



# IMMUNOBIOLOGY NEWSLETTER

Spring 2024

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## New Faculty



**Prabhu S. Arunachalam, PhD**

## Hats Off to Our Spring 2024 Graduates!!



**Christopher Coplen, PhD**

Chris is enjoying time with his family as he applies for a post-doctoral position.



**Pierce Longmire, PhD**

Pierce is continuing in the Goodrum Lab in a postdoctoral position.

# Awards and Laudatory Notes

## Faculty



**Nafees Ahmad, PhD**, was recognized for Excellence in Professionalism as a Basic Science Faculty by the College of Medicine.



**Deepta Bhattacharya, PhD**, was named the inaugural executive director of the Center for Advanced Molecular and Immunological (CAMI) Therapies.



**Sam Campos, PhD**, was elected as the Councilor for Animal Virology 2024-2027, American Society for Virology.



**Felicia Goodrum, PhD**, graduated from the Executive Leadership in Academic Medicine fellowship in April.



**John Purdy, PhD**, received the Excellence in Basic and Translational Investigator Award from the College of Medicine.

**Immunobiology** received the Outstanding Achievement in Teaching by a Block/Course from the College of Medicine for “Immunity and Infection.”

## Trainees



**Danielle Bechtel, PhD** (Postdoc, Doyle Lab), received a Travel Award to attend Brain & Brain PET 2023 in Brisbane, Australia.

**Chloe Park** (Undergrad, Koshy Lab), received the Robie Gold Medal which honors a graduating senior who demonstrates personal integrity, initiative, cooperation, enthusiasm, willingness to give more than required, and a love of God and country.



**Jennifer Uhrlaub** (Nikolich Lab), received the Trainee Travel Award for Outstanding Travel Award Application at the Midwinter Conference of Immunologists of Asilomar in January 2024, and won the Crafting Your Elevator Pitch competition at the 2024 COM Research Day, with an award of \$10,000 with Research Core Services.

## In the Public Spotlight



**Deepta Bhattacharya, PhD**, was featured in:

[Oct 7](#) New York Times, “Feeling terrible after your COVID shot? Then it’s probably working.”

[Nov 1](#) TEDxUArizona: Spirit of Wonder Full Talks, “Hacking the immune system with precision medicine.”

[TEDxUArizona](#): “Could hacking the immune system be the future of medicine? A conversation.”

[Jan 11](#) UAHS News, “Researchers genetically modify stem cells to evade immunological rejection.”

[Jan 18](#) Drug Discovery World, “Genetically modified stem cells evade immune rejection.”

[Feb 28](#) Nature, “Stealthy stem cells to treat disease.”



**Sam Campos, PhD**, was featured in:

[April 22](#) UAHS News, “\$1.8M NIH grant will help researchers follow a virus on its path to the nucleus.”



**Michael Johnson, PhD**, was featured in:

[Jan 22](#) UAHS News, “Immunobiologist’s impact reaches far beyond the lab.”



**Janko Ž. Nikolich, MD, PhD**, was featured in:

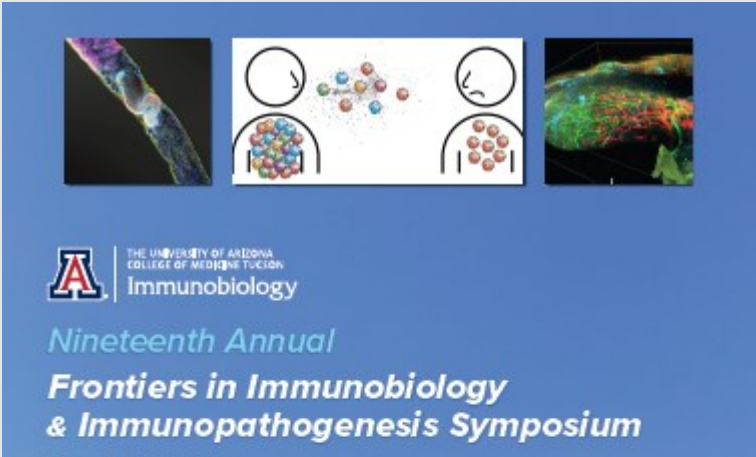
[Nov 1](#) COM-T News, “Immune rejuvenation could pave the way for healthier aging.”

