

NATALE R. SCIOLINO, PHD
Assistant Professor
University of Connecticut
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I. EDUCATION & EXPERIENCE

- 2014-2020 **National Institutes of Health, NIH** Research Triangle Park, NC
National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, NIEHS
Postdoctoral Fellow in Neurobiology
Advisor: Patricia Jensen, PhD
- *Intersectional chemogenetic strategies to activate defined cell types.*
 - *Optical tools to dissect locus coeruleus-norepinephrine circuits in feeding.* Collaboration with Michael J. Krashes, PhD (NIDDK), Guohong Cui, PhD (NIEHS), Michael R. Bruchas, PhD (Wash U.), and Alexxai V. Kravitz, PhD (NIDDK)
- 2009-14 **University of Georgia** Athens, GA
PhD in Neuroscience
Advisors: Philip V. Holmes, PhD and David Weinschenker, PhD (Emory)
- Dissertation: *Behavioral, neurochemical, and neuroanatomical evidence for galanin in mediating resilience afforded by exercise.*
- 2008-09 **University of Georgia** Athens, GA
MS in Neuroscience and Behavior
Advisor: Andrea G. Hohmann, PhD
- Thesis: *Long-term alterations in endocannabinoid receptor density and endocannabinoid content in brain regions controlling emotional expression following social isolation*
- 2004-08 **SUNY Buffalo State** Buffalo, NY
BS in Biological Psychology, Chemistry minor

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- 2021- **University of Connecticut** Storrs, CT
Department of Physiology & Neurobiology
Assistant Professor (tenure-track)
- Research Focus: *Defining cellular connectivity and function of norepinephrine circuits regulating motivational processes in feeding, taste, and aversion.*

Faculty Affiliations:

Department of Biomedical Engineering (2022-pres.) and Psychological Sciences (2023-pres.)
Connecticut Institute for the Brain and Cognitive Sciences (2021-pres.)
Institute of Systems Genomics (2021-pres.)

II. HONORS & AWARDS

- 2023 International Behavioral Neuroscience Society Early Faculty Travel Award
2022 *Gordon Research Conference* Poster Award, Optogenetic Approaches to understanding neural circuits and behavior.
2020 Manuscript nominated for *Brain Structure and Function* Editors' Choice Award.
2018 NIH Fellows Award for Research Excellence

2018 Society for the Study of Ingestive Behavior New Investigator Travel Award
 2018 Triangle Society for Neuroscience Best Poster Presentation Travel Award
 2013-14 ARCS® Foundation Award for Significant Accomplishment in Biomedical Research
 2014 Herbert Zimmer Scholar Award for Outstanding Research Accomplishments, U. Georgia
 2013-14 Dissertation Completion Award, University of Georgia
 2013 Beverly Hirsch Frank Graduate Fellowship for Exceptional Women in Science, U. Georgia
 2012 Marine Biological Laboratory Travel Award, Neural Systems and Behavior
 2011 NIH Award for the Lindau Meeting of Nobel Laureates
 2009 NIDA Travel Award, College on the Problems of Drug Dependence
 2009 Chancellor Award, Highest Honor for Student Excellence by SUNY System
 2008 President's Medal, Highest Honor for Excellence in Scholarship & Service, SUNY Buffalo State
 2006-07 Ronald E. McNair Scholars Post-Baccalaureate Scholar

III. GRANTS & CONTRACTS

CURRENT GRANTS (AS PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR)

Project: **NIH Pathway to Independence Award (R00)** R00 DK119586
 Title: Defining norepinephrine locus coeruleus circuits in feeding
 Agency: National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK)
 Total: \$750,000 (includes \$150K direct/yr. and \$100k indirect/yr. for 3 years with 1 yr. NCE)
 Role: PI
 Period: 3/19/21 – 1/31/25

Project: **Brain Research Foundation Seed Grant Award** BRFSG-2023-09
 Title: Impact of locus coeruleus on gustatory cortex function
 Agency: Brain Research Foundation (BRF)
 Total: \$80,000 (includes \$40K direct costs per year for two years)
 Role: PI
 Period: 5/31/23 – 5/31/25

