

Biology Graduate Program NEWSLETTER

Congratulations on another successful year at graduate school! A lot has happened, so we want to share with you some main points that are relevant to your grad student life in the Department of Biology.

WE HEAR YOU! In response to recent town halls and student suggestions, we have initiated some changes.

1. A **task force** has been created to tackle the issue of graduate stipends. The committee has proposed to upper administration: **increasing graduate stipends** to be in the top 1/3 of competing institutions/programs, having **annual raises**, and **covering all unremittable fees** for all students. These suggestions were made based on feedback from students in the COAS. *Fingers crossed someone listens and acts!*
2. We have created two new minors for graduate students: **Bacteriology and Virology**. Until the graduate bulletin is updated, see Pranav Danthi for more information.
3. We are committed to **inclusion and diversity** within the Department of Biology and we promise to be more open and forthcoming about it. We are in the process of writing a statement to put on our website. In addition, **we are gathering information for current and future students**. Please send your comments and suggestions to Katie LaPadula (klapadul@iu.edu) in the graduate office. Find below links to organizations who support diversity at IU. Going forward we will share these and other links with recruits and new students during GRW and orientation week to show more support to all students.

- ❖ [Office of Diversity & Inclusion in The College of Arts & Sciences](#)
- ❖ [IU Bloomington Cultural Centers](#)
- ❖ [Emissaries for Graduate Student Diversity](#)
- ❖ [International Student Associations](#)
- ❖ [BeInvolved \(over 800 Campus Student Organizations to choose from\)](#)
- ❖ [Disability Services for Students](#)
- ❖ [Center for Veteran and Military Students](#)

We have a newly created International Student Group! This group has been formed to help international students transition to IU Bloomington and life in the US. Our founding members are: Asha Phillip, Payel Paul, Tamanash Bhattacharya, Ashwini Ramesh, and Moustafa Saleh. Stay tuned for more information. If you are interested in joining the group Slack channel, please contact Ashwini @ aramesh@indiana.edu.

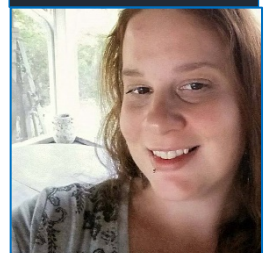
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Congratulations

To our recent Grads

Name	Degree	Program	Graduation Date	Lab/Advisor
<i>Sharifah Altalhi</i>	MS	BTECH	May-18	Vaughan
<i>Srisha Belur</i>	MS	BTECH	May-18	Vaughan
<i>Alexander Campbell</i>	MS	BTECH	May-18	Vaughan
<i>Tiffany Fortney</i>	MS	BTECH	May-18	Vaughan
<i>Mark Hazelbaker</i>	MS	BTECH	May-18	Vaughan
<i>Adam Kinne</i>	MS	BTECH	May-18	Vaughan
<i>Justin Shinkle</i>	MS	BTECH	May-18	Vaughan
<i>Jeanna Wigley</i>	MS	BTECH	May-18	Vaughan
<i>Luke Baker</i>	Ph.D	GCDB	May-18	Kumar
<i>Amanda Basham</i>	MS	GCDB	May-18	Zentner
<i>David Liu</i>	Ph.D	MIC	May-18	Hardy
<i>Alexandra McCully</i>	Ph.D	MIC	May-18	McKinlay
<i>Robert Morton</i>	Ph.D	MIC	May-18	Brun
<i>Deepti Thete</i>	MS	BTECH	Jun-18	Danthi
<i>Daniel Schwab</i>	Ph.D	EEB	Jun-18	Moczek
<i>Daniel Chodur</i>	Ph.D	MIC	Jun-18	Rowe-Magnus
<i>Jeffrey Adrion</i>	Ph.D	EEB	Jul-18	Hahn/Montooth
<i>Steve Kannenberg</i>	Ph.D	EEB	Jul-18	Phillips
<i>Briana Whitaker</i>	Ph.D	EEB	Jul-18	Clay
<i>Stephanie Campos</i>	Ph.D	EEB	Aug-18	Martins
<i>Jesualdo Arturo Fuentes Gonzalez</i>	Ph.D	EEB	Aug-18	Martins
<i>Parul Johri</i>	Ph.D	EEB	Aug-18	Lynch
<i>Weiyi Li</i>	Ph.D	EEB	Aug-18	Lynch
<i>Kayla Miller,</i>	Ph.D	EEB	Aug-18	Newton
<i>Eimile Oakes</i>	Ph.D	GCDB	Aug-18	Hundley
<i>Mary Damm</i>	Ph.D	EEB	Nov-18	Bever
<i>Irene Wongso</i>	MS	BTECH	Dec-18	Vaughan
<i>Kenyeda Adams</i>	Ph.D	EEB	Dec-18	Smith/Alberts
<i>Stephanie Lindsell</i>	MS	EEB	Dec-18	Delph
<i>Britta Rued</i>	Ph.D	MIC	Dec-18	Winkler
<i>Jiaqi Zheng</i>	Ph.D	MIC	Dec-18	Winkler
<i>Venus Kuo</i>	MS	EEB	Jan-19	Lennon
<i>Jasleen Singh</i>	Ph.D	GCDB	Jan-19	Pikaard
<i>David Thoms,</i>	Ph.D	GCDB	Apr-19	Shaw
<i>JiHye Kim</i>	MS	GCDB	May-19	Zentner
<i>Sara Metcalf</i>	MS	GCDB	May-19	Bochman
<i>Rose Pletcher</i>	MS	GCDB	May-19	Tennessee
<i>Courtney Ellison</i>	Ph.D	MIC	May-19	Brun
<i>Katherine Hummels</i>	Ph.D	MIC	May-19	Kearns
<i>David Thoms,</i>	Ph.D	GCDB	May-19	Shaw
<i>Ian Barton</i>	Ph.D	MIC	May-19	Fuqua

