It's summer time!

Summer is finally here and we're halfway through 2022! Sometime during the month, take a short moment out of your daily activities to reflect on the past couple of months and set some tangible summer goals. From networking to abstract submission to manuscript writing, your goals don’t have to be too big, but should help set some summer intentions!

This month, we feature alumnus Dr. Stetson Thacker, postdoc fellow Dr. Nicholas Sarrn, and MSTP graduate student Himanshu Dashora. In addition, this issue of the newsletter recaps the previous LEADERS seminar on transitioning to high school educators. We also provide a brief overview and tour of the activities you can do in Ohio City.

Finally, don't miss out on the next LEADERS seminar on transitioning to a clinical researcher, a talk on crafting elevator pitches, and remember to nominate either yourself or your PI for various awards this year.

Best of luck,
Your LTA Communications Committee
The Dr. Sylvain Brunet Award for Outstanding Accomplishment by a Graduate Student

Recognizes a graduate student who has achieved a significant accomplishment in their training. This award was established in loving memory of Dr. Brunet and commemorates his commitment to furthering research education opportunities for junior investigators. Two Brunet Awards will be presented: one award for a junior graduate student and one for a senior graduate student. The awardees will each receive a plaque, a cash prize and recognition at the LRI Awards for Excellence ceremony in September.

Guidelines for Submission:

- **Nomination:** Graduate students may apply by submitting a description with proof of a major accomplishment, substantiated by a letter from their mentor. The accomplishment could include a first author paper, presentation of a talk or poster, obtaining certification in a new area, attending a workshop and learning a new technique or any other activity which the trainee and mentor view as an accomplishment.
- The applicant must be a current graduate student at the LRI
- Questions may be directed to RETC (RETC@ccf.org).

All documents must be submitted to Jason Ross (rossj12@ccf.org) no later than July 8th at 11:59 pm.

---

Dr. Sylvain Brunet received his PhD from McGill University, Montreal, Quebec in 1998. He joined the Department of Neurosciences in June of 2011, was appointed as Assistant Professor at the Department of Molecular Medicine, CCLCM. Throughout his career, he made many important contributions to our understanding of the role of ion channels in cardiac diseases and arrhythmias. His recent work focused on the role of mitochondrial dysfunction in aging cardiac myocytes. In addition, he identified the role of kinases in functional recovery after ischemic injury to the white matter portion of the brain. He was the recipient of both a Postdoctoral Fellowship and a National Scientist Development Award from the American Heart Association, several foundation grants and NIH grants. He enthusiastically offered his expertise and experience to his collaborators in various fields ranging from neuroscience to cancer research. He was elected to the Editorial Advisory Board of the American Journal of Physiology-Cell Physiology (2015). He was an active member of CCLCM Admission Committee since 2013 and took pride in selecting the best students who would become the best doctors of the future.
Graduate Student Awards for Excellence

The LRI Research Education and Training Center (RETC) invites applications for the 2022 Graduate Student Awards for Excellence. Awardees receive a plaque, a cash prize and recognition at the recognition at the LRI Awards for Excellence ceremony in September.

Guidelines for Submission:

- Submit an article which was published or accepted for publication in 2021 or 2022 (submit a copy of the published manuscript or the unpublished manuscript with documentation of final acceptance for publication).
- With the article, submit a CV along with a cover letter signed by the student’s CCF staff mentor and addressed to RETC. The letter should briefly summarize the significance of the work, the role of the graduate student and the expected graduation date.
- The applicant must be first author on the paper.
- The work must have been performed at the LRI.
- The applicant must have been an LRI graduate student with a CCF staff member as their primary mentor when the publication was submitted.

Questions may be directed to RETC (RETC@ccf.org). All documents must be submitted to Jason Ross, rossj12@ccf.org no later than July 8th at 11:59 pm.
Lerner Mentorship Award

Submissions for the 2022 Lerner Mentorship Award are now being accepted. This is an opportunity for Lerner trainees to recognize a Principal Investigator who has shown exemplary mentorship. The award winner will be selected by an independent committee of postdocs and PhD students and will be honored at the LRI Awards for Excellence ceremony in September.

