

Pratik Kumar, PhD

HHMI Postdoctoral Associate, Janelia Research Campus

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EDUCATION & PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

Postdoc	HHMI Janelia Research Campus, VA, USA	Luke Lavis/Martin Schnermann (NCI/NIH)	2019–
PhD	Stony Brook University, NY, USA	Chemistry	Scott Laughlin
MS/BS	IISER-Kolkata, India	Chemistry	Rituparna Roy
Diploma	JNCASR, Bangalore, India	Chemistry	Jayanta Halder
	Marine Biological Association, Plymouth, UK	Electrophysiology & Imaging (virtual)	2021
	HHMI Janelia Research Campus, VA	Scientists Teaching Science	2020
	Marine Biological Laboratory, Woods Hole, MA	Microscopy (OMIBS)	2018
	Alan Alda center for Communicating Sciences, NY	Science Communication	2015–18

HONORS & AWARDS

Outstanding Doctoral Student , Maria Tzamarioudaki Memorial Award, Stony Brook University	2019
Outstanding Service award, Department of Chemistry, Stony Brook University	2019
New York State Graduate Student Employee Union Professional Development Award	2019
The Histochemical Society Travel Award	2018
Marine Biological Laboratory Scholarship	2018
Distinguished Travel Award by Graduate Student Organization, Stony Brook University Nominated by the Dept. of chemistry and then selected from the pool of all departmental nominations	2018
ACS Biological Chemistry Travel Award	2017
Best poster Award , Institute of Chemical Biology & Drug Discovery, Stony Brook University	2017
SUNY Research Foundation Professional Development Award	2017
ACS Interdivisional Sci-Mix , ACS-San Francisco One of the 18 posters (out of ~200) selected from the ACS Biological Chemistry division	2017
3MT-People's Choice Award (3-minute thesis), Stony Brook University	2017
Departmental Distinguished Research Award , Stony Brook University	2016
German Research Foundation Travel Award , Lindau Nobel Laureate Meetings, Germany	2013
Dept. of Science & Technology (India) Travel Award , Asian Science Camp, South Korea	2011
POCE Fellowship , JNCASR, India	2009–11
INSPIRE Fellowship , Department of Science & Technology, India	2008–13

PATENT

Scott T. Laughlin, **Pratik Kumar**, Ting Jiang, Wei Huang. Compositions and methods for modular control of bioorthogonal ligation, WO2020113077, 2020.

PUBLICATIONS ([Google Scholar](#) | [ORCID](#): 0000-0002-9516-0212)

1. **Pratik Kumar** & Luke D. Lavis (Invited). Melding synthetic molecules and genetically encoded proteins to forge new tools for neuroscience. Annual Review of Neuroscience, submitted.
2. **Pratik Kumar**, David Shukhman, & Scott T. Laughlin. Stable cyclopropene-containing analog of the amino acid neurotransmitter glutamate. Tetrahedron Letters, 2019, 60, 1476–1480.
3. **Pratik Kumar**, Omar Zainul, Frank Camarda, Ting Jiang, John Mannone, & Scott T. Laughlin. Second generation caged cyclopropenes with improved kinetics for controlling bioorthogonal reactivity. Organic Letters, 2019, 21, 3721–3725.
4. Ting Jiang, **Pratik Kumar**, Wei Huang, Wei-Siang Kao & Scott T. Laughlin. Modular enzyme- and light-based activation of the cyclopropene-tetrazine ligation. ChemBioChem, 2019, 20(17), 2222–2226.
5. **Pratik Kumar** & Scott T. Laughlin (Invited Book chapter). Modular activatable bioorthogonal reagents. Methods in Enzymology, 2019, 622, 153–182.

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6. **Pratik Kumar**, Ting Jiang, Omar Zainul, A. Preston, J. Farr, S. Li, Pavit Suri, & Scott T. Laughlin. Lipidated cyclopropenes via a stable 3-N spirocyclopropene scaffold. *Tetrahedron Letters*, 2018, 59, 3435–3438.
7. **Pratik Kumar***, Ting Jiang*, Sining Li, Omar Zainul, & Scott T. Laughlin. Caged cyclopropenes for spatiotemporal control of bioorthogonal reactivity. *Organic & Biomolecular Chemistry*, 2018, 16(22), 4081–4085. [Featured on RSC blog](#): “Reactivity Caging Strategy for Controlling Bioorthogonal Reactivity”
8. **Pratik Kumar**, Omar Zainul, & Scott T. Laughlin. Inexpensive multigram-scale synthesis of cyclic enamines and 3-N spirocyclopropyl systems. *Organic & Biomolecular Chemistry*, 2018, 16(4), 652–656.
9. **Pratik Kumar**, David Shukhman, & Scott T. Laughlin. A light-activatable, cyclopropene-containing analog of the amino acid neurotransmitter glutamate. *Tetrahedron Letters*, 2016, 57, 5750–5752.
10. Jiaul Hoque, **Pratik Kumar**, Vinod K. Aswal, & Jayanta Haldar. Aggregation properties of amide bearing cleavable gemini surfactants by small angle neutron scattering and conductivity studies. *Journal of Physical Chemistry B*, 2012, 116(32), 9718–9726.
11. Jiaul Hoque, Padma Akkapeddi, Venkateswarlu Y., Divakara SSM Uppu, **Pratik Kumar**, & Jayanta Haldar. Cleavable cationic antibacterial amphiphiles: synthesis, mechanism of action, and cytotoxicities. *Langmuir*, 2012, 28(33), 12225–12234. [Indian news](#): “Scientist Invents Biodegradable Detergent”

