

## Johnny Stiban, Ph.D.

## Curriculum Vitae

Faculty of Science

Department of Biology and Biochemistry, Birzeit University, West Bank 627, Palestine

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### Academic Career

Feb 2016 – Present	Chairperson, Department of Biology and Biochemistry, Birzeit University
Feb 2016 – Present	Director, Master's program in Environmental Biology, Birzeit University
Aug 2015 – Present	Associate Professor of Cell Biology and Biochemistry, Birzeit University
Aug 2009 – Jul 2015	Assistant Professor of Cell Biology and Biochemistry, Birzeit University
Sep 2012 – Aug 2013	Visiting Research Associate, Dept. Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, Michigan State University, USA
Jan 2012 – Jun 2012	Assistant Professor, Bard College at Alquds University, Abu Dis
Apr 2007 – Jul 2009	Postdoctoral Fellow, Dept. Biological Chemistry, Weizmann Institute of Science, Rehovot
Jan 2003 – Dec 2006	Ph.D. Biology, University of Maryland, College Park, USA
Aug 2001 – Dec 2002	B.Sc. Biochemistry, University of Maryland, College Park, USA
Sep 1998 – May 2001	Undergraduate student, Chemistry Department, Birzeit University

### Awards and Honors

2015	EMBO travel award to attend EMBO workshop in Sitges, Spain
2014	Zamalah Fellowship, Welfare Association and Bank of Palestine, Ramallah
2012	Career Development Award, Office of the Vice-President for Academic Affairs
2012	The Abdussalam International Center for Theoretical Physics (ICTP) travel award
2012	Jury's Choice Poster Award, Hands-On Research on Complex Systems, Shanghai
2011	Partial travel award to attend Charleston Ceramide Conference 6
2010	Committee for Aid and Education in Neurochemistry (CAEN) travel award
2010	ESHF fellowship
2008	FEBS travel award

### Funding Information

#### *Fellowships:*

2007-2009 Postdoctoral Fellowship, Weizmann Institute of Science, Rehovot

#### *Research Grants:*

2015	<b>Birzeit University</b> Graduate extended research grant (12,000 USD)
2015	<b>Birzeit University</b> Undergraduate research grant (student: Darine Samandar) (1,000 J.D.)
2014	<b>Birzeit University</b> Graduate research grant (5,500 USD)
2013	<b>Birzeit University</b> Joint grant with Dr. Emilia Rappocciolo (biology department) (8,500 USD)

- 2013            **Birzeit University** Joint grant with Dr. Adel Hidmi (chemistry department) (10,000 USD)
- 2012            **Birzeit University** Joint grant with Dr. Adel Hidmi (chemistry department) (10,000 USD)
- 2011            **Birzeit University** Lab startup grant (11,000 USD)

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### University Service

- Birzeit University Academic Graduation Committee, March 2016 – present
- Birzeit University Accreditation committee, September 2015 – December 2015
- Master’s program in environmental biology council, August 2015 – present
- Science Faculty Council, September 2014 – present
- Birzeit University Science Faculty Cadre Committee, September 2013 – present
- Birzeit University Undergraduate Research Committee, September 2013 – present
- Birzeit University Scientific Research Ethics Committee, September 2013 – present
- Birzeit University Academic Council, September 2013 – July 2014
- Science Faculty Council, September 2011 – May 2012
- Doctor of Pharmacy Program Committee, August 2010 – May 2011

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### Professional Committees

- Palestinian Forum for Medical Research (PFMR), Chairperson, May 2016 – present
- European Society for Clinical Investigation (ESCI), Member, March 2016 – present
- Mitochondrial Physiology Society (MiP), Member, September 2014 – present
- Biophysical Society, Member, February 2003 – May 2006

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### Invited Seminars

- August 2013, Department of Biology, University of Maryland, College Park
- June 2013, GEDD summer research seminar, Michigan State University
- March 2013, MitoSciMed seminar, Michigan State University
- May 2012, Bard College at Alquds University, Abu Dis, *Invited Speaker*, Academic day
- October 2008, Department of Chemistry, Birzeit University, Ramallah
- September 2008, Department of Biochemistry, Alquds University, Abu Dis, Jerusalem

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### International Conferences