Nomination Guidelines
Trainees can nominate their Principal Investigator by submitting a nomination form to RETC@ccf.org


Deadline: June 30th by 11:59 PM
The Lerner Research Education and Training Center (RETC) is pleased to invite applications for the 2022 Postdoctoral Fellow Awards for Excellence. Awardees will receive a plaque, cash prize, and recognition at the LRI Awards for Excellence Event in September.

Eligibility:

- Submit an article which was published or accepted for publication in 2021 or 2022. A copy of the published manuscript or unpublished manuscript with documentation of final acceptance for publication is acceptable.
- The award applicant must be first author on the paper.
- The work must have been performed at the LRI.
- The applicant must be a current postdoctoral fellow and must have been in a postdoctoral fellow position when the publication was submitted.

Questions? Please contact RETC at RETC@ccf.org

Application Deadline: June 30th by 11:59 PM
Alumni Association Postdoctoral Fellow Travel Award

The Lerner Research Education and Training Center (RETC) invites applications for the 2022 Alumni Association Postdoctoral Fellow Travel Award. The Cleveland Clinic Alumni Association has generously provided funds for awards of up to five $1,000 awards per application cycle for postdoctoral fellows who have presented their research at a nationally recognized scientific meeting in 2022.

Guidelines for Submission:

- Applicants must hold the position of full-time postdoctoral fellow at the time of virtual meeting attendance or online training.
- Up to five $1,000 awards will be given per application cycle (ten per year).
- Presentations (poster or talk) are eligible for submission for the travel award if they occur in 2022 – that is, you already completed the training experience in 2022 or have been accepted to complete the training experience which will occur in 2022.
- The applicant must not have received previous alumni travel award funds for the submitted presentation.
- Awards will be determined by an independent committee.
- Questions may be directed to RETC@ccf.org.

Application Deadline: June 30th, 2022 by 11:59pm

Announcements

Ready Set Grow!

LRI Rooftop Gardens
Hosted by the Shared Laboratory Resources Employee Engagement Committee & Research, Innovation and Education Wellness Committee

Tomatillos like it here!

• Planters will be available Thursday, June 16th

Please use the following link to sign up:
https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E4EADAB2BA3F8C43-Irirooftop

• $5.00 per plot (half container)

• Contact Gabriella Lakatos (lakatog@ccf.org) OR Eric Schultz (SCHULTE2@ccf.org) for additional information

*Please note, you will receive your plot assignment after submitting payment.

Click here to sign up!
Meet our Alumni

Interview with Lerner Alumnus
Stetson Thacker, PhD

Where did you obtain your PhD?
I graduated from Cleveland Clinic's and CWRU School of Medicine's joint Molecular Medicine PhD program.

When did you work in Lerner and in which lab? What positions did you hold?
During my graduate studies (July 2014 - Feb 2021), I was a student member of the Eng Lab in the Genomic Medicine Institute (GMI) where I was mentored by Charis Eng, MD, PhD. After completing my PhD in the Eng Lab, I continued briefly as a postdoctoral fellow before joining industry in the summer of 2021.

What did you work on at Lerner?
At the LRI, I studied the relationship between germline variation in the tumor suppressor gene PTEN and phenotypic variation in individuals with PTEN Hamartoma Tumor Syndrome/PHTS (a germline PTEN mutation is diagnostic for PHTS). This effort was aimed at understanding whether certain kinds of PTEN mutations confer more risk for neuropsychiatric or neoplastic phenotypes. As a corollary to this work, I performed molecular studies of Pten knockin mice, focusing on changes in gene or protein expression and phosphorylation in their brains.

What successes did you have at Lerner?
A full list of my publications can be found [here](#). During my time as a grad student in Molecular Medicine, I published two first author publications, two co-first author publications, and several co-author publications. I also attended the American Society of Human Genetics (ASHG) conference in 2019, where I gave a platform presentation.

