



Publications of the Week

Probing the Limits of Genetic Recoding Using Multi-Omics-Guided Evolution

First Author: Akos Nyerges (*pictured*) | Senior Author: George Church
Nature Communications | Harvard University and Wyss Institute



Engineering the genetic code enables making organisms resistant to all viruses. However, synonymous codon replacement is frequently lethal, and how recoding impacts fitness remains poorly explored. Here, researchers explore these effects using genome synthesis, directed evolution, and genome-transcriptome-translatome-proteome co-profiling on multiple synthetic *Escherichia coli* genomes.

[Abstract](#) | [Press Release](#)

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Awards

PhD Candidate Rebekka Anderson Receives Fellowship Award to Study Calcium Waves in *C. elegans*, Links to Gout

UMass Chan Medical School



Rebekka Anderson (*pictured, right*), a PhD candidate, is the recipient of a three-year Ruth L. Kirschstein Predoctoral Individual National Research Service Award from the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases. This will support her research on how mutations in transporter proteins impact calcium wave intervals and travel between cells, potentially linking to gout.

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Dr. Wong Named 2026 Pew Scholar in the Biomedical Sciences

Ragon Institute



Dr. Harikesh Wong (*pictured*), a core member at the Ragon Institute and Assistant Professor in the MIT Department of Biology, has been named to the 2026 class of the Pew Scholars Program in the Biomedical Sciences. He is one of 21 early-career scientists selected this year by The Pew Charitable Trusts, which will provide four years of funding to support his research.

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PhD Candidate Awarded NSF Fellowship to Further Research That Could Revolutionize Organ Transplants

UMass Chan Medical School



Jonathan Valeros (*pictured*), a PhD candidate, received a National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship to continue his research on mitochondrial functions in the liver, research that can help understand how cells function in low oxygen regions. Studying in the Spinelli lab, Valeros identified a new electron carrier in mammals that has the capability to help support organs experiencing low oxygen levels.

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Fred Hutch Names Eight Recipients of the Dr. Eddie Méndez Award

Fred Hutch



Fred Hutch Cancer Center announced eight recipients of this year's Dr. Eddie Méndez Scholar Award. The annual award recognizes the work of exceptional early-career scientists who are studying cancer, infectious diseases, and basic sciences. The awardees from Boston include Dr. Mohamed El-Brolosy (*pictured*) from the Whitehead Institute and Dr. Mario Palma from Harvard University.

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Two Dana-Farber Hematologists Receive Top Honors From the American Society of Hematology

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute



The American Society of Hematology is recognizing 11 distinguished hematologists with its most prestigious awards and named lectures, honoring transformative contributions that have advanced research, patient care, and education in blood disorders. Two of this year's honorees are from Dana-Farber Cancer Institute: Dr. Benjamin Ebert (*pictured*) and Scott Armstrong.

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Local News

Research Spotlight: Building Precision Medicine That Works for Women

Tufts Medicine



A new paper published in *Science Advances* by Dr. Chloe Bird (*pictured*) from Tufts University highlights a critical challenge in precision medicine: much of the evidence guiding today's care does not adequately reflect the realities of women's health. The paper outlines reforms in research funding, study design, and reporting practices aimed at closing longstanding gaps in care and outcomes for women.

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How Tufts Researchers Are Tackling Chronic Lyme Disease

Tufts Now



For 10% to 30% of people who contract Lyme disease, their symptoms do not resolve with standard antibiotic treatment, and their condition becomes a chronic one called post-treatment Lyme disease syndrome (PTLDS). Researchers like Dr. Peter Gwynne (*pictured*) seeks to determine whether PTLDS is triggered by a persistent autoimmune response, and if a test can be devised to pinpoint who is more likely to develop it.

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Sarah Sandler on Sailing Towards a New Solution for Drug Discovery

Wyss Institute



At the Wyss Institute, Dr. Sarah Sandler (*pictured*) is developing NanoDEX, a platform that helps discover drugs for targets that the pharmaceutical industry has historically struggled to screen. NanoDEX uses nanopore-based single-molecule measurements to directly read out how millions of molecules interact with these difficult targets.

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Meet a Whitehead Postdoc: Evan Groover

Whitehead Institute



Dr. Evan Groover (*pictured*) is a postdoc in the Gehring lab working on understanding how epigenetics shapes plant development, evolution, and crop performance. His research focuses on plant epigenetics: chemical tags and other signals that influence which genes are turned on or off without altering the underlying DNA sequence.

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Upcoming Events in Boston

June 30
7:30 PM

Designing Materials that Fuel Human Creativity | Binge Thinking

Mighty Squirrel Taproom & Kitchen

July 15
7:00 PM

Mass Innovation Nights

Museum of Science

July 23
8:00 AM

MALSI Day 2026

The Engine

August 13
7:00 PM

Poetry Night – Where Science Speaks in Verse

Museum of Science

October 6 - 7
9:00 AM

FASI 10: Catalyst for a Cure – The Food Allergy Science Innovation Summit

Broad Institute

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Science Jobs in Boston

Scientific Sales Representative, Cell Culture

STEMCELL Technologies

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Alnylam

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