Future Faculty Workshop Participant Information July 30, 2020

Kolade Adebowale (kaa@stanford.edu/@KoladeAdebowal1) is currently pursuing a Ph.D. at Stanford University in Chemical Engineering. He is interested in how mechanical input from the extracellular environment impacts cellular behavior. His current research focuses on how biomaterial viscoelasticity impacts cancer cell migration. He is extending this work to investigate the impact of biomaterial viscoelasticity on macrophage phenotype/behavior and macrophage-tumor interactions. Kolade holds a B.Sc. from Illinois Institute of Technology and a M.S. in Chemical Engineering from Columbia University.

Archita Agarwal (archita agarwal@brown.edu) is a Ph.D. Student in the Computer Science department at Brown University. She works in the area of applied cryptography with Seny Kamara. Prior to this, she worked with Maurice Herlihy on concurrent algorithms. Her current research addresses problems at the intersection of distributed systems and applied cryptography. With the growth of the internet and the explosion of data, distributed systems are becoming widely used but they often lack security and privacy guarantees. Her work addresses this, using techniques from differential privacy, encrypted search, probability theory, and distributed algorithms. Archita holds a B.Sc. and M.Sc from the University of New Delhi in India and a M.S. in Computer Science from Brown University.

Rishi Agarwal (<u>rishi.agarwal@yale.edu</u>) is a fourth-year Ph.D. Student in Chemistry at Yale University studying proton-coupled electron transfer reactions involving metal oxide nanoparticles. He is originally from the San Francisco Bay Area and enjoys cooking delicious meals, watching/playing soccer and other sports, and being outdoors. Rishi holds a B.A. from Cornell University and a M.S. from Yale University.

Dr. Samiya Alkhairy (samiya@alum.mit.edu) is a Postdoctoral Fellow in Earth and Planetary Sciences at MIT working primarily on modeling scattering off finite objects. She is also a Technical Communications Fellow in the electrical engineering and computer science Communications Lab at MIT. She is researching analytic modeling of distributed and lumped dynamic systems, particularly those involving wave propagation and fluid flows; analytical determination of latent variables, and noninvasive characterization of systems including geophysical, biomedical and device systems. She employs significant extensions of methods in analytic continuous applied mathematics, and approaches for modeling that are guided and tested by the physics and data of specific systems. Samiya holds a B.S., M.Eng., M.S., and Ph.D. from MIT.

Dr. Bethany Almeida (<u>Bethany.almeida.ctr@nrl.navy.mil</u>) is an American Society for Engineering Education Postdoctoral Fellow at the U.S. Naval Research Laboratory Center for Bio/Molecular Science and Engineering in Dr. James B. Delehanty's laboratory. Her expertise lies at the intersection of nano/biomaterials (e.g. hydrogels, biofunctional surfaces, inorganic/organic nanoparticles) for modulating stem cell behavior, and she is also passionate

about scientific communication. Bethany holds a Ph.D. in Biomedical Engineering from Brown University.

Dr. Eva Alonso Ortiz (eva.alonso.ortiz@gmail.com/www.evaalonsoortiz.com) is a Postdoctoral Scholar at Ecole Polytechnique Montreal. During her graduate studies she developed advanced brain imaging methods using MRI. She spent a couple of years working in radiation oncology before going back to full-time research. She is now conducting research in MRI of the spinal cord. Eva holds a Ph.D. from McGill University

Dr. Juan R. Alvarez (<u>juanralvarez@fas.harvard.edu</u>) is a HHMI LSRF Fellow in the laboratory of Doug Melton at Harvard University. During his graduate career he studied the modulation of lineage-specific cell differentiation by long non-coding RNAs. Currently, he uses human pancreatic islet organoids to study islet development, model physiology during health and disease, and develop diabetes therapies. Juan received his A.B. in Molecular Biology from Princeton University and a Ph.D. in Biology from MIT.

Brendan Anzures (brendan anzures@brown.edu) is a fifth-year NASA Earth and Space Sciences Graduate Fellow pursuing his Ph.D. in the Department of Earth, Environmental, and Planetary Sciences at Brown University. His research focuses on the chemical and physical evolution of Mercury, meteorites, and their parent body asteroids. He studies synthetic rocks created through high-pressure and high-temperature experiments and meteorites using various laboratory spectroscopy techniques, with a special focus on the behavior of volatiles (S, C, F, Cl, and H2O). Brendan holds a B.S. in Geology from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute.

Dr. Md Arifuzzaman (md.arifuzzaman@uconn.edu) is a Postdoctoral Scholar in the Department of Chemistry at the University of Connecticut.

Dr. Fatemeh Bahari (fbahari@mgh.harvard.edu) is a Postdoctoral Fellow at Massachusetts General Hospital and Harvard Medical School. Her main focus has been on epilepsy and its underlying mechanisms and comorbidities. She is interested in identifying the underlying mechanisms by which brain transitions from normal to seizing states. Her work has already resulted in a new mechanistic biomarker for epileptogenesis to identify patients at risk of epilepsy and determine the efficacy of proposed treatments. She has also identified a linkage between seizures and spreading depression. She has a strong background in in vivo electrophysiology in freely behaving animals and signal processing of neural data. In her current postdoctoral position, she is learning in vitro electrophysiology techniques including multiphoton microscopy imaging, immunohistochemistry, viral labeling, pharmacology, and extracellular and patch-clamp recordings. She holds two B.S. degrees from Amirkabir University of Technology in Iran, and an M.S. and Ph.D. from Pennsylvania State University.

Dr. Camille Bilodeau (cbilod@mit.edu) is a first-year Postdoctoral Researcher in Klavs Jensen's group at MIT and she is interested in pursuing a chemical engineering faculty position after her postdoc. Her graduate research focused on using molecular dynamics simulations to study how proteins adsorb to multimodal surfaces with applications in protein separations. In her postdoc,

she is developing new deep learning approaches to predict the properties of chemicals, chemical mixtures, and peptides. Camille holds a Ph.D. from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute.

Dr. Corinna Breusing (cbreusing@uri.edu) is a Postdoctoral Researcher at the University of Rhode Island in the laboratory of Professor Roxanne Beinart, where she studies the evolutionary biology of animal-microbe symbioses at deep-sea hydrothermal vents. She previously completed a postdoctoral fellowship at the Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute with Dr. Bob Vrijenhoek, for which she received a grant from the German Research Foundation. During her graduate studies she was awarded one out of six nationwide doctoral prizes from the Helmholtz Association, Germany's largest scientific organization. She recently received an award from the Schmidt Ocean Institute to conduct a research cruise as Chief Scientist in the North Fiji Back-Arc Basin (Southwest Pacific) in 2021. Corinna holds a Ph.D. from Kiel University / GEOMAR Helmholtz Institute for Ocean Research in Germany.

Dr. Anya Brown (brown.anya@gmail.com) is currently the Ewel Postdoctoral Fellow at the University of Florida, and will be a Woods Hole Postdoctoral Scholar starting in Fall 2020. received her Ph.D. from the Odum School of Ecology at the University of Georgia. Her dissertation, titled *Trait-mediated effects and the extended phenotype: community interactions on coral reefs* focused on microbially-mediated interactions between corals, algae and mucusnet producing snails called vermetids. Anya holds a Sci.B. from Brown University, a M.S. from California State University, Northridge, and a Ph.D. from University of Georgia.

Dr. Alice L. Burghard (burghard@uchc.edu) is a Postdoctoral Scholar in an auditory neuroscience lab at University of Connecticut Health. Her passion for everything auditory started after she finished veterinary school and started her graduate school career in a cochlear implant lab. Her current focus is plasticity in the auditory midbrain and its role in tinnitus development. For that she is recording neuronal activity in the inferior colliculus of sound exposed and behaviorally trained animals with and without signs of tinnitus. She holds a DVM from Freie Universität Berlin and a Ph.D. from Hannover Graduate School for Veterinary Pathobiology, Neuroinfectiology, and Translational Medicine in Germany.

