



Gustavo Monteiro Silva

Assistant Professor of Biology

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Gustavo Monteiro Silva

Assistant Professor of Biology

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Professional Links

[Silva lab at Duke University](#)

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Willing to Mentor:

Graduate Students

My main research goal is to understand and be able to control how cells respond to stressful and harmful conditions, which are the underlying causes of many human diseases. To achieve this goal, I study cellular response to stress at the protein level and aim to characterize the different regulatory functions mediated by the ubiquitin-proteasome system (UPS), essential machinery involved in modulating protein dynamics. Ultimately, regulating specific UPS roles will provide new tools to increase cellular tolerance to a variety of environmental stresses, which is highly relevant for a variety of degenerative diseases. The main focus of my lab is to investigate the unprecedented regulation of translation mediated by ubiquitin. I laid the groundwork for this research investigating the ubiquitination response in the budding yeast *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* and we will explore the evolutionary conservation of this pathway and its function in neuronal cells. Our lab is excited to keep pushing the field forward and to use a combination of proteomics, genomics, and molecular methods to understand the mechanisms by which ubiquitin regulates translation, and ultimately, cellular response to stress.



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Featured Publications

Showing 5 selected publications

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A synopsis on aging—Theories, mechanisms and future prospects

JP da Costa, GM Silva, +7 authors • Aging Research Reviews • August 2016

Answering the question as to why we age is tantamount to answering the question of what is life itself. There are countless theories as to why and how we age, but, until recently, the very definition of aging – senescence – was still uncertain... [\(More\)](#)

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Recurrent mutations of chromatin-remodeling genes and kinase receptors in pheochromocytomas and paragangliomas

RA Toledo, GM Silva, +9 authors • Clinical Cancer Research • May 2016

Pheochromocytomas and paragangliomas (PPGL) are catecholamine-secreting tumors of neural crest origin that arise from the sympathetic lineage cells of the adrenal medulla and paraganglia, respectively. More than 40% of these tumors... [\(More\)](#)

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Quantifying gene expression: the importance of being subtle

GM Silva, C Vogel • Molecular Systems Biology • October 2016

Gene expression is regulated at both the mRNA and protein level through on-off switches and fine-tuned control. In their