CURRICULUM VITAE

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A. EDUCATION

2012.08 – 2017.05	Ph.D. in Biomedical Engineering, School of Biological Health Systems Engineering, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ
2009.09 – 2012.06	M.S. in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, University of Chinese Academy of Sciences Wuhan, China
2005.09 - 2009.06	B.S. in Biological Sciences, Jiangxi Normal University, Nanchang, China

B. ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

2025.02 – present	Regular Faculty Member, The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center UTHealth Houston Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences, Microbiology and Infectious Diseases Program
2022.02 – present	Tenure-track Assistant Professor, School of Public Health The University of Texas Health Science Center, Houston, TX
2021.06 – 2022.01	Research Scientist, Department of Biological Engineering Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA
2018.05 – 2021.05	Postdoctoral Associate, Department of Biological Engineering Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA
2017.06 – 2018.05	Postdoctoral Associate, Department of Biomedical Engineering Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ

C. RESEARCH

I. Patents

- 1. **F. Wu**, X Wang, Y Kuang, X Chen, Q Zhang, C He, S Bayakhmetov. Methods and systems for generating complex spatial patterns. US 2025/12312591
- 2. Q. Zhang, X. Wang, A. Green, D. Ma, **F. Wu**, K. Standage-Beier, X. Chen. Rational design of upstream enhancement RNA for circuit dynamics regulation and viral diagnostics optimization. Publication Number: WO 2021/178557.
- 3. X. Wang, Q. Zhang, **F. Wu**. Methods and systems for quantifying gene expression in synthetic gene circuits and for tuning synthetic gene circuits. Publication Number: US 2019/0221281.

II. Preprints

#: co-first authorship; *: corresponding authorship

- 1. Joseph KM, Chen X, Parikh D, Rios J, Troisi CL, Tisza MJ, Maresso AW, Hanson BM, Gitter A, Deegan J, Bauer CX, Balliew JE, Mena KD, Boerwinkle E, **Wu F***. 2025. Detection of Measles in Texas Wastewater. medRxiv https://doi.org/10.1101/2025.04.08.25325475.
- 2. Chen X, Phan T, Lee WL, Rhode SF, Brozak S, Pell B, Palden T, Leifels M, Gitter A, Kuang Y, Wuertz S, Thompson J, Mena KD, Alm EJ, **Wu F***. 2025. An integrated framework for early detection and transmissibility assessment of emerging variants in wastewater. medRxiv https://doi.org/10.1101/2025.02.18.25322479. (In review)

- 3. Joseph KM, Parikh D, Xuan Q, Li F, Balliew J, Mena KD, **Wu F***. 2024. First Detection of Xylazine in Texas Wastewater and Its Association with Fentanyl Use. medRxiv https://doi.org/10.1101/2024.11.19.24317580. (In review)
- 4. Lee WL, Gu X, Armas F, **Wu F**, Chandra F, Chen H, Xiao A, Leifels M, Chua FJD, Kwok GW, Tay JY, Lim CY, Thompson J, Alm EJ. 2022. Quantitative detection of SARS-CoV-2 Omicron variant in wastewater through allele-specific RT-qPCR. medRxiv https://doi.org/10.1101/2021.12.21.21268077.
- 5. Lee WL, Gu X, Armas F, Chandra F, Chen H, **Wu F**, Leifels M, Xiao A, Chua FJD, Kwok GW, Jolly S, Lim CY, Thompson J, Alm EJ. 2021. Quantitative SARS-CoV-2 tracking of variants Delta, Delta plus, Kappa, and Beta in wastewater by allele-specific RT-qPCR. medRxiv https://doi.org/10.1101/2021.08.03.21261298.
- 6. **Wu F**, He C, Fang X, Baez J, Ohnmacht T, Zhang Q, Chen X, Allison KR, Kuang Y, Wang X. 2019. A Synthetic Biology Approach to Sequential Stripe Patterning and Somitogenesis. bioRxiv 825406. (In review)

III. Peer-Reviewed Publications

Google Scholar: https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=48DkbRoAAAAJ&hl=en Bibliography: https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/myncbi/fuqing.wu.1/bibliography/public/

Publications at UTHealth (Independent since February 2022)