Shiya Cao (scao2@wpi.edu) is a Ph.D. Candidate in Information Technology Worcester Polytechnic Institute. Her research interests are in technology enabled social inclusion, human-computer interaction, user experience, and gender equity in IT. She has teaching assistant experiences in both graduate and undergraduate courses, such as Introduction to Data Science, Information Technology Policy and Strategy, Telecommunications Management. She received her bachelor's degree in Management from North China Electric Power University, and her M.S. degree in System Dynamics and Innovation Management at Worcester Polytechnic Institute.

Dr. Lisa Cervia (<u>Icervia@broadinstitute.org</u>/<u>www.linkedin.com/in/lisa-cervia</u>/@lisacervia) is a Postdoctoral Fellow at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and the Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard. She is currently working to understand how cooperating mutations lead to cancer and how best to identify combination therapies rationally. Her research interests include drug delivery, biological transport, genetic engineering and cancer diagnostics and therapy. She has

worked on several projects with applications to cancer diagnostics and therapy including a global health project for the spectroscopic detection of oral cancer and a clinical breast cancer study utilizing spectroscopy to aid surgeons in detection of tumor margins. She holds a B.S. in Biomedical Engineering from Boston University and a Ph.D. in Biomedical Engineering from Duke University.

Dr. Ibrahim Chamseddine (<u>ichamseddine@mgh.harvard.edu</u>) is a Postdoctoral Researcher at Harvard Medical School and Massachusetts General Hospital. Heinterested in performing early prediction of treatment outcomes, and redesigning therapies for high risk patients. Ibrahim received the 2018 Best Thesis Award from GERAD (Group for Research in Decision Analysis). Ibrahim has multiple journal publications and many conference participations, all applying machine learning, design optimization, and mathematical modeling to facilitate the understanding and treatment of cancer. He holds a Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering at McGill University.

Dr. Lesley Chapman (Lesley.chapman@nih.gov) is a postdoctoral fellow at the NIH National Cancer Institute where she is both completing a pancancer study of viruses and is evaluating the role of structural variants within cancer. During her graduate training, she helped define the role of a specific microRNA in regulating the host immune response during malaria infection. To gain a more foundational understanding of how to study large genomic changes within the genome, she completed a National Institute Council Postdoctoral Fellowship at the National Institute of Standards and Technology where she used computational tools and machine learning to characterize structural variants within the human genome. Now, in her current postdoctoral fellowship, she is investigating the role that structural variants have in determining disease outcome in a specific type of cancer at NCI. She completed her Ph.D. in Translational Biomedical Science at the University of Rochester Medical Center.

Dr. Fabrizio Colosimo (Fabrizio.Colosimo@unh.edu) is a Postdoctoral Research Associate at the University of New Hampshire in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering.) Prior to joining the University of New Hampshire, he was a Postdoc and then a Laboratory Director in a private biotech company in Barcelona, Spain. His research at the university of New Hampshire in the lab of Professor Paula Mouser involves the integration of microbiological technologies and ecological principles into the realm of environmental protection and sustainability. His general research interests extend the development of pro-microbial, bio-enhanced mineral treatments to improve plant performance, phyto- and bioremediation, capturing and immobilizing pollutants through bacterially generated minerals and improvements towards the production of renewable biofuels. He received his Ph.D. in Civil and Environmental Engineering from the University of Strathclyde in the UK.

Sophie Coulson (slcoulson@g.harvard.edu) is a fifth-year Ph.D. Student at Harvard University's Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences. Her research focuses on flow and deformation in the Earth's interior and the effect this has on surface processes. Specifically, she uses theory and numerical modelling to understand and predict the impact of mantle flow on topography and sea-level change. Her work demonstrates that including mantle processes can dramatically

alter the dynamics of regional and global climate systems. She holds a MESci in Geophysics from the University of Liverpool in the UK.

Dr. Alexis Courtney (alexiscourtney63@gmail.com) is a Postdoctoral Fellow at Smith College, working with Professor David Gorin on the use of nucleic acid catalysts as enzyme mimics. Her graduate studies focused on using flow chemistry for synthetic, biological, and educational applications. In the future, she would like to focus on chemistry education research to aid student learning. Alexis holds a Ph.D. from Boston University.

Dr. Holger Dannenberg (hdannenb@gmail.com) is a Postdoctoral Research Fellow at Dr. Michael Hasselmo's laboratory at Boston University. He hopes to become an independent researcher performing basic neuroscience research on neural circuit mechanisms of cognitive processes relevant to learning and memory. He is particularly interested in understanding the mechanistic role of septo-hippocampal circuits in encoding and retrieval of memory in support of changing behavioral demands. During his graduate studies in Dr. Heinz Beck's laboratory in Bonn, Germany, he performed in-vivo experiments on rodents using electrophysiology, optogenetics, and signal analysis techniques. As part of his Ph.D. research, he investigated the septo-hippocampal system to dissect the specific contribution of cholinergic as opposed to GABAergic septal neurons on encoding and retrieval dynamics in the hippocampus. Holger holds a Ph.D. from Rheinische Friedrich-Wilhelms-Universität Bonn in Germany.

Dr. Nicole "Nikki" DeVille (nhrvd@channing.harvard.edu) is a Postdoctoral Research Fellow in The Spatial and Contextual Exposomics and Epidemiology Laboratory at Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health and Brigham and Women's Hospital. Her current projects focus on the impact of location-based exposures (e.g., air pollution, greenspace, neighborhood socioeconomic status) on health. Her broad research interests include epidemiology, environmental health, maternal and child health, mental health and wellness, health disparities in Pacific Islander and Indigenous populations, and public health education. Nicole holds a Ph.D. in Public Health from University of California, Irvine.

Dr. Neel Doshi (nddoshi@mit.edu/nddoshi9@gmail.com) is an Intelligence Community Postdoctoral Fellow in the Department of Mechanical Engineering at MIT. His research focuses on improving the capabilities of robotic systems that interact with the world through frictional contact (e.g., robotic manipulators and legged robots). He takes an integrated approach to this problem, looking at design, control, and planning. Currently, he is working with Professor Alberto Rodriguez on developing a controller for contact-rich robotic manipulation. He holds a Ph.D. from Harvard University.

Dr. Hannah Fazekas (Hannah.fazekas@unh.edu) is a Postdoctoral Scholar in the Department of Natural Resources and the Environment at the University of New Hampshire.

Dr. Dongmei Feng (dmei.feng@gmail.com) is a hydrologist and currently a Postdoctoral Scholar in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. Her primary research interest is in terrestrial hydrology. She leverages resources from

remote sensing, numeric models, big data, and state-of-the-art computational techniques to advance our understanding of global hydrology. Before joining University of Massachusetts, Amherst, she received a Ph.D. degree from Northeastern University and Bachelor's and Master's degrees from Tongji University, China.

Dr. Lori Ferrins (I.ferrins@northeastern.edu) is a Research Assistant Professor at Northeastern University. Her research has largely been centered around drug discovery for neglected tropical diseases like human African trypanosomiasis, leishmaniasis and Chagas disease, but she is looking to broaden her focus into infectious diseases. She has also been involved with the International Younger Chemists Network (IYCN) since 2017 and was elected Chair in 2019. IYCN is aimed at connecting early-career chemists with a goal to reach like-minded scientists and create a platform for scientific exchange. Lori holds a Ph.D. from the Monash Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences at Monash University in Australia.

Dr. Elizabeth Fine (<u>efine@whoi.edu</u>) is a Postdoctoral Scholar in the Department of Physical Oceanography at Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution.

Dr. Emily First (emily.c.first@gmail.com) is a Postdoctoral Research Associate in the Department of Earth, Environmental and Planetary Sciences at Brown University. She studies volcanoes on Earth, the Moon, and Mars, using laboratory analog experiments at high temperature and pressure ("cooking lava"). She is heavily involved in teaching-related outreach, as one of the coordinators for the department program that develops science curricula for local elementary schools. Science policy and the global need to address DEI in STEM is another budding interest of hers, and she has participated in Congressional visits organized by geoscience groups. At the end of the year, she will move to Cornell University to begin a postdoctoral fellowship in planetary astronomy (51 Pegasi b Fellowship). Emily holds B.S. and a B.A. from the University of Georgia and a Ph.D. in Geology and Geophysics from the University of Hawaii.

