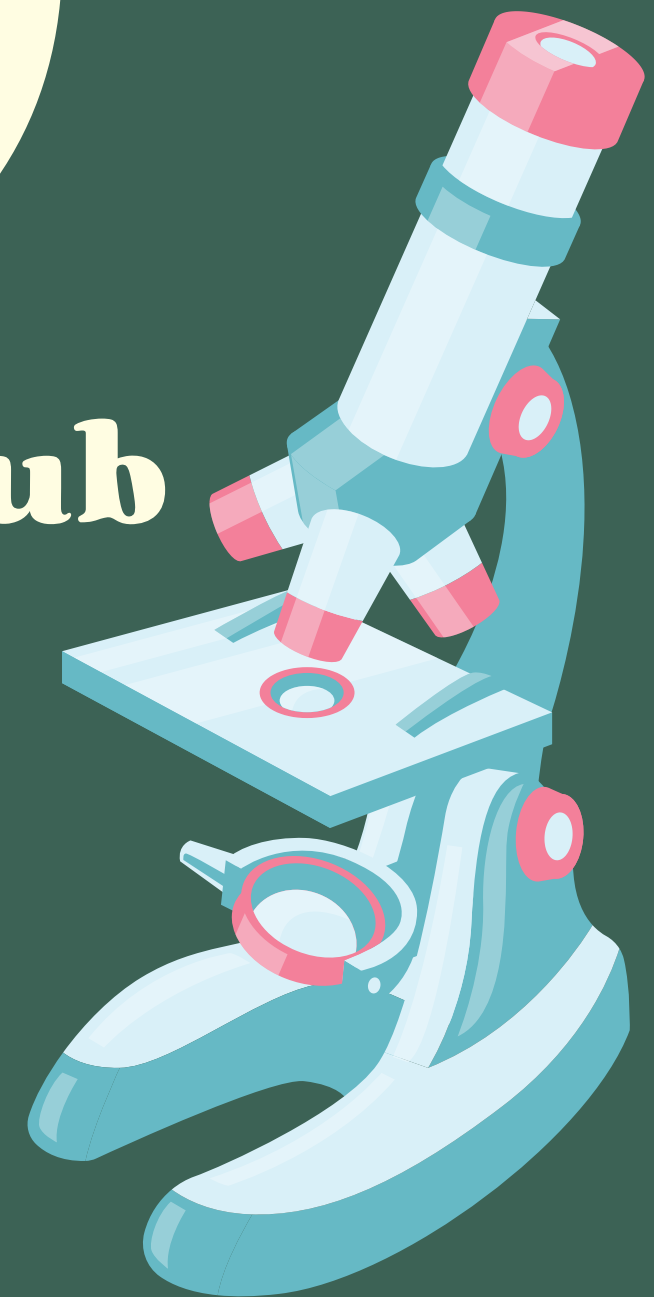


B.U.R.C

Biology Undergraduate Research Club

University of Massachusetts, Amherst



What is BURC?

**A space to get together and talk about research happenings
on & around campus, and how you can get involved!
Guest speakers, peer advice, and faculty mentors are all a
part of our team.**

Faculty Advisors

Dr. Laura Francis

Dr. Rosa Moscarella

Meet the E-Board

Secretary

President

Vice-President

Social Media

Treasurer

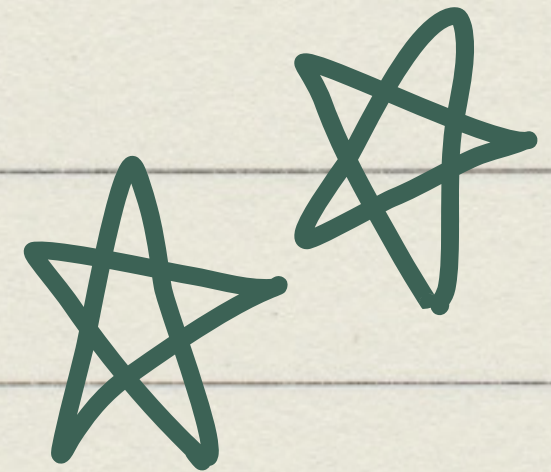
Community Outreach

Website Development

Events Coordinator

Goals for the Club

- Increase Awareness to Research
- Help those who want to get involved
- Talk about interests
- Explore different routes (Grad School, RAships)
- Explain unknown aspects of research on campus



What is Research?