Project: **Institute for Brain and Cognitive Sciences Seed Grant Award**
 Title: Effects of *in vivo* endocannabinoid signaling in the locus coeruleus during stress
 Agency: The University of Connecticut Institute for Brain and Cognitive Sciences (IBACS)
 Total: \$25,000 (direct costs)
 Role: PI
 Collaborator: Daniel Mulkey (co-PI), John Salamone (co-PI), Melissa Boucher (co-PI)
 Period: 11/3/23-12/16/24

PRIOR GRANTS (AS PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR)

Project: **College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (CLAS) Research Equipment Fund**
 Title: Miniature microscopes in behaving rodents for animal vivarium and behavioral spaces
 Agency: The University of Connecticut
 Total: \$212,465 (direct costs)
 Role: PI
 Collaborator: Alexander Jackson (co-PI), Anastasios Tzingounis (co-PI)
 Awarded: 11/1/22

Project: **NIH Pathway to Independence Award (K99)** K99 DK119586
 Title: Defining norepinephrine locus coeruleus circuits in feeding

Agency: National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK)
Total: \$0 (NOTE: \$90,000/year awarded to extramural, not intramural trainees)
Role: PI
Collaborator: Patricia Jensen (co-mentor), Michael J. Krashes (co-mentor), Michael R. Bruchas, Alexxai V. Kravitz, Guohong Cui
Period: 8/15/19 – 12/31/20

Project: **McNair Scholars Program, SUNY College at Buffalo Research Foundation**
Title: An animal model of posttraumatic stress disorder
Agency: SUNY College at Buffalo
Total: \$4400 (McNair), \$2800 (Research Foundation)
Role: PI
Collaborator: Jean M. DiPirro (mentor)
Period: 1/2006 – 5/2009

Prior Grants (As Senior Personnel or Contributor)

Project: **NIDA Diversity Supplement** DA027535
Title: Effects of voluntary exercise on reinstatement of cocaine seeking
Agency: National Institute on Drug Abuse
Total: \$82,500
Role: Research Assistant
Collaborator: David Weinschenker (PI), Philip V. Holmes (co-PI)
Period: 1/15/10 – 12/31/14

Project: **NIDA Diversity Supplement** DA021644
Title: An endocannabinoid mechanism for stress-induced analgesia
Agency: National Institute on Drug Abuse
Total: \$41,250
Role: Research Assistant
Collaborator: Andrea Hohmann (PI)
Period: 8/15/09 – 05/31/11

IV. RESEARCH & SCHOLARSHIP

[Google Scholar](#) h-index =12. [Scopus](#) h-index = 10.

Complete list of work in NCBI My Bibliography: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/?term=sciolino+nr>

PUBLISHED MANUSCRIPTS

1. Fan Q, Engborg, CB, and **Sciolino NR**. Locus coeruleus dynamics are suppressed during licking and enhanced post-licking independent of taste novelty. (2024). In press, **eNeuro**, JCR impact factor 4.4.
2. Wilson LR[‡], Plummer NW[‡], Evsyukova IY, Patino D, Stewart CL, Smith KG, Konrad KS, Fry SA, Deal AL, Kilonzo VW, Panda S, **Sciolino NR**, Cushman JD*, Jensen P*. (2023). Partial or complete loss of norepinephrine differentially alters contextual fear and catecholamine release dynamics in hippocampal CA1. **Biological Psychiatry: Global Open Science**, 4 (1), 51-60. PubMed PMID: 38058990. [‡]These authors contributed equally. *Co-corresponding authors. (JCR impact factor TBD).
3. **Sciolino NR**, Hsiang M, Mazzone CM, Wilson LR, Plummer NW, Amin J, Smith KG, McGee C, Fry SA, Yang CX, Powell JM, Bruchas MR, Kravitz AV, Cushman JD, Krashes MJ, Cui G, and Jensen P. (2022). Natural locus coeruleus dynamics during feeding. **Science Advances** 19, 8 (33). PubMed PMID: 35984878. (JCR impact factor =14.98).