Dr. Krista Fleck (krista.fleck@unh.edu/@kristafleck) is a Postdoctoral Scholar in the lab of Dr. Vicki Jeffers at the University of New Hampshire. During her graduate program she studied lysine acetyltransferases in the eukaryotic parasite *Toxoplasma gondii* under the mentorship of Dr. Bill Sullivan. She then went on to study HIV genomic RNA packaging as a postdoc at the University of Michigan with Dr. Alice Telesnitsky. Her research focuses on the regulators of transcription that are critical for parasite differentiation and survival in the human and animal pathogen *Toxoplasma gondii*. Krista received her Ph.D. in 2013 from Indiana University School of Medicine

Adrian Mikhail P. Garcia (garciaap@mit.edu) is pursuing his Ph.D. in the MIT-WHOI Joint Program in Applied Ocean Science & Engineering. His research in environmental fluid mechanics is focused on understanding transport processes in estuaries. While he was an undergraduate at Pittsburgh, his mentors inspired him to pursue a Ph.D. to become a professor so that he could combine his technical aptitude with his passion for teaching and mentoring others. Adrian received his B.S. in Civil Engineering from the University of Pittsburgh.

Dr. Alexander Gates (a.gates@northeastern.edu) is an Associate Research Scientist at the Network Science Institute at Northeastern University. His academic research fuses mathematical and computational methods to study complex systems in sociology, biology, and neuroscience. Some of his recent contributions include mapping out the landscape of interdisciplinary collaborations, a systematic quantification of control in gene regulatory networks, and a novel framework for comparing overlapping and hierarchical clusters and network communities. Before arriving at Northeastern, Alex received a joint Ph.D. degree in Informatics (complex systems track) and Cognitive Science from Indiana University, Bloomington, an M.Sc. from Kings College London in complex systems modeling and a B.A. in mathematics from Cornell University.

Kelsea Gildawie (gildawie.k@northeastern.edu/@kelsearian) is a fifth-year Ph.D. Candidate in the Developmental Neuropsychobiology Laboratory at Northeastern University. Her research involves the neurobiological underpinnings of sex-specific behavioral dysfunction following early life adversity in rats. Specifically, she studies how adversity affects microglia morphological activation states and degrades extracellular structures throughout development. She is currently looking for a postdoctoral position in the Boston area where she can continue to investigate the sex-dependent consequences of stress. Kelsea received her B.S. in Neuroscience and Behavior (with a minor Biostatistics) from Simmons University.

Leilani H. Gilpin (Igilpin@mit.edu) is a Ph.D. Candidate in Electrical Engineering and Computer Science at MIT, supervised by Professor Gerald Jay Sussman and funded by the Toyota Research Institute. She works on enabling autonomous vehicles, and other autonomous machines, to explain themselves. Before MIT, Leilani worked as a research engineer at Palo Alto Research Center (PARC) focusing on anomaly detection in healthcare. Leilani earned a M.S. in Computational Mathematical and Engineering from Stanford University in 2013, and a B.S. in Mathematics (with honors), B.S. in Computer Science (with highest honors), and a music minor from University of California, San Diego.

Cammie Gray (clg2001@wildcats.unh.edu) is a Ph.D. candidate in Mathematics Education at the University of New Hampshire. Her research interests in mathematics education include both the learning and teaching of tertiary mathematics and the preparation and professional development of secondary mathematics teachers. Cammie has held a teaching assistantship in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics at the University of New Hampshire for the last four years and has had the opportunity to teach a variety of courses as both a teaching assistant and instructor of record. Prior to beginning her Ph.D. studies, Cammie was a middle and high school mathematics teacher for four years in the Templeton Unified School District in Templeton, California. She earned her M.S. and MST in Mathematics from the University of New Hampshire and has a Bachelor of Science in Mathematics from California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo.

Dr. Bentolhoda "Hoda" Heli (bentolhoda.heli@polymtl.ca) has worked in research as a postdoctoral fellow at Polytechnique Montreal. Her studies have been focused on developing

antibacterial and smart food packaging in collaboration with food packaging industries. She graduated from Polytechnique Montreal with a Ph.D. in Chemical Engineering.

Jack Hensley (<u>jhensley@g.harvard.edu</u>) is a third-year Environmental Science and Engineering Ph.D. student at Harvard University. He is interested in the chemistry that we think happens in particles in the atmosphere. He holds a B.S. from the University of California, Berkeley and a M.S. in Environmental Engineering from ETH Zürich.

Jaileene Hernandez Escalante (jaileenehernandez@gmail.com) is currently a Ph.D. Candidate in the Dooms lab at Boston University School of Medicine studying Type 1 Diabetes and how dietary environmental factors contribute to T cell autoreactivity. Her research interests include immune based therapeutics, immune dysfunction/regulation, and microbiology. She has taught courses in the topics of Infectious Disease and Public Heath, Medical Microbiology, and Medical Terminology. She holds a B.S. in Biology from Temple University.

Shayan Hojabri (hojabri.s@northeastern.edu) is a fourth-year Ph.D. Candidate in Civil and Environmental Engineering at Northeastern University. His research interest is fluid flow and mass/heat transfer. As part of Puerto Rico Testsite for Exploring Contamination Threats (PROTECT) center, his doctoral research focuses on development of a green in situ groundwater remediation technology, where he uses theoretical modeling to evaluate the removal efficiency of organic and inorganic contaminants. He was awarded the College of Engineering Outstanding Graduate Teaching Assistant Award in 2020. Shayan holds a B.Sc. in Civil Engineering and an M.Sc. in Environmental Engineering from the University of Tehran and a M.Sc. in Geoenvironmental Engineering at Northeastern University.

Dr. Rachel Hopman (<u>r.hopman@northeastern.edu</u>) is a Postdoctoral Scholar at the Center for Cognitive and Brain Health at Northeastern University. She studies the relationship between physical fitness, physical activity, and cognitive health across the lifespan. Her research focuses on cognitive outcomes related to virtual environmental exposures during exercise, as well as applied learning methods in virtual reality. Rachel's participants range in age from 8 to 80 years old in order to understand cognitive abilities in relation to a broad age spectrum. She holds a Ph.D. from the University of Utah.

Lydia Horne (<u>Lydia.horne@maine.edu</u>) is a Ph.D. Student in the Department of Ecology and Environmental Sciences at the University of Maine.

Dr. Serena Houghton (Shoughto@umass.edu) is a Postdoctoral Fellow at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. A nutritional epidemiologist, her long-term research interests lie in investigating how dietary factors or nutritional status impact women's health, particularly breast cancer. She is conducting research within the Nurses' Health Study Cohorts evaluating dietary factors and nutritional status as they relate to breast cancer risk and survival, with the goal of finding ways to reduce breast cancer incidence and mortality. More specifically, her current research focuses on the relation between central adiposity and breast cancer, and

elucidating the potential biological mechanisms underpinning this relationship. Serena holds a Ph.D. from the University of Massachusetts Amherst.

Dr. Jingjie Hu (<u>Hu.Jingjie@mayo.edu</u>) is a Postdoctoral Fellow at the Mayo Clinic, where she is performing research in translational bioengineering in the Minimally Invasive Therapeutics Laboratory. Her current work uses mechanics, material science, and in vivo studies to design and develop next-generation embolic agents, aiming to bridge the gap between engineering and medicine for translational applications in endovascular embolization. Her broad research interests include materials, nanotechnology, and mechanical properties of biological materials and devices. Jingjie holds a Ph.D. from Princeton University.

Dr. Zoë L Hutchison (zoe hutchison@uri.edu) is a Postdoctoral Fellow in the Graduate School of Oceanography at the University of Rhode Island. Zoë is an applied behavioral ecologist and her research focuses on understanding how human activities that change the physical marine environment, influence the behavior and physiology of marine organisms. She holds a B.Sc. in Marine Biology at the University of Plymouth, a M.Sc. in Aquatic Resource Management at King's College London in 2010, and Ph.D. in Marine Science from the Scottish Association for Marine Science in conjunction with the University of Aberdeen.

