

# Ina L. Urbatsch, Ph.D.

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## Workload Information

Calendar Year	Teaching % Effort	Scholarship/ Research % Effort	Clinical Service % Effort	Academically Related Public Service % Effort
2023/24	35%	50%	NA	15 %

## General Information

### Education

- 1987-1990 **Ph.D.** Magna cum Laude, University of Kaiserslautern, Germany, Major in **Chemistry/Biochemistry**. Advisor: Dr. Wolfgang E. Trommer
- 1981-1987 **Diploma in Chemistry** (equivalent to M.S.), University of Kaiserslautern, Germany, Advisor: Dr. Wolfgang E. Trommer

### Positions

- 2022-2023 **Director of Biotechnology**, Graduate School of Biological Sciences, Texas Tech University Health Science Center (TTUHSC), Lubbock, Texas.
- 2018-2022 **Graduate Advisor** for Biotechnology, Graduate School of Biological Sciences, TTUHSC, Lubbock, Texas.
- 2018-present **Full Professor (Tenured)**, Department of Cell Biology and Biochemistry, School of Medicine, TTUHSC, Lubbock, Texas.
- 2010-2018 **Associate Professor (Tenured)**, Department of Cell Biology and Biochemistry, TTUHSC, Lubbock, Texas.
- 2003-present Member of the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences, School of Medicine, TTUHSC, Lubbock, Texas.
- 2003-2010 **Assistant Professor**, Department of Cell Biology and Biochemistry, TTUHSC, Lubbock, Texas.
- 1998-2003 **Research Assistant Professor**, Department of Biochemistry and Biophysics, University of Rochester, Rochester, NY.
- 1995-1998 **Postdoctoral Fellow** with Dr. Philippe Gros, Department of Biochemistry, McGill University, Montreal, Quebec, Canada.
- 1991-1995 **Postdoctoral Fellow** with Dr. Alan E. Senior, Department of Biochemistry, University of Rochester, Rochester, NY.

### **Scientific Appointments and Professional Memberships**

2023	Chair of the Multi-Drug Efflux Systems Gordon Research Conference, Galveston, Texas, US. Originally scheduled for March 2021 and postponed to March 2023
May 2021	Chair and Organizer of a free series of three Gordon Research Conference <b>Connects</b> virtual meetings on Multi-Drug Efflux Systems to bridge the gap
2020	Cystic Fibrosis Trust, Strategic Research Centre scheme, London, UK; ad-hoc reviewer
2019	Vice-Chair of the Multi-Drug Efflux Systems Gordon Research Conference, Lucca (Barga), Italy
2009-2019	Member of the CFTR 3D structure consortium, Cystic Fibrosis Foundation Therapeutics
2015	NIH Peer Review of the NCI Laboratory of Cell Biology, review panel member
2012	The Wellcome Trust (Molecules, Genes and Cells Grants), London, UK; ad-hoc reviewer
2010	European Science Foundation (ESF); ad-hoc reviewer.
2006-present	Member of the Center for Membrane Protein Research, TTUHSC, Lubbock, TX.
2004-present	Member of the American Heart Association
2003-present	Member of the Biophysical Society
2003-present	Member of the Southwest Cancer and Treatment Center
2003-present	Member of the American Association of Cancer Research

### **Honors and Awards**

2023	Honoring TTU and TTUHSC inventors who have received an issued patent during FY23, Office of Research Commercialization
2023	Elected Conference Chair, Gordon Research Conference on Multi-Drug Efflux Systems, Galveston, TX
2023	Teacher Award, Membership in Teaching Academy, SOM, TTUHSC
2022	President's Excellence in Teaching Award, TTUHSC systems, TX
2021	Dean's Outstanding Research and Student Mentor Award
2021	Dean's Teaching Award Biomedical Sciences
2021	Dean's Teaching Award Biotechnology
2020	Dean Berk's "Teacher Pin", SOM, TTUHSC, Lubbock
2019	Elected Vice-Chair, Gordon Research Conference on Multi-Drug Efflux Systems, Lucca, Barga, Italy
2018	Dean's Douglas M. Stocco Distinguished Research Award, TTTUHSC, Lubbock
2016	Dean's Unsung Hero Award, TTUHSC, Lubbock
2014	Chancellor's Council Distinguished Research Award, Texas Tech University Systems, Lubbock
1992-1994	Post-doctoral Research Fellowship from the German Research Society (DFG)
1987-1989	Pre-doctoral Research Scholarship from the Government of Rheinland-Pfalz, and the German Research Society (DFG)

### **Personal Statement**

I am internationally recognized for my studies on the structure-driven functional analyses of P-glycoprotein, CFTR and mammalian ABC transporters, and my expertise in enzyme kinetics, mutational analyses, protein folding and biophysical studies. I develop expression platforms for functional evaluation of mutant proteins in mammalian and yeast cells, and for purification of highly active, structure-quality proteins, and for kinetic analyses of their substrates and inhibitors. I support protein structure determination by providing functional assessment of ligands, inhibitors and nanobodies resolved in crystal and cryo-EM structures that may reveal specific conformations and mode of action. I use this information to better understand the multidrug efflux mechanisms of transporters at the molecular level.

I have worked for over 20 years with the **multidrug transporter P-glycoprotein that poses a major impediment to chemotherapy of cancers and other diseases, and have laid some of the groundwork for its functional analyses**. In 1995, I proposed a model for alternating-site catalysis between the two nucleotide-binding domains, and have since engaged to decipher the biochemical functions of key catalytic residues. Since joining the faculty at Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center, I have optimized the *Pichia pastoris* system for milligram-scale purification of structure-quality P-glycoprotein, which was enabling to solve its structure, the first-ever X-ray structure of a mammalian ABC transporter (Science 323:1718, 2009); and I have continued to improve the resolution of the protein preparations to a reassuring 2.6 Å (eLife 2024). Recently, I have identified a pivotal loop in the substrate translocation mechanism of P-glycoprotein, visualized through substrate-bound conformations in transport-competent transition state conformations, and validated through a battery of functional assays and MD simulations. We propose a new mechanistic model of helix unwinding and rewinding for substrate translocation, which **challenges a prevailing dogma in the field**. The new mechanism may guide development of more effective suicide inhibitors that have a greater affinity and fewer side-effects in chemotherapy.

Furthermore, I have expressed more than 27 other human ABC transporters, and recently several Solute Carriers (SLC13A5) in mammalian and yeast system for small to mg-scale production of active proteins, and characterized ATPase/transport function of several of these. These studies lead to X-ray structures of the sterol transporter ABCG5/G8 in bicelles (Nature 533: 561, 2015), and ensembles of cryo-EM structures probing the “Mechanism of dual pharmacological correction and potentiation of human CFTR” (BioRxiv 2022). Directed evolution allowed us to generate fully functional cysteine (Cys)-less as well as tryptophan (Trp)-less P-glycoprotein variants that serve as background for biochemical labeling, cross-linking and drug binding studies (Scientific Reports, 2020). Site-specific single and double cysteine (Cys) probes facilitated fluorescence and luminescence resonance energy transfer (F/LRET) to enlighten the ATP-driven gating cycle of P-glycoprotein. Tryptophan (Trp) fluorescence studies have led to refined understanding of drug binding sites and substrate translocation pathways, and the molecular defects that compromise drug transport (2020 eLife 2024). A recent study on how the lipid environment modulates activity aims at tissue-specific targeting of P-glycoprotein mediated drug resistance (Front. mol. biosci. 2023).

I have served as an ad hoc **grant reviewer for NIH, the Wellcome Trust, the European Science Foundation (ESF), and the Cystic Fibrosis Trust**. In addition, I have served for ten years as a principal investigator in the **CFTR3D Consortium**, a close collaboration of eleven laboratories working to obtain high quality protein reagents of the Cystic Fibrosis Transmembrane conductance Regulator (CFTR) suitable for drug screening and evaluation of correctors that ameliorate cystic fibrosis. I have successfully administered projects (e.g. staffing, research protections, budget), collaborated with other researchers, and produced several peer-reviewed publications from each project. I have served as elected Vice-Chair for the 2019 Gordon Research Conference on “Multi-drug Efflux Systems”. To bridge the gap during the Covid-19 pandemic, I have organized a series of three GRC Connects virtual events in 2021 to bring together researchers and trainees from academia and industry for advancing the frontiers of science and health worldwide. I served as organizer and **Chair of the 2023 Gordon Research Conference on “Multi-drug Efflux Systems”** that counted

115 participants, with more than half at an early career stage including graduate students and postdoctoral fellows.

In my laboratory, I have **established a battery of molecular biology, biochemical and biophysical assays** to probe structure-function relations in Pgp, CFTR, and recently the sodium-coupled citrate transporter (NaCT), a member of the solute Carrier Transporter family (SLC13A5 gene). These include efficient mutagenesis procedures to generate mutant variants, whole cell drug resistance and transport assays for rapid initial screening of function, purification methods that yield very pure and active proteins (ATPase activities are among the highest reported in the field), and differential scanning calorimetry and circular dichroism spectroscopy to assess protein thermostability. I use drug-stimulated ATP hydrolysis extensively, as well as fluorescent ligand binding and transport assays, to evaluate Pgp and CFTR function and their interactions with drugs and lipids, and to validate competitive and synergistic interactions of drugs and other ligands.

### **Keywords/areas of interest**

ABC transporters, Multidrug Efflux pumps, multidrug resistance, P-glycoprotein, cancer drug resistance, Cystic Fibrosis, CFTR, drug binding sites, drug-drug interactions, drug-induced toxicity.

