

From the Desk of the President, Sarah Woodson

As a new year gets underway, this is a great



moment to write about exciting happenings in the RNA Society for 2016. Each

calendar year brings a rotation in the membership of the Board of Directors. First, I thank outgoing

board members **Adrian Ferré-d'Amare**, **Fátima Gebauer** and **Kristen Lynch** for their thoughtful advice and dedicated service to the Society. Second, I warmly welcome our new Board members for 2016, **Gloria Culver** (Univ. Rochester, USA), **Matthias Hentze** (EMBL, Germany), and **Elizabeth Tran** (Purdue Univ., USA). They join continuing board members **Frédéric Allain** (*ETH Zurich, IMB*), **Barbara Golden** (*Purdue Univ, USA*), and **Philip Zamore** (*Univ Mass Med School, USA*). (Continued on p2)

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RNA Society

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RNA Journal

<http://www.rnajournal.org/>

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As you know, the Officers of the Society are elected by **you**, its members, and this representation is essential for helping the Society to respond to your needs. **Nominations for 2016 elections** are now open, so if you are interested in serving as an Officer of the Society, or know someone you think would do a great job, please send an email to me or Jim McSwiggen (ceo@RNASociety.org) to be forwarded to the nomination committee

Many dedicated individuals do the actual work needed to make the Society a success. I especially want to thank our CEO **Jim McSwiggen** and CFO **Andrew Feig** for conducting the Society business, **Brenda Peculis** who continues as Secretary and also brings you this newsletter, **Benoit Chabot** who chairs the Meetings Committee, **Kristian Baker** who is responsible for Membership Initiatives, and **Maire Osborne**, our industry liaison. The input from **Adrian Krainer** as Past President is appreciated. Our Junior Scientist representatives under the guidance of the Society Faculty advisors (**Sam Butcher** and **Katrin Karbstein**) continue to do a spectacular job of organizing activities for

...representation is essential for helping the Society respond to your needs.

junior scientists at the annual meetings. Be sure to read about all the exciting

activities they have planned for 2016 and at the annual meeting in Kyoto on pg. 8!

The annual meeting of the RNA Society is always one of my favorite events of the year – a chance to catch up with old friends, and catch up on the latest exciting RNA science. I am looking forward to the meeting in Kyoto this year, and I hope many of you are planning to attend. Be sure to read below for more details on the exciting keynote talks, scientific sessions and activities planned by **Mikiko Siomi** and her fellow organizers: **Utz Fischer**, **Wendy Gilbert**, **David Lilley**, **Erik Sontheimer** and **Tsutomu Suzuki** (see p5). Kyoto is a beautiful city with many cultural attractions, and is sure to please those able to extend their visit for a few days. A major goal of the RNA Society is to encourage participation from RNA labs in different regions of the world, so in 2017 we will meet in Prague, followed by a venue in North America for 2018. If

you have ideas for future venues, please contact **Benoit Chabot** (Benoit.Chabot@USherbrooke.ca)

– I am sure he will be glad to hear from you and can tell you what information is needed to promote your site!

Equal participation by women and men scientists has always been a principle of the RNA Society

Look for an exciting announcement on changes to author fees for *RNA*! (see p 11). The *RNA* journal continues to be a top priority for the Board of Directors and one of the main ways the Society serves its members. This year, the Board has discussed ways to restructure author fees to eliminate charges for publication of color figures in *RNA*, without raising average costs for Society members. Fees for color figures are particularly important in disciplines such as structural biology and cell biology that use color to communicate primary scientific results. I am grateful to the Board, **Tim Nilsen**, **Jim McSwiggen** and **Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press** for a very productive dialog. If you haven't been submitting your recent manuscripts to *RNA*, you're missing out! The journal is an excellent showcase for RNA science, offering unparalleled visibility in the RNA community and a transparent and efficient editorial process.

Finally, I want to take a moment to consider how lucky we are to have a scientific community that values the contributions of women scientists, and how much this matters for all of us. Equal participation by women and men scientists has always

been a principle of the RNA Society, having been

founded by men – and women – who viewed gender equality as right and good. I believe this Founder effect helps account for the large numbers of women who participate in Society affairs and the annual meetings today.

...the inclusion of women has benefited RNA science by enlarging its creativity and scope.



For me, the openness to women is important personally and generally. On a personal level, I am old enough to recall the quiet triumph over girls wearing trousers to school during the cold Detroit winter, and lucky enough to ride a wave of female students in college science courses, which in my experience were more or less equal in number to

Social science research consistently shows that diverse groups make better decisions and are more innovative.

men. But now, I sometimes wonder if I am witnessing a reverse in this trend. Each year seems to bring fewer

female graduate students, but the real shock this semester was discovering only three women out of 25 undergraduates enrolled in my biochemistry class. Perhaps it is a statistical fluke, amplified in my worries by the endless news of violence against women in disparate parts of the world. Nevertheless, numbers like these make me uneasy. I am immensely proud of the talented female (and male) students in my lab, but I don't know what the future holds for them.

On a general level, the inclusion of women has benefited RNA science by enlarging its creativity and scope. Social science research consistently shows that diverse groups make better decisions and are more innovative. Perhaps mixed society obliges us to be more open-minded, more deliberate, or simply more civil. Although the Society has much work to do to broaden participation by scientists from Africa and Latin America, I believe doing so will bring similar benefits in the vigor and creativity of our work.

The inclusion of women and minorities in science does not “just happen” -- it requires conscious commitment and on-going attention to issues such as the diversity of meeting organizers or keynote speakers. The level of female participation we enjoy in the RNA Society is not seen in all areas of biology, much less the chemical and physical sciences. New disciplines are not automatically more welcoming – consider “omics” and nanotechnology.

So, what to do in the future? First, we must strive for broad representation in Society affairs – not only by gender, but also by nationality, race, geography, and scientific discipline. Second, we should consider how to reduce bias when evaluating manuscripts, grants, and meeting abstracts. Should editors or meeting organizers blind author identities when sending papers for review or evaluating abstracts? It would be interesting to know the results of such an exercise. Third, focus meetings and joint workshops can extend a hand to new participants and create opportunities for new science.

...inclusion of women and minorities in science does not “just happen” - - it requires conscious commitment and on-going attention.

I am grateful to be part of a wonderful scientific community that includes as many

outstanding women as men, and hope that our commitment to inclusion will be a hallmark of the RNA Society for many years to come.

Until Kyoto,
Sarah Woodson (swoodson@jhu.edu)

RNA2016

Kyoto, Japan
June 28 to July 2, 2016



**RNA 2016:
The 21st Annual Meeting of the RNA Society
28 June - 2 July, 2016
Kyoto, Japan**

Abstract deadlines:

March 15, 2016 for oral abstracts (will be considered for a platform talk)
April 15, 2016 for poster abstracts (may also be considered for a workshop talk)



- Keynote speakers: **Brent Graveley** (University of Connecticut Health Center, USA) , **Rachel Green** (Johns Hopkins University, USA) and **Shigeyuki Yokoyama** (RIKEN, Japan)
- Special session on the **Structure of the Spliceosome** with plenary talks from **Kiyoshi Nagai** (MRC, England) and **Yigong Shi** (Tsinghua University School of Medicine, Beijing, China).
- A free afternoon/evening on Friday July 1 to explore Kyoto, and the ancient (and more recent) temples, shrines, gardens and imperial palaces, and traditional wooden houses

The organizing committee:

Mikiko Siomi, Utz Fischer, Wendy Gilbert, David Lilley, Erik Sontheimer and Tsutomu Suzuki

For more information and to register, go to:

<http://www2.convention.co.jp/rna2016/index.html>

From the Organizers of RNA2016

In five months time we shall be getting ready for the 21st meeting of the RNA Society (**28 June - 2 July, 2016**). For the second time we will meet jointly with the RNA Society of Japan, reflecting the growing importance of RNA science in Asia. We shall be returning to the beautiful city of Kyoto in the Kansai region, the ancient imperial capital of Japan, known as the City of Ten Thousand Shrines. The conference will be held in the Kyoto International Conference Center on the north edge of Kyoto. It is connected by the subway to downtown, with a station adjacent to the center. Many of the hotels are easily accessible by this line and/or public buses run by the city.

The web site for the conference at <http://www2.convention.co.jp/rna2016/index.html> is now accepting registrations. Please note the important deadlines. To submit an abstract for consideration for an oral presentation, it must be uploaded by **15 March**. Poster abstracts can be submitted up to **15 April**.

While five months is a long time in RNA science, and much of the program will emerge from the abstracts as they arrive, we already have one very exciting highlight session planned on the Structure of the Spliceosome. No one can have failed to notice the recent excitement surrounding cryo-EM analysis of spliceosomal complexes. We shall reflect this with a special session that will include plenary talks from **Kiyoshi Nagai** and **Yigong Shi**. This area has the same feeling now that the ribosome field had a decade ago, and this may well prove to be a historic moment in RNA science.