- 1. **Wu F***, Yu XA, Angeles-Albores D, Erdman SE, Alm EJ. 2025. Sulfated dietary fiber protects gut microbiota from antibiotics. **Microbiome** 13:183.
- 2. Phan T, Brozak S, Pell B, Ciupe SM, Ke R, Ribeiro RM, Gitter A, Mena KD, Perelson AS, Kuang Y, **Wu F***. 2025. Post-recovery viral shedding shapes wastewater-based epidemiological inferences. **Communications Medicine** 5:193.
- 3. Leifels M, Dey R, Wiedmann A, Dan C, Kolm C, **Wu F**, Sirikanchana K, Farnleitner AH, Ashbolt NJ. 2025. Enteric Viruses and Free-Living Amoebae: Protozoa as Potential Reservoirs and Transport Vessels for Human Norovirus and Adenovirus. **Water & Ecology** 100018.
- 4. Gitter A, Ruvalcaba V, Clark K, Tran Carapucci T, **Wu F**, Hanson BM, Deegan J, Balliew J, Boerwinkle E, Maresso AW, Mena KD. 2025. Turning analysis into action: opportunities and challenges in implementing wastewater science for public health decision-making. **Frontiers in Public Health** 13.
- 5. Chen X, Balliew J, Bauer CX, Deegan J, Gitter A, Hanson BM, Maresso AW, Tisza MJ, Troisi CL, Rios J, Mena KD, Boerwinkle E, **Wu F***. 2024. Revealing patterns of SARS-CoV-2 variant emergence and evolution using RBD amplicon sequencing of wastewater. **Journal of Infection** 89:106284.
- 6. Yu XA, McLean C, Hehemann J-H, Angeles-Albores D, **Wu F**, Muszyński A, Corzett CH, Azadi P, Kujawinski EB, Alm EJ, Polz MF. 2024. Low-level resource partitioning supports coexistence among functionally redundant bacteria during successional dynamics. **The ISME Journal** 18:wrad013.
- 7. Tisza MJ, Hanson BM, Clark JR, Wang L, Payne K, Ross MC, Mena KD, Gitter A, Javornik Cregeen SJ, Cormier J, Avadhanula V, Terwilliger A, Balliew J, **Wu F**, Rios J, Deegan J, Piedra PA, Petrosino JF, Boerwinkle E, Maresso AW. 2024. Sequencing-Based Detection of Avian Influenza A(H5N1) Virus in Wastewater in Ten Cities. **New England Journal of Medicine** 391:1157–1159.
- 8. Gitter A, Mena KD, Mendez KS, **Wu F**, Gerba CP. 2024. Eye infection risks from Pseudomonas aeruginosa via hand soap and eye drops. **Applied and Environmental Microbiology** e02119-23.