ORAL PRESENTATIONS

Invited

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|---|------|
| 1. Sabarmati Young Researcher Seminar Series , Biological Engineering, IIT Gandhinagar | 2021 |
| Multifunctional fluorescent dyes as molecular tools beyond imaging | |
| 2. Project SEED, American Chemical Society | 2021 |
| Illuminating biology through fluorescent dyes | |
| 3. SUNY-Suffolk community college , Department of Natural Sciences, NY, USA | 2018 |
| Activatable bioorthogonal reactions for biology | |

Conference

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| 4. IndiaBioscience PDF Meeting | 2021 |
| Chemigenetic multifunctional fluorophores | |
| 5. HHMI-Janelia Research Campus Flash talk | 2018 |
| Modular activatable cyclopropenes for spatiotemporal control of bioorthogonal reactivity | |
| 6. New York Academy of Sciences—Chemical Biology Symposium , NY, USA | 2018 |
| Activatable cyclopropenes for spatiotemporal control of bioorthogonal reactivity | |

SELECTED POSTER PRESENTATIONS

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| 1. HHMI-Janelia Research Campus , ProbeFest, VA, USA | 2018 |
| Light- and enzyme-activatable cyclopropenes | |
| 2. Rockefeller University , Tri-Institutional Chemical Biology Symposium, NY, USA | 2018 |
| Caged cyclopropenes for spatiotemporal control of bioorthogonal reactivity | |
| 3. Gordon Research Seminars & Gordon Research Conference , Bioorganic Chemistry, NH, USA | 2018 |
| Caged cyclopropenes for spatiotemporal control of bioorthogonal reactivity | |
| 4. NERCBI and Yale Chemical Biology Symposium , CT, USA | 2018 |
| Caged cyclopropenes for spatiotemporal control of bioorthogonal reactivity | |
| 5. Icahn School of Medicine-Mount Sinai & ICB&DD-Stony Brook University , Joint symposium on Frontiers in Chemical Biology and Drug Discovery, NY, USA Best poster award | 2017 |
| 3 <i>N</i> spirocyclopropenes provide spatiotemporal control of bioorthogonal reactivity | |
| 6. New York Academy of Sciences , Chemical Biology Symposium, NY, USA | 2017 |
| Cyclopropene neurotransmitters for bioorthogonal imaging of neural circuits | |
| 7. Gordon Research Seminars & Gordon Research Conference , High-Throughput Chemistry and Chemical Biology, NH, USA | 2017 |
| Caged cyclopropenes for spatiotemporal control of bioorthogonal reactivity | |
| 8. At both ACS National Meeting & ACS interdivisional Sci-Mixer presentation , CA, USA | 2017 |
| Cyclopropene neurotransmitters for bioorthogonal imaging of neural circuits | |

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9. **Stony Brook University**, Chemistry Research Day, NY, USA 2015
Cyclopropene analogs of neurotransmitters for illuminating neural circuits
10. **Stony Brook University**, Chemistry Research Day, NY, USA 2014
Fluorescent boronic acid probe as transsynaptic tracer of neural circuitry