Dr. Maria Eugenia Inda (<u>inda@mit.edu</u>) is a Biomedical Pew Postdoctoral Fellow in the Synthetic Biology Center at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. In Timothy Lu's lab, she is investigating the bacteria dwelling in our intestines. Specifically, she's working to commandeer some of these microbes for use as "sentinels" that could be engineered to patrol the gut and recognize the molecular markers of inflammatory disease. She also serves as a Comm Lab Advisor, where she helps colleagues develop their communication skills. Outside her research, she loves capturing the beauty of everyday life with her Nikon D3400 camera. She holds a Ph.D. in Microbiology from the National University of Rosario in Argentina.

Dr. Corine Jackman (cjackman@andrew.cmu.edu) is a Presidential Postdoctoral Fellow at Carnegie Mellon University, working with Professor Shelley Anna in the department of Chemical Engineering in collaboration with Professor Luisa Hiller in the department of Biological Sciences. Corine's current research investigates microbial interactions that are representative of the human microbiome while employing a microfluidic platform. More specifically, she investigates cell-cell and cell-host interactions relating to pathogenic and commensal bacteria that colonize the upper and lower respiratory tract. Corine is a recipient of several awards including the Pre-Doctoral Ford Foundation Fellowship and the National Science Foundation – Graduate Research Fellowship. Corine holds a B.S. in Chemical Engineering from Howard University and a Ph.D. in Chemical Engineering from the University of Michigan.

Bryan D. James (bryan.james@ufl.edu/www.bryandjames.com/@bdbjames) is a Ph.D. Candidate and a National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute Predoctoral Fellow at the University of Florida in the Department of Materials Science & Engineering. Currently, his work aims to understand the sex-specific cell-material interactions of vascular cells. Additionally, he has pioneered the use of nucleic acid-collagen complex (NACC) biomaterials for tissue engineering

and regenerative medicine. He loves cooking, photography, Gator football, and being outdoors. He holds a B.A.Sc. in Materials Engineering from the University of Toronto.

Dr. Evelyn Jensen (evelyn.jensen@yale.edu /@evie_jensen) is a Postdoctoral Fellow at Yale University in the Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology. Her research uses the tools of population genetics and phylogenetics to address critical questions in the evolution and conservation of wildlife species. Her current focus is on the Galapagos giant tortoises, a group of highly endangered species with several active conservation programs that we are informing using genetics. She holds a Ph.D. from the University of British Columbia Okanagan.

Dr. Judit Jimenez Sainz (judit.jimenezsainz@yale.edu) is an Associate Research Scientist at Yale Medical School in the Department of Therapeutic Radiology. A biochemist and geneticist, she is researching why certain women with BRCA2 mutations have higher risk to female cancers and how to prevent and cure it at the molecular level. She directs the E-visibility program in ECUSA, highlining novel research and researchers' endeavors. Judit is one of 75 women leaders selected for Homeward Bound Program 5 (#HB5). She gets energy from family, dance, nature, meditation and, spending time with others. She strongly values curiosity, creativity, critical thinking and exploring outside her comfort zone. Judit holds a Ph.D. from the Universidad de Valencia in Spain.

Dr. Wontae Joo (wjoo@mit.edu) is a Postdoctoral Fellow at MIT in the Olsen Research Group within the Department of Chemical Engineering. His graduate research was based on the development of new catalysts for polymerization, monomers and synthetic polymeric materials that respond efficiently to irradiation to produce products of value under the supervision of Professors Christopher W. Bielawski and C. Grant Willson. With his current research he aims to apply methods in polymer and biological synthesis to the design of new materials. He is currently working on advancing polymeric nanoparticles, engineered proteins and biohybrid materials to address challenges in hemostasis. His other research involves development of new sustainable polymeric materials to resolve rapidly growing global accumulation of plastic waste. Wontae holds a Ph.D. in Organic Chemistry from the University of Texas at Austin.

Dr. Bat-Erdene Jugder (bat-erdene.jugder@childrens.harvard.edu) is a Postdoctoral Research Fellow in Dr Paula Watnick's laboratory in the Division of Infectious Diseases at Boston Children's Hospital and a Research Fellow in Pediatrics at Harvard Medical School. In the Watnick lab, he wanted to further expand his existing expertise in bacterial anaerobic respiration to intestinal host microbe interactions, using *Drosophila* as a model organism. In his primary research project, he has been studying regulation of key host metabolic and immune responses by intestinal microbes. He has made the interesting discovery on how sensing of microbial acetate by enteroendocrine cells activates innate immune and metabolic responses in the gut. Bat-Erdene holds a Ph.D. from the University of New South Wales in Australia.

Dr. Dominik Juraschek (djuraschek@seas.harvard.edu) is a Postdoctoral Scholar in the Department of Engineering and Applied Sciences at Harvard University.

Dr. Alice Kane (alice_kane@hms.harvard.edu) Is a Postdoctoral Fellow in the Sinclair Lab at Harvard Medical School developing predictive models of biological age and lifespan in mice. Her graduate research examined the effect of aging on acetaminophen hepatotoxicity. She began her career in Dr. Susan Howlett's lab at Dalhousie University in Canada for her first fellowship exploring the effects of age and frailty on the heart, and developing tools to assess frailty in aging rodent models. Alice holds a Ph.D. at the University of Sydney in Australia.

Dr. Utkarsh Kapoor (utkarsk@udel.edu) is a Postdoctoral Fellow at University of Delaware working with Professor Arthi Jayaraman where he is studying development of coarse-grained models for polymeric materials. His graduate work focused on molecular design of novel non-ideal ionic liquid solvents with tunable phase equilibria properties for improving gas separation processes. He has received multiple awards and fellowships for his research including the OSU Graduate Research Excellence Award in 2019 and OSU Foundation Distinguished Graduate Fellowship from 2017-2019. His research vision at the interface of engineering, material science and medicine focuses on applying fundamental engineering principles to design targeted materials and address challenges in the clean-energy – health nexus, primarily in the areas of polymer electrolyte batteries and ophthalmology. Utkarsh holds a Ph.D. in Chemical Engineering from Oklahoma State University.

Dr. Kazuyuki Kasahara (kasahara2@wisc.edu) is a Postdoctoral Fellow in Rey's Lab at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. His research interest is host-microbiome interactions in cardiovascular diseases. He earned his undergraduate degree from Kobe University in Japan, and his MD from the same university. After completing his residency and fellowship in Cardiology, he completed a Ph.D. in Vascular Biology at Kobe Graduate School of Medicine in Japan.

Dr. Lauren Kennedy-Metz (Irkennedy.metz@gmail.com) is a Postdoctoral Fellow affiliated with the Department of Surgery at Harvard Medical School, and working with Dr. Marco A. Zenati, Chief of Cardiothoracic Surgery in the Division of Cardiac Surgery at the VA Boston Healthcare System in West Roxbury. Her research is ultimately focused on enhancing patient safety by introducing and evaluating cognitive aids aimed at enhancing surgical teams' cognitive and nontechnical performance. The primary project in the multi-institutional research group at the VA focuses on an adaptive intra-operative procedural checklist designed to provide guidance to the cardiac surgery team during cardiac surgery operations including aortic valve replacement and coronary artery bypass graft surgery. They are interested in the team dynamics, including physiological measures of cognitive workload, communication patterns, situational awareness, and patient outcomes. Lauren holds a Ph.D. from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University.

Dr. Kenry (kenry@dfci.harvard.edu) is a Research Fellow at the Department of Imaging at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and Harvard Medical School. His research focuses on the understanding and engineering of nano-bio interactions for functional disease theranostics. He holds a B.Eng. in Electrical and Electronic Engineering from Nanyang Technological University in Singapore and a Ph.D. in Biomedical Engineering from the National University of Singapore.

Dr. Megan E. Kizer (mkizer@mit.edu) is a Postdoctoral Fellow in Barbara Imperiali's Lab at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, where her research focuses on the development of chemical and biochemical tools to detect elusive pathogenic glycans. Her graduate research focused on the use of nucleic acids as biosensors and biotechnological tools. Megan holds a Ph.D. from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute.

Anna Marie LaChance (anna.marie@uconn.edu/@ThatAnnaMarie) is a third-year Ph.D. Student in Chemical Engineering at the University of Connecticut. She is studying polymer nanocomposite materials for vapor barrier applications. She is also interested in engineering education and how students make connections between what they're studying in class and the real-world applications in which that material is used. She holds a B.S. in Chemical Engineering from the University of Connecticut.