- 9. Alkhulaifi F, Al-Hooti S, Al-Zenki S, Alomirah H, Xiao Q, Chan W, **Wu F**, Darkoh CC. 2024. Association of Nightly Fasting, Meal Frequency, and Skipping Meals with Metabolic Syndrome among Kuwaiti Adults. **Nutrients** 16:984.
- 10. Oghuan J, Chavarria C, Vanderwal SR, Gitter A, Ojaruega AA, Monserrat C, Bauer CX, Brown EL, Javornik S, Deegan J, Hanson BM, Tisza M, Ocaranza HI, Balliew J, Maresso AW, Rios J, Boerwinkle E, Mena KD*, Wu F*. 2023. Wastewater analysis of mpox virus in a city with low prevalence of Mpox disease: an environmental surveillance study. The Lancet Regional Health Americas 28:100639.
- 11. Phan T, Brozak S, Pell B, Oghuan J, Gitter A, Hu T, Ribeiro RM, Ke R, Mena KD, Perelson AS, Kuang Y, **Wu F***. 2023. Making waves: Integrating wastewater surveillance with dynamic modeling to track and predict viral outbreaks. **Water Research** 243:120372.
- 12. Tisza M, Cregeen SJ, Avadhanula V, Zhang P, Ayvaz T, Feliz K, Hoffman KL, Clark JR, Terwilliger A, Ross MC, Cormier J, Henke D, Troisi C, Wu F, Rios J, Deegan J, Hansen B, Balliew J, Gitter A, Zhang K, Li R, Bauer CX, Mena KD, Piedra PA, Petrosino JF, Boerwinkle E, Maresso AW. 2023. Comprehensive Wastewater Sequencing Reveals Community and Variant Dynamics of the Collective Human Virome. Nature Communications 14:6878.
- 13. Gitter A, Oghuan J, Godbole AR, Chavarria CA, Monserrat C, Hu T, Wang Y, Maresso AW, Hanson BM, Mena KD, **Wu F***. 2023. Not a waste: Wastewater surveillance to enhance public health. **Frontiers in Chemical Engineering** 4:1112876.
- 14. **Wu F***. 2023. Updated analysis to reject the laboratory-engineering hypothesis of SARS-CoV-2. **Environmental Research** 224:115481.
- 15. Gitter A, Bauer C, **Wu F**, Ramphul R, Chavarria C, Zhang K, Petrosino J, Mezzari M, Gallegos G, Terwilliger AL, Clark JR, Feliz K, Avadhanula V, Piedra T, Weesner K, Maresso A, Mena KD. 2023. Assessment of a SARS-CoV-2 wastewater monitoring program in El Paso, Texas, from November 2020 to June 2022. **International Journal of Environmental Health Research** 1–11.
- 16. Clark JR, Terwilliger A, Avadhanula V, Tisza M, Cormier J, Javornik-Cregeen S, Ross MC, Hoffman KL, Troisi C, Hanson B, Petrosino J, Balliew J, Piedra PA, Rios J, Deegan J, Bauer C, Wu F, Mena KD, Boerwinkle E, Maresso AW. 2023. Wastewater pandemic preparedness: Toward an end-to-end pathogen monitoring program. Frontiers in Public Health 11:1137881.
- 17. **Wu F***, Oghuan J, Gitter A, Mena KD, Brown EL. 2023. Wide mismatches in the sequences of primers and probes for monkeypox virus diagnostic assays. **Journal of Medical Virology** 95:e28395.
- This work was acknowledged in **a Congress letter** sent to CDC by the 170th Congress of the United States, House of Representatives, Committee on Energy and Commerce. The work was also reported by The Medical News and AskBbyGeeks.
- 18. Pell B, Brozak S, Phan T, **Wu F**, Kuang Y. 2023. The emergence of a virus variant: dynamics of a competition model with cross-immunity time-delay validated by wastewater surveillance data for COVID-19. **Journal of Mathematical Biology** 86:63.
- 19. Phan T, Brozak S, Pell B, Gitter A, Xiao A, Mena KD, Kuang Y*, **Wu F***. 2023. A simple SEIR-V model to estimate COVID-19 prevalence and predict SARS-CoV-2 transmission using wastewater-based surveillance data. **Science of The Total Environment** 857:159326.
- 20. Lee WL, Gu X, Armas F, Leifels M, Wu F, Chandra F, Chua FJD, Syenina A, Chen H, Cheng D, Ooi EE, Wuertz S, Alm EJ, Thompson J. 2022. Monitoring human arboviral diseases through wastewater surveillance: Challenges, progress and future opportunities. Water Research 223:118904.
- 21. Lee WL, Armas F, Guarneri F, Gu X, Formenti N, **Wu F**, Chandra F, Parisio G, Chen H, Xiao A, Romeo C, Scali F, Tonni M, Leifels M, Chua FJD, Kwok GW, Tay JY, Pasquali P, Thompson J, Alborali GL, Alm EJ. 2022. Rapid displacement of SARS-CoV-2 variant Delta by Omicron revealed by allele-specific PCR in wastewater. **Water Research** 221:118809.

- 22. **Wu F****, Lee WL*, Chen H*, Gu X, Chandra F, Armas F, Xiao A, Leifels M, Rhode SF, Wuertz S, Thompson J, Alm EJ*. 2022. Making Waves: Wastewater Surveillance of SARS-CoV-2 in an Endemic Future. **Water Research** 118535.
- 23. Varian BJ, Weber KT, Kim LJ, Chavarria TE, Carrasco SE, Muthupalani S, Poutahidis T, Zafarullah M, Al Olaby RR, Barboza M, Solakyildirim K, Lebrilla C, Tassone F, **Wu F**, Alm EJ, Erdman SE. 2022. Maternal Microbiota Modulate a Fragile X-like Syndrome in Offspring Mice. **Genes** (Basel) 13:1409.

Publications Prior to UTHealth (before February 2022)