- **Trying to answer unanswered questions**
- **Coming up with new questions**
- **Understanding things yet to be understood**
- **Making connections**
- **Advancing the scientific field**

Types of Research

- plant
- conservation
- ecological

- cell/molecular
- biomedical
- organismic

How do I figure out what I like?

- Classes**
- Asking Around**
- Posters and Papers**

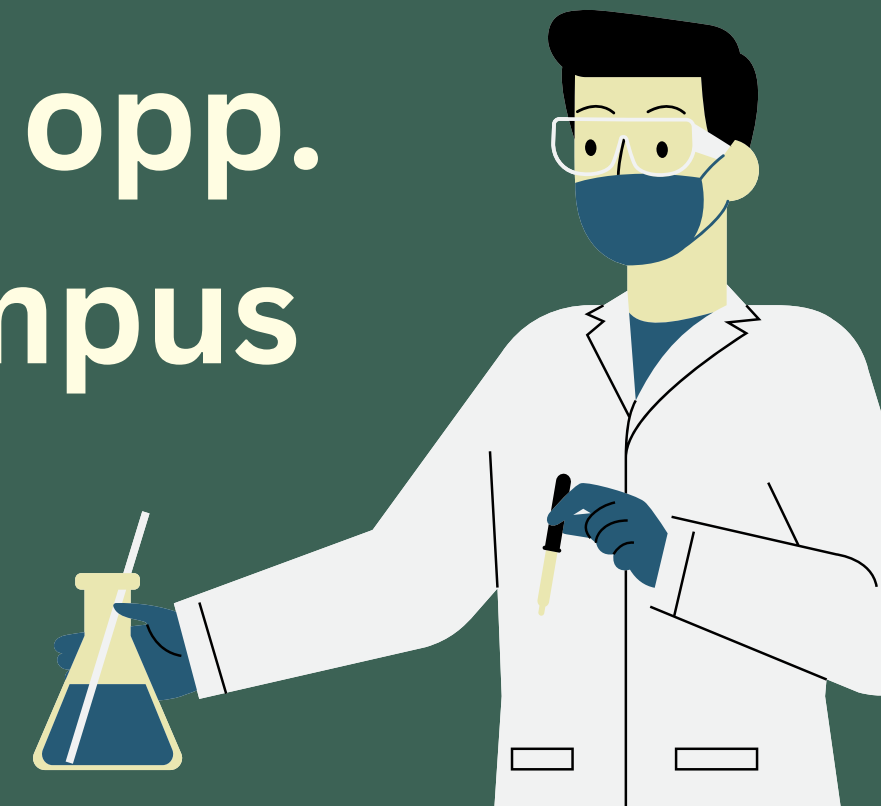
On-Campus Resources

BUA

- Once a semester
- Highly competitive
- Short deadline

OURS

- Year-round
- Helps with opp.
- On/Off campus



However...

However...

Cold Emails

A stylized, jagged lightning bolt graphic in a light blue color, positioned to the left of the text 'Cold Emails'.A stylized, jagged lightning bolt graphic in a light blue color, positioned to the right of the text 'Cold Emails'.



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Graduate Programs in the Life Sciences - UMass Amherst

IDGP Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Statement ... The Interdepartmental Graduate Programs in Life Sciences (IDGPs) believe that a diverse, equitable and ...

Directory | Molecular and Cellular Biology Graduate Pro...
MCB Mailing Address: 203 French Hall University of ...

Directory
Interdepartmental Graduate Programs. Mailing address: 203 ...

IDGP Diversity, Equity and ...
The Interdepartmental Graduate Programs in Life Sciences ...

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The OEB graduate program at UMass Amherst provides ...

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UMass Amherst
https://blogs.umass.edu/mseidgp

About the MSE IDGP - UMass Blogs

The Interdisciplinary Graduate Program (IDGP) in Materials Science and Engineering (MSE) is a new program at UMass Amherst dedicated to training the next ...