On the opening night there will be keynote talks by **Brent Graveley**, **Rachel Green** and **Shigeyuki Yokoyama**. The majority of the program will be constructed from the abstracts submitted as usual, chosen by the committee in consultation with the session chairs. These are the life-blood of the meeting, and we strongly encourage graduate students and postdoctoral scientists to submit abstracts.

Another intellectually vibrant part of our meetings comes from the workshops, covering exciting, new and developing topics in RNA biology. Some are planned already, but we encourage further suggestions. If you would like to organize a workshop on an exciting, developing topic, please contact the organizers about it.

Lastly, we return to the location of the conference. Kyoto is home to thousands of classical temples and shrines, gardens and imperial palaces, and traditional wooden houses. It is has abundant opportunities to experience formal Japanese traditions including kaiseki dining. To give everyone the opportunity to explore the area there will be a free afternoon/evening on Friday, 1 July.

We look forward to welcoming you to Kyoto !

The organisers :

Mikiko Siomi (University of Tokyo)
Utz Fischer (University of Würzburg)
Wendy Gilbert (MIT)

David Lilley (University of Dundee)
Erik Sontheimer (University of Massachusetts)
Tsutomu Suzuki (University of Tokyo)



2016 RNA Society Award Winners: Eric Westhof and Andrea Barta

The RNA Society is pleased to announce that Professor **Eric Westhof** will be the recipient of the society's 2016 Lifetime Achievement in Science award, and that Professor **Andrea Barta** will receive the 2016 Lifetime Service award.

For over 40 years, Professor Westhof has led efforts to determine the rules that govern the process of the RNA folding. He and his lab have employed a wide variety of techniques to that end, from molecular modeling, enzymatic and chemical probing, crystallography, and in vitro selection, as well as developing bioinformatics tools to analyze and display RNA structures. The group has applied these tools to a variety of interesting RNA structures, including the self-splicing *Tetrahymena* group I intron and the RNase P RNA.

Professor Barta has been a tireless supporter of the RNA Society. She has served as a conference organizer multiple times, as board member, meetings committee member and poster judge. She will be the lead organizer next year for our 2017 meeting in Prague. When called upon, she has always been willing to serve.

Please join us in thanking Eric and Andrea for their service to science and the society. We hope you can join us in Kyoto to help celebrate their recognition.

RNA 2016 Travel Award Application

The RNA Society provides travel fellowships in support of researchers who are constrained financially from attending our conference. This year we have budgeted \$60,000 for this purpose, but we are soliciting additional support from corporate sponsors, so more funds may be available later. In most cases the fellowships will be made in the form of reduced or waived registration fees, although it is possible that some contribution toward travel costs could be made in addition to the fee waiver. Travel reimbursement, if awarded, will be presented in the form of a check that you pick up with your conference materials; or as a credit card reimbursement or an electronic funds transfer from the RNA Society shortly after the close of the conference.

Please note:

- Fellowships are restricted to RNA Society members. To become a member go to: <http://www.rnasociety.org/become-a-member/>. To renew your membership, go to: https://www.rnasociety.org/members/members-only/?url=arssainvpay.pay_page
- Abstracts submitted with this travel fellowship application will NOT be entered into the conference registration system. You will need to make a separate conference registration, followed by a separate abstract submission once you have registered for the conference.
- If you plan to apply for the RNA Society Scaringe Award, you can do that in addition to applying for this fellowship. You will only be able to receive one, but we can easily cancel this fellowship if you receive the other award.
- The application for travel fellowships should be submitted by **March 5, 2016** for those who want to be notified in time to make the orals application deadline; we will continue to accept applications after this date. Questions can be addressed to travel@rnasociety.org.

If you wish to apply for a fellowship, please complete the application at the following link:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2016TravelAward>



3-for-2 Group Registration Incentive

The RNA Society wants to encourage as many members as possible to attend our annual meeting. To that end, we are offering a new discount to our members who bring three or more lab members to the conference.

Here are the requirements:

- This offer is only for overseas labs (i.e. outside of Japan) whose lab head is an RNA Society member. To become a member go to: <http://www.rnasociety.org/become-a-member/>. To renew your membership, go to: https://www.rnasociety.org/members/members-only/?url=arssainvpay.pay_page
- There must be at least three paid registrations from the same lab, and the lab head must be a conference attendee. We want to encourage participation by more senior researchers, as well as grad students and post docs.
- Only one registration refund per lab.
- Refunds will be in the form of a check when you arrive at the conference, or as a credit card reimbursement or electronic funds transfer shortly after the close of the conference.
- Due to foreign exchange fluctuations, the amount of refund may vary somewhat from the original registration fee. We will, however, make every effort to minimize the difference.
- This offer expires on July 1, 2016, but apply early so that we can prepare the refund in a timely manner.
- To take advantage of this offer, please complete the SurveyMonkey form at: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2016_3for2



News from the RNA Society Junior Scientists

Hello fellow junior scientists! We hope your 2016 is off to a productive and exciting start. We are busy planning events for RNA 2016 in Kyoto, Japan and we are excited to give you a sneak peak of some of the events we have in store!

First, we'd like to announce the addition of the newest member to the Junior Scientists Committee: **Kaoru Komatsu**. Kaoru is a first year graduate student in the lab of **Hirohide Saito** at **Kyoto University**. The Saito lab focuses on synthetic biology and seeks to create useful methods for life sciences. Kaoru has developed novel methods for the comprehensive analysis of RNA-protein interactions by combining synthetic biological and bioinformatics approaches. Kaoru has been crucial in planning the exciting pre-meeting tour options and he looks forward to meeting fellow RNA scientists!



In the next few months, we will be holding a **Junior Scientists Logo Contest**. We will use this logo for our RNA Society Junior Scientist social media accounts and for junior scientist events. The creator of the best logo will win \$200 and will be acknowledged at RNA 2016! This event is open to graduate students and postdocs who are members of the RNA Society. To enter, please email your logo to junior_scientists@rnasociety.org by **June 1st, 2016**.



To kick off RNA 2016, we are organizing a junior scientists **pre-meeting guided tour** of some of the many beautiful sites Kyoto has to offer. We are offering both a morning and an afternoon excursion. We encourage graduate students and postdocs arriving early to the meeting to sign up for either session (or both!) to see the sights of Kyoto and make new RNA friends prior to the start of the conference!

In the morning, we will visit **Fushimi Inari Shrine** (伏見稲荷大社), an important Shinto shrine dedicated to Inari, the Shinto god of rice. Foxes (*kitsune*) are said to be Inari's messengers, and many fox statues can be found on the

shrine grounds. The shrine grounds include Mount Inari; trails to smaller shrines up the mountain can be explored. We will return to downtown Kyoto in time for lunch at a local sushi restaurant. The morning tour has a maximum capacity of 50 people, so sign up quick! The cost for the morning tour is ~350 JPY (\$3 USD).

In the afternoon, we are offering two tour options. The first group will visit **Kodaiji Temple** (高台寺) where we will admire the beautiful Zen gardens, visit a tea house, and participate in a traditional tea ceremony. Then, we will move on to **Kiyomizudera** (清水寺), a UNESCO World Heritage site temple, which features the Otowa Waterfall. The second tour group will visit **Heian Shrine** (平安神宮) and **Shogoin Temple** (聖護院). Both tour groups will return to the Kyoto International Conference Center in time for the Welcome Dinner. The afternoon tours have a maximum capacity of 60 and 40 people for the first and second tour options respectively. Tour spots will be assigned on a first-come, first-served basis. The afternoon tours cost ~2000 JPY (\$20 USD). **Use this link to sign up for the pre-meeting tour** <http://goo.gl/forms/a1FpUzgdUM> (or visit our Facebook or LinkedIn page, below).



We are also very excited to plan the **Career Development Workshop**. This year, based on responses from last year's workshop and survey, we have decided to dedicate our workshop to **job interview skills**. We are planning a workshop that will give you interview tips for both industry and academic interviews as well as host a mock interview session. This workshop promises to be useful for all young scientists looking to take their next professional step, so be sure to attend!

We are also looking forward to the annual **Junior Scientist Social**, where graduate students and postdocs can unwind, meet peers, talk science, and find people to explore Kyoto with. Come have a drink with us- we'd love to meet you!

You can get in touch with us via email (junior_scientists@rnasociety.org) and you can stay in touch with us and the community of young RNA scientists throughout the year with social media. We will be regularly posting RNA-related articles, event updates, and important registration information! Our information will also be posted on the RNA 2016 website.

As always, please contact us with any questions or suggestions on how to represent the needs of junior scientists within the RNA Society.

 RNA Society Junior Scientists

 @jrRNAscientists

 RNA Society Junior Scientists

We hope to see you in Kyoto! Until then, may all your experiments work and your RNA science be awesome!