### **Manuscript Reviews for Journals**

Biochemistry  
Biochimica et Biophysica Acta, Biomembranes  
Biophysical Journal  
British Journal of Pharmacology  
Cancer Chemotherapy and Pharmacology, AACR  
Cell Press Structure  
Chemical Reviews  
Enzyme and Microbial Technology  
FEBS Letters  
Journal of Biological Chemistry.  
Journal of Lipid Research  
Journal of Molecular Biology  
Journal of Pharmacology and Drug Metabolism  
Journal of Proteome Research  
Molecular Cancer Therapeutics, AACR  
PLOS  
PLoS ONE  
PNAS

### **Reviews for Funding Agencies**

Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, Bethesda, US  
Cystic Fibrosis Trust, Strategic Research Centre scheme, London, UK  
European Science Foundation (ESF)  
NIH Peer Review of the NCI Laboratory of Cell Biology, review panel member  
The Wellcome Trust (Molecules, Genes and Cells Grants), London, UK  
US-Israel Binational Science Foundation  
School of Medicine Seed grants (internal)  
School of Pharmacy Seed grants, TTUHSC, Amarillo, TX

### **Consultant to government agencies, private industry, or other organizations**

**Chair and organizer of the 2023 Gordon Research Conference on Multi-Drug Efflux Systems** entitled "Pharmacological Interventions Targeting the Mechanisms and Regulation of Transporters

for Advancing Health During a Pandemic”, March 26 – 31, 2023 at Hotel Galvez, Galveston, TX. The Chairs organize the meeting, select speakers, apply for grants from NIH and private sources, and raise funds to support travel and registration of young researchers and faculty.  
<https://www.grc.org/multi-drug-efflux-systems-conference/2023/>

**Session Chair and Organizer of the Cystic Fibrosis summer research conference**, session 3 on CFTR mRNA and Protein Biogenesis, from June 25 – 27, 2023, Big Sky Montana. The session addressed specific needs on CFTR protein stability to developing gene therapies. Sponsored by the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation.

**Chair and organizer of a series of three GRC Connects virtual events on Multi-Drug Efflux Systems** in 2021 to bridge the gap until we can meet again in person in 2023.  
[GRC Connects: Multi-Drug Efflux Systems \(1 of 3\)](#)

**Vice-Chair of the 2019 Gordon Research Conference on Multi-Drug Efflux Systems** entitled “Translating Multifaceted Molecular Mechanisms into Pharmacological Interventions for Advancing Global Health”, April 28 – April 2, 2021, Renaissance Tuscan II Ciocco, Lucca (Barga), Italy. The Vice Chairs assist with selection of speakers, grant applications, fund raising and poster evaluation.

Cystic Fibrosis Foundation Therapeutics (CFFT), Regular, **CFTR3D Consortium member**, March 2009 - 2019. The consortium discussed research in biweekly phone calls and held in-person meetings twice a year. The Committee was advisory to the CFFT board and met with industrial partners to advise on advancements in new technology for drug discovery and mode of action evaluation of potentiator and corrector drugs.

Cystic Fibrosis Foundation Therapeutics (CFFT), **consultant** to the Protein Production core housed at the University of Alabama, Birmingham, 2019 - present.

## TEACHING (35% effort)

During the past 13 years, I have taught in a total of one School of Medicine (SOM) and 20 Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences (GSBS) courses. My teaching load has averaged 2 - 4 lecture hours per year for the SOM, and 30 hours per year for the GSBS, but increased to 40 countable lecture hours in the past four years (see Table below). As part of this effort, I have been the course director for the Core IV seminar series for the past 5 years and co-director since 2014 (see Educational Administration), as well as co-director for the Laboratory Methods for Biotechnology students since 2019. I have directed Research in Biotechnology, Biotechnology Report/Final Report, and Laboratory Methods (Rotations) for the past two years. In my functions as Biotechnology Graduate Student Advisor (from 2018 - 2022) and Director of Biotechnology (Lubbock campus, June 2023 – October 2024), I have conducted monthly virtual meetings to guide our ~20 students, provide advice on course work, and encourage social interactions during the pandemic. My student evaluations have been constantly above average and in 2020 I received Dean Berk's "Teacher" pin for effectively delivering of course content to medical students. I have been a member of the Core Curriculum Coordination Committee since 2014. As elected Chair (2019-2021, and again 2023-2025), I organized monthly meetings with course directors and staff to discuss our student's academic performance and helpful interventions, and also communicated updates on Covid-19 guidance during the 2020/2021/2022 semesters. In addition, I have mentored 6 PhD students, 12 Biotech and 1 MBA Master's students, and 11 Postdocs. I have served on 18 PhD student committees, 2 MD/PhD and 19 Master's student committees. Furthermore, I have supervised 8 medical research technicians and 24 undergraduate students. I have enjoyed connecting High School students to science at the HSC (see educational activities for the lay public). I received the prestigious President's Excellence in Teaching Award in 2022.

## Teaching Experience, Lectures taught at TTUHSC:

### Summary of Annual Scheduled Teaching (contact hours given for Spring/Summer/Fall 2023)

Course Prefix and Number	Course Name	School	Lecture contact hours	Number of students enrolled
MSCI5109	General Principals (GPX, Block II)	SOM	2	220
GSBS 5471	Core I: Molecules (General Biochemistry)	GSBS	7	18
GSBS 5174	Core IV: Biomedical Seminar Series, <b>Director</b> *	GSBS	16	18
GSBS 5099	Core V: Introduction to Biomedical Research	GSBS	1	6
GBCM 6333	Advanced Protein Biochemistry	GSBS	12	12
GBTC 5020	Biotechnology Laboratory Methods, <b>Co-Director</b> *	GSBS	10	10
GBTC 5337	Laboratory Methods (Rotations), <b>Director</b> *	GSBS	2	7
GBTC 5098	Techniques in Biomedical Research, <b>Director</b> *	GSBS	1	11
GBTC 5199/5299	Biotechnology Report/Final Report, <b>Director</b> *	GSBS	2 Spring, 1 Fall	10

GBTC 5298	Biotechnology Internship Report, <b>Director *</b>	GSBS	2 Spring, 2 Fall	2
GBTC 6000	Research in Biotechnology, <b>Director *</b>	GSBS	3	1
GBTC 7000	Research in Biotechnology, <b>Director *</b>	GSBS	19	7
	Total contact hours		82	

\* See also Course Directorship below and SERVICE

### Other Lectures taught:

GBTC 6202 Biomedical Informatics (2010-2013, 2 hours)  
 GBTC/BTEC 6301 Biotech course (2006-2010, 4 hours)  
 GBCH 5421 General Biochemistry Graduate Course, now Core I (2006-2010, 6 hours)  
 GBCH 6222 Problem Solving (2007-2009, 2 hours)  
 GBCH 6335 Special Topics course (2009, 10 hours)

**Other Teaching** (see also Education Administration): Small group conferences, and laboratories for undergraduate students, medical students, graduate students, and residents and fellows, and other students

GBCM 7101 Seminar Course, Co-Director (2012-2020, 15-20 hours)  
 GBTC 6001 Biotechnology Internship (2018-2023, 4 hours)  
 GBTC 5298 Biotechnology Internship Report (2018-2023, 4 hours)  
 GBCM 7000 Research (Summer, Fall, Spring 2021 - 2024)  
 GBMG 7000 Research (Summer, Fall, Spring 2005 – Fall 2017)  
 GMB 7000 Research (Summer, Fall, Spring 2013 – 2016)  
 GBCM 8000 001 Doctoral Dissertation (Spring 2010, Fall 2012, Fall 2017)  
 GMB 8000 001 Doctoral Dissertation (Spring 2017)  
 GBCM 8000 001 Doctoral Dissertation (Summer 2020)  
 GTNP 7000 001 Research (Spring, Summer, Fall 2018 – 2022)  
 GTNP 8000 001 Doctoral Dissertation (Spring 2023)

### Group and individual Coaching:

As **Graduate Advisor and later Program Director of Biotechnology** (Lubbock Campus), I coached 11 first-year and 8 second-year students in 2021/2022, the number of 1<sup>st</sup> year enrollments was down to 5 in 2022/2023. I first get to know students during the application screening and interview process as member of the Biotech student selection committee. I contact admitted students and facilitate paid student assistant positions in faculty labs for those students needing part time jobs (Biotech Master's students are not paid in the first two semesters); this includes advisory sessions on selecting a faculty mentor and available projects. I meet 1<sup>st</sup> year students during Core IV seminar review sessions throughout the fall semester and usually arrive 20 min early to chat with students on daily issues. As a member of the Core Curriculum Coordination committee, I monitor student's academic performance, instigate sessions on Expert Skills learning methods for all students, and help struggling students get back on track. Together with graduate advisor Kumar Palle, I gave updates on student performance and communicate pertinent issues at our Biotech Program Quarterly meetings and at Graduate Council. I respond to emails within a day and keep an open-door policy.

Some of the advisory hours that are countable are as follows:

New student orientation for Biotechnology, August 10, 2023: 2 hours

On demand counseling sessions on curriculum issues (struggling students): on average two 20 min sessions for select 1<sup>st</sup> year students, ~3-4 students, total ~2.5 hours

1<sup>st</sup> year Biotech student scheduled individual advising sessions (~30 min each per student in mid-November, 10 students) to help them register for spring classes and electives, and choose two faculty labs for spring rotations which could give them a potential match for their 2<sup>nd</sup> year internship. 5 hours

2<sup>nd</sup> year Biotech students, scheduled individual advising sessions (~30 min each per student in mid-November, 11 students) to help them register for missing electives and keep them on track for graduation. 5.5 hours

Biotech Connect: A monthly virtual Zoom meeting with all 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> year students to provide advice on course work and address student's wellbeing, ~ ten one-hour sessions, for a total of 10 hours.

**Biotech Connect:** A monthly virtual Zoom meeting with all 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> year students to provide advice on course work and address student's wellbeing, particularly during the pandemic. Ten one-hour sessions, for a total of 10 hours

### Course Directorship: Number of courses: 6

Course Prefix and Number	Course Name	School	organizing, scheduling, and contact hours	Number of students enrolled
GSBS 5174	Core IV: Biomedical Seminar Series, <b>Director</b>	GSBS	see below	18
GBTC 5020	Biotechnology Laboratory Methods, <b>Co-Director</b>	GSBS	see below	10
GBTC 5337	Techniques in Biotechnology Research (Rotations), <b>Director *</b>	GSBS	3	7
GBTC 5298	Biotechnology Internship Report, <b>Director *</b>	GSBS	2	2
GBTC 5199	Biotechnology Final Report, <b>Director *</b>	GSBS	2	10
GBTC 6001/7000	Research in Biotechnology, <b>Director</b>	GSBS	see below	7

GSBS 5174, Core IV: is a high-profile Biomedical Seminar Series for all GSBS graduate students across the four concentrations, several TTUHSC programs and centers of innovation. We contact faculty from each PhD student concentration, the Biotechnology program and the Cancer Center, the Center for Membrane Protein Research, and the Laura W. Bush Center of Women's Health for help identifying renowned speakers on current topics.

