

Medical Graduate Student Organization





President



Tiffany Nelson (she/her)
5th Year, BMS, Immunology/Microbiology

Announcements

- Hoping to order more crewnecks in early spring if we have the budget: small-large in both colors.
- End of GBM, you can pick up for fellow students
 - Shirts
 - Crewnecks
 - Stickers
- MGSO Data Discussion:
 - November 10th from 5:15-6:30ish.
 - Snacks provided :)

Spooky Not-So-Fun Fact!

The *Scream* franchise is based on Danny Rolling, known as the Gainesville Ripper, who murdered 5 college students in August 1990.

Vice President

Ajisha Alwin (she/her)
5th Year, BMS, Immunology/Microbiology

Announcements

- Keep an eye out for upcoming G2G events!
 - Nov – Fall Painting Social – Thursday, Nov 13th at 5 PM
- Please reach out if you need anything :)
- ajishaalwin@ufl.edu

Fun Fact!

Over 50% of the US population buys a pumpkin in October!
In fact, the October pumpkin industry sells \$708 million pumpkins each year.





Treasurer

Zachary Markovich (He/him)
4th year, BMS, Pharmacology

Announcements

- Jeremiah's Ice Night, Tuesday 11/18/2025 6-10PM

UnFun Fact! :(

The current longest active **playoff-win drought** (across major North American pro sports) belongs to the Miami Dolphins (NFL) — they have not won a playoff game since the 2000 season.





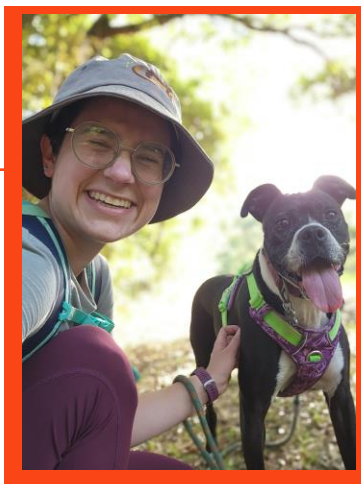
Follow us on Insta!



Secretary/Social Media Chair

Sydney Velasquez (She/Her)

3rd Year, BMS, Immuno/Micro



Announcements

- Win an award?! Publish!? Receive a grant?! Let me know!
- Officers! Send officer highlight info PLEASE :,(
- **Next GBM:** November 19th, 5pm C1-015



Fun Fact!

Every Halloween, around the US, paddling enthusiasts get together for witch paddles, where they kayak and paddleboard dressed as witches!



Social Chair

Maya Basic (She/Her)

2nd Year, BMS, Immuno/Micro



MGSO October Events

- **Sunday Oct. 26th** – Pumpkin patch day!
 - 12PM: Buy a Pumpkin, Feed a Child Patch (7003 NW 39th Ave)
 - 1:30PM: Carving & Painting @ Plaza of the Americas
 - Limited painting/carving materials supplied, feel free to bring your own
 - Bring blanket & trash bag for Plaza
- **Friday Oct. 31st** – Halloween party!
 - 8-11:30PM @ 1111 SW 19th Pl
 - Free to attend, but if you're able to help with the cost of some of the supplies, Venmo Tiffany @Tiffany-Nelson-27
 - Keep in mind house rules (no-shoe policy, clean up after ourselves)

Things going on in Gainesville:

- **Weekends Oct. 4th – Nov. 2nd:** Fall Festival & Corn Maze @ Crossroads Farm & Apiary
- **Oct. 25th:** Florida Bat Festival 2025 @ Lubee Bat Conservancy
- **Oct. 24th-26th:** The Fest Music Festival @ downtown Gainesville
- Visit [VisitGainesville.com](https://www.visitgainesville.com) has a great guide for all things happening in town!

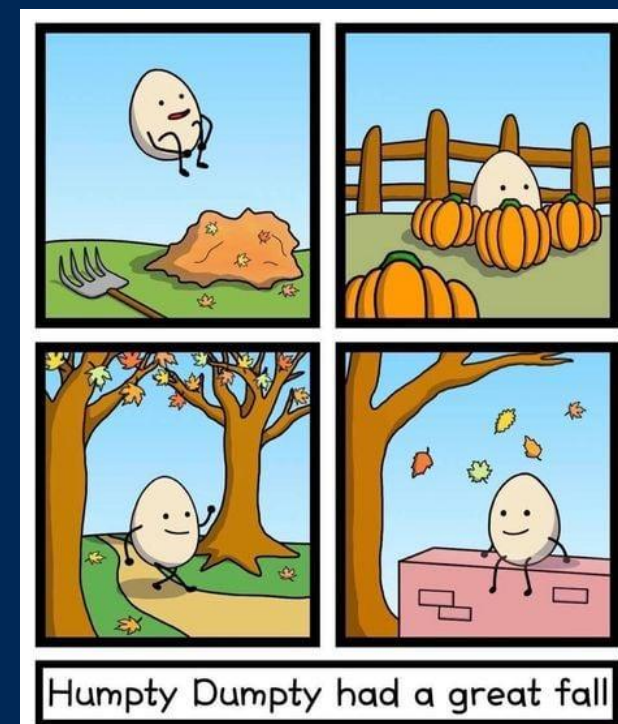
Reach out for any questions or comments! mbasic@ufl.edu

Fun Fact!

