

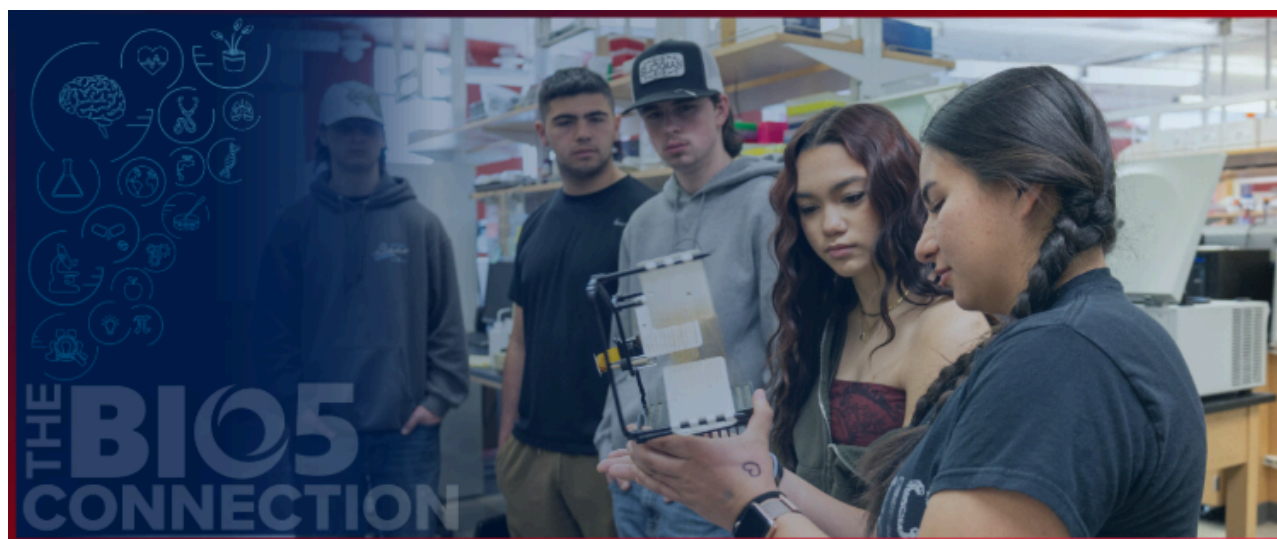
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THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA



## March 2025

Supporting the next generation of scientists and innovators



Hello ,

Come join us next week at [Behind BIO5](#) on April 3!

This free event is free and open to the public. Enjoy an evening of tours, fireside chats, demonstration tables, and poster presentations, where we'll give you an inside look at how the BIO5 Institute brings together interdisciplinary researchers to tackle major health challenges. [Register today!](#)

We are also thrilled to announce that the [Keating Family Endowed Professor for Interdisciplinary Research at the BIO5 Institute](#) is now open for nominations. All members of BIO5 are eligible for nomination, including self-nominations. The Keating Family BIO5 Professorship is awarded for one year, starting on July 1st, with the option for renewal for an additional year following a review by the BIO5 Institute director. The associated funds can be used to explore new research areas, purchase equipment, and support students. [Nominations are due April 28 - apply now.](#)

In this newsletter, learn about the BIO5 Flinn Scholar Research Experience, celebrate work anniversary milestones, and see how a nurse-scientist wants to empower nurse practitioners.

## Featured Stories



### **BIO5 Institute offers Flinn Scholars early research opportunities at the University of Arizona**

In partnership with the Office of Research, Innovation and Impact and the W.A. Franke Honors College, BIO5 is offering a semester-long research experience to nine Flinn Scholars during their freshman year, working with a U of A faculty mentor of their choice to jumpstart their scientific careers.

[READ MORE](#)



## BIO5 Institute announces largest cohort for the 2025 KEYS Research Internship

Sixty-six outstanding Arizona students from 35 high schools have been accepted into the 7-week research program set to begin in June, with the addition of an inaugural Phoenix cohort.