Organizing this seminar course takes about 80-100 emails to department chairs and faculty to schedule seminar speakers, ask for presentation materials and coordinate events. I usually start in April to have a syllabus ready by August. Last year my co-director helped organize 2 of the 8 events.

GBTC 5020, Biotechnology Laboratory Methods: We contact faculty to offer diverse biomedical methods experiences in their laboratory. 15 faculty were engaged last year and we required students to choose 8 of them. We keep a record of attendance and grades. Scheduling the methods sections for a small, limited number of students per lab and session was particularly challenging during the pandemic.

GBTC 5337, Techniques in Biotechnology Research (rotations)

Course Description: In Spring semester of Year 1, Biotechnology students are required to rotate in at least two faculty members' laboratories. Each rotation is for half a semester (~8 weeks). The objective is to allow student to learn multiple experimental techniques and approaches, and choose a faculty mentor in which to conduct research. Co-Directors advise students on faculty and lab choices and help them match with faculty for their 2<sup>nd</sup> year paid internship. Rotation plans should be confirmed with the course director and the GSBS Biotechnology Student Advocate to ensure they are initiated timely and completed in full.

GBTC 5199, Biotechnology Report (Fall 2022) and GBTC 5299 (Spring 2023), and GBTC 5298 (Fall Spring for external internships in industry) Report/Final Report.

Course Description: At the beginning of the YR2 Fall Semester, Biotechnology students are required to form a committee consisting of at least three Biotechnology Faculty, which must include their mentor, one of the three course directors, and at least one other member of the Biotechnology Program. Students present their data in three committee meetings scheduled for November, February/March, and the final meeting before April 21. Each committee has one of us Co-Directors to observe procedures are followed, and to report a grade for Fall and Spring semesters. I was on 6 student committees, see below.

Number Enrolled: 8, Fall 2022 and Summer 2023

\*GBTC 6001 Biotechnology external Internship, Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center

Course Description: Research and training in a private-sector or government biotechnology laboratory (by prior arrangement with program director). Co-directors are both assigned as committee members of students completing an industry internship to assure the work is research oriented and committee meetings occur satisfactory.

Number Enrolled: 1, Summer 2023, Spring 2023, and Fall 2022

\*GBTC 7000 Research in Biotechnology (internal Internship), Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center

Number Enrolled: 7 in Fall 2022 and Spring 2023; Numbers Enrolled: 4, Summer 2023

\*GSBS 5098 Techniques in Biomedical Research, Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center

Course Description: Through rotations in different laboratories, students will be introduced to fundamental principles and techniques in basic biomedical research.

Number Enrolled: 1, Summer 2023

### **Coordinated events for the following courses:**

GBTC 6202 Biomedical Informatics, Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center

Course Description: Provides a broad introduction to the field of bioinformatics in medical research. Emphasizes use of modern software packages and internet-based genomic and other databases to solve research problems. Personal laptop meeting the GSBS laptop guidelines is required. Prerequisite: GSBS 5373 or by permission of the instructor. Required course for Biotechnology Master's students for Spring, Year 1.

Number Enrolled: 6, Spring 2023

GBTC 6301 Introduction to Biotechnology, Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center

Course Description: Broad coverage will be given to topics with high current interest and utility to the biotechnology industries. The course emphasizes the application of technologies and is required for all Biotechnology Master's students in Year 1 Spring semester.

Number Enrolled: 5, Spring 2023

GSBS 5099 Core V: Introduction to Biomedical Research, Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center

Course Description: Each concentration introduces faculty members who are interested in recruiting PhD or MS Biotechnology students. Students also learn how to pick a mentor and lab for their research projects.

Number Enrolled: 6, Fall 2023

## **Directed Student Learning, Trainees (present and past):**

### **Postdoctoral fellows, research associates and visiting scientists: Total 11**

Valeria Jaramillo-Martinez, Ph.D., Research Associate, May 2023 – present. **Valeria graduated top of her class** and received the K. Wyatt McMahon Outstanding Graduate Student Award from the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences. She continues postdoctoral studies on two collaborative projects in the lab, indeed she took the lead on developing both projects for which I am actively seeking funding.

Maria Simakova, Ph.D., Research Associate, June 2023 – present.

Anthony Bui, Ph.D., Research Associate, January 2020 – February 2021.

Ellen Hildebrandt, Ph.D., Senior Research Associate, December 2009 – June 2019 supported by URBATS06XX0, “Purification of full-length CFTR proteins”. She edited a book chapter for Molecular Cloning published in 2012, is first author on papers published in 2014, 2015 and 2016, and co-authored papers in 2011, 2014, 2014, 2017, 2018 and 2019. She has presented her work

Douglas J. Swartz, a former graduate student, joined my lab as a Postdoctoral Fellow and was awarded a prestigious Postdoctoral Fellowship from the American Heart Association, July 2013 – June 2015. He is now a tenure-track Assistant Professor at Lubbock Christian University and continues to collaborate on research projects. He co-authored a PNAS paper in 2013, was first author in Biosci Rep. in 2014, co-authored a paper in BBA, Biomembranes in 2015, and in J. Biol Chem in 2017, and was first author in Scientific Reports in 2020. He presented posters of his work at national (FASEB, Gordon conference) and international (FEBS) meetings. He joined my lab as a graduate student in 2007, and stayed as Postdoctoral Fellow from December 2012 - July 2015.

Leo Mok, Ph.D., Postdoctoral Fellow from December 2010 – July 2014, supported by RP101073, “Molecular mechanisms of novel inhibitors of the multidrug resistance P-glycoprotein”. He co-authored a paper in J Biol Chem in 2017. He now works as a Transporter biologist at Amgen in San Francisco, CA.

Jiangping Bai, Ph.D., he did a short Postdoctoral fellowship in my lab from January to July 2010 before he took an Assistant Professorship at the Gansu Agricultural University in Lanzhou, China. He returned as a visiting Research Assistant Professor from January to March 2011. He is first author on a publication in Biomembranes in 2011.

Jyh Yeuan Lee, Ph.D., Postdoctoral Fellow, April 2006 – April 2009. He is first author on a JBC publication in 2009, coauthored publications in 2007 and 2010, and was awarded a Postdoctoral Fellowship from the American Heart Association South Central Affiliate in 2009. He continued his work as a Postdoctoral Researcher II with collaborators Drs. Helen Hobbs and Jonathan Cohen at UT Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas, and is now an Assistant Professor at the University of Ottawa, Canada. His work has culminated in solving the X-ray structure of the cholesterol transporter ABCG5/ABCG8 in bile acid-lipid bicelles, and was published in Nature 2016.

Hui Mao, M.D., Senior Research Associate, March - September 2009. She worked for a short time on the purification of CFTR, and then followed her husband to the Cedars-Sinai Medical Center Institute in Los Angeles, CA.

Arthi Krishnakumar, Ph.D., Postdoctoral Fellow, July 2008 – January 2009. She worked for a short time on the purification of CFTR and returned to crystallography in Dr. Mark Greene's lab at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine, PA.

Rupeng Zhuo, Ph.D., Postdoctoral Fellow, February 2006 – December 2008. He coauthored a Science paper in 2009, a publication in 2011, and presented Posters at several national meetings (ABC meetings in Bethesda). He is currently a PostDoc at the University of Utah.

### **Graduate students (Committee Chair): total 12 MS and 6 PhD students**

Nghi (Skyler) Tran graduated with a Masters in Biotechnology in May 2022, and continues as a PhD student in the Biochemistry and Molecular and Cellular Biology Concentration. She presented her work on a Poster at the Annual Center for Membrane Protein Research in 2021, at the Student Research week in 2022, and at the Biophysical Society meeting 2022 and 2023 in San Francisco and San Diego. Her poster abstract was selected for an invited 5 min flash-talk presentation at the Biophysical Society meeting in Philadelphia, February 2024, sponsored by a travel fellowship. She is first author on an original article in *Front Mol Biosci.* in 2023 (IF of 4.8), and significantly contributed to a high-profile article as co-author in *eLife* (2024, IF 9.9).

Devin Mangold, Master's Thesis Committee Chair, MS Biotechnology, June 1, 2023 - May 10, 2024. He is a co-author on a manuscript in preparation.

Matthew Guerra, Master's Thesis Committee Co-Chair, MS Biotechnology, September 1, 2023 - August 10, 2024.

Simranjeet Kaur, is a first-year student in the Biotechnology Master Program and has worked part-time on a research project in the lab since September 2023.

### **Past**

Valeria Jaramillo-Martinez **graduated top of her class and received the K. Wyatt McMahon Outstanding Graduate Student Award** from the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences on May 10, 2023. She received her PhD from the Translational Neurosciences and Pharmacology concentration, and started a new project on the SLC13A5 transporter involved in brain epilepsy in my lab. She presented a Poster at the Biophysical Society meeting 2020 in San Diego. She published a first-author paper in *Chemical Reviews*, 2021 (Impact factor IF of >54), is 1<sup>st</sup> author on an invited Commentary by *Biochem J* 2021, 1<sup>st</sup> author on an invited Chapter for *Methods in Molecular Biology* (2021), and co-authored papers in *Biochem J.* (2020, 2021, IF of 3.8), *Metabolites* (2021, IF of 4.9), and *Front Mol Biosci.* 2023. Total of 6 publications.

Rozenn Kenny Moundounga, is enrolled in the Master's in Biotechnology Program and expected to graduate in May, 2024. She conducted a research project in the lab September 2022 – March 2023.

Geetha Priya Boligala graduated with a Master's in Biotechnology May 2021. She conducted a research project in the lab October 2019 – December 2019.

