WM RUGS

WEST MICHIGAN REGIONAL UNDERGRADUATE
SCIENCE RESEARCH CONFERENCE

PROGRAM

VAN ANDEL INSTITUTE | GRAND RAPIDS, MI | NOVEMBER 2, 2024

CELEBRATING 18 YEARS OF SCIENTIFIC AND EDUCATIONAL COLLABORATION

ORGANIZING INSTITUTIONS

AQUINAS COLLEGE
CALVIN UNIVERSITY
FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY - COLLEGE OF PHARMACY
GRAND VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY
HOPE COLLEGE
KALAMAZOO COLLEGE
VAN ANDEL INSTITUTE GRADUATE SCHOOL

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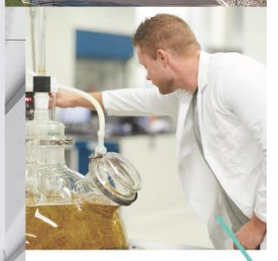
RECRUITER CONTACT INFORMATION AND BOOTH HOURS

Recruiters will be in the DeVos Foundation Lobby. Start and end times for recruiters will vary. A list of recruiters, their contact information, and their availability is provided on pages 33-38.

QUESTIONS?

If you have questions or concerns before the research conference, please contact Michelle Love at undergrad@vai.edu. If you have questions or concerns during the conference, please contact one of the WMRUGS Research Conference Volunteers at the Information Booth.

GENTEX CORPORATION



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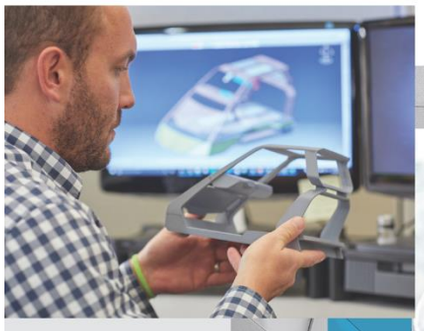

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

WMRUGS RESEARCH CONFERENCE ORGANIZING INSTITUTIONS AND ORGANIZING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Jennifer Hess, Ph.D. – Aquinas College
Keith Grasman, Ph.D. – Calvin University
Eric Nybo, Ph.D. – Ferris State University College of Pharmacy
Mark Staves, Ph.D. – Grand Valley State University
Kristin Dittenhafer-Reed, Ph.D. – Hope College
Dwight Williams, Ph.D. – Kalamazoo College
Tim Triche, Ph.D. – Van Andel Institute Graduate School and Van Andel Institute

WMRUGS RESEARCH CONFERENCE HOST

Thank you to Van Andel Institute (VAI) for hosting the
West Michigan Regional Undergraduate Science Research Conference for 18 years!

WMRUGS RESEARCH CONFERENCE SUPPORT STAFF

VAI Security Services, Facilities Services and Housekeeping Services

Event management and administrative support provided by Michelle Love, VAI Graduate School

Additional administrative support provided by the VAI Graduate School Staff and Graduate Students, and VAI Postdoctoral Fellows

Social media administration and support provided by the VAI Communications & Marketing staff Juliana Cieglo, Victor Carter, Rachel Corwin, Zane McMillin, Caitlin Smith and Kayla Habermehl

Audiovisual services provided by Terry Ballard and Bill Baillod with VAI Production Services

Catering services provided by Eurest Dining Services

Catering Services also provided by the High School Students from Kent ISD/KTC Hospitality & Culinary Services

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2024 | 8:00 AM – 3:30 PM | DOORS OPEN AT 7:45 AM

New this Year: Graduate School Panel Discussion and Station for Professional Headshots
Note: Concurrent events and times for poster sessions, recruiter fair, graduate school panel discussion and station for professional headshots

8:00 AM	**ATTENDEE ARRIVAL AND POSTER SET-UP | RECRUITER ARRIVAL AND SETUP**
8:15 AM	**FAIR | GRADUATE SCHOOL, MEDICAL SCHOOL, PROFESSIONAL SCHOOL AND INTERNSHIP & EMPLOYMENT RECRUITERS | DEVOS FOUNDATION LOBBY** *Meet with recruiters including internship & employment, graduate school, professional schools and medical school recruiters from 8:15 AM – 9:00 AM*
9:00 AM	**WELCOME | OPENING REMARKS | TOMATIS AUDITORIUM** *Master of Ceremony | Dwight Williams, Ph.D. | Kalamazoo College*
9:15 AM	**KEYNOTE SPEAKER ADDRESS | TOMATIS AUDITORIUM** *Natalie Nieme, Ph.D. | Assistant Professor | Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biophysics Washington University School of Medicine*
10:00 AM	**POSTER SESSION 1 | COOK-HAUENSTEIN HALL** *Presenters at even-numbered posters*
10:00 AM	**FAIR | GRADUATE SCHOOL, MEDICAL SCHOOL, PROFESSIONAL SCHOOL AND INTERNSHIP & EMPLOYMENT RECRUITERS | DEVOS FOUNDATION LOBBY** *Meet with recruiters including internship & employment, graduate school, professional schools and medical school recruiters from 10:00 AM – 11:15 AM*
10:00 AM	**PROFESSIONAL HEADSHOTS | PRE-FUNCTION AREA (OUTSIDE OF CONF. ROOMS 3104 & 3105)** *Photographer Matt Yeoman will be available for professional headshots from 10:00 AM – 11:15 AM. No prior sign-up or reservation is necessary. Please remember to bring your name badge, as it will be required before your session.*

11:15 AM **GRADUATE STUDENT SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH TALK | TOMATIS AUDITORIUM**

Mitch McDonald, Ph.D. Candidate | Van Andel Institute Graduate School

11:45 AM **UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH TALKS | TOMATIS AUDITORIUM**

Aquinas College | Chiara Bonfissuto

Calvin University | Jiho Kim

12:15 PM **LUNCH | LUNCH SERVED IN THE DEVOS FOUNDATION LOBBY NEAR WATERFALL**

Lunch seating available in the VAI Café, VandeWoude Sessions Conference Room Tomatis Auditorium and Conference Rooms 3104 & 3105

12:15 PM **FAIR | GRADUATE SCHOOL, MEDICAL SCHOOL, PROFESSIONAL SCHOOL AND INTERNSHIP & EMPLOYMENT RECRUITERS | DEVOS FOUNDATION LOBBY**

Meet with recruiters including internship & employment, graduate school, professional schools and medical school recruiters from 12:15 PM – 2:30 PM

12:15 PM **PROFESSIONAL HEADSHOTS | PRE-FUNCTION AREA (OUTSIDE OF CONF. ROOMS 3104 & 3105)**

Photographer Matt Yeoman will be available for professional headshots from 12:15 PM – 2:30 PM. No prior sign-up or reservation is necessary. Please remember to bring your name badge, as it will be required before your session.

12:30 PM **GRADUATE SCHOOL PANEL DISCUSSION | TOMATIS AUDITORIUM**

Join us for a grad school panel discussion with Ph.D. student candidates, Postdoctoral Fellows and Faculty Mentors/Recruiters from 12:30 PM – 1:15 PM

1:15 PM **POSTER SESSION 2 | COOK-HAUENSTEIN HALL**

Presenters at odd-numbered posters

2:30 PM **UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH TALKS | TOMATIS AUDITORIUM**

Ferris State University – College of Pharmacy | Kendall Paige

Grand Valley State University | Maya Giannecchini

Hope College | Brianna Couturier

Kalamazoo College | Elizabeth Grooten

3:30 PM **GIVEAWAY | CLOSING REMARKS | CONCLUSION | TOMATIS AUDITORIUM**

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

9:00 AM | Welcome and Opening Ceremony | Tomatis Auditorium
9:15 AM | Keynote Address | Tomatis Auditorium

Natalie M. Niemi, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor, Department of Biochemistry & Molecular Biophysics
Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis
For more information on Dr. Niemi, visit: https://biochem.wustl.edu/faculty/niemi

WashU Medicine

Scientific Talk Emphasis: Cell and Molecular Biology

"Lessons from mitochondria"

Abstract: Though known as the simple powerhouses of our cells, mitochondria are surprisingly complex. As semi-autonomous organelles, mitochondria must nimbly adapt to dynamic changes within the cellular environment. Seminal work from almost 75 years ago revealed that phosphorylation constitutes such a regulatory paradigm, initially found to fine-tune the activity of pyruvate dehydrogenase from within the mitochondrial matrix. Beyond this early discovery, the extent to which phosphorylation influences mitochondria remains largely unexplored. We noted that mitochondria house multiple protein phosphatases, suggesting that, minimally, protein dephosphorylation enables organellar function. Our work has shown that hundreds of phosphorylation events reproducibly increase upon knockout of mitochondrial phosphatases, suggesting a broad yet underappreciated regulatory network within these organelles. One recent example involves the mitochondrial phosphatase PPTC7, which, when knocked out, causes fully penetrant lethality in mice - a striking phenotype suggesting that properly regulated mitochondrial phosphorylation is essential for mammalian development. We have recently found that PPTC7 localizes to both the outer and inner mitochondrial compartments to dynamically mediate phosphorylation-based regulation of mitochondrial functions from the "inside out". In this presentation, I will outline not only our recent work on understanding phosphorylation-based mitochondrial function but will also discuss how the discoveries we have made about these organelles have shaped my scientific journey.

Thank you to our 2024 WMRUGS Research Conference Keynote Sponsor

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

GRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCH TALK

11:15 AM | Tomatis Auditorium

Mitch McDonald, Ph.D. Candidate
Van Andel Institute Graduate School | Molecular and Cellular Biology

Research Mentor: J. Andrew Pospisilik, Ph.D. | Chair and Professor
Pospisilik Lab | Epigenetic Origins of Heterogeneity and Disease
Department of Cell Epigenetics | Van Andel Institute

Scientific Talk Emphasis: Epigenetics: reproduction, and obesity

"Epigenetic control of obesity inheritance - a putative mechanism for multi-generational obesity risk"

Abstract**:** Studies utilizing genetically identical individuals have shown that as much as 50% of complex trait variation cannot be accounted for by genetics or the environment[1]. This "unexplained" phenotypic variation (UPV) could be driven by many factors such as alterations in developmental programming and probabilistic mechanisms that drive organismal polyphenisms and meta-stable epi-allele control, however exact mechanisms remain largely unknown[2,3].