Allison Didychuk (Graduate Student Representative, UW-Madison)

Kaoru Komatsu (Graduate Student Representative, Kyoto University)

Sebastian Markmiller (Postdoc Representative, UCSD)

Phil McCown (Postdoc Representative, Purdue University)

Scaringe Award Applications

Applications are now being accepted for **The RNA Society/Scaringe Young Scientist Award**. This Award was established to recognize the achievement of younger scientists engaged in RNA research and to encourage them to pursue a career in the field of RNA. The award is open to all junior scientists (graduate students or postdoctoral fellows) from all regions of the world who have made a significant contribution to the broad area of RNA. The award is not restricted to authors who have published in the journal, *RNA*, but you must be an RNA Society member to apply (click [here](#) to become a member or renew your membership). The prize will recognize one outstanding graduate student and one postdoctoral fellow based on their research accomplishments to date, a 1000-word essay describing their scientific contributions to RNA research, and a 500-word abstract for a review in their field of RNA research. Additional information about the judging criteria and the award can be found below and on the application form.

Click [here](#) to submit an application (You must be an RNA Society member to access the application), or log onto the RNA Society members only area and select "Apply for the Scaringe Award" under the Make Requests menu. **Deadline: February 15th, 2016**

Sincerely Yours,

Timothy Nilsen, Editor, RNA

Philip Bevilacqua, Member of Editorial Board, RNA

Sarah Woodson, President

Adrian Krainer, Past-President

James McSwiggen, CEO



From the desk of the CEO

Jim McSwiggen



Welcome to 2016, another exciting year for RNA research. Naturally, the big topic for me at this time of year is the upcoming the **21st annual meeting of the RNA Society** to be held on **June 28 - July 2, 2016**

at the [International Conference Center \(ICC\)](#) in **Kyoto, Japan**. For the second time in our history, we will host a joint meeting with the RNA Society of Japan—it's their 18th annual meeting. We are returning to the site of the 2011 annual meeting, and I am very happy that we are. The ICC is a really great site for our meeting, and the city of Kyoto is an exceptional tourist destination as well.

There's probably no better time to come to Kyoto for those exchanging US dollars or Euros for Yen; the exchange rate has improved by 30-60% compared to 2011 for those currencies. To make it more affordable, we will continue to provide **travel fellowships** (see [p.6](#)) to RNA Society members who need a little extra financial assistance to attend the conference, and we are trying out a new **3-for-2 incentive** (see [p.7](#)) to encourage lab heads to both attend the conference themselves and to bring more than one member of their lab. More detailed descriptions of these two programs can be found above in the newsletter and on-line.

Graduate students and post docs also should also consider applying for an **RNA Society/Scaringe** award (see [p.9](#)). Recipients of the award receive honor and acclaim, but also free registration, lodging and travel to the annual meeting to receive the award (and some cash). More details can be found above, and on-line. I want to especially encourage those from outside the USA to apply for the award. Last year there were no applicants from outside the USA, and that doesn't seem right to me.

Speaking of awards, I want to congratulate **Eric Westhof** and **Andrea Barta** for being the recipients of the RNA Society's 2016 Lifetime Achievement

in Science Award (Eric) and the 2016 Lifetime Service Award (Andrea) (see [p.6](#)). They, too, will be celebrated for their accomplishments at the annual meeting in Kyoto.

This is also the time of year when we start preparing for the annual elections. This year we need to elect a president and three board members, all to two year terms. As required by our bylaws, Sarah Woodson, our current president, has appointed a nominating committee to seek out volunteers to run in these elections. If you would like to be considered for one of those positions, please let Sarah or me know; we can then pass your name on to the nominating committee. Our bylaws also provide a mechanism by which candidates can be added to the ballot by a petition signed by 10 members of the society. This latter mechanism has never actually been used to my knowledge, but it would be a nice development if it did occur. By whichever means we find volunteers, we very much appreciate the commitment of time and enthusiasm that they are willing to make to the society.

As CEO, my goal is to expand the Society's membership and income so that we can continue to expand our mission of supporting RNA research and education. I am grateful to the many, many volunteers who have helped in this endeavor, and who continue to do so. In particular, I want to thank the outgoing board members **Adrian Ferre-D'Amare**, **Fatima Gebauer**, and **Kristen Lynch** who have just completed their terms of office on our board of directors, and to welcome new board members **Gloria Culver**, **Matt Hentze**, and **Beth Tran**. It is the on-going commitment of these and all of our other volunteers that make me happy to continue doing this job.

As always, if you have questions, comments, concerns or commendations regarding the RNA Society, please let me know. I am always happy to hear from our members (and also happy to hear from non-members who want to become members).

Jim McSwiggen, CEO

CEO@rnasociety.org



Chairman of the Meetings Committee Benoit Chabot

As we are gearing up to meet in **Kyoto**, Japan, in 2016, and in anticipation of our 2017 meeting in **Prague**, we are now completing our evaluation of two splendid venues in the USA for 2018. This information will be communicated to members of the Meeting Committee (**Jean Beggs, Markus Bohnsack, Sam Butcher, Michelle Hastings, Melissa Jurica, Eric Phizicky, Renée Schroeder, Mikiko Siomi and Erik Sontheimer**) for a vote to be taken at our assembly in Kyoto next June. In addition, in collaboration with **Simple Meetings**, we are collecting preliminary information on several possible European venues proposed by members for 2019. One goal of the Meetings Committee assembly in Kyoto will be to narrow down the current list of putative 2019 venues based upon a more exhaustive investigation of pros and cons of each venue in terms of ease of access, conference facilities and specific costs. It is also important to start thinking about 2020, which will be the 25th annual meeting of the RNA Society. We welcome information from any members that are willing to champion their institution or city as possible venues. Please contact me for more details on what information is needed. Benoit.Chabot@USherbrooke.ca



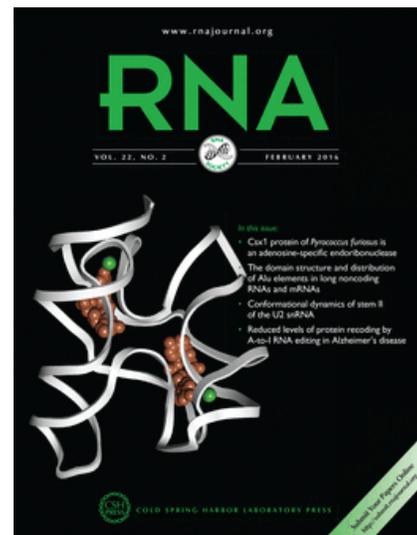
Benoit Chabot
Chair of the Meeting Committee

Simplified Author Charges for RNA

The RNA Society and Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press are pleased to announce changes in the publication charges for the journal, *RNA*, beginning with the May 2016 issue.

Each article will incur a single publication fee – \$1000 for members and \$1500 for non-members. Articles can include an unlimited number of color figures at no additional charge. Articles longer than 12 pages will incur a \$50-per-page surcharge. Surcharges will also be required if substantial text changes are made or color figures replaced after a paper has been accepted for publication.

These changes are intended to simplify manuscript submission and encourage submissions in fields that rely on color to convey important scientific information.



From the desk of Membership Chair Kristian Baker



RNA SOCIETY membership dues support a number of Society initiatives. Two important programs include offering Travel Fellowships to assist members in attending the annual RNA Society meeting and providing financial support to smaller, RNA-related meetings. The later is intended to promote the participation and recognition of junior RNA researchers (students and post-doctoral fellows) at scientific meetings held throughout the world.

Many of you have asked for more information on how to acquire small-meeting support from the **RNA SOCIETY**, and so I thought it beneficial to outline the criteria that are used to guide decisions on Society sponsorship.

- ☑ At least one of the Organizers (the individual making the request) must be a current and Full member of the **RNA SOCIETY**.
- ☑ The meeting topic must be related to RNA and be deemed of broad interest to Society members.
- ☑ The meeting must be sponsored by a non-profit organization.
- ☑ Sponsorship funds must be used to enhance the training of junior researchers. Requests for sponsorship must be accompanied by a proposal as to how funds will be used to support the participation and/or recognition of students and/or post-docs. This is often in the form of travel awards, meeting registration wavers, or presentation prizes, but don't hesitate to be creative!
- ☑ Meeting organizers agree to the **RNA SOCIETY** policy that every effort will be made to promote ethnic, gender and geographic diversity in those speaking, chairing and attending the meeting.
- ☑ Requests must be made at least two months in advance of the close of meeting registration to ensure that there is sufficient time to advertise and circulate meeting information to Society members.

Once the **RNA SOCIETY** agrees to sponsor a meeting, a contract letter is drafted requiring that organizers abide by the above criteria and also provide information that can be used to advertise in the Society newsletter and website. Additionally, organizers agree to provide a post-meeting announcement on how the funds were used and the names of those receiving support (photos are welcome and encouraged). In return for support, the **RNA SOCIETY** requests that its logo be prominently displayed on promotional material (flyers, website, projection) and that it be acknowledged for its support and promoted at the event.