Courtney Katz, graduated with a Masters in Biotechnology in May 2019, and continued as a PhD student in the Molecular Biophysics Concentration. She presented her work on a Poster at the Annual Center for Membrane Protein Research in 2018, at the Student Research week in 2019, and at the Biophysical Society meeting 2020 in San Diego. She is coauthor on a manuscript to be submitted.

Benjamin Jackson graduated with a Master's in Biotechnology May 2020. He conducted a research project in the lab from October 2018 – May 2019, and is coauthor on a manuscript to be submitted. He was accepted to TTHUSC SOM with a scholarship for minority backgrounds.

Bradley Schniers, conducted a research project in the lab from March 2017, and continued during his first year after joining our PhD graduate program in Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics; he continued as a member of Yangzom Bhutia's lab and graduated in May 2022.

Bala Meenakshi Purna, graduated with a Ph.D. in Biochemistry and Cellular and Molecular Biology (BCMB), TTUHSC in December 2017. She started in my lab as an intern in June 2011 and graduated with an MS in Biotechnology (TTU track) in May 2012. She joined our Biochemistry and Molecular Genetics (BMG, now BCMB) program as a PhD student to pursue her project on Cystic Fibrosis and was supported by The CH Foundation. She presented her work at the annual North American Cystic Fibrosis Conference in 2014, 2015, and 2016 (national meetings with >3,000 attendees), is first author on a publication in Protein Engineering, Design and Selection (PEDS) in 2017, and is co-author in BBA Biomembranes in 2018.

Greg Fendley, PhD student in Cell Physiology and Molecular Biophysics, December 2013 – May 2017, served as Co-Chair. He started in our Biotechnology program and received his MS in May 2013. He continued his work on ABC transporters, co-chaired by Drs. Altenberg and Urbatsch, and is first author on a paper that was accepted for publication in Biochemical and Biophysical Research Communications (BBRC) without revision (!), and co-author on a paper just published in the Journal of Biological Chemistry. He currently pursues a Postdoc at the University of California at Merced near San Francisco.

Narong Sok, M.S. student in Biotechnology since September 2014 and graduated in May 2016. He worked as an Undergraduate Research Assistant in my lab from November 2012 and graduated with a major in Biochemistry from TTU in August 2014. He continued in our Biotechnology program and presented his work at Student Research Week in 2016. He now works as a laboratory technician in Dallas, TX.

Douglas J. Swartz, graduated with a Ph.D. in Biochemistry and Molecular Genetics (BMG), TTUHSC in December 2012. He is first author on three publications and co-authored a PNAS paper in 2013; he presented Posters of his work at national (FASEB, Gordon conference) and international (FEBS) meetings. He joined my lab as Postdoctoral Fellow in January 2013, see above. He currently is an Assistant Professor at Lubbock Christian University.

Anukriti Singh, she started an internship in my lab as a M.S. student in Biotechnology (TTU track) in March 2012 and graduated in May 2013. She continued the work in my lab as a Technical Assistant, was promoted to Research Associate in March 2017, and returned to India in July 2017. She co-authored papers in Biosci Rep. in 2014, in J. Biol Chem in 2017, in BBA, Biomembranes in 2017, and Scientific Reports in 2020.

Sri Karan Botta, he graduated with a Master of Business Administration (MBA) at the Raws College of Business, TTU in December 2011. He was an intern in my lab from January-December 2011 and co-authored a paper in 2014. He currently works as an asset manager for a Biotech company in Hartford, CT.

Ryan Fleischman, M.S. in Biotechnology (TTUHSC track) in May 2011. His Poster presentation won 2<sup>nd</sup> prize at our Student Research Week in 2011. He is now on the technical staff at the Children's Nutrition Research Center in the Texas Medical Center, Houston.

Brandy Harvey Johnson, Ph.D. in Cell and Molecular Biology (CMB), TTUHSC in May 2010. She is first author on two publications. She is now a Professor at the School of Math, Science, and Engineering, Central New Mexico Community College in Albuquerque.

Dorinda (Gaelle) Tchipandi, M.S. in Biotechnology (TTUHSC track) in May 2010. She pursued a Ph.D. in Biotechnology and Engineering at the University of Nebraska Medical Center.

Lindsay Stalcup, M.S. in Biotechnology (TTUHSC track) in May 2005, Biotechnology, Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center. She works in Rapid City, South Dakota.

**Graduate Committee Memberships (served as member): total 18 PhD, 2 MD/PhD, 19 MS**

Yash Mehta, Dissertation Committee Member, Pharmaceutical Sciences, Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center, MS, March 23, 2023 - Present.

**Past**

Megan Skains, Master's Thesis Committee Member, MS in Biotechnology, June 1, 2022 - May 7, 2023. She is now enrolled in our PhD program in the Cell Physiology and Molecular Biophysics concentration. She is one of a few who obtained a **prestigious pre-doctoral fellowship from the American Heart Foundation**.

Joshua J Theriot, Master's Thesis Committee Member, MS in Biotechnology, June 1, 2022 - May 7, 2023. He won a prize for poster presentation at the 2023 Multidrug Efflux Systems Gordon conference in Galveston, Texas. He is now working as a Medical Tech at UT Southwestern, Dallas.

Anne Pierre, a Biotech Master student August 2022 – May 2023, is now working as a medical Tech in a TTUHSC research lab.

Ibrahim Shawky, a Biotech Master student August 2022 – May 2023, he took the MCAT early September and is applying for Medical School.

Shrushty Govany, a Biotech Master student August 2022 – May 2023, is now employed in Industry in Philadelphia.

Michael Wright, Dual degree JD/Biotech Master student, June 2021 – May 2023. He is planning on taking the board exam in patenting this summer.

Glody Mbaki, a Biotech Master student August 2021 – May 2022, is now working as a Tech in a Biotech company.

Matthew Rasberry, a Biotech Master student August 2021 – May 2022, is a certified EMS technician and is currently studying for MCAT.

Thomas Germain, Chair of the Qualifying Exam Committee 2021, Dissertation Committee Member, Molecular Biophysics August 2020 – December 2021; this student finished with a MS and is now enrolled in the business school for an MBA.

Nhi Ngyuen, a Biotech Master student August 2020 – May 2021, is now enrolled in our PhD program.

Nicholas Evans, a Biotech Master student August 2020 – May 2021, is now enrolled in the PhD program at Birmingham, Alabama.

Alyssa Nagle, Biotech Master student, August 2020 – May 2021. She has secured a Technical Assistant position in Houston, TX.

Matthew Dominguez, Chair of the Qualifying Exam Committee 2021, Dissertation Committee Member, Molecular Biophysics August 2020 – December 15, 2023. He is one of a few who obtained a **prestigious pre-doctoral fellowship from the American Heart Foundation**.

Evan Van Aalst, Dissertation Committee Member, Chemistry and Biochemistry, TTU, Lubbock TX, August 2020 – May 10, 2023.

Isaak Scott, former Biotech Master student is now enrolled in our PhD program in Molecular Biophysics, Qualifying Committee Member 2020, Dissertation Committee Member, August 2019 – August 2023.

Bojana Ristic, Dissertation Committee Member, Biochemistry and Cellular and Molecular Biology, June 2016 – August 2020. She returned to her home country Serbia.

Elham Pirayesh, Biotech Master Committee Member, Biotechnology, June 2015 – May 2016, and Dissertation Committee Member, Molecular Biophysics, August 2017 - 2020. She found a well-paying job in Industry.

Manual Ramos, MS, Biotech Master Committee Member, Biotechnology, June 2019 – May 2020. He took the board exam in patenting, and found employment at a well-paying law firm.

Chris Hornback, Biotech Master Committee Member, Biotechnology, June 2018 – May 2019. He currently works as a Technician at the TTUHSC, Lubbock.

Brian Johnson, Biotech Master Committee Member, Biotechnology, June 2018 – August 2019. He conducts his external internship as a Research Technologist II at Northwestern University, Division of Rheumatology.

Faraz Harsini, Biotech Master Committee Member, Biochemistry and Cellular and Molecular Biology, August 2014 – May 2015. He continued his PhD in Molecular Biophysics, and graduated in May 2019. He works at a Biotech company in Austin, Texas.

Ashly Hindle, Ph.D. Dissertation Committee Member, Cell Biology and Biochemistry, December 2012 – May 2019. He currently works as a Postdoc at the TTUHSC, Lubbock.

Courtney Jarvis, PhD, Master's Committee Member, Immunology and Molecular Microbiology, December 2013 – May 2015. He graduated with a PhD in Immunology and Molecular Microbiology, in May 2018. He took a job in a local Biotechnology company.

Mina Ahmadi, Biotech Master Committee Member, Biotechnology, June 2016 – May 2017. She enrolled at the University of Minnesota as PhD student.

Swapneeta Date, Ph.D. Dissertation Committee Member, Cell Physiology and Molecular Biophysics, January 2014 – May 2016. She is currently a PostDoc at Columbia University in New York City, NY.

Zeno Yates, Biotech Master Committee Member, Biotechnology, June 2015 – May 2016. He worked for a year as a Laboratory Technician at the TTUHSC, and then enrolled in our Medical School.

Eric Edwards, Ph.D. Dissertation Committee Member, Biochemistry and Molecular Genetics, November 2012 – 2016, and will graduate with a Master's and an MBA in August 2016. He has accepted a lucrative job at a Biotech company in Ft. Collins, CO.

Michael Holliday, he graduated with the Ph.D. part of his MD/PhD studies in May 2012 and graduated with an M.D. from the SOM, Lubbock in 2014. He received the Achievement Rewards for College Scientists (ARCS) Scholarship, and went on for a residency at St Mary's Hospital, CT.

Rebecca Cooper, Ph.D. in Cell Physiology and Molecular Biophysics (CPMB) from June 2008 to May 2013. She was awarded a predoctoral fellowship from the American Heart Association (AHA) in 2011. She is now a postdoctoral fellow at Harvard University in Boston.

Arup Chakraborty, Ph.D. in the Department of Biological Sciences, TTU, Lubbock in December 2011. He continues as a Postdoc at the National Institute of Health (NCI) in Bethesda.