- 24. Duvallet C*, **Wu F***, McElroy KA, Imakaev M, Endo N, Xiao A, Zhang J, Floyd-O'Sullivan R, Powell MM, Mendola S, Wilson ST, Cruz F, Melman T, Sathyanarayana CL, Olesen SW, Erickson TB, Ghaeli N, Chai P, Alm EJ, Matus M. 2022. Nationwide Trends in COVID-19 Cases and SARS-CoV-2 RNA Wastewater Concentrations in the United States. **ACS ES&T Water** 2:1899–1909.
- 25. **Wu F**[#], Xiao A[#], Zhang J[#], Moniz K, Endo N, Armas F, Bonneau R, Brown MA, Bushman M, Chai PR, Duvallet C, Erickson TB, Foppe K, Ghaeli N, Gu X, Hanage WP, Huang KH, Lee WL, Matus M, McElroy KA, Nagler J, Rhode SF, Santillana M, Tucker JA, Wuertz S, Zhao S, Thompson J, Alm EJ. 2022. SARS-CoV-2 RNA concentrations in wastewater foreshadow dynamics and clinical presentation of new COVID-19 cases. **Science of The Total Environment** 805:150121.
 - This work was reported by the **New York Times** ("Watching What We Flush Could Help Keep a Pandemic Under Control") and **Nature Biotechnology** ("Watcher in the Wastewater")
- 26. Xiao A*, **Wu F***, Bushman M*, Zhang J, Imakaev M, Chai PR, Duvallet C, Endo N, Erickson TB, Armas F, Arnold B, Chen H, Chandra F, Ghaeli N, Gu X, Hanage WP, Lee WL, Matus M, McElroy KA, Moniz K, Rhode SF, Thompson J, Alm EJ. 2021. Metrics to relate COVID-19 wastewater data to clinical testing dynamics. **Water Research** 212:118070.
- 27. **Wu F***, Xiao A*, Zhang J, Moniz K, Endo N, Armas F, Bushman M, Chai PR, Duvallet C, Erickson TB, Foppe K, Ghaeli N, Gu X, Hanage WP, Huang KH, Lee WL, McElroy KA, Rhode SF, Matus M, Wuertz S, Thompson J, Alm EJ. 2021. Wastewater surveillance of SARS-CoV-2 across 40 U.S. states from February to June 2020. **Water Research** 202:117400.
- 28. Lee WL, Imakaev M, Armas F, McElroy KA, Gu X, Duvallet C, Chandra F, Chen H, Leifels M, Mendola S, Floyd-O'Sullivan R, Powell MM, Wilson ST, Berge KLJ, Lim CYJ, Wu F, Xiao A, Moniz K, Ghaeli N, Matus M, Thompson J, Alm EJ. 2021. Quantitative SARS-CoV-2 Alpha Variant B.1.1.7 Tracking in Wastewater by Allele-Specific RT-qPCR. **Environmental Science & Technology Letters** 8:675–682.
- 29. Zhang Q, Ma D, **Wu F**, Standage-Beier K, Chen X, Wu K, Green AA, Wang X. 2021. Predictable control of RNA lifetime using engineered degradation-tuning RNAs. 7. **Nature Chemical Biology** 17:828–836.
- 30. **Wu F**, Zhang J, Xiao A, Gu X, Lee WL, Armas F, Kauffman K, Hanage W, Matus M, Ghaeli N, Endo N, Duvallet C, Poyet M, Moniz K, Washburne AD, Erickson TB, Chai PR, Thompson J, Alm EJ. 2020. SARS-CoV-2 Titers in Wastewater Are Higher than Expected from Clinically Confirmed Cases. **mSystems** 5:e00614-20.

This paper was highlighted as Editor's Pick in mSystems; and covered by social media:

New York Post; Boston Globe; Newsweek; Boston Herald; Chemical & Engineering News;

Bostinno; MIT News

- 31. **Wu F**[#], Zhang Q[#], Wang X. 2018. Design of Adjacent Transcriptional Regions to Tune Gene Expression and Facilitate Circuit Construction. **Cell Systems** 6:206-215.e6.
- 32. **Wu F**, Su R-Q, Lai Y-C, Wang X. 2017. Engineering of a synthetic quadrastable gene network to approach Waddington landscape and cell fate determination. **eLife** 6:e23702.

This work was highlighted by Cell Systems (June 2017).

33. Wang L-Z, **Wu F**, Flores K, Lai Y-C, Wang X. 2016. Build to understand: synthetic approaches to biology. **Integrative Biology** 8:394–408.

- 34. **Wu F**, Wang X. 2015. Applications of synthetic gene networks. **Science Progress** 98:244–252.
- 35. **Wu F**, Menn DJ, Wang X. 2014. Quorum-sensing crosstalk-driven synthetic circuits: from unimodality to trimodality. **Chemistry & Biology** 21:1629–1638.

This work was highlighted by Chemistry & Biology, December 2014.