The **RNA SOCIETY** is eager to team up with organizers to sponsor meetings that benefit our members and to enhance training opportunities for junior RNA researchers. If you think your meeting qualifies or if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me at kristian.baker@case.edu.

Thank you for being a member of the **RNA SOCIETY** and I look forward to seeing you in Kyoto.

Kristian



RNA Society-supported meetings

Reports from recent meetings supported by the Society

RiboClub 2015

September 21-23, 2015
Orford, Quebec, Canada

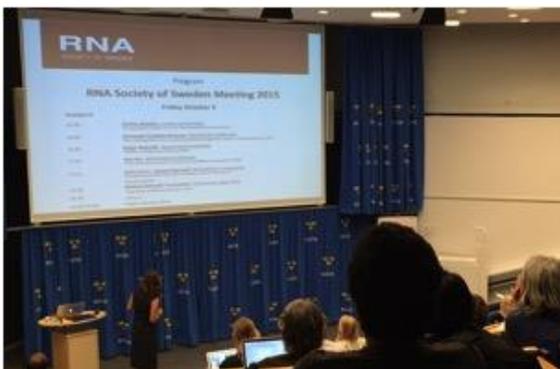
The 16th Annual Meeting of the RiboClub was organized in partnership with the Institut de Génétique Moléculaire de Montpellier (France). Adrian Krainer (Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, NY, USA) gave an impressive opening lecture on mechanism-based antisense therapy targeting splicing and NMD, while Éric Westhof (Strasbourg, France) was a very inspiring keynote discussing Non-Watson-Crick base pairs, RNA architectural modules and recognition fidelity in translation. The flavor of the year was "New frontiers in RNA biology and human diseases". In addition to the oral presentations distributed in seven sessions, two interactive poster sessions showcased the work of students and post-docs. Thanks to the support of the **RNA SOCIETY**, 2 travel scholarships were awarded on a competitive basis to Leszek Blaszczyk (Poznan University of Technology, Poland; top) and Athanasios Zovoilis (Harvard Medical School, USA; bottom).



RNA Society of Sweden 2015 Conference

October 2-4, 2015
Stockholm, Sweden

The RNA Society of Sweden had its first meeting on October 2-4, 2015 at Bosön in Stockholm and was co-organized by Tracy Nissan (Umeå University) and Marie Öhman (Stockholm University). The meeting drew RNA researchers from throughout Sweden representing the major universities in the country. The meeting focused on allowing young group leaders, postdocs and graduate students the opportunity to present their research. For more information on the RNA Society of Sweden, please visit <http://www.rnass.se>.

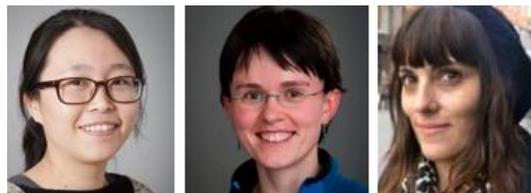


Keynote speakers were Robert Darnell and Michael Kiebler, selected based on their expertise on RNA and neurobiology. In addition, we were especially fortunate to have as a special guest, James Darnell, who gave his reflections about his life in RNA, especially in context with Sweden.

We were also happy to have the opportunity to have Mary O'Connell, former guest professor at Stockholm University, revisiting to present her work.

Many excellent poster presentations were given and three were selected by meeting participants for recognition:

- Wenjing Kang (Marc Friedländer's lab at Stockholm University)
- Maaïke Sterk (Gerhart Wagner's lab at Uppsala University)
- Sueli Marques (Gonçalo Castelo-Branco's lab at the Karolinska Institute)



Support from the **RNA SOCIETY** provided awards to these students and greatly helped to promote RNA research in Sweden. The next RNA Society of Sweden meeting will be held in two years and will be organized by Lund and Uppsala Universities. Hope to see you there!

Hallmarks of cancer: Focus on RNA

October 9-10, 2015

Paris, France

The first symposium on the “*Hallmarks of cancer: Focus on RNA*” took place on October 9-10, 2015, at Institut Curie in Paris, France. The aims of this symposium were to bring together both RNA and cancer biologists, and to illustrate the implication of increasingly complex post-transcriptional regulations and noncoding RNAs in the equally complex array of cancer hallmarks, which comprise a dozen of malignant cell properties.

The meeting gathered 120 participants from labs in 9 European countries, Canada and USA. The program included 4 keynote talks: D. HANAHAN introduced the hallmarks of cancer, while M. GOROSPE, G. DREYFUSS and N. SONENBERG took the lead of 3 sessions on noncoding RNA, RNA processing, and mRNA translation/stability. There were also 7 invited talks (O. Bischof, R. Fähræus, M. Huarte, S. Hüttelmaier, R. Karni, P. Sorensen, A. Willis), 14 selected talks, and 45 posters.

The organizers (M. Dutertre and S. Vagner) and co-organizers (A. Almouzni, F. Mechta-Grigoriou and A. Morillon) are very grateful to the **RNA SOCIETY** for the generous support that provided travel fellowships to Luisa VIGEVANI (PhD student, J. Valcarcel’s lab, Centro de Regulacion Genomica, Barcelona) and Manuela MURA (Post-doc, S. Blagden’s lab, Imperial College London, UK).

The next “*Hallmarks of cancer: Focus on RNA*” symposium will take place next year at the Institut Curie in Paris, France.

North Carolina Symposium on RNA Biology XI

October 16-17, 2015

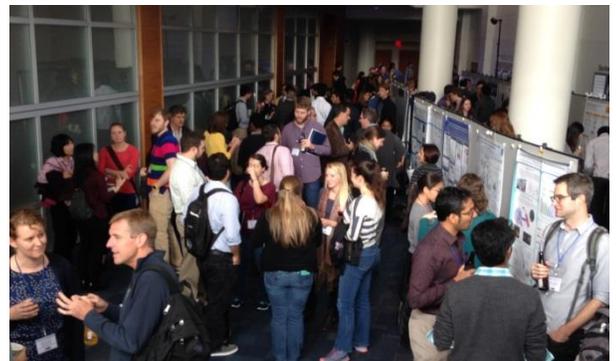
Durham, North Carolina, USA

The biannual meeting of the North Carolina RNA society brought nearly 190 scientists from across academia, industry, and government to Duke University in Durham, North Carolina. The meeting included talks and posters over a wide range of topics highlighting the latest achievements in RNA research and featured both national and Triangle area scientists. The meeting showcased sessions on CRISPR, RNA and viruses, RNA splicing, genome-wide approaches, ribonucleoproteins, and RNA folding and recognition. Oral presentations selected from submitted abstracts provided the conference attendees with exciting talks on new directions being explored in RNA research. Attendees also enjoyed a lively poster session with over 65 poster presentations and a symposium banquet. Our keynote lectures were given by Feng Zhang (MIT), Juli Feigon (UCLA), and Dan Herschlag (Stanford University). The conference was a great success and concluded with award presentations, which were kindly provided through the generosity of the **RNA SOCIETY** and the conference sponsors.



RNA SOCIETY Travel Fellowships were awarded to: Jimena Guidice (Postdoc, Baylor), Magdalena Cichewicz (Graduate Student, University of Virginia), Subrata Panja (Postdoc, Johns Hopkins), and Nikolai Hecker (Graduate Student, University of Copenhagen).

Top Abstract Awards went to: Hong Li (Professor, Florida State), Eric Wagner (Assoc. Professor, UTMB), Charles Carter (Professor, UNC), and Benjamin Scruggs (Fellow, NIEHS).



Poster Awards were presented to: Joshua Black (Graduate Student, Duke), Meredith Corley (Graduate Student, UNC), Telmo Henriques (Postdoc, NIEHS) Nandan Gokhale (Graduate Student, Duke), Matthew Smola (Postdoc, UNC), and Sonika Patial (Fellow, NIEHS).

10th International Symposium on Aminoacyl-tRNA Synthetases

October 18-22, 2015

Barcelona, Spain



The 10th International Symposium on Aminoacyl-tRNA Synthetases took place in the Casa de la Convalescència, an architectural gem within Barcelona that is part of a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The focus of the meeting, organized by Lluís Ribas de Pouplana (IRB Barcelona) and Karin Musier-Forsyth (The Ohio State University), was on the evolution, structure, function and biotechnology of aminoacyl-tRNA synthetases, and their canonical and many non-canonical roles in health and disease.

A full four-day program included seven scientific sessions, a half-day tour, and several social events to introduce everyone to the Catalan culture. There were over 130 attendees, 51 talks including 5 keynote speakers and 31 posters. A lively round table discussion focused on New Challenges in the field. We are very grateful for support from the **RNA SOCIETY**, which provided funds that allowed us to award 5 prizes for outstanding posters to the following graduate students and postdoctoral fellows: Johan-Owen De Craene (Universite de Strasbourg), Min Ji Lee (Yonsei University), Edgar Lopes (University of Aveiro), Min Chul Park (Seoul National University), and Tatsuo Yanagisawa (RIKEN Structural Biology Laboratory).