What is your current position title and where are you now?
I work as a clinical genomics curator for GenomOncology (GO). GO is a software company that provides clinical decision support solutions for pathologists and oncologists. One of the major focuses at GO is expert-level matching of cancer patients to clinical trials and targeted therapies based on their molecular profiles. These molecular profiles are typically assessed by an NGS-based panel test like Illumina’s TruSight Cancer panel.

What does your role in your current position entail and what is your favorite part?
As a clinical genomics curator and member of GO's Content Team, I help update, maintain, and build the knowledge base for our applications. This includes activities like curating eligibility criteria from clinical trial documents or building therapy assertions based on FDA approvals and National Comprehensive Cancer Network (NCCN) guidelines. The most interesting part about being on the content team is the opportunity to develop a deep understanding of the clinical practice of precision oncology. I enjoy tracking the rapid trajectory of the field and working to facilitate improved care.

What about your time at the Lerner do you think prepared you for this position?
The opportunity to complete my PhD in a genetics/genomics lab (one that even studied a cancer syndrome) was great preparation for my current work. It's almost a spot-on subject area match. I learned a great deal about the study and practice of genomic medicine and that of course transfers well to being able to work in the precision oncology space. Also, genomics has always been computational and statistical with its approaches. This helped prepare me for work at a software company.

Is there something you particularly miss from your time at Lerner?
I do miss being an active, everyday participant in research science, including the opportunity to share and discuss complex scientific ideas in articles and talks.

In one sentence, what advice would you give current Lerner postdocs and grad students?
I'd recommend building as many transferable skills as possible within and beyond scientific research. I think part of this effort should include pursuing professional experiences outside of academic science.

“Build as many transferable skills as possible within and beyond scientific research.”
- Dr. Thacker
Dr. Sarn was born and raised in the small town of Sheffield Village about 20 miles West of Cleveland. He started taking College classes while he was still in high school at Lorain County Community College (LCCC), where he was originally going to school to become a nurse. When he was about to start clinical rotations, he decided to change his major to biology and got his Bachelor of Science (BS) degree through Bowling Green State University which had a partnership program with LCCC. Due to his passion for science and education, he went into public school teaching shortly after this. Several years later, he decided to go to graduate school at Case Western Reserve University to complete his PhD, which he received in Spring 2021.

His graduate research predominantly focused on studying the pathogenesis of microglia in PTEN germline mutant mouse models which restrict PTEN localization to either the cytoplasm or nucleus. This work led to the finding that PTEN disruption produces a neuroinflammatory environment in the brain with a microglia phenotype that exhibits increased phagocytic ability resulting in increased synaptic pruning during brain development.

He is currently working in Dr. Charis Eng’s lab in the Genomic Medicine Institute. After his graduation, he decided to stay on board for his postdoctoral training to continue characterizing the mechanisms of PTEN-microglia pathogenesis observed in his graduate work.

Currently, he is trying to tease out the mechanisms driving microglia activation, neuroinflammation, and increased phagocytosis that are the result of dysfunctional PTEN subcellular localization.

During his training, Dr. Sarn has been very successful with publishing and winning awards. Last year he received the Sylvain Brunet Award for Outstanding Accomplishment by a Graduate Student, as well as second place for the Graduate Student Award for Excellence here at the Cleveland Clinic. This year, he was awarded the Arthur F.W. Hughes Award which recognizes significant scientific contributions to the fields of Developmental Biology and Embryology from Case Western Reserve University.

He enjoys hanging out with friends and family, as well as trying to be outside as much as possible to go bicycling, hiking, camping, and fishing.