- 36. **Wu F**, Long J, Wang S, Xing J, Li M, Zheng C. 2012. Live cell imaging fails to support viral-protein-mediated intercellular trafficking. **Archives of Virology** 157:1383–1386.
- 37. **Wu F**, Wang S, Xing J, Li M, Zheng C. 2012. Characterization of nuclear import and export signals determining the subcellular localization of WD repeat-containing protein 42A (WDR42A). **FEBS Letters** 586:1079–1085.
- 38. **Wu F**, Xing J, Wang S, Li M, Zheng C. 2011. Screening and identification of host factors interacting with UL14 of herpes simplex virus 1. **Medical Microbiology and Immunology** 200:203–208.
- 39. Xing J, **Wu F**, Wang S, Krensky AM, Mody CH, Zheng C. 2010. Granulysin Production and Anticryptococcal Activity Is Dependent upon a Far Upstream Enhancer That Binds STAT5 in Human Peripheral Blood CD4+ T Cells. **The Journal of Immunology** 185:5074–5081.
- 40. Xing J, **Wu F**, Pan W, Zheng C. 2010. Molecular anatomy of subcellular localization of HSV-1 tegument protein US11 in living cells. **Virus Research** 153:71–81.
- 41. Zha M, **Wu F**, Wang S, Fu M. 2010. A specific protein, flammutoxin expressed in the *Flammulina velutipes* stipe. **Chinese Journal of Applied & Environmental Biology**. 16, 738–740.

IV. Book Chapter

- Chen X, Zheng C, Wu F*. 2025. RBD Amplicon Sequencing and Evolutionary Analysis of SARS-CoV-2 Variants from Wastewater Samples, p. 319–328. *In Zheng*, C (ed.), Molecular Virology: Methods and Protocols. Springer US, New York, NY.
- Chen X, Xu J, Vanderwal SR, Wu F*. 2025. Chapter 13 Primers and probes for the diagnostics of mpox virus, p. 227–244. *In* Rajendram, R, Patel, VB, Preedy, VR (eds.), The Scientific Basis of Mpox (Monkeypox). Academic Press.
- 3. Leifels M, Lee WL, Armas F, Gu X, Chandra F, Cheng D, Kwok WC, Chua D, Kim SY, Ng WJ, Nainai D, Sirikanchana K, Sozzi E, Farnleitner AH, **Wu F**, Wuertz S, Thompson J. 2023. Surveillance of SARS-CoV-2 in Wastewater at the Population Level: Insights into the Implementation of Non-invasive Targeted Monitoring in Singapore and the USA, p. 1–20. **Wastewater Surveillance for COVID-19 Management**. Springer, Berlin, Heidelberg.

V. Talks and Presentations (not including the contributing presentations)

- 1. Invited talk: Wastewater-based epidemiology for public health @ The International Society for Neglected Tropical Diseases (2025.11)
- 2. Invited talk: Sulfated dietary fiber protects gut microbiota from antibiotics @ Microbiome Virtual International Form (2025.11)
- 3. Poster: Understanding viral variant community ecology through wastewater-based epidemiology @ IWA 11th Microbial Ecology and Water Engineering Conference at Georgia Tech (2025.06)
- 4. Invited talk: "Advancing wastewater surveillance with dynamic modeling and sequencing" @ Infectious Disease Surveillance through Wastewater Analysis Workshop at the Netherlands (2024.10)
- 5. Invited talk: "Advancing wastewater surveillance to wastewater epidemiology" @ Human Genetic Center at UTHealth (2023.12)
- 6. Invited talk: "Advancing wastewater-based epidemiology with dynamic modeling" @ American Public Health Association Annual Meeting (2023.11)
- 7. Invited talk: "Enhance wastewater surveillance with dynamic modeling" @ Society for Mathematical Biology Annual Meeting (2023.08)
- 8. Poster: "Modeling of wastewater surveillance data to predict infection prevalence and transmission dynamics" @ ASM Microbe by the American Society for Microbiology (2023.06)

- 9. Poster: "Reject the laboratory engineering hypothesis of SARS-CoV-2" @ ASM Microbe by the American Society for Microbiology (2023.06)
- 10. Invited talk: "Enhance Wastewater Surveillance with Dynamic Modeling" @ Public Health Agency of Canada (2023.04)
- 11. Invited talk: "Wastewater surveillance of infectious diseases from pandemic to endemic" @ Department of Microbiology and Molecular Genetics at UTHealth (2022.11)
- 12. Invited talk: "Wastewater Surveillance of Infectious Diseases for Population Health" @ World Biological Science and Technology Conference at Japan (2022.07).
- 13. Invited talk: "Bridging synthetic biology to epidemiology for pandemic preparedness" @ Synthetic Biology Young Speaker Series (SynBYSS, 2022.06)
- 14. Invited talk: "Wastewater monitoring of infectious diseases for population health" @ Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences (EOHS) Research Seminar Series (2022.04)
- 15. Poster: "Wastewater surveillance of SARS-CoV-2 across the United States" @ IWA MEWE 2021 (2021.10)
- 16. Invited talk: "Wastewater surveillance of SARS-CoV-2 across the United States" @ Corona 2021 Virtual Conference (2021.07).
- 17. Invited talk: "Wastewater surveillance of SARS-CoV-2 and its applications" @ COVID 2019 Virtual (2020.11).
- 18. Invited talk: "SARS-CoV-2 titers in wastewater are higher than expected from clinically confirmed cases" @ Virtual Podium 2020 (2020.05).
- 19. Invited talk: "A synthetic biology approach to multistability and pattern formation" @ Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (2018.02).
- 20. Invited talk: "Engineering of synthetic gene networks for Waddington landscape and cell fate determination" @ Massachusetts Institute of Technology (2017.09).
- 21. Invited talk: "Development of synthetic tunable patterns from engineered single cells" @ School of Mathematical & Statistical Science, ASU (2016.10).
- 22. Poster: "Wastewater surveillance of SARS-CoV-2 across the United States" @ World Microbe Forum (2021.06).
- 23. Poster: "Dietary fiber protects gut microbiota from antibiotics" @ MIT Microbiome Symposium (2021.04).
- 24. Poster: "Engineering of a synthetic quadrastable gene network to approach Waddington landscape and cell fate determination" @ BMES Annual Meeting (2017.10).
- 25. Poster: "Engineering Quorum-sensing Crosstalk to Generate Complex of Synthetic Gene Networks" @ BMES Annual Meeting (2014.10).

