



# Developmental & Regenerative Biology Program Newsletter

## Save the Date!

Students, [join](#) the DRB Slack

### DRB Student Happy Hour/Data Club

Dec 17<sup>th</sup> @ 5pm; [Zoom](#)

### DRB Alum Career Panel

Students welcome!

Jan. 21<sup>st</sup>, 2021 @ 5pm

### DRB New Year's Party

All welcome!

Jan. 21<sup>st</sup>, 2021 @ 6:30pm

### DRB 2021 Annual Retreat

March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2021

## GET INVOLVED

Want to attend a remote conference or workshop? [Apply for a Career Development award.](#)

## CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to **Henry Bushnell** on joining Connie Cepko's lab!

Congratulations to **Anastasia Ershova** on being awarded the Onassis Scholarship!

Congrats to the **DRB Community** for helping us all make it through this weird and difficult year!

*A quarterly newsletter to keep you up to date on all things DRB.*

## "Four Seasons Total Landscaping" takes top prize at DRB Friendsgiving Event

DRB's annual Friendsgiving event went remote this year with a clever "Electoral College" game designed by DRB G3 Ji Wook Kim (Zon lab). Teams tried to select the majority opinion that would represent DRB's official stance for the next four years on a variety of topics, including daily life, science nerds, and pop culture. Scott Freeburg, Rebecca Freeman, Alejandra Rodriguez de la Rosa, Andrew Silberfeld, Irene Wong, and Miriam Zawadzki of "Four Seasons Total Landscaping" appeared to have secured a clear win. However, "Gastrulation Station" and the "Rare Danios" refused to concede, causing Supreme Game Justices to step in to ensure all lawfully conducted votes were honored. Everyone walked away with a GrubHub gift card.



DRB's official stance on random preference choices in the categories of daily life, science nerd life, and pop culture (from binary and very specific options):

### Daily life preferences

Holiday: *Thanksgiving*  
Side dish: *Stuffing*  
Work shift: *4am – 1pm*  
Weekend work day: *Saturday*  
Transit to Longwood: *M2*  
Hand warmers: *mittens*

### Science Nerds! preferences

Special ability: *cloning master*  
Coolest model: *axolotl*  
Journal: *Dev Cell*  
Fave vendor: *Thermo Fisher*  
Preferred vaccine: *Moderna*  
Poster or talk: *Talk*

### Pop culture preferences

Social media: *Instagram*  
Best spiderman: *Tom Holland*  
Best sci-fi series: *Star Wars*  
Top fantasy movie: *H. Potter*  
One band forever: *Nickelback*  
We miss most: *Alec Trebek!*

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*“It was just nice to chat,  
but also to hear from  
older grad students  
thinking farther ahead  
than I am and asking  
faculty different types of  
questions.”*

*—A DRB student after a  
mentoring meetup with  
DRB faculty*

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## Expanded format for Student-Faculty Seminar

The Student-Faculty Seminar Series has taken on a new format from previous years – the seminar series now occurs monthly. DRB faculty speakers are now paired with alternating traditional 30 min student presentations or two shorter student-led talks to allow all trainees the chance to present their work to the community annually. Carla Kim, Rebecca Soto, and Aubrey Faust shared their exciting findings in October, and Sean Megason and Kate Harding showcased their work and beautiful research images in November. DRB G2 students are also connecting with the DRB family through brief nano-talks at the end of each session: Felicia Wranitz (Caroline Burns’ lab) and Chaim Chernoff (Jay Rajagopal’s lab) introduced themselves and shared their research goals for graduate school this fall.

## DRB Bootcamp 2021 goes remote

DRB’s annual “bootcamp” course (DRB 330qc) which allows students to get hands-on experience with the myriad of different model organisms and systems used in DRB labs is going remote this winter. Bootcamp will consist of lectures, virtual tours, and live-stream bench work. Students will work together to solve case studies, discuss observations and pitch mini projects, as well as spend social time over lunch with lab members to foster the cohort and community building interactions that make DRB bootcamp unique.

## Notes:

We want to **congratulate DRB community members** on their ongoing achievements, including graduations, grants, oral presentations or accepted papers here, in addition to the website. Please send Mara ([maraslaslo@hms.harvard.edu](mailto:maraslaslo@hms.harvard.edu)) an email so we can celebrate your accomplishments.

**Did you get this message from others?** Email Mara to be added to the DRB listserve.

**Are you a student who wants to join DRB?** Click [here](#) for more information!

**Graduating soon?** Fill out [this form](#) to have DRB listed on your diploma.

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## Submit questions for our first alumni career panel

DRB students have consistently asked to hear from DRB alumni about their career paths. We are listening: DRB will host our first [virtual] alumni career panel on Thursday **January 21<sup>st</sup> at 5pm. All students are welcome to attend!** DRB CF Mara Laslo will kick off the panel with some warm-up questions (including pre-submitted student questions) and then hand it over to the audience to continue the live Q+A. The annual New Year’s party celebration with the whole DRB community will follow the panel at 6:30pm. Students, if you would like to suggest a question to ask the career panel, **submit your questions** [here](#).

## DRB Student Data Club to precede Happy Hour

After a brief hiatus, DRB Data club is back! Data Club is a space for DRB students to share work in progress and get feedback in a low-key, student-only setting. DRB Happy hour normally occurs every third Thursday, and now data club will be a scientific pre-lude to each event. A student will present their work for the first half, followed by science discussion and socializing. All DRB students welcome! If you would like to talk about your science with other DRB students, contact Ji Wook Kim at [jiwookkim@g.harvard.edu](mailto:jiwookkim@g.harvard.edu).