

the cell

SEPTEMBER 2005
VOLUME 24 NUMBER 7
NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY
BMBCB

UPCOMING EVENTS

BMBCB Departmental Seminar Series:

12:30 PM, Thursdays
Pancoe Auditorium
2205 Campus Drive
For updates visit: [http://
biochem.northwestern.edu/news.html](http://biochem.northwestern.edu/news.html)

Thursday, September 29
*Protein complexes that control cell
polarity*
Dr. Ben Margolis
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor



NORTHWESTERN
UNIVERSITY

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GREETINGS FROM THE NEW LSFS BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR

Yvette Davis
LSFS Business Administrator



Greetings! As the new Business Administrator for the Life Sciences Financial Services, I would like to share some of the recent changes in staffing and initiatives/goals that the administrations of BMBCB and NBP have identified for this office. In addition, I would like to describe how I plan to lead the business office to achieve the initiatives/goals and what has been set in motion since my arrival.

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ERIC SONTHEIMER HONORED WITH DISTINGUISHED TEACHING AWARD

Josh Schnell
BMBCB Assistant Chair

Erik Sontheimer has been awarded a Distinguished Teaching Award by the Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences. The award was presented by WCAS Dean Dan Linzer at a teaching luncheon this past May. Erik's recent teaching accomplishments have been in the courses, "Biochemistry" (Biological Sciences 301) and "Principles of Biochemistry" (Biological Sciences 309). Chair, Kelly Mayo, who attended the reception at which Erik was honored, said "Erik brings tremendous enthusiasm and optimism to his teaching of Biochemistry. He recognizes both the difficulty and importance of the material he is covering, but at the same time tries to convey the excitement of the discipline and the applicability of its principles. He is also recognized as being an extremely approachable instructor, one who cares a great deal about his students and is invested in their success."



...continued on page 3

FINANCIAL SERVICES

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Initiatives/Goals

- 1) Keep the business office running smoothly and improve customer service by streamlining processes, improving staff training, and increasing turn around time on services like reimbursements, payroll, etc.
- 2) Better pre-award support for faculty preparing sponsored project grant submissions, including, but not limited to, more involved budgeting preparation, and faster review and approval times.
- 3) Better post-award support for faculty on sponsored and non-sponsored accounts, including, but not limited to, more timely balance information, clear communication of University policies on allowable expenses, and advising on spending trends and year end spending activity.
- 4) Department-wide implementation of the P-card procurement card.
- 5) Effort Report preparation for faculty, allowing them to quickly review the report and to certify.

Processes to achieve these Initiatives/Goals:

1. Meet direct with faculty in order to better understand what types of support are desired
2. Identify issues/problems
3. Diagnose the issue/problem
4. Develop a plan/process/solution for addressing the issue/problem
5. Implement the solution to this issue/problem
6. Develop assessment mechanisms for measuring the outcomes of change effort

Actions/developments undertaken since July 1, 2005:

1. Negotiated additional and higher level staff positions
2. Promoted Jeanne Fitzpatrick to Financial Assistant

FINANCIAL SERVICES

3. Assessing training issues
4. Reimbursements processed/approved within 24-36 hours of receipt
5. Financial Assistants have been assigned to Faculty Members
6. Funding Status Document has been established to provide faculty members with monthly reports
7. Meetings with individual faculty have been scheduled
8. Training already provided:

Account Reconciliation Process – Funding Status Document

Student Enterprise System – Student Account Information (Tuition and Health Insurance Payment Processes)

Effort Reporting Process

Implementation of the P-card procurement card is under-way – the first training and issuance of credit cards will take place on September 15, 2005.

Current Life Sciences Financial Services Staff:

Yvette Davis, Business Administrator
Angie Weaver, Administrative Coordinator (coming 10/05)
Angelica Regalado, Financial Assistant,
Jeanne Fitzpatrick, Financial Assistant (Promotion!)
Sharlene Andrewin, Financial Assistant (coming 9/19/05)
Barb Seegret, Accounting Assistant
Tahira Tiwana, Accounting Assistant
Vacant (Interviewing), Accounting Assistant

Let's kickoff the academic year with a winning attitude; as a proactive team we can get the job done! Let's strive to be forthright communicators and committed to a common goal: making WCAS one of, if not the most, productive efficient and congenial work environment within Northwestern. I'm committed and I hope you are too.

