

Welcome to our Monthly Newsletter

Catch-up with Jeff



Where in the world did Jeff visit? Keep reading to find out!

I didn't have to go far this month to participate in one of my favorite things every June, welcoming the [Rosetta Commons summer interns](#) to the [Johns Hopkins University](#) campus for code school and the start of their summer research. There is so much positive energy to learn powerful tools for biomolecular design and to apply them for diverse good purposes.

I would like to thank our code school instructors, [Nate Felbinger](#) (U-Maryland) and [Miranda Simpson](#) (U-Oregon), for all their hard work to make the bootcamp a success. I'd also like to thank the TAs, [Briana Whitehead](#) (Bowie State), [Vani Lorish](#) (NIH), Zhazira Iskakova (Haverford), and [Zyaja Huggan](#) (JHU), as well as our master organizer for the program, [Camille Mathis](#).

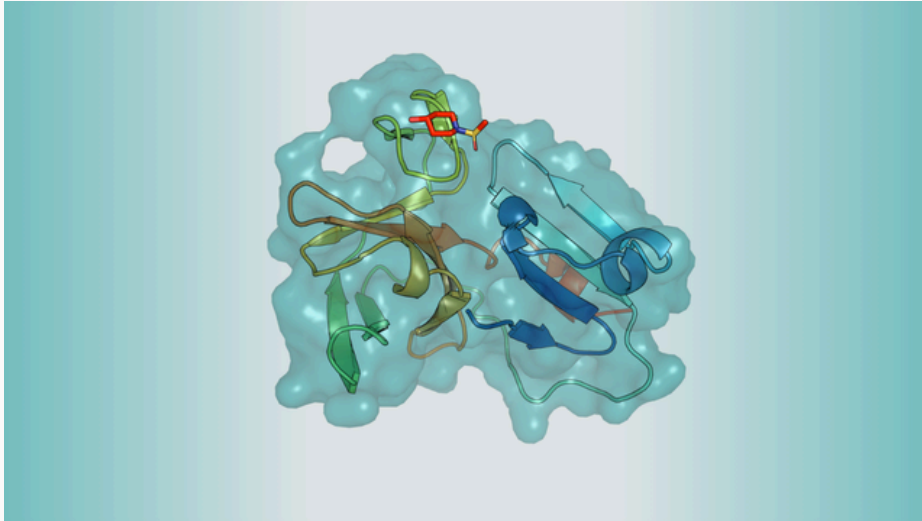
I am also grateful to the US National Science Foundation for awarding a 3-year renewal for our program. In these competitive times, I am glad the reviewers and the agency value our work highly and see the potential it can bring to biomolecular design and even quantum science. Special thanks to [Gilbert Otoo](#) (JHU) who added a special lecture on how to use QM packages to optimize an enzyme active site transition state, feeding into [RiffDiff](#) or [RFDiffusion2](#).

This year, we welcomed 23 new interns into the program. Their interests are varied, but some common themes shine through, including a curiosity to learn more about protein and enzyme design, finding solutions to real-world challenges that help with diseases, drug discovery, personalized medicine, and plastic pollution, and a deep interest in where computational methods combine with experimental design for viable results. I enjoy hearing their enthusiasm and passion when they talk about our field and what they hope to accomplish in the not too distant future.

I wish them well at their host labs in the U.S. and Europe this summer and look forward to their Lightning Talks at [Summer RosettaCon](#) in August. Thank you to all our host labs. This program is just one example of how the Rosetta community's openness helps us advance biomolecular science while supporting the next generation of researchers.

Cheers,
Jeff

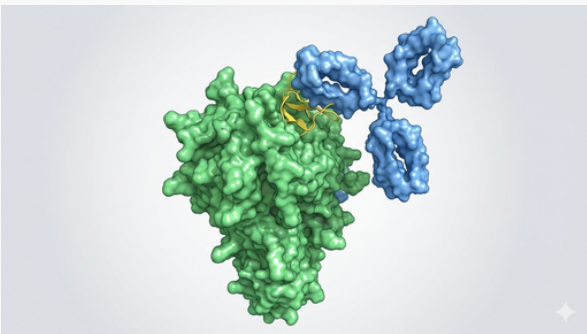
Latest News



OpenBind releases initial structure and affinity dataset for structure-based machine learning

OpenBind has released its first public dataset linking protein-ligand structures with experimental binding affinities to improve structure-based machine learning models.

