



NEWS FROM THE BU DEPARTMENT OF BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING BU.EDU/BME

BU BME: Pivoting to fight COVID-19



BME Prof. Klapperich Spearheads BU's COVID-19 Testing Lab

Boston University is instituting its own [COVID-19 testing program](#).

As part of a multipronged initiative to resume residential learning, expand research activities, and return to campus life, Boston University is instituting its own [COVID-19 testing program](#). The program is being developed by [Catherine Klapperich](#), ENG professor of biomedical engineering and director of the BU [Precision Diagnostics Center](#). The University is establishing a high-throughput facility for RT-PCR testing in the Kilachand Center for Integrated Life Sciences & Engineering, with plans to process over 5,000 tests per day and deliver the results in under 24 hours.

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Back2BU: BU's Four-Phase Campuswide Plan for Fall

"We are starting to see a vision of fall emerge" - BU President Bob Brown

The University's decision to resume on-campus learning and research activities this fall marks the beginning of a new era of academic life. As we reopen the University with our [Back2BU](#) program, our actions will be guided by public health considerations and best practices around the coronavirus pandemic. The "new normal" includes daily symptom reporting, plus screening, [community testing](#), a special app and web portal, tracing and medical intervention as part of the plan for residential teaching, research, and education.

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Laura Lewis Named One of Only 15 Searle Scholars for 2020

Congratulations to Assistant Professor Laura Lewis for being named one of only 15 Searle Scholars in 2020, for her work on *Neuromodulation of Neural Dynamics and Perception Across Sleep and Wakefulness*. Prof. Lewis joined BU BME in 2019.

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Mike Economo won a Klingenstein-Simons Fellowship Award in Neuroscience

Assistant Professor Mike Economo is the recipient of a Klingenstein-Simons Fellowship Award in Neuroscience, a nationally recognized early career award honoring exceptional young faculty. Prof. Economo joined BU BME in 2019.

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Zaman Honored with Guggenheim Fellowship

Professor Muhammad Zaman has been awarded a fellowship from the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation, in recognition for his global health initiatives. For the past decade, Zaman has aimed his considerable biomedical ingenuity at healthcare problems in the developing world.

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Professor Irving Bigio Honored with Joseph W. Goodman Book Writing Award

Bigio and co-author Sergio Fantini are the 2020 winners for their book *Quantitative Biomedical Optics: Theory, Methods, and Applications* (Cambridge Univ. Press). Co-sponsored by SPIE and OSA, the award recognizes a recent and influential book in the field of optics and photonics.

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Damiano Featured in PBS Documentary

Professor Ed Damiano and his work developing a bionic pancreas are featured in the PBS documentary, *Blood Sugar Rising: America's Hidden Diabetes Epidemic*. Damiano developed the iLet, a portable, wearable artificial pancreas, at his BU biomedical engineering lab.

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Khalil Awarded 2020 Vannevar Bush Faculty Fellowship

Associate Professor Ahmad 'Mo' Khalil has been awarded the 2020 Vannevar Bush Faculty Fellowship—the Department of Defense's most prestigious award for a single investigator—to explore how cells are capable of passing "memories" down to the next generation of offspring cells, a dynamic known as epigenetic memory.

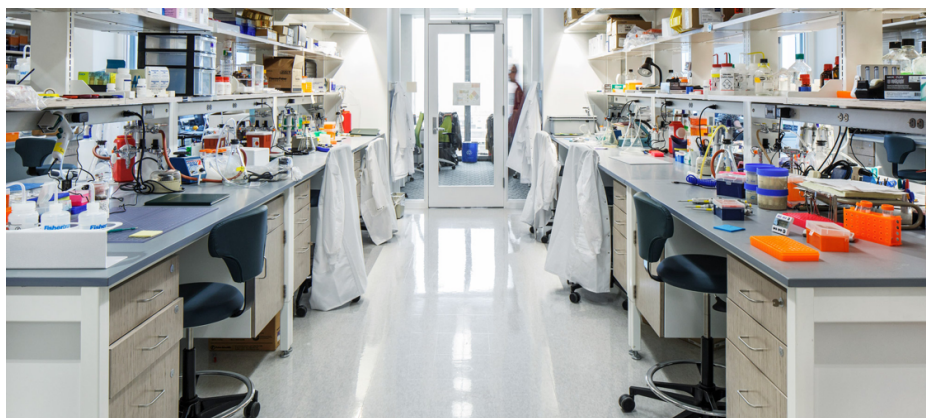
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BU BME Holds #9 in US News Rankings for Biomedical Engineering