Graduate Programs in the Life Sciences

College of Natural Sciences at UMass Amherst

Home | Programs | Events | News | Directory

The Graduate Programs in the Life Sciences provide interdisciplinary training for MS and PhD students across a range of departments in the College of Natural Sciences at UMass Amherst.

Chemistry
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Microbiology
About MICRO

Molecular & Cellular Biology
About MCB

Neuroscience & Behavior
About NSB

Organismic & Evolutionary Biology
About OEB

Plant Biology
About PB

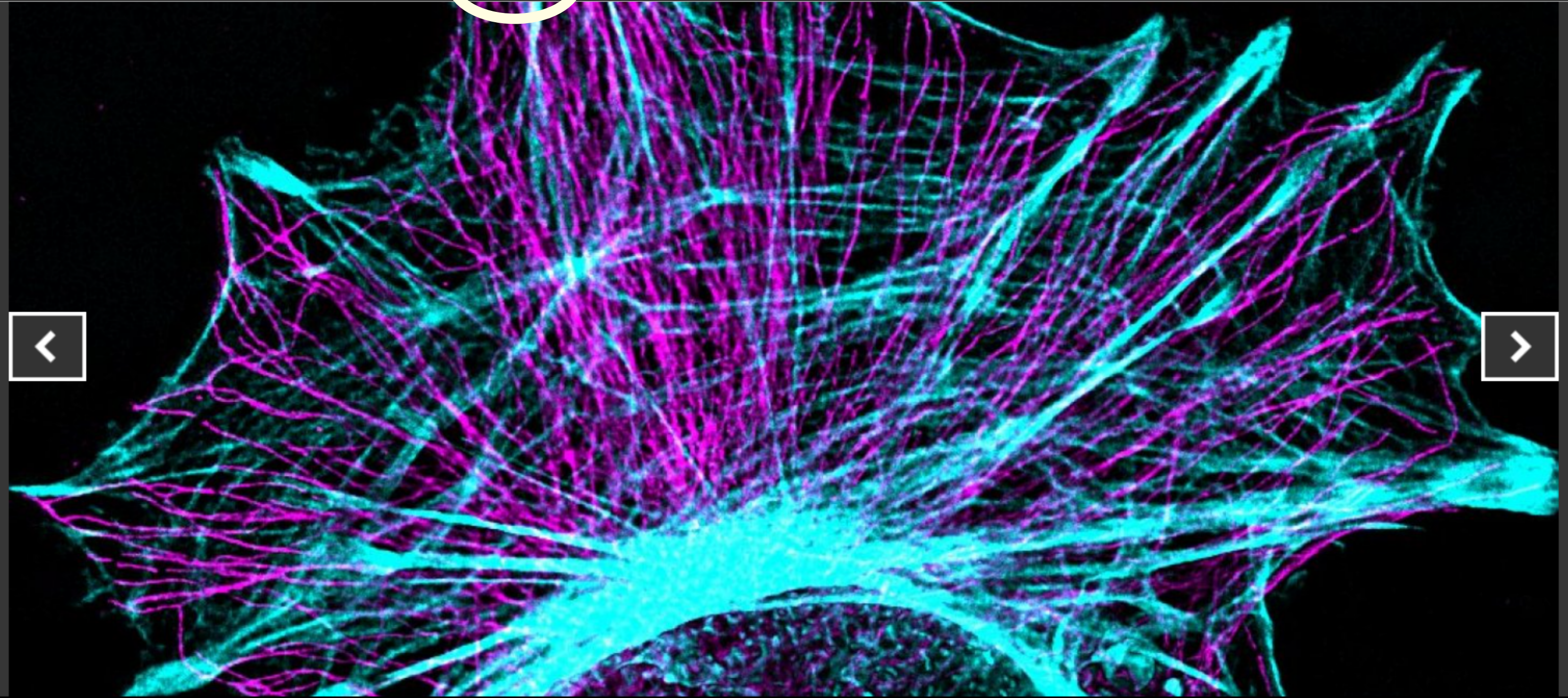
Psychological & Brain Sciences
About PSYCH

Animal Biotechnology & Biomedical Sciences
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Faculty

Filter by research cluster:

- Biological Chemistry and Molecular Biophysics
- Biomedicine
- Cellular and Developmental Biology