We have previously shown that the maternally imprinted gene, *neuronatin* (*Nnat*), is a factor that buffers against UPV. We observe the emergence of a bi-stable polyphenism in isogenic mice deficient for *Nnat (Nnat$^{+/-p}$)* where littermates develop into adulthood as either "normal" or "overgrown"[1,4]. This polyphenism is driven by insulin-dependent overgrowth as a result of histone deacetylase (HDAC)-dependent β-cell hyperproliferation[1]. Surprisingly, a fraction of the *Nnat* knockout (KO) fathers consistently produce litters with a higher proportion of overgrown offspring than other *Nnat* KO fathers, a feature we will refer to as "high penetrance fathers" (HPFs). Offspring overgrowth and increased ratios of overgrown offspring are not seen when the mother is carrying the KO *Nnat* allele, suggesting a paternally driven effect. Non-genetic changes in sperm have been shown to impact offspring and could be responsible for transmission of the overgrowth phenotype as well as the ability of some *Nnat$^{+/-p}$* fathers to produce more overgrown offspring, but mechanisms of epigenetic inheritance are incompletely understood[5-13]. **We propose that intergenerational metabolic alterations in Nnat $^{+/-p}$ offspring results from a reproducible epigenetic alteration in paternal Nnat$^{+/-p}$ sperm. [1]**

Mitchell J McDonald[1], Chih-Hsiang Yang[1], Luca Fagnocchi[1], Ilaria Panzeri[1], Stefanos Apostle[1], Madison Hoogstra[1], J. Andrew Pospisilik[1]

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCH TALKS

11:45 AM - 12:15 PM | Tomatis Auditorium

Chiara Bonfissuto | Aquinas College

Majors: Biology and Mathematics | Class of 2026

Scientific Talk Emphasis: Chemistry

"Characterisation of Organic Compounds in soil for Carbon Sequestration Analysis"

Abstract: Soil organic carbon (SOC) represents a stock of around 1,500–2,400 Gt C (~5500–8800 Gt CO2) in the top meter of soils globally (Batjes, 1996; Sanderman, Hengl, & Fiske, 2017). The lower estimate in the range is approximately three times the stock of carbon (C) in vegetation and twice the stock of C in the atmosphere (Smith, 2012). Small changes in C stocks can therefore have significant impacts on the atmosphere and climate change. This research focuses on the extraction, characterization, and classification of organic components in soil samples from agricultural and post-agricultural lands, with particular emphasis on their role in soil carbon sequestration. A multifaceted analytical approach was employed, starting with a spectrophotometric analysis using a single-channel spectrophotometer across various target wavelengths to identify organic compounds. Subsequent characterization involved Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR) and COSY techniques to further elucidate the structure and interactions of these compounds. Although a rudimentary column chromatography system was designed, its application was limited due to time constraints. The primary objective of this study is to enhance our understanding of how organic components influence soil's capacity to sequester atmospheric carbon dioxide, which is critical for environmental modeling and climate change mitigation. By characterizing these components, we aim to provide a foundational data set that facilitates targeted spectrophotometric and electrochemical analyses. This characterization will inform further investigations using advanced chromatographic techniques and mathematical modeling to better predict and enhance soil carbon storage capabilities. This comprehensive approach not only advances our knowledge of soil organic matter but also supports the development of strategies for improving soil carbon sequestration, which is vital for mitigating climate change.

Research Mentor: Kevin Boyd, Ph.D. | Assistant Professor | Department of Chemistry

Note: Chiara Bonfissuto will present a poster (#61) during the afternoon session at 1:15 PM in Cook-Hauenstein Hall.

Jiho Kim | Calvin University

Major: Computer Science | Class of 2025

Scientific Talk Emphasis: Computer Science: Human-Computer Interaction

"The Future of Writing: AI as a Creative Collaborator"

Abstract: How can writers use AI to assist with cognitively demanding tasks such as ideation and revision without sacrificing creative control and authorship? I design, develop, and evaluate interactive systems that position AI as a creative collaborator rather than a mere automation tool. Two ongoing projects are discussed: (1) a revision tool that enhances clarity, addresses audience needs, and uncovers overlooked ideas, and (2) an inspirational predictive text generation system that helps writers cultivate their own voice. These findings demonstrate the potential for integrating writing pedagogy best practices into intelligent writing assistants.

Research Mentor: Ken Arnold, Ph.D. | Assistant Professor | Department of Computer Science

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCH TALKS

2:30 PM - 3:30 PM | Tomatis Auditorium

Kendall Paige | Ferris State University – College of Pharmacy

Major: Biotechnology | Class of 2025

Scientific Talk Emphasis: Biotechnology: Metabolic Engineering

"CRISPR interference studies into the decilorubicin biosynthetic pathway"

Abstract: Microorganisms ingeniously produce various bioactive substances, including polyketides, which have immunosuppressant, antibacterial, and anticancer properties. Our lab explores cryptic polyketide biosynthesis to discover new compounds with enhanced anticancer activity. We are currently studying the biosynthesis of decilorubicin, an unusual polyketide with unique sugars and chemical modifications facilitated by unidentified enzymes. To elucidate decilorubicin biosynthesis, we use a modified CRISPR interference (CRISPRi) technique to knock down target genes via RNA interference without causing double-stranded DNA breaks. We successfully knocked down the dec21 gene, encoding the polyketide ketoacyl synthase (KSα), which halted decilorubicin production, confirming its role in forming the decilorubicin backbone. Co-Author: S. Eric Nybo

Research Mentor: Eric Nybo, Ph.D. – Associate Professor of Medicinal Chemistry/Pharmaceutical Science

Maya Giannecchini | Grand Valley State University

Major: Geology | Minor: Biology | Class of 2025

Scientific Talk Emphasis: Geology: Geobiology

"Stratigraphy, Petrography, and Carbon Isotope Variability In Microbial Colonies 2.2 Billion Years Ago"

Abstract: Around 2.4-2.2 billion years ago (Ga), Earth experienced its first pulse of atmospheric oxygen, changing global chemistry and biology. Oxygen excursions were likely due to photosynthetic bacteria living in shallow marine environments. Biological and chemical changes in these ancient environments are preserved in the 2.2 Ga Kona Dolomite in Marquette, Michigan. The Kona formed during the Lomagundi-Jatuli Event (LJE), characterized by very positive carbon isotopes in rocks worldwide. The mechanisms behind the LJE are still unknown, but likely represent a major shift in Earth's carbon cycle. The Kona Dolomite also contains Michigan's oldest fossils: layered microbial colonies called stromatolites. The stromatolites have not been studied for decades, but can provide physical and chemical evidence for ancient environmental change. Stromatolites display a variety of shapes and sizes in different depositional environments. For example, western Marquette records a shallow, evaporative salt flat environment with small, flat stromatolites, and Eastern Marquette records a deeper, calm environment with massive domal stromatolites. Like today, bacteria 2.2 Ga appear to be diverse and resilient to changing environments. Using geochemical analysis, we drilled the Kona was for carbon and oxygen isotopes, looking for trends across space and time. Isotope trends were independent of environmental facies (shallow vs. deep), and were potentially altered after burial. This preliminary research sets the stage for future chemistry testing and understanding of the environment during a time of drastic change for the Earth. Co-Authors: Garrett Brown, Ian Winkelstern, Cory Redman, Dylan Wilmeth

Research Mentor: Dylan Wilmeth, Ph.D. | Professor | Department of Geology

Note: Maya Giannecchini will present a poster (#108) during the morning session at 10:00 AM in Cook-Hauenstein Hall.

Brianna Couturier | Hope College

Majors: Biochemistry and Molecular Biology | Class of 2025

Scientific Talk Emphasis: Chemistry: Colloids/Surface Chemistry

"Hydrogel characterization for drug delivery and tailored therapeutics"

Abstract: Hydrogels are water-swollen polymers with applications in tissue engineering, drug delivery, and wound care. The expansive use of these hydrogels relies on carefully tuned properties in dynamic environments, as biological systems and biomedical applications are often time sensitive. This includes needing a detailed understanding of their gelation time, or how quickly liquid precursors react to form gels. Adding complexity, nanomaterials are often introduced in order to elevate potential applications and meet demands for new biomedical materials. With respect to drug delivery, gold nanoparticles incorporated into a gel have modifiable surfaces to carry an array of targeted drug treatments as capping ligands. However different molecules have different chemical structures that can impact gelation times. To understand the influence of capping ligand chemistry, gold nanoparticles (Au NPs) were incorporated into a polyacrylamide (PAM) hydrogel. The Au NPs had a wide range of capping ligands (citrate, cetyltrimethylammonium bromide, polyvinylpyrrolidone, and polyacrylic acid), selected to represent different molecular features. Gelation times were quantified as the storage-loss moduli crossover point in rheological time sweeps. Based on all considered parameters the dominating factor for gelation time was the presence of Au NPs, independent of capping ligand structure. The gelation times were also markedly faster than the same capping ligand structures used as stand-alone molecular additives. The accelerated Au NP gelation times is attributed to the Au NP acting as a cross-linker, promoting gelation. These results bolster the potential implementation of Au NP nanocomposite hydrogels in time-sensitive biomedical applications as robust drug carriers. Co-Authors: Gloria Kozak, Anna Zini, John Levering, Meagan Elinski*

Research Mentor: Meagan Elinski, Ph.D. | Assistant Professor | Department of Chemistry

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Elizabeth Grooten | Kalamazoo College

Majors: Biochemistry | Class of 2025

Scientific Talk Emphasis: Biochemistry: Antibiotic Resistance

"Effectiveness of antimicrobial peptides on the growth of select ESKAPE pathogens"

Abstract: Antibiotic resistance is a growing problem in modern medicine due to the increasing number of pathogens gaining resistance. ESKAPE pathogens are a category of these multidrug resistant bacteria. The increasing threat of antibiotic-resistant pathogens is driving research on alternative methods of thwarting their growth, one of these methods is using antimicrobial peptides (AMPs). AMPs are small sequence peptides that are found naturally in organisms' immune systems, defending organisms against microbes. These AMPs serve as an alternative method to typical small molecule antibiotics because of their ability to disrupt membranes. The purpose of this study is to determine the effectiveness of AMPs against multidrug resistant bacteria. Melittin, found in bee venom, and a small sequence from neuronal nitric oxide synthase (nNOS) were tested for their antimicrobial properties against four of the ESKAPE pathogens (E. faecalis, S. aureus, P. aeruginosa, and E. hormaechei). E. coli was also tested. To assess the effectiveness of these peptides, bacteria growth curves were conducted, along with Kirby Bauer assays to determine the antibiotic resistance of the pathogens. The varying susceptibilities to the peptides demonstrate that these AMPs are potentially good molecules to study towards thwarting bacterial resistance. Co-Author: Dr. Regina Stevens Truss