#### 2016

1. WikiArabia Conference – Amman, Jordan (invited speaker)
2. 50th Annual Scientific Meeting of the European Society for Clinical Investigation – Paris, France (invited speaker)

#### 2015

3. EMBO Workshop – Sitges, Spain “*Mitochondrial DNA and Neurodegeneration*”
4. International Ceramide Conference 8, Izmir, Turkey (invited speaker)

**2014**

5. MiP2014 – Joint IUBMB/MiP Symposium on Mitochondrial Physiology, Obergurgl, Austria “Mitochondrial Physiology - a Point/Counterpoint meeting” (invited speaker)

**2013**

6. FASEB Science Research Conference, Big Sky, Montana, USA “Mitochondrial Biogenesis and Dynamics in Health Disease and Aging”

**2012**

7. Hands-On Research on Complex Systems, Shanghai, China
8. From Genes to Atomic Structure: an Introduction to Synchrotron-Based Structural Biology, Trieste, Italy

**2011**

9. Charleston Ceramide Conference 6, Villars, Switzerland

**2010**

10. European Society of Human Genetics, Bologna, Italy “Mitochondrial Metabolism and Cancer” (invited speaker)
11. 9<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Brain Energy Metabolism, Budapest, Hungary “Mitochondrial-Cytosolic Interactions: From Energetics to Pathogenesis”
12. EMBO Workshop, Birzeit University, Palestine “Frontiers in Molecular Medicine” (Organizer and speaker)

**2009**

13. Charleston Ceramide Conference 5, Charleston, South Carolina, USA

**2008**

14. FEBS Workshop, Spetses, Greece “Lipids as regulators of cell function”
15. AACR Meeting, Dead Sea, Jordan “Advances in Cancer Research: From the Laboratory to the Clinic”

**2006**

16. Biophysical Society Meeting, Salt Lake City, Utah, USA (invited speaker)
17. National Academy of Sciences, Washington, DC, USA “Leadership Summit to Effect Change in Teaching and Learning” (student participant)

**2005**

18. Biophysical Society Meeting, Baltimore, Maryland, USA

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## National Conferences

### 2016

19. 6<sup>th</sup> Biomedical Research Symposium, Bethlehem University

### 2015

20. 1<sup>st</sup> National Conference on Applied Biomedical Sciences, Arab American University, Jenin
21. 5<sup>th</sup> Biomedical Research Symposium, Birzeit University, *Organizer*

### 2012

22. 2<sup>nd</sup> Biomedical Research Symposium, Bethlehem University, Bethlehem

### 2011

23. 5<sup>th</sup> Academic Colloquium, Palestinian Faculty Development Program (PFDP), Ramallah
24. 1<sup>st</sup> Biomedical Research Symposium, Palestine Polytechnic University, Hebron (invited speaker)

### 2010

25. An-Najah National University, Nablus, Palestine “*Second Conference on Biotechnology Research and Application in Palestine*”

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## Reviewer for Journals

- Current Medicinal Chemistry
- International Journal of Nanomedicine
- Mitochondrion
- Journal of Biological Chemistry
- Enzyme and Microbial Technology

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## Publications (peer reviewed)

1. D.S. Eweis, F. Abed and **J. Stiban**. (2016) Carbon dioxide in carbonated beverages induces ghrelin release and increased food consumption in male rats: implications on the onset of obesity. *Obesity Research and Clinical Practice (under review)*
2. **J. Stiban**, M. So, L.S. Kaguni. (2016) Iron sulfur clusters in mitochondrial metabolism: Multifaceted roles of a simple cofactor. *Biochemistry (Moscow)* 81(10): 1066-1080.
3. M. Abou-Ghali and **J. Stiban**. (2015) Regulation of ceramide channel formation and disassembly: Insights on the initiation of apoptosis. *Saudi J. Biol. Sci.* 22(6): 760-772.
4. **J. Stiban** and M. Perera. (2015) Very long chain ceramides interfere with C16-ceramide-induced channel formation: A plausible mechanism for regulating the initiation of intrinsic apoptosis. *Biochim. Biophys. Acta - Biomembranes*, 1848(2): 561-567.

