



Happy March!

Day light savings starts March 12th, giving us our first post-6:00 sunset. Enjoy the extra daylight! As always, if you have any comments or concerns, please fill out our [anonymous Google form](#). Have a great month!
- BSA Social Media Committee

DEPARTMENT NEWS

- Follow us on Twitter for the latest news, reminders, and shout outs! [@VandyBiochem](#)
- We want to extend a warm welcome to the THREE new labs joining our department: the labs of John Kuriyan, Doug Kojetin, and Andrew Folkmann. Join us TODAY, March 1st at 4 pm in the Engineering & Science Building Lobby for a welcome reception honoring these new faculty members. Departmental award recipients will also be announced at this event.
- The BSA has purchased sets of board and card games for the department! We plan to bring them out at BSA-sponsored social events and other BSA activities, but they are also available for use by any members of the department any other time. There's one set on the 6th floor of LH in the kitchenette by the Hodges and Ascano labs, and one set on the 5th floor of MRB3 in the cabinets outside of the 5140 Chazin lab office area.
- The Graduate School and Office of Postdoctoral Affairs will offer three *How to Complete Your Grad Student or Postdoc Tax Return (and Understand It, Too!)* workshops. These will be pre-recorded seminars with live Q&As. You can register for the events [here](#).

TRAINEE OF THE MONTH

Tyler Hansen

What year are you? 6th Year
Whose lab are you in? Emily Hodges
What do you like best about the biochemistry department? I really enjoy the culture of the department. We have a really great group of people and I think we do a really great job of supporting each other, both within and across labs. We also make grad school a little more enjoyable with all of our fun events.



What advice do you have for other students? They say grad school is a marathon, not a sprint, so my advice is to treat it that way. I always prioritize being consistent over intermittent periods of intense hard work. I find life is easier, more enjoyable, and more productive long-term. Grad school is also about delayed satisfaction, so it can be tough sometimes to feel good about your efforts. I think it is important to celebrate your accomplishments whenever possible. Also try to acknowledge the success of others, it goes a long way.

What's your favorite experiment to run? ATAC-STARR-seq (of course)

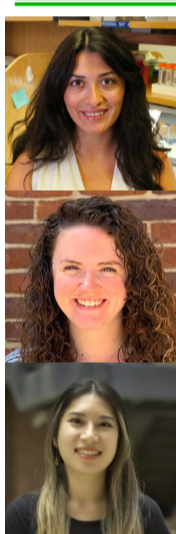
What's your favorite place to go or favorite thing to do in Nashville? I really enjoy running at Shelby Bottoms every weekend, it is a really great spot to enjoy the outdoors. Go there a little before sunset and you'll see a lot of deer!

[Click here to nominate a fellow grad student or post doc for Trainee of the Month!](#)

DEPARTMENT EVENTS

- **1st** at 4pm in the lobby of the Engineering and Science Building - New Faculty Welcome and Departmental Award Reception
- **3rd** at noon in LH 214 - Frontiers Seminar: Dr. Michael Diamond, Washington Univ. School of Medicine St. Louis
- **9th** at 4pm in LH 208 - Flexner Discovery Lecture: Dr. Yifan Cheng, UCSF
- **10th** at noon in LH 214 - Colloquium: Kathryn Brewer
- **24th** at noon in LH 214 - Colloquium: Kaitlyn Browning
- **31st** at noon in LH 214 - Colloquium: Lilia Merbouche and Emma Vontalge

Congrats to...



- **Jessica Collins** (Osheroff Lab), whose paper, "[1,2-Naphthoquinone as a Poison of Human Type II Topoisomerases](#)", was featured in a special [Women in Toxicology edition](#) of Chemical Research in Toxicology
- **Sabrina Van Ravenstein, Emma Vontalge, and Tata Kavlashvili** (Dewar Lab) for their collaborative paper: "[RTEL1 and MCM10 overcome topological stress during vertebrate replication termination](#)".
- **Kaitlyn Browning** (Merrickh Lab) for winning a poster award at the 4th Bacterial Cell Biology Conference.
- **Jenny Tran** (Brown Lab), for her paper "[The yeast ALA synthase C-terminus positively controls enzyme structure and function](#)".
- **Members of the Chazin Lab**, for their paper "[Binding by calmodulin is coupled to transient unfolding of the third FF domain of Prp40A](#)".