Research Mentor: Regina Stevens-Truss, Ph.D. | Professor and Co-Chair | Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry

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POSTER SESSION SPONSOR

FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF PHARMACY

POSTER PRESENTER INDEX | ALPHABETICAL ORDER BY LAST NAME

Poster presentations will take place in Cook-Hauenstein Hall and the DeVos Foundation Lobby Near Waterfall
Presenters with even-numbered posters will present from 10:00 AM-11:15 AM
Presenters with odd-numbered posters will present from 1:15 PM-2:30 PM

Last Name	First Name	Poster Numbers	Institution	Poster Scientific Subject Area
Abdullah	Ashhad	59	Kalamazoo College	Chemistry
Aghabayli	Zeynab	119	Ferris State University-College of Pharmacy	Pharmacology
Aiken	Chelsea	110	Grand Valley State University	Microbiology
Amicucci	Rachel	51	Hope College	Cell and Molecular Biology
Apolo	Ava	2	Kalamazoo College	Biochemistry
Archer	Merritt	20	Hope College	Biology
Austin	Daniel	47	Aquinas College	Cell and Molecular Biology
Baker	Aerin	60	Calvin University	Chemistry
Baldus	Michael	109	Grand Valley State University	Geology
Bard	Esther	33	Grand Valley State University	Biomedical Sciences
Bechtel	Carter	34	Grand Valley State University	Biomedical Sciences
Bennett	Cassy	120	Kalamazoo College	Pharmacology
Betts	Taylor	19	Lansing Community College	Biology
Bir	Matthew	20	Hope College	Biology
Bonfissuto	Chiara	61	Aquinas College	Chemistry
Boos	Anthony	96	Grand Valley State University	Computer Science

Last Name	First Name	Poster Numbers	Institution	Poster Scientific Subject Area
Bowman	Christian	3	Western Michigan University	Biochemistry
Boyer	Faith	142	Van Andel Institute | Hillsdale College	Cell and Molecular Biology
Brako	Adwowa Baafowa	102	Ferris State University	Environmental Science
Brock	Alicia	121	Ferris State University-College of Pharmacy	Pharmacology
Brown	Courtney	122	Ferris State University-College of Pharmacy	Pharmacology
Buck	Anna	62	Kalamazoo College	Chemistry
Budde	Jarrett	34	Grand Valley State University	Biomedical Sciences
Burke	Amara	103	Ferris State University	Environmental Science
Camara	Olivia	110	Grand Valley State University	Microbiology
Cawley	Erin	132	Calvin University	Psychology
Caza	Isabella	144	Van Andel Institute | Kalamazoo College	Cell and Molecular Biology
Cenik	Arzu	63	Calvin University	Chemistry
Cho	Yongwan	97	Kalamazoo College	Computer Science
Coates	Chloe	64	Hope College	Chemistry
Connors	Ella	123 and 127	Ferris State University	Pharmacology
Cook	Jordan	148	Van Andel Institute | Kalamazoo College	Neuroscience
Cooper	Kyle	3	Kalamazoo College	Biochemistry
Daniels	Lillian	4	Kalamazoo College	Biochemistry
Daspit	Orin	65	Calvin University	Chemistry
Davis	Skylar	104	Hope College	Environmental Science
De Andrade	Daniela	105	Grand Valley State University	Environmental Science
De Koker	Ethan	66	Hope College	Chemistry
DeMann	Kate	114	Hope College	Neuroscience
Denhof	Jagger	17	Grand Valley State University	Bioinformatics
DeVries	Joseph	132	Calvin University	Psychology
DeWeerd	Braden	21	Calvin University	Biology
Dole	Carly	5	Calvin University	Biochemistry
Dysart	Colton	138	Van Andel Institute | Grand Valley State University	Biomedical Sciences
Eberly	Lucinda	56	Grand Valley State University	Cell and Molecular Biology
Emesiabumchi	Esther-Joy	67	Calvin University	Chemistry
Engle	Mary	22	Hope College	Biology
Essing	Justin	68	Kalamazoo College	Chemistry
Ferguson	Alexandra	23	Grand Valley State University	Biology
Filthaut	Luke	48	Grand Valley State University	Cell and Molecular Biology
Flowers	Hope	43	Ferris State University	Biotechnology
Foreback	Jack	96	Grand Valley State University	Computer Science
Foster	Alec	115	Indiana Wesleyan University	Neuroscience
Frost	Caden	69	Kalamazoo College	Chemistry
Giannecchini	Maya	108	Grand Valley State University	Geobiology
Goodfellow	Grace	31 and 115	Indiana Wesleyan University	Biology and Neuroscience
Grabill	Magdalene	70	Calvin University	Chemistry
Grelak	Lillian	49	Kalamazoo College	Cell and Molecular Biology

Last Name	First Name	Poster Numbers	Institution	Poster Scientific Subject Area
Hacker	Samantha	109	Grand Valley State University	Geology
Haut	Luke	42	Ferris State University	Biotechnology
Hawk	Allison	31 and 115	Indiana Wesleyan University	Biology and Neuroscience
Henige	Isabel	43	Ferris State University-College of Pharmacy	Biotechnology
Hincka	Kendra	44	Ferris State University	Biotechnology
Hoehn	Justin	19	Lansing Community College	Biology
Hofman	Brianna	35	Grand Valley State University	Biomedical Sciences
Hoogstra	Madison	140	Van Andel Institute | Calvin University	Biomedical Sciences
Horsfield	Joseph	6	Kalamazoo College	Biochemistry
House	Rose	42	Ferris State University	Biotechnology
Hruska	Sophie	7	Calvin University	Biochemistry
Hudecek	Paige	24	Ferris State University	Biology
Idris	Omer	36	Western Michigan University	Biomedical Sciences
Jacobo	Angela	71	Kalamazoo College	Chemistry
Jansen	Ethan	129	Hope College	Physics
Janvier	Amanda	8	Calvin University	Biochemistry
Jawahar	Varsha	3	Western Michigan University	Biochemistry
Jipping	Anna	65 and 70	Calvin University	Chemistry
Jordan	Emily	72 A	Ferris State University	Chemistry
Kaczmar	Andrew	25	Western Michigan University	Biology
Kaminsky	Emily	50	Michigan State University	Cell and Molecular Biology
Katuri	Lekhana	26	University of Toledo	Biology
Kelley	Andrew	109	Grand Valley State University	Geology
Kerber	Philip	27	Hope College	Biology
Kokic	Nicole	45	Ferris State University	Biotechnology
Kordbacheh	Arash	116	Grand Valley State University	Neuroscience
Korhorn	Emma	123	Ferris State University	Pharmacology
Kozak	Gloria	73	Hope College	Chemistry
Kuklewski	Joseph	99	Hope College	Engineering
Lale	Daikan	74	Kalamazoo College	Chemistry
Laurin	Taylor	9	Hope College	Biochemistry
Le	Thu	34	Grand Valley State University	Biomedical Sciences
Leahey	Grace	75	Kalamazoo College	Chemistry
Lee	Lauren	51	Hope College	Cell and Molecular Biology
Lee	Young Sung	15	Calvin University	Biochemistry
Lekan	Margaret	76	Kalamazoo College	Chemistry
Levandowski	Leah	46	Ferris State University	Biotechnology
Levering	John	77	Hope College	Chemistry
Ley	Megan	119	Ferris State University-College of Pharmacy	Pharmacology
Li	Yuese	95	Calvin University	Computational Biology
Lopykinski	Amanda	10	Hope College	Biochemistry
Lucas	Olivia	130	Indiana Wesleyan University	Physics

Last Name	First Name	Poster Numbers	Institution	Poster Scientific Subject Area
Maag	Annabel	37	Grand Valley State University	Biomedical Sciences
Mares Castro	Lesly	78	Kalamazoo College	Chemistry
Matthews	Carissa	134	Van Andel Institute | Aquinas College	Biochemistry
Maurer	Madelyn	52	Grand Valley State University	Cell and Molecular Biology
McGillis	Hope	121	Ferris State University-College of Pharmacy	Pharmacology
McGuire	Molly	28	Grand Valley State University	Biology
McIntyre	Benjamin	79	Hope College	Chemistry
Mitchell	Lauren	11	Kalamazoo College	Biochemistry
Mobley	Elijah	80	Kalamazoo College	Chemistry
Moleakunnel	Karena	53	Calvin University	Cell and Molecular Biology
Morales Zimbron	Juan	72 B	Ferris State University	Chemistry
Morris	Brandalyn	54	Grand Valley State University	Cell and Molecular Biology
Mulshine	Keaton	81	Hope College	Chemistry
Nandi	Tiasha	125	Ferris State University-College of Pharmacy	Pharmacology
Nelson	Shelby	124	Ferris State University-College of Pharmacy	Pharmacology
Nguyen	Yen Giang	136	Van Andel Institute | Kalamazoo College	Bioinformatics
Nostrant	Christopher	126	Ferris State University-College of Pharmacy	Pharmacology
Noyes	Carson	111	Grand Valley State University	Microbiology
Oderinde	Caleb	82	Hope College	Chemistry
Pacione	Sabrina	36	Western Michigan University	Biomedical Sciences
Pellegrom	Isabella	131	Kalamazoo College	Physiology
Perez	Vanessa	100	Andrews University	Engineering
Perry	Alexander	83	Kalamazoo College	Chemistry
Piper	Lola	55	Grand Valley State University	Cell and Molecular Biology
Poirier	Emilie	29	Aquinas College	Biology
Putt	Lexus	117	Hope College	Neuroscience
Quatro	Lia	30	Grand Valley State University	Biology
Raimonde	Joshua	112	Hillsdale College	Microbiology
Ramillano	Alyson	84	Kalamazoo College	Chemistry
Ramsey	Fiona	85	Calvin University	Chemistry
Rasool	Reem	86	Kalamazoo College	Chemistry
Reeves	Seth	12	Hope College	Biochemistry
Reynolds	Charlotte	8	Calvin University	Biochemistry
Reynolds	Elle	132	Calvin University	Psychology
Rhames	Maxwell	87	Kalamazoo College	Chemistry
Richards	Nicole	126	Ferris State University-College of Pharmacy	Pharmacology
Rinehart	Kyle	31	Indiana Wesleyan University	Biology
Ruiter	Dylan	109	Grand Valley State University	Geology
Ruiz	Angel	88	Kalamazoo College	Chemistry
Rush	Delaney	38	Grand Valley State University	Biomedical Sciences
Saber	Taylor	128	Grand Valley State University	Pharmacology
Saeed	Omar	98	Albion College	Computer Science

