

Joanna S.G. Slusky
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Appointments

University of Kansas	
Associate Professor of Molecular Biosciences	2020 – present
Associate Professor of Computational Biology	2020 – present
Docking Family Scholar	2017 – present
Assistant Professor of Molecular Biosciences	2014 – 2020
Assistant Professor of Computational Biology	2014 – 2020

Academic training

Postdoctoral Fellow	2012 – 2014
Advisor: Roland L. Dunbrack Jr.	
Fox Chase Cancer Center: Institute for Cancer Research	
NIH postdoctoral research training grant	

Postdoctoral Fellow	2008 – 2012
Advisor: Gunnar von Heijne	
Stockholm University: Biochemistry and Biophysics	
Human Frontier Science Program postdoctoral fellow	

Ph.D. in Biochemistry and Biophysics, University of Pennsylvania	Dec. 2007
Advisor: William F. DeGrado	
NSF Graduate Research Fellow	

A.B. in Chemistry, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i> . Princeton University	May 2001
Advisor: Robert J. Cava	
Minor in Material Science and Engineering.	

Manuscripts under review

1. S.J. Budiardjo, J. Stevens, A. Caulkins, A.P. Ikujuni, V. Wimalasena, E. Firlar, D.A. Case, J.S. Biteen, J.T. Kaelber, **J.S.G. Slusky**, “Colicin E1 opens its hinge to plug TolC”. *Submitted 2019* [[BioRxiv](#)]
2. M.W. Franklin, J.J. Stevens, J. Krise, **J.S.G. Slusky**, “The Extracellular Loops of OmpA Control the Slow Rate of *In Vitro* Folding”. *Submitted 2020* [[BioRxiv](#)]

Peer-Reviewed Publications

3. R. Feehan* M.W. Franklin*, **J.S.G. Slusky**. “Machine Learning Differentiates Enzymatic and Non-Enzymatic Metals in Proteins”. *Nature Communications* 12:1 3712 (2021) [*co-first authors] [[Nature Communications](#)]