Rustbelt RNA Meeting (RRM) 2015

October 23-24, 2015

Huron, Ohio, USA

The 2015 Rustbelt RNA Meeting (RRM) took place October 23-24 at the beautiful Sawmill Creek Resort in Huron, OH. The meeting attracted more than 260 participants from the Rustbelt states, Maryland, Ontario, Canada and even California! Following the rich tradition of the RRM, the meeting highlighted cutting-edge RNA science with 26 oral presentations given by postdoctoral/graduate trainees and ~140 poster presentations.



Blair Szymczyna (Western Michigan University) and Jayakrishnan Nandakumar (University of Michigan) gave young investigator talks and the keynote address was presented by Ron Breaker (pictured) who took meeting participants on a journey through the RNA World with a vibrant discussion of Ribozymes and Riboswitches. Details about RRM 2015 can be found at <http://rustbeltma.org/2015/> and a complete photo gallery viewed <https://www.flickr.com/photos/136627572@N08/sets/72157660357260956/>.

We would like to thank the **RNA SOCIETY** for providing financial support, and acknowledge CSHL Press for generously donating books that were presented to winners of the oral and poster Outstanding Presentation Awards. Oral presentation award winners: Aiswarya Krisnamohan (Ohio State University) and James Hiznay (Cleveland Clinic). Poster presentation award winners: Avan Anita (Undergraduate Award; University of Maryland); Roopa Comandur (Ohio State University); Salini Konikkat (Carnegie Mellon University); Rachel Simpson (University of Buffalo); and Michele Tolbert (Case Western Reserve University).

Zing Conference on Regulating with RNA in Bacteria and Archaea

December 5-8, 2015

Cancun, Mexico



This fourth meeting on regulatory RNAs was a huge success bringing together ~160 researchers from 18 different countries for exciting talks on largely unpublished data, a packed poster session and extensive discussion and exchange of ideas. Funds from the **RNA SOCIETY** supported the registration for two junior scientists

who gave invited talks. Further information about the <http://www.zingconferences.com/regulating-rna-bacteria-archaea-conference/>.

RNA UK 2016

January 29th – 31st, 2016

Lake District, UK

The RNA-UK 2016 meeting (organized by Natalia Gromak, Lidia Vasilieva and Nicholas Proudfoot of the University of Oxford) covered a number of RNA biology-centred topics including pre-mRNA splicing, mRNA localization and translation, rRNA and miRNA biogenesis, RNA turnover, biology of unusual RNA structures, regulatory non-coding RNAs, as well as disease-related aspects. The once small biannual meeting reached 155 participants who spent three very productive days discussing their exciting research. The meeting showcased current research in the RNA field with 43 oral presentations (presented predominantly by graduate students and post-doctoral scientists) and 55 poster presentations. Additionally, there was an abundance of opportunity for networking, discussions, sharing of ideas, and development of new collaborations - facilitated by the relaxed atmosphere during poster sessions, dinners and an afternoon hill walk to observe the beautiful Lake views [Lake view featuring (right to left) Beth Watts, Chris Norbury, Cornelia Kilchert, Benoit Moindrot, Greta Pintacuda (poster prize winner), and Tea Kecman; photo courtesy of Tea Kecman].



The conference was a great success and concluded with award presentations, which were kindly provided through the generosity of the **RNA SOCIETY** and other conference sponsors. **Dr. Claudia Kutter** (Duncan Odom's lab, University of Cambridge) and **Dr. Anand Kumar Singh** [Saverio Brogna's lab, University of Birmingham; pictured (photo courtesy of Matthias Groh)] received *Best Talk prizes* for their outstanding oral presentations. **Benjamin Towler** (Sarah Newbury's lab, University of Sussex), **Greta Pintacuda**

(Neil Brockdorff's lab, University of Oxford) and **Mariavittoria Pizzinga** (Mark Ashe's lab, University of Manchester) were awarded *Best Poster prizes*.



Upcoming RNA meetings of Interest

12th Annual RiboWest Conference

June 5– 8, 2016

Alberta RNA Research and Training Institute, University of Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada

The Alberta RNA Research and Training Institute (ARRTI) at the University of Lethbridge is proud to host the 12th Annual RiboWest Conference. As in the past, we expect more than 100 researchers from 35 different research laboratories in Canada and Northwest USA. RNA researchers at all levels enjoy this meeting as it allows for the exchange of scientific achievements, the building of new networks, and the establishment of collaborations. Once again, there will be a special emphasis on student training with numerous awards, affordable registration fees, and several targeted training and networking opportunities.

The 2016 meeting will focus on RNA and Synthetic Biology: new RNA technologies (on the first day) and on RNA in Health & Disease (on the second day). Dr. Adam Arkin (University of California Berkeley) will be the first keynote speaker and is a recognized leader in systems and synthetic biology in his elegant use of RNA as a regulator of gene expression.

Dr. Paul Lasko (McGill University) will be the second keynote speaker and will lead a session on research funding. Dr. Lasko is the Scientific Director of the Institute of Genetics at the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) and his research focuses on oogenesis in *Drosophila* including translational control and RNA localization.

Dr. Eric Massé (Université de Sherbrooke) is our invited speaker representing the Eastern Canada RNA community. Dr. Massé is an accomplished researcher investigating regulation of gene expression by small RNAs in bacteria with an important focus on health aspects.

A number of talks will be selected from submitted abstracts, thus providing opportunities for students to present their work. In addition, Fellowships are available for a limited number of students to attend RiboWest 2016. For more information visit www.uleth.ca/artsci/ribowest or contact us at ribowest@uleth.ca.

Registration and abstract deadline is May 4th, 2016.

EMBO workshop: RNA structure meets function

June 12-15, 2016

Stockholm Archipelago, Sweden

Organizers: Gonçalo Castelo-Branco (Karolinska Institutet, Sweden), Katja Petzold (Karolinska Institutet, Sweden), Alessandra Villa (Karolinska Institutet, Sweden)

The aim of this EMBO Workshop is to promote scientific exchange and synergies across the fields of RNA structure and RNA function, by gathering leading, established and junior scientists. The meeting will provide an opportunity for discussion on the most recent advances in the areas of structural RNA biology, large RNA complexes, regulatory RNAs and chromatin, RNA dynamics, regulatory & non-coding RNAs.

Keynote and invited speakers include: Caroline Dean (UK), David Bartel (USA), Dinshaw Patel (USA), Eric Westhof (FR), Francois Major (CA), Gerhart Wagner (SE), Harald Schwalbe (DE), Hashim Al-Hashimi (USA), Howard Chang (USA), Ingrid Grummt (DE), Jeannie Lee (USA), John Mattick (USA), Juli Feigon (USA), Karissa Sanbonmatsu (USA), Maite Huarte (ES), Maria Carmo-Fonseca (PT), Maria Selmer (SE), Mihaela Zavolan (CH), Mitch Guttman (USA),



Nikolaus Rajewsky (DE), Nynke Dekker (NL), Piero Carninci (JP), Rhiju Das (USA), Sarah Woodson (USA), Teresa Carlomagno (DE).

The workshop will feature talks from invited speakers, as well as short talks (selected from submitted abstracts) and a poster session. Roundtables and other activities will promote discussion and interaction between participants.

Registration and abstract submission deadline is March 1st, 2016. Further details, including a complete program and registration can be found at <http://events.embo.org/16-rna/>.

FASEB meeting on Post-transcriptional control of gene expression: mechanisms of mRNA decay

July 10-15, 2016

Lisbon, Portugal

Organizers: Jeff Collier and Ciaran Condon

This meeting, which takes place every two years, focuses on the latest developments in the field of post-transcriptional gene control in prokaryotic and eukaryotic models. This unique blend from the two communities is always much appreciated by attendees and represents one of its main highlights.

Meeting topics will include events occurring at both the 5' and 3' ends of mRNA related to decay, links between translation, quality control and mRNA stability, and the relationship between RNA degradation and disease. Two full sessions will be devoted to mechanisms of sRNA, CRISPR RNA, and miRNA regulation, and how they pertain to mRNA stability.

There will be a total of 9 sessions over the 4 days, with 36 invited speakers (each experts in their fields), and two internationally renowned keynote speakers, Chris Lima and Jörg Vogel. Speakers are encouraged to present their most recent and unpublished data. Two poster sessions and 2-3 additional speakers per session will be chosen to give oral presentations, based on submitted abstracts.

The meeting traditionally hosts ~120 attendees thereby providing unrestricted access to students and post-docs for dynamic discussions with more established scientists and potential future employers. Informal Meet-the-Expert sessions will be held over lunch, with assigned tables to selected speakers. This promises to be a very engaging and lively meeting in one of Europe's most beautiful cities.

Registration opens January 7, 2016 and Earlybird registration closes May 26, 2016.