Last Name	First Name	Poster Numbers	Institution	Poster Scientific Subject Area
Sales	Deloris	19	Lansing Community College	Biology
Satterthwaite	Ella	106	Aquinas College	Environmental Science
Schmidt	Vivian	118	Kalamazoo College	Neuroscience
Seburn	Emily	146	Van Andel Institute | Grand Valley State University	Cell and Molecular Biology
Skidmore	David	56	Grand Valley State University	Cell and Molecular Biology
Sligh	Grace	39	Grand Valley State University	Biomedical Sciences
Soares	Anoushka	13	Kalamazoo College	Biochemistry
Steenwyk	Anna	89	Calvin University	Chemistry
Swieringa	Sierra	90	Calvin University	Chemistry
Tabor	Lauren	113	Grand Valley State University	Microbiology
Taylor	Lucien	91	Kalamazoo College	Chemistry
Thompson	Griffin	107	Grand Valley State University	Environmental Science
Tormala	Savannah	40	Grand Valley State University	Biomedical Sciences
Tran	My	127	Ferris State University	Pharmacology
Tudor	Noah	57	Grand Valley State University	Cell and Molecular Biology
Van Farowe	Anjali	14	Indiana Wesleyan University	Biochemistry
Van Pelt	Eliot	128	Grand Valley State University	Pharmacology
Vandermeer	Thomas	15	Calvin University	Biochemistry
VarnHagen	Ella	16	Kalamazoo College	Biochemistry
Veen	Connor	41	Grand Valley State University	Biomedical Sciences
Veit Acosta	Martina	18	Western Michigan University	Bioinformatics
Voglewede	Elise	109	Grand Valley State University	Geology
Wegner	Alison	32	Hope College	Biology
Weisenburger	Lauryn	150	Van Andel Institute | Bellarmine University	Neuroscience
Welsh	Timothy	92	Hope College	Chemistry
Whitsett	Benjamin	1	Kalamazoo College	Astronomy
Williams	Joseph	101	Western Michigan University	Engineering
Williams	Isla	9	Hope College	Biochemistry
Winikka	Annie	93	Calvin University	Chemistry
Xu	William	94	Kalamazoo College	Chemistry
Zola de Araujo	Davi	58	Hope College	Cell and Molecular Biology

POSTER SESSION SPONSOR

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COLLEGE OF PHARMACY

2024 POSTER PRESENTATIONS

Poster presentations will take place in Cook-Hauenstein Hall and the DeVos Foundation Lobby Near Waterfall
Presenters with even-numbered posters will present from 10:00 AM-11:15 AM
Presenters with odd-numbered posters will present from 1:15 PM-2:30 PM

Due to some of the research not being published, only the presenter names, institutions, co-authors, poster subject areas and presentation titles are included in this program.

1. Benjamin Whitsett | Kalamazoo College **Astronomy**

Co-Author(s): Kirk T. Korista, PhD

"Disabling Nuclear Fusion to Address Stellar Misconceptions"

2. Ava Apolo | Kalamazoo College **Biochemistry**

Co-Author(s): Dr. Regina Stevens-Truss

"Antimicrobial Peptides' Effects on Select ESKAPE Pathogens"

3. Kyle Cooper | Kalamazoo College **Biochemistry**
Co-Presenter(s): Kyle Cooper, Christian Bowman and Varsha Jawahar

Co-Author(s): Dr. Thomas Rothstein, Dr. Joshua Mitchell

"Analysis of Fas Apoptoic Inhibitory Molecule (FAIM) on Ab42 Aggregation Inhibition"

4. Lillian Daniels | Kalamazoo College **Biochemistry**

Co-Author(s): Blakely W. Tresca

"Enhanced Antibiotic Potential of Peptoid-Coumarin Hybrids"

5. Carly Dole | Calvin University **Biochemistry**
Co-Presenter(s): Carly Dole, Sophie Hruska and Matthew John Soules

Co-Author(s): David Benson, Chad Tatko

"Functional Studies of Cys-Tyr Crosslinks in Beta Hairpin Studies"

6. Joseph Horsfield | Kalamazoo College **Biochemistry**

Co-Author(s): Megumi Murakami, Suresh V. Ambudkar

"Exploring Communication Between Drug-Binding and ATP-Binding Sites of P-glycoprotein"

7. Sophie Hruska | Calvin University **Biochemistry**

Co-Author(s): Carly Dole, Matthew John Soules, David Benson, Chad Tatko

"Synthesis of Cysteine-Aryl Crosslinks in Beta-Hairpin Peptides"

8. Amanda Janvier | Calvin University **Biochemistry**
Co-Presenter(s): Amanda Janvier and Charlotte Reynolds

Co-Author(s): Ronan Pleass and Dr. Laura Westrate

"Unraveling Protein Transport And Sorting In the Endoplasmic Reticulum"

9. Taylor Laurin | Hope College **Biochemistry**
Co-Presenter(s)Taylor Laurin and Isla Williams

Co-Author(s): Dr. Kristin Dittenhafer-Reed

"Intersection of One-Carbon Metabolism and Mitochondrial Genome Maintenance"

10. Amanda Lopykinski | Hope College **Biochemistry**
Co-Presenter(s): Teague Merrill

Co-Author(s): Dr. Kristin Dittenhafer-Reed

"Determining Mitochondrial DNA Binding of Proteins Involved in One Carbon Metabolism"

11. Lauren Mitchell | Kalamazoo College **Biochemistry**

Co-Author(s): Ana Luiza Terra dos Santos, Ithmam Hami, and Dr. Victoria Meller

"Determining maternal or zygotic nature of small RNA from tandem arrays of satellite repeats along Drosophila melanogaster X chromosome"

12. Seth Reeves | Hope College **Biochemistry**

Co-Author(s): Tess Herendeen and Dr. Elizabeth Sanford

"Who's On Defense? Identifying Chemical Defense Compounds in the Seeds of Phytolacca Americana"

13. Anoushka Soares | Kalamazoo College **Biochemistry**

Co-Author(s): Dr. Regina Stevens-Truss

"Progress Towards Understanding Acid Phosphatase from Mustard (Brassica juncea) Plants"

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14. Anjali Van Farowe | Indiana Wesleyan University **Biochemistry**

Co-Author(s): Mallie Fitzgerald, Lydia Marcum, Dr. Benjamin R. Linger

"Stability comparison between thermophilic and mesophilic proteins"

---

15. Thomas Vandermeer | Calvin University **Biochemistry**
Co-Presenter(s): Thomas Vandermeer and Young Sung Lee

Co-Author(s): Eric Arnoys

"Protein-Protein Interactions of GLUT1"

---

16. Ella VarnHagen | Kalamazoo College **Biochemistry**

Co-Author(s): Glory James, Alexander J. Kolstoe, Joshua VanSlambrouck, Amanda M. Solloway, Yan Lu

"Roles of chloroplast GET3B protein and other stromal chaperone proteins in thylakoid targeting of tail-anchored proteins"

---

17. Jagger Denhof | Grand Valley State University **Bioinformatics**
Co-Presenter(s): Jagger Denhof, Cardell Taylor, Carly Wolfe and Leah

Co-Author(s): Zach DeBruine

"Analysis of Single-Cell Transcriptomics Data with Multi-species Conditional Variational Autoencoders"

---

18. Martina Veit Acosta | Western Michigan University **Bioinformatics**

Co-Author(s): Andrew W. Thompson

"Leverage Amazon Web Services for Whole Genome Alignments in of Killifish Species"

---

19. Taylor Betts | Lansing Community College **Biology**
Co-Presenter(s): Taylor Betts, Sierra Canady, Justin Hoehn, Deloris Sales and Mindy Wilson

Co-Author(s): Mindy Wilson

"What are you really feeding your baby?"

---

20. Matthew Bir | Hope College **Biology**
Co-Presenter(s): Matthew Bir and Merritt Archer

Co-Author(s): Matthew Bir and Benjamin Kopek

"Rapid Upregulation of Dicer-2 Protein in Drosophila Cells Following Flock House Virus Infection: Investigating Mechanisms of Antiviral Defense"

---

21. Braden DeWeerd | Calvin University **Biology**

Co-Author(s): K. Grasman, C. Martin, A. Vanden Heuvel, M. Annis, A. Curtis, L. Williams

"Colonial Waterbirds as Sentinel Species for Long-Term Monitoring of Population, Reproductive, and Immune Effects at Contaminated Great Lakes Sites in Michigan"

22. Mary Engle | Hope College **Biology**

Co-Author(s): Benjamin Kopek, Ph.D and Brigit Foley

"Temporal Analysis of RNAi Pathway Gene Expression in Insect Cells Infected by a Positive-Strand RNA Virus"

23. Alexandra Ferguson | Grand Valley State University **Biology**

Co-Author(s): Dr. Matthew Cooper, Jesse Rabbitt

"Algal Responses to Nitrogen and Phosphorus in Wetlands of a Large River Mouth Ecosystem"

24. Paige Hudecek | Ferris State University **Biology**

"Who is Throwing the Foam Party: Gravity Thickener, Clarifier, or the Blowers?"

25. Andrew Kaczmar | Western Michigan University **Biology**
Co-Presenter(s): Andrea Kaczmar and Martina Veit Acosta

Co-Author(s): Dr. Andrew Thompson

"A Whole-Genome Comparison of N. whitei and O. latipes Chromatin Accessibility and Gene Regulation"

26. Lekhana Katuri | University of Toledo **Biology**

Co-Author(s): Dr. Malathi Krishnamurthy, Trupti Devale

"Role of Oligoadenylate Synthetase Protein in Inducing Apoptosis in Response to RNA Virus Infection"

27. Philip Kerber | Hope College **Biology**
Co-Presenter(s): Philip Kerber and Ethan West

Co-Author(s): Dr. Joseph Stukey

"Investigating de novo Gene Formation in Phage Genomes"

28. Molly McGuire | Grand Valley State University **Biology**

Co-Author(s): Georgette Sass

"Characterizing the maternally loaded Protein kinase N in early embryogenesis of Drosophila melanogaster"

29. Emilie Poirier | Aquinas College **Biology**

Co-Author(s): Rebecca A. Flaherty, PhD

"Analysis of Cell Death and Inflammatory Pathway Connections Induced by a ST17 Isolate of Group B Streptococcus"

30. Lia Quatro | Grand Valley State University **Biology**

Co-Author(s): Georgette Sass

"The Essential Role of the Pkn Gene in Drosophila Melanogaster: Insights into Developmental Defects and Wing Morphology"

---

31. Kyle Rinehart | Indiana Wesleyan University **Biology**
Co-Presenter(s): Kyle Rinehart, Alec Foster, Allison Hawk and Grace Goodfellow

Co-Author(s): Lech Kiedrowski, Paul Malchow, and Matthew Kreitzer

"Visualizing the Mechanism by which ATP Increases H+ Efflux from Isolated Axolotl Müller Cells"

---

32. Alison Wegner | Hope College **Biology**

Co-Author(s): Claire Scott, Kelly L. Ronald, Jason G. Gillmore

"LC/UV-vis and LC/MS/MS to study the retinal carotenoids of songbirds as a factor of habitat and diet"

---

33. Esther Bard | Grand Valley State University **Biomedical Sciences**

Co-Author(s): Dr. Ruijie Liu

"Rheumatic Heart Disease in Sub-Saharan Africa: What is it and What can we do?"