[UAHS](#), Innovations in Healthy Aging, “Lymph nodes: Seeking a solution for weakened immune systems.”

[Mar 7](#) UAHS News, “5 things to know about creating a pandemic-resilient state.”



# Events



Our annual symposium was held on March 8, 2024 and featured plenary speakers **Drs. Jim Collins (Parasitologist, UT Southwestern Medical Center), Anice Lowen (Virologist, Emory University), and David Masopust (Immunologist, University of Minnesota)**, and four U of A faculty speakers. We had 26 poster submissions, with five selected for oral presentations and the remainder judged for awards by a panel of postdocs and research scientists.

This year's poster award winners:

Postdocs: 1st place, Danielle Becktel (Doyle Lab); 2nd place, Nicole Jimenez (Herbst-Kravolitz Lab)

Grad Trainees: 1st place, Isabelle Tobey (Campos Lab); Gurbeen Dadiala (Herbst-Kravolitz Lab)

Thank you to Dr. Rhodes and her committee for their hard work in organizing another successful symposium!

## Graduation Ceremony



The Interdisciplinary Biomedical Sciences Convocation took place on Wednesday, May 8, honoring trainees graduating from Fall 2023 through Fall 2024. We had two trainees participate this year.



Christine Bradshaw with mentor, Dr. Janko Ž. Nikolich

Pierce Longmire with mentor, Dr. Felicia Goodrum



**Congratulations to all!!**

# Publications

Au KM, **Wilson JE**, Ting JP, Wang AZ. An injectable subcutaneous colon-specific immune niche for the treatment of ulcerative colitis. *Nat Biomed Eng.* 2023 Dec 4. doi: 10.1038/s41551-023-01136-9. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 38049469.

Bradshaw CM, Georgieva T, Tankersley TN, Taylor-Doyle T, Johnson L, Uhrlaub JL, Bes-selsen D, **Nikolich JŽ**. Cutting Edge: Characterization of low copy number human angioten-sin-converting enzyme 2-transgenic mice as an improved model of SARS-CoV-2 infection. *J Immunol.* 2024 Feb 15;212(4):523-528. doi: 10.4049/jimmunol.2300591. PMID: 38197714.

Butterworth S, Kordova K, Chandrasekaran S, Thomas KK, Torelli F, Lockyer EJ, Edwards A, Goldstone R, **Koshy AA**, Treeck M. High-throughput identification of *Toxoplasma gondii* effector proteins that target host cell transcription. *Cell Host Microbe.* 2023 Oct 11;31(10):1748-1762.e8. doi: 10.1016/j.chom.2023.09.003. PMID: 37827122.

Coplen CP, Jergović M, Turner EL, Uhrlaub JL, **Nikolich-Žugich, J**. The impact of murine cytomegalovirus (mCMV) route and age at infection upon virus spread, immune responses and the establishment of latency. *J. Virol.* 2024 (in press). also bioRxiv 10.1101/2021.11.29.469758.

**Goodrum F**, Schultz-Cherry S. *Journal of Virology*-the next generation. *J Virol.* 2023 Oct 31;97(10):e0133723. doi: 10.1128/jvi.01337-23. Epub 2023 Oct 11. PMID: 37819134; PMCID: PMC10617446.

**Harris DT**, Ingraham N, Badowski M. Comparison of manual versus automated SRS-CoV-2 rapid antigen testing in asymptomatic individuals. *J Clinical Med*, 2023 Nov: 12(22). doi 10.3390/jcm12227146.

Iannuzo N, Welfley H, Li NC, **Johnson MDL**, Rojas-Quintero J, Polverino F, Guerra S, Li X, Cusanovich DA, Langlais PR, Ledford JG. CC16 drives VLA-2-dependent SPLUNC1 expression. *Front Immunol.* 2023 Nov 20;14:1277582. doi: 10.3389/fimmu.2023.1277582. PMID: 38053993; PMCID: PMC10694244.

Ihedioha OC, Sivakoses A, Beverley SM, McMahon-Pratt D, **Bothwell ALM**. *Leishmania major*-derived lipophosphoglycan influences the host's early immune response by inducing platelet activation and DKK1 production via TLR1/2. *Front Immunol.* 2023 Oct 11;14:1257046. doi: 10.3389/fimmu.2023.1257046. PMID: 37885890; PMCID: PMC10598878.

