STUDENT HONORS

Corelle Rokicki ’18 was selected to participate in the ASM Undergraduate Research Fellowship Program which recognizes rising young scientists.

Vincent Giacalone ’17 received the 2016-2017 UMass Rising Researcher student achievement award.

PhD student Gina Chaput ’19G was awarded an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Science to Achieve Results (STAR) Fellowship.

Emily Melzer, Ph.D. candidate, was awarded a two-year traineeship through the Chemistry-Biology Interface (CBI) Program, an NIH-funded predoctoral training program.

PhD candidate Srishti Kashyap received a travel award to speak at the 2017 Astrobiology Science Conference.

BY THE NUMBERS FY17

- Tenure-track faculty: 15
- Lecturers: 4
- Postdoctoral fellows: 6
- Undergraduate majors: 193
- Graduate students: 40
- Research awards: $2.26M

RESEARCH AREAS

- Bio-fuels and bio-remediation
- Environmental microbiology
- Fungal pathogenesis
- Genetics
- Genomics and systems biology
- Immunology
- Medical microbiology
- Microbial ecology
- Microbial physiology
- Molecular and cellular biology
- Parasitology
- Pathogenic bacteriology
- Virology

MICROBIOLOGY POINTS OF PRIDE

- Kristen DeAngelis received two research grants from the Department of Energy to study microbial feedbacks to climate in a warming world.
- Derek Lovley and a group of researchers developed a synthetic bacteria made from non-toxic, natural amino acids. Findings were reported in an issue of Small.
- Michele Klingbeil received a two-year research grant from the National Institutes of Health for her research project “Revealing the Trypanosome DNA Replication Machinery using iPOND.”
- Yasu Morita received a research award from the American Lung Association to study cell wall biogenesis in Mycobacterium tuberculosis.
- Michele Klingbeil received a two-year research grant from the National Institutes of Health for her research project “Revealing the Trypanosome DNA Replication Machinery using iPOND.”
- Yasu Morita received a research award from the American Lung Association to study cell wall biogenesis in Mycobacterium tuberculosis.

EDUCATION

- Comprehensive graduate program prepares students for successful careers in academia, industry, and government.
- A fifth-year master’s degree option is available to microbiology majors.
- The Applied Molecular Biotechnology M.S. Program has been successful with more than 90 percent placement of its graduates in biotech companies, research institutions and in Ph.D. programs.
- PhD students have been awarded national research fellowships from organizations including the American Society for Microbiology, the Ford Foundation, NASA and the EPA.

DEGREES

- BA/BS
- Five-year BS/MS
- MS/One-year MS in applied molecular biotechnology
- PhD
- Biotechnology Certificate Program

LEADERSHIP & OUTREACH

- The Laboratory of Medical Zoology provides tick testing services to individuals, counties, and states from across the country and internationally.
- Faculty members serve on grant review panels, review publications for leading scientific journals, and are members of professional organizations.
- Yasu Morita and an undergraduate researcher provided outreach to a local middle school and offered guidance to an after-school science club on a study of methods used by their cafeteria to handle apples in an effort to reduce bacteria.