

The Aubieclave Report

AUBURN UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF VETERINARY MEDICINE



THE DISCOVERY SPOTLIGHT

Dr. Maria Criado

Originally from São Paulo State, Brazil, Dr. Miriã Ferreira Criado joined Auburn University in February 2022 and serves as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Pathobiology. She says the people are what she enjoys most about the department, describing her colleagues as supportive, approachable, and and collaborative. The department's diverse and collegial environment has helped her grow both professionally and personally, and she is grateful for the friendships she has built along the way.

Dr. Criado's laboratory studies avian influenza viruses, one of the most important diseases affecting poultry worldwide. Using a One Health approach, her team investigates how influenza viruses interact with their hosts, evolve, and evade immune responses to help develop strategies that protect both animal and public health. She is especially proud of the talented team of students, postdoctoral researchers, and staff who make this work possible through their dedication and teamwork. Outside the lab, Dr. Criado enjoys traveling and cooking, often creating her own recipes, and she previously played competitive volleyball, winning several city and state championships.

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THE DISCOVERY SPOTLIGHT

Himanshi

Himanshi is a Graduate Research Assistant in the Department of Pathobiology who joined Auburn University about a year and a half ago after moving from Haryana, India, to pursue her PhD. She values the department's collaborative and supportive environment, where colleagues with diverse expertise work together, share ideas, and contribute to research that advances our understanding of disease and improves patient outcomes.

She appreciates the behind-the-scenes nature of scientific research, noting that discoveries come from countless hours of troubleshooting, data analysis, and refining ideas. Outside the lab, Himanshi enjoys painting as a creative outlet and loves exploring local coffee shops and their lively atmospheres.

THE DISCOVERY SPOTLIGHT

Rose Johnson



Rose Johnson is a Central Receiving Services Tech who has been with Auburn University for two years. Originally from Union Springs, Alabama, she has called the Auburn area home for nearly three years. In the Department of Pathobiology, Rose enjoys the variety each day brings, working with individuals from diverse backgrounds and across a wide range of responsibilities—something she finds both meaningful and rewarding.

Behind the scenes, Rose and her team play a vital role as the central hub for diagnostic and research submissions. From receiving and documenting samples to coordinating shipments, supporting client communications, and maintaining regulatory compliance, their work keeps operations running smoothly. Outside of work, Rose has a passion for travel and loves immersing herself in new cultures, foods, and traditions, making each trip an opportunity to learn and experience something new.



Celebrating Dr. Leyson's Baby Shower

The department recently gathered to celebrate Dr. Leyson at a special baby shower in honor of her upcoming arrival. Colleagues enjoyed the opportunity to come together, share well wishes, and celebrate this exciting milestone with her.

It was a joyful occasion filled with laughter, thoughtful gifts, and plenty of Auburn spirit. We are so happy for Dr. Leyson and her family and wish them all the best as they welcome their new addition!





Admin Team Attends AU Staff Council Wellness Day

Members of the administrative team recently attended Auburn University Staff Council's annual Wellness Day, an engaging event focused on promoting overall well-being across campus. Open to all Auburn staff, the Wellness Day event offered a valuable opportunity for our team to connect with colleagues while learning more about the resources and initiatives provided by Staff Council.

The event featured a variety of activities designed to support physical, mental, and emotional health—from interactive sessions and wellness resources to opportunities for relaxation and connection. It was a great chance to step away from daily routines, recharge, and invest in personal well-being while building new connections within the Auburn community.

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Outsmarting Canine Hookworms

Dr. Jeba R J Jesudoss Chelladurai, an assistant professor in the Department of Pathobiology, has developed a PCR test that identifies hookworms and their drug resistance profiles to equip animal health teams to deal with treatment-resistant hookworms in dogs.

Read more about it here:
https://www.akcchf.org/educational-resources/library/articles/finding-resistance-how-research-is-helping-veterinarians-outsmart-canine-hookworms/



Be the Creed Award Recipient: Dr. Carlos Eduardo B. Lopes and Dr. Mariana A. Pinheiro

The department is proud to recognize Dr. Carlos Eduardo B. Lopes and Dr. Mariana A. Pinheiro as recipients of the Be the Creed Award. This honor celebrates individuals who embody the values outlined in the Auburn Creed and serve as positive examples within the Auburn community.

They consistently demonstrate outstanding dedication, integrity, and a genuine commitment to helping others. Their strong work ethic, respect for others, and unwavering love for Auburn reflect the very spirit of the Creed. We are grateful for the many ways they model these values each day and congratulate them on this well-deserved recognition.



Dr. Jeba Jesudoss Chelladurai Receives Zoetis Distinguished Teaching Award

On behalf of Dr. Narayanan and the Department of Pathobiology, we are delighted to congratulate Dr. Jeba Jesudoss Chelladurai on being selected as the recipient of the Zoetis Distinguished Teaching Award for the Auburn University College of Veterinary Medicine.

This prestigious honor recognizes Dr. Jesudoss Chelladurai's exceptional dedication to teaching, student mentorship, and educational excellence. Through her passion for education, commitment to student success, and innovative approach to instruction, she has made a profound and lasting impact on our students and the College of Veterinary Medicine.

Please join us in congratulating Dr. Jesudoss Chelladurai on this well-deserved recognition and in thanking her for her outstanding service to our students, department, and college.



Celebrating Our Pathology Residents

On Wednesday, June 24, the pathology team gathered to celebrate a significant milestone as Dr. Carlos Eduardo B. Lopes (Anatomic) and Dr. Erin Kilbane (Clinical) successfully completed their pathology residencies. This special occasion marked the culmination of years of hard work, dedication, and commitment to excellence in their training.