Jasbi P, **Nikolich-Žugich J**, Patterson J, Knox KS, Jin Y, Weinstock GM, Smith P, Twigg HL 3rd, Gu H. Targeted metabolomics reveals plasma biomarkers and metabolic alterations of the aging process in healthy young and older adults. *Geroscience.* 2023 Dec;45(6):3131-3146. doi: 10.1007/s11357-023-00823-4. Epub 2023 May 17. PMID: 37195387; PMCID: PMC10643785.

Jackson R, Rajadhyaksha EV, Loeffler RS, Flores CE, **Van Doorslaer K**. Characterization of 3D organotypic epithelial tissues reveals tonsil-specific differences in tonic interferon signaling. *PLoS One.* 2023 Oct 4;18(10):e0292368. doi: 10.1371/journal.pone.0292368. PMID: 37792852; PMCID: PMC10550192.

Knox CJ, Ab Latif FM, Cornejo NR, **Johnson MDL**. Mentoring across difference and distance: building effective virtual research opportunities for underrepresented minority undergraduate students in biological sciences. *mBio.* 2024 Jan 16;15(1):e0145223. doi: 10.1128/mbio.01452-23. Epub 2023 Dec 12. PMID: 38085040; PMCID: PMC10790749.

Kumar SS, Gunda V, Reinartz DB, Pond KW, Thorne CA, Victor San Raj P, **Johnson MDL**, **Wilson JE**. Oral streptococci *S. anginosus* and *S. mitis* induce distinct morphological, inflammatory, and metabolic signatures in macrophages. *Infect Immun*, vol. 92, issue 3, pp. e0053623, 2024 Mar 12. PMCID: PMC10929413 PMID: 38289109.

Kumar SS, **Johnson MDL**, **Wilson JE**. Insights into the enigma of oral streptococci in carcinogenesis. *Microbiol Mol Biol Rev*, pp. e0009523, 2024 Mar 20. PMID: 38506551.

Lafleur BJ, White L, Dake MD, **Nikolich JZ**, Sprissler R, **Bhattacharya D**. No evidence that analgesic use after COVID-19 vaccination negatively impacts antibody responses. *Immunohorizons*, vol. 7, issue 12, pp. 834-841, 2023 Dec 01. PMID: 38085168.

Lee MS, Tuohy PJ, Kim CY, Yost PP, Lichauro K, Parrish HL, **Van Doorslaer K**, **Kuhns MS**. The CD4 transmembrane GGXXG and juxtamembrane (C/F)CV+C motifs mediate pMHCII-specific signaling independently of CD4-LCK interactions. *Elife.* 2024 Apr 19;12:RP88225. doi: 10.7554/eLife.88225. PMID: 38639990; PMCID: PMC11031086.

Loppi SH, Tavera-Garcia MA, Scholpa NE, Maiyo BK, Bechtel DA, Morrison HW, Schnellmann RG, **Doyle KP**. Boosting mitochondrial biogenesis diminishes foam cell formation in the post-stroke brain. *Int J Mol Sci*, vol. 24, issue 23, 2023 Nov 23. PMCID: PMC10706318 PMID: 38068955.

Merritt EF, Kochanowsky JA, Hervé P, Watson AA, **Koshy AA**. *Toxoplasma* type II effector GRA15 has limited influence in vivo. *PLoS One.* 2024 Mar 29;19(3):e0300764. doi: 10.1371/journal.pone.0300764. PMID: 38551902; PMCID: PMC10980211.

Pizzato HA, Alonso-Guallart P, Woods J, Connelly JP, Fehniger TA, Atkinson JP, Prueett-Miller SM, Monsma FJ Jr, **Bhattacharya D**. Engineering human pluripotent stem cell lines to evade xenogeneic transplantation barriers. *Stem Cell Reports.* 2024 Feb 13;19(2):299-313. doi: 10.1016/j.stemcr.2023.12.003. Epub 2024 Jan 11. PMID: 38215755; PMCID: PMC10874864.