“Working in the LRI, and especially GMI has been a great experience to meet people and develop a skill-set to be professionally successful in science.”
Meet your Graduate Student

Himanshu Dashora

Himanshu Dashora is originally from Columbus, Ohio and has returned to his home state after completing his Bachelor of Science degree in biomedical engineering at John's Hopkins University in Baltimore, MD. In 2020, he joined the Medical Scientist Training Program (MSTP) at Case Western Reserve University. Having completed his first two years of medical school, he is now beginning the research portion of his training. He strategically chose to join MSTP because of his desire to pursue his PhD studies under the mentorship of physician scientists and remain close to patients.

Despite only recently joining the Yu Lab in May, Himanshu has already been recognized for his work. He was awarded the Scholar-In-Training Award for an oral presentation at the Society for Thermal Medicine Annual Meeting regarding the safety of Laser Interstitial Thermal Therapy for the treatment of high-grade gliomas.

Outside his lab work, Himanshu has athletic and musical interests. Specifically, he likes to swim and play the guitar. To engage his mind outside of the biomedical realm, he is also currently learning to play chess.

“Joining the Cleveland Clinic for my PhD was my best option based on the quality of the faculty and focus on translational research.”

Himanshu is currently working in the lab of Dr. Jennifer Yu in Cancer Biology. His primary project is focused on understanding how glioblastoma stem cells utilize translational regulation to maintain stemness and adapt to hypoxic environment in the tumor. Additionally, he is also working with Dr. Yu on clinical trials investigating radiation oncology treatments.
2022
LEADERS
Series for Lerner Research Institute Trainees
Hosted by the Research Education & Training Center and the Lerner Trainee Association

LERNER EXPERIENCE IN ADVANCED DEVELOPMENT
OF EDUCATION AND RESEARCH SKILLS

From LRI Trainee to Clinical Researcher

- Provides Lerner trainees with career development tools that will accelerate their professional development
- Sessions open to all Lerner Research Institute trainees.
- 12 sessions in 2022

WHO:
James Hale, PhD
Assistant Director of Research Programs, Case Western University Comprehensive Cancer Center
Anabelle Visperas, PhD
Research Associate, Orthopaedic Surgery Department, Cleveland Clinic

WHEN:
June 13, 2022
4:00 – 5:00 PM

WHERE:
Zoom (Contact RETC@ccf.org for link)
Upcoming Events

Science Communications Track

SEMINAR SERIES
Tuesday, June 28, 2022 | 3:30 – 4:45 PM | Zoom

Session 4

“Creating an Effective Elevator Pitch”

Laura Greenwald, MBA, MEd
Communications Manager, Education Institute; Clinical Associate Professor of Medicine, Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine of Case Western Reserve University

Amy Moore, MEd
Staff Editor, Cleveland Clinic Journal of Medicine & Manager, Medical Writing Education Program, Education Institute

Please pre-register to receive the Zoom link information: https://bit.ly/scicomm4

Earn a Science Communications Track Certificate

The Science Communications Track will consist of live seminars and asynchronous activities throughout 2022 designed to introduce you to the various careers and related skills in this field. To earn a certificate at the end of the year, trainees must earn 70 points. For more details, please refer to the track packet.
Upcoming Events

Introduction to the Research Education & Training Center
Claire Baker, Kelsey Bohn, PhD & Jason Ross, PhD
6/9, 12 – 1, NC1-202

LEADERS: From LRI Trainee to Clinical Researcher
James Hale, PhD & Annabelle Visperas, PhD
6/13, 4 – 5, Zoom

Postdoctoral Fellow & Graduate Student Research Overviews
Brendan Eck, PhD & Adriel Kim
6/23, 12 – 1, NC1-202

Graduate & Medical School: Admission Tips & Tricks
Bela Anand-Apte, MBBS, PhD & Jazmine Oliver, MD
6/30, 12 – 1, NC1-202

Ideas on Display: Creating and Presenting an Effective Poster
Lavanya Jain, PhD & Johnathon Sturgis
7/7, 12 – 1, NC1-202

LEADERS: From LRI Trainee to College Educator
Shamone Gore Panter, PhD & Ashley Nemes-Baran, PhD
7/11, 4 – 5, Zoom