October wasn't originally the 10th month of the year! The ancient Roman calendar had only 10 months in the year, and October was the 8th (Octo = 8 in Latin).



venmo



Career Development Chairs



Sydney Reed (She/Her), 3rd year, BMS-PhD
Immuno/micro



Rodrigo Tomas, 6th year, BMS-PhD
Neuroscience

GRADEDGE
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SERIES

Fun Fact

Jeepers Creepers was
primarily filmed
in Ocala

Announcements

COM Graduate Student
Affairs and MGSO
CAREER DEVELOPMENT
SEMINAR SERIES

UF College of Medicine
UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA



Dr. Jeremy C. McIntyre

Program Director in the Division
of Training and Workforce
Development

**“PhD to PI to PO: Importance of Pivoting and
Mentorship in building your Career”**

Thursday, October 23, 2025
4-5 pm

DeWeese Auditorium
McKnight Brain Institute LG-101A



Career Success Skills Workshop

Ellen Nodine



Director of Programs & Training - Center for
Public Interest Communications

**The Science of What Makes
People Care**

November 12th, 12 – 1:30 PM

RSVP



**Lunch for the
First 30 People**

Career Dev Seminar Series: November 20th

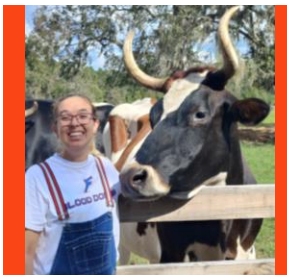


Dr. Sherri Emer

Professor at Florida Gulf Coast
University (Primary Undergraduate
university)

Look out for more information!!

**Tomorrow October 23rd:
Career Dev Seminar Series**



Community Service Chair

Valerie Hinsch (She/Her)

3rd Year, BMS, Genetics

Announcements

- Reminder – officers need to attend 1 service opportunity academic year
- If you are an officer and went to Walk to End Alzheimer's, please let me know!
- Fall Service Opportunities are BOOKED(?)
 - Habitat for Humanity – Nov 15th 8:30AM-2:30PM
 - More info to come
 - Any interest in a December event?
- Spring Service *Potential* Events Sneak Peek:
 - Northern Florida Regional Science Olympiad Competition
 - Friedreich's Ataxia Research Alliance (FARA)- rideAtaxia
 - The Humane Society of North Central Florida
- Keep an eye out for emails
- Feel free to email me (vhinsch@ufl.edu) service opportunities/ideas!

Fun Fact! Jimmy Carter was heavily involved with Habitat for Humanity. He helped start the Jimmy & Rosalynn Carter Work Project, which has helped house 4,390 families in 14 countries.



Athletic Chairs

Emma Metcalf (she/her) & Jacob Davis (he/his)
2nd year, BMS PhD, Immuno/Micro



Announcements

- Intramural
 - See ya in the spring!
- Tailgates
 - November 22nd @ TBD since game is TBD

See ya Napier!



October Fun Fact!

On Halloween night violent crimes increase 50% compared to any other day of the year. (Be safe out there ya'll)

FOOTBALL TAILGATE

Florida vs. University of Tennessee
Saturday November 22nd @ TBD
Game @ TBD

SPONSORED BY: ORAL BIOLOGY DEPARTMENT

- EVERYONE WELCOME
- FREE FOOD
- FREE FUN
- NO TICKET NEEDED

MEDICAL GRADUATE
STUDENT ORGANIZATION





Recruitment Chairs



Miranda Carter (She/Her)
4th Year, BMS, Immuno Micro



Bianca Bean (She/Her)
4th Year, BMS, Physio & Cell Biology

Announcements

- BMS First Year Representatives are:
 - Joseph Nolff
 - Olivia D'Agati

Fun Fact!

Chunk was the winner for Fat Bear Week 2025! Congrats Chunk!