— [Departmental/Campus Affiliation](#) —

Filter

Name	Research Interests
R. Craig Albertson Professor, Biology	Evolutionary Developmental Biology
Dominique R. Alfandari Professor of Developmental Biology, Veterinary and Animal Sciences	Cell migration in Developmental systems
Lauren Andrews Assistant Professor of Chemical Engineering	Uncovering genetic design rules to reprogram regulation and metabolism in living cells for applications in health and biotechnology

Upcoming Events

Mon, Sep 25 - 12:15pm

2nd Year Talks

May Chou

Divya Dubey

MCB Colloquium

French Hall Room 209

Tue, Sep 26 - 4:00pm

Ribosome quality control

[Gustavo Silva](#)

MCB Seminar

Mon, Oct 2 - 12:15pm

2nd Year Talks

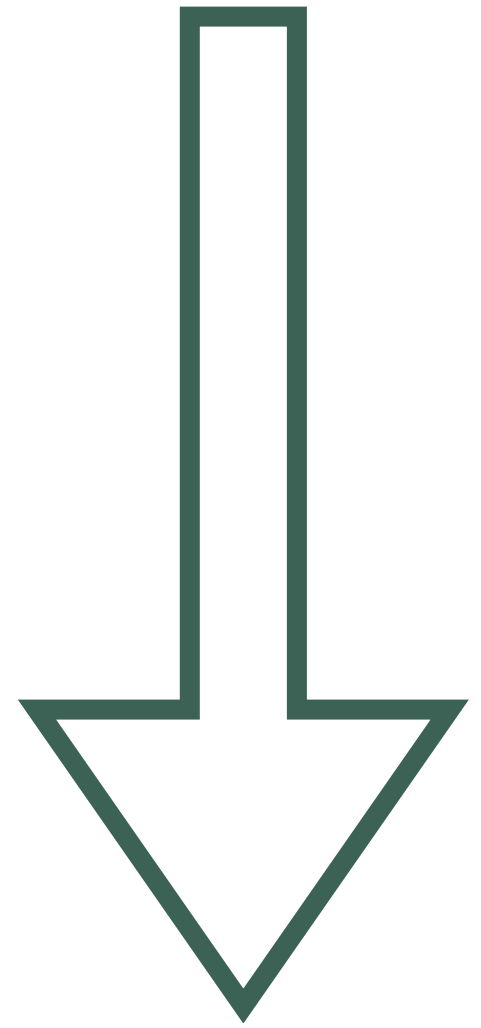
Kairong Dong

Kyla Gomard-Henshaw

MCB Colloquium

French Hall Room 209

[View all seminars & colloquia »](#)



<u>Michael J.F. Barresi</u> Professor of Biological Sciences and Neuroscience, Smith College	Developmental Neurobiology, Assistant Neuron and Glial Cell Interactions; Astroglial Cell Development in the CNS
<u>Madelaine Bartlett</u> Associate Professor, Biology	Evolution of plant development; Molecular evolution
<u>Tobias Baskin</u> Professor, Biology	Regulation of Plant Morphogenesis During Growth & Development
<u>Joseph Bergan</u> Assistant Professor, Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences	We seek to understand the principles of how social and defensive stimuli are encoded in the activity of neurons, and how this process can be modulated by behavior state, experience, and neuromodulation.
<u>Eric L. Bittman</u> Professor Emeritus, Biology	Circadian Rhythms, Reproduction, and Seasonal Changes in Brain Function
<u>Jeffrey L. Blanchard</u> Associate Professor, Biology	Microbial cellular and community networks; influence of environmental change on the evolution of molecular processes; systems biology; bioinformatics
<u>James Chambers</u> Light Microscopy Director, Cell Culture Director, UMass Amherst	Applying novel chemical biology tools and emerging biophysical techniques to solve fundamental questions in neuroscience
<u>Jianhan Chen</u> Professor of Chemistry and Biochemistry & Molecular Biology	Computational Biochemistry & Biophysics
<u>Min Chen</u> Associate Professor of Chemistry, University of Massachusetts	Application of Proteins in Biotechnology; Functional Mechanism of Membrane Protein Pores, Channels and Transporters
<u>Alice Cheung</u>	Molecular and cell biology of male-female interaction and polarized cell