Jason Cooper, he graduated with the Ph.D. part of his MD/PhD studies in May 2011 and graduated his M.D. with honors in 2013. He was matched to the Massachusetts' General Hospital in Boston, named the # 1 hospital in the US.

Mitesh Sanghvi, Ph.D. in Pharmacology and Neurosciences, TTUHSC, in May 2008. He is currently a PostDoc at the NIH National Institute for Aging.

Shyla Narasimhachar, Ph.D. in CMB at TTUHSC, May 2009. Shyla moved to Houston for a Postdoc position.

Rolando DelAguilla, M.S. in Biochemistry, 2005. He took a BioTech job in Spain.

### **Medical students: total of 2**

Amanda Pickert, Medical Student Summer Research Program in 2005 and 2006. She graduated with an M.D. in May 2009 and started her residency in Oklahoma in Dermatology. She rejoined my lab from April to May 2009 to keep up her research skills sponsored by the Cardiovascular Center FOAP. She won prizes for poster presentations at our Student Research Week in 2006 and 2007, and co-authored publications in 2007 and 2010.

Shilo Souza, November 2003 – May 2005, part-time Medical Student Assistant. She won first prize for her poster presentation at Student Research Week in 2005 and co-authored a publication in 2007. She took a Residency in El Paso where she now practices Gynecology.

### **Undergraduate students**

Total of **27** Undergraduate Research Assistants between 2003 and 2023. Kimberly Williams, Sumeet Baghat, Kenneth Scott, Paulina Gonzales, Oscar Gonzales, Brandon Bailey, Mandy Gerek, Christopher Zolasky, Katie Anderson, Ramona Spurbeck, Dixia Bakta, Henry Heiser, Alicia Browder, Dayo Kazeem, Esther Goff, Sumantha Nimma, Nethanji Kumarapathiranalage, Patrick Yu, Kimberly Munoz, Daniel Yates, Narong Sok, José Bonilla, Joshua Thomas, Yu Jung Nam, Joel Zapata, Hannah Weaver (TTU Honors college).

Undergraduate Research Assistants typically help for a couple of years with general lab duties such as growth of yeast cultures, membrane preparations and protein purifications before they move on to graduate studies. Dr. Urbatsch gives them an excellent research experience and their work is acknowledged in many publications.

### **Of note:**

Hannah Weaver came to my lab through the TTU Honor's College and is a CISER fellow. She was supported by an administrative supplement for summer research experiences on grant 1R01GM141216.

Joel Zapata is an Undergraduate Research Assistant from TTU with a major in Biology and a minor in chemistry. He started a research project in the lab in July 2019, and continued to work part-time during the semester. He was accepted to the PharmD program at UT Southwestern, Dallas, TX. He significantly contributed to a high-profile article as co-author in *eLife* (2024, IF 9.9).

### **SABR Students**

Esther Goff, Henry Heiser, Christopher Zelasko, Sandya Nair and Delphine Jean.

### **Technicians/Research Associates**

Anukriti Singh, Patina Harrell, Henry Heiser, Trinh YenPhuong, Zhanling Wang, Uma Paramashiva, Lan Wu, and Jeannie Griffin.

## Non-Credit Instruction

### Educational activities for the lay public:

**High School Summer Science Camp**, co-Chair of organization committee of inaugural summer camp, July 2017, and co-Chair of organization committee for the 2018 summer camp. Number of participants: 15

Arranged for **UIL Science High School Students** to attend Student Research Week events March 2016-2018. Number of students participating: 10

Red Bag Tour: Lubbock Cooper High School student visit to TTUHSC, Exploring careers in the Health Sciences, January 2018, Number of Participants: 60.

**High School student visit to TTUHSC**, Exploring careers in the Health Sciences, Lubbock Cooper High School, February 2017, Number of Participants: 60.

Organized **seminar at Lubbock Cooper High School**, Protein Science in Space, October 2015. Number of students participating: 60

### Innovations in Education:

**Chair** and organizer of the prestigious **Gordon Research Conference on Multi-Drug Efflux Systems**, entitled "Targeting the Mechanisms and Regulation of Transporters for Advancing Health During a Pandemic", elected Chair and organizer, March 2023. The conference had 115 attendees, mostly graduate students and postdocs that met for the first time since the pandemic lock down <https://www.grc.org/multi-drug-efflux-systems-conference/2023/>

**Chair and organizer of a series of three Gordon Research Conference "Connects" virtual events on Multi-Drug Efflux Systems** to bridge the gap during the pandemic and foster scientific interactions between graduate students, postdocs and principle investigators worldwide. The three sessions had more than 100 attendees from North America, Europe, Asia and Australia. Graduate students and postdocs presented their research in 7 min Short Talks followed by 4 min Q&A sessions; principle investigators moderated concluding 30 min networking sessions: May 2021 <https://www.grc.org/grc-connects-multi-drug-efflux-systems-1-of-3/default.aspx>

**Vice-Chair** of the **Gordon Research Conference on Multi-Drug Efflux Systems**, entitled "Pharmacological Interventions Targeting the Mechanisms and Regulation of Transporters for Advancing Health Worldwide", elected Vice-Chair and co-organizer, April 2019. **Symposium Chair** on "New Approaches for Understanding the Function of Membrane Transporters". The conference had 150 attendees, mostly graduate students and postdocs. <https://www.grc.org/multi-drug-efflux-systems-conference/2019/>

**High School Student Introduction to the World of Science**, Educational Program for Local High School Students, TTUHSC, March 2017 (see also Educational activities for the lay public)

Description: I invited UIL Science students and their coach from Lubbock Cooper High School to attend a seminar by an invited speaker during our GSBS student research week. After the seminar, I took them on a tour of different research labs, including my own, to give them a taste of biomedical research. Attendees: 8

**High School Student Introduction to the World of Science**, Educational Program for Local High School Students, TTUHSC, March 2016 (see also Educational activities for the lay public)

Description: I invited UIL Science students and their coach from Lubbock Cooper High School to attend a seminar by a Nobel Laureate during our GSBS student research week. After the

seminar, I took them on a tour of different research labs, including my own, to give them a taste of biomedical research. Attendees: 10

**High School Student Introduction to the World of Science**, Educational Program for Local High School Students, TTUHSC, March 2015 (see also Educational activities for the lay public)

Description: Invited a **former Astronaut to give a seminar at Lubbock Cooper High School**, entitled "Protein Science in Space", October 2015. Number of students participating: 60

## **SERVICE (15% effort)**

I have served on 7 committees related to educational administration in the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences (GSBS), two in Cell Biology and Biochemistry, and I was elected as one of three TTUHSC Faculty Senators representing the GSBS. In addition, I have served on two educational SOM committees, and four related to faculty affairs, and was recently elected to the FCEC. As indicated on pages 4-5, I review manuscripts for several journals, review grants for several agencies including the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, Cystic Fibrosis Trust, European Science Foundation, a Peer Review of the NCI Laboratory of Cell Biology at NIH, and I serve as a consultant to the Protein Production core supported by the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation Therapeutics (CFFT).

**Educational Administration** (see also Teaching: Coaching and Course Directorship)

**Program Director of Biotechnology**, May 2022 – October 2023.

People Impacted: Students, Number of Participants: 23

**GSBS Biotechnology Graduate Advisor**, (see also Positions, and Coaching), September 2018 – May 2022. People Impacted: Students, Number of Participants: 8-10 every year

### **Course Directorship**

**GSBS 5174 Director of Core IV**: Biomedical Seminar Series, August 2018 - present;

Co-Director, September 2014-2017

**GBTC 5020 Director of Biotechnology Laboratory Methods**, August 2019 - 2021; Co-Director, September 2017-2018, 2022-2023

**GBTC 5350 Director of Laboratory Methods** (Spring Rotations), 2023

**GBTC 5098 Director of Techniques in Biomedical Research** (Summer), 2022, 2023

**GBTC 5199 Director of Biotechnology Report**, 2023

**GSBS 5299 Director of Final Report**, 2023

**GBTC 7000 Director of Research in Biotechnology**, 2022-2023

### **Educational Committees: total of 7 GSBS and 3 CBB committees**

**GSBS Core Curriculum Coordination Committee (CCCC)**, member September 2014-present.

I currently **chair the CCCC** that oversees training of all incoming graduate students (PhD and MS)

to provide a solid and broad foundation that allows students to excel in any of our four basic sciences' concentrations. The CCCC is composed of the course directors of the GSBS core curriculum our first-year students take in the fall semester, and faculty representatives from each concentration from both the Abilene and Lubbock campuses. The CCCC has developed and annually reviews a rigorous, relevant curriculum that provides fundamental knowledge relevant to all biomedical sciences concentrations, and closely monitors student performance.

We identify struggling students and offer early interventions to help students perform better.

During the pandemic last year, we coordinated a mixture of in-person, hybrid and zoom classes that offered flexibility to students and faculty, and kept us all safe!

We meet monthly in the fall to discuss student's performance and adjustments to the curriculum to incorporate new emerging knowledge and technologies to meet the highest standards of graduate school education.

People Impacted: Graduate students in PhD and MS programs, Number of students: 15-22 each year

**Chair**, September 2019 – July 2021, and again July 2023 - 2025. Elected to coordinate meetings and lead the discussions. Elected **Vice-Chair**, July 2021 – July 2023.

**GSBS Biotechnology Program Committee Member**, August 2016 - present. Meets quarterly to discuss student's performance and organizational issues.

**GSBS PhD student Selection Committee Member**, December 2015 - December 2022. The committee meets most every Friday between late December and early April to discuss applications that we review and score ahead of the meeting, and to interview qualified candidates. Students with little or no research experience are referred to the Biotech Master's program. This year (2020/2021), we reviewed 39 student's applications, interviewed ~30 students, recommended 18 to the admissions committee who offered admission to all of them; a total of 10 students accepted admission. Last year (2019/2020), we screened and interview a similar number of students but GSBS capped the number of students admitted at 4.

**GSBS Biotech Student Selection Committee Member**, August 2016 – present, committee Chair June 2022 – October 2023. The committee meets on demand between January and late May to review and interview applicants. Dr. Bergeson and I review applicants from the TTUHSC Recruit website, schedule and conduct interviews and file our final report with the GSBS. On average, we review about 25+ applications, interview about 18-20 promising candidates and make offers to about 15 students, with a target goal of 10 acceptances for admission to the Master's program.