[Find Out More](#)



Biohub releases open source models that utilize evolution to design disease target binders

Biohub has released open source ESM protein language models that use evolutionary data to streamline drug discovery and map functional protein spaces.

[Find Out More](#)



Debating the balance between model openness and biosecurity guardrails

The rapid advancement of biological AI tools has sparked a critical debate within the scientific community regarding the balance between open source research and biosecurity. Explore where scientists currently stand.

[Find Out More](#)

Upcoming Events



RosettaCon Asia 2026

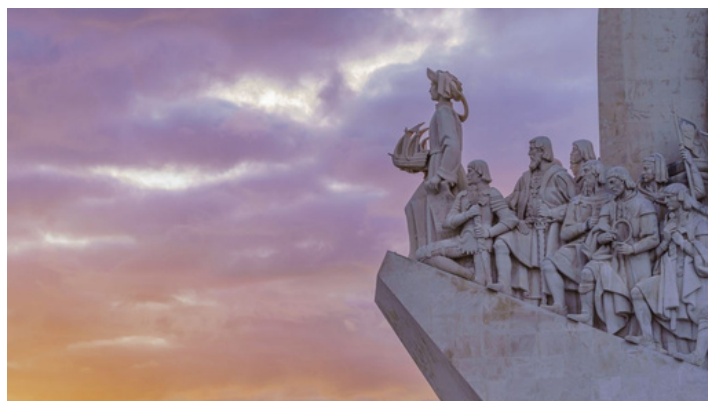
Registration Closes July 15

Theme: The Present and Future of Protein Design

Dates: October 10 - 11, 2026

Location: Peking University, Beijing, China

[Register Today](#)



European RosettaCon 2026

Registration Closes August 31

Topic: Crossing Boundaries in Protein Design

Dates: October 28 - 30, 2026

Location: Universidade Nova de Lisboa, Lisbon, Portugal

[Register Today](#)



Summer RosettaCon 2026

Virtual Registration Closes
August 6

Theme: Biomolecule Engineering: From Principle to Practice

Dates: August 3 - 7, 2026

Location: University of Washington, Seattle, WA

[Register Today](#)

Member Spotlight

Thomas Huber, Ph.D.

*Full Professor
Huber Group
Australian National University*



About Thomas

Thomas has had a very diverse career. He started by studying chemistry at the Technical University of Munich, and then completed his Ph.D. at ETH-Zurich in computational biology. Afterwards, Thomas spent a couple of years working in industry in Japan on bioinformatics and microbiology projects when he became passionate about protein design research. Thomas started his first lab in 2001 in Australia, and his current lab at the Australian National University in 2010. With the little free time Thomas has, he enjoys spending time with his family and being outdoors in the Australian sunshine. *"Everyone is welcome to spend a sabbatical here, where you are only an hour away from the city and coast with plenty of sports and outdoor activities,"* he invited.

Scientific Endeavors

Thomas' lab focuses on developing computational tools for determining 3-D structures, including research into genetic code expansion and paramagnetic NMR to understand protein-protein interaction and molecular dynamics. Thomas and his team recently released a [paper](#) about a new protein, termed RF2, that was generated with computational design and had more than a 2-fold increase in terbium(III) luminescence when compared to lanthanide-binding tags, highlighting *de novo* protein design capabilities for producing highly luminescent lanthanide-binding mini-proteins.

"Get involved in the community and be friendly. They will accept you."

"I think the openness, friendliness, and helpfulness of the community are what I value the most."

Rosetta Community

He appreciates that his new students get answers quickly, and tries to return the favor whenever he can by answering questions in return. It's that openness that he thinks makes the Rosetta community so special.

Email Thomas

Thomas' Lab

Announcements



Photo by Kelly Montgomery, PhD candidate in Chemistry and Chemical Biology at UCSF.

JEDI Committee Announces D'Anne Duncan as Summer RosettaCon 2026 Keynote Speaker

The Rosetta Commons JEDI committee is dedicated to building a supportive environment where individuals from all backgrounds can thrive and contribute to groundbreaking science. In support of this mission, we are thrilled to announce that the JEDI Keynote Speaker for Summer RosettaCon 2026 will be D'Anne Duncan. She will speak about reframing institutional JEDI concepts for a scientific community, focusing on actionable topics like power dynamics and sustainable inclusion. Her talk is on August 6 at 10:30 a.m.

About JEDI

Rosetta Commons Jobs

Check out our jobs board for the latest postings

Jobs Board

Join the conversation on our social channels.



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