Jeffrey L. Blanchard



Associate Professor, Biology

jeffb@bio.umass.edu

A.S., Electrical Engineering, Vermont Technical College, 1983

B.S., Biology, Worcester Polytechnic Institute, 1987

Ph.D., Botany, University of Georgia, 1995

Research Interests

Microbiome research is among the most exciting and promising areas of science today due to many technological advances, particular in high throughput DNA and RNA sequencing, that allow us to determine in complex environments which microbes are present and their metabolism. A prominent component of our research is using genomic and computational methods to understand the ecology and evolution of gut and forest soil microbiomes. Our laboratory is set up for standard molecular biology and microbial physiology research and contains specialized equipment for isolating and culturing anaerobic bacteria. A major focus of our current research is understanding the soil community changes that result from long-term soil warming experiments at the Harvard Forest. The research we do has led to the discovery of new bacterial species and metabolic processes that have had far ranging impacts from probiotics to understanding climate change.

Links: [J. Blanchard Biology Department Web Site](#), [Blanchard Laboratory Web Site](#)

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French Hall Room 209

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Jeffrey Blanchard[Author] X Search

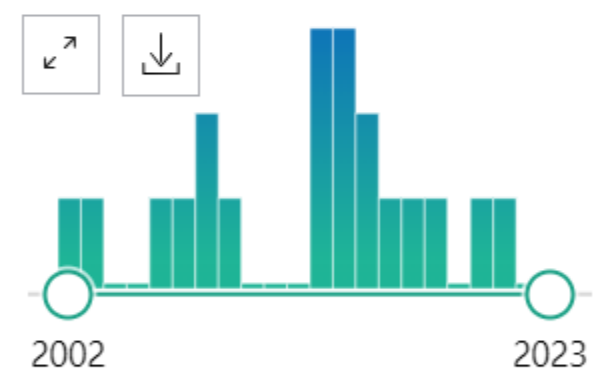
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- Full text

ARTICLE ATTRIBUTE

- Associated data

[Hidden diversity of soil giant viruses.](#)
 1 Schulz F, Alteio L, Goudeau D, Ryan EM, Yu FB, Malmstrom RR, **Blanchard J**, Woyke T.
 Cite Nat Commun. 2018 Nov 19;9(1):4881. doi: 10.1038/s41467-018-07335-2.
 PMID: 30451857 [Free PMC article.](#)
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[Perspective: Evolution and detection of genetic robustness.](#)
 2 de Visser JA, Hermisson J, Wagner GP, Ancel Meyers L, Bagheri-Chaichian H, **Blanchard JL**, Chao L,
 Cite Cheverud JM, Elena SF, Fontana W, Gibson G, Hansen TF, Krakauer D, Lewontin RC, Ofria C, Rice SH, von
 Dassow G, Wagner A, Whitlock MC.
 Share Evolution. 2003 Sep;57(9):1959-72. doi: 10.1111/j.0014-3820.2003.tb00377.x.
 PMID: 14575319 [Review.](#)

[Tempo and mode of genome evolution in a 50,000-generation experiment.](#)
 3 Tenaillon O, Barrick JE, Ribick N, Deatherage DE, **Blanchard JL**, Dasgupta A, Wu GC, Wielgoss S,
 Cite Cruveiller S, Médigue C, Schneider D, Lenski RE.
 Nature. 2016 Aug 11;536(7615):165-70. doi: 10.1038/nature18959. Epub 2016 Aug 1.

Dear Dr. _____,

Intro Sentence [“I hope the semester is treating you well”]

My name is _____, I am a [year] [Major] student. I am writing about opportunities for undergraduate research in your lab for [Time Frame].

I came across your research in _____, and I have a high interest in the field [2-3 specific sentences demonstrating interest in this field + PI’s specific work]. I would love to learn more from you if you have a research position available.

I have also attached my resume/CV and transcript to this email. [If you don’t have a resume/transcript YET, don’t include this part]

[Outro Sentence [“I look forward to your response, thank you for your time”]

Best Regards,
Name



Summer

Opportunities



REUs

Lee-SIP

**Why get
Involved?**



**What does it mean
to be involved?**

What does it mean to be involved?





Feel free to
chat with us!

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