**GSBS Graduate Council Representative** for BCMB, March 2016 – December 2022

**GSBS BMG Concentration Committee Member**, April 2013 – August 2015.

**GSBS SACS Accreditation Review Committee**, PN Graduate Program, Nov. 2013 - February 2014.

**CBB Seminar Review Committee Member**, January 2010 – present,  
**Co-director** January 2016 - 2020.

**CBB Graduate Program Concentration Committee member** of Biochemistry and Molecular Genetics (BMG), April 2013 - August 2015.

**CBB Equipment Committee Member**, September 2004 – present,  
**Chair**, June 2016 - 2020.

### **SOM and TTUHSC committees: total of 7 SOM and 3 TTUHSC committees**

**SOM Faculty Council Executive Committee**, September 2023 - August 2025.

FCEC members have responsibilities in striving to achieve and maintain excellence in all aspects of medical education, research, and service in all components of the School of Medicine. They review and make recommendations on matters such as admissions, curricula, standards of instruction, student conduct, student promotions, graduation, or any other matters which may affect the pursuit of academic excellence.

**SOM Hearing Committee**, September 2023 - August 2026.

It is the policy of the TTUHSC to affirm the right of its students to a prompt and fair resolution of a complaint or grievance involving allegations of inappropriate behavior by other TTUHSC students or by TTUHSC personnel toward students.

**SOM Grievance Committee**, August 2022 – August 2025.

**SOM Student Promotions & Professional Conduct Committee**, (SPPCC) Educational Policy Committee, August 2022 - August 2025.

Year 1-2 subcommittee: The mission is to develop and implement policies and procedures that ensure that students in the TTUHSC SOM achieve the highest standards of academic performance and professional behavior.

**SOM Faculty Development Leave Committee**, February 2022 – August 2024.

**SOM Post Tenure Faculty Peer Review Committee Member**, November 2018 – August 2021, January 2023 - present.

Comprehensive Performance Evaluation of Tenured Faculty, Policy OP 20.23

**SOM Search Committee for the Chair of the Department of Cell Physiology and Molecular Biophysics**, TTUHSC, Lubbock, September 2021-July 2022.

**TTUHSC Research Renovation Task Force**, committee member for Cell Biology and Biochemistry, January 2022-present.

**TTUHSC Faculty Senator for the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences (GSBS)**, September 2019 – 2021; ad-hoc representation 2021-present.

President's Awards Committee Member, July 2019 – present. Leader of the selection of the President's Excellence in Research Awards in 2020, 2021, and again in 2022. We usually review and scored 5 to 7 applicants.

**TTUHSC Radiation Safety Committee Member**, 2005 - 2015.

**Public, Local (see also Innovation in Education)**

High School Summer Science Camp Organization Committee, 2019. Program Organizer

High School Summer Science Camp Organization Committee, 2018. Program Organizer

High School Summer Science Camp Organization Committee, 2016 - 2017. Program Organizer

Lubbock Cooper High School, Seminar Organization, 2015. Program Organizer

**Faculty Development Activities Attended**

Teaching Academy, School of Medicine Teaching Academy, January 2023 - present.

Webinar, 2023 TTUHSC Compliance Symposium, Office of Institutional Compliance, TX, October 2023.

Faculty Development Course (FDC), NIH Grant Writing Seminar, Research, Innovation, Collaboration, and Entrepreneurship (RICE), Lubbock, TX, September 2023.

Advanced Teaching and Technical Writing (ATTW), Dean's Grand Rounds: Improving the Learning Environment: Eliminating Student Mistreatment, TTUHSC School of Medicine, Lubbock, August 2023.

Chair training, Organization of a Gordon Research Conference, Gordon Research Conference office, Orlando, Florida, January 2020.

Faculty Development Course (FDC), Annual Age Discrimination webinarx, Office of General Council - TTU System, Lubbock, TX, August 2023.

Faculty Leadership Study Group, Lessons, Life and Leadership Seminar Series, Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center, Lubbock, Texas, Number of Credit Hours: 8, September 2016 - April 2017

Faculty Leadership Study Group: Lessons, Life and Leadership Seminar Series for Women Faculty in Academic Medicine September 2015 - April 2016.

## SCHOLARSHIP (50% effort)

Google Scholar *h*-index: 36

<https://scholar.google.ca/citations?user=fkvqbPMAAAAJ&hl=en>

I have published 81 peer-reviewed papers that are referenced in NCBI's PubMed, that have been cited more than 8259. I am particularly proud of our publication in Science magazine (impact factor IF of 64) on the structure of the P-glycoprotein multidrug transporter in 2009 which has been cited in Google Scholar more than 2,300 times and is one of the most cited papers in the transporter field. My continuous strive to decipher the mechanism of drug binding and transport and ever-increasing resolutions has resulted in a stream of papers published in top-tier journals include Trends Biochem Sci. in 2010 (IF of 13.8), PNAS in 2013 (IF of 12.8), Acta Crystallographica in 2015 (IF of 5.7), Structure in 2015 (IF of 5.9), Front Mol Biosci. in 2023 (IF of 4.8), and recently in eLife (2024, IF 9.9). My work on the related human sterol transporter ABCG5/ABCG8 lead to a prestigious publication in Nature in 2016 (IF of 69.5) that has been cited more than 270 times. Studies of the Cystic Fibrosis Conductance regulator are published in Nature Commun. (2019, IF of 16.6), Biochim Biophys Acta., Membranes (2014, 2017, 2018, IF of 4.0), and recently in BioRxiv (was reviewed by Nature). and have led to a patented invention "Stabilized Variants and Uses of CFTR Protein". Collaborative studies with Dr. Ganapathy, Bhutia and Karamyshev at TTUHSC on the Na-coupled citrate transporter have led to a string of publications in Chemical Reviews in 2021 (IF of 60.1), Biochem J. (2021, IF of 3.8), Metabolites (2021, IF of 4.9), and Methods Mol Biol. (2022). I am also the senior author of a book chapter in the well-known Laboratory Manual "Molecular cloning," 4th edition by Green and Sambrook that has been regarded as the "bible" of molecular biology.

### Peer-reviewed publications: total of 81

1. Gewering T, Waghray D, Parey K, Jung H, Tran NNB, Zapata J, Zhao P, Chen H, Januliene D, Hummer G, Urbatsch I, Moeller A, Zhang Q. Tracing the substrate translocation mechanism in P-glycoprotein. Elife. 2024 Jan 23;12. doi: 10.7554/eLife.90174. PMID: 38259172. *We propose a new mechanistic model of how substrates are translocated across the membrane, which challenges a prevailing dogma in the field.*
2. Tran NNB, Bui ATA, Jaramillo-Martinez V, Weber J, Zhang Q, **Urbatsch IL**. Lipid environment determines the drug-stimulated ATPase activity of P-glycoprotein. Front Mol Biosci. 2023 Feb 23; 10: 1141081. doi: 10.3389/fmolb.2023.1141081. eCollection 2023, PMID: 36911528. *The journal has an impact factor of 5.1.*
3. Jaramillo Martinez V, Ganapathy V, Urbatsch IL (2022). Peptide Tags and Domains for Expression and Detection of Mammalian Membrane Proteins at the Cell Surface. Methods Mol Biol. 2022; 2507:337-358. doi: 10.1007/978-1-0716-2368-8\_18. PMID: 35773591
4. Jaramillo-Martinez V, Sivaprakasam S, Ganapathy V, **Urbatsch IL**. Drosophila INDY and Mammalian INDY: Major Differences in Transport Mechanism and Structural Features despite Mostly Similar Biological Functions. Metabolites. 2021 Sep 29;11(10):669. doi: 10.3390/metabo11100669. PMID: 34677384 Review.
5. Jaramillo-Martinez V, Ganapathy V, **Urbatsch IL**. A home run for human NaCT/SLC13A5/INDY: cryo-EM structure and homology model to predict transport mechanisms, inhibitor interactions and mutational defects. Biochem J. 2021 Jun 11; 478(11): 2051-2057. doi: 10.1042/BCJ20210211. PMID: 34101804.
6. Jaramillo-Martinez V, **Urbatsch IL**, Ganapathy V. (Urbatsch is co-corresponding author). Functional Distinction between Human and Mouse Sodium-Coupled Citrate Transporters and Its Biologic Significance: An Attempt for Structural Basis Using a Homology Modeling Approach.