D. FUNDING SUPPORT

Agency: National Institutes of Health – NIAID (1R01Al192873-01, 8/2025 – 7/2030)

Title: A Wastewater Approach to Viral Transmission, Evolution, and Ecology

Role: PI

Agency: Houston Health Department (WS1151815252, 4/2025 –)

Title: Monitoring the usage of opioids in the population from municipal wastewater

Role: PI

Agency: National Science Foundation (DMS/2421257, 9/2024 – 8/2027)

Title: Collaborative Research: IHBEM: Beneath the surface: integrating wastewater surveillance and human behavior to decode epidemiological patterns

Role: PI (Lead)

Agency: National Institutes of Health – NIDA (R01DA059394-01A1, 9/2023 – 8/2028)

Title: Wastewater sampling: A new tool to accelerate ending the HIV epidemic

PI: Dr. Thomas Peter Giordano (Baylor College of Medicine)

Role: Co-Investigator

Agency: Complete Genomics Inc. (10/2023 – 9/2024)

Title: Wastewater sequencing of SARS-CoV-2 for emerging mutations

Role: PI

Agency: University of Texas School of Public Health PRIME Award (9/2023 – 8/2024)

Title: Advance wastewater surveillance for predictive epidemiology and evolution of SARS-CoV-2

Role: PI

Agency: Southwest Center for Occupational and Environmental Health Education and

Research Center Pilot Projects Training Program; CDC/NIOSH (7/2023 – 6/2024)

Title: Monitoring the consumption of fentanyl and its adulterant xylazine by wastewater-based

epidemiology

Role: PI

Agency: National Institutes of Health - RADxUP Phase III (1U01TR004355-01, 12/2022–11/2024)

Title: Addressing COVID-19 testing disparities in vulnerable populations using a community JITAI

(just in time adaptive intervention)
PI: Dr. Maria E. Fernandez (UTHealth)

Role: Co-Investigator

Agency: **Texas Legislature**

Title: Texas Epidemic Public Health Institute (TEPHI, 1/2023 – 8/2026)

PI: Dr. Eric Boerwinkle (UTHealth)

Role: Co-Investigator

Agency: **The University of Texas** (2/2022 – 6/2026)

Type of Grant: UT System Rising STARs award

Role: PI

Funding agency: The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston (2/2022 – 2/2026)

Type of Grant: Faculty Startup Funding

Role: PI

Agency: **American Heart Association** (15PRE25710303, 7/2015 – 6/2017)

Title: Engineering a multistable MINPA gene network to regulate cell fate determination

Role: PI

E. ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL HONOR/AWARDS/SCHOLARSHIPS

I. Honors and Awards

- o 'Best Presentation Award' at the Microbiome Virtual International Form (2025.11)
- UT Systems Rising STARs Award (2022.02)
- 'Best Research Award' in International Conference on Infectious Diseases 2022 (2022.05)
- American Heart Association Predoctoral Fellowship (2015.06)
- Peter E. Crouch Excellence Fund Fellowship (2015)
- Special Awards of Changhua Scholarship in WIV, CAS (2012)
- Outstanding Graduate Students in WIV, CAS (2011)
- Outstanding Graduate Students in WIV, CAS (2010)
- Excellent Graduates in Jiangxi Normal University (2009)
- National Encouragement Scholarship (2008)
- The Third, Second, and First Prize Scholarships (2006~2009)