4. R. Feehan*, D. Montezano*, **J.S.G Slusky**. “Machine Learning for Enzyme Engineering, Selection, and Design”. *Protein Engineering Design and Selection* 34 (2021) [*co-first authors] [[PEDS](#)]
5. R. Dhar, R. Feehan, **J.S.G. Slusky**. “Membrane Barrels Are Taller, Fatter, Inside-Out Soluble Barrels”. *Journal of Physical Chemistry B* 125:14, 3622 (2021) [[JoPCB](#)]
6. S.J. Budiardjo*, A.I. Ikujuni*, E. Firlar, A. Cordova, J.T. Kaelber, **J.S.G. Slusky**, “High Yield Preparation of Outer-Membrane Protein Efflux Pumps by *In Vitro* Refolding is Concentration Dependent. *Journal of Membrane Biology* (2021) [*co-first authors] [[JMBi](#)]
7. R. Dhar, **J.S.G. Slusky**. “Outer Membrane Protein Evolution.” *Current Opinion in Structural Biology* (2021) [[CurOpStructBio](#)]
8. Tan, S.K., Fong, K.P., Polizzi, N.F., Sternisha, A., **Slusky, J.S.G.**, Yoon, K., Degrado, W.F., Bennett, J.S. “Modulating Integrin α IIb β 3 Activity through Mutagenesis of Allosterically Regulated Inter-subunit Contacts” *Biochemistry* 58, 3251–3259 (2019) [[Biochemistry](#)]
9. M.W. Franklin, S. N. Nepomnyachiy, R. Feehan, N. Ben-Tal, R. Kolodny, **J.S.G. Slusky**. “Evolutionary pathways of repeat protein topology in bacterial outer membrane proteins” *eLife* 7:e40308 (2018) [[eLife](#)] [[eLife Insight](#)]
10. M.W. Franklin, S. N. Nepomnyachiy, R. Feehan, N. Ben-Tal, R. Kolodny, **J.S.G. Slusky**. “Efflux Pumps Represent Possible Evolutionary Convergence onto the Beta Barrel Fold” *Structure* 26(9):1266-74 (2018) [[Structure](#)] [[very good by F1000](#)] [[cover image Sept 2018](#)]
11. M.W. Franklin, **J.S.G. Slusky**. “Tight Turns of Outer Membrane Beta-Barrels: An Analysis of Sequence, Structure, and Hydrogen Bonding” *Journal of Molecular Biology* 430(18B):3251-65 (2018) [[JMB](#)]
12. **J.S.G. Slusky** “Outer membrane protein design.” *Current Opinion in Structural Biology* 54:45-52 (2017) [[CurrOpStructBio](#)]
13. S. Kim, D.S. Patel, S. Park, **J.S.G. Slusky**, J.B. Klauda, G. Widmalm, W. Im. “Bilayer Properties of Lipid A from Various Gram-Negative Bacteria”. *Biophysical Journal* 111(8):1750-60 (2016) [[BJ](#)]
14. **J.S.G. Slusky*** and R.L. Dunbrack. “Charge asymmetry in proteins of the outer membrane.” *Bioinformatics* 29(17):2122-8 (2013) ***corresponding author** [[Bioinformatics](#)]
15. P. Lloris-Garcerá, S. Seppälä, **J.S.G. Slusky**, M. Rapp, G. von Heijne. “Why Have Small Multidrug Resistance Proteins Not Evolved into Fused, Internally Duplicated Structures?” *Journal of Molecular Biology* 426(11):2246-54 (2014) [[JMB](#)]
16. P. Lloris-Garcerá, **J.S.G. Slusky**, S. Seppälä, M. Prieß, L. V. Schäfer, G.von Heijne. “In vivo Trp-scanning of the Small Multidrug Resistance protein EmrE confirms anti-parallel 3D structure models.” *Journal of Molecular Biology* 425(22):4642-51 (2013) [[JMB](#)]
17. P. Lloris-Garcerá, F. Bianchi, **J.S.G. Slusky**, S. Seppälä, D.O. Daley, G.von Heijne. “Antiparallel dimers of the small multidrug-resistance protein EmrE are more stable than parallel dimers.” *Journal of Biological Chemistry* 287(31):26052-9 (2012) [[JBC](#)]
18. S.E. Dutton, E.D. Hanson, C.L. Broholm, **J.S. Slusky**, R.J Cava. “Magnetic properties of hole-doped SCGO, SrCr(8)Ga(4-x)M(x)O(19) (M=Zn, Mg, Cu).” *Journal of physics-- Condensed matter*, 23(38):386001, (2011) [[JoP:CM](#)]
19. S. Seppälä, **J.S. Slusky**, P. Lloris-Garcerá, M. Rapp, G.von Heijne. “Control of membrane protein topology by a single C-terminal residue.” *Science* 328(5986):1698-700, (2010). [[Science](#)]