Boston University's Department of Biomedical Engineering continues to hold the **#9 position nationally** among the top engineering schools for graduate biomedical / bioengineering degrees, according to U.S. News & World Report. The College of Engineering also held steady, ranking this year at 36th among 218 schools.

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Return to Research: BU unveils first phase of campuswide research recovery plan

The road to recovering Boston University's vast research activities—which last fiscal year drew nearly \$580 million in funding—has begun with a plan for “low-density” occupancy of University lab spaces. According to [guidelines](#) from BU's [Office of Research](#), the resumption of on-campus research will be phased, deliberate, and guided by public health advisories.

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Dr. Anna Devor joins BME

Anna Devor, Ph.D. has joined BME as Associate Professor. As director of BME's Neurovascular Imaging Laboratory, her research program is focused on real time detection of brain activity across scales: from cellular and molecular activity of neuronal circuits in animals to noninvasive brain imaging in humans.

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BTEC Lab Space Construction Completed

The new **Bioengineering Teaching and Entrepreneurship Center (BTEC)** on Cummington Mall opened its doors to host classes and labs for students. BTEC is a 5000-square-foot, bioengineering “maker space” with a Molecular, Cellular, and Tissue Engineering Suite, a Biosensors and Instrumentation Suite, and a Digital and Predictive Medicine Design Suite. [Read More](#)



BME Participates in Shutdown Stem and Day of Collective Engagement

On June 10, The College of Engineering participated in the national movement #ShutDownSTEM, pausing for a day to collectively examine and take action on eradicating systemic racism in academia and STEM, joining academics and scientific organizations nationwide. [Read More](#)



Students Take On the Business of Tissue Engineering

A team graduate students from BU and the University of Michigan took their CELL-MET research into the first steps toward commercialization. Competing in the **Tissue Engineering and Regenerative Medicine International Society (TERMIS) Business Plan Competition**, they wanted to explore the experience of building a spin-off company based on their research. [Read More](#)



Mary Dunlop and Michael Smith Receive Teaching Awards

Associate Professor [Mary Dunlop](#) was selected as the recipient of the 2020 College of Engineering Teaching Excellence Award by the senior class. Associate Professor [Michael Smith](#) was named the recipient of the 2020 College of Engineering Faculty Service Award by the College Executive Committee.

BME Student Highlights

BME Student Named Goldwater Scholar for STEM Achievements

BME's **Reece Huff**, one of three 2020 BU winners, joins the elite students selected from a pool of more than 5000 applicants. Goldwater Scholars show "exceptional promise of becoming this nation's next generation of natural science, mathematics, and engineering research leaders."

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BME Senior Design Projects Online

Under the guidance of faculty, clinical or industry mentors, 47 project teams presented research in virtual presentations, representing the culmination of a year of intensive research, and surmounting the challenges of completing their research remotely and presenting the work professionally online.

[View Senior Projects](#)

2020 Senior Awards

Congratulations to all of our BME **PhD and Masters Graduates** and **2020 Award Recipients!**

[Full Awards Listings](#)



Boston University College of Engineering
Department of Biomedical Engineering

The Biomedical Engineering Department at Boston University is among the largest of its kind in the US and is home to [award-winning faculty](#), [exceptional students](#), and numerous research [centers](#) and [laboratories](#) engaged in an array of interdisciplinary biomedical activities. Founded in 1966, today we offer a full suite of [undergraduate and graduate degrees](#), and are consistently ranked among the top BME departments in the nation by *U.S. News & World Report*.

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