Dr. Kai Lang (kai.lang@bc.edu/kailangphd.com) is a Research Associate in Prof. X. Peter Zhang's group at Boston College. The major research direction he feels enthusiastic about is the development of the novel, biomimetic catalysts, which provides one of the ultimate solutions to many long-lasting challenges encountered by small molecule catalysis. To this end, his research experience is highlighted in the development of this class of catalysts as well as the demonstration of their unique catalytic properties in synthetic chemistry applications involving both ionic and radical processes. Kai holds a Ph.D. at the University of Florida.

Benjamin Lienhard (blienhar@mit.edu) is a Ph.D. student in the Engineering Quantum Systems group at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. His research interests are in quantum applications and control with a focus on quantum computing. He received his B.S. and M.S. from the department of Information Technology and Electrical Engineering at ETH Zurich in Switzerland.

Dr. Jill Lundell (jlundell@hsph.harvard.edu) is a Postdoctoral Fellow in the lab of Rafael Irizarry at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute in the Department of Data Science. Prior to joining the Irizarry Lab, Jill was the Senior Statistician for Portage Inc. and North Wind Group where she focused on statistical solutions for environmental remediation and nuclear fuel recycling. Her graduate research focused on tuning hyperparameters of statistical learning models and on genome-wide association studies. Jill's current research interests include using statistical learning for better cancer diagnostics, method development for complex pattern recognition, and development of computational tools for easy implementation of these methods. She holds a Ph.D. from Utah State University.

Yang "Vicky" Luo (yang.luo@yale.edu) is a Ph.D. Student at Yale University. She is working with Professor Sarah Slavoff where her research efforts focus on discovering new targets of human mRNA decapping enzymes using chemical inhibitors. Yang holds a B.S. from Nanyang Technological University in Singapore.

Dr. Azadeh Maleknejad (amalek@mpa-garching.mpg.de) is a Postdoctoral Fellow at the Max Planck Institute for Astrophysics in Germany. Her most significant contribution to cosmology is the first discovery of a new class of inflation models closer to particle physics, based on non-Abelian gauge fields and axions. That has a rich and multifaceted phenomenology and opens a new window to particle cosmology. Namely, its rich and multifaceted phenomenology provides new mechanisms for the production of gravitational waves (GWs), leptogenesis, and dark matter. As a smoking gun, this new paradigm predicts robust observable signatures for primordial GWs, which can be detected by future CMB missions, e.g., LiteBIRD, CMB-S4. Azadeh holds a Ph.D. from Institute for Studies in Fundamental Sciences and Alzahra University in Iran.

Dr. Ayano Matsushima (ayanom@mit.edu) is a Postdoctoral Fellow at the McGovern Institute for Brain Research at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Her primary interest is to elucidate the biological basis that governs the way we act, think and become psychologically ill, which she would like to approach from the brain development. Ayano holds a Ph.D. from the University of Tokyo in Japan.

Dr. Miguel Montero (mmontero@g.harvard.edu) is a Postdoctoral Fellow at the Center for the Fundamental Laws of Nature at Harvard University. Miguel holds an undergraduate degree from Universidad Autonoma de Madrid and a M.Sc. and Ph.D. from Universidad Autonoma de Madrid-IFT in Spain.

Dr. Claudio Luis Morales-Perez (<u>Claudio Morales-Perez@hms.harvard.edu</u>) is a Dean's Postdoctoral Fellow in the Cell Biology Department at Harvard Medical School under the guidance of the Associate Professor Maofu Liao. His research focuses on understanding the molecular mechanisms of the ATP-binding cassette (ABC) transporters, specifically, the ABCA7 subtype which is related to Alzheimer's disease. He uses a variety of biochemical, biophysical and structural methods such as cryo-Electron Microscopy (cryo-EM) to study their overall architecture, substrates specificity, inhibitors selectivity, and transport mechanism. He holds a B.S. from the University of Puerto Rico and a Ph.D. from the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center.

Dr. Fabiola Munarin (<u>Fabiola_munarin@brown.edu</u>) is an Assistant Professor of Research at Brown University. Her research interests involve the use of natural polymers to produce three-dimensional systems for tissue regeneration and neovascularization, though she is expanding her research interests into immune engineering for the regeneration of ischemic tissues. She was selected as the recipient of the 2013 European Biomaterials and Tissue Engineering Doctoral Award, and of the Materials Science and Engineering C 2014 Young Researcher Award. She holds a Ph.D. in Bioengineering from Politecnico di Milano in Italy.

Dr. Leslie A. Nickerson (Inickerson@smith.edu) is a Teaching and Research Postdoctoral Scholar at Smith College in the lab of Professor Kevin Shea where she is working on synthesizing cyclic alkynes. Leslie completed her Ph.D. with Professor Jared T. Shaw at the University of California, Davis where she focused on expanding the methodology of C–H insertion with donor/donor carbenes to include isochromans and tetrahydroisoquinolines.

Dr. Marie-Christine Nizzi (marie.nizzi@gmail.com) is a Ph.D. student in Psychology at Harvard University. She is a trained neuropsychologist and works on identifying factors fostering resilience in trauma survivors. Marie-Christine completed a Ph.D. in philosophy at the Sorbonne University in France.

Daniel Oropeza (dan.oropeza@gmail.com) is a Ph.D. Student in Mechanical Engineering at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, focusing on process fundamentals and novel approaches to additive manufacturing of metals and ceramics for use in high-temperature environments, with a personal interest in aerospace platforms. Prior to MIT, he received his B.S. in Aerospace Engineering at the University of Texas at Austin, M.S. in Aeronautics/Astronautics at Stanford University, and worked as a Research Engineer at Lockheed Martin based out of the DC Metro area.

Dr. Chadlin "Chad" Ostrander (costrander@whoi.edu) is a Postdoctoral Scholar at Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution. Chad's work focuses on reconstructing the oxygenation history of Earth's surface in deep time using non-traditional stable isotope systems. He holds a Ph.D. in Geology from Arizona State University.

Dr. Ashlee Plummer (ashlee plummer@hms.harvard.edu) is a Postdoctoral Fellow at Harvard Medical School, where she uses cryo-electron microscopy to study membrane protein structure/function. Originally from North Carolina, Ashlee completed her undergraduate studies in Chemistry at North Carolina State University, where she worked as a tutor and Supplemental Instruction Leader and first learned how much fun teaching STEM is. She holds a Ph.D. from Johns Hopkins University.

Dr. Madeline Polmear (mpolmear@ufl.edu) is a Postdoctoral Researcher in the Department of Civil and Coastal Engineering at the University of Florida. Her research interests include engineering education and engineering ethics. Madeline holds a B.S. in Environmental Engineering, M.S. in Civil Engineering, and Ph.D. in Civil Engineering from the University of Colorado Boulder.

Dr. K. Maksymilian Prondzynski (KamillMaksymilian.Prondzynski@childrens.harvard.edu) is a Research Fellow in William T. Pu's laboratory at the Boston Children's Hospital. His current scientific interest lies in pediatric cardiomyopathies and how IPSC technology can be utilized to study and model these types of diseases. Furthermore, he is interested in developing and applying novel molecular medicines (e.g. gene therapy) to generate new treatment options for affected patients in the future. He holds a Ph.D. from the University Medical Center Hamburg-Eppendorf in Germany.

Dr. Victor Puac Polanco (<u>puacpolanco@hcp.med.harvard.edu</u>) is a Dean's Postdoctoral Fellow in the Department of Health Care Policy at Harvard Medical School under the mentorship of Dr. Ronald C. Kessler, McNeil Family Professor of Health Care Policy. Building on his previous work on psychiatric epidemiology in Guatemala, Victor plans to comprehend the translational

implications of the detection and treatment of behavioral health problems in low- and middle-income countries. Victor received his Medical Degree from Universidad de San Carlos de Guatemala, his M.S. in Clinical Epidemiology from the Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania, and his DrPH from Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health.

