Samantha Spellicy

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EDUCATION

University of Georgia — **Athens, GA**
Neuroscience MD/PhD student in the lab of Dr. Steven Stice — July 2016-Present
GPA 4.0

Medical College of Georgia at Augusta University — **Augusta, GA**
MD/PhD student year G3 — August 2014-Present
Successfully completed 2 years of medical school and Step 1 Medical Boards

University of Maryland — **College Park, MD**
Bachelor of Science in Physiology and Neurobiology — May 2013
College of Chemical and Life Sciences
GPA 3.9, Graduate with Latin Honors Cum Laude and Departmental Honors
Senior Thesis: An interspecies comparison of the *SWS1* gene in cichlids from Lake Malawi

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Regenerative Bioscience Center at the University of Georgia — **Athens, GA**
Doctoral student in the lab of Steven Stice, Ph.D. — Fall 2016- Current

- Implement standard sterile culture techniques to maintain various cell populations including neural stem cells, mesenchymal stem cells, neurons, microglia, motor neurons, and murine primary cultures utilized for experimentation
- Collect and isolate neural stem cell-derived extracellular vesicles (NSCEVs) from live cell populations to discover their therapeutic potential in animal models of stroke, such as porcine, murine, and aged murine
- Spearhead novel live cell imaging experiments through Spatial Light Interference Microscopy (SLIM) to visualize labeled and unlabeled extracellular vesicle uptake and corresponding changes in dry mass
- Isolate primary cortical and mesencephalon cell culture populations to determine the neuroprotective efficacy of NSCEVs following various proinflammatory and neurotoxic perturbations
- Conduct gait and behavior testing in rodent and porcine models of stroke and TBI

Laboratory of Malaria and Vector Research, NIAID, NIH — **Rockville, MD**
Postbaccalaureate IRTA under Mentorship of Dr. Sanjay Desai, M.D., Ph.D. — Fall 2013-Fall 2014

- Employed molecular biology techniques for the study of clag3.1 gene of *Plasmodium falciparum* which encodes of the Plasmodium Surface Anion Channel (PSAC)
- Incorporated knockdown strategies such as destabilizing domains, Tet repressors, and TALEN genome editing, to engineer transfected *P. falciparum* lines that would allow for better channel characterization
- Integrated the use of plasmid construction, bacterial transformation, and parasitic transfections protocols to engineer knockdown lines, followed by RT-PCR and western blotting for quantification of protein expression
- Conducted spectrophotometric lysis assays and 96-well plate growth inhibition experiments using homemade multicomponent growth media
- Utilize standard aseptic technique and protocols for daily parasite culturing and bacterial transformations

Laboratory of Sensory Evolution of Cichlid Visual Communication — **College Park, MD**
Research Laboratory Assistant under Mentorship of Dr. Karen Carleton, Ph.D. — Fall 2011 – Spring 2013

- Examined a portion of DNA associated with the SWS1 Opsin protein in 16 different species of cichlid through utilization of pCR, gel electrophoresis, HiSeq1000 and other DNA sequencing techniques
- Mapped newly sequenced SNPs from various individuals and their corresponding missense amino acid translation into JBrowse, an embedded genome browser database
- Modeled new amino acid substitutions using Pymol protein software to visualize amino acid variation in critical location of the retinal binding pore of the UV opsin protein
- Compared measurements of electromagnetic radiation lens percent transmission, retinal UV opsin protein expression, habitat variation, and phylogenetic relationship of different cichlid species

PUBLICATIONS

Samantha E. Spellicy, E. E. Kaiser, M. M. Bowler, B.J. Jurgielewicz, R. L. Webb, F. D. West, S.L. Stice. (2019). *Determining translation magnetic resonance imaging parameters predictive of therapeutic efficacy in a porcine ischemic stroke model.* in submission to ***Translational Stroke Research***

Min K. Sun*, Austin P. Passaro*, Charles-Francois Latchoumane, **Samantha E. Spellicy**, Michael M. Bowler, Morgan Geoden, Philip V. Holmes, Steven L. Stice, Lohitash Karumbaiah (2019). Extracellular vesicles mediate neuroprotection and functional recovery after severe traumatic brain injury. in revisions to ***Journal of Neurotrauma***. *Equal cont.