For more information, please visit: <http://www.faseb.org/SRC-Microsite/mRNA/Home.aspx>

RNaseH 2016

September 6-9, 2016

Kyoto University, Japan

Organizers: Mitsuhiro Itaya (Keio University), Shigenori Kanaya (Osaka University), Kiyoshi Yasukawa (Kyoto University), Robert Crouch (National Institutes of Health)

The 14th International Meeting will discuss recent progress in our understanding of RNase H and related enzymes as well as practical applications of the research in the fields of biology, biochemistry, and medical chemistry. Since the first RNase H meeting in Hawaii in 1990, this meeting has been held every two years at beautiful locations all over the world. Registration is now open and fees of 50,000 JPY must be received by August 31, 2016. Cancellations may be made online without penalty charge until July 31, 2016.

Please visit <http://www.knt-ec.net/2016/rnaseh2016/index.html> for more information.

We look forward to meeting you in Kyoto.



I-International Caparica Conference in Splicing –Splicing 2016

September 12-14, 2016

Nova University of Lisbon, Portugal.

Organizers: Jose Luis Capelo (Nova University of Lisbon), Carlos Lodeiro (Nova University of Lisbon). The I-International Caparica Conference in Splicing –Splicing 2016- will join in a friendly academic environment all of us working or interested in moving to this area of research. The conference will take place in summer in one of the best sea villages from Portugal, the sea village of Caparica (South Lisbon area). We aim you to present your latest results in Splicing (DNA, RNA, Protein) or in related areas, and to join the best researchers in the arena. Please do not hesitate in contacting me should you have any suggestion to help us make of this event a remarkable one (jicapelom@bioscopegroup.org). We have managed a nice package with breakfast, lunch, dinner and coffee breaks included by just 80 €/night in double shared room (twin), including indoor and outdoor pools, gym, spa and an optional golf course. Fee is as low as 250 euros/participant.

Please visit www.splicing2016.com and <http://www.aldeiadoscapuchos.pt> fore more information

10th International Retroviral Nucleocapsid and Assembly Symposium

September 18-21, 2016

Montpellier, France

The International Retroviral Nucleocapsid and Assembly Symposium takes place approximately every 2 years. We anticipate that this conference will bring together ~120 scientists from around the world to discuss current state-of-the-art of research on retroviral nucleocapsid protein and its Gag precursor, a polyprotein responsible for viral assembly. Topics will include: [1] the role of the NC domain of Gag in viral RNA sequestration and assembly of HIV-1, [2] interactions of NC with viral and cellular partners, [3] chaperone properties, [4] the impact of biophysical methods, notably high resolution microscopy and NMR on the understanding of these processes, and [5] the development of therapeutic strategies. For more information on registration and abstract submission, please see the conference web site at <http://ircas2016.sciencesconf.org/>

Employment Opportunities

If you are a member and would like to have your employment opportunity listed on this page, follow the instructions on [this page](#) (you must log in as a member to view the page). If you are interested in applying for a position, please contact the person listed in the advertisement.

Sign up for our [jobs feed](#) and receive email notification when we post to this page.

[NIH Funded Post-Doctoral Position in the Laboratory of Dr. Sam Butcher](#)

Posted on [February 9, 2016](#)

An NIH funded post-doctoral position is immediately available in the laboratory of Dr. Sam Butcher (<https://biochem.wisc.edu/faculty/butcher>) in the Department of Biochemistry at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

The lab utilizes numerous biochemical and biophysical methods, including but not limited to NMR and X-ray crystallography. Lab members also operate in close contact with the NIH-supported National Magnetic Resonance Facility at Madison (NMRFAM), for which Dr. Butcher serves as co-PI. Active collaborations provide opportunities to acquire expertise in complimentary methods, spanning from yeast genetics to single molecule microscopy. The selected candidate will study the molecular biophysics of RNA-protein complexes that regulate gene expression, with an expected tenure between 2 – 4 years. Applicants must have a PhD degree in a related field and demonstrated ability to work both



independently and interact well with an outstanding group of collaborative scientists. Madison, WI offers an outstanding intellectual environment with excellent public schools and a relatively low cost of living.

For more information and contact information, see <https://biochem.wisc.edu/faculty/butcher>

Postdoctoral Research Position in the Lab of Dr. Aaron Goldstrohm

Posted on [February 9, 2016](#)

A postdoctoral research position is available in the lab of Dr. Aaron Goldstrohm in the Department of Biochemistry, Molecular Biology and Biophysics at the University of Minnesota.

Dr. Goldstrohm seeks a highly motivated postdoctoral candidate to perform research on the role of post-transcriptional regulator mechanisms in cancer biology. Candidates should hold a Ph.D. in biochemistry, genetics, cellular and molecular biology or related field. They should have strong interests in cancer biology, gene regulation, RNA biology, and genetics. Individuals with experience in cancer research and molecular and cellular biology techniques are preferred. Candidates should have research skills including designing and executing experiments, interpreting data, and the ability to communicate results, as demonstrated by previous publications and presentations.

The University of Minnesota and the Goldstrohm Lab provide an outstanding training environment with state-of-the-art facilities and instrumentation including next generation sequencing, imaging, proteomics, and bioinformatics. Compensation will correspond with the NIH NRSA payscale, commensurate with experience, and will include health care benefits.

The University of Minnesota is located in metropolitan Minneapolis, a vibrant, affordable city with a strong economy and abundant cultural, intellectual, and recreational opportunities <http://www.minneapolis.org/>.

To apply, candidates should submit their curriculum vitae with publication record and contact information for three references to Dr. Aaron C. Goldstrohm at agoldstr@umn.edu.

Please include a cover letter describing career goals, research experience, accomplishments, and interests. To learn more about the Goldstrohm lab and research, visit: <http://cbs.umn.edu/contacts/aaron-goldstrohm>

NSF-funded Postdoctoral Position to Investigate Meiotic Gene Regulation

NSF-funded Postdoctoral Position to Investigate Meiotic Gene Regulation available in the Wise lab, Center for RNA Molecular Biology, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland OH USA.

Highly motivated candidates are invited to apply for a postdoctoral position to spearhead the Wise lab's efforts to understand the molecular basis of changes in RNA metabolism during meiotic progression in the fission yeast *Schizosaccharomyces pombe*. Previous work has uncovered two unusual regulatory strategies that come into play sequentially as this simple developmental program unfolds:

- Increased accumulation of early meiotic mRNAs driven by enhanced stability due to sequestration of an RNA binding protein that targets them for destruction in mitotic cells
- Increased accumulation of middle meiotic mRNAs driven by enhanced co-transcriptional processing mediated by a transcription factor regulated by the early mechanism

The project will utilize a combination of genome-wide and traditional molecular genetic approaches to dissect the cascade of events through which these interconnected regulatory strategies ensure proper temporal control of gene expression. The Center for RNA Molecular Biology provides a stimulating and highly interactive research environment in which trainees benefit from the high concentration of faculty, students and postdocs with relevant expertise.



The ideal candidate will hold a recently awarded Ph.D. in Molecular Biology or a related discipline and have laboratory experience working with RNA and/or yeast. A strong track record of self-directed research and excellent technical and communication skills are also essential. Expertise in bioinformatics and/or genetic manipulation is highly desirable. The position is available immediately at a salary commensurate with experience.

To apply, please send a cover letter including a description of research interests and career goals, as well as a detailed CV and the names of three references (with e-mail addresses and phone numbers) to Jo Ann Wise via e-mail to jaw17@case.edu.

[Two Postdoctoral Fellowships and One Research Technician Position at Rutgers University](#)

Posted on [January 29, 2016](#)

Two postdoctoral fellowships (2-3 years) and one research technician position (1-3 years) are available in the group of Dr. Premal Shah at Rutgers University at New Brunswick, NJ (<http://www.theshahlab.org>). The specific research project is flexible and can be tailored to the interests of the individual, but it will fall under the broad purview of regulation of protein translation and evolution of coding sequences.

1. Computational biology position:

Requirements for the position include a proven record of self-motivated research; a PhD in mathematics, statistics, physics, biology or related area; excellent communication skills. The ideal candidate should also be familiar with scientific programming and be able to handle high-throughput sequencing datasets.

2. RNA biology position:

Requirements for the position include a proven record of self-motivated research; a PhD in biochemistry, genetics, molecular biology or related area; excellent communication skills. The ideal candidate should have extensive experience in RNA biology, with an interest to work on ribosome profiling.

The postdoctoral fellows will have considerable freedom in developing their own research program, with the resources needed to distinguish themselves. In addition, the fellows will have several opportunities to interact and forge collaborations with research groups both at Rutgers as well as other institutions in the Philadelphia-New York corridor.

3. Lab Manager/Research technician position:

Requirements for the position include a bachelor's or master's degree in sciences with substantial laboratory research experience. The successful candidate will most importantly demonstrate a willingness to learn, have an ability to follow research protocols with attention to detail, and have strong organizational and record keeping skills.

The postdoctoral fellowship and technician positions provide a competitive annual stipend and health insurance. Start date and terms are negotiable. Applications are welcome from candidates of any nationality. Women and under-represented minorities are especially encouraged to apply.