Dr. Lauren Raine (I.raine@northeastern.edu) is a Postdoctoral Research Associate in Psychology at Northeastern University. She is interested in the public health implications of cognition and brain health; specifically, the investigation of physical activity, fitness, and (excess) body mass on brain health and cognition in children. She has examined these relationships using behavioral and neuroimaging measures to study the influence of acute and chronic physical activity on cognition. She is also interested in the relationship between body composition and cognition, as the obesity epidemic continues to spread in children. Lauren holds a Ph.D. from the University of Illinois.

Dr. Akshay Rangamani (arangam@mit.edu) is a Postdoctoral Associate at the Center for Brains, Minds, and Machines at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. His research interests are at the intersection of the theory of machine learning, signal processing, and optimization. More specifically, he is interested in understanding deep neural networks from a theoretical perspective and verifying theoretical conclusions through rigorous experimentation. He has also worked on problems in sparse and low rank signal processing, with applications to computer vision, biomedical signal processing, and online social networks. He holds a B.Tech in Electrical Engineering from IIT Madras in India and a Ph.D. in Electrical and Computer Engineering from Johns Hopkins University.

Dr. Sukrit Ranjan (sukrit@alum.mit.edu/sukrit.thescholr.com) is a Simmons Collaboration on the Origins of Life Postdoctoral Fellow at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and a Visiting Scholar at Northwestern University. He is interested in the evolution of rocky planets, the search for life on other worlds, and the origin of life on Earth. His research focuses on understanding the environmental conditions on early Earth, comparing them to the environmental conditions available on other worlds, and exploring the implications for the origin and endurance of life. He works to understand whether the processes thought to have fueled the origin of life on Earth could have really worked in nature, and if so, whether they could have helped life start on other worlds as well. He completed his Ph.D. in Astronomy & Astrophysics at Harvard University, where he was the first student to earn a certificate in Origin of Life studies.

Thomas Rayder (tomdoesshows@gmail.com/rayder@bc.edu) is a Ph.D. Candidate at Boston College. Tom's graduate research involves the encapsulation of homogeneous transition metal catalysts in MOFs through aperture-opening processes. Most recently, he applied this approach to the cascade reduction of carbon dioxide to methanol as an alternative fuel source using multicomponent catalysis. He holds a B.S. in Chemistry from Worcester Polytechnic Institute.

Lauren A. Reid (<u>lareid@email.sc.edu</u>) is a Ph.D. student in Epidemiology at the University of South Carolina. Her research interests include physical activity, chronic disease epidemiology, environmental influences of health, health policy, and social determinants of health. Her dissertation involves food insecurity and health behaviors of youth and young adults with diabetes. Lauren holds a B.S. in Exercise and Health Science from Kennesaw State University and a MPH in Physical Activity and Public Health at the University of South Carolina.

Dr. Claire Riggs (clriggs@bwh.harvard.edu/@ClaireLRiggs) is a Postdoctoral Fellow in a biology research lab at Brigham and Women's Hospital. She studies how cells and organisms respond to environmental stress. She sought out her current position to develop expertise in cellular and molecular biology in order to strengthen her scientific approach and develop her own niche as a researcher. Throughout her training she has had a range of mentoring and teaching opportunities, which she has found quite rewarding. Claire holds a Ph.D. from Portland State University.

Dr. Cristina Riso (criso@umich.edu) is a Research Fellow in the Department of Aerospace Engineering at the University of Michigan. Her research is in the area of computational modeling of nonlinear fluid structural systems, with a focus on aeroelastic systems and particularly future aircraft designs. She is currently developing methods for integrating nonlinear dynamic aeroelastic constraints into aircraft design optimization for designing more energy efficient aircraft while meeting critical stability requirements. She is also investigating novel design strategies for improving aircraft maneuverability while keeping structural integrity and ensuring adequate pilot and passenger comfort. Cristina received her Ph.D. in Aeronautical and Space Engineering from Sapienza University of Rome in Italy.

Dr. Hanny Rivera (hrivera@bu.edu) is a Postdoctoral Associate/Lecturer at Boston University in the Davies Marine Population Genomics Lab, as well as a Postdoctoral Scholar at Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution in the Meyer-Keiser Lab. Her doctoral thesis research focused on reef-building corals and their ability to tolerate elevated temperatures. Hanny holds a B.A. in Organismic and Evolutionary Biology from Harvard University, and a Ph.D. in Biological Oceanography at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution Joint Program.

Dr. Jesus Antonio Romo (Jesus.Romo@tufts.edu) is a NIH IRACDA postdoctoral scholar at Tufts University School of Medicine in the department of Molecular Biology and Microbiology studying the role of fungal colonizers of the gastrointestinal tract during infection by the bacterial pathogen *Clostridioides difficile*. His undergraduate and graduate research focused on developing anti-virulence therapies for the treatment of fungal infections caused by the opportunistic pathogenic fungi such as the *Candida* species. More specifically, he focused on inhibiting biofilm formation and preventing the development of drug resistance. Jesus holds a Ph.D. in Cell and Molecular Biology (Microbiology and Immunology Track) from The University of Texas at San Antonio.

Dr. K. Michael Rowley (kevin rowley@brown.edu) is a Postdoctoral Fellow in the Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology at Brown University studying the biomechanics of bat flight. His graduate research investigated postural control in diverse patient and athletic populations including dancers and persons suffering from recurrent low back pain. He teaches human anatomy in clinical education programs including physical therapy and medical degree programs. Michael holds a Ph.D. from the University of Southern California.

Gibson Scisco (gpscisco@ufl.edu) is a Ph.D. Student at the University of Florida in the Materials Science and Engineering Department. His research interests are in fundamental and applied electrochemistry, and his main focus is on nanostructured electrochemical double layer capacitors. He works between the Materials Science, Chemical Engineering, and Electrical Engineering Departments on related nanostructured devices. Gibson holds a B.S. in Materials Science and Engineering from North Carolina State University and a M.S. in Materials Science and Engineering from the University of Florida.

Dr. Hyewon Seo (h.seo@northeastern.edu) is a Postdoctoral Researcher in the Department of Bioengineering at Northeastern University, and her current research interest is developing nano/molecular probes for MRI applications. Prior to coming to Northeastern, she worked at Samsung SDI, the company that develops display and battery materials in South Korea, as a senior researcher for four years and published three patents for novel LCD display materials. Her expertise is in the design and synthesis of organic molecules for optical and magnetic probe applications. Hyewon holds a Ph.D. from Pohang University of Science and Technology in Korea.

Dr. Yu She (yushe@mit.edu) is a Postdoctoral Researcher at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in the Computer Science & Artificial Intelligence Laboratory (CSAIL). His research interests include robotics with an emphasis on design & manufacturing, dynamics & controls, tactile perception, and machine learning. He studies theoretical modeling, algorithm implementation, and prototype manufacturing for soft robots, human-safe collaborative robots, and tactile-reactive robotic hands. He received the Presidential Fellowship at the Ohio State University and he is a recipient of the DSCC 2018 best paper award and the ROBIO 2013 best paper finalist. Yu holds a B.S. In Mechanical Engineering from the Taiyuan University of Technology, a M.S. in Electrical and Automation Engineering at the Harbin Institute of Technology, and a Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering from The Ohio State University.

Dr. Samira Shiri (<u>sshiri@rowland.harvard.edu</u>) is a Postdoctoral Fellow in the Cira lab at the Rowland Institute at Harvard University. She currently works on leveraging the interaction of liquids and surfaces for developing high throughput liquid handling devices and understanding thermal Marangoni-driven droplet stabilization. Samira completed her Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering at Boston University.

Emily Sullivan (Emily.Kirk.GR@dartmouth.edu) is a Ph.D. Candidate at Dartmouth College. She studies schizophrenia and co-occurring substance use disorders using a preclinical model. Specifically, she studies the brain circuit dysfunction that may underlie these disorders using

small animal functional magnetic resonance imaging, in vivo electrophysiology, and behavioral measures. Emily holds a B.S. from Randolph-Macon College.

