

# FUSE Opinions

## Organic chemistry's battle with the climate crisis

Modern organic chemistry relies upon petroleum for many of the solvents that are commonplace in labs across the world. With the long-overdue move away from fossil fuels, organic chemists must develop methods to limit their use – potentially to none. There are numerous alternatives to fossil fuel-derived organic chemistry, but the switch to these greener methods will not happen overnight. For more on this interesting topic, click [here](#). – Haden Wikar, '23

## CRISPR emerges with a new potential function

CRISPR, the gene editing tool most of us know in relation to cancer research and treatment, has recently found success in knocking out a gene responsible for the rare swelling disease, hereditary angioedema. Three human trials revealed success in significantly stopping swelling reactions to stress, illness, and trauma after a low dose CRISPR treatment. These advancements could eliminate affected individuals' need for daily medications to control their disease. For a deeper look into the pathway that CRISPR interrupts and this progress concerning hereditary angioedema, follow this [link](#). – Carolyn Joyce, '23

## How living through a pandemic can distort our perception of time

2023 is only 3 months away – so why does it feel like 2020 just happened? If this resonates with you, you are not alone – according to some psychologists who investigated the effects of living through a pandemic on individuals' perception of time.



Living through traumatic events that change one's routine, such as the coronavirus pandemic, can lead to temporal distortion, meaning that our view of time becomes warped. For some, this could lead to a higher risk of mental health problems. To read more on what Alison Holman and other psychologists think this could mean for the future of our mental well being, follow this [link](#). – Alicia Bergeron, '23