Applicants should email a statement of research interests, CV, and contact details for references to premal.shah@rutgers.edu. Informal inquiries are also welcomed.

[NIH-funded Postdoctoral Position in High-Resolution 3DEM to Study Ribosome Assembly](#)

Posted on [January 29, 2016](#)

An NIH-funded postdoctoral position in high-resolution 3DEM to study ribosome assembly is available in the laboratory of Dr. Beth Stroupe at Florida State University, in collaboration with the laboratory of Dr. Katrin Karbstein at The Scripps Research Institute, FL. FSU, located in Tallahassee, FL, is home to a strong 3DEM community, centered on a state-of-the-art Titan Krios equipped with a Direct Electron camera. To learn more about research in the Stroupe and Karbstein laboratories, visit www.biophysics.fsu/stroupe/ and <http://www.scripps.edu/karbstein/>. Required qualifications include experience in RNA and/or protein biochemistry and structural biology as well as a strong motivation for success in a fast-paced environment. The successful candidate will be expected to interface between the two laboratories and gain



experience in all aspects of 3D electron microscopy, including specimen handling, data collection, and 3D reconstruction. Applications should include a CV and the contact information for three references. These should be sent to mestroupe@bio.fsu.edu. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled.

[Post Doctoral Position in Retina Development and Vision](#)

Posted on [January 26, 2016](#)

A NIH funded Post Doctoral position is available immediately in the laboratory of Dr. Peter Stoilov, Department of Biochemistry at West Virginia University. The project will use genetically engineered mouse models, genomics and biochemical approaches to determine the role in vision of a recently discovered alternative splicing program specific to photoreceptor cells. The research is carried out in close collaboration with the group of Dr. Visvanathan Ramamurthy (WVU Eye Institute).

Applicants must currently have a PhD/MD in Biochemistry, Molecular/Cellular Biology, Chemistry or a related field of study within the basic sciences. Investigators with experience in using animal models or genomics approaches are strongly encouraged to apply. Broad knowledge of biology, critical thinking, independence, and general curiosity are highly appreciated.

Applicants interested in this position can contact Dr. Stoilov (pstoilov@hsc.wvu.edu) for more information or submit their curriculum vitae along with the names and contact information of three references through the WVU Jobs Hiring site at: http://employmentservices.hr.wvu.edu/wvu_jobs

West Virginia University is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer. The WVU Health Sciences Center is a smoke-free campus. WVU is the recipient of an NSF ADVANCE award for gender equity.

[Postdoctoral Position on RNA Homeostasis in Neurodegeneration – Johns Hopkins University – Jiou Wang Laboratory](#)

Posted on [January 4, 2016](#)

Highly motivated postdoctoral candidates are invited to lead several new projects to address fundamental questions in Nucleic Acid Biology. Current directions in the lab include novel functions of DNA/RNA of unconventional structures, microRNA processing, and general RNA and protein homeostasis. Candidates with a strong background in biochemical, molecular, and cellular analyses of nucleic acids are encouraged to apply.

The Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions provide a stimulating and collaborative environment for biomedical research. Our lab is affiliated with the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology of the Bloomberg School of Public Health and the Department of Neuroscience of the School of Medicine. The Baltimore/Washington D.C. area also offers rich professional and living opportunities.

Candidates should have a doctoral degree and strong research background. Please send a statement of research experience and career goals, a copy of Curriculum Vitae, and contact information of at least one reference to Dr. Jiou Wang at jiouw@jhmi.edu.

A complete listing of PubMed-accessible publications can be accessed at the following URL:

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/?term=Jiou+Wang>.

More information available at: <http://neuroscience.jhu.edu/resources/directory/faculty/jiou-wang/>. The Johns Hopkins University is an Equal Opportunity Employer.



[Postdoctoral Position\(s\) on RNA Modification and Quality control](#)

Posted on [January 4, 2016](#)

Up to two positions for postdoctoral fellows are available at the Max Planck Institute for Molecular Biomedicine in the group of Sebastian Leidel working on the in vivo role of RNA modifications in different model systems. Preferences will be given to motivated applicants with a strong background and scientific interest in RNA biology. The successful candidate will have an outstanding academic track record and will have published first authored papers in internationally recognized peer-reviewed journals. Experience in mass spectrometry or next generation sequencing is a plus. Candidates should send applications by email including full their CV, list of publications and the names and institutional email addresses of three referees to:

sebastian.leidel@mpi-muenster.mpg.de

More information can be found at: www.mpi-muenster.mpg.de

References:

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Alings F, Sarin LP, Fufezan C, Drexler HCA, Leidel SA. An evolutionary approach uncovers a diverse response of tRNA 2-thiolation to elevated temperatures in yeast. *RNA* 2015; 21(2): 202-212.

[FACULTY POSITION – Department of Biochemistry and Biophysics – University of California, San Francisco](#)

Posted on [January 4, 2016](#)

FACULTY POSITION Department of Biochemistry and Biophysics University of California, San Francisco

The Department of Biochemistry and Biophysics seeks candidates for a tenure track faculty position, at the rank of Assistant Professor. We seek outstanding individuals who are addressing outstanding questions in any area of modern biology including, but not limited to, Cell and Developmental Biology, Genetics/Epigenetics, Genomics, RNA Biology, Structural Biology, Neuroscience, Systems Biology, Organismal Biology, Evolution, and Bioengineering. Research space will be located at the newly developed UCSF Mission Bay Campus.

Candidates are expected to hold a Ph.D. or M.D. degree, or equivalent, and to have demonstrated significant potential in their fields. Postdoctoral experience is not required. The successful candidate will be expected to establish a dynamic research program and excel at teaching in both graduate and professional school courses. The successful candidate may apply for membership in diverse UCSF graduate programs including, but not limited to, programs in Neuroscience, Development Biology, Cell Biology, Biophysics, Genetics and Molecular Biology.

Applicants are encouraged to submit their applications before January 3, 2016 to ensure full consideration by the Committee.

UC San Francisco seeks candidates whose experience, teaching, research, or community service has prepared them to contribute to our commitment to diversity and excellence.

The University of California is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, disability, age, or protected veteran status.

Please apply online at <http://aptrkr.com/721128>



Tenure Track Faculty Position in Computational and Experimental Cancer Genetics and Genomics

Posted on [December 19, 2015](#)

The Department of Biochemistry at Purdue in conjunction with the Purdue University Center for Cancer Research (PUCCR) and the Walther Cancer Foundation invites applications for a tenure track faculty position in computational and experimental cancer genetics and genomics at the Associate or Assistant Professor level. This is an academic year appointment and we are particularly interested in candidates addressing questions in cancer biology including but not limited to cancer initiation, progression, metastasis, therapeutics and/or biomarker development. Successful candidates are expected to develop an internationally-recognized research program, teach in graduate and/or undergraduate courses, interact with diverse faculty, staff and students across campus, and function as an active member of the department and university faculty.

The Department of Biochemistry is an interactive and vibrant community of faculty, staff, and students who contribute significantly to the NCI-designated Purdue University Center for Cancer Research (<https://www.cancerresearch.purdue.edu/>) and to the life science community of Purdue University. The PUCCR has close ties with Indiana University School of Medicine and Melvin and Bren Simon Cancer Center and works with the Purdue Comparative Oncology Program (<https://vet.purdue.edu/pcop/>) located in the College of Veterinary Medicine, facilitating translational and clinical research endeavors. Current research interests in the department include cancer biology, chromatin and epigenetics, signal transduction, cell cycle, drug discovery, metabolism, structural biology, genomics, and computational biology. Support facilities are available for genomic analysis, bioinformatics, transgenic animal research (mouse and zebrafish), metabolomics, protein mass spectrometry, NMR, X-ray crystallography, and microscopy. Our faculty have the opportunity to train graduate students at the departmental and university wide interdisciplinary programs. For more information see www.biochem.purdue.edu.

The Department is an integral part of the College of Agriculture, one of the world's leading colleges of agricultural, food, life, and natural resource sciences and ranked number 5 globally in the 2015 QS World University Rankings. The College is deeply committed to the three land-grant missions (teaching, research, and extension), to international activities and perspectives that span all missions, and to supporting a diverse and inclusive environment focused on excellence in all we do. Purdue is an ADVANCE institution – www.purdue.edu/dp/advance. The College has 11 academic departments and includes 325 faculty, 2710 undergraduate students, and 677 graduate students. The College's strategic plan can be accessed at <https://www2.ag.purdue.edu/Pages/strategicplan.aspx>.”

Applicants should have a Ph.D. or equivalent degree in cell biology, biochemistry, computational biology or a related field and at least two years of post-doctoral experience. Successful candidates at the Assistant Professor level should have a strong publication record, the potential to develop a vigorous, extramurally-funded research program, and a commitment to research and teaching excellence. In addition to these criteria, candidates for the Associate Professor level should currently have extramural funds with research programs of distinction. Applications should include a cover letter, curriculum vitae, two-page summary of research interests, one-page teaching statement, and the names and contact information of three references. Applications should be submitted electronically to biochem-search@purdue.edu. Screening of applications will begin January 11th, 2016 and will continue until the position is filled. A background check will be required for employment in this position.