SONTHEIMER HONORED

...continued from page 1

Each year, a student-faculty committee from the Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences recommends three tenure-track faculty members to the Dean for consideration from among the many nominations put forth by departments and Student Advisory Boards. As described on the Weinberg Faculty Awards website (<http://www.cas.northwestern.edu/faculty/teachingawards.html>), the primary selection criterion of the award is "excellence as an undergraduate instructor," however, "contributions to curricular innovation and undergraduate life" are also valued by the Committee on Teaching Awards. Past recipients from BMBCB of this prestigious teaching award include Kelly Mayo (1996), Neil Welker (1986), Larry Dumas (1980) and Sue Pierce.

NEW PEOPLE




Please extend a warm welcome to these individuals who have recently joined our department:

Mebrahtu Kahsai is a new Post Doctoral Fellow in the Radhakrishnan Lab.

Irene Moore is a new Research Associate in the Widom Lab.

Suchismita Raychaudhury is a new Post Doctoral Fellow in the Radhakrishnan Lab.

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

 Congratulations to Josh Hays from the Keck Facility and his wife Alethea who are the proud parents of a new baby boy. Porter Randall Hays was born on August 20th at 8:52 PM, weighing 8 lbs 15 ounces.

ISO ANNOUNCEMENTS



ISO Student Seminar

Tuesday, September 13

Come see what your fellow students have been up to over the summer! Jaclyn Jansen of the Weiss lab and Melissa Chamberlin of the Levine lab will present their work at 12pm in Cook 3118. Lunch will be provided by VWR.

New Student Lunch

Thursday, September 15


Meet the new first year students at a students-only barbecue at 12pm on the lagoon. Hamburgers, hotdogs, and veggie burgers will be available. If you're interested in helping out at the grill, contact Shelby at s-king5@northwestern.edu or x74547. In case of rain, lunch will be in Cook 3118.

Bagel Break

Friday, September 16

Bring your entire lab to the first Bagel Break of the new academic year. Students, staff, faculty, and post-docs are all invited to enjoy free food and drinks in Cook 3118 at 3:30pm.

SUBMISSIONS

 **The Cell** is published monthly by the Department of Biochemistry, Molecular Biology and Cell Biology at Northwestern University.

Editor: Nick Woell

Assistant Editor: Chris Rathjen

Please send all comments, questions and submissions to:

The Cell

Northwestern University

Hogan Hall 2-100

2205 Tech Drive

Evanston, IL 60208-3500

847.491.5068

bmbcb@northwestern.edu

INCOMING IBIS STUDENTS

Sorabh Agarwal	Univ. of Wisconsin
Sara Ahmed	Oberlin College
Saul Arellano	Chicago State Univ.
Darja Bamming	Universität Leipzig
Jeffrey Broussard	Centenary College
Merideth Burkhart	Univ. of Illinois
Ivelisse Cajigas	U Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras
Brian Chung	Northwestern Univ.
Daniel Czyz	Univ. of Illinois - Chicago
Sheng Ding	Tsinghua Univ.
Allison Harney	Univ. of Guelph
Ryan Hurtado	Univ. of Wisconsin
Marla Issac	Univ. of Illinois - Chicago
Erin Kennedy	Univ. of Notre Dame
Alison Kim	Bryn Mawr College
Sara Layman	Purdue Univ.
Dee Lee	National Taiwan Univ.
Pei-Chih Lee	National Taiwan Univ.
Danijela Maric	Beloit College
Rodrigo Pacifico	U. Federal de Minas Gerais
Pinal Patel	Towson Univ.
Steven Philips	Univ. of Illinois
Sean Pyper	Univ. of Utah
Aparna Ramachandran	Univ. of Delhi
Sandhya Rayappa	Anna Univ.
Jared Schrader	Colorado State Univ.
Paul Sillitti	Johns Hopkins Univ.
Christian Straub	Bowdoin College

INCOMING IBIS STUDENTS

Candace Tingen	Duke Univ.
Ann Marie Trull	U North Carolina –Charlotte
Wei Wang	Shandong Univ.
Xiaoxiao Wang	Peking Univ.
Pei-Hsuan Wu	Boston Univ.
Yi Wu	Tsinghua Univ.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES



A list of available and desired jobs relevant to the Department of Biochemistry, Molecular Biology and Cell Biology.

