

November 2022 Highlights

The Department of Biological Sciences



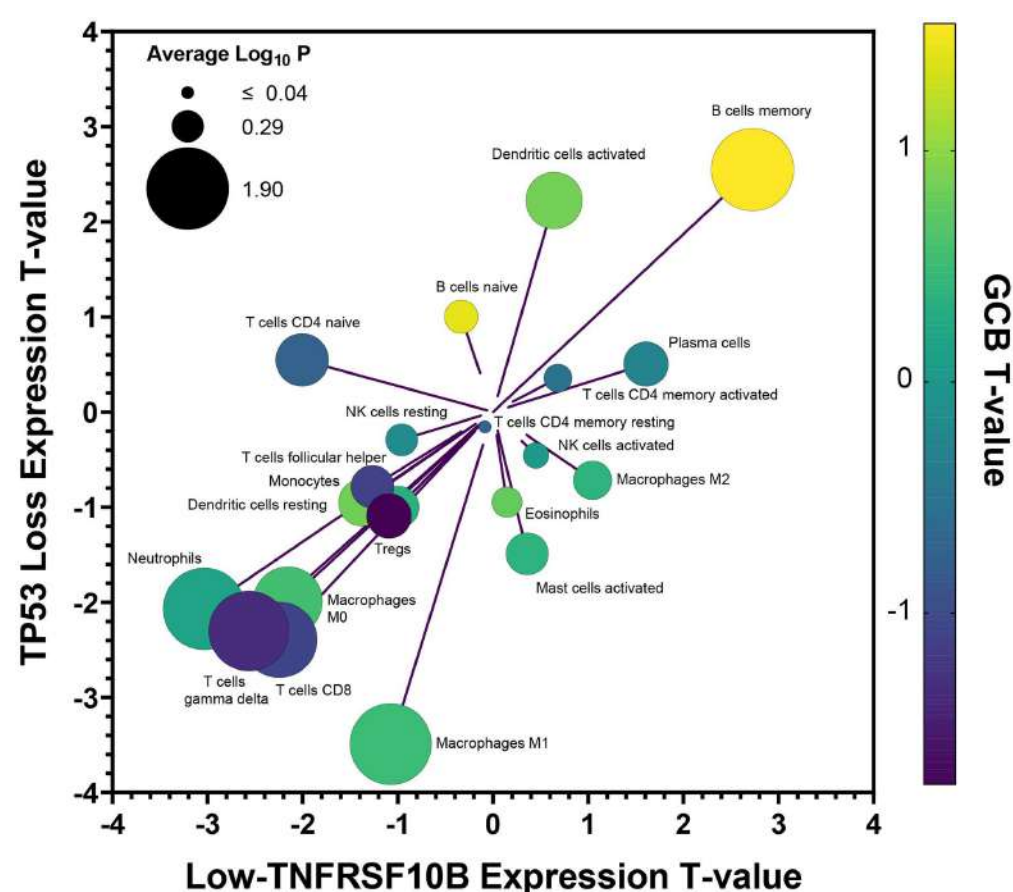
Dr. Ryan Wersal was recently awarded the Michael D. Netherland Graduate Student Research Award by the Aquatic Plant Management Society for his work with masters student, Alyssa Anderson for the project: "The Photosynthetic Ecology of Parrofeather (*Myriophyllum aquaticum*) and Implications for Future Spread". For more information on his accomplishment read more below!

[Read the full article](#)