“Purdue University is an EOE/AA employer. All individuals, including minorities, women, individuals with disabilities, and protected veterans are encouraged to apply.”

Two Tenure Track Positions at the Assistant or Associate Professor Level

Posted on [December 12, 2015](#)

The Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology at the University of Texas Medical School at Houston seeks outstanding applicants for 2 tenure track positions at the Assistant or Associate Professor level. One position is open to creative scientists who will develop an active research program in the area of RNA biology. The second position is open to outstanding applicants with interests that will compliment existing areas of research excellence in the department,



including but is not limited to calcium and metabolic signaling, membrane biology, structural biology, and translational research. Further information about research activities in the Department can be found at <https://med.uth.edu/bmb/>. Candidates must have a Ph.D. and/or M.D., with postdoctoral experience and a track record of innovative research and scientific excellence. Successful candidates will be expected to establish an active research program that attracts national extramural funding and generates research of significant impact. Opportunities to contribute to both graduate and medical education are available.

The Department offers a highly collegial and interactive research environment with robust graduate programs for training Ph.D. and M.D./Ph.D. students, as well as Centers in Structural and Membrane Biology. The University of Texas Medical School is located in the Texas Medical Center, the largest complex of biomedical and health-related institutions in the world. Successful applicants will have unparalleled opportunities to interact with basic, clinical, and translational researchers at adjacent institutions including Rice University, Baylor College of Medicine and the University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center.

Applicants should prepare a single PDF file that includes a cover letter, CV, two-page summary of research accomplishments and plans, and names/contact information of at least three individuals who agree to write a supporting letter. Please email the PDF file directly to Dr. John Putkey, Chair of the Search Committee, at BMB.Search@uth.tmc.edu. Applications should be received by January 4, 2016 for full consideration.

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[Post-Doctoral Position to Carry out Studies in the Field of Alternative Splicing](#)

Posted on [December 9, 2015](#)

A post-doctoral position is available for a qualified individual to carry out studies in the field of alternative splicing. A focus of the research will be on novel epithelial cell-type-specific splicing proteins (Esrp1 and Esrp2) that were identified in our lab in a cell-based genetic screen (Molecular Cell 33(5):591-601 (2009). We have used high throughput sequencing and other genome-wide technologies to identify global programs of alternative splicing in epithelial cells that are abolished upon Esrp depletion (Embo J. 29(19): 3286-3300 (2010); Mol. Cell. Biol. 32(8): 1468-1482 (2012)). The research project will extend the use of genome-wide sequencing technologies to study programs of alternative splicing that are altered in newly developed Esrp1/Esrp2 KO mice, which display disease related phenotypes (eLife 4: e08954 (2015). Further details about the lab can be accessed at: <http://www.med.upenn.edu/camb/faculty/ggr/carstens.html>. The position requires an M.D. or Ph.D. degree. Position available immediately. Previous experience in mouse genetics, RNA biology, and molecular or cell biology is preferred. Please send a CV including at least two references.

[UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA CRUZ DEPARTMENT OF MOLECULAR, CELL AND DEVELOPMENTAL BIOLOGY Assistant Professor-Cell Biologist](#)

Posted on [December 9, 2015](#)

The Molecular, Cell and Developmental Biology Department at the University of California Santa Cruz invites applications for a tenure-track faculty position at the Assistant Professor level in Cell Biology. Applicants should be applying state-of-the-art experimental approaches to address fundamental questions in cell biology. We particularly encourage applicants who will complement the department's existing strengths in chromatin, RNA, the cell cycle, cytoskeleton, immunology and neurobiology. Candidates must have an outstanding record of research accomplishment. Candidates will be expected to establish a vigorous externally funded research program, contribute to the intellectual vitality of the UCSC scientific community, teach at the undergraduate and graduate levels (including classroom and mentorship), and provide service to the campus and their profession. The successful candidate must be able to work with students, faculty and staff from a range of social and cultural backgrounds, and we especially welcome applicants who will contribute to the diversity and excellence of the UCSC academic community through their research, teaching, and service.

RANK: Assistant Professor

SALARY: Commensurate with qualifications and experience, academic year (9-month) basis



BASIC QUALIFICATIONS: A Ph.D., M.D. or equivalent foreign degree in biology or a related field and a minimum of 2 years postdoctoral research experience

POSITION AVAILABLE: July 1, 2016 with the academic year beginning September 2016

TO APPLY: Applications are accepted via the UCSC Academic Recruit online system, and must include a succinct cover letter describing, separately and briefly, four elements: (a) your most significant scientific accomplishment(s) as a graduate student, (b) your most significant scientific accomplishment(s) as a postdoc, (c) your overall goals and vision for a research program at UCSC, and (d) the experience and qualifications that make you particularly well-suited to achieve those goals (2 pgs. max.); curriculum vitae; research statement (4 pgs. max.); teaching statement (1 pg. max.); 3 letters of reference*; and 1-3 samples of published materials. Applicants are invited to submit an optional statement addressing their past and/or potential contributions to diversity through research, teaching, and/or service. Documents/materials must be submitted as PDF files.

Apply at <https://recruit.ucsc.edu/apply/JPF00330> Refer to Position #JPF00330-16 in all correspondence.

*All letters will be treated as confidential per University of California policy and California state law. For any reference letter provided via a third party (i.e., dossier service, career center), direct the author to UCSC's confidentiality statement at <http://apo.ucsc.edu/confstm.htm>

CLOSING DATE: Review of applications will begin on January 20, 2016. To ensure full consideration, applications should be complete and letters of recommendation received by this date. The position will remain open until filled, but not later than 6/30/2017.

UC Santa Cruz faculty make significant contributions to the body of research that has earned the University of California the ranking as the foremost public higher education institution in the world. In the process, our faculty demonstrate that cutting-edge research, excellent teaching and outstanding service are mutually supportive.

The University of California is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, disability, age, or protected veteran status. UC Santa Cruz is committed to excellence through diversity and strives to establish a climate that welcomes, celebrates, and promotes respect for the contributions of all students and employees. Inquiries regarding the University's equal employment opportunity policies may be directed to: Office for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion at the University of California, Santa Cruz, CA 95064; (831) 459-2686.

Under Federal law, the University of California may employ only individuals who are legally able to work in the United States as established by providing documents as specified in the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986. Certain UCSC positions funded by federal contracts or sub-contracts require the selected candidate to pass an E-Verify check. More information is available here or from the Academic Personnel Office (APO) at (831) 459-4300.

UCSC is a smoke & tobacco-free campus.

If you need accommodation due to a disability, please contact the Academic Personnel Office at apo@ucsc.edu (831) 459-4300. VISIT THE APO WEB SITE AT: <http://apo.ucsc.edu>

[Postdoctoral Position at Yale School of Medicine](#)

Posted on [November 16, 2015](#)

A postdoctoral position is currently available in the laboratory of Carson Thoreen in the Department of Cellular and Molecular Physiology at Yale School of Medicine. The laboratory is seeking to understand how the mTOR pathway, a master regulator of growth, controls the translation of mRNAs to direct growth-related physiology in normal and disease contexts. We employ a wide range of approaches that include deep-sequencing (eg. ribosome profiling), bioinformatic and classical biochemical strategies. Creative individuals with a PhD or MD, and preferably a strong background in biochemistry and/or cell biology and a quantitative bent, are encouraged to apply. Applicants should send a current CV to carson.thoreen@yale.edu.



Faculty Position at Loyola University Chicago, Stritch School of Medicine

Posted on [November 16, 2015](#)

The Department of Molecular Pharmacology and Therapeutics at Loyola University Chicago, Stritch School of Medicine seeks applicants for a faculty position in the field of non-coding RNA, RNA processing and RNA therapeutics. This position is for a scientist with a Ph.D. or M.D./Ph.D. who is performing basic and translational research in this field. Applicants at any level will be considered and the level of appointment will be commensurate with credentials.

The faculty applicant will be expected to build/have and sustain an independent, externally funded research program, contribute to scholarship, graduate, and medical education and to the Translational Research mission developing in the Department and College. The Department of Molecular Pharmacology and Therapeutics is developing a pre-clinical Translational Research Laboratory, which this faculty member will be affiliated with, and the applicant is expected to participate in the vigorous collaborative academic environment that exists between the Center, the Department and the Research Institutes at Loyola University Medical Center. A generous salary and research startup package are available. The successful applicant will become part of a growing interdisciplinary group with interest in non-coding RNA in disease and development/translation of RNA therapeutics.

Interested candidates should email a single PDF file which includes a cover letter, CV, statement of research interests, and contact information of four references (two within and two outside of your current institution) to pharmrecruit@lumc.edu as well as apply online at www.careers.luc.edu. Loyola University Chicago is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action employer.