## Publications, Continued

Rasmussen AL, Gronvall GK, Lowen AC, **Goodrum F**, Alwine J, Andersen KG, Anthony SJ, Baines J, Banerjee A, Broadbent AJ, Brooke CB, **Campos SK**, Caposio P, Casadevall A, Chan GC, Cliffe AR, Collins-McMillen D, Connell N, Damania B, Daugherty MD, Debbink K, Dermody TS, DiMaio D, Duprex WP, Emerman M, Galloway DA, Garry RF, Goldstein SA, Greninger AL, Hartman AL, Hogue BG, Horner SM, Hotez PJ, Jung JU, Kamil JP, Karst SM, Laimins L, Lakdawala SS, Landais I, Letko M, Lindenbach B, Liu S-L, Luftig M, McFadden G, Mehle A, Morrison J, Moscona A, Mühlberger E, Munger J, Münger K, Murphy E, Neufeldt CJ, **Nikolich JZ**, O'Connor CM, Pekosz A, Permar SR, Pfeiffer JK, Popescu SV, **Purdy JG**, Racaniello VR, Rice CM, Runstadler JA, Sapp MJ, Scott RS, Smith GA, Sorrell EM, Speranza E, Streblow D, Tibbetts SA, Toth Z, **Van Doorslaer K**, Weiss SR, White EA, White TM, Wobus CE, Worobey M, Yamaoka S, Yurochko A. Correction for Rasmussen et al., "Virology-the path forward". J Virol. 2024 Mar 19;98(3):e0007424. doi: 10.1128/jvi.00074-24. Epub 2024 Feb 9. Erratum for: J Virol. 2024 Jan 23;98(1):e0179123. PMID: 38334328; PMCID: PMC10949460.

Read JF, Serralha M, Armitage JD, Iqbal MM, Cruickshank MN, Saxena A, Strickland DH, Waithman J, Holt PG, **Bosco A**. Single cell transcriptomics reveals cell type specific features of developmentally regulated responses to lipopolysaccharide between birth and 5 years. Front Immunol. 2023 Oct 17;14:1275937. doi: 10.3389/fimmu.2023.1275937. PMID: 37920467; PMCID: PMC10619903.

Regney M, Kraberger S, Custer JM, Crane AE, Shero MR, Beltran RS, Kirkham AL, **Van Doorslaer K**, Stone AC, Goebel ME, Burns JM, Varsani A. Diverse papillomaviruses identified from Antarctic fur seals, leopard seals and Weddell seals from the Antarctic. Virology. 2024 Jun;594:110064. doi: 10.1016/j.virol.2024.110064. Epub 2024 Mar 21. PMID: 38522135.

**Rhodes KA**, Rendón MA, Ma MC, Agellon A, Johnson AC, So M. Type IV pilus retraction is required for *Neisseria musculi* colonization and persistence in a natural mouse model of infection. mBio. 2024 Jan 16;15(1):e0279223. doi: 10.1128/mbio.02792-23. Epub 2023 Dec 12. PMID: 38084997; PMCID: PMC10790696.

Sans-Fuentes M, Sierra LA, Cruz NS, Rubio V, Lutrick K, Hamm K, Connick E, Shroff P, Billheimer D, Sorensen R, Dinsmore A, Wolfensteig W, Ayers S, **Nikolich-Zugich J**, Doubeni C, Tilburt J, Rosales C, Moreno F, Derksen D, Oesterle S, Sabo S, Parthasarathy S. Temporal changes in vaccine-specific willingness across race/ethnicity following serious adverse event reports. Am J Public Health. 2024 Jan;114(S1):S37-S40. doi: 10.2105/AJPH.2023.307484. Epub 2023 Nov 9. PMID: 37944076; PMCID: PMC10785178.

Sonar SA, Watanabe M, **Nikolich JŽ**. Disorganization of secondary lymphoid organs and dyscoordination of chemokine secretion as key contributors to immune aging. Semin Immunol. 2023 Nov;70:101835. doi: 10.1016/j.smim.2023.101835. Epub 2023 Aug 29. PMID: 37651849; PMCID: model of infection. mBio, vol. 15, issue 1, pp. e0279223, 2024 Jan 16. PMCID: PMC10790696 PMID: 38084997.