---

34. Carter Bechtel | Grand Valley State University **Biomedical Sciences**
Co-Presenter(s): Carter Bechtel, Dan Nichols, Drew Smith, Jarrett Budde, Kyle Fish, Luis Vidal, Matt Engel, Frank Sylvester and Thu Le

"Commercial Supplements Including Red Beetroot Induce Vasodilation in Porcine Coronary Arteries"

---

35. Brianna Hofman | Grand Valley State University **Biomedical Sciences**

Co-Author(s): Sarah Atang, Logan Florek, Dr. Amani Gillette, Dr. Babasola Fateye, Dr. Maria Kwesiga

"Insights into the toxicity of molybdenum in an insect model for applications in atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease"

---

36. Omer Idris | Western Michigan University **Biomedical Sciences**
Co-Presenter(s): Omer Idris, Yaqub O. Ahmedfiqi, Abdulaziz Shebrain, Talal Al-Assil, Sabrina C. Pacione, Delour Haj, Abdelrahman D. Motan, Faroog Momani, Hanin Bzizi, Bahar Saadaie Jahromi, Ramona Meraz Lewis Ed.D, Kyle Ver Steeg II MD

"Assessing the Role of Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy in Enhancing Recovery After Breast-Conserving Surgery: A Systematic Review"

---

37. Annabel Maag | Grand Valley State University **Biomedical Sciences**

Co-Author(s): Dr. Ruijie Liu

"Identifying the key amino acids within DUSP8 protein that determine its activity"

---

38. Delaney Rush | Grand Valley State University **Biomedical Sciences**
Co-Presenter(s): Delaney Rush, Payton Blackmore and Wade Wudyka

Co-Author(s): Shkelzen Shabani (Primary Investigator/Faculty Advisor)

"Mu-Opioid And TAAR1 Receptor Interaction Is Associated With Profound Thermic Effects"

---

39. Grace Sligh | Grand Valley State University **Biomedical Sciences**

Co-Author(s): Dr. Ruijie Liu

"Understanding Bicuspid Aortic Valve: Epidemiology, Genetic Factors, Treatment Approaches, and Long-Term Outcomes"

---

40. Savannah Tormala | Grand Valley State University **Biomedical Sciences**

Co-Author(s): Dr. Brandon M. Yuenger, DPT, Gary L. VanderStelt, Jacob A. Rodanhisler, Dr. Eric S. Ramsson, PhD

"Effects of Dry Needling, Craniosacral Therapy, and Sound Vibration on Brain Waves, Autonomic Regulation, and Muscle Tension"

---

41. Connor Veen | Grand Valley State University **Biomedical Sciences**
Co-Presenter(s): Connor Veen, Jake Reed, Jamie Valkenberg, Caitlin Lutz and Kates Krasin

Co-Author(s): John Capodilupo, PHD, Jerry Keeney, PHD

"Isoforms of GAP-43: Making Connections to Alzheimer's Disease"

---

42. Luke Haut | Ferris State University **Biotechnology**
Co-Presenter(s): Luke Haut and Rose House

Co-Author(s): Heather Schoenherr, Adwowa Brako, Sky Pike

"SARS CoV-2 Levels in Monitored Wastewater From Neighborhoods of Differing Income"

---

43. Isabel Henige | Ferris State University-College of Pharmacy **Biotechnology**
Co-Presenter(s): Isabel Henige and Hope Flowers

Co-Author(s): Hope Flowers, Alicia Brock, Megan Ley, Zeynab Aghbayli, Kendall Paige, Courtney L. Brown, S. Eric Nybo

"Development of a BioBricks Luciferase Reporter System"

---

44. Kendra Hincka | Ferris State University **Biotechnology**

Co-Author(s): Eddie Dominguez, Mehreen Kisat

"Diagnostic Improvements of Microbial Cell-Free DNA for the Presence of Sepsis via Low-Volume Samples"

---

45. Nicole Kokic | Ferris State University **Biotechnology**

Co-Author(s): Jake Renne, Sky Pike

"Gravity Thickener: Hindrance or Help?"

---

46. Leah Levandowski | Ferris State University **Biotechnology**

Co-Author(s): Heather Schoenherr, Donna Williams, Mckaylee Decaluwe, Rose House, Adwowa Brako, Amara Burke, Alejandro Garrido-Pacheco, Sara di Donato, Luke Haut, Beth Zimmer, Sky Pike

"Viral Waste Monitoring of Noro Virus in Four Rural Northern West Michigan Cities"

---

47. Daniel Austin | Aquinas College **Cell and Molecular Biology**

Co-Author(s): Rebecca Flaherty and Victoria Faber

"Comparison of JAK-STAT pathway activation induced by distinct clinical isolates of Group B Streptococcus"

---

48. Luke Filthaut | Grand Valley State University **Cell and Molecular Biology**

Co-Author(s): Dr. Matthew Christians

"The Impact of an ATG8-Like Gene on Regeneration in Schmidtea mediterranea"

---

49. Lillian Grelak | Kalamazoo College **Cell and Molecular Biology**

Co-Author(s): Dr. Husain Khan, Dr. Asfar Azmi

"Assessing the effects of KRAS and nuclear export inhibitors on human and murine pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma cells in vitro"

---

50. Emily Kaminsky | Michigan State University **Cell and Molecular Biology**

Co-Author(s): Jens Schmidt, PhD, Kelly Kim, PhD

"Characterization of GET Pathway Protein Function through Live-Cell Imaging"

---

51. Lauren Lee | Hope College **Cell and Molecular Biology**
Co-Presenter(s): Lauren Lee and Rachel Amicucci

Co-Author(s): Dr. Maria Burnatowska-Hledin

"The Effects of VACM-1/CUL5 Gene on Aquaporin-1 Expression in HUVEC Cells"

---

52. Madelyn Maurer | Grand Valley State University **Cell and Molecular Biology**

Co-Author(s): Dr. Osman Patel

"Impact of Elevated Cholesterol Concentrations on Growth Dynamics of Breast Cancer Cells"

---

53. Karena Moleakunnel | Calvin University **Cell and Molecular Biology**

Co-Author(s): Audrey Luce, Lyric Johnson, Eleanor Scheeres, Sean Harris, and Erica Boldenow

"Trichloroethylene (TCE) Metabolite S-(1,2-Dichlorovinyl)-L-cysteine (DCVC) Inhibits LPS-Stimulated CXCL-2 Production in THP-1 Cells"

---

54. Brandalyn Morris | Grand Valley State University **Cell and Molecular Biology**
Co-Presenter(s): Brandalyn Morris1, Ethan Arata-Kite1, Matthew Christians1

Co-Author(s): Ethan Arata-Kite

"Effects of ATG13 on Schmidtea mediterranea Regeneration"

---

55. Lola Piper | Grand Valley State University **Cell and Molecular Biology**

"Investigating the Effects of Atg8 on Regeneration in Planaria"

---

56. David Skidmore | Grand Valley State University **Cell and Molecular Biology**
Co-Presenter(s): David Skidmore and Lucinda Eberly

Co-Author(s): Agnieszka Szarecka, Timothy Evans

"Molecular Convergence in CAM and C4 Photosynthesis: A Study of Amino Acid Substitutions in PEPC Sequences"

---

57. Noah Tudor | Grand Valley State University **Cell and Molecular Biology**

Co-Author(s): Agnieszka Szarecka

"Novel Allosteric Sites in the Human Telomerase TEN Domain"

---

58. Davi Zola de Araujo | Hope College **Cell and Molecular Biology**

Co-Author(s): Dulcinea Licavoli, Jairus Meer and Joseph Stukey

"A Tale of Two Immunity Repressors: investigation of the A1 Immunity Repressor in the F2 Mycobacteriophage Soul22"

---

59. Ashhad Abdullah | Kalamazoo College **Chemistry**

Co-Author(s): Jaylin Jones, Dwight Williams (PhD)

"Design and synthesis of novel Coumarin-Curcuminoid Hybrids as potential neuroprotective agents"

---

60. Aerin Baker | Calvin University **Chemistry**

Co-Author(s): Douglas A. Vander Griend, Ph.D.

"Characterizing a Coordination Chemistry MishMash"

---

61. Chiara Bonfissuto | Aquinas College **Chemistry**

"Characterisation of Organic Compounds in soil for Carbon Sequestration Analysis"

---

62. Anna Buck | Kalamazoo College **Chemistry**

Co-Author(s): Dr. Dwight Williams

"Synthetic Route Optimization of the Antibacterial Agent Aqabamycin G"

---

63. Arzu Cenik | Calvin University **Chemistry**

Co-Author(s): Chad Tatko

"Synthesis of Fluorescent Unnatural Amino Acids"

---

64. Chloe Coates | Hope College **Chemistry**

Co-Author(s): Dr. Elizabeth Sanford

"Exploring the Relationship between Monomer Structure, Film Morphology, and Hydrophobicity for Electrochemically Generated PEDOT Films"

---

65. Orin Daspit | Calvin University **Chemistry**
Co-Presenter(s): Orin Daspit, Maggie Grabill, Anna Jipping and Aerin Baker

Co-Author(s): Douglas Vander Griend, Adeilade Stonehouse

"Will a supramolecular square assemble with copper(II) cations and amine ligands?"