LRI Careers Panel
Janet Hill, MBA, Tim Lampert, Emmanuel Opoku, MS, Tammy Sadler, MS
7/21, 12 – 1, NC1-202

Graduate Programs at Cleveland Clinic
Jason Ross, PhD
7/28, 12 – 1, NC1-202

LEADERS: Title TBD
Rashmi Ram, PhD
8/8, 4 – 5, Zoom

Postdoc and Grad Student Panel
Sumit Bhutada, PhD, Lauren Haines, Morgan McGrath, Juan Venegas, MD
8/18, 12 – 1, NC1-202

Looking for more career development resources? Check out the National Institute of Health’s YouTube page for young scientists: https://bit.ly/3GCipwR

Save the Date for our Summer Student Poster Session on 8/3, 2:30 – 4 PM!

If you wish to attend any of the in-person sessions virtually, please email RETC@ccf.org.
Networking, Informational Interview, and Using LinkedIn for Career Advancement
June 23, 2022, 1:00 – 2:00 pm | Virtual, register here
Speaker(s): Amanda (Dumsch) Langer, MS, Career Counselor

Networking, including both online (important when you don’t live close) and in-person networking, is an important component of successful career building. A second key component is managing your network. We will dive deeper into managing networks, covering topics that include identifying career advocates, interacting with colleagues, and building meaningful long-term communication. Additionally, we will discuss how to building your mentoring network.

Creating and Presenting Virtual Posters
June 30, 2022, 1:00 – 2:00 pm | Virtual, register here
Speaker(s): Yewon Cheon, PhD, Director, Postbac and Summer Research Programs, OITE, Ulli Klenke, PhD

It is common for scientists to present their research findings to peers at scientific poster sessions. This workshop will help prepare you for Summer Poster Day or any other opportunity you have to present your work in virtual poster format. The workshop will focus on selecting and organizing data, the key sections of a successful poster, layout and font selection, and poster presentation techniques.

CVs, Resumes, and Cover Letters: Essential Job Search Documents
July 14, 2022, 1:00 – 2:00 pm | Virtual, register here
Speaker(s): Amanda (Dumsch) Langer, MS, Career Counselor

This workshop will highlight the critical elements and structure of CVs and resumes and cover letters. These important job documents serve as the foundation for all job searches, and knowing how to create them based on the employment sector and published position description is essential.
Did you miss the virtual LEADERS seminar “From LRI Trainee to High School Educator” moderated by Lerner Trainee Association member Dr. Priya Putta? Here is a recap! Find the recording [here](#).

On April 11th, two LRI alumni joined us virtually to discuss their career journey from LRI to their different positions as high school educators. Our two panelists were Dr. Crystal Miller and Dr. Mary Ruehr.

Dr. Miller was a postdoctoral fellow in the lab of Dr. Bruce Lamb in the Neuroscience Department and talked to us about her experience in the position of Director of the Science Research and Engineering Program at Hathaway Brown School.

Dr. Ruehr was a postdoctoral fellow in the lab of Dr. Meredith Bond in Molecular Cardiology and then a research associate and project scientist in Dr. David Van Wagoner’s lab and is currently a Science Teacher at Stow-Munroe Falls High School.

**Could you explain the overall application process for your current position?**

**Dr. Miller:** I did a formal interview. For a teaching position in a private school, applicants don’t need to have all the state certifications as in a public school. I answered a lot of the interview questions by drawing on my experiences as a mentor during my postdoc training. Many of the questions were focused on how I saw myself interacting with young students in a high school environment.

**Dr. Ruehr:** I obtained a 2 year provisional license after completing a teacher education program at University of Akron. I interviewed in the same school that I graduated from and was able to get a teaching position there.

**Does having previous teaching experience gives an advantage when applying to a high school teaching position?**

**Dr. Miller:** Having teaching experience is very important. I have been in the hiring process a number of times and we won’t consider applicants without teaching experience. Experience at the high school level is always preferred.