Dr. Daniel Tagoe (tagoe@bc.edu) is a Postdoctoral Scholar in the Department of Biology at Boston College. He is an experienced Cell and Molecular Biologists working on calcium signaling and vesicle trafficking in the parasite *Toxoplasma gondii*. During his graduate study he worked on unravelling Cyclic Adenosine Monophosphate (cAMP) signaling and its downstream effectors as therapeutic targets in the parasite *Trypanosoma brucei*. Daniel showed that pyrimidine biosynthesis is not essential in trypanosomes as well as phenocopy field mutations driving drug resistance in the lab which made the cover of the journal *Molecular Microbiology*. He holds a Ph.D. from the University of Glasgow in the UK.

Dr. Tommy Tashjian (ttashjian@umass.edu) is a Postdoctoral Fellow in the Chien lab at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. She studies DNA replication and repair in the bacteria Caulobacter crescentus. Tommy holds a Ph.D. in Biology from Northeastern University.

Dr. Mahdi Tavakoli (mtavakol@mit.edu) is a Research Scientist at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, where he focuses on the synthesis and transfer process (R2R) of 2D materials such as graphene, MoS2, and h-BN and fabricated efficient, stable, flexible and ultralight weight optoelectronic devices. His research, which combines the interdisciplinary fields of engineering, chemistry, nanomaterials, and applied-physics, aims to bridge the gap between nanotechnology and microelectronics to develop disruptive technologies for fabrication of optoelectronic devices and create a new paradigm for harvesting clean energy. Mahdi holds a Ph.D. in Materials Science and Engineering from Sharif University of Technology in Iran and a Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering and Computer Science from Hong Kong University of Science and Technology.

Dr. Sahar Tavakoli (<u>sahartavakoli@fas.harvard.edu</u>) is a Postdoctoral Fellow in the Zon Lab and the Wagers Lab at Harvard University. She is interested in increasing the engraftment efficiency of transplanted muscle cells in recipients. Sahar obtained her Ph.D. in Molecular and Developmental Biology from the National University of Singapore.

Dr. Tricia Thibodeau (thibodeau@uri.edu) is a Postdoctoral Researcher at the University of Rhode Island, Graduate School of Oceanography, analyzing a 50-year phytoplankton time series in Narragansett Bay to identify shifts in bloom phenology due to long-term warming and nutrient decreases in the estuary. The primary goal of her research is to improve our mechanistic understanding of plankton physiologic responses to climate change and how these processes, in turn, influence their population dynamics, trophic interactions, and role in carbon cycling. Tricia holds a B.A. in Earth and Oceanographic Science at Bowdoin College and a Ph.D. from the Virginia Institute of Marine Science, College of William & Mary.

Dr. Elayne Thomas (<u>elaynethomas@umass.edu</u>/@PolyPropElayne) is a Postdoctoral Scholar in Polymer Science and Engineering at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. Her doctoral research focused on the impact of dopant counter-ions on the electronic and crystalline

structure of doped polymeric semiconductors. Her current research centers around the development of scaling laws for electro-adhesion in ion-conducting elastomers. She received the National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship in 2017 and served as a Graduate Student Ambassador for University of California, Santa Barbara. She holds a B.S. from the University of Michigan and a Ph.D. in Materials from the University of California, Santa Barbara.

Dr. Jim Thomas (jimthomas@unc.edu) is an Alfred T. Brauer Postdoctoral Research Fellow in the Mathematics at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. After completing his graduate studies, he joined the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution and Dalhousie University in Canada as a Postdoctoral Fellow. Jim's research is aimed at understanding geophysical fluid dynamics in an oceanographic context. His research focuses on topics in geophysical turbulence and nonlinear wave dynamics. He is a recipient of the David Crighton fellowship from Cambridge University, UK and Robert Bartnik fellowship from Monash University, Australia. He holds a Ph.D. from the Courant Institute of Mathematical Sciences of New York University in an interdisciplinary program in Mathematics and Atmosphere Ocean Science.

Dr. Ahmed Alade Tiamiyu (atiamiyu@mit.edu) is a Postdoctoral Research Fellow at MIT. Ahmed specializes in dynamic failure analysis and additive manufacturing of different materials and he is currently studying how metals behave when they come in contact with one another at supersonic speed. Ahmed is a seasoned materials scientist who has won several awards for his excellent scientific research contributions, including the prestigious Vanier Canada graduate scholarship and the NSERC of Canada postdoctoral fellowship. He holds a Ph.D. from the University of Saskatchewan.

Dr. Gwen Tindula (Gwen.Tindula@childrens.harvard.edu) is a Postdoctoral Fellow in Neurology at Boston Children's Hospital. Under the mentorship of Dr. Nina Holland, as a graduate student she examined the relationships between chemical exposure, parental factors, DNA methylation, and biomarkers of obesity in participants from the Center for the Health Assessment of Mothers and Children of Salinas (CHAMACOS) cohort, which has followed children and their mothers from pregnancy into early adulthood. As a Postdoctoral Researcher in the Neuroepidemiology Lab of Dr. Maitreyi Mazumdar, her main research interests include understanding the interaction between environmental exposure, epigenetic mechanisms, and risk of neural tube defects in children. She holds a B.S. from the University of California, Davis and a Ph.D. from University of California, Berkeley.

Monica Lauren "ML" Tlachac (mltlachac@wpi.edu/linkedin.com/in/mltlachac/) is a Ph.D. Candidate in Data Science at Worcester Polytechnic Institute. Her research interests include machine learning, unsupervised learning, generative modeling, data visualization, and natural language processing. As a mental health advocate, she is currently researching passive depression detection. ML holds a B.S. from the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire.

Ashley Toney (amulcahy@huskers.unl.edu) is a USDA NIFA Predoctoral Fellow and Ph.D. Candidate in the Department of Nutrition and Health Sciences at the University of Nebraska-

Lincoln. Her research aims to address health disparities in underserved populations using interdisciplinary approaches that combine basic science discoveries with community research interests. In the laboratory, she investigates how red raspberry polyphenols and their gut microbiota derived metabolites, urolithins, attenuate obesity-related diseases using a variety of mouse models, including germ-free mice. In the community, she focuses on community health workers as the bridge between participant and researcher by using the social ecological model as a framework. Ashley holds a B.S. from the University of California, Davis.

Dr. Mancy Tong (mancy.tong@yale.edu) is a third-year Postdoctoral Scholar in the Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Sciences at Yale School of Medicine. Her broad area of interest is feto-maternal crosstalk during early pregnancy and endometrial biology. She will be starting the faculty job search next year. Mancy holds a Ph.D. from The University of Auckland in New Zealand.

Dr. Irene Valenzuela (<u>ivalenzuela@g.harvard.edu</u>) is a theoretical physicist currently working as a Postdoctoral Researcher at Harvard University. Before, she worked at Cornell University, Utrecht University, and the Max Planck Institute for Physics in Munich. Her research focuses on the intersection between String Theory, Cosmology and Particle Physics. She is very interested in the constraints that a quantum field theory must satisfy to be embedded in a consistent theory of quantum gravity. She received her Ph.D. from the Instituto de Física Teórica in Madrid, Spain.

Dr. Genoa R. Warner (genoa@illinois.edu/@genoawarner) is a Postdoctoral Fellow in Reproductive Toxicology in the Department of Comparative Biosciences at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. She is an interdisciplinary environmental health scientist with expertise in the areas of endocrine disruption, female reproduction, toxicology, sustainability, and green chemistry. As a Postdoctoral Fellow, she investigates the effects of environmental chemicals on the female reproductive system using a mouse model. A chemist by training, Genoa received her B.S. from Yale University. She earned her Ph.D. from Carnegie Mellon University in the Department of Chemistry, where she studied the removal of micropollutants from water via oxidative catalysis.

Dr. Brian Wartell (wartell.brian@gmail.com) has long been passionate about making a greater change in the world. Having a scientific mind and a keen interest in environmental issues, he decided that he would forge his path by pursuing scientific research in environmental science and environmental engineering. His primary area of interest is bioremediation, also known as biodegradation. He obtained his B.S. in Biology with a focus on Environmental Studies at Brandeis University and his M.S. in Environmental Sciences at Rutgers University. He holds a Ph.D. in Environmental Engineering at the New Jersey Institute of Technology.