[READ MORE](#)

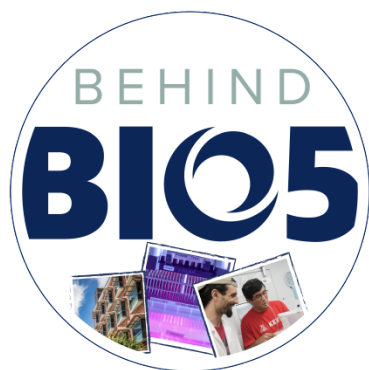


## Five BIO5 staff mark over a decade of technological impact at CyVerse

Members of CyVerse, the world's largest publicly funded open-source cyberinfrastructure for life sciences, celebrate work anniversaries at the BIO5 Institute. We congratulate Andy Edmonds, Sarah Roberts, and John Wregglesworth for their fifteen years of service and Ian McEwen and Mariah Wall for their ten years of service.

[READ MORE](#)

### Upcoming



#### Behind BIO5 2025

**April 3, 4:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.**

**Keating Building & Bioscience Research Laboratories**

Join us for an evening of tours, fireside chats, demo tables, and poster presentations, where we give you an inside look into how we bring together interdisciplinary researchers to tackle grand challenges in health.

**[More Information & Registration](#)**



#### Women in STEM 2025

**July 12, 11:30 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.**

**Thomas W. Keating Building Room 103 & Zoom**

Save the Date! Come listen to a panel of inspiring women from cross-disciplinary STEM fields share their unique journeys.





## Research & Innovation Showcase 2025

October 14, 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Thomas W. Keating Building Lobby & Room 103

We welcome all University of Arizona faculty, students, and staff to present their research to promote interdisciplinary research collaboration across the university.

[More Information](#)

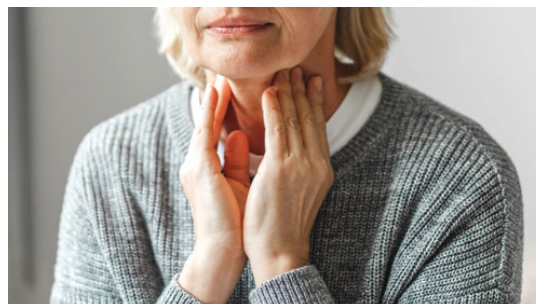
## In The News



### Removing barriers to high-quality opioid use disorder care

Nurse-scientist and 2025 BIO5 Postdoctoral Fellow **Zhanette Coffee** hopes to empower primary care nurse practitioners to play a crucial role in improving access to evidence-based care for patients with substance use disorders.

[Read in U of A Health Sciences](#)



### Vocal changes in birds may predict age-related disorders in people, study finds

BIO5 members **Charles Higgins** and **Julie E. Miller** found that vocal changes in aging songbirds may predict neurodegenerative disorders in humans, aiding early diagnoses for Parkinson's and Alzheimer's disease.

[Read in U of A News](#)



## Art, music, science combine for unparalleled experience

BIO5 member **Tally Largent-Milnes** recently led the innovative multimedia "Hearing the Invisible" event for the community in the University of Arizona's Tornabene Theater, which combined science and art to explore brain wave sonification.

[Read in U of A Health Sciences](#)



## With \$2M in grants, U of A engineers push toward a quantum computing future

University of Arizona engineers, including BIO5 member **Bane Vasić**, are advancing quantum error correction. Vasić's work on QLDPC codes aims to stabilize quantum computers, crucial for large-scale computing and enhanced qubit stability.

[Read in College of Engineering](#)

## Arizona doctor develops non-invasive test for endometrial cancer

BIO5 member **Melissa Herbst-Kralovetz** has patented a non-invasive diagnostic tool that a woman could use at home.

[Read in KJZZ](#)

## HonorHealth researchers experimenting with olives in anticancer drug

BIO5 member **Frederic Zenhausern** discusses how olive nanovesicles are highly resistant to stress and can enhance how well a cancer drug works.