Senior Research Associate

University of Chicago—Chicago, IL

Under the direction of Dr. Raphael Lee, Professor and PI in the Department of Surgery and the section of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery, the incumbent will assume responsibility for performing and teaching complex laboratory techniques, including confocal microscopy, fluorescent microscopy, atomic force microscopy, intracellular electrical recording methods, some laboratory animal techniques, cell and tissue culture and biochemical techniques, and oversee the day-to-day operation and progression of these experiments. The incumbent will be centrally involved in the study of the effect of multiblock copolymer chaperones on isolated cells, and the optimal poloxamer dose for restoring membrane integrity in vivo. When required the incumbent will represent the PI, help maintain the database and perform statistical analyses of research data. In addition to advanced scientific knowledge and experience, the desired individual will need to possess skills of analysis, writing, and coordination. Master's degree or doctorate degree in Biological Sciences with emphasis on cell physiology or biophysics is preferred, with three to five years of related laboratory experience in tissue culture techniques, experimental animal surgical techniques, and immunology. Good organizational skills, strong written and verbal communications skills and strong analytical skills are required. Ability to work independently and also be able to be an integral part of a team. Will have daily contact with fellows, students, and faculty from Surgery and other sections.

Raphael C. Lee, MD, ScD
Program Director and Principal Investigator
fdespa@uchicago.edu

Associate Consultant

L.E.K. Consulting—Chicago, IL

L.E.K. Consulting is a leading strategy consulting firm with a global network of offices in 16 cities in North America, Europe, Asia, and Australia. The firm's primary lines of business are business strategy development, value management consulting, and merger and acquisition support. L.E.K. assists CEOs, Senior Management, and Boards on a broad range of critical issues, including new product introductions, assessment of new technologies and markets, pricing analyses, and turnarounds of under-performing business units. The Associate Consultant Program has been formalized in order to further develop our well-respected life sciences practice. Individuals hired into the Associate Consultant Program have earned their Ph.D. in a life sciences field and are from top programs at leading universities. We also consider candidates with medical experience. A Ph.D. Associate Consultant will tend to focus on our life science and healthcare practice which spans biopharma, platform technologies, biotech, diagnostic, and medical device industries. In addition Associate Consultants have the opportunity to work in areas outside of the life sciences practice if desired. The role of Associate Consultant is diverse and challenging. During their first 12 months with the firm, responsibilities of the Associate Consultant are similar to that of an Associate: conducting primary data collection, performing rigorous strategic and financial analyses that will be utilized to determine L.E.K.'s recommendation to the client, and collaborating with case team members to derive trends, conclusions, and recommendations based upon the analysis. Additionally, due to their specific knowledge base in life sciences, the role of participants in the Associate Consultant Program has a substantial overlap with the role of the Consultant. Specifically, Associate Consultants contribute to the intellectual direction of the team, review the work of Associates, and directly interface with client management. L.E.K. does not have a rigid checklist of qualities a potential Associate Consultant must possess. Rather, our recruiting experience has shown that outstanding academic achievement, comfort with quantitative analysis, significant professional experiences, notable extracurricular interests, and demonstrated leadership and initiative are excellent preparation for a position within L.E.K. Consulting.

Robyn Olson
Recruiting Manager
L.E.K. Consulting
One North Wacker Drive
Suite 3900
Chicago, IL 60606
Telephone: (312) 913-6400
Fax: (312) 782-4583
Email: r.olson@lek.com
www.lek.com