Robin L. Webb, Erin E. Kaiser, Brain J. Jurgielewicz, **Samantha E. Spellicy**, Shelley L. Scoville, Tyler A. Thompson, David C. Hess, Franklin D. West, Steven L. Stice (2018). Human neural stem cell extracellular vesicles improve recovery in a porcine model of ischemic stroke. ***Stroke***.

Abdelrahman Fouda, Andrea Newsome, **Samantha Spellicy**, Jennifer Waller, Wenbo Zhi, David Hess, Adviye Ergul, David Edwards, Susan Fagan, and Jeffrey Switzer (2017). Minocycline in Acute Cerebral Hemorrhage: An Early Phase Randomized Trial. ***Stroke.***

ORAL PRESENTATIONS

Samantha E. Spellicy (May 2019) STEMming stroke: Developing novel therapeutics for stroke patients. Invited to present Three Minute thesis talk at the Georgia Council of Graduate Schools Statewide 3MT showcase in Atlanta, GA.

Samantha E. Spellicy (April 2019) Midline shift predicts motor function outcomes in a porcine ischemic stroke model. Abstract accepted and selected for oral presentation at the Regenerative Bioscience Center and Animal and Dairy Science Center Fellows Symposium in Athens, GA.

Samantha E. Spellicy (April 2019) Midline shift predicts motor function outcomes in a porcine ischemic stroke model. Invited speaker at the UGA Neuroscience Seminar Series, Athens, GA.

Samantha E. Spellicy (March 2019). Determining translational magnetic resonance imaging parameters predictive of therapeutic efficacy in a porcine ischemic stroke model. Abstract accepted and selected for oral presentation at the Regenerative Medicine Workshop in Charleston, SC.

Samantha E. Spellicy, Chenfei Hu, Mikhail Kandel, Gabriel Popescu, Steven L. Stice (July 2018). Quantitative phase imaging reveals natural tropisms and intracellular effects of neural stem cell-derived extracellular vesicles. Abstract accepted and selected for oral presentation at the 2018 Emergent Behaviors of Integrated Cellular Systems Annual Retreat in St. Charles, IL.

Samantha E. Spellicy (April 2017) Behavioral Improvements Following Neural Stem Cell Derived Exosome Therapy in a Porcine Model of Stroke. Abstract accepted and selected for oral presentation at the Graduate Students and Post Docs in Science Research Day in Athens, GA.

Samantha E. Spellicy (October 2015) Equality Clinic: Teaching Interprofessional Health Care in an LGBT Free Clinic. Abstract accepted and selected for oral presentation at the Innovations Presentation and Panel at the 2015 AAMC Medical Education Meeting in Baltimore, MD.

ABSTRACTS AND POSTERS

Samantha E. Spellicy, Lauren Jennings, Chenfei Hu, Mikhail Kandel, Ross Marklein, Gabriel Popescu, Steven L. Stice. (August 2019). *Standardization of a High-Throughput Semi-Automated Image-Based Microglia Screen (HITS AIMS).* NSF Engineering and Research Center for Cellular Manufacturing and Technologies (CMaT) retreat at the Center for Complex Carbohydrate Research in Athens, GA

Samantha E. Spellicy, Lauren Jennings, Chenfei Hu, Mikhail Kandel, Ross Marklein, Gabriel Popescu, Steven L. Stice. (July 2019). *Label-free quantitative phase imaging reveals intracellular transport alterations following extracellular vesicle addition*. NSF Science and Technology Center Emergent Behaviors of Integrated Cellular Systems (EBICS) Annual Retreat at Lake Lanier Islands, GA.