---

66. Ethan De Koker | Hope College **Chemistry**

Co-Author(s): Ashton Wolford, Meagan B. Elinski

"Impact of Molecular Functionality on Chemical Reactions Activated by Friction"

---

67. Esther-Joy Emesiabumchi | Calvin University **Chemistry**

Co-Author(s): Roger DeKock

"The Virial Theorem"

---

68. Justin Essing | Kalamazoo College **Chemistry**

Co-Author(s): Dr. Cecilia Vollbrecht

"Synthesis of Optical Grade Mirrors via Tollen's Reaction"

---

69. Caden Frost | Kalamazoo College **Chemistry**

Co-Author(s): Caden Frost, Sam Ewald, Daniela M. Arias-Rotondo

"Synthesis of Mn(II) Complexes for Dyes in DSSCs"

---

70. Magdalene Grabill | Calvin University **Chemistry**
Co-Presenter(s): Magdalene Grabill, Anna Jipping, Orin Daspit and Aerin Baker

Co-Author(s): Dr. Douglas Vander Griend, Adelaide Stonehouse

"G-proteins: An Exploration of Binding in Mini G-proteins"

---

71. Angela Jacobo | Kalamazoo College **Chemistry**

Co-Author(s): Dwight Williams

"Design and Synthesis of 4-CPPA Analogues as Potential T.cruzi Antiparasitic Agents"

---

72 A. Emily Jordan | Ferris State University **Chemistry**
Co-Presenter(s): Emily Jordan and Juan Pablo Morales Zimbron

Co-Author(s): William Killian

"Physical properties of unsymmetrical ethers"

---

72 B. Juan Morales Zimbron | Ferris State University **Chemistry**

Co-Author(s): Dr. Luis Rivera

"Solvation of Halogen Bound Complexes"

---

73. Gloria Kozak | Hope College **Chemistry**

Co-Author(s): Anna Zini, John Levering, and Meagan B. Elinski

"Molecular Control of Soft Sliding Interfaces with Implications for Patient-Centered Care"

74. Daikan Lale | Kalamazoo College **Chemistry**

Co-Author(s): Erin Somsel, Dr. Dwight A. Williams

"Fluorinated Amino-Pyrazoles as Potential Antiparasitic Agents Against Trypanosoma Cruzi"

75. Grace Leahey | Kalamazoo College **Chemistry**

Co-Author(s): Hannah J. LaVoie, B.S., Victoria L. McGuffin, Ph.D., and Ruth Waddell Smith, Ph.D.

"Using a Kinetic Model to Identify Evaporated Gasoline for Forensic Fire Debris Analysis"

76. Margaret Lekan | Kalamazoo College **Chemistry**

Co-Author(s): Cecilia Vollbrecht

"Development of an Optical Microcavity Measurement System"

77. John Levering | Hope College **Chemistry**

Co-Author(s): Gloria Kozak, Anna Zini, and Meagan B. Elinski

"Formation of Surface Specific Nanocomposites Due to Sliding"

78. Lesly Mares Castro | Kalamazoo College **Chemistry**

Co-Author(s): Dr. Blakely W. Tresca

"Towards Pentafluorobenzyl Peptoids"

79. Benjamin McIntyre | Hope College **Chemistry**

Co-Author(s): Dr. Elizabeth M. Sanford

"The Synthesis and Electropolymerization of a Porphyrin-substituted Ethylenedioxythiophene Monomer"

80. Elijah Mobley | Kalamazoo College **Chemistry**

Co-Author(s): Dr. Dwight A. Williams

"Optimizing the Synthesis of 5 and 6-Bromo Tryptamine"

81. Keaton Mulshine | Hope College **Chemistry**

Co-Author(s): J. Henry Westphal, Jason G. Gillmore

"More Robust Long-Wavelength BF2-Azo Dyes?"

82. Caleb Oderinde | Hope College **Chemistry**

Co-Authors: Ainsley VandenBrink and Jeffrey Johnson

"Insight into the Kinetics and Reactivity of the Rhodium-Catalyzed Decarbonylation of Ketones"

83. Alexander Perry | Kalamazoo College **Chemistry**

Co-Author(s): Daniela M. Arias-Rotondo

"Progress Towards the Synthesis of Manganese (II) Coordination Complexes with Tridentate Imine Ligands"

---

84. Alyson Ramillano | Kalamazoo College **Chemistry**

Co-Author(s): Mya Gough, Ella Griggs, Dwight A. Williams*

"Synthesis of Maleimide-Tryptamine Hybrids as Potential Antibacterials"

---

85. Fiona Ramsey | Calvin University **Chemistry**
Co-Presenter(s): Fiona Ramsey and Anna Steenwyk

Co-Author(s): Dr. Douglas Vander Griend, Nancy Guzman Ralios, Ixchel Melida Poou Beb, Linnaea Cahill, Rob Cahill, and Tara Cahill

"Effect of Water Quality on Public Health in Central Guatemala"

---

86. Reem Rasool | Kalamazoo College **Chemistry**

Co-Author(s): Dr. Dwight A Williams

"Synthesis of 5-Chloro-2-oxotryptamine Maleimide Hybrids"

---

87. Maxwell Rhames | Kalamazoo College **Chemistry**

Co-Author(s): Ann Marie Johnston, Isabella M. Pellegrom, Nora Burnett, Julien Panetier, John R. Swierk, and Daniela M. Arias-Rotondo

"Pi Stacking Stabilizes Charge-Transfer Transition in a Manganese (II) Complex"

---

88. Angel Ruiz | Kalamazoo College **Chemistry**

Co-Author(s): Dr. Blakely Tresca

"Towards the Synthesis of 1,3-Diyne Peptoids for Cross-Linked Nanomaterials"

---

89. Anna Steenwyk | Calvin University **Chemistry**

Co-Author(s): David Clausing, Douglas Vander Griend, Nancy Guzman Ralios, Linnaea Cahill, Tara Cahill, and Robert Cahill

"Water Quality Monitoring in the Mestelá Watershed"

---

90. Sierra Swieringa | Calvin University **Chemistry**

Co-Author(s): Brad Veldkamp, and Rebecca-Helen Prince

"Facile Conversion of Alcohols to Methacrylate Monomers via Transesterification"

---

91. Lucien Taylor | Kalamazoo College **Chemistry**

Co-Author(s): Blakely W. Tresca

"Synthesis of coumarin-peptoids hybrids"

---

92. Timothy Welsh | Hope College **Chemistry**
Co-Presenter(s): Timothy Welsh and Anna Tyshka

Co-Author(s): Jeffrey B. Johnson

"Expanding the Use of β-Aryl Elimination Reactions: Palladium-Catalyzed Cross-Coupling with 2-Heterocyclic and 2-Fluorophenyl Compounds"

---

93. Annie Winikka | Calvin University **Chemistry**

Co-Author(s): Hannah Vardeman, Kumar Sinniah

"Characterization of Nanoparticles in Tattoo Ink and Bottled Water Using Atomic Force Microscopy"

---

94. William Xu | Kalamazoo College **Chemistry**

Co-Author(s): Amanda Morrison, Dwight Williams

"Towards the synthesis of 2-Methyl-5-nitroimidazol-1-ylethylamine"

---

95. Yuese Li | Calvin University **Computational Biology**

Co-Author(s): Stacy DeRuiter

"Bayesian Modeling of Whale Responses to Military Sonar"

---

96. Anthony Boos | Grand Valley State University **Computer Science**
Co-Presenter(s): Anthony Boos and Jack Foreback

Co-Author(s): Zach DeBruine

"A Cross-Species Foundation Model for Single-cell Transcriptomics"

---

97. Yongwan Cho | Kalamazoo College **Computer Science**

Co-Author(s): Tasnim Gharaibeh, Rabia Emhamed AlMamlook, Beren Akpinar

"Knowledge Tracing Meets Large Language Models: Opportunities, Challenges, and Future Directions"

---

98. Omar Saeed | Albion College **Computer Science**

Co-Author(s): Dr. Mauricio Marengoni

"Building and implementing a chess playing system"

---

99. Joseph Kuklewski | Hope College **Engineering**

"Development of a Novel Experimental Technique for Measuring Equilibrium Adsorption Isotherms Under Dynamic Conditions"

---

100. Vanessa Perez | Andrews University **Engineering**

Co-Author(s): Dr. Carlos Larriba-Andaluz; Mohsen Latif

"Structures for Lossless Ion Manipulations (SLIM) Printed-Circuit Board (PCB) for High Resolution Ion-Mobility Spectrometry"

---

101. Joseph Williams | Western Michigan University **Engineering**

"Performance Metrics for Electronic Discrete-Time Chaotic Oscillators"

---

102. Adwowa Baafowa Brako | Ferris State University **Environmental Science**

Co-Author(s): Amara Burke, Alejandro Garrido-Pacheco, Sara Di Donato, Rose House, Donna Williams, Heather Schoenherr, and Sky Pike

"Examining Colilert E. coli Quantification and Sanitary Survey Data in 5 lakes in Newaygo, Oceana, and Mason Counties of Michigan"

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103. Amara Burke | Ferris State University **Environmental Science**

Co-Author(s): Adwowa Brako, Alejandro Garrido-Pacheco, Sara Di Donato, and Sky Pike

"Colilert E. coli analysis in Four Lakes in Manistee County, Michigan"

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104. Skylar Davis | Hope College **Environmental Science**
Co-Presenter(s): Skylar Davis and Anna Mayernik

Co-Author(s): Michael Philben

"Methane production in peat bogs across a Michigan transect"

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105. Daniela De Andrade | Grand Valley State University **Environmental Science**

Co-Author(s): Cynthia Thompson

"Deforestation at Brownsberg Nature Park, Suriname, over two decades"

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106. Ella Satterthwaite | Aquinas College **Environmental Science**

Co-Author(s): Dr. Kevin Boyd

"The River Narrative: Development of low-cost, aquatic, electrochemical sensors for environmental monitoring"

---

107. Griffin Thompson | Grand Valley State University **Environmental Science**

Co-Author(s): Dr. Alexandra Locher (GVSU); Travis Kurtz (John Ball Zoo)

"Habitat Hero 2024 - Community Science and Participatory GIS as a Framework for Urban Pollinator Habitat Restorations"

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108. Maya Giannecchini | Grand Valley State University **Geobiology**

Co-Authors: Garrett Brown, Ian Winkelstern, Cory Redman, Dylan Wilmeth

"Stratigraphy, Petrography, and Carbon Isotope Variability In Microbial Colonies 2.2 Billion Years Ago"

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109. Elise Voglewede | | Grand Valley State University **Geology**
Co-Presenter(s): Elise Voglewede, Dylan Ruiter, Samantha Hacker, Michael Baldus, Andrew Kelley, Maxwell Bishop

Co-Author(s): Laura Stroik

"Preliminary faunal analysis and new fossil finds from screenwashing the Duchesne River Formation, Uinta Basin, Utah"

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110. Chelsea Aiken | Grand Valley State University **Microbiology**
Co-Presenter(s): Chelsea Aiken and Olivia Camara

Co-Author(s): Aaron Baxter, PhD

"Effect of Polar Mutations in SPI-6 of Salmonella enterica serovar Typhimurium on Biofilm Formation and Fitness"

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111. Carson Noyes | Grand Valley State University **Microbiology**

Co-Author(s): Ian Cleary, Derek Thomas

"Does the way Candida auris differs from Candida albicans in one protein family relate to its emergence as a threat to health?"