20. **J.S. Slusky**, H. Yin, W.F. DeGrado “Understanding membrane proteins: How to design inhibitors of transmembrane protein-protein interactions.” *Protein Engineering* (C. Köhler, U.L. RajBhandary; Ed.), Springer Verlag, 22, 315-338 (2009). [[Springer](#)]
21. H. Yin*, **J.S. Slusky***, B.W. Berger, R.S. Walters, G. Vilaire, R.I. Litvinov, J. D. Lear, G.A. Caputo, J.S. Bennett, W.F. DeGrado. “Computational Design of Peptides that Target Transmembrane Helices” *Science* 315(5820):1817 (2007) ***co-first authors** [[Science](#)]
22. J. Snyder, B.G Ueland, **J.S. Slusky**, H. Karunadasa, R.J.Cava, P. Schiffer. “Low-temperature spin freezing in the Dy₂Ti₂O₇ spin ice.” *Physical Review B: Condensed Matter and Materials Physics* 69(6):064414, (2004) [[PRB](#)]
23. J. Snyder, B.G. Ueland, A. Mizel, **J.S. Slusky**, H. Karunadasa, R.J. Cava, P. Schiffer. “Quantum and thermal spin relaxation in the diluted spin ice Dy_{2-x}M_xTi₂O₇ (M=Lu,Y).” *Physical Review B: Condensed Matter and Materials Physics* 70(18):184431, (2004). [[PRB](#)]
24. T.W. Heitmann, S.D. Bu, D.H. Kim., J.H. Choi, J. Giencke, C.B. Eom, K.A. Regan, N. Rogado, M.A. Hayward, T. He, **J.S. Slusky**, P. Khalifah, M. Haas, R.J. Cava, D.C. Larbalestier, M.S. Rzchowski. “MgB₂ energy gap determination by scanning tunnelling spectroscopy.” *Superconductor Science & Technology: Suppl S.* 17(2):237, (2004). [[SS&T](#)]
25. J. Snyder, B.G. Ueland, **J.S. Slusky**, H. Karunadasa, R.J.Cava, A. Mizel, P. Schiffer, “Quantum-classical reentrant relaxation crossover in Dy₂Ti₂O₇ spin ice.” *Physical Review Letters* 91(10):107201, (2003). [[PRL](#)]
26. J. Snyder, **J.S. Slusky**, R.J. Cava, P.Schiffer, “Dirty spin ice: The effect of dilution on spin freezing in Dy₂Ti₂O₇.” *Physical Review B: Condensed Matter and Materials Physics* 66(6):064432, (2002). [[PRB](#)]
27. **J. S. Slusky**, N. Rogado, K. A. Regan, M. A. Hayward, P. Khalifah, T. He, Inumaru, S. M. Loureiro, M. K. Haas, H. W. Zandbergen, R. J. Cava. “Loss of superconductivity with the addition of Al to MgB₂ and a structural transition in Mg_{1-x}Al_xB₂.” *Nature* 410(4826):343-5, (2001). [[Nature](#)]
28. J. Snyder, **J.S. Slusky**, R.J. Cava, P. Schiffer. “How ‘spin ice’ freezes.” *Nature* 413(6851):48-51, (2001). [[Nature](#)]
29. D.C. Larbalestier, L.D. Coolye, M.O. Rikel, A.A. Polyanskii, J. Jiang, S. Patnaik, X.Y. Cai, D.M. Feldmann, A Gurevich, AA Squirieri, M.T. Naus, C. B. Eom, E.E. Hellstrom, R. J. Cava, K. A. Regan, N. Rogado, M.A. Hayward, T. He, **J.S. Slusky**, P. Khalifah, K. Inumaru, M. Haas. “Strongly linked current flow in polycrystalline forms of the superconductor MgB₂.” *Nature* 410(6825):186-9, (2001). [[Nature](#)]
30. C.B. Eom, M.K. Lee, J.H. Choi, L. Belenky, X. Song, L.D. Cooley, M.T. Naus, S. Patnaik, J. Jiang, M. Rikel, A. Polyanskii, A. Gurevich, X.Y. Cai, S.D. Bu, S.E. Babcock, E.E. Hellstrom, D.C. Larbalestier, N. Rogado, K.A. Regan, M.A. Hayward, T. He, **J.S. Slusky**, K. Inumaru, M.K. Haas, R.J. Cava. “High critical current density and enhanced irreversibility field in superconducting MgB₂ thin films.” *Nature* 411(6837):558-60, (2001). [[Nature](#)]
31. T. He, Q. Huang, A.P. Ramirez, Y. Wang, K.A. Regan, N. Rogado, M.A. Hayward, M.K. Haas, **J.S. Slusky**, K. Inumara, H.W. Zandbergen, N.P. Ong, and R.J. Cava. “Superconductivity in the non-oxide perovskite MgCNi₃.” *Nature* 411(6833):54-6 (2001). [[Nature](#)]
32. T. Yildirim, O. Gulseren, J.W. Lynn, C.M. Brown, T.J. Udovic, Q. Huang, N. Rogado, K.A. Regan, M.A. Hayward, **J.S. Slusky**, T.He, M.K. Haas, P. Kalifah, K. Inumaru, and R.J. Cava. “Giant anharmonicity and nonlinear electron-phonon coupling in MgB₂: a combined

first-principles calculation and neutron scattering study.” *Physical Review Letters* 87(3):037001, (2001). [[PRL](#)]