Assistant Professor— Conservation Biologist

University of California, Santa Cruz

The Department of Environmental Studies at the University of California, Santa Cruz seeks a Conservation Biologist with a focus on vertebrate animals for a tenure-track faculty appointment at the Assistant Professor level. They seek applicants who use ecological techniques (experimental and observational), theories, and quantitative methods (GIS, statistics, or modeling) at a range of spatial scales and who are applying them to further the conservation of biological diversity. The Department of Environmental Studies includes both social and natural scientists and emphasizes communication and collaboration across disciplinary boundaries. The successful candidate will be expected to interact strongly with students and faculty whose research interests include agroecology, conservation biology, environmental policy, and political economy. Applicants for this position should have an enthusiastic and creative interest in teaching and mentorship at both the graduate and undergraduate levels. The campus is especially interested in candidates who can contribute to the diversity and excellence of the academic community through their research, teaching, and/or service. In accordance with campuswide priorities at UCSC, the department is building its research specialization in global- and regional-scale processes. The department and campus feature a range of facilities, including a fully equipped GIS laboratory, the Center for Agroecology and Sustainable Food Systems, the UCSC Arboretum, the UCSC Campus Natural Reserve, and access to many UC Natural Reserve sites. Salary is \$46,300 to \$51,700, commensurate with qualifications and experience. Minimum Qualifications include a Ph.D. in environmental studies/sciences or a relevant natural science, prefer Ph.D. by June 30, 2006; must be conferred by June 30, 2007. Applicants must demonstrate a clear record of excellence in both fundamental research and collaboration with social scientists to apply such research to conservation problem-solving, and potential for teaching at the university level. UC Santa Cruz is nestled within 2,000 acres of redwood forest and meadows, overlooking the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary of California's beautiful Central Coast, about 70 miles from San Francisco and 30 miles from Silicon Valley. Information about UC Santa Cruz is available on their Website at <http://www.ucsc.edu>. Inquiries regarding the University's equal employment opportunity policies may be directed to: Equal Employment Opportunity/Affirmative Action Office at, University of California, Santa Cruz, CA 95064; (831) 459-2686, or visit the AHR website at <http://www2.ucsc.edu/ahhr/employment/>. Position available July 1, 2006. All materials must be postmarked by October 31, 2005. To apply, applicants should provide a letter of application discussing research agendas and teaching interests, curriculum vitae, and three letters of recommendation. These materials should be sent to (Please refer to position #262-06 in your reply):

Chair, Search Committee, #262
Environmental Studies Department
University of California
1156 High Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95064

**Assistant Professor — Conservation, Sustainability & Development
in the Global South**

University of California, Santa Cruz

The Department of Environmental Studies at the University of California, Santa Cruz (UCSC) seeks a social scientist for a tenure-track position in Conservation, Sustainability and Development, preferably with expertise in Latin America, at the Assistant Professor level. They seek applicants who will contribute teaching and research on the processes of, and responses to, rural change in resource-based and agricultural communities, as well as the larger socio-ecological contexts with which they interact. Candidates should be able to relate local innovations and practices to regional, national, and international policies and circumstances. The Department of Environmental Studies includes both social and natural scientists and emphasizes communication and collaboration across disciplinary boundaries. The successful candidate will be expected to interact strongly with students and faculty whose research interests include agroecology, conservation biology, environmental policy, and political economy. Applicants for this position should have an enthusiastic and creative interest in teaching and mentorship at both the graduate and undergraduate levels. This faculty member will advise students on appropriate methods for field-based, social science research. The campus is especially interested in candidates who can contribute to the diversity and excellence of the academic community through their research, teaching, and/or service. In accordance with campus-wide priorities at UCSC, the department is building its research specialization in global- and regional-scale processes. The department and campus feature a range of facilities, including a fully equipped GIS laboratory, the Center for Agroecology and Sustainable Food Systems, the UCSC Arboretum, the UCSC Campus Natural Reserve, and access to many UC Natural Reserve sites. Salary is \$46,300 to \$51,700, commensurate with qualifications and experience. Minimum Qualifications include a Ph.D. in geography, political science, sociology, environmental studies, or related fields, prefer Ph.D. by June 30, 2006, must be conferred by June 30, 2007. Applicants must demonstrate a clear record of excellence in both fundamental research and collaboration with natural scientists to apply such research to conservation problem-solving, and potential for teaching at the university level. UC Santa Cruz is nestled within 2,000 acres of redwood forest and meadows, overlooking the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary of California's beautiful Central Coast, about 70 miles from San Francisco and 30 miles from Silicon Valley. Information about UC Santa Cruz is available on their website at <http://www.ucsc.edu>. Inquiries regarding the University's equal employment opportunity policies may be directed to: Equal Employment Opportunity/Affirmative Action Office at, University of California, Santa Cruz, CA 95064; (831) 459-2686, or visit the AHR website at <http://www2.ucsc.edu/ahr/employment/>. Position available July 1, 2006. All materials must be postmarked by October 31, 2005. To apply, applicants should provide a letter of application discussing research agendas and teaching interests, curriculum vitae, and three letters of recommendation. These materials should be sent to (Please refer to provision #082-06 in your reply):