Samantha E. Spellicy, Erin. E. Kaiser, Michael. M. Bowler, Brian. J. Jurgielewicz, Robin. L. Webb, Franklin. D. West, Steve.L. Stice. (November 2018). *Determining translation magnetic resonance imaging parameters predictive of therapeutic efficacy in a porcine ischemic stroke model.* 2018 Society for Neuroscience Meeting in San Diego, CA.

Samantha E. Spellicy, Chenfei Hu, Mikhail Kandel, Gabriel Popescu, Steven L. Stice. (August 2018). *Quantitative phase imaging reveals natural tropisms and intracellular effects of natural stem cell-derived extracellular vesicles.* Multi-Cellular Engineered Living Systems (M-CELS) Workshop in St. Charles, IL.

Samantha E. Spellicy, Mikhail Kandel, Chenfei Hu, Gabriel Popescu, Steven L. Stice. (April 2018). *Tropisms and therapeutic potential of extracellular vesicles elucidated through Spatial Light Interference Microscopy*. Regenerative Bioscience Center Symposium in Athens, GA.

Samantha E. Spellicy, Erin E. Kaiser, Michael Bowler, Brian J. Jurgielewicz, Robin L. Webb, Franklin D. West, Steve L. Stice. (April 2018) *Multiparametric analysis of magnetic resonance structural imaging and functional parameters leads to the identification of key predictive and translational parameters in an ischemic stroke porcine model*. Graduate Students and Post-Docs in Science Research Day in Athens, GA

Samantha E. Spellicy, Erin E. Kaiser**,** Robin L. Webb, Brian J. Jurgielewicz, Shelley L. Scoville, Franklin D. West. Steven L. Stice. (April 2018) *The role of neural stem cell derived extracellular vesicles as a therapeutic in a porcine middle cerebral artery occlusion model of stroke*. Abstract and poster presented at the American Physician Scientist Association Annual Meeting in Chicago, IL.

Samantha E. Spellicy, Brian J. Jurgielewicz, Erin E. Kaiser, Michael M. Bowler, Robin L. Webb, Franklin D. West, Steven L. Stice**.** (March 2018) *Multiparametric analysis of structural and functional correlations in a porcine MCAO model of stroke reveals divergent trends between treatment groups over time*. Abstract and poster accepted at the Annual Regenerative Medicine Workshop in Charleston, SC.

Samantha E. Spellicy, Mikhail Kandel, Chenfei Hu, Gabriel Popescu, Steven L. Stice. **(**January 2018) *Elucidating the tropisms of extracellular vesicles through spatial light interference microscopy*. Abstract and poster accepted to Emergent Behaviors of Integrated Cellular Systems National Science Foundation Site visit at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Boston, MA.

Samantha E. Spellicy, Brian J. Jurgielewicz, Erin E. Kaiser, Robin, L. Webb, Michael Bowler, Holly Kinder, Simon Platt, Franklin D. West, Steven L. Stice. (Nov. 2017) *Neural Stem Cell-Derived Extracellular Vesicles as a Therapeutic in a MCAO Porcine Stroke Model*. Abstract and poster accepted to the 2017 Society for Neuroscience conference in Washington D.C.

Samantha E. Spellicy, Erin E. Kaiser, Robin L. Webb, Brian J. Jurgielewicz, Michael Bowler, Holly Kinder, Simon Platt, Franklin D. West, Steven L. Stice. (Sept. 2017) *Neural Stem Cell-Derived Extracellular Vesicles as a Therapeutic in a MCAO Porcine Stroke Model*. Abstract and poster accepted to the 2017 Southern Translational Education and Research (STaR) conference in Augusta, GA.

Samantha E. Spellicy, Mikhail Kandel, Chenfei Hu, Gabriel Popescu, Steven L. Stice. (July 2017) *Visualizing Exosome Uptake with Spatial Light Interference Microscopy (SLIM)*. Abstract and poster accepted to the 2017 Emergent Behaviors of Cellular Systems (EBICS) Retreat in Pine Mountain, GA.