4. Oyarzabal, EA, Hsu LM, Das M, Harry Chao TH, Zhou J, Song S, Zhang W, Smith KG, **Sciolino NR**, Evsyukova IY, Yuan H, Lee SH, Cui G, Jensen P, & Ian Shih, YY (2022). Chemogenetic Stimulation of Tonic Locus Coeruleus Activity Strengthens the Default Mode Network. **Science Advances**. 8, 17. PubMed PMID: 35486721. (JCR impact factor =14.98).
5. Tillage RP*, **Sciolino NR***, Plummer NP, Lustberg D, Liles LC, Hsiang M, Powell JM, Smith KG, Jensen P, and Weinshenker D (2020). Elimination of galanin synthesis in noradrenergic neurons reduces galanin in select brain areas and promotes active coping behaviors. **Brain Structure and Function**, 225, 785-803 ***Co-first author**. PubMed PMID: 32065256. (JCR impact factor =3.75).
6. **Sciolino NR***, Plummer NW*, Chen YW, Alexander GM, Robertson SD, Dudek SM, McElligott ZA, Jensen P (2016). Recombinase-dependent mouse lines for chemogenetic activation of genetically defined cell types. **Cell Reports** 15, 2563-73. ***Co-first author**. PubMed PMID: 27264177;(JCR impact factor =9.99).
7. **Sciolino NR**, Smith JM, Stranahan AM, Freeman KG, Edwards GL, Weinshenker D, and Holmes PV (2015). Galanin mediates features of neural and behavioral stress resilience afforded by exercise. **Neuropharmacology** 89, 255-264. PubMed PMID: 25301278.(JCR impact factor =5.27).
8. Ogbonmwan YE*, **Sciolino NR***, Groves-Chapman JL, Freeman KG, Edwards GL, Holmes PV, and Weinshenker D (2014). The galanin receptor agonist galnol attenuates cocaine-induced reinstatement and dopamine overflow in the frontal cortex. **Addiction Biology** 20,701-13. ***Co-first author**. PubMed PMID: 25053279. (JCR impact factor =4.09).
9. **Sciolino NR**, Dishman RK, and Holmes PV (2012). Voluntary exercise offers anxiolytic potential & amplifies galanin gene expression in the locus coeruleus of the rat. **Behavioural Brain Research** 233,191-200. PubMed PMID: 22580167. (JCR impact factor =3.35).
10. **Sciolino NR** and Holmes PV (2012). Exercise offers anxiolytic-like potential: A role for stress and brain noradrenergic-galaninergic mechanisms. **Neuroscience & Biobehavioral Reviews** 36, 1965-84. PubMed PMID: 22771334. (JCR impact factor =9.05).
11. **Sciolino NR**, Zhou W, & Hohmann AG (2011). Enhancement of endocannabinoid signaling with JZL184, an inhibitor of the 2-arachidonoylglycerol hydrolyzing enzyme monoacylglycerol lipase produces anxiolytic effects under conditions of high environmental aversiveness in rats. **Pharm. Research** 64, 226-34. PubMed PMID: 21600985. (JCR impact factor =10.33).
12. Clapper J, Moreno-Sanz G, Russo R, Guijarro A, Vacondio F, Duranti A, Tontini A, Sanchini S, **Sciolino NR**, Spradley J, Hohmann AG, Calignano A, Mor M, and Tarzia G (2010). Anandamide suppresses pain initiation through a peripheral endocannabinoid mechanism. **Nature Neuroscience** 13, 1265-70. PubMed PMID: 20852626. (JCR impact factor =28.77).
13. **Sciolino NR**, Bortolato M, Eisenstein SA, Fu J, Oveisi F, Hohmann AG, and Piomelli D (2010). Social isolation and chronic handling alter endocannabinoid signaling and behavioral reactivity to context in adult rats. **Neuroscience** 168, 371-86. * PubMed PMID: 20394803. **Featured on journal cover**. (JCR impact factor =3.71).