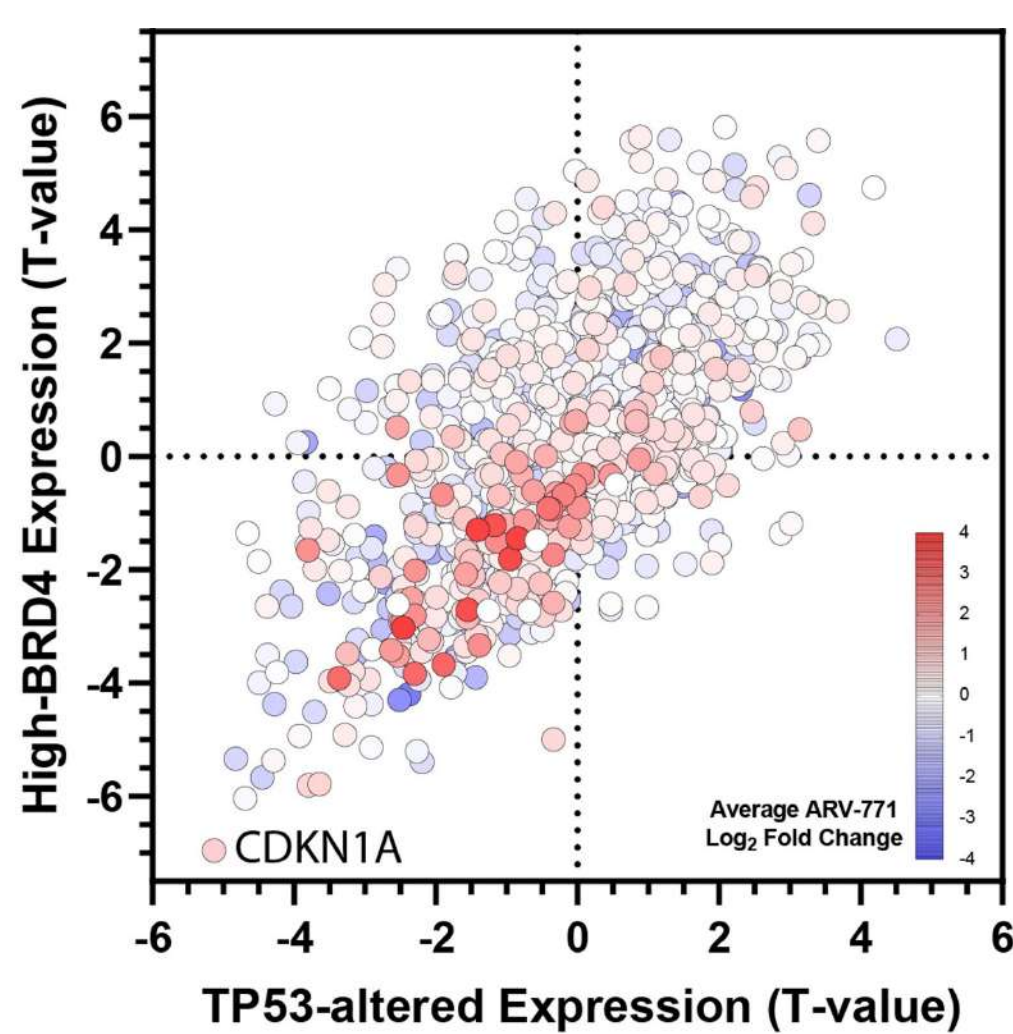
Biological Sciences undergraduate students Alison Rutz, Shelby Lund ('22), Kennedee Weber, Aidan Forberg, Jordan Unrau, Andrew Pelzel, Jinda Guidinger ('22), and Ainslee Hemmen worked with Biology faculty Keenan Hartert on two Cancer Biology research projects, both of which will be presented as poster abstracts at the 20,000+ attendee American Society of Hematology annual meeting, December 8th - 13th in New Orleans, LA. Both projects identify genomic markers of high-risk Diffuse Large B-cell Lymphoma (DLBCL) and measure targeted therapeutic options in vitro.

Abstract #1: *The DLBCL Axis of Low TNFRSF10B Expression, TP53 Loss, and a Cold Immune Microenvironment May be Addressed by the Synergistic Combination of Eprentapopt and Idasanutin.*

Abstract #2: *EFS24 Failure, BRD4 Expression, and TP53 Are Linked to Reduced CDKN1A Expression in DLBCL and May be Targeted by Single-Agent PROTAC ARV-825 or in Synergistic Combination with the CDK4/6 Inhibitor Abemaciclib.*



Above: Figure from Abstract 1



Above: Figure from Abstract 2

Biological Sciences professor, Dr. Matthew Katproth and MS Graduate Alex Kirsch recently were published in *Ecology & Evolution*:
<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/ece3.9527>

They explored what specialization means in plants and used oaks to make a practical ranking system that lets us explore how specialization emerges across time and space.

They discovered specialist plants are often endemic species with low trait plasticity. These species are typically listed as threatened and are more likely to occur in environments with high precipitation seasonality.

The Department of Computer Information Science



The 4th Colloquium on Analytics, Data Science, and Computing (CADSCOM 2022) was held at MSU, Edina on November 19. The conference was organized by the Twin Cities ACM Chapter in partnership with CSET and DREAM RSO and was sponsored by MinnPoly and the Minnesota State IT Center of Excellence. CADSCOM was a great success as over 150 attendees including the students and faculty from various universities in addition to industry professionals participated in the conference, which included dozens of peer-reviewed research papers, a project showcase, and academic and industry panels. Dr. Rajeev Bukraia serves as the chair of CADSCOM and the Twin Cities ACM Chapter.

Upcoming Events



Science Fair Judges and Volunteers Needed | Feb. 11

Are you interested in engaging with 6th-12th grade students? Then, we need you!

We are seeking college/university students, faculty, and other professionals in STEM fields to join us as judges or general volunteers on **Saturday, February 11, 2023** from approximately 7:30 am – 2:00 pm for the **72nd Annual Southern Minnesota Regional Science and Engineering Fair**. Minnesota State University, Mankato has been hosting the fair since 1951!

CSET Faculty – This could be a good opportunity for extra credit for your students.

Visit smrse.fairs.com and click on the "Judge's" or "Volunteer's" tab to learn more and sign-up. Direct questions to science.fair@mnsu.edu. Please share this call out with others in your network!

CSET Hooding Ceremony

The CSET Hooding Ceremony will be held on **Saturday, December 10, 2022** in Trafton Science Center 121 from 9:00-10:00 am followed by a small reception in the Ford Hall Atrium. This ceremony will be in lieu of the hooding that normally takes place at the larger ceremony. Please help spread the word to your graduate students if at all possible. The student registration link can be found [here](#).

If you plan to attend the ceremony as faculty or staff, please complete the [Faculty/Staff RSVP here](#).

For questions, please reach out to Emily Frederick at emily.frederick@mnsu.edu.

Looking for help promoting your program, organization or upcoming event? Need photos? Want to submit an update for our newsletter or have an idea for our magazine? Reach out to [Emily Frederick](#), Communications & Marketing Director.

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