Samantha E. Spellicy, Brian J. Jurgielewicz, Erin E. Kaiser, Robin L. Webb, Michael Bowler, Holly Kinder, Simon Platt, Franklin D. West, Steven L. Stice (April 2017) *Behavioral Improvements Following Neural Stem Cell Derived Exosome Therapy in a Porcine Model of Stroke*. Abstract and poster accepted to the Regenerative Bioscience Center Fellows Symposium 2017 in Athen, GA.

Samantha E. Spellicy, Hila Eichenbaum, Brittney Truitt, Kevin Robertson, Alexis Rossi, Laura Stepleman (October 2015) *Equality Clinic: Teaching Interprofessional Health Care in an LGBT Free Clinic*. Abstract accepted to the 2015 AAMC Medical Educational Meeting in Baltimore, MD.

Lauren T. Jennings, **Samantha E. Spellicy**, Ross A. Marklein (October 2019). Development of a high-throughput imaging assay for microglia activation and therapeutic potency. Abstract accepted to the 2019 Biomedical Engineering Society annual meeting in Philadelphia, PA.

Caroline A. Temple, Kelly M. Scheulin, **Samantha S. Spellicy**, Elizabeth S. Waters, Holly A. Kinder, Steven L. Stice, Franklin D. West. *White Blood Cell Counts Post-Stroke in Yucatan Minipigs: Male vs. Female*. Abstract accepted to the 2019 CURO symposium in Athens, GA.

Robin L. Webb, Erin E. Kaiser, Brian J. Jurgielewicz, **Samantha E. Spellicy**, Shelley L. Scoville, Tyler A. Thompson, Raymond L. Swetenburg, David C. Hess, Franklin D. West, and Steven L. Stice (May 2018). *Human neural stem cell extracellular vesicles improve recovery in a porcine model of ischemic stroke*. Abstract and poster accepted to the 2018 International Society for Extracellular Vesicles Conference in Barcelona, Spain.

Brian J. Jurgielewicz, Erin E. Kaiser, **Samantha E. Spellicy**, Robin L. Webb, Simon R. Platt, Franklin D. West, Steven L. Stice. **(**October 2017) *Extracellular Vesicle Treatment Promotes Recovery After Ischemic Stroke.* Georgia Bio Innovation Summit. 2017 October: Atlanta, GA.

Erin E. Kaiser, Brian J. Jurgielewicz, **Samantha E. Spellicy**, Robin L. Webb, Simon R. Platt, Steve L. Stice, and Franklin D. West. (September 2017) *Neural Stem Cell Derived Exosome Treatment Promotes Recovery in a Porcine Model of Ischemic Stroke.* Abstract and poster accepted to Swine in Biomedical Research Conference in Baltimore, MD.

Erin E. Kaiser**,** Brian J. Jurgielewicz, **Samantha E. Spellicy**, Robin L. Webb, Simon R. Platt, Steve L. Stice, and Franklin D. West. (September 2017) Neural *Stem Cell Derived Exosome Treatment Promotes Recovery in a Porcine Model of Ischemic Stroke.* Abstract and poster accepted to the Southern Translational Education and Research Conference in Augusta, GA.

Brian J. Jurgielewicz, Erin E. Kaiser, **Samantha E. Spellicy**, Robin L. Webb, Kylee Jo Duberstein, Simon R. Platt, Franklin D. West, Steven L. Stice (April 2017). *NPEX™ treatment improves spatiotemporal gait parameters in a middle cerebral artery occlusion porcine stroke model*. Abstract and poster accepted to the Regenerative Bioscience Center Fellows Symposium in Athens, GA

Erin E. Kaiser, Brian J. Jurgielewicz, **Samantha E. Spellicy**, Robin L. Webb, Simon R. Platt, Steve L. Stice, and Franklin D. West (April 2017). *Neural Stem Cell Derived Exosome Treatment Promotes Recovery in a Porcine Model of Ischemic Stroke*. Abstract and Poster accepted to the Graduate Students and Postdocs in Science Research Day in Athens, GA.