As we continue down our PI trivia path this month with the Department's new addition, we are wondering...

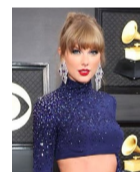
What Nashville celebrity did Andrew Folkmann run into at Fido?



A) Thomas Rhett



B) Miranda Lambert



C) Taylor Swift



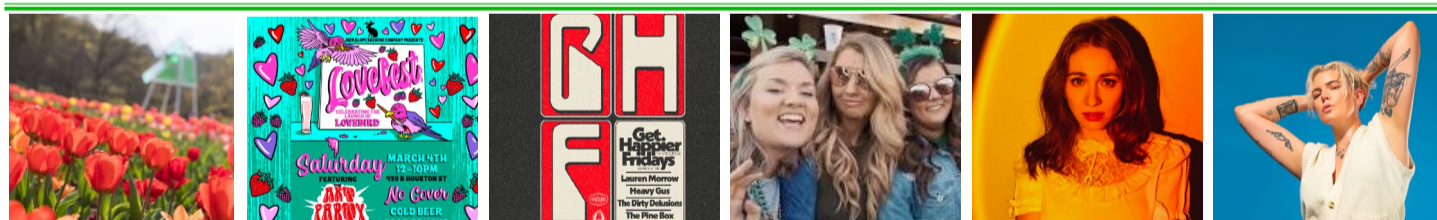
The results are in!

Turns out Manny's hobbies are the worst kept secret in the department because an astonishing 100% of you knew that smoking meats is Manny's thing.

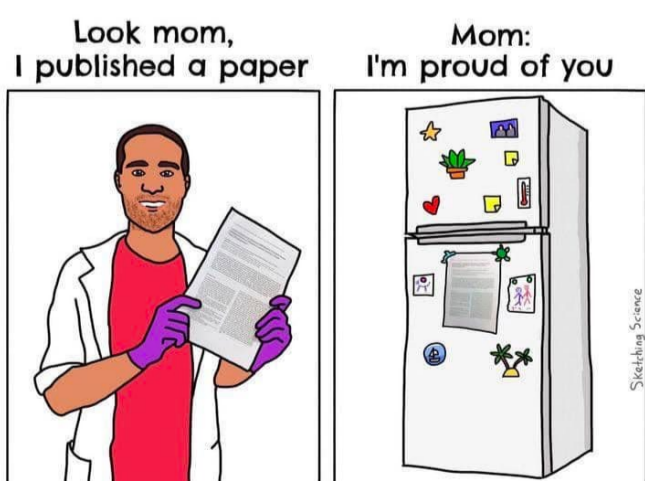
IN OTHER NEWS

- ASPIRE is offering a wide variety of career development events this month, focusing on everything from how to review a paper to networking and interview success. They're even hosting a session about career opportunities at the FDA. Check out more at their [calendar](#).
- There is a Graduate Student Council General Body Meeting on the 2nd at 6:30 in Alumni Hall 201 for those interested. It will also be available via [zoom](#) but the in person meeting will provide food so choose your own adventure.

Check it out!



- **Places to go:** [Cheekwood in Bloom](#) starts this month on the 11th and runs until April 9th. There will be live music, workshops, tours, and of course, more than 250,000 blooming tulips! Advanced reservations are required. Student tickets are \$18 with ID. If you're looking for a way to spend this weekend, Jackalope is hosting [Lovefest](#) to kick off the start of Lovebird season. From noon to 10pm on the 4th, this event is free with beer, music, and food trucks.
- **Things to do:** Feeling the luck of the Irish? There's a ton of ways to celebrate St. Patrick's Day in Nashville this month. Von Patrick's Day is the 17th at Von Elrods, with tickets available [here for \\$15](#). There is also the First Saturday Art Crawl downtown from 5pm on this Saturday, the 4th. You can get more info [here](#).
- **People to see:** [Regina Spektor](#) is coming to the Ryman on March 13th, [Betty Who](#) is at Brooklyn Bowl on March 6th, and finally [Get Happier Fridays](#) (something we can all get behind) at The Basement starts on the



Please reach out to lindsey.n.guerin@vanderbilt.edu or kaitlyn.r.browning@vanderbilt.edu if you have any feedback, questions, or trainee of the month nominations.