Tellier J, Tarasova I, Nie J, Smillie CS, Fedele PL, Cao WHJ, Groom JR, Belz GT, **Bhattacharya D**, Smyth GK, Nutt SL. Unraveling the diversity and functions of tissue-resident plasma cells. Nat Immunol. 2024 Feb;25(2):330-342. doi: 10.1038/s41590-023-01712-w. Epub 2024 Jan 3. PMID: 38172260.

Watanabe ML, Davidson P Smith, Castelluccio PF, Jergović M, Uhrlaub JL, Smithey MJ, Fantry LE, Dechambre B, Wilson RC, Knox KS, Ren J, Stowe RP, Weinstock G, H. L. Twigg HL III, **Nikolich JŽ**. 2024. Anti-cytomegalovirus antibody levels stratify human immune profiles across the lifespan. Geroscience 1-18.

Zbesko JC, Stokes J, Bechtel DA, **Doyle KP**. Targeting foam cell formation to improve recovery from ischemic stroke. Neurobiol Dis. 2023 Jun 1;181:106130. doi: 10.1016/j.nbd.2023.106130. Epub 2023 Apr 15. PMID: 37068641; PMCID: PMC10993857.

## Presentations

**Prabhu S. Arunachalam, PhD**, presented at the [2024](#) Frontiers in Immunobiology & Immunopathogenesis Symposium, "Immunology of Vaccine Adjuvants."

**Danielle Bechtel, PhD**, (Doyle Lab) presented at the following:

[2023](#) Brain & Brain PET, Brisbane, Australia, "Targeting Lipid Metabolism in Myeloid Cells to Improve Ischemic Stroke Recovery."

[2024](#) Frontiers in Immunobiology & Immunopathogenesis Symposium, poster presentation, "Repeated Administration of 2-Hydroxypropyl- $\beta$ -Cyclodextrin (HP $\beta$ CD) Attenuates the Chronic Inflammatory Response to Experimental Stroke."

**Hannah Brooks** (Goodrum Lab) presented a poster at the [2024](#) Frontiers in Immunobiology & Immunopathogenesis Symposium, "HCMV Hijacking of the Host DNA Damage Repair Pathways."

**Lucas D'Souza, PhD** (Bhattacharya Lab) presented a poster at the [2024](#) Frontiers in Immunobiology & Immunopathogenesis Symposium, "Multiple Pathways Link Surface CD98 Expression to Antibody Secretion and Longevity in Plasma Cells."

**Kristian Doyle, PhD**, presented at the [April 2024](#) American Society for Neurochemistry Conference, Portland, Oregon, "Targeting Foam Cells to Improve Recovery from Ischemic Stroke."

# Presentations, Continued

**Felicia Goodrum, PhD**, presented at the following:

March 2024 Department of Microbiology and Immunology (Invited Seminar Speaker) University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.

May 2024 Department of Molecular Biology and Microbiology (Invited Seminar Speaker) Tufts University School of Medicine, Medford, Massachusetts.

**Rob Jackson, PhD**, (Van Doorslaer Lab) delivered an oral poster presentation at the 2024 Frontiers in Immunobiology & Immunopathogenesis Symposium, “HPV16(+) Tonsil Cells Mimic Normal Epithelial Differentiation.”

**Kelly King** (Van Doorslaer Lab) presented a poster at the 2024 Frontiers in Immunobiology & Immunopathogenesis Symposium, “Single-cell Transcriptomics Identifies PRMT1 as a Regulator of Papillomavirus Alternative Splicing.”

**Ian Kline** (Purdy Lab) presented a poster at the 2024 Frontiers in Immunobiology & Immunopathogenesis Symposium, “Human Cytomegalovirus Takes Advantage of a Host Response to Replicate Under Choline-Starved Conditions.”

**Sangeetha Senthil Kumar, PhD**, (Johnson and Wilson Labs) delivered an oral poster presentation at the 2024 Frontiers in Immunobiology & Immunopathogenesis Symposium, “Deciphering the Mechanisms of Infammasome Activation by *S. anginosus*: Insights into Host-Pathogen Interactions.”

