# Berkeley Bioengineering

# **Big News: GRE optional!**

Our **Bioengineering PhD** and **Master of Translational Medicine** programs no longer require Graduate Record Examination (GRE) scores for admission, effective immediately. PhD applications are due December 2, and MTM due January 6.



## New frontiers in gene editing

Berkeley Bioengineering professors Irina Conboy and Niren Murthy may have cracked the stubborn barriers to correcting the Duchenne muscular dystrophy gene mutation with more efficient CRISPR-Cas9 DNA repair. If they're successful, their work could have implications for nearly every genetic disease.

# Save the Date - Distinguished Seminar



March 4, 2020 Annual Distinguished Seminar in Bioengineering

**Ravi Bellamkonda** Professor, Biomedical Engineering and Vinik Dean of the Pratt School of Engineering, Duke University

Bellamkonda's research explores the interplay of biomaterials and the nervous system for the development of peripheral nerve regeneration, brain electrode interfacing, and brain tumor therapies.

## Making it in as a woman in STEM

Undergraduate Kristie Diep was featured with other UC women in STEM at the <u>UC</u> <u>Newsroom</u>. Kristie is one of four first-generation college women who share their advice on how to succeed in science and engineering.





## Welcome Patrick Hsu

Dr. Patrick Hsu will be joining us as an Assistant Professor, effective January 1, 2020, with a Ph.D. from Harvard University in Biochemistry and a UC Berkeley B.A. in Molecular & Cell Biology. Hsu has also been named a Visionary in the annual <u>MIT</u> <u>Tech Review's "35 Innovators Under 35"</u>.

Dr. Hsu is a rising star in the field of genome engineering, most recently a Principal Investigator at the Salk Institute for Biological Studies. At Berkeley, he proposes to focus on expanding the capabilities of RNA-based CRISPR systems, including development of new delivery methods and applications to the immune system.

### **Department News**

Congratulations Professor Amy Herr, recipient of the 2019 Faculty Award for Excellence in Postdoctoral Mentoring at UC Berkeley!

Dan Fletcher's lab has received a <u>\$1.9 million grant from the Gates</u> <u>Foundation</u> to support the scaled-up production of the LoaScope, a video adaptation of the CellScope that will enable mapping of Loa loa infection in Central and West Africa.

Welcome new <u>staff members</u>! Elana Sabolch has joined BioE as our financial assistant and seminar organizer, and Stephanie Bianco will support the Master of Translational Medicine and MEng programs.

## Alumni News

Yasuo Yoshikuni, PhD alum and scientist at <u>JGI</u>, helped invent <u>CRAGE</u>, a genetic engineering tool to understand how microbes interact with their surroundings and evolve.

PhD alumna Anat Caspi, Director of the University of Washington's <u>Taskar</u> <u>Center for Accessible Technology</u>, was <u>featured in the Seattle Times</u> for her work on tech to help people with disabilities.

Alumnus Dino Di Carlo, Professor at UCLA Bioengineering, explores how we can leverage evolution to make better cell therapies <u>on the cover</u> <u>of Society for Laboratory Automation</u> <u>and Screening</u>.

There's always so much going on at Berkeley BioE! Check out the latest news on <u>RESEARCH</u>, <u>ALUMNI</u>, and <u>MORE</u> on our website.

#### Ready to give back?

Give to BioE, and help us keep offering outstanding opportunities for the next generation of bioengineers.



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