

## December 2021 Department News



### CONGRATULATIONS TO...



**Dr. W. Andy Tao** and his wife, Vicky Tseng welcomed new family members to their home on Nov. 20th, twin boys, Coby and Nicky who are named after twin chemical elements.



### BIOCEHMISTRY IN THE NEWS...

**Majid Kazemian** and a team of scientists have discovered that a form of vitamin D (not the over-the-counter pills) could help combat inflammation in cells of people with severe cases of COVID-19. Read the full article [here](#).

**Majid Kazemian** is also featured in Nature Reviews Immunology for his discovery. Read the article [here](#).

## **GOING THE EXTRA MILE...**

**Humaira Gowher** presented a seminar at University of North Carolina, Department of Genetics and Molecular Biology titled “Divergent lncRNA DNMT3Bas regulates inducible expression and alternative splicing of DNMT3B”.

**Sujith Puthiyaveetil** served on a NSF-BIO panel in November.

**Sujith Puthiyaveetil** attended a DOE-PI meeting, held virtually November 16-18, 2021 and presented a poster titled “Molecular Drivers of Photosystem II Disassembly”. Steven McKenzie was a co-presenter for the poster.

**Sujith Puthiyaveetil** gave a virtual talk at MSU Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology on November 18<sup>th</sup> titled “Plastid Proteostasis: Role of Light and Redox-Regulated Protein Synthesis”.

## SAFETY CORNER...



### WINTER WALKING TIPS

to Avoid Slip and Fall Injuries



#### 1 START OFF ON THE RIGHT FOOT

Wear appropriate footwear to increase traction in winter weather.  
When wearing ice cleats, remember to remove them indoors to avoid slipping.  
Wear gloves to keep your hands warm and out of your pockets for balance.  
Use a floor or seat to provide stability when entering or exiting a vehicle.



#### 2 PLAN YOUR ROUTE

Adjust your route to walk on cleared and treated surfaces.  
Walk through buildings or use protected walkways and sidewalks.  
Exercise caution around traffic as vehicles may need increased stopping distances.



#### 3 DON'T OVERDO IT

Avoid carrying heavy or awkward loads.  
Use shoulder straps on bags and backpacks to keep your hands free for balance.  
Slow down and take shorter steps as you may need to change in traction more easily.



#### 4 BE SMART

Use handrails when using stairs or ramps.  
Consider using an elevator, if available, as indoor stairs may also be wet.  
Falls on stairs can lead to severe injuries, especially when slippery conditions are present.

#### DEMONSTRATIVE VIDEO

A two-minute video demonstrating some of these winter walking techniques from the Workplace Wellness Services is available online at <https://bit.ly/3Ww1y9k>.

#### REPORTING UNSAFE CONDITIONS

Building Services reviews issues from building entrances, ramps, steps and sidewalks immediately adjacent to buildings. Please contact the Grounds Department at 765-494-3307 regarding snow removal from building docks, parking areas and main sidewalks.

## PUBLICATIONS...

Lohman, J., L.M. Stunkard, A. B. Benjamin, J. B. Bower, T. J. Huth. Substrate enolate intermediate and mimic captured in the active site of *Streptomyces coelicolor* methylmalonyl-CoA epimerase. 2021. *Chembiochem: A European journal of chemical biology*. Online ahead of print.

Mensah, I. K., A. B. Norvil, L.A.IAbdi, S. McGovern, C. J. Petell, M. He, **H. Gowher**. Misregulation of the expression and activity of DNA methyltransferases in cancer. 2021. *NAR Cancer*. **3** (4): zcab045 ecollection.

Franco, M. E. E., **J.H. Wisecaver**, A. E. Arnold, Y. M. Ju, J. C. Slot, S. Ahrendt, L. P. Moore, K. E. Eastman, K. Scott, Z. Konkel, S.J. Mondo, A. Kuo, R. D. Hayes, S. Haridas, B. Andreopoulos, R. Riley, K. LabButti, J. Pangilinan, A. Lipzen, M. Amirebrahimi, J. Yan, C. Adam, K. Keymanesh, V. Ng, K. Louis, T. Northen, E. Drula, B. Henrissat, H. M. Hsieh, K. Yousens-Clark, F. Lutzoni, J. Miadlikowska, D. C. Eastwood, R. C. Hamelin, I. V. Grigoriev, J. M. U'Ren. Ecological generalism drives

hyperdiversity of secondary metabolite gene clusters in xylarialean endophytes. *The New Phytologist*. 2021 online ahead of print.

## **IMPORTANT DATES...**

December 23<sup>rd</sup>- January 2<sup>nd</sup>- Winter Recess

January 3<sup>rd</sup>- Campus reopens

January 10<sup>th</sup>- 1<sup>st</sup> day of classes for Spring semester

January 17<sup>th</sup>- MLK holiday, University closed

## **ATTENTION BCHM ALUMS...**

We would love to hear from you! If you have any alumni news to share or had a change of address, please let us know! Updates can be sent to [bchm-alumni-friends@purdue.edu](mailto:bchm-alumni-friends@purdue.edu).

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