**Nathan Kummert** (Ahmad Lab) presented a poster at the 2024 Frontiers in Immunobiology & Immunopathogenesis Symposium, “Genetic Characterization of HIV-1 tat Gene from Virologically Controlled HIV-infected Older Patients on Long-Term Antiretroviral Therapy.”

**Sanna Loppi, PhD** (Doyle Lab) presented a poster at the 2024 Frontiers in Immunobiology & Immunopathogenesis Symposium, “Boosting Mitochondrial Biogenesis Diminishes Foam Cell Formation in the Post-Stroke Brain.”

**Rebekah Mokry, PhD**, (Purdy Lab) presented posters at the following:

2024 Frontiers in Immunobiology & Immunopathogenesis Symposium, “Boosting Mitochondrial Biogenesis Diminishes Foam Cell Formation in the Post-Stroke Brain.”

2024 College of Medicine Research Day, “Shifting our Understanding of Glucose Use During Human Cytomegalovirus Replication.”

**Janko Ž. Nikolich, MD, PhD**, presented at the following:

Dec 2023 Arizona Post-COVID Cohort Consortium Retreat (Organizer and Speaker) Tempe, Arizona.

Jan 10, 2024 Department of Medicine Grand Rounds, University of Arizona College of Medicine.

Jan 23, 2024 Curtin Medica School, Perth Australia.

Jan 24, 2024 Telethon Kids Institute, Perth Australia.

Feb 2024 Gordon Conference on Immunoengineering, Lucca, Italy

Apr 2, 2024 Institute for Biological Investigations “Dr. Siniša Stanković,” Belgrade, Serbia.

**Katherine Rhodes, PhD**, presented at the 2024 Frontiers in Immunobiology & Immunopathogenesis Symposium, “Dissecting Mucosal Survival in the *Neisseria* genus.”

**Elizabeth Sargent** (Bhattacharya Lab) presented a poster at the 2024 College of Medicine Research Day, “Generating a Hypoimmunogenic Pluripotent Stem Cell Line Derived from B Cells.”

**Fadi Sayegh** (Bhattacharya Lab) presented a poster at the 2024 Frontiers in Immunobiology & Immunopathogenesis Symposium, “Serotype Specific Carbon Utilization in *Streptococcus pneumoniae*.”

**Bao Thai** (Bhattacharya Lab) presented at the 2024 4th Annual Symposium on Infection and Inflammation as Drivers of Aging, “Uncovering the Epigenetic Regulation of Hematopoietic Stem Cell Differentiation.”

**Isabelle Tobey** (Campos and Van Doorslaer Labs) presented a poster at the 2024 Frontiers in Immunobiology & Immunopathogenesis Symposium, “The Impact of HPV on the cGAS/STING Pathway.”

**Jennifer Uhrlaub** (Nikolich Lab) delivered an oral poster presentation at the 2024 Frontiers in Immunobiology & Immunopathogenesis Symposium, “Chronic *Toxoplasma gondii* Infection Curtails the Cytotoxic Potential of Acute T-Cell Responses to West Nile Virus in the Brain.”

**Emily (Cianflone) Vaslow** (Goodrum Lab) presented a poster at the 2024 Frontiers in Immunobiology & Immunopathogenesis Symposium, “Human Cytomegalovirus’s Turnover of Low-Density Lipoprotein Receptor Confers a Replicative Advantage.”

**Philip Yost, PhD** (Kuhns Lab) presented a poster at the 2024 Frontiers in Immunobiology & Immunopathogenesis Symposium, “Engineering Biomimetic Chimeric Antigen Receptors for the Purpose of Immunotherapy.”



# Grants and Funding



## Sam Campos, PhD

1R35GM152143-01 (NIH/NIGMS) *Membrane Spanning and Subcellular Trafficking Mechanisms of a Viral Capsid Protein—Lessons from a Master Cell Biologist* (\$1,829,551).

## Felicia Goodrum, PhD

R01DK137411 (NIH, with Jean Wilson, Curtis Thorne, and Andrew Peak) *Modulation of Colonocyte Barrier Function and Signaling by Cytomegalovirus Infection* (\$2,172,404).