Patents and patents under review

1. **J.S. Slusky**, H. Yin, W.F. DeGrado. “Polypeptides That Bind Membrane Proteins.” United States Patent. US 2010-0120695-A1 (2010). [[GooglePatents](#)]
2. **J.S.G. Slusky** “Targeting the formation of Beta Barrels”. United States Patent Application 1549605. Filing date: 4/27/2017

Awards

- Johnson and Johnson STEM2D Scholars Award, Finalist (2019)
- Sigma Xi Student Invited Outstanding Scientist Award, Kansas State University (2018)
- NIH Director’s New Innovator Award (2017)
- Moore Inventor Fellowship (2016)
- F1000 Outstanding Presentation Prize 3Dsig (2016)
- University of Pennsylvania: Biomedical Graduate Studies Director’s Award (2002)
- Princeton University: Malcolm H. Chisholm prize for student who displayed the most excellence in inorganic chemistry in the class of 2001
- Semifinalist Westinghouse Science Talent Search (1997)

Major Fellowships and Grants

NIH DP2 GM128201 Slusky (PI) 09/30/17-05/30/22
Designed Beta-Strands for Inhibiting Efflux Pumps and Disabling Antibiotic Resistance
Role: PI direct costs: \$1,500,000

Moore Inventor Fellowship Slusky (PI) 11/01/17-12/31/19
Peptides That Bind To Outer Membrane Beta Barrels
Role: PI direct costs: \$750,000

NIH P20GM113117 Slusky (Junior Investigator) 08/28/16-05/01/17
This CoBRE award for Chemical Biology of Infectious Diseases funds multiple projects in Kansas.
Targeting TolC oligomerization to potentiate antibiotics
Role: Project PI direct costs for Slusky lab: \$140,000

NIH P20GM103418 Slusky(Project Award) 05/01/16-08/27/16
This Kansas-INBRE award funds research within the theme of cell and developmental biology
Targeting TolC oligomerization to potentiate antibiotics
Role: Development Project Research Grant direct costs for Slusky lab: \$75,000

—*Before arriving at KU in summer 2014*—

- NIH postdoctoral research training grant (2012-2014)
- HFSP (Human Frontier Science Program) Long Term Research Fellow (2008-2011)
- NIH Structural Biology Training Grant (2005-2007)

- NSF Graduate Research Fellowship (2002-2005)
- New Jersey Commission on Cancer Research, Summer Fellow (1997)

Talks and Invited Seminars:

- Invited Seminar: University of Kansas Cancer Center, Kansas City, KS via Zoom (June 2021)
- Invited Seminar: Lehigh University Chemistry Department, Lehigh, PA via Zoom (April 2021)
- Invited Speaker: Bacterial Cell Envelopes: Structure, Dynamics, and Function, Southampton, UK via Zoom (March 2021)
- PEDS: Protein Engineering Design and Selection Webinar series (September 2020) [[youtube 7:00-32:00](#)]
- Translocation Transfer Seminar Series, Bremen, Germany via Zoom (Aug. 2020)
- Accepted presentation: International Society for Computational Biology (ISCB) international meeting 3DSig (structural biology track) Zoom (July 2020)
- Invited Seminar: Rutgers University Center for Advancement of Bio-Medicine Piscataway, NJ (February 2020)
- Invited Seminar: NIH NIDDK, Bethesda, MD (January 2020)
- Invited Speaker: Midwest Regional Meeting of American Chemical Society, Wichita, KS (October 2019)
- Invited Seminar: Rutgers University Chemistry Department, Piscataway, NJ (September 2019)
- Selected Speaker: RosettaCON, Leavenworth, WA (August 2019)
- Invited Speaker: GRC Membrane Protein Folding, Easton, MA (July 2019)
- Invited Seminar: NIH membrane interest group, Bethesda, MD (March 2019)
- Invited Seminar: University of Wisconsin Madison, Biochemistry Colloquium, Madison, WI (February, 2019)
- Keynote Speaker: How Did Proteins Emerge and Continue to Evolve Meeting, Haifa, Israel (February 2019)
- Invited Seminar: Physics Seminar Series, University of Missouri, Columbia, MO (February 2019)
- Invited Speaker: Modeling of Protein Interactions, Lawrence, KS (November 2018)
- Invited Seminar: Chemical and Structural Biology and Biophysics Research Series, The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH (October 2018)
- Invited Speaker: Protein Design and Engineering conference, Frankfurt, Germany (October 2018)
- Invited Seminar: Vanderbilt Structural Biology symposium, Nashville, TN (September 2018)
- Invited Speaker: EMBO workshop mPEPC1 Hamburg, Germany (September 2018)
- Selected Speaker: Protein Society Annual Symposium, Boston, MA (July 2018)
- Student Invited Speaker: Sigma Xi, Scientific Research Society, Manhattan, KS (April 2018)
- Invited Speaker: Eclipse Symposium on Membrane Proteins, Manhattan KS (August 2017)
- Invited Speaker: Workshop: Structural biology Stockholm, Sweden (January 2017)
- Invited Speaker: Modeling of Protein Interactions, Lawrence, KS (October 2016)
- Selected Speaker: FASEB: Molecular Biophysics of Membranes, Snowmass, CO (July 2016)
- Invited Seminar: Rutgers University, Piscataway, NJ (June 2016)
- Invited Seminar: University of Missouri, Kansas City, Kansas City, MO (November 2015)
- Invited Speaker: GRC Membrane Protein Folding, Waltham, MA (June 2015)
- Invited Seminar: Stockholm University, Stockholm, Sweden (June 2015)
- Invited Seminar: University of Kansas Medical Center, Kansas City, KS (December 2014)

- Invited Seminar: Kansas State, Manhattan, Kansas (November 2014)
- Invited Speaker: Modeling of Protein Interactions, Lawrence, KS (October 2014)

Teaching (all classes are co-taught)

Classes:

BIOL 636 Introduction to Biochemistry I	Fall, 2015 – present
BINF 701 Computational Biology Core Course I	Fall, 2015 – 2017, 2019 – present
BINF 702 Computational Biology Core Course II	Spring, 2016 – present
BINF 709 Topics in Bioinformatics	Fall & Spring, 2015 – present
BIOL 750 Graduate Advanced Biochemistry	Spring, 2016 – present

Postdoctoral Fellows:

Huisun Lee	2016 – 2017
Pinakin Sukthankar	2015 – 2019
Daniel Montezano	2019 – present
Jimmy Budiardjo	2019 – present

Graduate Students:

Meghan Franklin	2015 – 2019
Jaden Anderson	2016 – 2021
Rik Dhar	2016 – present
S. Jimmy Budiardjo	2017 – 2019
Paul Ikujuni	2019 – present
Ryan Feehan	2019 – present
Samuel Lim	2021 – present

Post Baccalaureate Students:

Aldo Salazar Morales	2017 – 2018
Dennis Perez-Lopez	2018 – 2019

Undergraduate Students:

Shannon James	2014 – 2016
Ryan Feehan	2015 – 2017
Cedric Clark	2015 – 2017
Aleksander Downs	2015 – 2018
Paul Goodman III	Summer 2015
Riel Latimer	2016 – 2017
Virangika Wimalasena	2017 – 2018
Brooke Wietharn	2018 – 2019
Gustavo Murillo-Espinoza	2018 – 2020
Jenna Gardener	2019 – 2020
Andres Cordova	2020 – 2021
Justin Lerma	Summer 2020
Sarah Noga	2020 – present
Gabrielle Martell	2021 – present

Brunojoel Hatungimana 2021– present

High School Students:

Arrihant Kanna summer 2017
Rebecca Bernstein 2020 – 2021

Graduate Committees:

Past:

1. Xi Cheng, Computational Biology, 2015
2. Ragul Gowthaman, Computational Biology, 2015
3. Varsha Badal, Computational Biology, 2015 – 2018
4. Saveliy Belkin, Computational Biology, 2015 – 2019
5. Shipra Malhotra, Computational Biology 2015 – 2019
6. Jittasak Khowsathit, Computational Biology 2015 – 2019
7. Jiaqin Li, Molecular Biosciences, 2016
8. Jumin Lee, Computational Biology 2016 – 2017
9. Elizabeth Grottemeyer, Molecular Biosciences 2016 – 2018
10. Sijin Ren, Chemistry, 2017
11. Shoichi Tachiyama, Molecular Biosciences, 2018 – 2019
12. Nikola Kenjic, Molecular Biosciences 2015 – 2019
13. Nan Bai, Molecular Biosciences, 2015 – 2019
14. Victor Vasquez Montes, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology at KUMC, 2015 – 2020
15. Huijing Wang, Computational Biology, 2016 – 2020
16. GW McElfresh, Computational Biology, 2017 – 2020
17. Dwight Deay, Molecular Biosciences, 2015 – 2021
18. Anupama Kante, Molecular Biosciences 2016 – 2021
19. Pushpa Itagi, Computational Biology, 2016 – 2021
20. Amritangshu Chakravarty, Molecular Biosciences, 2017 – 2021

Current:

1. Nathan Jenkins, Computational Biology, 2017 – present
2. Alexander Bowman, Molecular Biosciences, 2017 – present
3. Anna Clompen, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, 2018 – present
4. Ian Kotthoff, Computational Biology, 2019 – present
5. Apurba Bhattarai, Computational Biology, 2020 – present

Service

Service to the field

- Associate Editor: *PLoS Computational Biology*
- Co-Chair of Nominating committee: Protein Society
- Editorial advisory board: PEDS: *Protein, Engineering, Design, and Selection*
- Co-chairing Biophysical Society Thematic Meeting “Physical and Quantitative Approaches to Overcome Antibiotic Resistance” Stockholm, Sweden (Aug. 2022)
- Associate Editor: *Journal of Membrane Biology*
- Rosetta membership committee member

- Journal Reviewer for:

<i>BBA-biomembranes</i>	<i>Environmental</i>	<i>PLoS Comp Biology</i>
<i>Biochemistry</i>	<i>Microbio</i>	<i>PNAS</i>
<i>Biochimie</i>	<i>Journal of Comp Chem</i>	<i>Proteins</i>
<i>Biophysical Journal</i>	<i>Molecular BioSystems</i>	<i>Scientific Reports</i>
<i>BMC Structural</i>	<i>Molecular</i>	<i>Trends in</i>
<i>Biology</i>	<i>Microbiology</i>	<i>Biotechnology</i>
<i>Chemical Reviews</i>	<i>Oncotarget</i>	
- Grant reviewer: Biotechnology and Biological Research Sciences (UK), Swiss National Science Foundation, National Science Centre in Poland

Promoting Science in High Schools

- Consultant: Students Modeling A Research Topic (SMART) team, Olathe North, KS, 2017
- Consultant: Olathe North, KS high school for the Science Olympiad, winter 2015
- Presentation: “How to Become a Scientist” to 9th graders in Overland Park, KS, April 2018
- Chemistry Demonstration for K-12 STEM fair Overland Park, KS March, 2019