MANUSCRIPTS IN REVISION

1. White AK, Drake KD, Porczak AE, Tirado-Mansilla G, Lee MF, Hyatt KC, Chow C, DeQuattro T, Mickelsen LE, **Sciolino NR**, Jackson AC, Kanadia RN. Integrity of the minor spliceosome in the developing hypothalamus governs neuronal subtype composition regulating energy balance. In Revision, **Developmental Cell**, JCR impact factor 13.42. **bioRxiv**: <https://doi.org/10.1101/2022.10.04.510883>.

BOOK CHAPTERS IN PREPARATION

1. Pickering AE, Lüthi A, McCall J, Chandler DJ, Fan W, Sciolino NR, Jordan R, Totah NK. In Prep. Locus coeruleus noradrenergic neuron function. In G Paxinos (Ed. 5). *The rat nervous system*. San Diego, California. Elsevier Academic Press.

INVITED RESEARCH SEMINARS

1. **Pavlovian Society**, Indianapolis, Indiana. 09/27/24.
2. **Society for the Study of Ingestive Behavior Presidential Symposium**, Chicago, IL. 07/09/24.
3. **Mount Sinai**, Dept. of Neuroscience, Icahn School of Medicine, New York, NY, Invited seminar. 05/28/24.
4. **Association for Chemoreception Sciences (AChems)**, Symposium on “The brainstem: Transforming chemosensation to behavior”, Bonita Springs, Florida. Invited seminar. 4/20/24.
5. **Rowan University**, Dept. of Cell Biology and Neuroscience Seminar Series, Glassboro, NJ, Invited seminar. 03/12/24.
6. **UConn Health**, Dept. of Neuroscience, Kim Family Research Seminar Series, Farmington, CT, Invited seminar. 02/15/24.
7. **L&N and Prizmatix International Symposium on Neuromodulation**, University of Virginia Medical School, Charlottesville, VA. 11/10/23.
8. **Yale School of Medicine**, Dept. of Psychiatry (Molecular Psychiatry Division), Biological Sciences Training Program Seminar Series, New Haven, CT. Invited seminar. 10/23/23.
9. **International Behavioral Neuroscience Society**, Symposium on “Noradrenergic regulation of cellularly defined behavioral functions”, Niagara Falls, Canada. Invited seminar. 06/23.
10. **American College of Neuropsychopharmacology**, Symposium on “Norepinephrine in Motivated Behavior, Phoenix, AZ. Invited presentation. 12/22.
11. **Society for Neuroscience**, Minisymposium on “Neural control of energy homeostasis”, San Diego, CA. Invited presentation. 11/22.
12. **University of Georgia**, Neuroscience Retreat, Athens, GA. Keynote. 10/22.
13. **Hypothalamus Gordon Research Conference**, Ventura, CA, **missed due to COVID*. Invited presentation. 07/22.
14. **Dutch Neuroscience Meeting**, Main Speaker, Tiel, Netherlands. Invited presentation. 06/22.
15. **Society for the Study of Ingestive Behaviors**, Symposium on “Hot topics in ingestive behavior”, Invited presentation (virtual). 07/21.
16. **Harvard Medical School**, Boston Children’s Hospital, Kirby Neurobiology Center, Invited seminar (virtual). 03/21.
17. **Catecholamines Gordon Research Conference and Seminar**, Newry, ME. 08/19.
18. **Duke University Astronauts Summit**, Emerging technologies for gut-brain research, Durham, NC. Invited presentation. 12/19.
19. **NIEHS Science Day**, Durham, NC. Invited presentation. 12/16.
20. **SUNY Buffalo State Commencement Address**, Buffalo, NY. Keynote student speaker. 05/08.

SCIENTIFIC PRESS RELEASES

- **NIEHS Environmental Factor**, [October](#), 2022. Sciolino et al., *Science Advances*
- **NIH Catalyst**, a publication from NIH Office of the Director highlighting Intramural research, [July-August](#), 2016. Sciolino, Plummer et al., *Cell Reports*
- **NIEHS Environmental Factor**, [July](#), 2016. Sciolino, Plummer et al., *Cell Reports*
- **University of Georgia Graduate School Magazine**. [Fall](#), 2012. Sciolino et al., *Neuropharmacology*

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

- Association for Chemoreception Sciences (AChems), 2023-pres.
- International Behavioral Neuroscience Society (IBNS), 2022-pres.
- Obesity Society, 2018-pres.
- Society for the Study of Ingestive Behaviors (SSIB), 2017-pres
- Society for Neuroscience (SfN), 2007-pres.