II. Professional Membership

Member, International Water Association (2025 – present)

- Member, American Public Health Association (2023 present)
- Member, Society for Mathematical Biology (2023 present)
- Member, American Society for Microbiology (2021 present)
- o Member, American Heart Association (2015 2017)
- Member, American Society for Cell Biology (2014 2015)

F. TEACHING

- 1. Public Health Ecology (Fall 2024, Fall 2025, Teaching effort = 100%)
- 2. Water Environment (Spring 2023, Spring 2024, Spring 2025, Teaching effort = 100%)
- 3. CRISPR in Public Health: The Science and Ethics of Genetic Engineering (Guest lecturer, 2024 August)
- 4. Current Topics in Infectious Disease Epidemiology (Guest lecturer, 2023 Summer)
- 5. Seminar in Genetics and Population Biology (Guest presenter, 2023 Fall)

G. STUDENT MENTORING

I. Current and graduated advising students

1.	Phi-Christopher Ly (MPH in EOHS)	2025 Fall – present
2.	Siah Green (MPH in Epidemiology)	2024 Fall - present
3.	Jinze Li (PhD in EOHS)	2024 Spring – present
4.	Himabindu R. Basani (MPH in Epidemiology)	2023 Fall - present
5.	Dhvani A. Parikh (MPH in Epidemiology)	2023 Fall - present
6.	Priyesha Sanjay Patel (MPH in Epidemiology)	2023 Fall - present
7.	Rakshitha Vijendra (MPH in Epidemiology)	2023 Fall - present
8.	Jiaoyang Xu (PhD in Epidemiology)	2023 Fall – present
9.	Peichun Han (PhD in Epidemiology)	2023 Fall – 2024 Spring
	Yi Chen (PhD in EOHS)	2024, Graduated
11	. Jennifer N. Nguyen (MPH in EOHS)	2023 – 2024, Graduated
12	. Jeremiah Oghuan (MPH in Epidemiology)	2023 - 2024, Graduated
13	. Muhammad H. Rehan (MPH in Epidemiology)	2022 - 2024, Graduated
14	Bhavikkumar N. Trivedi (MPH in Epidemiology)	2022 - 2024, Graduated

II. Graduate Students/Postdoc Trained in My Laboratory

- 1. Katie Clark, PhD in Epidemiology, 2025 June present
- 2. Minglun Wang, PhD in Environmental Science, 2025 April present
- 3. Runze Li, PhD in Biostatistics, 2024 September present
- 4. Katherine Joseph, PhD in Environmental Science, 2024 March present
- 5. Jinze Li, PhD in Environmental Science, 2024 January present
- 6. Dhvani Parikh, MPH in Epidemiology, 2023 September present
- 7. Xingwen Chen, Postdoctoral researcher, 2023 June present
- 8. Jiao yang Xu, PhD in Epidemiology, 2023 August 2023 December
- 9. Scout R. Vanderwal, MPH in Epidemiology, 2022 December 2023 December
- 10. Jeremiah Oghuan, MPH in Epidemiology, 2022 Fall 2023 Fall
- 11. Anuja Rajendra Godbole, MPH in Epidemiology, 2022 Summer
- 12. Carlos Chavarria, MPH and PhD student (El Paso campus), 2022 Summer 2023 Fall

- 13. Carlos Monserrat, Research Assistant (El Paso campus), 2022 Summer 2023 Fall
- 14. Layne Smith, MS in Microbiology and Infectious Diseases at GSBS, 2025 September (Rotation)
- 15. Samantha Mota, PhD in Genetics at GSBS, 2025 June (Rotation)

III. Students Completed Practicum Training/Integrated Learning Experience/Independent Study in My Laboratory

- 1. Rakshitha Vijendra, MPH in Epidemiology, 2025 Spring and Summer
- 2. Abena K Agyei, MPH in Epidemiology, 2025 Spring
- 3. Weixin Lu, PhD in Epidemiology, 2024 Spring
- 4. Jeremiah Oghuan, MPH in Epidemiology, 2023 Fall
- 5. Scout R. Vanderwal, MPH in Epidemiology, 2023 Fall
- 6. Iheyinwa Odum-Nwabueze, MPH in Epidemiology, 2023 Summer
- 7. Vikram Gill, Visiting Scientist (Baylor College of Medicine), 2023 Spring
- 8. Anuja Rajendra Godbole, MPH in Epidemiology, 2022 Fall
- 9. William Hebel, MPH in Epidemiology, 2022 Summer

IV. Committee Member for Students with Dissertation/Thesis

- Lauren Jones, MPH student in Epidemiology (2025 June) Role: Thesis supervisor
- 2. Catherine Vaziri, PhD student in Epidemiology (2025 June)

