

## Department of Biochemistry Spring 2021 Seminar Series

### BCHM 5004

Mondays, 4:00 – 5:00 PM

All seminars will be presented online

A ZOOM link will be available by noon on the day of the seminar. Zoom will open at 3:50 PM

Date	Speaker (Name and Affiliation)	Seminar Title
January 25 (Host: Pablo Sobrado)	<b>Prof. Erika Taylor</b> Dept. of Chemistry Wesleyan University	Exploring Enzyme Function, Inhibition and Activation in the Protocatechuate Dioxygenase-Memo Protein Superfamily
February 1 (Host: Pablo Sobrado)	<b>Prof. Eric Chang</b> Dept. Chemistry and Physical Sciences Pace University	From VT to NYC: The Experiments and Experiences that Made my Dreams Possible
February 8 (Host: Kylie Allen)	<b>Prof. Eduardus Duin</b> Department of Chemistry & Biochemistry Auburn University	Methyl-Coenzyme M Reductase and Heterodisulfide Reductase, Partners in Sulfur Metabolism
February 15 (Host: Daniel Slade)	<b>Prof. Alison Criss</b> Dept. of Microbiology, Immunology & Cancer Biology UVA	Manipulation of Human Innate Immunity by <i>Neisseria gonorrhoeae</i>
February 22 (Host: Jianyong Li)	<b>Dr. Michael Torrens-Spence</b> Ginkgo Bioworks and Whitehead Institute MIT	Enzyme Mechanism Insights for Natural Product Engineering
March 1 (Host: Glenda Gillaspay)	<b>Prof. Scott Keeney</b> Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center	A Dangerous Game: Breaking and Fixing DNA During Meiosis
March 8	<b>No Seminar – Spring Break</b>	
March 15 (Host: Biswarup Mukhopadhyay)	<b>Prof. Alexey Silakov</b> Dept. of Chemistry Penn State University	Unexpected Oxygen Tolerance of an Efficient Hydrogen Producing FeFe Hydrogenase from <i>Clostridium beijerinckii</i>
March 22 (Host: Biswarup Mukhopadhyay)	<b>Captain Georgina Smith</b> , Lead Army Healthcare Recruiter; Major Dr. Suzanne Mate; Major Dr. Jeffrey Havens; and Sgt. 1 <sup>st</sup> Class Derrick Hutcherson	US Army Career Opportunities for Biochemists
March 29 (Host: Justin Lemkul)	<b>Darcy S. Davidson</b> Ph.D. Candidate, Dept. of Biochemistry Virginia Tech	Polarizable Molecular Dynamics Simulations of the Amyloid- $\beta$ Peptide
April 5 (Host: Pablo Sobrado)	<b>Prof. Shanzhi Wang</b> Center for Molecular Design & Development University of Arkansas	The Inhibitory Proteins of Inflammatory Caspases and Pyroptosis
April 12 (Host: Michael Klemba)	<b>Jiapeng Liu</b> Department of Biochemistry Virginia Tech	Functional Characterization of Serine Hydrolases Essential for the Asexual Proliferation of <i>Plasmodium falciparum</i>
April 19 (Host: Brandon Jutras)	<b>Prof. Rich Marconi</b> Department of Microbiology & Immunology	Chimeric Epitope Based Vaccines for Tick-Borne Diseases
April 25 (Host: Chloe Lahondere)	<b>Prof. Aaron Gross</b> Department of Entomology Virginia Tech	Virginia Pollinators and Pests: Current Pest Control Challenges and Strategies
May 3 (Host: Chevon Thorpe)	<b>Prof. Tonisha Lane</b> School of Education Virginia Tech	Intersectional Approaches to Supporting Women of Color in STEM