ADDITIONAL RESEARCH TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT

2014-16	University of North Carolina , Department of Pharmacology Supervisor: Zoe M. McElligott, PhD <i>Electrophysiological characterization of locus coeruleus neurons</i>	Chapel Hill, NC
2007-08	University at Buffalo, Research Institute on Addictions Research Technician, Advisor: Alexis Thompson, PhD <i>Evaluation of Neuropeptide Y as a Target for Cocaine Dependence Treatment</i>	Buffalo, NY
2007	University at Buffalo, Research Institute on Addictions Research Specialist, Advisor: Roh-Yu Chen, PhD <i>Effects of early-life exposure to methylphenidate on cocaine seeking in adult rats</i>	Buffalo, NY
2006-07	SUNY Buffalo State, McNair Scholars Program Undergraduate Researcher, Advisor: Jean M. DiPirro, PhD <i>Predator scent model of posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD) in female rats</i>	Buffalo, NY

V. ACADEMIC & PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

EXTERNAL SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

- Chair, **Society for Neuroscience Sponsored Social**, Locus coeruleus social, co-chair: Barry Waterhouse, 10/24.
- Ad hoc Grant Reviewer, **Amsterdam University Medical Center Fellowship Committee**, 04/29/24.
- Ad Hoc Grant Reviewer, **NIH Study Section: Brain Initiative (K99/R00)**, Special Emphasis Panel. 06/23.
- Symposium Co-chair, **International Behavioral Neuroscience Society**, Noradrenergic regulation of cellularly defined behavioral functions, 06/23.
- Symposium Co-chair, **American College of Neuropsychopharmacology**, Norepinephrine in Motivated Behavior: How Neuronal Activity, Cell Types, Circuits, and Receptors Interact to Influence Stress, Reward, Eating, and Choice, 12/22.
- Ad Hoc Grant Reviewer, **NIH Study Section: Neuronal Communications (R01)**, Basic Neuroscience Review Branch. 10/22.
- Discussion Leader, **Gordon Research Conference**, Optogenetic approaches to understanding neural circuits and behavior, Circuits for Stress, Anxiety and Fear. 07/22.
- Discussion Panel, **Connecticut Institute for the Brain and Cognitive Sciences Annual Meeting**, Technology innovations in neuroscience. 03/22.
- Guest Associate Editor, **Frontiers in Neural Circuits**, Deconstructing Neural Systems: From Molecular, Cellular and Circuit Properties to Behavioral Functions. 2021-22.
- Grant Reviewer, **Swiss National Science Foundation**. 02/20.
- Ad hoc reviewer for: *Nature Communications*, *Biological Psychiatry*, *Current Biology*, *Neuropharmacology*, *eLife*, *Neuropsychopharmacology*, *Front. Neural Circuits*, *Front. Behavioral Neuroscience*. 2018-pres.

- Behavioral Neuroscience Representative, **American Psychological Association (APA)**, *Science Student Council*. 2010-13.

UNIVERSITY AND COLLEGE SERVICE

- **University Government Relations**, Debriefing CT legislatures and governor's staff on research in my lab and the infrastructure issues in the UConn TLS building, 8/10/23, 12/13/23, 12/19/23, 1/4/24, 1/8/24
- **Search Committee Member for Tenure-Track Faculty Position in Behavioral Neuroscience**, Department of Psychological Science, 09-12/23.
- **Neuroscience at Storrs Poster Judge**, Connecticut Institute for Brain, and Cognitive Sciences, 10/10/23.
- **Reviewer for Seed Grants**, Connecticut Institute for Brain, and Cognitive Sciences, 10/25- 10/26/22.
- **Organizing committee for Neuroscience at Storrs Symposium**. 07-10/22.
- **Reviewer for Graduate Fellowships**, Connecticut Institute for Brain and Cognitive Sciences, 10/21.

DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE

- **Graduate Affairs** committee member, Department of Physiology and Neurobiology, 08/22-08/23.
- **Graduate Recruitment** faculty introduction, Department of Physiology and Neurobiology, 11/21/21 (virtual), 11/4/22 (in person), 11/11/22 (virtual), 11/3/23 (in person), 11/17/23 (virtual).
- **Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU)**, Mentor, 06/23-09/23.
- **Merit Committee** member, Department of Physiology and Neurobiology, 06/1 – 06/3/22.
- **Selection Committee**, NIH Maximizing Access to Research Careers (MARC) Program, 05/21.
- **Communications Committee** member, Department of Physiology and Neurobiology, 01/21-12/22.

OUTREACH

- **Seminar on “Science, social media, and networking”**, Summer Research Experience for Undergraduate (REU) Program at UConn, 07/23.
- **Faculty mentor**, “Meet the Professionals” session at the International Behavioral Neuroscience Society, Niagara Falls, Canada, 06/23
- **Faculty panel member**, “Trainee Career” Options, Connecticut Institute for the Brain and Cognitive Sciences, 11/22.
- **Panel member for Global Neuroscience SFN Social**, “How to prepare for the next steps: Grad school, Postdoc, Faculty”. 11/21.
- **Speaker on [Gastronauts Podcast](#)**, “Jumpstart your career.” 01/20.
- **Peer advisor to Historically Underrepresented Students**, University of Georgia. 2009, 2012.
- **Board member**, Neuroscience Student Association, University of Georgia, 2009-10.
- **Tutor**, Educational Opportunity Program, SUNY College at Buffalo. 2006-07.

V. ADVISING, TEACHING AND CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

ASSISTANT RESEARCH PROFESSORS (ADVISING AS PI)

1. **Melissa Boucher, Ph.D.**, UConn CLAS Research and Teaching Scholar, 2023-2024.

GRADUATE STUDENTS (ADVISING AS MAJOR ADVISOR)

1. **James Salvatore**, Ph.D. rotation student, UConn Physiology and Neurobiology, 2024-pres.
2. **Qichen (Will) Fan**. Ph.D. student, UConn Physiology and Neurobiology, 2021-pres.
3. **Chris Engborg**. M.S. student, UConn Department of Physiology and Neurobiology, 2022-pres.

GRADUATE STUDENTS (ADVISING AS ASSOCIATE ADVISOR)

1. **Kevon Afriyie**, Ph.D. student in Physiology and Neurobiology, 2024-pres.
Major Advisor: Rahul Kanadia
2. **Audrey Weber**, Ph.D. student in Physiology and Neurobiology, 2024-pres.
Major Advisor: Anastasios Tzingounis
3. **Jairo Orea**, Ph.D. student in Physiology and Neurobiology, 2023-pres.
Major Advisor: Linnaea Ostroff
4. **William Armstrong**, Ph.D. candidate in Physiology and Neurobiology, 2021-pres.
Major Advisor, Alexander Jackson
5. **Monica Antony**, Ph.D. candidate in Physiology and Neurobiology, 2021-pres.
Major Advisor, Alex Jackson
6. **Yi (Harry) Huang**, Ph.D. candidate in Physiology and Neurobiology, 2021-pres.
Major Advisor, Alexander Jackson
7. **Alexandra Porczak**, M.S. student in Physiology and Neurobiology, 2021-23)
8. **Alisa White**, Ph.D. student in Physiology and Neurobiology, 2021-2022
Major Advisor: Rahul Kanadia
Current Position: Postdoctoral Associate, MIT, Whitehead, David C. Page lab.
9. **Madisen Lee**, M.Sc. student in Physiology and Neurobiology, 2021-2022
Major Advisor: Rahul Kanadia
Current Position: Research Associate II, Takeda Oncology, Cambridge, MA.
10. **Madeleine Sarnier**, M.S. student in Applied Biochemistry and Cell Biology, 2021-2022
Major Advisor: Victoria L. Robinson.
Current Position: Senior Research Associate, Vertex, Pharmaceuticals, Boston, MA.