Role: Committee member

3. Katie Clark, PhD student in Epidemiology (2025 June -)

Role: Committee member

4. Alison Stephens, MS student in Biostatistics (2025 May -)

Role: Thesis supervisor

5. Jinze Li, Ph.D. student in EOHS (2024 January -)

Role: Dissertation chair

6. Peichun Han, PhD student in Epidemiology (2024 December -)

Role: Committee member

7. Dionibe Some, PhD student in EOHS (2023 December -)

Role: Committee member

8. Fatema Alkhulaifi, PhD student in Epidemiology (2023 October -)

Role: Committee member

9. Caitlin Cotter, PhD student in Epidemiology (2023 February – May 2024)

Role: Committee member

10. Bingjie Li, MS PhD in Epidemiology (2022 - 2023)

Dissertation Title: An Overview of *Clostridium difficile* Infection and Its Prevention, Diagnosis and Treatment

Role: Committee member

11. Yi Chen, PhD in Epidemiology (2022 September)

Dissertation Title: Application of the mobile aerosol lung deposition apparatus (malda) to estimate occupational and environmental ultrafine particle exposure

Role: Committee member

12. Tzuruei Chao, MS in Biostatistics (2022 August)

Dissertation Title: Sampling design of wastewater surveillance to detect SARS-CoV-2: A simulation study using geospatial Kriging method

Role: Committee member

H. SERVICE TO THE INSTITUTION AND COMMUNITY

I. Academic Services

- o Grant Reviewer for **PRIME** award 2025 August
- o Grant Reviewer for **NIH** ZTR1 CI 8(01) 2025 April
- Invited external reviewer for grants from the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) – 2024 August
- o Invited external reviewer for grants from the **University of Notre Dame** 2024 Fall
- Grant Reviewer for NIH GVE study section 2024 February
- o Organizer for a Minisymposium at SIAM Life Sciences Annual Conference –2023 December
- Organizer for a Minisymposium: "Integrating Data with Epidemic Models: Challenges and Opportunities" at the Society for Mathematical Biology Annual Meeting – 2023 June

II. Peer Reviewer for Academic Journals / Books

Water Research	Mathematical Biological Science	
Environmental Research	Journal of Water Process Engineering	
Water	Heliyon	
Journal of Infection	International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health	
ERJ Open Research	Journal of Medical Virology	
Environmental International	Virological Sinica	
Biology Chemistry	Virology Journal	
Current Research in Biotechnology	The Lancet Global Health	
Frontiers of Microbiology	The Lancet Planetary Health	
Frontiers in Bioengineering and Biotechnology	eBioMedicine	
Frontiers in Public Health	Spring Nature Press	
Frontiers in Cellular and Infection Microbiology	ACS EST Water	
mSystems	Environmental Science & Technology	
Journal of Advanced Research	Genome Biology	
Journal of Biosafety and Biosecurity	Communications Medicine	
Journal of Hazardous Materials	Drug and Alcohol Report	
Journal of Environmental Management	Current Microbiology	
Science of the Total Environment	Journal of Infection and Public Health	

III. Journal Editor

- JMIRx Med;
- Frontiers in Microbiology (Virology);
- o Frontiers in Bioengineering and Biotechnology (Synthetic biology);
- Genes
- American Journal of Biomedical Science & Research

IV. Service to the Institution

- o EOHS Scholarship Selection Committee, 2025
- EOHS PhD Candidate Exam Grading, 2025
- SPH Research Day Poster Judge, 2025
- EOHS Student Proposal Evaluation (volunteer), 2025 May

- EOHS Doctoral Dissertation Research Award Reviewer, 2025 March
- o EOHS Admission Committee, 2024 present
- o EOHS Faculty Search Committee, 2024 present
- o EOHS Faculty Search Committee (El Paso), 2023 2024
- EHS Radiation Safety Program: Custodian for the GC/MS units at SPH, 2022 2024

V. Service to the Community

 Member in the PHR 4/5N Antimicrobial Stewardship Regional Advisory Committee (ASRAC), 2024 September – present

o Media interview: In Other Words, LLC (for Lawrence Technological University)

Title: Wastewater Surveillance
Date: September 11, 2023

Consultation: Science (journal)

Title: Monkeypox mismatch Date: November 7, 2022

o Citation: 170th Congress of the United States, House of Representatives, Committee on

Energy and Commerce

Title: CDC diagnostic testing procedures for monkeypox virus

Date: November 2, 2022

o Media interview: Dallas Morning News

Title: Wastewater Surveillance

Date: July 19, 2022