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112. Joshua Raimonde | Hillsdale College **Microbiology**

Co-Author(s): Dr. Andrew Russell

"Zingerone Reduces Biofilm Formation in Staphylococcus Epidermidis and Stenotrophomonas Maltophilia"

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113. Lauren Tabor | Grand Valley State University **Microbiology**

Co-Author(s): Peter Wampler, Professor of Geology, GVSU and Roderick Morgan, Professor of Biology, GVSU

"Long Term Evaluation of an In-situ Sand Filter to Remove Coliforms from Ground Water"

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114. Kate DeMann | Hope College **Neuroscience**
Co-Presenters (s): Alec Foster, Kyle Rinehart, Grace Goodfellow and Allison Hawk

Co-Author(s): Skylar DeWitt, Dr. Erika Calvo-Ochoa

"Effects of acute hypoxic exposure on the olfactory system of adult zebrafish"

---

115. Alec Foster | Indiana Wesleyan University **Neuroscience**

Co-Author(s): Robert Paul Malchow, Lech Kiedrowski, Matthew Kreitzer

"ATP Induces an H+ Efflux in Rat Hippocampal Astrocytes Through Activation of Sodium Hydrogen Exchangers and Monocarboxylate Transporters"

---

116. Arash Kordbacheh | Grand Valley State University **Neuroscience**

Co-Author(s): Arash Kordbacheh, Akash Ranabothu, John Capodilupo, Matthew J. Benskey

"Synucleinopathy Decreases Expression of the Complement Regulator CD55 in Nigral Dopamine Neurons Prior To Neurodegeneration"

---

117. Lexus Putt | Hope College **Neuroscience**

Co-Author(s): Nereyda Sanchez-Gama, Mackenzie Williams, Margaret Kussmann & Erika Calvo-Ochoa

"Olfactory system alterations in a novel model of dopaminergic loss by 6-OHDA injections in adult zebrafish"

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118. Vivian Schmidt | Kalamazoo College **Neuroscience**

Co-Author(s): Caroline Hsieh, Elizabeth MH Tank, Sami J Barmada

"Connecting RNA Methylation and TDP43 Pathology in ALS/FTD"

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119. Zeynab Aghabayli | | Ferris State University-College of Pharmacy **Pharmacology**
Co-Presenters: Zeynab Aghabayli and Megan Ley

Co-Author(s): Alicia Brock, Hope McGillis, Isabel Henige, Hope Flowers, Courtney Brown, Kendall Paige,

"Metabolic engineering of octaketides in Escherichia coli"

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120. Cassy Bennett | Kalamazoo College **Pharmacology**

Co-Author(s): Suma J. Alzouhayli and Dwight A. Williams

"Examining the Neuroprotective Effects of RS-127445 in a Glutamate Excitotoxicity Model of Caenorhabditis elegans"

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121. Alicia Brock | Ferris State University-College of Pharmacy **Pharmacology**
Co-Presenter(s): Alicia Brock and Hope Mcgillis

Co-Author(s): Zeynab Aghabayli, Megan Ley, S. Eric Nybo

"Metabolic engineering of fluorometabolites in E. coli"

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122. Courtney Brown | Ferris State University-College of Pharmacy **Pharmacology**

Co-Author(s): Kendall Paige, Isabel Henige, Hope Flowers, and S. Eric Nybo

"Investigating the early steps of decilorubicin and keyicin biosynthesis"

---

123. Emma Korhorn | Ferris State University **Pharmacology**
Co-Presenter(s): Emma Korhorn, Gabriella Brekke, Ella Conners and My Traan

Co-Author(s): Dr. Felix Amissah, and Dr. Tracey Ward

"PPAR Delta Agonist as Promising Treatment for Fatty Liver Disease"

---

124. Shelby Nelson | Ferris State University-College of Pharmacy **Pharmacology**

Co-Author(s): My Tran, Ella A Connors, Ruchita Bhavsar, Rosemary A. Poku, Seth Y. Ablordeppey, and Felix Amissah

"Evaluation of the Inhibitory Effect of Novel Cryptolepine Analogs on Lung Cancer Cell Migration and Invasion"

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125. Tiasha Nandi | Ferris State University-College of Pharmacy **Pharmacology**

Co-Author(s): Dr. Minji Sohn, Kathryn M Pawlowski, Benjamin Pontefract, Michael Klepser

"Patterns of Clostridioides difficile Treatment and Outcomes in Outpatient Settings Using the Collaboration to Harmonize Antimicrobial Registry Measures (CHARM)"

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126. Christopher Nostrant | Ferris State University-College of Pharmacy **Pharmacology**
Co-Presenter(s): Christopher Nostrant and Nicole Richards

Co-Author(s): Nicole Richards, S. Eric Nybo

"Heterologous expression of type III polyketide synthase enzymes in Escherichia coli"

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127. My Tran | Ferris State University **Pharmacology**
Co-Presenter(s): My Tran and Ella Connors

Co-Author(s): Felix Amissah, Shelby Nelson, Ruchita Bhavsar, Rosemary A. Poku, Seth Y. Ablordeppey,

"Novel Cryptolepine Analogs Induce Apoptosis in Lung Cancer Cells"

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128. Eliot Van Pelt | Grand Valley State University **Pharmacology**
Co-Presenter(s): Eliot Van Pelt and Taylor Saber

Co-Author(s): David Linn PhD

"Neurogenesis of adult pig retinal cells using a multiple cell culture system: Effects of selective nicotinic compounds"

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129. Ethan Jansen | Hope College **Physics**

Co-Author(s): Dr. Ivy Auso, Dr. Nutifafa Y. Doumon, Dr. Jeffrey Shallenberger, Dr. Kester O. Ighodalo

"Optical and Morphological Change for Perovskite Light Emitting Diodes Induced by A-site Modification"

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130. Olivia Lucas | Indiana Wesleyan University **Physics**

Co-Author(s): Warren F. Rogers, and the MoNA Collaboration

"Developing the Next Generation Neutron Detector"

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131. Isabella Pellegrom | Kalamazoo College **Physiology**

Co-Author(s): Benjamin D. Levine, Christopher M. Hearon Jr. & Denis J. Wakeham.

"The effect of sex on the accuracy of blood volume prediction equations in health and disease"

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132. Erin Cawley | Calvin University **Psychology**
Co-Presenter(s): Erin Cawley, Joseph DeVries and Elle Reynolds

Co-Author(s): Dr. Julie Yonker (Psychology & Public Health), Dr. Dawn Frambes (Nursing), Dr. Toluwani Adekunle (Public Health)

"Support for the Informal Caregiver: The Role of Professional Caregivers and Faith Communities"

2024 SUMMER INTERNSHIP PROGRAM | VAN ANDEL INSTITUTE

Even-numbered posters 134-150 will be featured in the DeVos Foundation Lobby near the Waterfall from 10:00 AM-11:15 AM

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134. Carissa Matthews | Van Andel Institute | Aquinas College **Biochemistry**

"To Bind or not to Bind: Does ZBTB33 Bind Hemimethylated DNA in vitro?"

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136. Yen Giang Nguyen | Van Andel Institute | Kalamazoo College **Bioinformatics**

"A Comparison Between Two Single-cell Spatial Transcriptomic Technologies: CosMx and Xenium"

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138. Colton Dysart | Van Andel Institute | Grand Valley State University **Biomedical Sciences**

"Critical Switch: CD38 Expression Challenges Daratumumab Treatment Efficacy"

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140. Madison Hoogstra | Van Andel Institute | Calvin University **Biomedical Sciences**

"Characterizing the Heritability of Obesity in a Nnat-deficient Mouse Model"

142. Faith Boyer | Van Andel Institute | Hillsdale College **Cell and Molecular Biology**

"Triglyceride lipolysis promotes cancer cell proliferation when extracellular lipids are limiting"

144. Isabella Caza | Van Andel Institute | Kalamazoo College **Cell and Molecular Biology**

"Investigating TRIP12 Ubiquitination of FZD in Attenuation of Wnt Signaling"

146. Emily Seburn | Van Andel Institute | Grand Valley State University **Cell and Molecular Biology**

"Protective Function and Nuclear Localization of Human Arsenite Methyltransferase"

148. Jordan Cook | Van Andel Institute | Kalamazoo College **Neuroscience**

"Optimization of the VAI Quantitative Neuropathology Brain Bank"

150. Lauryn Weisenburger | Van Andel Institute | Bellarmine University **Neuroscience**

"Association of Gut Hormones with Circulating Neurotoxic Metabolites and Alpha-Synuclein in Mild COVID-19 Patients"

INTERNSHIP AND EMPLOYMENT RECRUITER/REPRESENTATIVE CONTACT INFORMATION

STEM GREENHOUSE

Website and Application Link: https://stemgreenhouse.org/
Undergraduate Internship Application Period: Rolling
Application Website: Please visit our booth to learn more about the internship application process through the City of Grand Rapids/GRow1000

STEM Greenhouse
3167 Kalamazoo Avenue SE
203
Grand Rapids, MI 49508

Dr. Keli Christopher, Founder and CEO
Email Address: keli@stemgreenhouse.org | Telephone Number: 616-570-0607
Email Address: info@stemgreenhouse.org
STEM Greenhous recruiters / representatives will be available from 9:30 AM-2:30 PM

VAN ANDEL INSTITUTE

Research Internship Website and Application Link: https://www.vai.org/ug-internships
Undergraduate Internship Application Period: December 1, 2024-February 1, 2025

Van Andel Institute
Mailstop: 103C/234 DIV
333 Bostwick Avenue, NE
Grand Rapids, MI 49503

Undergraduate & Internship Program Committee
Email Address: undergrad@vai.edu | Telephone Number: 616-234-5708

Van Andel Institute recruiters / representatives will be available from 8:30 AM-2:30 PM