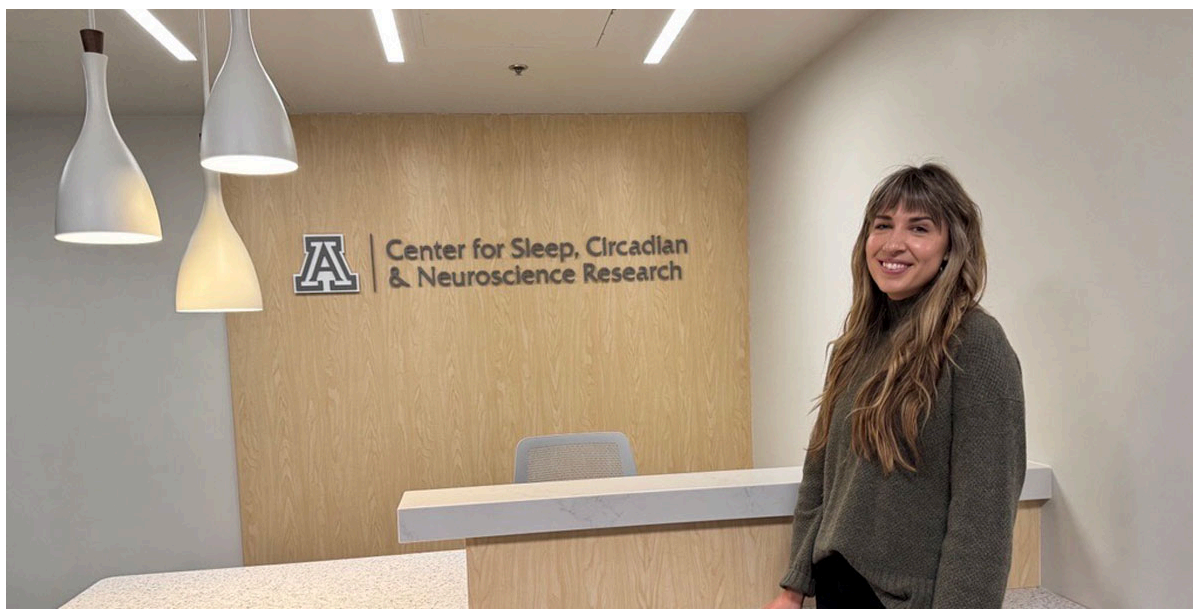
[Read in Cronkite News](#)

## U of A Big Idea Challenge

BIO5 director Jennifer Barton describes an exciting new funding opportunity through the Office of Research, Innovation and Impact.

**Watch on KVOA-TV**

## Behind-the-Scenes



### Tips on sleep

"Everyone's experience with sleep is different, but I believe how we sleep reflects how we spend our days. That's the missing piece."

In honor of World Sleep Day on March 14, **Kat Kennedy**, a 2025 BIO5 Postdoctoral Fellow and interdisciplinary sleep and circadian research scientist at the University of Arizona College of Medicine – Tucson, has some perspective on how to improve sleep quality:

"Unlike exercise and nutrition, where we make decisions throughout the day about how much we move or what we eat, sleep works differently. You can't force yourself to sleep better. It thrives when we don't try to control it. The best thing we can do is focus on how we spend our time during the day: stay active, get plenty of daylight, and manage stress."

It's crucial to give ourselves the space during the day to process stress, so we can sleep better at night."

## Share with a friend!

Like this newsletter? Forward to a friend and follow us on social media to see more news, events, and behind-the-scenes.

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### **Land Acknowledgment**

*We respectfully acknowledge the University of Arizona is on the land and territories of Indigenous peoples. Today, Arizona is home to 22 federally recognized tribes, with Tucson being home to the O'odham and the Yaqui. The university strives to build sustainable relationships with sovereign Native Nations and Indigenous communities through education offerings, partnerships, and community service.*