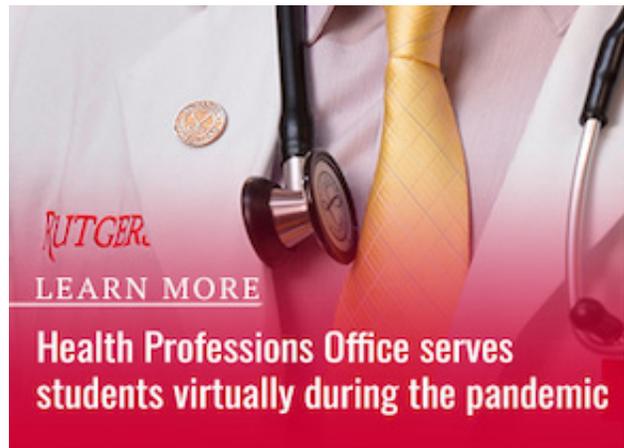


Division of Life Sciences Fall 2021



Welcome to the Fall issue of the Division of Life Sciences newsletter! Since our last newsletter, we have returned to campus and are navigating what school looks like in person. We are excited to share about the process of transitioning back into the lab, as well as the exciting research and creative and thoughtful teaching that has continued in the face of the pandemic. Be sure to follow us on social media, as we've launched a short series called DLS Research Bites, introducing our faculty's research in easy-to-digest, bite-sized segments. Our students also started a podcast called "You've Got Potential" to build and strengthen the undergraduate research community. It's been a challenging but full semester and we hope you'll enjoy connecting with us through this newsletter.

Lori R. Covey
Dean of Life Sciences



News



Division of Life Sciences Administration

Meet Jessica Shivas, the new Director of the SAS/HGINJ Imaging Core Facility. She joined us in Summer 2021 from Leica, the microscope company.

[Read more](#)



Cell Biology and Neuroscience

Rafiq Huda and Max Tischfield were both awarded the Young Investigator Awards by the Brain and Behavior Research Foundation. This award supports early-career scientists in neuroscience.

[Read More](#)



Molecular Biology and Biochemistry

Annika Baker awarded AFAR (American Federation for Aging Research) Junior Faculty Grant to support her research on how aging and dietary stress interact to alter the way our bodies keep time.

[Read More](#)



Genetics

Four educators who teach genetics were recognized for their Distinguished Contributions to Undergraduate Education: Assistant Professor Premal Shah, Associate Professor Gary Heiman, Assistant Teaching Professor Mai Soliman, and Teaching Assistant Gyu Ik (Daniel) Jung.

[Read More](#)



Kinesiology and Health

Brandon Alderman recently stepped into the role of Department Chair for the Department of Kinesiology and Health. Get to know a little about him and his research.

[Read More](#)



Biological Sciences

What goes on behind the scenes in preparing to bring students back into the lab during the pandemic? Susan Skelly of the DLS Office of Undergraduate Instruction shares about their preparation for the in-person lab for Summer 2021.

[Read More](#)



ODASIS

Bryan Cabezas SAS'21, now a first-year student at Rutgers New Jersey Medical School, shares about the impact of ODASIS on his academic career: "It's like family."

[Read More](#)

Additional Highlights

Division of Life Sciences Administration

Associate Director of the DLS Business Office John Anciano was awarded the Alpha Zeta Omega Meritorious Award, which recognizes individuals on the basis of character, fellowship, and scholarship.

DLS welcomes Jason Pappas, the new IT Director. A Rutgers Alum, Jason joins us with 11 years of experience in both SAS and the Mason Gross School of Arts, where he was IT Director.

Cell Biology and Neuroscience

Peng Jiang awarded a \$3.1 million NIH Transformative Research grant to support innovative research on Down-Syndrome using a novel human-mouse chimeric brain model.

Distinguished Professor and Department Chair Mike Kiledjian received the Rutgers Board of Trustees Award for Excellence in Research, which honors tenured faculty members who have made distinguished research contributions.

Genetics

First author postdoctoral fellow Kevin Tong and the Verzi Lab research findings pave the way for new therapeutic strategies for treating serrated colon cancer.

Kinesiology and Health

In only its fifth year, the Global *Sports Business* MS program has been ranked by Sports Business as the 18th best sports management program in the country.

Molecular Biology and Biochemistry

Rutgers researchers have discovered important molecular insights related to neurodegenerative diseases.

[Read more](#)

ODASIS

Congratulations to Shama Huq, previous ODASIS Administrative Coordinator, who received the prestigious Fulbright grant to conduct research at McGill University - we are sad to see her go!



Connect with us!