RESEARCH TECHNICIANS (ADVISING AS MAJOR ADVISOR)

1. **Victoria Doocy**, Laboratory technician, UConn Physiology and Neurobiology, 2023-pres.
2. **Olivia DePasquale**, Laboratory technician, UConn Physiology and Neurobiology, 2022-23.
Current Position: Ph.D. student in Psychology, Rutgers.
3. **Martina DeCristofaro**, Laboratory technician, UConn Physiology and Neurobiology, 2021-22.
Current Position: Laboratory technician, East Carolina University School of Medicine, Clemens & Brewer lab.

POSTBACCALAUREATE TRAINEES (ADVISING AS ASSOCIATE ADVISOR)

1. **Madeline Hsiang**, PostBac at NIEHS, 2019-20, Major advisor: Patricia Jensen
Current position: Ph.D. student in Neuroscience Brown-NIH Graduate Program with Joshua Gordon.
2. **Jeanne M. Powell**, PostBac at NIEHS, 2017-19, Major advisor: Patricia Jensen.
Current position: PhD student in Biomedical Informatics, Emory University.
3. **Kathleen G. Smith**, PostBac at NIEHS, 2014-20, Major advisor: Patricia Jensen.
Current position: Biologist, NIEHS Developmental Neurobiology Group.

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCHERS (ADVISING AS MAJOR ADVISOR)

1. **Stella Desimone**, Statistics and Molecular and Cell Biology Double Major, 2024-pres.
2. **Malak Nechnach**, Physiology and Neurobiology Major, Psychological Sciences Minor, 2024-pres.
3. **Anishi Kalaria**, Physiology and Neurobiology Major, 2024-pres.
4. **Anthony Esposito**, Animal Science Major, Minor in Biological Sciences, 2023-pres.
5. **Jasmine Ranieri**, Physiology and Neurobiology Major, Molecular and Cell Biology, 2023-pres.
6. **Shanze Khan**, Molecular and Cell Biology Major, Minor in Physiology and Neurobiology, 2023.

7. **Manaswini Pujar**, Physiology and Neurobiology Major, Minor in Computer Science, 2023-pres.
8. **Carson Gaines**, Physiology and Neurobiology Major, Minor in Psychology, Honors Program, 2022-pres.
9. **Felise Bressler**, Research Experience for Undergraduates at UConn Physiology and Neurobiology, 2023.
Current Position: Undergraduate student, McNair Scholar, Baylor University.
10. **Nicholas J Ryan**, Physiology and Neurobiology Major, Minor in Molecular and Cell Biology, 2022-23.
Current Position: Research technician, The Jackson Laboratory.
11. **Leroy Griffiths Jr**, Physiology and Neurobiology Major, Minor in Molecular and Cell Biology, Honors, 2022.
Current Position: M.S. student in Public Health, Brown University.
12. **Alexandria Goldhamer**, Physiology & Neurobiology Major, Math Minor, 2021-22.
Current Position: M.S. student at UConn in Psychological Sciences.
13. **Emma Ratnaval**, Physiology and Neurobiology Major, Honors, Premed, 2022.
14. **Natash Otieno**, Research Experience for Undergraduates at UConn Physiology and Neurobiology, 2022.
Current Position: Undergraduate Student in Biological Sciences, Western Kentucky University.
15. **Maha Naqvi**, McNair Scholar, 2021-22.
Current Position: Undergraduate Student, UConn Department of Biology.
16. **Christopher Engborg**, Molecular & Cell Biology Major, 2021-22.
Current Position: M.S. student at UConn in the Department of Physiology and Neurobiology.
17. **Julia Paul**, Physiology & Neurobiology Major, Psych. Sciences minor, 2021-22.
Current Position: Medical Assistant, Gales Ferry Medical Group, CT.
18. **Madeleine Orsini**, UConn Physiology & Neurobiology Major, Pre-med, 2021-22.
Current Position: PostBac IRTA, NIEHS Developmental Neurobiology Group.
19. **Janiece Morgan**, NIEHS Scholars Connect, Duke Univ. Neuroscience Undergraduate, 2017-18.
Current position: Clinical Research Coordinator Intern, UNC Chapel Hill, NC.
20. **Cindy Yang**, NIH Summer Undergraduate Program, 2016-17, MIT Computer Science Undergraduate.
Current position: Algorithm Developer, Hudson River Trading Firm, NY, NY.
21. **Jaisal Amin**, NIEHS Scholars Connect (2016-17), Undergraduate, North Carolina State University.
Current position: Associate Biostatistician at PPD, Morrisville, NC.
22. **Ying Chen (Bailey) Lien**, NIH Summer Internship Program, 2015, U. Penn Undergraduate.
Current position: General Surgery Residency, U. Pennsylvania Medical School.