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- Reviewer| Journals:** RSC Organic & Biomolecular Chemistry (2020–), ChemBioChem (2020–)
Meetings: European Molecular Imaging Meeting (2021), Gordon Research Seminars-Bioorganic Chemistry (2022), 70th Lindau Nobel Laureate Meetings
- Co-Chair, Gordon Research Seminars-Bioorganic Chemistry** 2022
- Janelia Association of Research Scientists** 2021–
- Moderator, 70th Lindau Nobel Laureate Meeting Open Exchange Sessions** 2021
- Discussion leader, Gordon Research Seminars-Bioorganic Chemistry** 2019
- Vice-Chair, Gordon Research Seminars-Bioorganic Chemistry** 2019
- President, Graduate Chemical Society, SBU** Apr 2017–Apr 2019
- President, Student Invited Speaker Committee, Stony Brook Chemistry** Spring 2017
- Moderator (& organizer), Grad. Chemical Society career panel on non-academic careers** Spring 2016
- Moderator (& organizer), Graduate Career Association career panel on entrepreneurship** Fall 2015
- Vice-President, Graduate Career Association, SBU** Fall 2015–Spring 2016
- Senator for Chemistry at Graduate Student Organization, SBU** 2015–Spring 2018
- Public Relations officer, Graduate Chemical Society** Spring 2015–Apr 2017

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- Graduate assistant, NMR facilities, SBU** 2018, Spring 2019
Trained undergraduate, graduate, and postdoctoral trainees on setting up and analyzing ¹H, ¹³C, COSY, and DEPT NMR on 400/500/700 MHz NMR instruments. Also, performed routine maintenance such liquid-nitrogen/helium refills.
- Graduate assistant, Mass spectrometry facilities, SBU** 2018, Spring 2019
Trained undergraduate-, graduate-, and postdoctoral-trainees on how to run and analyze liquid samples on ESI-mass spectrometer; run and obtain high-resolution mass-spectra of liquid samples; run solid samples on TLC-inject mass spectrometer; and properly maintain mass spectrometers.
- Teaching assistant, Advanced organic chemistry lab, SBU** Spring 2015
Led ~4 lectures on NMR and weekly laboratory course for ~30 chemistry-majors on how to set up multistep organic reactions; monitor the progress of reactions; purify reaction intermediates; analyze GC data; acquire and analyze IR data; analyze ¹H & ¹³C NMR data; report spectroscopic and experimental data; and follow proper lab-safety techniques.
- Teaching assistant, Undergraduate organic chemistry lab, SBU** Fall 2013–Spring 2014
Led a weekly laboratory course for ~30 pre-med students on how to set up organic reactions; isolate and purify an reaction product; analyze GC data; analyze IR data; report experimental data; and follow proper lab-safety techniques.

MENTORING EXPERIENCE(TOTAL = 13)

- 3 PhD (rotation and 1st year of their PhD):**
- Wei Huang (Chemistry/Chemical Biology, co-authors on two manuscripts) Nov 2017–Dec 2018
- Wei-Siang Kao (Chemistry/Chemical Biology, co-authors on two manuscripts) Nov 2017– Dec 2018
- Ting Jiang (Chemistry/Chemical Biology, co-authors on four manuscripts) Nov 2016–Dec 2017
- 3 PhD rotation students:** Lei Chen, Yilin Ma, Beilei Jiang 2016, 2017
- 1 MS student:** Sining Li (Chemistry, co-authors on three manuscripts) Jan 2016–Apr 2017
- 5 Undergraduate students:**
- Nayarit Tineo (Biology, worked with Omar Zainul through SBU-INSPIRE program) Spring 2018
- John Mannone (Chemistry, awarded URECA summer research fellowship) Nov 2017–Apr 2019
- Frank Camarda (Pharmacology, co-authors on two manuscript) Nov 2017–Apr 2019
- Omar Zainul (Pharmacology, and co-authors on four manuscripts) Sep 2016–Apr 2018
- Awarded URECA summer research fellowship and Sigma-Xi Undergraduate Research Award
- David Shukhman (Biochemistry, co-authors on one manuscript) Aug 2014–Apr 2016

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1 High School student: Pavit Suri (W.T. Clarke high School, co-author on one manuscript) Summer 2017

OUTREACH

Project SEED Speaker, American Chemical Society 2021

Science Coach, American Chemical Society 2020

Developed chemistry demos/lectures focused on current research for high-school students

Judge, Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students (ABRCMS) 2020

Janelia RESET team, Volunteer 2020

Biology demos/labs (1/month) at nearby diverse and low-income elementary schools

"Life as a scientist and career in scientific research", Suffolk Community College, NY, USA 2018

Science Fair Judge for WAC Lighting Foundation Invitational science fair, NY 2017, 2018, 2021

Science Competition Judge for 5th Annual Nassau County science fair, NY 2017

3MT (3-minute thesis) **Judge**, SBU 2017

Graduate Chemical Society **research photo contest** winner, SBU 2016, 2017

Founder, *BrainChem* (~500 subscribers) 2016

A page for non-scientists where we explain interesting tidbits about chemistry and ecology using simple graphics

High-School Chemistry, Volunteer, Patna, India Fall 2012, Summer 2013

Taught chemistry to underprivileged, primarily Hindi-speaking high schoolers preparing for an exam in English