**Dr. Ruehr:** Having previous teaching experience in college courses definitely helped in my application and allowed me to apply to my job with one year of experience.

**Are there other ways to get high school teaching experience other than working as a substitute teacher during a postdoc?**

**Dr. Miller:** We do have a program called Aspire that aims to expose people who have an interest in teaching to an educator role. There may be similar programs during the summer at other schools as well.

**Dr. Ruehr:** In the summer time you may find summer school positions in private schools. They can range from volunteering to paid positions.
Monthly Feature

Ohio City: A great place to gather, eat, and enjoy!
- Anthony Santilli, PhD

The Cleveland area offers a lot to do for those with a free evening or looking for weekend plans. This month we decided to highlight the Ohio City area as a place with plenty of food, drinks, and entertainment for those wanting something to do without having to travel too far. Located just west of downtown, and centered around West 25th Street, Ohio City has consistently been a hub of dining and entertainment, even being featured in several publications and Food Network TV specials.

Food has always been a highlight of the area, offering plenty of places for those seeking fresh ingredients, or trying something new to eat. For those looking to prepare their own meals, the West Side Market combines both an outdoor farmer’s market with an indoor food market inside of an architectural historical landmark. Over 100 vendors are spread throughout a massive indoor open space market featuring fresh meats, produce, breads, etc. as well as a variety of premade meals, drinks, and desserts to take home. Cleveland has always been a city where the food has been influenced by the variety of cultures brought together in to one area, and the market is no different with stalls offering food from many cultures and ethnicities.

Restaurant wise, Ohio City also features many amazing places to grab dinner. Both Avo and Momocho offer Hispanic influenced dishes and great margaritas to go along with them. SoHo Chicken and Whiskey features Sothern comfort food that is as tasty and unhealthy as you would hope. There are also several cafes, such as a Koffie Café, to enjoy a warm or iced drink and people-watch in the outdoor seating area.

As for fun and games, recently Pins Bowling and Arcade opened offering duck pin bowling. Similar to traditional bowling, but on a lane about a third the size, and with mini bowling balls and pins, this form of bowling has faster games. Additionally, Pins has a dedicated pinball arcade and foosball table room, along with multiple bars serving local beers. One block north of Pins, is Tabletop Board Game Café. Tabletop offers a library of over 1,000 board games to sample and play, ranging from the more traditional such as Catan to the more involved, like Gloomhaven or Scythe. They also offer board game primer nights as well as an RPG/Storytelling night for those interested in learning rule-heavy or roleplaying games that can be difficult to pick up on one's own.

Finally, now that the weather warming up, there is no better time to visit Mitchell’s Ohio City Kitchen. While there are many places to pick up some of Cleveland’s own Mitchells’ Ice Cream, the Ohio City location has the distinction of being the original store and is located in an amazing and historic converted live theater. Though you may want to be prepared for a bit of a wait as the line is usually around the block at peak hours.

This is just a sampling of things to do in the Ohio City District. There are plenty more places to eat and things to see in the neighborhood!
Now Hiring

Research Scientist, School of Medicine | University of Missouri - Kansas City | Kansas City, MO

The Department of Ophthalmology seeks outstanding candidates for a full-time Research Scientist position at the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Medicine. The selected candidate will be responsible for conducting ocular cell biology, biochemistry and microscopy experiments as part of a newly NIH-funded research project. This involves:

• Preparing biological and other specimens for imaging and ocular cell biological and biochemical testing and to acquire, analyze and publish related data.
• Maintaining the ocular cell biology, biochemistry and microscopy equipment, order routine supplies, prepare technical reports and archive data.

For more information click [here](#).

Postdoctoral Fellow - Piliponsky Lab | Seattle Children’s Hospital | Seattle, WA

A post-doctoral position is available within the laboratory of Dr. Adrian Piliponsky at Seattle Children’s Research Institute, Department of Pediatrics, Pathology and Global Health, University of Washington (Seattle, WA). Research in Dr. Piliponsky’s lab is focused on the regulation of inflammatory processes involving mast cells and myeloid cells, including allergy inflammation and inflammation during bacterial infections.


