

J. Krebs, **S. Stealey**, A. Brown, A. Krohn, **S. P. Zustiak**, \***N. Case**, “Carrageenan-Based Crowding and Confinement Combination Approach to Increase Collagen Deposition for In Vitro Tissue Development”, Gels, 2023, in press (IF: 4.6)

### *Appropriate/Tunable Properties for Biomedical Application*

This publication was a group effort involving multiple graduate students from the **Case and Zustiak labs**. **Joey Krebs** is a former BME undergrad and BS/MS student who finished his degree in December 2019, then worked in a research position in the lab of Dr. Ajay Jain in SLU Pediatrics for several years and is currently in his 2<sup>nd</sup> year of medical school at the University of Illinois College of Medicine. **Alyssa Brown** is a former BME undergrad and BS/MS student who finished her degree in May 2022 and is currently a project manager at Trident Manufacturing, Inc. **Austin Krohn** worked as an undergraduate assistant in the Case lab and then continued research as a BS/MS student. Austin delayed completion of his degree in July 2022 to take a full-time position with Pfizer in Boston and is scheduled to defend his thesis this semester. **Samuel Stealey** assisted on this project both as a graduate student and in his current post-doctoral position in Dr. Zustiak's lab.

Welcome the new BME Assistant Professor **Dr. Alex Reiter**! He received his undergraduate degree from the United States Military Academy and earned his graduate degrees from Washington University in St. Louis.

Dr. Reiter's research interests include investigation of functional adaptations in individuals recovering from musculoskeletal injury during outdoor activities, and assessing treatment strategies in injury models using biological, structural, and novel biomechanical characterization of soft tissue.

He is most excited about teaching biomechanics classes and conducting impactful research here at SLU and was drawn to SLU due to the emphasis on both areas. As for his free time, he enjoys running, any outdoor activities with his wife and kids, hunting, and riding and working on his motorcycle. A fun fact about him is that he has a commercial helicopter pilot license!

Please help welcome our new graduate students to the BME department!

Welcome **Thesis MS** student **Fatema Jamali** into Dr. Case's 1