5. **J. Stiban**, G.A. Farnum, S.L. Hovde and L.S. Kaguni. (2014) The *N*-terminal domain of the *Drosophila melanogaster* mitochondrial DNA helicase contains an iron-sulfur cluster and binds DNA. *J. Biol. Chem.* 289(35): 24032-24042.
6. S.N. Pinto, E.L. Laviad, **J. Stiban**, S.L. Kelly, A.H. Merrill Jr., M. Prieto, A.H. Futerman and L.C. Silva (2014) Changes in membrane biophysical properties induced by sphingomyelinase depend on the sphingolipid N-acyl chain. *J. Lipid Res.* 55(1):53-61.
7. L.C. Silva, O. Ben David, Y. Pewzner-Jung, E.L. Laviad, **J. Stiban**, S. Bandyopadhyay, A.H. Merrill Jr, M. Prieto and A.H. Futerman (2012) Ablation of ceramide synthase 2 strongly affects biophysical properties of membranes. *J. Lipid Res.* 53(3):430-436.
8. S. Samanta, **J. Stiban**, T.K. Maugel and M. Colombini (2011) Visualization of ceramide channels by transmission electron microscopy. *Biochim. Biophys. Acta - Biomembranes* 1808(4):1196-1201.
9. Y. Pewzner-Jung Y, H. Park, E.L. Laviad, L.C. Silva, S. Lahiri, **J. Stiban**, R. Erez-Roman, B. Brugger, T. Sachsenheimer, F. Wieland, M. Prieto, A.H. Merrill Jr and A.H. Futerman (2010) A critical role for ceramide synthase 2 in liver homeostasis: I. alterations in lipid metabolic pathways. *J. Biol. Chem.* 285(14):10902-10910.
10. **J. Stiban**, R. Tidhar and A.H. Futerman (2009) Ceramide Synthases: Roles in Cell Physiology and Signaling, *In: 'Sphingolipids as Signaling and Regulatory Molecules'* Landes Bioscience (Publication date 15/2/2010)
11. **J. Stiban**, L.C. Silva and A.H. Futerman (2008) Ceramide-containing membranes: the interface between biophysics and biology. *Trends Glycosci. Glycotech.* 20(116): 297–313.
12. **J. Stiban**, L. Caputo and M. Colombini (2008) Ceramide synthesis in the endoplasmic reticulum can permeabilize mitochondria to proapoptotic proteins. *J. Lipid Res.* 49(3): 625-634.
13. **J. Stiban**, D. Fistere and M. Colombini (2006) Dihydroceramide hinders ceramide channel formation: Implications on apoptosis. *Apoptosis.* 11(5): 773-780.

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### **Publications (Teaching Manuals)**

1. **J. Stiban** (2014) Biochemistry II (BIOC 312) Lab Manual. *Birzeit University*.
2. **J. Stiban** (2014) Animal Unit Care Manual. *Birzeit University*.
3. **J. Stiban** et. al. General Science (GENS 131). *Birzeit University*.
4. **J. Stiban** (2011) Biochemistry (BIOC 311) Lab Manual. *Birzeit University*.
5. **J. Stiban** (2011) Clinical Biochemistry (BIOC 413) Lab Manual. *Birzeit University*.
6. S. Beituni, A. Abdulkhaliq and **J. Stiban** (2010) General Biology (BIOL 111) Lab Manual. *Birzeit University*.
7. **J. Stiban** (2009) Cell Biology (BIOL 244) Lab Manual. *Birzeit University*.

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## References

1. **Prof. Marco Colombini** (Ph.D. Advisor)  
University of Maryland, College Park, USA  
[colombini@umd.edu](mailto:colombini@umd.edu)
2. **Prof. Laurie S. Kaguni** (Sabbatical colleague)  
Michigan State University, East Lansing, USA  
[lskaguni@msu.edu](mailto:lskaguni@msu.edu)
3. **Prof. Simon Kuttab** (Professor and former Dean of Science)  
Birzeit University, West Bank, Palestine  
[skuttab@birzeit.edu](mailto:skuttab@birzeit.edu)
4. **Prof. Anthony H. Futerman** (Postdoctoral Advisor)  
Weizmann Institute of Science, Rehovot, Israel  
[tony.futerman@weizmann.ac.il](mailto:tony.futerman@weizmann.ac.il)
5. **Prof. Khaled M. Swaileh** (Colleague and current Dean of Science)  
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