Brian J. Jurgielewicz, Erin E. Kaiser, **Samantha E. Spellicy**, Robin L. Webb, Kylee Jo Duberstein, Simon R. Platt, Franklin D. West, Steven L. Stice (March 2017). *Quantitative gait analysis in a porcine stroke model assessing the effects of a stem cell therapy*. Abstract and poster accepted to the Regenerative Medicine Workshop in Hilton Head, SC.

Brian J. Jurgielewicz, Erin E. Kaiser, **Samantha E. Spellicy**, Robin L. Webb, Simon R. Platt, Franklin D. West, Steven L. Stice (March 2017). *Neural Stem Cell Derived Exosome (NPEX™) Treatment in a Porcine Stroke Mode*l. Abstract and poster accepted to the Integrated Research and Ideas Symposium in Athens, GA

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Biochemistry Tutor **Augusta, GA**

Supplemental Instruction Program Tutor for First Year Medical Students Fall 2015-Spring 2016

- Compiled original lectures and handouts for students to use as study materials
- Instructed students weekly to cover medical tenets in biochemistry, molecular biology, and cellular biology

- Led bi-monthly lecture-based review sessions open to all first-year medical students on specific troublesome biochemistry topics

Molecular Biology Teaching Assistant **College Park, MD**
Undergraduate Teaching Assistant for Dr. Patricia Shields, Ph.D. Spring 2010 and 2013

- Oversaw 3-hour weekly laboratory exercises
- Instructed students on how to use basic laboratory equipment such as spectrophotometers, microscopes, micropipettes, and fume hoods
- Employed and emphasized tenets of the scientific method and laboratory documentation protocol
- Evaluated and graded lecture exams, lab reports, worksheets, quizzes, and journals
- Fielded student questions and concerns during weekly office hours

Mammalian Physiology Laboratory Teaching Assistant **College Park, MD**
Undergraduate Teaching Assistant for Dr. Hilary Bierman Spring 2013

- Prepared stock solutions of various buffers to be used by multiple lab sections each week
- Made and aliquoted appropriate concentrations of drugs to be used during rat surgeries by lab groups
- Supervised and assisted students during laboratory sessions, answering technique or with content questions

University of Maryland Campus Recreation Services **College Park, MD**
Lifeguard Instructor Spring 2010-Summer 2013

- Assisted in leading accredited lifeguard course offered by the University of Maryland
- Instructed full length American Red Cross certified lifeguarding, first aid, and CPR skill class
- Evaluated students and co-workers on lifeguarding, first aid, and CPR skills
- Co-led lay responder CPR training to all 700 Campus Recreation Student employees each year

EMPLOYMENT

University of Maryland Eppley Recreation Center **College Park, MD**
Head Lifeguard Spring 2009-Summer 2013

- Managed a staff of 120 lifeguards, up to 8 per shift, and allocated appropriate areas of responsibility and other essential tasks
- Held lead responsibility in caring for any medical emergencies and served as an emergency first responder for the 259,000 sq. ft. Recreation Center and the 240,373 sq. ft. School of Public Health
- Worked with staff to maintain vigilant watch on patrons at the facility to ensure their safety

Dr. Philip Nicholson, O.D. and Associates: Independent Doctor of Optometry **Beltsville, MD**
Optometry Office Manager June 2011-January 2013

- Handled patient spectacle and contact prescriptions, scheduled appointments, completed and submitted insurance forms, and mediated patient concerns
- Curated staff schedule for 4+ employees each term and allocated responsibilities
- Carried out pre-testing as well as visual field, visual acuity, peripheral, and Stereopsis testing for approximately 10 patients a day or 2,000+ total patients
- Trained 20+ patients in proper contact lens insertion, removal, and maintenance
- Initiated use of multi-lingual intake forms and testing for non-native English-speaking patients

SERVICE AND VOLUNTEERING

Georgia Science and Engineering Fair (GSEF) Judge **Athens, GA**
Senior Division Tier 1 Judge March 2019

