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**Amherst BioNews Monthly Newsletter - October 2018 edition**

Greetings biology folk,

It's time for another edition of our monthly newsletter with all that's happening and exciting in the Amherst College Biology Department!

**~~NEWS~~**

- Two Amherst Biology alums land tenure-track faculty positions:

Sarah (Sander) Lower '06 and Louise Stevenson '09 will start new faculty positions this fall at Bucknell University and Bowling Green State University, respectively. Dr. Lower's research is on the genetics of firefly signal production and reception. Dr. Stevenson is interested in how the effects of environmental degradation scale up from individuals to populations.

- Prof Edwards has a new paper in PNAS titled, "Mutually inhibitory Ras-PI(3,4)P2 feedback loops mediate cell migration". Check it out

here: <http://www.pnas.org/content/early/2018/09/06/1809039115.short>

- Prof. Purdy's recent paper ([Modulation of CrbS-Dependent Activation of the Acetate Switch in \*Vibrio cholerae\*](#)) was selected for the Spotlight section for the Journal of Bacteriology. Spotlights are designed to highlight top articles that are published in each issue of JB!

- Prof. Poccia completed three years of service on the National Science Foundation's Directorate for Biological Sciences Advisory Committee (BIO AC) where he chaired the meeting in Washington on 9/20-21 2018. BIOAC advises the Directorate for Biological Sciences on how BIO's mission, programs, and goals can best serve the scientific community; institutional administration and policy; how BIO can promote quality graduate and undergraduate education in the biological sciences; priority investment areas in biological research; and the government Performance and Results Act and Committees of Visitors evaluations of each Division of BIO. The 10-15 members represent a cross section of biology with representatives from many different sub-disciplines within the field; a cross section of institutions including industry; broad geographic representation; and balanced representation of women and under-represented minorities.

**~~New Bio Folk~~**

- Reintroducing our new faculty, click the links to see their [faculty pages](#):

Prof [Marc Edwards](#)

Prof [Nidanie Henderson-Stull](#)

Prof [Joohyun Lee](#)

Prof [Katerina Ragkousi](#)

- Alivia Price is a new researcher in Prof Ragkousi's lab. She is got her AB in Molecular Biology from Princeton and her PhD in Developmental Biology from the University of Chicago.

- Scott Rochard ' 8 is a new Postbac researcher in Prof Trapani's lab.

Best wishes for a great October and fall break and stay tuned for another edition next month,  
*-the Biology Department*

Have something Department-related to share in the next newsletter? Please email Joe Trapani  
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