- Chem Rev. 2021 May 12; 121(9): 5359-5377. doi: 10.1021/acs.chemrev.0c00529. Epub 2020 Oct 11. PMID: 33040525. *Chem Reviews has an impact factor of 60, cited 17 times.*
7. Higuchi K, Kopel JJ, Sivaprakasam S, Jaramillo-Martinez V, Sutton RB, **Urbatsch IL**, Ganapathy V. Functional analysis of a species-specific inhibitor selective for human Na<sup>+</sup>-coupled citrate transporter (NaCT/SLC13A5/mINDY). *Biochem J.* 2020 Nov 13; 477(21):4149-4165. PMID: PMC7657661. *This article has been cited 15 times.*
  8. Swartz DJ, Singh A, Sok N, Thomas JN, Weber J, **Urbatsch IL**. Replacing the Eleven Native Tryptophans by Directed Evolution Produces an Active P-glycoprotein With Site-Specific, Non-Conservative Substitution. *Sci Rep.* 2020 Feb 21; 10(1): 3224. PMID: PMC7035247
  9. Sigoillot M, Overtus M, Grodecka M, Scholl D, Garcia-Pino A, Laeremans T, He L, Pardon E, Hildebrandt E, **Urbatsch IL**, Steyaert J, Riordan JR and Govaerts C. Domain-interface Dynamics of CFTR Revealed by Stabilizing Nanobodies. *Nature Communications* 2019 June; 10(1): 2636 2019. PMC6572788 *Nat Commun has an impact factor of 16.6, cited 26 times.*
  10. Yang Z, Hildebrandt E, Jiang F, Aleksandrov AA, Khazanov N, Zhou Q, An J, Mezzell AT, Xavier B, Ding H, Riordan JR, Senderowitz H, Kappes JC, Brouillette C G, and **Urbatsch I L**. Structural stability of purified human CFTR is systematically improved by mutations in nucleotide binding domain 1. *Biochimica et Biophysica Acta, Biomembranes* 2018 May;1860(5):1193-1204. PMC6319260. *This article has been cited 16 times.*
  11. Zoghbi ME, Mok L, Swartz DJ, Singh A, Fendley G, **Urbatsch IL**, and Altenberg GA. Substrate binding modulates the conformational changes of the nucleotide binding domains of the multidrug transporter P-glycoprotein in a lipid bilayer. *J. Biol. Chem.* 2017; 292(50), 20412-20424, PubMed ID # PMC5733581. *Urbatsch is co-corresponding author, cited 69 times.*
  12. Xavier BM, Hildebrandt E, Jiang F, Ding H, Kappes JC, and **Urbatsch IL**. Substitution of Yor1p NBD1 residues improves the thermal stability of Human Cystic Fibrosis Transmembrane Conductance Regulator, *Protein Engineering, Design and Selection* 2017 Oct 1; 30(10): 729-741. doi: 10.1093/protein/gzx054.
  13. Hildebrandt E, Khazanov N, Kappes JC, Dai Q, Senderowitz H, **Urbatsch IL**. Specific stabilization of CFTR by phosphatidylserine. *Biochimica et biophysica acta* 2017; 1859(2), 289-293, PMID: PMC5237360. *BBA Biomembranes has an impact factor of 3.7, cited 23 times.*
  14. Yang Z, Zhou Q, Mok L, Singh A, Swartz DJ, **Urbatsch IL**, Brouillette CG. Interactions and cooperativity between P-glycoprotein structural domains determined by thermal unfolding provides insights into its solution structure and function. *Biochimica et biophysica acta* 2017; 1859(1), 48-60. *Urbatsch is co-corresponding author.*
  15. Fendley GA, **Urbatsch IL**, Sutton RB, Zoghbi ME, Altenberg GA. Nucleotide dependence of the dimerization of ATP binding cassette nucleotide binding domains. *Biochemical and biophysical research communications* 2016; 480(2), 268-272.
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82. Chi Wang C, continue to collaborate with prior tYang Z, Loughlin BJ, Xu H, Veit G, Vorobiev S, Clarke OB, Jiang F, Li Y, Singh S, Rich Z, Menten ER, Grassucci RA, Wang W, Mezzell A, Fu Z, Wong KH, Wang J, Wetmore DR, Sutton RB, Brouillette CG, Urbatsch IL, Kappes JC, Lukacs GL, Frank J, Hunt JF, Mechanism of dual pharmacological correction and potentiation of human CFTR, preprinted in *BioRxiv* Oct 11, 2022; doi: <https://doi.org/10.1101/2022.10.10.510913>

**Book Chapters:**

Kiehlkopf C, Bauer W, and **Urbatsch IL**. Expressing cloned genes for protein production, purification and analysis. Invited chapter in Green M and Sambrook J, *Molecular cloning*, 4th edition CSHL Press, July 2012. *This is the well-known Laboratory Manual originally published by Sambrook and Maniatis*

Harvey BH, Lee JY and **Urbatsch IL**. Sitosterolemia, book chapter in *Encyclopedia of Molecular Mechanisms of Disease*, Lang, F. (Ed.), ISBN 978-3-540-33445-3, Springer, pp1941-1943 (2009).

### GenBank submissions:

ACCESSION MZ367587, Synthetic construct HSS\*-NaCT gene, complete cds 2199 bp

ACCESSION MZ367588, Synthetic construct HSS\*GFP-NaCT gene, complete cds, 2952 bp.

ACCESSION JF834158, 3855 bp DNA linear, SYN 02-SEP-2011, Synthetic construct P-glycoprotein gene, complete cds, VERSION JF834158, GI:332693032.

ACCESSION KP202880, 5610 bp DNA linear, SYN 22-APR-2015, Synthetic construct SUMO\*-CFTR.FLAG-EGFP gene, complete cds, VERSION KP202880.1, GI:808035088

### Patents:

**US 20,130,011,909A1** (2012) Methods and composition to enhance production of fully functional p-glycoprotein in *Pichia pastoris*. The invention provides codon optimization to increase protein production by providing a target gene, wherein the expression of the target gene is to be optimized; providing a codon usage frequency table; replacing low-frequency codons in the target gene with corresponding high-frequency codons that code for the same amino acid; and harmonizing the a distribution of codon frequencies to those of the set of highly expressed native gene over an open reading frame, wherein the optimized gene encodes an amino acid sequence identical to the respective wild-type (native) amino acid sequence.

**US 11,560,413** (2023) Modified cystic fibrosis transmembrane conductance regulator (CFTR) polypeptides with increased stability and uses thereof. The present invention is directed to modified CFTR proteins or fragments thereof that contain single or multiple amino acid mutations to improve the structural stability of such CFTR proteins and/or fragments. Specifically, the modified CFTR proteins or fragment thereof differ from the wild-type human CFTR protein or fragment thereof by the presence of four or more mutations selected from V150D, M470V, S492P, F494N, S495P, A534P, I539T, G550E, G551D, R553Q, R555K, Q637R, S1255L, K1334G, S1359A, E1371Q, H1402S, Q1411D, and any combination thereof, such that the stability of the polypeptide is increased relative to that of the wild-type human CFTR polypeptide or fragment thereof.

## Presentations/Exhibits/Productions

### Invited Podium Presentations

I have been invited to speak at platform presentations at national and international meetings including five Gordon Research Conferences, a Biophysical Society Annual Meeting, a FEBS Special Meeting, the European Cystic Fibrosis Conference, and the North American Cystic Fibrosis Conference (NACFC), and have organized two workshops for the NACFC. I was elected Chair of the 2023 Gordon Research Conferences on Multi-drug Efflux Systems, and Vice-Chair of that conference in 2023. In addition, I organized three GRC Connects virtual events (May 2021) to foster communication between graduate students and Postdocs during the pandemic.

2023 Ina Urbatsch, **moderator** of a session on "CFTR mRNA and Protein Biogenesis" at the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation Summer Research Conference in Big Sky, Montana, June 25 – 29, 2023.

2023 Ina Urbatsch, Conference **Chair** of the **Gordon Research Conference on Multi-Drug Efflux Systems** themed "New Approaches for Understanding the Function of Membrane

- Transporters, Pharmacological Interventions Targeting the Mechanisms and Regulation of Transporters during a Pandemic” at Hotel Galvez, Galveston, TX, March 25 – 31, 2023 (postponed from 2021). I gave the introductory and concluding remarks.
- 2022 Ina Urbatsch, “Drug binding to distinct sites of the multidrug exporter P-glycoprotein”. **Invited symposium** speaker at the **Gordon Research Conference** on Ligand Recognition and Molecular Gating, Structure and Dynamics of Ion Channels, G-Protein Coupled Receptors, and Solute Transporters at the Renaissance Tuscany Il Ciocco, Lucca (Barga), Italy, March 20 - 25, 2022 (postponed from 2020).
- 2021 Chair and organizer of a series of three **Gordon Research Conference “Connects”** virtual events on Multi-Drug Efflux Systems: <https://www.grc.org/grc-connects-multi-drug-efflux-systems-1-of-3/default.aspx> Each meeting had more than 100 attendees from North America, Europe, Asia and Australia.
- 2020 Ina Urbatsch, “Drug binding to distinct sites of the Multidrug exporter P-glycoprotein”. **Co-Chair** and **invited speaker** of the **Platform: Membrane Pumps, Transporters, and Exchangers** at the **Biophysical Society** 64<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA from February 15-19, 2020.
- 2019 Ina Urbatsch, Conference **Co-Chair** and **symposium Chair** “New Approaches for Understanding the Function of Membrane Transporters of the **Gordon Research Conference on Multi-Drug Efflux Systems**, Translating Multifaceted Molecular Mechanisms into Pharmacological Interventions for Advancing Global Health, April 28 – May 2, 2019 at the Renaissance Tuscany Il Ciocco Lucca (Barga), Italy.
- 2018 Ina Urbatsch, Patrick Thibodeau, **workshop organizers** “CFTR: Structure Function & Dynamics of CFTR Ion Channel” and **workshop speaker** “Functional stabilization of purified human CFTR by NBD1 mutations and by conformation”, 2018 North American Cystic Fibrosis Conference (**NACFC**, Denver, CO, October 2018. *This conference had over 5,000 participants*)
- 2018 Ina Urbatsch, Multidrug Resistance P-glycoprotein: Lipid and drug Interactions, and cooperativity between structural domains. Invited lecturer at the University of Duesseldorf, Germany, July 1, 2018.
- 2018 Ina Urbatsch, Structural stability of purified human CFTR is systematically improved by mutations in NBD1, and by specific phospholipids. **Invited symposium speaker** at the 2018 **Gordon Research Conference on Membrane Transport Proteins: From Physiology to Disease**, at Sunday River, Newry, ME, from June 10 - 15, 2018.
- 2017 Ina Urbatsch, Interactions and cooperativity between P-glycoprotein structural domains determined by thermal uncoupling and LRET. **Invited symposium speaker** at the **Gordon Research Conference on Multi-Drug Efflux Systems**, Integrated approaches to understanding the role of multi-drug efflux systems in health and disease, March 26-31, 2017 in Galveston, TX. *At the meeting, I judged posters and participated in the Power Hour to help address challenges women face in science. I was elected co-Chair for the next meeting in 2019, and Chair for 2021.*
- 2016 Ina Urbatsch, Thermal stabilization of purified CFTR by mutations in the nucleotide binding domains and by specific phospholipids. Poster abstract was selected for **oral presentation** in the **CFTR workshop** 12: Understanding and Stabilizing CFTR Structure. 30<sup>th</sup> Annual North

