

# RBC

## *Regenerative Bioscience Ctr.*

April 2025



**“When people of different backgrounds, disciplines, and areas of expertise share their thinking, innovation is more likely to happen...”**

In this video, RBC co-founders Stice, West, and Peroni, alongside Ph.D. candidate Morgane Golan, share the RBC story through insights into the center’s groundbreaking research, innovation, and commercialization efforts.

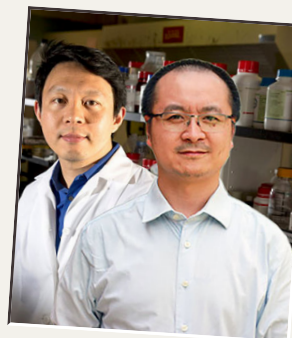
 **WATCH NOW**

## Song and Xie join Stice as NAI Fellow!

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### **ROBERTS-GALBRAITH – AWARDED MILLER PROFESSORSHIP 2025**

Rachel Roberts-Galbraith was awarded the inaugural Lois K. Miller Professorship in Cellular Biology. Miller was recognized internationally as a leading expert on using insect viruses to control pests of agricultural crops.



# RBC—ADS SYMPOSIUM

## *Petri to Pasture*

April 15 is usually a headache.

Dubbed “tax day” in the American psyche, it’s a date most people associate with last-minute paperwork, online forms, and the hum of printers on overdrive. But for students at the RBC and the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences’ Animal and Dairy Science department, this year told a different story. Instead of calculators and W-2s, they brought poster boards and research dreams.

In a quiet corner of the Eastside campus, curiosity took center stage. Students stood beside months of work—bold questions, data sets, and careful conclusions—ready to defend, explain, and celebrate the science they’d spent semesters building.

It was a day of pride. A day of nerve. A day when future scientists stepped into their light and said, “Here’s what I’ve found. Come take a look.”

Picture credits: **Molly Smith**, **Harshil Joshi** and **Madelyn Richter**.

Written by Charlene Betourney

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# YAO LAB

## *Inflammation's Quiet Cure*

Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, or ALS, is a brutal disease that robs people of their ability to move by slowly destroying the nerve cells that control muscles. There's no cure, and treatments barely scratch the surface. A big part of the problem? Chronic inflammation, which eats away at muscle and blocks the body's natural ability to repair it. In a bold new approach, the Yao lab turned to something unexpected—tiny bubbles.....

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# STICE NAMED AIMBE FELLOW

The AIMBE, headquartered in Washington, D.C., includes fellows from over 30 countries, highlighting the global impact of medical and biological engineering. Election to AIMBE is a prestigious honor, placing Stice among the top 2% of medical and biological engineers worldwide.

Written by Charlene Betourney

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## Journey from agricultural biotech to healing the brain

Since joining the RBC faculty in 2013, Karumbaiah's drive has led to groundbreaking work in helping the brain heal itself after TBI and diseases including brain tumors. Research in his lab has led to the development of the first-ever tissue-engineered glycomaterial, or "brain glue," which treats TBI, and an insulin medium used in treating glioblastoma, a very aggressive brain cancer with a very low survival rate.

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# RBC STUDENTS

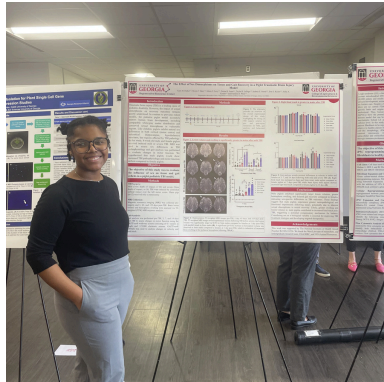
*a new journey*



## ZELTNER LAB

**Bhavik Dalal**, has a PhD in Biochemistry and previous postdoc experience from National Cancer Institute, NIH.

"I chose the program and RBC mentor that I felt would provide the best combination of intellectual stimulation, mentorship, and career opportunities."



## WEST LAB

**Kara Rather**, is a 2025 UGA graduate seeking to earn a PhD in the [RB PhD program](#). "I believe that every data point, every experiment, and every breakthrough carries the potential to make someone's life better. That sense of service is what motivates me to pursue research with not only intellectual curiosity but with heart."



## MORTENSEN LAB

**Nusrat Jahan Nisha** is a new graduate research assistant with a Master's in Biotechnology and Genetic Engineering. She previously worked as a Quality Control Executive at Eskayef Pharmaceuticals Ltd., an FDA-approved company in Bangladesh. The Mortensen Lab, she says, "has made me very enthusiastic about research."

**REM MEETING  
JOIN US! 5/16/2025**

**NEW CO-PRESIDENT  
DR. JOHN PERONI**

**REM**  
Regenerative  
Engineering  
and Medicine

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The REM Annual Conference will be hosted by Emory University on Friday, May 16th at 9:30am. Last year we had over 125-registered guest! This year's seed grant speakers will include RBC Faculty, **Dr. Charles Easley**, **Dr. Frank West**, and **Dr. Jin Xie**.

REM's co-President is **Dr. John Peroni**. REM's Executive Council includes, **Dr. Steven Stice**, **Dr. Lohitash Karumbaiah** and **Dr. Frank West**.

Have some News you want to share? Contact: Charlene Betourney, [cbetourney@UGA.EDU](mailto:cbetourney@UGA.EDU)