The post-doctoral hired for the position will use an array of cellular and molecular approaches (ELISA, cell isolation, flow cytometry, histology, RNAseq and transcriptome analysis, qPCR, bacterial propagation; as well as, animal models of bacterial infection and allergic airway and skin inflammation using mast cell and basophil specific conditional mice). They will also be expected to formulate, execute, and communicate research projects. For more information click [here](#).

Scientific Consultant, Grant Writing Specialist | Eva Garland Consulting, LLC | Raleigh, NC

The Scientific Consultant will assist clients in securing grants from federal and private funding agencies to advance their research & development. The Scientific Consultant will serve as a Project Manager to coordinate all aspects of the proposal preparation process, including interfacing with clients and collaborators, writing research and commercialization plans, and submitting applications to the cognizant agency. As such, a successful candidate will exhibit strong scientific writing and communication skills and display a passion to assist scientists and entrepreneurs in advancing their innovative ideas from concept through research & development and commercialization. For more information click [here](#).

Assistant/Associate/Full Professors, Biomedical and Health Informatics | Tulane University | New Orleans, LA

The Tulane Center for Biomedical Informatics and Genomics (CBG) at the Tulane University School of Medicine (SOM) is seeking outstanding applicants for a tenure-track or tenured faculty position in the various omics, bioinformatics, medical/health informatics, biostatistics, or translational research in complex diseases. For more information click [here](#).

Postdoctoral Fellow, Computational and Systems Neuroscience - BrainGate Research Team | Massachusetts General Hospital and Brown University | Boston, MA

The BrainGate Research Team at Massachusetts General Hospital and Brown University is hiring postdocs with expertise in computational and systems neuroscience, intracortical neurophysiology, machine learning, or neuroengineering. Please share this [link](#) with all who may be interested in applying!

Emails can be directed to [postdocs@braingate.org](mailto:postdocs@braingate.org).
Congratulations to Dr. Akhil Mohan from the Ela Plow lab in the Department of Biomedical Engineering!

Dr. Mohan has had two accomplishments this month! He recently published a paper in *Frontiers in Neurology* titled "Contralaterally Controlled Functional Electrical Stimulation Combined With Brain Stimulation for Severe Upper Limb Hemiplegia- Study Protocol for a Randomized Controlled Trial". [Click Here.](#)

He also received the Cleveland StrokeNet Clinical Research Training Award for the 2022 - 2023 academic year as Principal investigator, titled "Role of contralesional higher motor cortices in the recovery of chronic stroke survivors with severe upper limb hemiplegia." This project aims to investigate how intact, contralesional motor cortical areas contribute to paretic upper-extremity recovery in stroke survivors with severe impairments.

Congratulations to Dr. Juan Venegas from the Charis Eng lab in the Genomic Medicine Institute!

Dr. Venegas was awarded a Caregiver Catalyst Grant for $67,000 for his proposal titled: "Is genetic thyroid cancer predisposition more vulnerable to environmental radiation? Evidence gathering to inform lifestyle choices and personalized clinical care".

Congratulations to William (BJ) Massey from the Mark Brown lab in the Cardiovascular and Metabolic Sciences!

William (BJ) Massey was selected to give a talk at Lipoprotein Gordon Research Seminar in Southbridge, MA. The title of the talk was "Membrane Bound O-Acyltransferase 7 (MBOAT7)-Driven Lysophosphatidylinositol (LPI) Acylation in Adipocytes Contributes to Systemic Glucose Homeostasis".

We love celebrating trainee accomplishments! To submit your own news or to recognize someone else, email LRITraineeAssoc@ccf.org
Accomplishments

Congratulations to Adya Sapra from the Ranjan Dutta lab in the Department of Neuroscience!