Dr. Laura Weber (lweber@whoi.edu) is currently a Postdoctoral Investigator at WHOI, studying the microbial and metabolic ecology of tropical coral reef ecosystems. Laura has also taught as an adjunct professor at Massachusetts Maritime Academy for the past year, teaching introductory Earth Science and Biology classes to underclassman at the academy. She received

her Ph.D. in Biological Oceanography from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology - Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution (WHOI) Joint Ph.D. Program.

Dr. Kapila Wijayaratne (kw4tn@virginia.edu) is a lecturer at Appalacian State University. His research extends to finding the electronic structure of materials, so we can understand their nature and can build better and efficient devices. He has a passion for teaching and has been teaching in some capacity for 20 years now. More than 8 years of his teaching was in college-level institutes and he is eagerly in search of opportunities in research and college teaching as his future career. Kapila obtained his Ph.D. in Experimental Condensed Matter Physics from the University of Virginia.

Sara Williams (williams.sar@husky.neu.edu) is Ph.D. Candidate in Ecology, Evolution, and Marine Biology at Northeastern University. She uses network science to study the structure and dynamics of complex marine ecosystems as they respond to global climate change. Her dissertation research specifically explores multiple networks on coral reefs, from individual corals to symbiotic associations and disease spread at reef and global scales. Sara has an honors degree in physics from the College of William and Mary and is a National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellow.

Dr. Dan Wu (danwumit@mit.edu) is currently a Postdoctoral Associate at the Laboratory for Information and Decision Systems, Massachusetts Institute of Technology. His research focuses on nonlinear optimization theory and applications, electric power system analysis, interconnected complex system dynamics, algebraic and topological methods in engineering applications. Dan received a B.S. in Electrical Engineering and Automation from the Huazhong University of Science and Technology, Wuhan, China, and M.S. and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Fangzhou Xia (xiafz@mit.edu) is a Ph.D. candidate in the Mechanical Engineering department at Massachusetts Institute of Technology with a concentration in control, robotics and instrumentation, and a minor in machine learning for computer vision. His research interest is in design and control of precision mechatronic systems with application to measurement instruments, manipulators, small scale robotics and micro-electrical mechanical systems (MEMS). Fangzhou holds a B.S.E. from Shanghai Jiao Tong University and the University of Michigan, and a S.M. from Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Dr. Jian Xie (<u>jian.xie@yale.edu</u>) is an Associate Research Scientist at Dr. Daniel DiMaio's laboratory in the Department of Genetics at Yale University. His research focuses on the virus entry and intracellular trafficking mechanism by multidisciplinary techniques. By a novel type of transmembrane protein-focused genetic screen (designated transmembrane protein apatamers or "traptamers "screen), he identified a HPV-specific negative feedback mechanism for virus endosomal escape, which is regulated by Rab7-specific GTPase-activating protein TBC1D%. Jian also utilizes this system to dissect the HPV entry pathway with unprecedented resolution and shed light on the spatiotemporal relationship among the critical trafficking events. Another current work of Jian is focused on identifying novel therapeutic targets and strategies for SARS-

CoV2 by traptamer technology. He has already published 10 first-authored papers and has extensive teaching and tutoring experience for undergraduate and graduate students. He serves as the Guest Editor of the *Journal of Visualized Experiments*, and referee for several international scientific journals. Jian received his Ph.D. from the Biochemistry and Biophysics Graduate Program at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute.

Dr. Huijuan Xu (huijuan@berkeley.edu) is a Postdoctoral Scholar at University of California Berkeley EECS with Professor Trevor Darrell. Her research focuses on deep learning, computer vision and natural language processing, particularly in the area of visual question answering, video language description and activity detection. Recently, she tried to explore learning with less labels for the aforementioned tasks in the form of few-shot learning or weakly-supervised learning, as well as investigate graph structure presentation in images and videos. She obtained her Ph.D. degree from the Computer Science department at Boston University.

Dr. Hongrong Yang (h.yang@northeastern.edu) is a Postdoctoral Research Associate supervised by Professor Heather Clark in the Department of Bioengineering at Northeastern University. She is currently the lead of NIH-funded SPARC project on the development of DNA-based nanosensors for acetylcholine. Last year, she was selected as a key speaker for the "Career Launchers" symposium that showcases early investigators from the SPARC consortium at ISAN 2019. Dr. Yang's work has resulted in nine peer-reviewed journal publications (three of them first-authored) in the top journals in the fields of nanotechnology and material engineering. She obtained a Ph.D. degree at the Chinese University of Hong Kong where she studied biological mechanisms that govern the cellular uptake process of bionanomaterials into mammalian cells.

Dr. Qing Ye (aye@mit.edu) is a Postdoctoral Scholar at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology working on understanding the interplay between anthropogenic pollutants and natural aerosol processes. She also has a strong interest in environmental and climate policy. She has conducted laboratory and field studies to characterize emissions and properties of organic aerosols in the atmosphere. Qing received her Ph.D. in Chemistry and Engineering and Public Policy from Carnegie Mellon University.

Dr. Hunkar Gizem Yesilyurt (h.gizem.y@gmail.com) is a Postdoctoral Fellow in the Cell Biology Department at Harvard Medical School. In addition to her research studies at HMS, she has been building her teaching skills by designing and teaching a section for a freshman course in the Department of MCB at Harvard College as well as guest-lecturing a class for junior majors at Emmanuel College. Research, teaching and mentoring students have long been her professional interests. She received her Ph.D. in Neuroscience from the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas.

Dr. Georgia Zarkada (georgia.zarkada@yale.edu) is a fourth-year Postdoctoral Associate at Yale Cardiovascular Research Center. Her main research interests lie in the area of physiological and pathological angiogenesis and lymphangiogenesis, and translational vascular medicine. During her Ph.D. studies, she investigated the function of vascular endothelial growth factor-3 (VEGFR3) in sprouting angiogenesis during development, tumor angiogenesis and in adult

endothelia. Currently at Yale, she works in the laboratory of Professor Eichmann and studies the role of transforming growth factor- β signaling pathway in the formation of blood vessel networks during development and in neovascular eye disease. To date she has co-authored 14 peer-reviewed original papers, and two review articles. In 2018 she was awarded a Pathway to Independence Award (K99/R00) by the National Eye Institute. She obtained her M.D. degree in Athens, Greece and completed his Ph.D. in vascular biology at the University of Helsinki in Finland.

Dr. Pengwei Zhang (pengwei.zhang@yale.edu) is currently an Associate Research Scientist in Yale School of Medicine. Her research focuses on the mechanisms of essential proteins of human viruses and related cellular components required for viral infection inducing human diseases. She is interested in studying host-virus interaction to offer novel antiviral targets and strategies applicable to virulent and tumorous viruses. Her career with Yale School of Medicine after graduation has focused on the field of the intracellular trafficking pathway utilized by human papillomaviruses (HPV). Pengwei received her Ph.D. from the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute.

Dr. Ye Zhang (yzhang23@mit.edu) is a Postdoctoral Associate in the Koch Institute for Integrative Cancer Research at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Her thesis projects focused on the development of new assays and microfluidic platforms for multiplexed detection and analyses of nucleic acids in human diseases. Her research interests include the development of microfluidic technologies for nucleic acid analyses and biophysics study of single cells (e.g. mass, stiffness), and the application of these technologies to problems in cancer, immunology, and infectious diseases. She earned her Ph.D. in Biomedical Engineering with a MHS in Biostatistics from Johns Hopkins University.

Dr. Yi Zhang (yi zhang2@dfci.harvard.edu) is currently a Postdoctoral Research Fellow at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and Harvard University. Her research interests fall in the intersection of computational biology, machine learning and cancer genomics. With expertise in statistical learning and human genetics, she focused on computational method development to understand cancer-associated genetic variants during her academic career. Yi received her Ph.D. in Bioengineering from University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign after getting her B.S. degree in China.

Chunxiang Zhu (chunxiang.zhu@uconn.edu) is a Ph.D. student in the Chemical Engineering department of the University of Connecticut. His research focus is on developing novel routes for clean energy specifically novel types of catalysts for Fischer-Tropsch Synthesis. During his Ph.D. research, he published two scientific papers and attended several conferences such as the American Chemical Society, and the American Institute of Chemical Engineers. He holds a B.S. In Chemical Engineering from Dalian University of Technology in China.