NEW STUDENT ORIENTATION- We are trying a new schedule this year. Orientation will run from Wed, Aug 14 – Wed, Aug 21. We hope the weekend break will make the Orientation process less stressful. *Please welcome our new students as you see them!*

EEB

Emma Boehm
Lauren Brunner
Turner DeBlieux
Ford Fishman
Joshua Jones
Eleni Katsougia
Sierra McAlister
Sonia Messar
Eric Navarro
Herbert Sizek

GCDB

Timothy Cioffi
Emily Erdmann
Tess Fasteen
Spencer Gray
Hunter Herriage
Yi-Ting Huang
Christopher Ladaika
Qin Liao
Ananya Mahapatra
Kira Sims
Jasmine Warren

Microbiology

Virginia Green
William Gross
Eric Kilbourn
Tanmaya Rasal
Olivia Sheff
Nicole Stark
Robert Wingo

Biotechnology

Chian Jung Chen
Ting-Yu Chu
Gabriella Fluhler
Yu-Hsun Huang
Yen-Chen Huang
Eshani Nandi
Halle Stump
Dingqi Xu
Camerone Divoky
Hillary Threatt
William Jackson

More Useful Links

Timeline for Graduation <https://graduate.indiana.edu/academics-research/graduation.html>

Office of International Services (OIS) <https://ois.iu.edu/index.html>

IU Ware <https://iuware.iu.edu/Windows>

IU Grad Grants Center <http://www.indiana.edu/~gradgrnt/>

IU Bloomington Events Calendar <https://apps.iu.edu/ccl-prd/events/view?type=day&pubCallId=GRP1322>

Thank you for reading! Remember: We are here for YOU and look forward to making the Department of Biology work better for everyone. Please feel free to contact Katie, Mary, or Tuli anytime with more suggestions. We're all looking forward to another successful year at Indiana University!

TAX INFORMATION

[Volunteer Income Tax Assistance \(VITA\) Program](#)

The Indiana University IRS VITA program offers free tax preparation services for qualifying low-income taxpayers during the spring semester

HEALTH CARE

[Learn about your health care plans](#)

Contact HR with questions: askHR@iu.edu or 812-856-1234

LEGAL HELP

[IU Student Legal Services](#)

SLS is a non-profit, on-campus law office serving only IU students. We have a staff of highly qualified attorneys and legal interns to walk you through the process of finding the solution to your legal situation.

COUNSELING/MENTAL HEALTH INFO

[Counseling and Psychological Services \(CAPS\)](#) Our well-trained staff are prepared to handle serious mental health crises, we also offer support for students who are just looking for an opportunity to discuss problems with someone they can trust. We offer counseling services in English, Mandarin, Hindi/Urdu and Spanish.

[OASIS](#) is a safe, judgment-free campus alcohol and drug information center. We provide you with counseling, programming assistance, and the latest data on drug and alcohol to the IUB and Bloomington communities.

[The Center for Human Growth \(CHG\)](#) is a training counseling center staffed by graduate students in the Department of Counseling and Educational Psychology.