DGAT2 expression](#) in this Aug 2020 article of *FEBS Letters*.

Shubhrajit Roy and members of Lutsenko lab explore [ATP7B mutations in Wilson disease](#) in the Aug 2020 issue of *Sci Rep*.