He weighs ~1,200 pounds



Ph.D. Advocate

Dallas Galguera-Kelm (he/they)

2nd Year Ph.D. Student, Anatomical Sciences Education

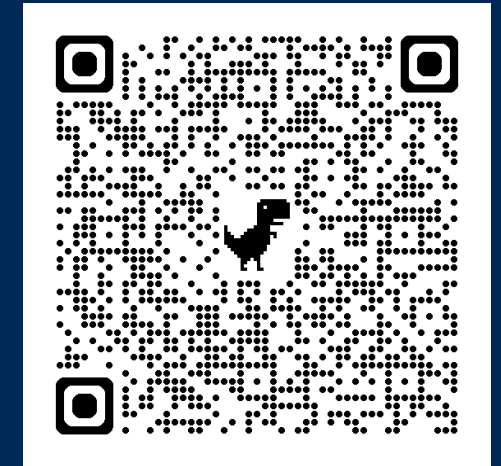
Announcements

- At the SAC meeting this week, it was discussed that the parking and transportation situation for students is ongoing and known by administration. No new updates, otherwise.
- The anonymous reporting form is still live.
 - <https://forms.gle/p9PHTuN6xe7Qkbbk58>

Fun Fact!

British actor Boris Karloff played Frankenstein's monster in the original Frankenstein (1931) film. Karloff later voiced the grinch in How the Grinch Stole Christmas (1966).

Anonymous reporting:





Master's Advocate

Paola Parrales (she/her)

2nd year MS Student, Molecular Cell Biology

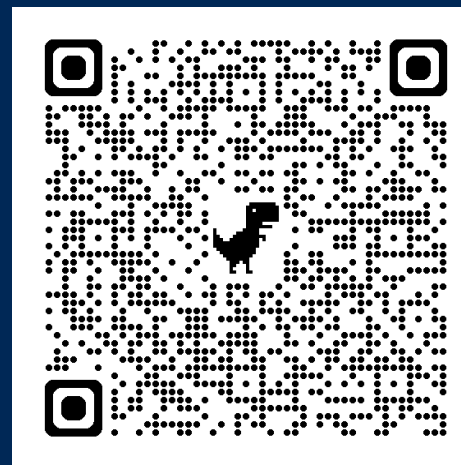
Announcements

- Anonymous reporting form is live. Please share with COM graduate students!
 - Access via QR code or MGSO website:
<https://gsovpres.wixsite.com/gsobms/anonymous-reporting>

Fun Fact!

A new record was set for the heaviest pumpkin in October 2023, when Travis Gienger presented a pumpkin weighing 2,749 pounds. As it was the year 2023, Gienger named the pumpkin “Michael Jordan” in reference to the player’s iconic jersey number (#23).

Anonymous reporting:





MD/PhD Advocate

Christopher (Chris) Mederos (he/him)

GS2, BMS, Micro/Immuno

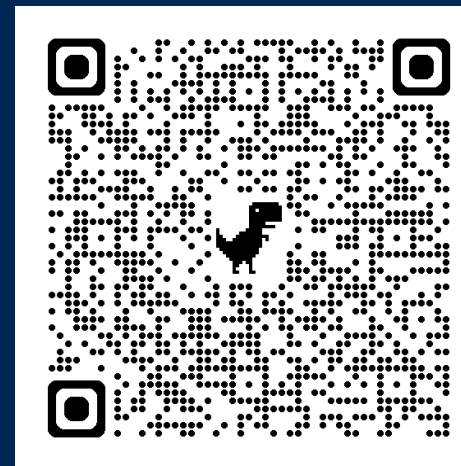
Announcements

- No updates this time :(

Fun Fact!

The Michael Myers mask in the movie was actually reconstructed from an old Captain Kirk mask. Tommy Wallace, the film's production designer, shaved off the eyebrows and sideburns, then dyed the hair brown to give it its signature Michael Myers look.

Anonymous reporting:





Graduate Student Council Rep

Amanda Pretory (she/her)

3rd year, BMS, Immuno / Micro

Full timeline:



Travel Grants

- Upcoming cycle: 11/01 – 11/30
- Domestic *conference* start date: 01/15 – 02/14
- International *conference* start date: 02/01 – 03/31

Fun Fact!

In Finland, new PhDs are given a sword and hat during their Conferment Ceremony. The sword and hat symbolize the freedom of research and the fight for what is good, right and true.





GAU Sign Up!



BMS External Board Reps

Sorin Jacobs (she/her) and Jon Zachary (he/him)
5th Year BMS (Immuno / Micro) 4th Year BMS (Biochem)



Announcements

- BMS meeting is next week so no updates :(
- COM Holiday Party Dec 4th 5-7 pm

GAU Updates

- Due to UF's failure to discuss stipends and RT program we are at **impasse**
 - Special magistrate hearing on Monday, November 17th – please attend to have GA voices heard!
 - Any questions? Ask Hannah Jacobs, co-chief bargainer of GAU

Fun Fact: Nov 1st is GNV Pride from 12-8pm at Bo Diddley Plaza. Go see Rocky Horror with PCC on October 25th @ 2pm!