

## RTI Messenger, Issue 12

Welcome to the 12th issue of the RTI Messenger, keeping you in the loop from the RNA Therapeutics Institute at UMass Medical School. As always, if you have any resources, community-related news, or relevant seminars to share, please email: [RNATherapeutics@UMassMed.edu](mailto:RNATherapeutics@UMassMed.edu).

## Stay in the loop

### All Things RNA: Virtual Seminars and Meetings

#### RTI Seminar Series

May 11, 10:00am ET | Zasha Weinberg, Leipzig University, Catalytic RNAs: strange structural variants in mysterious organisms

May 25, 10:00am ET | Shona Murphy, The Mysterious World of the Pol II CTD Kinases

May 11, 1:00 pm ET | Thesis Defense: **Jennifer Eunmi Moon** Investigating Chromosome 21 Dosage Effects in Down syndrome by 'Trisomy Silencing' Reveals Impairment of Angiogenic and Neurogenic Processes

May 25–June 5 | **26<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of The RNA Society (virtual)**

[UMMS GSBS Compiled Seminar Listing](#)



### RNA Collaborative Seminar Series

May 5, 9:00 am ET | Cambridge RNA Club

**Gonçalo Bernades** A small-molecule targeted RNA degradation approach: empowering RNA methylation analysis

**Lori Passmore** Mechanistic insight into the mRNA poly(A) tail machinery

Moderator: Eric Miska

[Register & Attend](#)

Missed a previous seminar? [Watch on-demand](#)



### Hot off the Press

**Grigorieff Lab:** Locating Macromolecular Assemblies in Cells by 2D Template Matching with cisTEM. *BioRxiv*

**Xue Lab:** Improved prime editors enable pathogenic allele correction and cancer modelling in adult mice. *Nat Communications*

**Sontheimer, Khvorova, Xue & Watts Labs:** The NIH Somatic Cell Genome Editing program. *Nature*



### Congratulations to...

**Nikolaus Grigorieff** and **Kate Fitzgerald** for their election into the National Academy of Sciences!

**Andrei Korostelev** for his promotion to Full Professor!

**Tingting Jiang** (Xue lab) for receiving a K99 award from the NIH!

Happy One Year Anniversary to the **RNA Collaborative**, now 21 RNA centers strong!



### In the News

Craig Mello sits down with Nature Biotechnology's First Rounders and covers the lure of conspiracy theorists, the state of RNA therapeutics, and getting that call from the Nobel committee: *First Rounder's Podcast*

Local Nobel Prize Winner Hopes COVID Vaccine RNA Technology Can Fight Other Diseases: *WBSZ Boston*



### 2021 RNA Therapeutics: From Concept to Clinic

See our line-up of [speakers](#) and tentative [program](#). We hope you can join us June 23-25, 2021!

Family Support Awards, Inclusivity Grants, and waivers for HBCU students are available!

[Learn more](#)

[Register here](#)



### ScienceLIVE Outreach Program for Trainees

Call for volunteers! Join ScienceLIVE to facilitate exciting, interactive activities for middle school students, all virtually!

ScienceLIVE's mission is to excite, educate, and inspire under-represented, educationally and economically disadvantaged students in STEM fields. [Read the MassLIVE article](#).

[Sign up here!](#)



### ONGOING MUTUAL AID FUNDRAISERS

RE: COVID-19 EMERGENCY THAT NEED YOUR SUPPORT

[MyMutualAidIndia](#)

We stand in solidarity with our Indian colleagues.

No one is safe until everyone is safe. Please consider contributing to one of the fundraisers providing aid in the form of medical assistance, supplies, and/or food to India in the midst of the ongoing COVID-19 crisis. [This google doc can be filtered for charities in urgent need and that accept foreign funds.](#)



### Career Opportunities

Administrative Support, RTI, UMMS:  
Executive Assistant to the Chair

Postdoctoral Positions, RTI, UMMS:  
Wenwen Fang's Lab (postdoc & lab tech roles)  
Anastasia Khvorova's Lab  
Athma Pai's Lab  
Jon Watt's Lab  
Wen Xue's Lab

AstraZeneca  
Postdoctorate Fellow, Oligonucleotide Therapeutics

MassBiologics

Manufacturing Associate II, Oligonucleotides

Moderna Therapeutics

Sr. Research Associate, Computational Science



RNA Therapeutics Institute

**RNA Therapeutics: FROM CONCEPT TO CLINIC**

**JUNE 23-25, 2021**

Virtual Symposium • UMass Medical School

