

MB-GSA Officers Biographies

President

Preside over MBGSA meetings, represent the MBGSA in university and departmental functions, gather information on student body opinions and issues, develop actionable tasks / form committees to address student body issues.

Edeline Anthoniraj



Hi everyone! My name is Edeline Anthoniraj (she/her) and I'm currently a second-year Ph.D. student in the Kleiner lab. My research focuses on the microbial degradation processes of bioplastics in the environment. Prior to joining NCSU, I received my undergraduate degree in Biotechnology with an emphasis in microbiology at UC Davis.

I've had a great first year here and that is in large part thanks to the wonderful people that make up our microbiology department! I'm really excited to continue creating a welcoming environment in our department

in my role as the MB GSA president. Our goal as a GSA is to foster and build relationships between students, faculty, and staff, and connect students with both social and professional opportunities. With that in mind, we as a team have planned a lot of great events and are looking forward to having a great year with y'all! Additionally, please feel free to reach out to me via email if you have any questions/concerns during your time in the MB program!

Vice-president and Representative in Faculty Meetings

Assist the president on their roles and serve as an alternate to the president and representatives when they are not available. Also responsible for disseminating information about meetings, events, and opportunities to the student body, as well as maintaining the MB-GSA website and meeting minutes.

Jenna Kraemer



Hi! I'm Jenna Kraemer (she/her), a second-year Microbiology PhD student in the Harris Lab. My research focuses on environmental contamination with fecal and antimicrobial-resistant bacteria. I earned my undergraduate degree in Microbiology from the University of Maryland.

Because my work spans three departments due to my co-advisors, I understand how challenging it can be to feel connected within our program. As your GSA Vice President, I'm committed to helping all MB students stay engaged with one another and with our community, no matter where your lab or office is. I bring strong organizational and leadership skills to this role and aim to foster a supportive, well-informed, and inclusive environment by sharing updates, events, and opportunities across the department.

I also serve as the MB GSA representative in faculty meetings and will continue to advocate for student needs and facilitate clear communication between students and faculty. Please feel free to reach out if you need support or have ideas to share, I'm here to help your voice be heard!

Treasurer

Responsible for managing funds, maintaining expenditure records, and preparing financial documents for the all-council GSA.

Carla Sanchez



Hi everyone! My name is Carla Sanchez (she/her) and I'm a third-year PhD student in the Lyu lab. I'm currently studying anaerobic microbiology, especially interested in methanogens and the human microbiome.

I was the treasurer last year and enjoyed my time working with my fellow officers to set-up and organize various socials and events. Our program is very unique in that we are spread out across the three campuses at NC state. It can be difficult being so spread out to form a community. However, we are all going through similar experiences and I believe we can cultivate a community with our GSA, where we can all help and guide each other. I want to continue using my organizational and support skills to help bring our current and incoming graduate students that are spread out across the three campuses together. My goals for our GSA this year is to do more fundraisers to gather more funds for the various events in the upcoming school year. If you have any interesting fundraising ideas or events, please reach out and let me know!

GSA Representative in All-Council Meetings

Represent the MBGSA chapter in all council GSA meetings once a month and serve in GSA council committees. Serve as an advocate for MBGSA student body issues at the all council meeting and share relevant information to other MBGSA officers and student body from all council meetings.

Dexter Boldog



Hello! My name is Dexter Boldog (he/him). I am a second-year PhD student in the Lyu Lab. I graduated with a bachelor's degree in biochemistry in 2021 and worked for three years in the biopharmaceutical industry, here in the RTP area, before coming back to school. In the Lyu lab my research focuses on gut associated methanogens, their physiology and role in shaping the gut microbiome and metabolome, and how this impacts human health.

During our time in graduate school we can be extremely busy with classes, assignments, research, and a whole host of other responsibilities. With all of these jobs taking up our time it can be difficult to also advocate for our needs and concerns as graduate students. As the GSA representative for the MB GSA I will actively seek out both concerns and ideas to address these concerns from microbiology graduate students, and I will ensure that they are advocated for in all-council and committee meetings. Additionally, I will work to expediently communicate updates from the GSA to microbiology graduate students. I will always be open to communication from students about anything that may arise so please reach out!

Social & Outreach Coordinator

Lead the social and outreach committee during planning of social events and outreach activities of the MBGSA.

Emma Gray



Hi! I'm Emma Gray, a 4th year PhD student in the Barrangou lab. I did my undergrad here at NCSU in Mathematics and Microbiology before moving to Madison, WI, for a few years to work in the biotech industry. Now I'm back at NCSU, studying CRISPR and working to engineer a probiotic for infant gastrointestinal health.

Thank you for considering me for the Outreach and Social Activities Chair on the MBGSA! Us microbiology students are spread far and wide throughout NCSU, and it can be hard to build a sense of community. Most of the time, we meet in our classes or during professional, formal events. In this position, I'm excited to plan events that allow us to meet one another in more relaxed, casual settings. We could grab a coffee, check out a local art exhibit, meet for hikes (bring your dogs!), enjoy live music, plan an escape room, go out for brewery trivia, or anything else you might like to do - this is all about you! I imagine this organization as one that brings all microbiology grad students together, no matter how long you've been here or what lab (or campus) you call home.