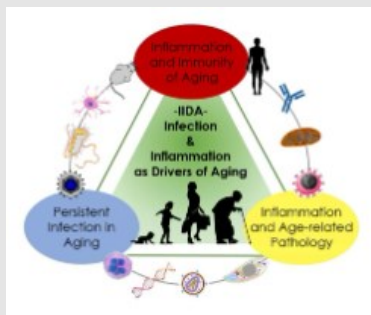
## Katherine Rhodes, PhD

1K22AI174066-01 *Characterization of Neisseria Factors Required for Asymptomatic Carriage*.

**Renewed!**



## IIDA T32 Grant

Our grant has been renewed with an additional 2 training slots!



## Symposium

The 4th Annual Symposium on Infection and Inflammation as Drivers of Aging was held on January 11. The symposium gives our grant recipients a chance to showcase their research and get feedback from members of the external academic community. This year's trainee speakers were Kevin Kasper, Jennifer Kraszewski, Ivan Sarabia, and Bao Thai. Dr. George Sutphin was the invited faculty speaker.

	<b>KEVIN KASPER</b> GUTRUF LAB <i>"Seamlessly Integrated Technologies for Aging-Related Frailty Diagnostics and Monitoring"</i>	
	<b>IVAN SARABIA</b> WERTHEIM LAB <i>"Age Related Differences in iPSC-Hepatocytes and Relationship to the Development of Steatosis"</i>	
	<b>GEORGE SUTPHIN, Ph.D.</b> Assistant Professor, Molecular and Cellular Biology Scientific Member, Arizona Center on Aging University of Arizona <i>"The Tryptophan Metabolite 3-Hydroxyanthranilic Acid Promotes Bacterial Pathogen Resistance in Aging Caenorhabditis elegans"</i>	

## 2024-25 Applications

Applications for the 2024-25 IIDA T32 grant will open in June. Be looking for an email announcement.



# Outreach



**Kristian Doyle, PhD**, presented “*The Biology of Healthy Aging*” to a 55+ community (Album, Marana).

**Rob Jackson, PhD**, (Van Doorslaer Lab) hosted a lab tour for the Honors anatomy and Physiology high school students from Mica Mtn. High School.

**Michael Kuhns, PhD**,

\* is an active member in Solving for Science, <https://solvingfor.org>.

\* presented at a retirement community in March.

**Janko Ž. Nikolich, MD, PhD**, participated in the Gordon Research Conference on Immunoengineering session on mentorship.

**Katherine Rhodes, PhD**, is a mentor for WISE (Women in Science & Engineering).

**Justin Wilson, PhD**, spoke at the local Phi Beta Psi chapter meeting to share how their research funding is used and how cancer research is performed.

# Welcome to IMB!

The following have joined our department since November 2023:

## Lab Personnel:

Christina Arnoldy, GA, Van Doorslaer Lab

Shree Madhu Bhat, PhD, Nikolich Lab

Nicholas Cusick, GA, Purdy Lab

Andrew Khalil, GA, Arunachalam Lab

Dimitri Koliopoulos, Research Technician, Goodrum Lab

David McKinzey, PhD, Goodrum Lab

Sloane McVicker, GA, Rhodes Lab

Magi Passols Manzano, PhD, Purdy Lab

Evy Nguyen, GA, Rhodes Lab

Chloe Sairs, Research Professional, Wilson Lab

Mamata Savanagouder, PhD, Goodrum Lab

Sydney Verdugo, GA, Wilson Lab

Tim White, PhD, Goodrum Lab

## Volunteers:

Austin Taylor, Undergrad, Ahmad Lab

Jaden Todd-Nelson, Undergrad, Ahmad Lab

Emmett Worth, Undergrad, Ahmad Lab

# General Announcements

## Room Scheduling

To request a room reservation, use this [link](#).

## Well-Being Resources

Students can reach out to the [CAPS team](#), and employees and members of their households can work with [Employee Assistance Counseling](#). If you need help, or know someone who does, please use these resources. Creating community is important and you are encouraged to look out for one another.

## Land Acknowledgment

*We respectfully acknowledge the University of Arizona is on the land and territories of Indigenous peoples. Today, Arizona is home to 22 federally recognized tribes, with Tucson being home to the O'odham and the Yaqui. Committed to diversity and inclusion, the University strives to build sustainable relationships with sovereign Native Nations and Indigenous communities through education offerings, partnerships, and community service.*