- Judged the Biomedical Engineering and Translational Medicine categories in the high school student division of the 71st statewide Georgia Science Fair attended by 1000+ regional winning students from across the state
- Selected as a special category judge to award exemplary projects related to food science out of the entire 10000+ junior and senior division student projects

STEM inspiration Poster Drive **Athens, GA**
Founder December 2018- Present

- Implemented a Regenerative Bioscience Center-wide drive for old scientific research posters to be donated to middle and high school students in Athens-Clarke and surrounding schools systems
- Collected over 70+ scientific research posters to date, to distribute and share with local students and teachers

- Aimed to increase exposure of STEM fields and the scientific projects of student researchers at the University of Georgia, particularly to Athens area students
- Coordinated outreach opportunities for current graduate students involved with various groups on campus, such as the Regenerative Bioscience Center (RBC) and the Cellular Manufacturing and Technologies (CMaT) Center, to go and present their donated scientific posters to middle school and high school students as well as answer any questions regarding their paths to STEM fields and graduate school
- Attended Cobb county school STEMapalooza fair on behalf of the RBC to share and donate our old scientific posters to interested K-12 educators in Cobb country and surrounding areas
- Featured in "Columns" the University of Georgia's online newspaper for outreach and participation in events such as "STEMapalooza" as well as inception of STEM inspiration poster drive.

Equality Clinic of Augusta **Augusta, GA**

Clinic Coordinator January 2015 – January 2016

- Directed a bi-monthly student-run inter-professional health care clinic aimed at catering to underserved, low income patients primarily in the LGBTQ community
- Reached over 50 low-income underserved LGBTQ patients during tenure as clinic coordinator
- Assessed patient vitals, financial eligibility, and uninsured status upon entering the clinic and performed history and physical exam on patients on over 15 patients while at the clinic
- Collaborated with a 20+ member interdisciplinary staff comprised of dentistry students, physician assistants, mental health professionals and residents, medical residents, and medical physicians, to provide comprehensive patient medical care
- Managed the front desk on specific clinic nights and access to the patient electronic medical record
- Handled scheduling of appointments, laboratory follow-ups, patient pre-testing, phlebotomy labs, and filling of patient prescriptions
- Attended bi-monthly meetings and clinic board meetings to evaluate clinic functioning and make necessary adjustment and additions to the services we provided

Kids with a Future **Augusta, GA**

Elementary Student Tutor Fall 2014

- Tutored over 15 local underprivileged elementary school children in math, reading, writing, and science, and assisted with
- Educated students of various ages on study skills and techniques they can utilize at school and their home environment.
- Served as a mentor and outlet for a wide range of topics for any student in the 50+ person program during nightly collective dinner following tutoring sessions

LEADERSHIP AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

American Medical Association (AMA) Medical Student Section (MSS) **National Organization**

Chair of Social Media and Interviews Subcommittee **July 2019-2020**

- Nominated and selected for Chair of the social media and interviews subcommittee from 15+ members of the Committee on Scientific Issues
- Organize, conduct, and share interviews of current physicians who are actively engaged in scientific inquiry of interest to the general AMA readership, or is relevant to a timely issue.
- Utilize social media platforms to enhance engagement and appreciation for the interconnected role of medicine and science to not only AMA members but also the greater medical community

Committee on Scientific Issues (CSI) Member **July 2019-June 2020**

- Selected for 15 member standing committee out of application open to any current American medical student
- Develop programs and resources on scientific topics and health policy related issues for the medical student section of the AMA
- Review and judge research and case study abstracts submitted to the annual AMA research expo and interim meeting each year

Delegate on behalf of the American Physician Scientist Association (APSA) May 2019-Present

- Serve as sole representative of APSA to review and vote on resolutions put forth to the MSS of the AMA
- Attend annual meeting AMA MSS meeting to cast votes on new resolutions
- Draft new resolutions throughout the year to propose to the general MSS body at large

