

Publications of the Week

Placental Nicotinamide Adenine Dinucleotide Modulates the Timing of Labor

First Author: Erin Ciampa (*pictured*) | Senior Author: Samir Parikh
Science | Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center



Preterm birth is a major cause of pediatric morbidity and mortality, but prevention remains challenging. Metabolic changes accompanying gestational aging have been postulated as a determinant of birth timing, but specific nutrients, sensors, and messengers remain obscure. Researchers report that placental nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide (NAD⁺) dynamically tunes gestational length. [Abstract](#) | [Press Release](#)

Transient Receptor Potential Vanilloid 2 Functions as a Directional Driver for Hepoxilin A₃-Mediated Neutrophil Migration

First Author: Claudia Feriotti | Senior Authors: Beth McCormick (*pictured*) and Randall Mrsny
Science | UMass Chan Medical School



Neutrophil migration involves a dynamic balance of chemoattractant and inhibitory signals. Researchers previously identified hepoxilin A₃ (HxA₃) as a potent chemoattractant that directs neutrophil migration across intestinal epithelia. Here, they reveal that HxA₃ uses the transient receptor potential vanilloid type 2 cation channel to promote transmigration. [Abstract](#) | [Press Release](#)

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Awards

Dr. Haim Sompolinsky Awarded 2026 Dirac Medal

Harvard University Department of Molecular and Cellular Biology



Dr. Haim Sompolinsky (*pictured*), Professor of Molecular and Cellular Biology and of Physics in Residence, has been awarded the 2026 Dirac Medal, one of the most prestigious international honors in theoretical physics. The Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics recognized Dr. Sompolinsky and three others for their pioneering contributions to statistical mechanics. [Read More](#)

Travis Faust Receives Simons Foundation Fellows-to-Faculty Award to Advance Research on Brain Development and Autism

UMass Chan Medical School



Dr. Travis Faust (*pictured*), Instructor in Neurobiology, is one of 15 early-career scientists named to the 2026 class of the Simons Foundation Fellows-to-Faculty Award program. The award will support Dr. Faust's transition to an independent faculty position and provide funding for his research. He will investigate how interactions between astrocytes and microglia. [Read More](#)

Northeastern Announces Recipients of 2026 Women Who Empower Innovator Awards

Northeastern Global News



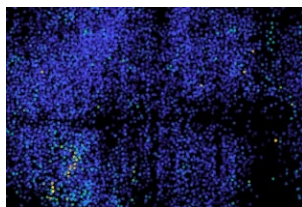
The 34 recipients of the 2026 Women Who Empower Innovator Awards are pursuing game-changing ventures in AI, technology, health, arts, entrepreneurship and social change. They join a community that now totals 167 honorees and represents all of Northeastern University's schools and colleges and more than 25 countries. Included in the 2026 awardees is Dr. Hannah Sheehan (*pictured*). [Read More](#)

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Local News

High-Speed Microscopy Reveals Electrical Activity Across the Brain

MIT News



Within the brain, neurons compute by generating electrical impulses. In an advance that could help neuroscientists map those neural networks, leading to a better understanding of how neural activity underlies behavior and other brain functions, MIT engineers have invented a new microscope that can image electrical activity in neurons distributed across the brain of an entire organism. [Read More](#)

Cells Use a Little-Known Molecule to Protect Themselves From Iron Overload

Whitehead Institute



Iron is essential, but when too much of it is left free inside cells, it can trigger destructive reactions that break down DNA, proteins, and even cell membranes. Now, Dr. Ankur Jain (*pictured*), Dr. Whitney Henry, and graduate student Pushkal Sharma have discovered that cells rely on an unexpected protector against this threat: small molecules called polyamines. [Read More](#)

“The Power of Collaboration”: A Q&A with Exchange Fellow Lara Schwab

Ragon Institute



Exchange programs and global collaboration play a vital role in advancing scientific research, allowing researchers to share knowledge, resources, and expertise across borders. For Dr. Lara Schwab (*pictured*), the Ragon offered an opportunity to advance her research and professional growth as an exchange fellow from the Peter Doherty Institute for Infection and Immunity in Australia. [Read More](#)

One Center's Oversized Impact on Drug Development and Clinical Trials

Tufts Now



Since it was founded in 1976, the Tufts Center for the Study of Drug Development has conducted scholarly analyses and published thousands of research articles that have helped pharmaceutical companies, regulatory agencies, and other research professionals in their ongoing efforts to improve the drug development process. The center has been a reliable source of information about the trends in clinical research and how things are evolving. [Read More](#)

3D Map of Cell Signaling Sites Could Help Improve Cancer Treatment

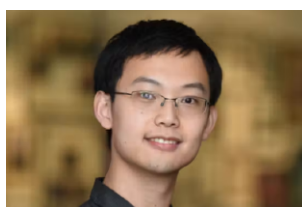
Harvard Medical School



A Harvard Medical School team led by Dr. Steven Gygi (*pictured*) has built an AI-enabled tool called KinoPlex that maps the three-dimensional structures and biochemical environments of kinase interaction sites and matches them with specific kinases. In a paper published in *Nature Biotechnology*, the researchers demonstrate that KinoPlex can be used to determine which kinases are active in specific cancer cells. [Read More](#)

Visions of the Wyss: 2026

Wyss Institute



The Wyss Institute has a long history of celebrating the convergence of art and science, inspired by what is seen in the lab and out in the world. Continuing the tradition of honoring this intersection between fields, they held their fifth image contest, “Visions of the Wyss 2026.” Researchers like Kuanwei Sheng (*pictured*) submitted their images to the categories: Marvelous Microscopy, Look into the Lab: Research/Technology Images, and A Force of Nature. [Read More](#)

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Upcoming Events in Boston

October 2 8:30 AM	2nd Annual AI-Powered Innovation in Protein and Antibody Therapeutics Le Meridien Cambridge
October 6 - 7 9:00 AM	FASI 10: Catalyst for a Cure – The Food Allergy Science Innovation Summit Broad Institute
October 18 - 21 9:00 AM	The Medtech Conference 2026 Boston Convention and Exhibition Center
November 4 9:00 AM	Comparative Neuroscience: Lessons from Biodiversity Singleton Auditorium
November 19 - 20 8:00 AM	Pharma Partnering US Summit Hilton Boston Logan Airport

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Science Jobs in Boston

Research Assistant I, Glycomics Core Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center
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Associate Scientist AbbVie
Research Specialist I, Clinical, Neurology Boston University
Clinical Laboratory Process Development Associate I Broad Institute

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