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Publications of the Week

#### Base Editor Scanning Charts the DNMT3A Activity Landscape First Author: Nicholas Lue (pictured, left) | Senior Author: Brian Liau (right) Nature Chemical Biology | Harvard University and the Broad Institute

DNA methylation is critical for regulating gene expression, necessitating its

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Harnessing ADAR

accurate placement by enzymes such as the DNA methyltransferase, DNMT3A. The authors integrate base editing with a DNA methylation reporter to perform in situ mutational scanning of DNMT3A in cells. They identify mutations throughout the protein that perturb function, including ones at an interdomain interface that block allosteric activation. Profile | Abstract

#### First Authors: Kaiyi Jiang, Jeremy Koob, Xi Dawn Chen, Rohan Krajeski, and Yifan Zhang | Senior Authors: Jonathan Gootenberg, Fei Chen, and Omar Abudayyeh (pictured) Nature Biotechnology | McGovern Institute, Broad Institute, Harvard University, and MIT

Programmable Eukaryotic Protein Synthesis with RNA Sensors by

Programmable approaches to sense and respond to the presence of specific RNAs in biological systems have broad applications in research, diagnostics, and



reprogrammable adenosine deaminases acting on RNA (ADAR) sensors, which harnesses RNA editing by ADAR to gate translation of a cargo protein by the presence of endogenous RNA transcripts. Abstract | Press Release View All Publications 😜

therapeutics. The authors engineer a programmable RNA-sensing technology,

#### Congratulations to Dr. Brandon DeKosky (pictured), the 2022 James S. Huston Antibody Science Talent Award recipient! This award is given annually by the

Awards



contributions to antibody science. Dr. DeKosky and his lab have developed a suite of high-throughput single-cell platforms for large-scale analyses of adaptive immunity. Read More View All Awards 🔵

Those who gathered for the grand opening of the Blavatnik Harvard Life Lab Longwood were there not just to admire a new state-of-the art research facility, but

Antibody Society to an early career researcher who has made important

Harvard Medical School

Local News

#### to celebrate the promise of biomedical science to transform health and well-being for all. The 10,000-square-foot space houses wet and dry labs and includes offices and collaborative workspaces designed to nurture nascent biotechnology and life

science enterprises. Read More

Blavatnik Harvard Life Lab Longwood Opens



Most deaths from melanoma — the most lethal form of skin cancer — occur in patients who were initially diagnosed with early-stage melanoma and then later experienced a recurrence that is typically not detected until it has spread or metastasized. A team led by investigators at Massachusetts General Hospital recently developed an artificial intelligence-based method to predict which patients are most likely to experience a recurrence and are therefore expected to benefit

Neural networks, a type of computing system loosely modeled on the organization of the human brain, form the basis of many artificial intelligence systems. In the field of neuroscience, researchers often use neural networks to try to model the

group of researchers at MIT is urging that more caution should be taken when

#### same kind of tasks that the brain performs, in hopes that the models could suggest new hypotheses regarding how the brain itself performs those tasks. However, a

from aggressive treatment. Read More

Study Urges Caution When Comparing Neural Networks to the Brain

MIT News



Rita Anoh's (pictured) first exposure to college-level research was not something she recognized as a path she could follow. While in high school, the daughter of Anoh's Advanced Placement biology teacher presented a poster to her class about what she was working on in graduate school. "At the time, actually, it did not click to me what she was presenting," Anoh laughs. "Because I didn't know that you could

Dementia encompasses a range of neurodegenerative conditions that lead to memory loss and cognitive deficiencies and affect some 55 million people worldwide. Yet despite its prevalence, there are few effective treatments, in part because scientists still don't understand how exactly dementia arises on a cellular and molecular level. A team led by Drs. Wade Harper (pictured), Tobias Walther, and Robert Farese Jr. has made progress in unraveling the mechanism underlying

do research as such, I just didn't put it together." Read More

## a type of dementia that strikes early in life. Read More

MIT News



behavior. Read More Through the Magnifying Glass: The Metabolism Unit The Metabolism Unit within the Division of Endocrinology in the Department of Medicine at Mass General is led by Dr. Steven Grinspoon (pictured). They study rare diseases in people to discover important ways in which fat may be regulated in

Using an approach based on CRISPR proteins, MIT researchers in Dr. Timothy Lu's (pictured) lab have developed a new way to precisely control the amount of a particular protein that is produced in mammalian cells. This technique could be used to finely tune the production of useful proteins, such as the monoclonal antibodies used to treat cancer and other diseases, or other aspects of cellular

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A Career in Biochemistry Unfolds

interpreting these models. Read More

### New Clues into a Serious Neurodegenerative Disease Harvard Medical School

A New Control System for Synthetic Genes



the general population. For example, they recently found certain genes that may result in the body producing less healthy fat, which accumulates in the liver and other unusual tissues and is more inflamed. Read More New Method Uncovers Strong Effects of Copy Number Variation in the Genome on Human Health Copy number variants (CNVs) are regions of the genome that are duplicated or

deleted in some individuals, and are a common type of gene-disabling mutation. A

team of researchers at the Broad Institute, Brigham and Women's Hospital, and Harvard Medical School has developed a computational method that detected 15 million CNVs in the UK Biobank — six times more than previous analyses of the

Women's Health, Women Leaders: A Conversation with Paula

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