AWARDS WON BY TRAINEES

1. **Manaswini Pujar**, UConn Summer Undergraduate Research Fund, Characterization of cannabinoid receptor 1 in the locus coeruleus following acute stress, 2024.
2. **Felise Bressler**, Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minoritized Scientists Poster Award in Neuroscience, Stimulation of the locus coeruleus to insular pathways reduced neuronal activity in the gustatory cortex, 2023.
3. **Felise Bressler**, Gulf Coast Undergraduate Research Symposium Best Poster Award, Stimulation of the locus coeruleus to insular pathways reduced neuronal activity in the gustatory cortex, 2023.
4. **Chris Engborg**, UConn IBACS Undergrad Summer Research Grant, Effects of Locus Coeruleus Activation on Sensorimotor Gating, 2022.
5. **Alexandria Goldhammer**, UConn IDEA Grant. The Attenuation of Diet-Induced Obesity Through Locus Coeruleus Chemoactivation, 2022.
6. **Alexandria Goldhammer**, UConn Summer Undergraduate Research Fund, Defining the Neural Circuit Responsible for Diet-Induced Obesity, 2022.
7. **Alexandria Goldhammer**, UConn University Scholars Program, 2021.
8. **Janiece Morgan**, NIEHS Scholars Connect Program, Best Presenter, 2017.

9. **Ying Chen (Bailey) Lien**, Udall Scholarship for Leadership, Public Service and Commitment to Careers related to the environment, 2016.
10. **Ying Chen (Bailey) Lien**, NIEHS Summer Internship Program, Best Poster Presentation, 2015.

COURSES TAUGHT

- Spring 2024 **Principles of Physiology and Neurobiology II (PNB5002)**, University of Connecticut
Co-instructor with Daniel Mulkey, Jianzhong Yu, and Akiko Nishiyama
(4 lectures, 2 paper discussions, 2 essays, 1 quiz, office hours for ~15 graduate students)
- Spring 2024 **Biology of the Brain (PNB3251)**, University of Connecticut
Co-instructor with Joe LoTurco
(11 lectures, 2 review sessions, 2 exams, office hours for ~150 undergraduate students)
- Spring 2023 **Biology of the Brain (PNB3251)**, University of Connecticut
Co-instructor with Alexander Jackson
(11 lectures, 2 review sessions, 2 exams, office hours for 126 undergraduate students)
- Spring 2022 **Biology of the Brain (PNB3251)**, University of Connecticut
Co-instructor with Alexander Jackson and Joe LoTurco
(5 lectures, 2 review sessions, 2 honors conversions, 1 exam, office hours for 138 undergrads.)
- Summer 2010 **Pharmacology**, Duke Talent Identification Summer Program
Instructor, University of Georgia
(6 weeks of lectures, experiments, and activities for ~20 high school students)

TEACHING PUBLICATIONS

1. Johnson ZA, **Sciolino NR**, Plummer NW, Harrison PR, Jensen P and Robertson SD (2021). Assessment of Mapping the Brain, a Novel Research and Neurotechnology Based Approach for the Modern Neuroscience Classroom. **Journal of Undergraduate Neuroscience Education**. 19, A226-A259. PubMed PMID: 34552440; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC8437363.
2. **Sciolino NR**. Teaching and Research: Can you really do both in graduate school? **American Psychological Association** : *Psychological Science Agenda*. [May 2011 Issue](#).

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