Carlos and Erin have each made meaningful contributions to our department during their time here, and we are incredibly proud of all they have accomplished. As they take the next steps in their professional journeys, we look forward to seeing all they will achieve in the future. Please join us in congratulating them on this outstanding achievement and wishing them continued success in the years ahead!



Congratulations to Dr. Leyson and Family!

The department is delighted to share the wonderful news that Dr. Leyson welcomed her baby boy on June 18. We are happy to report that both mom and baby are doing well.

Please join us in extending heartfelt congratulations to Dr. Leyson and her family as they celebrate this joyful new addition.



Help us make dreams a reality!

Your impact begins here – choose the Auburn causes that are important to you. Whether you give to empower students through scholarships, drive groundbreaking research and life-changing outreach, or enrich the Auburn Experience, you are shaping our future.

https://aub.ie/PathoGift



PUBLICATIONS

Henker L, Lanier AL, Moore PA, Cao W, Peralta JM, **Zhang Y**, Hoffman L, Schemera B, Rynders PE, Petrofski M, Blangero J, VandeBerg JL, **Neto R, Wang X.** Translational animal model for genetic predisposition to anophthalmia/microphthalmia. *Exp Eye Res.* 2026 Jun 25:111139. doi: 10.1016/j.exer.2026.111139. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 42349624.
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Joseph J, Boby S, Zhu Z, **Mooyottu S,** Vinayamohan PG, Pellissery AJ, Li Y, Muyyarikkandy MS. Isolation and characterization of probiotic candidates with antimicrobial and barrier-protective properties. *Sci Rep.* 2026 Jun 3. doi: 10.1038/s41598-026-54375-6. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 42236854.
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Richardson RA, **North JF**, Thomas MH, Lynch A, **Kyriakis CS**, Sautto GA, Ross TM. Comparison of Igκ and Igλ binding toward influenza virus hemagglutinin and SARS-CoV-2 Spike protein during primary viral infections in humans, mice, and pigs. *Comp Immunol Microbiol Infect Dis.* 2026 Jun 23;128:102494. doi: 10.1016/j.cimid.2026.102494. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 42361778.
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https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/42241759



Staff Recognition Awards Ceremony - July 22nd

Join us on **July 22 at 3:00 p.m. in Overton Auditorium** for the Staff Recognition Awards Ceremony, a special event dedicated to celebrating the outstanding contributions and achievements of our incredible staff. This ceremony is an opportunity to recognize the hard work, dedication, and impact our colleagues make every day in support of our department and the broader Auburn community.

Following the ceremony, everyone is invited to stay and enjoy an ice cream social, providing a fun and relaxed time to connect, celebrate together, and congratulate this year's honorees. We hope you'll take this opportunity to come out, show your support, and enjoy an afternoon of recognition, appreciation, and community!



QPR Gatekeeper Training

CVM students, faculty and staff have the opportunity to receive practical training in suicide prevention. Hosted by Dr. Christy Newberry, embedded psychologist in the CVM, "QPR Gatekeeper Training" will be offered to cohorts of 10-25 participants.

QPR — Question, Persuade, Refer — outlines the steps individuals can take to help prevent suicide. Also known as gatekeeper training, the 90-minute program teaches people without professional mental health backgrounds to recognize the signs that someone may be considering suicide, establish a dialogue, and guide the person to seek professional help through resources reviewed in the training.

You may register for the next training session on **Friday, 7/10**, from **10:00 to 11:30am**. Feel free to invite your CVM colleagues who may register at the link below.

https://aub.ie/CVMQPR



CVM's Summer Exercise Program

Do something good for your body, soul, and spirit by getting involved in the CVM Exercise Program's summer offerings. It's free and open to all CVM faculty, staff, students, and spouses, no matter their fitness levels. **All activities will take place in Bailey 105.**

Please contact our instructor, Jamarcus Rowden (jar0147@auburn.edu) if you have any schedule questions, Dr. Danielle Wadsworth (wadswdd@auburn.edu) with any program suggestions, or Michelle Aono (aonomic@auburn.edu) for anything at all.

IMPORTANT DATES & EVENTS

Next Faculty Meeting:

Jul. 29 in GH 168 from 1-3 PM

Next Staff Meeting:

Jul. 16 in VEC 246 & 248 from 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM

A list of official holidays for Auburn employees, including schedules for 2026, is available on the University Human Resources website.

2026 HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

Holiday	Weekday(s) Observed	Date(s) Observed
New Year's Day	Thursday	Jan. 1, 2026
Martin Luther King Jr. Day (2026)	Monday	Jan. 19, 2026
Memorial Day	Monday	May 25, 2026
Juneteenth Day	Friday	June 19, 2026
Independence Day	Friday	July 3, 2026
Labor Day	Monday	Sept. 7, 2026
Thanksgiving	Wednesday-Friday	Nov. 25-27, 2026
Christmas*	Friday	Dec. 25, 2026

* In addition to the above dates for Christmas Day and New Year's Day, we will close campus on Friday, Dec. 18, 2026, at 4:45 p.m. and re-open on Monday, Jan. 4, 2027, at 7:45 a.m.

- Friday, Dec. 18, 2026: All offices will remain open and operating until 4:45 p.m.
- Monday, Jan. 4, 2027: All offices will re-open and resume operations at 7:45 a.m.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ALL JULY BIRTHDAYS!

Carden, Lorene W.	**13-Jul**
Clowers, Ashley M.	**31-Jul**
Gohagan, Taylor M.	**27-Jul**
Kalpourtzidou, Aliki	**25-Jul**
Kitchens, Cassandra B.	**8-Jul**
Rao, Nikhil Sanjay	**22-Jul**
Reif, Kathryn E.	**1-Jul**



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