American Physician Scientist Association (APSA) **National Organization**

Co-Chair of the Policy Committee July 2018- Present

- Selected for position of Co-Chair from 8+ member Policy Committee after serving as Co-Vice Chair from 2018-2019 and general committee member from 2017-2018
- Facilitate policy resolution submission process for over 120+ APSA institutional representatives (IRs) then edit and prune resolutions for final vote from the IRs and APSA board of directors
- Craft institutional review board (IRB) submissions with the APSA president for education-based research projects such as assessing the implementation of clinical continuity strategies in various dual degree programs at institutions across the united states
- Attend and present on committee updates and yearly goals at the annual APSA leadership retreat attended by Chairs of the 6 other APSA committees as well as the board of directors
- Participate and facilitate monthly virtual meetings with fellow committee members to discuss progress on currents aims, plan upcoming meetings, and relay updates to our mission

JCTS ad-hoc Committee Chair July 2019- June 2020

- Facilitate and enhance relationship of APSA with the Journal of Clinical and Translational Science (JCTS) through regular editorials dedicated to addresses issues specifically experienced by dual degree students and physician scientists.
- Organize committee discussion to nominate and select upcoming editorial topics for the year
- Serve as one of 5 "junior editor" for the JCTS selected from APSA leadership

Innovation Gateway NSF I-Corps Program Participant **Athens, GA**

Labrador Start-up Co-Founder January 2019- Present

- Pioneered a startup company for a mobile application utilizing machine learning
- Participated in weekly I-Corps classes with a curricula aimed to help UGA students with startup company ambitions about market research, fundraising, and general hurdles to the process
- Showcased our application at a pitch presentation to the Georgia Research Alliance following successful completion of the program
- Received $3,000 startup funding travel package after successful completion of the program

Regenerative Bioscience Center (RBC) Graduate Student Association (GSA) **Athens, GA**

President July 2018- July 2019

- Elected as president of 5-person executive board to facilitate events and symposia for over 90+ RBC graduate students
- Spearhead community service, professional development, and social events aimed to develop and unify graduate students within the RBC at the University of Georgia
- Organize and sponsor yearly Regenerative Bioscience Center symposium for graduate and undergraduate students to present their work
- Served as Community Outreach Chair from July 2017- July 2018, Co-President from July 2018- July 2019

Neuroscience Graduate Student Association **Athens, GA**

Professional Development Chair July 2018 – July 2020

- Identify local media and outreach opportunities to increase awareness and recognition of the influential research conducted by neuroscience graduate students
- Organize professional development events and panels aimed to assist graduate students of the neuroscience program with professional topics such as grant writing, and career advising

Graduate Research Assistants for Diversifying STEM (GRADS) **Athens, GA**

Secretary May 2017- May 2018

- Participated in monthly general body meetings and events aimed at fostering diversity and participation in the graduate student community
- Encouraged underrepresented students in the sciences to pursue a graduate education through outreach programs to the surrounding middle schools in the Athens community
- Recorded minutes at executive and general body meetings
- Participated in STEM outreach events, such as "Super scientist week" at Malcolm bridge elementary, where GRADS members assisted in scientific demonstrations and experiments for elementary school children

HONORS AND AWARDS

Cell Manufacturing Technologies (CMaT) People's Choice Poster Award **August 2019**

- Awarded second place for my poster titled "Standardization of a High-Throughput Semi-Automated Image-Based Microglia Screen (HITS AIMS)" at the CMaT annual retreat composed of students, faculty, and industry partners from multiple institutions and companies.

Emergent Behaviors of Integrated Cellular Systems (EBICS) Art Competition

- Awarded second place for my mosaic artwork title "The Creation of a Synapse" portraying a reimagination of "The Creation of Adam" at a microscopic and philosophical level.

Excellence in Mentorship in NanoBio REU Program **July 2019**

- Nominated for award by visiting NSF nanobiology summer student for excellence and dedication to mentorship in science, research, leadership, and professionalism during her time at UGA.