GRADUATE SCHOOL, MEDICAL SCHOOL AND PROFESSIONAL SCHOOL RECRUITER CONTACT INFORMATION

CALVIN UNIVERSITY
Website: https://online.calvin.edu/programs/mph-master-of-public-health/
Application Deadline: Rolling Admission
Application Link: https://admissions.calvin.edu/apply/

Master of Public Health Online Program
Calvin University
3201 Burton Street SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49546

Dr. Julie Yonker, Public Health Department Chair
Email Address: julie.yonker@calvin.edu | Telephone Number: 616-526-6106

Robin Wait, Manager of Graduate Studies
Email Address: robin.wait@calvin.edu | Telephone: Number 616-526-6106

Calvin University Master of Public Health recruiters/representatives will be available from 8:00 AM-3:30 PM

FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY – COLLEGE OF PHARMACY

Website: https://www.ferris.edu/pharmacy
Priority Application Deadline: November 1, 2024
Regular Application Deadline: June 1, 2025
Application Link: To apply, visit https://www.ferris.edu/pharmacy/admissions/apply.htm
Or scan the QR Code below the Ferris logo to access application link

Ferris State University – College of Pharmacy
Pharmacy Building
220 Ferris Drive
Big Rapids, MI 49307

Dr. Stephen Durst, Dean-College of Pharmacy
Email Address: dursts@ferris.edu | Telephone Number: 231-591-2254

Thomas Dowling, PharmD, Ph.D., Assistant Dean for Research
Email Address: thomasdowling@ferris.edu | Telephone: Number 616-643-1139

Dane Shiltz, PharmD, BCPS, Associate Professor
Email Address: DaneShiltz@ferris.edu
Ferris State University – College of Pharmacy recruiters/representatives will be available from 8:00 AM-3:30 PM

GRAND VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY

Website: https://www.gvsu.edu/psm/
Priority Deadline: December 1, 2024
Application Link: https://www.gvsu.edu/admissions/

Grand Valley State University
618C LV Eberhard Center
301 Fulton Street W
Grand Rapids, MI 49504

Anirudh Chowdhary, Director of the Professional Science Master's Program
Email Address: chowdhan@gvsu.edu | Telephone Number: 616-331-6297

Grand Valley State University recruiters/representatives will be available from 8:15 AM-2:30 PM

INDIANA UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE, BIOMEDICAL GRAD PROGRAMS

Website: https://medicine.iu.edu/graduate-degrees/phd/indianapolis
Priority Deadline: December 1, 2024 | Final Deadline: December 31, 2024
Application Link: https://go.iu.edu/ApplyIBMG

Indiana University School of Medicine
635 N. Barnhill Drive | MS 207
Indianapolis, IN 46202

Britney Hieser, Assistant Director
Email Address: biomed@iu.edu | Telephone Number: 317-274-3441

Indiana University School of Medicine recruiters/representatives will be available from 8:15 AM-2:30 PM

PURDUE UNIVERSITY – INTERDISCIPLINARY LIFE SCIENCE PROGRAM
Website: https://www.purdue.edu/academics/ogsps/pulse/
Application Deadline: December 1, 2024
Application Link: https://gradapply.purdue.edu/apply/

Interdisciplinary Life Science Program (PULSe)
Purdue University
155 S. Grant Street
West Lafayette, IN 47909

Lindsey Springer, Lead Graduate Program Specialist
Email Address: lbcampbe@purdue.edu | Telephone Number: 765-496-9667

Leah Pierce, Graduate Student
Email Address: pulse@purdue.edu | Telephone Number: 765-496-9667

Purdue University recruiters/representatives will be available from 8:15 AM-2:30 PM

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN COLLEGE OF LITERATURE, SCIENCE, AND THE ARTS
Website: https://lsa.umich.edu/lsa/prospective-students/graduate.html
Application Deadline: Varies - earliest is December 1st
MS/PhD Deadlines vary by department
Application Link: https://rackham.umich.edu/admissions/applying/

University of Michigan College of Literature, Science, and the Arts
500 South State Street
Ann Arbor, MI, 48109-1382

Kate Foster, LSA Graduate Education Program Manager
Email Address: lsa-grad-ed@umich.edu | Telephone Number: 734-647-9420

U of M LSA recruiters/representatives will be available from 8:15 AM-2:30 PM

SCAN ME

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN MEDICAL SCHOOL PROGRAM IN BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES
Website: https://medschool.umich.edu/programs-admissions/
Application Deadline: December 1, 2024
Application Link: https://rackham.umich.edu/admissions/applying/

University of Michigan Medical School Program in Biomedical Sciences
1135 Catherine Street
Ann Arbor, MI 48109

Jen Wloszek, Ph.D. Candidate-Biomedical Sciences-Department of Molecular & Integrative Physiology
Email Address: jwloszek@umich.edu | Telephone Number: 734-647-7005

Laura Napieralski, Graduate Enrollment Coordinator
Email Address: lasamuel@umich.edu | Telephone Number: 734-647-7005

Patrick Shrader, Graduate Enrollment Program Manager
Email Address: pcshrade@umich.edu | Telephone Number: 734-647-7005

U of M Medical School recruiters/representatives will be available from 8:15 AM-2:30 PM

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH
Website: https://sph.umich.edu/
Application Deadline: MPH/MHSA: Priority Deadline is December 1, 2024
International Student Deadline is January 15, 2025
Final Deadline for Domestic Apps is May 15, 2025
MS/PhD Deadlines vary by department
Application Link: https://sph.umich.edu/admissions/applications-deadlines.html

University of Michigan School of Public Health
1415 Washington Heights
Ann Arbor, MI 48109

Lauren Ward, Doctoral Candidate - Environmental Health Sciences
Email Address: lynndoug@umich.edu
U of M School of Public Health recruiters/representatives will be available from 8:00 AM-2:30 PM

VAN ANDEL INSTITUTE GRADUATE SCHOOL (VAIGS)
Website: https://www.vai.org/graduate-school
Application Deadline: December 1, 2024
Application Link: https://www.vai.org/graduate-school/admissions

Van Andel Institute Graduate School
333 Bostwick Avenue, NE
Grand Rapids, MI 49503

Christy Mayo, Director of Enrollment and Records
Email Address: christy.mayo@vai.edu | Telephone Number: 616-234-5722

Van Andel Institute Graduate School recruiters/representatives will be available from 8:15 AM-3:00 PM

WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY IN ST. LOUIS - ROY AND DIANA VAGELOS DIVISION OF BIOLOGY AND BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES

Website: https://dbbs.wustl.edu/
Application Deadline: December 1, 2024 at 11:59 PM EST
Application Link: https://dbbs.wustl.edu/admissions/application-requirements/

Washington University in St. Louis
Roy and Diana Vagelos Division of Biology and Biomedical Sciences
660 South Euclid Avenue
MSC 8226-0013-04
St. Louis, MO 63110

Mike Jones, Director of Community Engagement & Co-Curricular Education
Email Address: mikejones@wustl.edu

WashU recruiters/representatives will be available from 8:00 AM-3:30 PM

Note: Admissions Recruiter Alexis Crowell will be attending another conference on November 2, 2024. However, she will be available via email to answer any questions about the Roy and Diana Vagelos Division of Biology and Biomedical Sciences. ***Alexis Crowell, Admissions Recruiter: calexis@wustl.edu***

WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY

Website Link: https://physiology.med.wayne.edu/
Doctoral Program Application Deadline: January 15, 2025 for Fellowship Eligibility
Master's Program Application Deadline: Rolling Deadline
Application Link: https://physiology.med.wayne.edu/grad-program

Wayne State University
Room 5374 Scott Hall
540 E Canfield
Detroit, MI 48201

Charles Chung, Associate Professor | Department of Physiology
Email Address: cchung@med.wayne.edu | Telephone Number: 313-577-1540

Mariana Angoa-Perez, Assistant Professor | Department of Physiology
Email Address: maperez@med.wayne.edu | Telephone Number: 313-577-5240

Wayne State University recruiters/representatives will be available from 8:30 AM-2:30 PM.

WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

Website: https://wmich.edu/grad
Application Deadline: Revolving
Application Link: https://wmich.edu/grad/apply

Western Michigan University
1903 W. Michigan Avenue
Kalamazoo, MI 49008

Dr. Malia Roberts, Senior Director of Graduate Enrollment
Email Address: malia.roberts@wmich.edu | Telephone Number: 269-387-8212

Tony Dennis, Director of Graduate Student Recruitment and Retention
Email Address: tony.dennis@wmich.edu | Telephone Number: 269-387-8214

Western Michigan University recruiters/representatives will be available from 8:30 AM-3:30 PM

Giveaway: *This year the WMRUGS Research Conference Organizing Committee will give a MacBook Air away to an eligible student poster presenter or student speaker!*

Eligibility and Exclusions

Students Eligibility for Giveaway:

- *Registered student poster presenters and undergraduate student speakers are automatically entered and eligible for the giveaway including:*
- *Student principal presenting authors and student co-presenting authors*
- *VAI student research interns that are student principal presenting authors and student co-presenting authors (seasonal/summer/guest students)*
    - *2024 Summer Internship Program (interns and guest students)*
    - *Academic school year 2024-2025 (interns and guest students)*
- *Student speakers nominated by the WMRUGS Research Conference Organizing Committee from Aquinas College, Calvin College, Ferris State University-College of Pharmacy, Hope College and Kalamazoo College*

Exceptions, Exclusions and Ineligible Participants:

- *Students that submitted late posters (after submission deadline) will not be entered in the giveaway*
- *The following registrants are ineligible:*
    - *Student attendees-not presenting*
    - *Faculty*
    - *University/College administrators*
    - *Family/Friends of student poster presenters or student speakers*
    - *VAI/VARI/VAEI employees - with the exception of VAI student research interns (seasonal/summer/guest students)*
    - *VAI/VARI/VAI contact employees*
    - *VAI Graduate School Ph.D. Candidates*
    - *Recruiters or Representatives*
    - *Sponsors*
    - *WMRUGS Research Conference Organizing Committee Members*

Rules and Requirements

- *No walk-in registrants or attendees will be accepted the day of the conference*
- *No walk-in student poster presenters will be accepted the day of the conference*
- *Winner must be present at the time of the drawing for the giveaway*
- *Recipient must provide identification including driver's license or university/college student ID*
- *Recipient must fill out a W9 tax form*
- *A copy of the recipient ID and completed W9 tax form will be forwarded on to the VAI Finance Department*

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