Chair, Search Committee #082
Environmental Studies Department
University of California
1156 High Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95064

Assistant, Associate or Full Professor

University of Alberta

The Department of Chemistry invites applications for a faculty position at any level from Assistant to Full Professor. The successful applicant must have a PhD in Chemistry, Biochemistry, Biology, or a related field. Research interests should be directed toward the chemistry of complex carbohydrates. Although candidates from all areas of glycoscience are encouraged to apply those with interests in enzymology or biophysical aspects of carbohydrate-protein interactions are of special interest. The successful applicant will also be a member of the Alberta Ingenuity Centre for Carbohydrate Science and should be able to teach undergraduate and graduate courses in physical, analytical or organic/bio-organic chemistry. The Department of Chemistry has 33 research faculty, and 180 graduate students, supported by excellent services, including X-ray crystallography, mass spectrometry and high-field NMR laboratories. It also has excellent electronic, machine and glassblowing shops. The Alberta Ingenuity Centre for Carbohydrate Science (www.aiccs.com) brings together 7 principal investigators, who collaborate on interdisciplinary projects that seek to develop the basic chemical (synthetic, analytical and biophysical) foundation for future research on carbohydrates and their role in life processes. One aspect of the funding places emphasis on practical outcomes of Centre science, which targets new bioactive carbohydrate derivatives as potential therapeutics and transfer of intellectual property. The Centre is funded at approximately \$7 million over five years, with the potential for competitive renewal in 2 successive 5-year segments. Salary (as per Collective Agreement) and rank will be commensurate with qualifications and experience. All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply; however, Canadians and permanent residents will be given priority. If suitable Canadian citizens or permanent residents cannot be found, other individuals will be considered. The University of Alberta hires on the basis of merit. We are committed to the principle of equity in employment. We welcome diversity and encourage applications from all qualified women and men, including persons with disabilities, members of visible minorities, and Aboriginal persons. Applications will be reviewed beginning October 1, 2005 and the position will remain open until filled. A complete curriculum vitae, the names of three references and a research proposal should be sent to:

Professor Martin Cowie, Chair
Department of Chemistry
E3-38 Gunning/Lemieux Chemistry Centre
University of Alberta
Edmonton, AB, Canada T6G 2G2

Indiana State Chemist and Seed Commissioner

College of Agriculture, Purdue University—West Lafayette, IN

The Indiana State Chemist is a faculty member in the Department of Biochemistry at Purdue University and is assigned by law to administer nine Indiana statutes related to agriculture. These relate to the distribution of commercial feeds and fertilizers, agronomic and vegetable seeds, anhydrous ammonia, and pesticide product registration and use. Responsibilities include the management of resident and field staff (65 FTEs), compliance and enforcement of statutes, monitoring of product quality, oversight of analytical laboratory systems supporting regulatory programs, budget development and implementation, and fiscal oversight. The State Chemist reports to the Dean of Agriculture and oversees a budget exceeding \$5.5M from fees, grants and contracts. The State Chemist cooperates with appropriate Federal and State agencies through memoranda of understanding and cooperative agreements in the regulation of products, especially where responsibilities among agencies overlap. For more information see (www.isco.purdue.edu). The candidate must have an earned Doctorate in chemistry, biochemistry or related field. Experience demonstrating ability in regulator administration, research, public relations, policy formation, and personnel management is desired. We seek a candidate who will adopt and adapt recent technical and basic science advances in chemical and biological analysis of feeds, fertilizers, pesticides and seeds. Thus, experience in applied research is desired. We seek a visionary leader who anticipates trends and directions in regulatory science for future program development. Excellent communication and interpersonal skills are essential for success in this position. Salary is commensurate with qualifications. Purdue University is an affirmative action/equal access/equal opportunity employer. Women and minorities are encouraged to apply. Applications will be reviewed beginning October 1, 2005, and will be accepted until a suitable candidate is chosen. Applicants who wish to be considered for this position should send a letter emphasizing abilities to carry out the responsibilities of the position, complete curriculum vitae, and contact information for five references. Please address applications to:

Dr. Mark Hermodson, Chair of Search Committee
Agricultural Administration Building
615 W. State Street
Purdue University
West Lafayette, IN 47907-2053
Phone: (765) 494-8362
herniodson@purdue.edu
Fax: (765) 494-0808

American Society for Microbiology—Career Connections

Investigators searching for a qualified professional or post-doctoral fellow in the microbiological sciences or infectious diseases, are encouraged to use ASM Career Connections to find the right candidate for the job. ASM Career Connections is the online job board of the

American Society for Microbiology, the oldest and largest single life sciences organization in the world. ASM Career Connections is designed to give employers maximum visibility to qualified microbiology professionals and increased flexibility in their candidate searches. Potential employers will have access to the resume database for as long as their position is posted on the website. Pricing starts at \$195 for 30 days of posting a position. Once registered as an employers can reach experienced professionals in the microbiological sciences at all levels in their career, post and edit your career opportunities online, search the resume database and contact qualified candidates online, sign up for Resume Alerts that inform you of new candidates looking for positions, identify candidates attending the meeting and interview them onsite.

www.healthcareers.com/asm
(888) 884-8242 with any questions.

Puja Gopal and is a sophomore at Northside College Prep High School in Chicago. He is looking for a voluntary position for research on Wednesdays and full time in the summer. He is an A student and attended an honors chemistry course this summer at New Trier High School. I also volunteer at Mount Sinai Hospital. Since childhood he has had a strong interest in science. A career in science or relating technology provides a diverse range of opportunities to serve people in need. He is applying for this position so it will be possible to observe new techniques that aid in the understanding of deadly diseases and help discover cures. Please send any information regarding research opportunities to:

gmadhugopal@yahoo.com

Yuan Jun is looking for a research technologist position. He will get his master of science in biology from Illinois Institute of Technology in December 2005. He has strong background in cellular/molecular biology. In the past one year, he focused on the expression of a housekeeping gene in cancer cell, and the function analysis of the expressed protein. He excels at cell culture, DNA/protein purification, western blot, and immunofluorescence, and other molecular biological skills. For more information, please contact:

yuanjun@iit.edu

NOW ACCEPTING: EVENT ANNOUNCEMENTS, ARTICLE IDEAS, EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES, POSITIONS WANTED AND GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS.

The Cell is published monthly by the Department of Biochemistry, Molecular Biology and Cell Biology, at Northwestern University.

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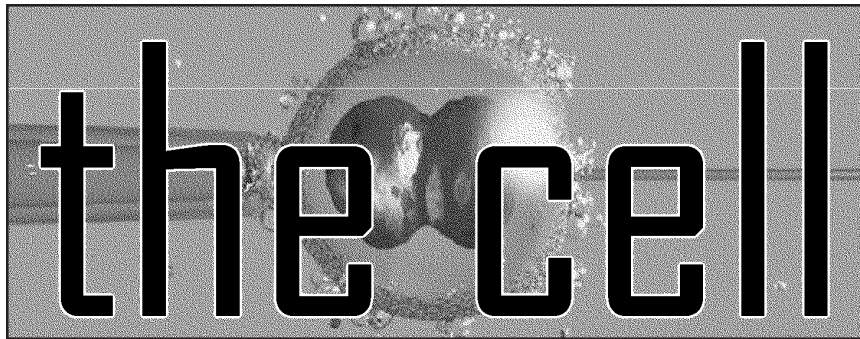
Northwestern University
Department of Biochemistry, Molecular Biology and Cell Biology (BMBCB)
2205 Tech Drive, Hogan Hall 2-100
Evanston, IL 60208-3500

Voice: 847.491.5061

Fax: 847.467.1380

Email: bmbcb@northwestern.edu

Website: www.biochem.northwestern.edu



N O R T H W E S T E R N U N I V E R S I T Y
DEPARTMENT OF BIOCHEMISTRY, MOLECULAR BIOLOGY & CELL BIOLOGY
2205 Tech Drive
Hogan Hall, Room 2-100
Evanston, IL 60208-3500

Voice: 847.491.5061

Fax: 847.467.1380

E-mail: bmbcb@northwestern.edu

World Wide Web: <http://www.biochem.northwestern.edu>