- American Cystic Fibrosis conference (**NACFC**) in Orlando, FL, October 28, 2016. [This meeting had over 5,000 attendees.](#)
- 2016 Jyh-Juan (Eric) Lee "ABCG5/ABCG8: A Structural View on Sterol Transport" ", Invited symposium speaker at the **Gordon Research Conference on Membrane Transport Proteins**, June 12-17, 2016 at the Renaissance Tuscany Il Ciocco Lucca (Barga), Italy. I [arranged for my former Postdoc to present](#) our recently solved crystal structure of ABCG5/G8. I judged posters at the meeting.
- 2016 Urbatsch, I. L., Hildebrandt, E., Purna, B. Generate and test mutations known to promote folding of CFTR, and identify new mutations for their impact on folding and stability of full-length CFTR, Cystic Fibrosis Foundation Headquarters, Bethesda, Maryland, May 2016.
- 2015 Urbatsch, I. L., Hildebrandt, E., Purna, B. How to achieve stable and pure CFTR, CFTR3D, North American Cystic Fibrosis Meeting, NACFC, Phoenix, AR, October 2015.
- 2015 Urbatsch, I. L., Hildebrandt, E., Purna, B. How to achieve stable and pure CFTR, Cystic Fibrosis Foundation Headquarters, Cystic Fibrosis Foundation Headquarters, Bethesda, Maryland, May 2015.
- 2014 Ina Urbatsch, "Directed Evolution of P-glycoprotein Cysteines Reveals Site-specific, Non-conservative Substitutions that Preserve Multidrug Resistance", **Invited symposium speaker** at the **Gordon Research Conference** on Ligand Recognition and Molecular Gating, Structure and Dynamics of Ion Channels, G-Protein Coupled Receptors, and Solute Transporters, March 23-28, 2014 in Ventura Beach, CA.
- 2014 Ina Urbatsch, "How to stabilize purified CFTR", CFTR3D consortium workshop presentation at the North American Cystic Fibrosis (NACFC) meeting in Atlanta, GA, October 8, 2014.
- 2014 Ina Urbatsch, "How to stabilize purified CFTR", CFTR3D consortium workshop presentation at the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation headquarters in Bethesda, April 29-30, 2014.
- 2013 Ina Urbatsch, "How to purified CFTR in active conformation", CFTR3D consortium workshop presentation at the North American Cystic Fibrosis (NACFC) meeting in Salt Lake City, CO, October 17, 2013.
- 2012 Ina Urbatsch, Patrick Thibodeau, **workshop organizers and workshop speakers**, "The CFTR 3D structure consortium: development of CFTR constructs & biophysical assays to aid structure/mechanism-based CF drug discovery", 2012 North American Cystic Fibrosis Conference (**NACFC**, Orlando, FL, October 2012. *This conference had over 5,000 participants*
- 2012 Ina Urbatsch, "A Directed Evolutionary approach to building a Tryptophan-free P-glycoprotein for fluorescence drug binding studies" at the **4th FEBS Special Meeting** on ATP-Binding Cassette (ABC) Proteins: From Multidrug Resistance to Genetic Disease, Innsbruck, Austria, March 2012. *This conference had 500 participants*
- 2011 Ina Urbatsch, "Purification of CFTR from the yeast *Pichia pastoris*", **European Cystic Fibrosis Society Conference** "New Frontiers in Basic Science in Cystic Fibrosis", March 2011, Tirrenia-Pisa, Italy. *This conference had 300 participants*

2011 Ina Urbatsch, "Purification of CFTR from the yeast *Pichia pastoris*", CFTR 3D Structure consortium satellite meeting, North American Cystic Fibrosis conference (**NACFC**), October 2011 in Anaheim, CA.

2011 Invited seminar speaker, University of Rochester Medical Center, Rochester, NY.

2010 CFTR 3D Structure Consortium meeting in Minneapolis, MN.

2009 Invited seminar speaker, John's Hopkins, Baltimore, ML.

2009 CFTR 3D Structure Consortium meeting in Birmingham, AL.

Previously: Oklahoma State University in Stillwater, University of San Francisco, University of North Dakota in Fargo, Drexel University in Philadelphia, University of Rochester Medical Center, Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, and McGill University in Montreal (CA).

In Germany: Goethe University of Frankfurt and University of Kaiserslautern.

## Grants and Contracts Awarded:

Since July 2004, my research on mammalian ABC transporters has been continuously funded accumulating more than \$5.9 million. What sets me apart, may be the diversity of funding I have been able to secure including grants from the American Heart Association (AHA), the Department of Defense (DOD), Cancer Prevention & Research Institute of Texas (CPRIT), the National Institute of Health (NIGMS-R15 AREA, NIGMS-R01), and a long-term grant from the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation Therapeutics (CFFT). I am particularly proud of sponsoring two post-doctoral fellowships from AHA, and one pre-doctoral fellowship from the TESS Foundation. I also interacted with local funding agencies and received grants from the Wilson Foundation, the CH Foundation and multiple from the South Plains Foundation (SPF). Since 2022, I have been the Principal Investigator of a NIH-R01 and in 2023, added a co-Principal Investigator on a second NIH-R01, and received Administrative Supplements to Support an Undergraduate Summer Research Experience, and an Equipment Purchase. Finally, I successfully led a Multi-PI R13 application in support of a prestigious Gordon Research Conference.

### Ongoing Support:

NIGMS, R01 GM141216-01 Urbatsch (PI) 08/01/22-04/30/26

Studies of P-glycoprotein drug interactions

The aim of this proposal is to identify single tryptophans in strategic locations within the drug binding sites of P-glycoprotein that can distinguish binding of substrates and inhibitors of this multidrug pump and can serve to survey binding of clinically relevant drugs.

30% effort, Total Amount: \$1,237,301

Administrative Supplement to 1 R01 GM141216-01 05/01/23 – 04/31/24

to support Undergraduate Summer Research Experiences,  
Total Amount: \$7,497

Administrative Supplement to 1 R01 GM141216-01 05/01/23 – 04/31/24

for Equipment Purchase, Total Amount: \$67,508

NIGMS, R01 GM148675-01 Zhang (PI) 08/10/23 - 05/31/27

Inhibition or invasion of P-glycoprotein-mediated drug transport

The goal is to obtain a deep, molecular-level understanding of P-glycoprotein mediated drug transport and efflux inhibition. We will interrogate how P-glycoprotein discriminates transport substrates and inhibitors, in order to rationalize chemical strategies to modify drugs to evade transport by this highly polyspecific pump.

Role: Co-Investigator), 7% effort, Total Amount: \$28,000

NIAID, R13AI174842-01 Urbatsch (Multi-PI, lead) 02/03/23 – 01/31/24

Conference support for the 2023 Multi-Drug Efflux Systems Gordon Research Conference

The theme was “Targeting the Mechanisms and Regulation of Multi-Drug Transporters for Advancing Health during a Pandemic”.

Total Amount: \$7,000 (one of the highest funds for a Gordon Research Conferences given by NIAID in 2023)

### Pending:

NINDS, R01 NS129824-01 Urbatsch (PI)

Pathobiochemistry of Na-coupled citrate transport in SLS13A5 epilepsy, and targeted therapeutic developments

The aims of this proposal are to (1) determine the molecular defects of all 22 known disease-causing mutations of the Na-coupled citrate transporter (SLC13A5) causing EIEE25, (2) to develop assays



The goal is to purify 300-500 human transporters from *P. pastoris* and crystallize the proteins for X-ray structure determination.

Role: Co-Investigator, 10% effort, total amount: \$114,317

13POST17070103, Swartz, D. J. (PI) 07/01/13–06/30/15  
American Heart Association Southwest/Central Affiliation,  
Observing Drug Interactions with P-glycoprotein through Site-specific Tryptophan Fluorescence,  
(Postdoc salary support for two years).  
Role: Sponsor, total amount \$85,972

RP101073 Altenberg (PI) 06/01/10-05/30/13  
Cancer Prevention and Research Institute of Texas (CPRIT)  
Molecular mechanisms of novel inhibitors of the multidrug resistance P-glycoprotein.  
The goals of this grant was to define distinct conformational states of Pgp using luminescence resonance energy transfer (LRET), and to elucidate how new inhibitors block the ATP hydrolysis cycle of Pgp.  
Role: Co-Principal Investigator, 17% effort, total amount \$742,571

South Plains Foundation Urbatsch (PI) 09/01/11-08/30/12  
Construction of a Trp-free P-glycoprotein to understand cancer drug binding in a multidrug resistant pump. Seed grant to strengthen aim 1 of NIH/R15.

W81XWH-05-1-0316 Chang (PI) 03/01/05-02/28/10  
US Army/DOD  
Discovery of Potent Inhibitors for Breast cancer Multidrug Resistance.  
The goal of this study was to crystallize P-glycoprotein possibly with bound drugs or inhibitors to elucidate the binding sites and the mechanism of multidrug resistance by P-glycoprotein by x-ray crystallography.  
Role: Co-Investigator, 10% effort, total amount \$737,674

Cancer Research Grant Urbatsch (PI) 12/08/05-12/14/09  
Wilson Foundation, Dallas, TX  
Inhibitors of Multidrug Resistance in Breast Cancers.  
The goal of this grant was to screen compounds from the NIH repositories for inhibitors of P-glycoprotein.

0465130Y Urbatsch (PI) 07/01/04-06/30/06  
American Heart Association, Texas Affiliate  
ABC-Binding Cassette Transporters in Sitosterolemia and Arteriosclerosis.  
The goal of this proposal was to demonstrate that ABCG5 and ABCG8 are active transporters, which hydrolyze ATP to provide the energy for the transport process, and to test whether cholesterol and plant sterols stimulate the ATPase activity.

Helen Jones Foundation Urbatsch (PI) 01/01/06-12/31/06  
Inhibitors of P-glycoprotein: From Natural Products to Chemical Diversity.  
The goal of this Seed Grant was to a screen a subset of compounds from the NIH repositories to identify inhibitors of Pgp. This grant was intended to provide supplies for the training of a graduate student in my lab.

03-057-IU-D Urbatsch (PI) 09/01/04-08/31/05  
South Plains Foundation  
Sterol binding by the twinned ABC transporters ABCG5 and ABCG8.