Cell Manufacturing Technologies (CMaT) UGA Perfect Pitch Finalist **July 2019**

- Placed as a finalist in National Science Foundation's (NSF) 90-second Perfect Pitch competition at the University level for my pitch titled "HIgh-Throughput Semi-Automated Image based Microglial Screening assay" (HITS AIMS)
- Competed at the NSF Engineering Research Center (ERC) for Cellular Manufacturing Technologies (CMaT) annual retreat against finalists from other universities in the ERC

University of Georgia Amazing Student **May 2019**

- Featured on UGA today and UGA's homepage as an "Amazing Student", a weekly section aimed at highlighting a student who has "gone above and beyond" while in their time at UGA

Regenerative Bioscience Center and Animal Dairy Science Fellows Symposium Award **April 2019**

- Abstract was one of nine selected for an oral presentation rather than a poster presentation
- Won third place in the oral presentation competition for my talk entitled "Midline shift predictors motor function outcomes in a porcine ischemic stroke model"

Three Minute Thesis People's Choice Winner ($500) **April 2019**

- Voted 2019's People's Choice winner for the University of Georgia-wide Three Minute Thesis Competition by all UGA affiliated and Athens community members in attendance
- Originally developed by the University of Queensland, this competition invites master's and doctoral students from a range of various STEM and non-STEM disciplines across the entire University to present a compelling oration on their dissertation topic and research within three minutes
- The exercise develops graduate student's research communication and presentation skills and hones their ability to communication to a non-specialist, intelligent audience

UGA Strategic Planning for 2025 Committee member **December 2018- December 2019**

- Only graduate student selected to participate in the Research, Innovation, and Entrepreneurship Subcommittee as well as on the collective Strategic Planning Committee at large
- Attend bi-weekly subcommittee meetings comprised of research and innovation faculty and deans across campus to discuss construction and implementation of a strategic plan for the University to embody by 2025
- Participate in focus group meetings comprised of various individual groups across campus to gain a pulse on areas for improvement for the University from varied perspectives
- Attend monthly meetings with the committee at large, hosted by the Office of the President for discussion and coordination between the subcommittees

UGA Graduate School Travel Award ($650) **October 2018**

- Travel award granted from the graduate school for attendance and the presentation at the 2018 Society for Neuroscience meeting in San Diego, California

Technology Conceptualization Plan Competition Award ($500) **July 2018**

- Award given through the National Science Foundation (NSF) Science and Technology Center (STC) for Emergent Behaviors of Integrated Cellular Systems (EBICS) for development of a novel technology through projects associated with the STC
- Developed an application which utilizes machine learning of image sets to aid in the cataloguing and organization of common laboratory disposables and reagents

Recipient of the AAP/ASCI Travel Award ($750) **April 2018**

- Travel award granted for attendance and presentation of data at the joint American Association of Physicians (AAP)/American Society for Clinical Investigation (ASCI)/American Physician

Scientist Association (APSA) Annual meeting

STaR Poster Award **September 2017**

- 2nd Runner up in Graduate Students and Post-Doctorate Student Poster Competition at the Southern Translational and Research Conference in Augusta, Georgia

Dean's List **Fall 2008-Spring 2013**

- Given each semester to a full-time student with a GPA of 3.5 and above

Outstanding Service Awards **Spring 2013**

- Presented to a Campus Recreation Service employee who had demonstrated a strong dedication and commitment to their position and the greater Maryland Recreation Community

Nominated to Speak at May 2013 commencement **Spring 2013**

- Honor bestowed to a graduating senior who has demonstrated strong academic achievement, surpassed great adversity, and made an impact on the University of Maryland community

Campus Recreation Services Student Employee Scholarship **Spring 2012**

- Given to CRS employee member out of the 700 students who truly embraces and uphold the CRS mission statement to encourage safe recreational activities to enhance the quality of life of our members

Departmental Honors Program Member **Fall 2011- Spring 2013**

- An independent study program for strong academic students designed to help students work with a mentor to develop, present, and defend their undergraduate thesis