Adya Sapra was selected to give a talk at the American Society for Neurochemistry (ASN) 2022 in Roanoke, VA. The title of the talk was "Microglial exosome derived miR-22 affects oligodendrocyte differentiation."

Congratulations to Dr. Hongchae Baek from the Stephen Jones lab in the Imaging and Neurological Institutes!

Dr. Baek has a recently published a paper in Frontiers in Neurology titled “Clinical Intervention Using Focused Ultrasound (FUS) Stimulation of the Brain in Diverse Neurological Disorders”. Click Here.

Congratulations to Dr. Aniruddha Das from the Hod Dana lab in the Department of Neuroscience!

Dr. Das was recently selected to give a talk at the Biophotonics Congress: Biomedical Optics by Optical Society of America (OPTICA) 2022 in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. The title of the talk was "Towards large-scale, cellular-resolution recording of neuronal activity in freely-moving mice".

Congratulations to Madeline Porter from the Ken Baker and Andre Machado labs in the Department of Neuroscience!

Madeline Porter won the Graduate Student Award at the Neurological Institute Forum for Trainee (NIFT) Research Day 2022 in Cleveland, OH. The title of her talk was "Facial Emotion Recognition in Patients with Middle Cerebral Artery Stroke."

We love celebrating trainee accomplishments! To submit your own news or to recognize someone else, email LRITraineeAssoc@ccf.org
Wellness Resources

Well-Being, Self-Care and Emotional Support for Caregivers

Please note: A connection to the Cleveland Clinic network is required to access many of these resources.

For a more detailed and complete list of resources, please visit this link.

Caregiver Experience Wellness Portal: disconnect, unwind or say thank you virtually

Caring for Caregivers: confidential services that preserve, restore and enhance wellbeing of our caregivers. Available at 1-800-989-8820 (including new Boost telephone appointment).

Cleveland Clinic Office of Caregiver Experience on Facebook and Instagram.

Connect Today/Learner Connect: resiliency resources to help you manage complex, changing times (virtual meetings, change and stress management, and communication)

Occupational Health: If you have further questions about COVID-19 please contact the COVID-19 Caregiver Hotline at 216-445-8246.

OneClick to Well-Being: well-being information and resources for staff

Spiritual Care and Healing Services: information for the religious and spiritual needs of CCF patients, their families and loved ones, and Cleveland Clinic caregivers. (216) 444-2518

CCPD Victim Advocacy: resource to help educate and support the CCF community on domestic violence. Email the committee at: dvcommittee@ccf.org

Join in on live virtual Yoga, Mediation, Fitness and Culinary Medicine sessions. These are available for free to all caregivers. All sessions will be held via the Webex platform, registration is required at: http://clevelandclinic.org/CILMevents

**Graduate Students are welcome to join!
Behind the Scenes

This newsletter is written by the communications teams of the Lerner Trainee Association Leadership Council and fellow trainees. We welcome your questions and suggestions!

Email LRITraineeAssoc@ccf.org to connect with us.

LTA Communications Team
Kelsey Bohn, PhD, Alan Chen, Kaitlyn Daff, William (BJ) Massey, Anthony Santilli, PhD, and Juan Venegas, MD

Lerner Trainee Association Leadership Council

Executive Board
Co-Presidents: Kelly Mitchell and Shilpa Rao
Coordinator: Priya Putta
Treasurer: position open!

Career Development and Resources
Co-Chairs: Christina Cajigas-Du Ross, Adya Sapra, Ki-Soo Jeong
Members: Sumit Bhutada and Priya Putta

Mentorship/Advocacy
Co-Chairs: Raneem Khedraki, Jia Liu, Morgan McGrath, Akhil Mohan
Members: Christina Cajigas-Du Ross, Amira Salim, Juan Venegas, Jie Yang

Communications
Co-Chairs: Juan Venegas and Alan Chen
Members: Kelsey Bohn, Kaitlyn Daff, Nannan Gao, William (BJ) Massey, and Anthony Santilli

Social/Outreach
Co-Chairs: Daniela Duarte Bateman, Nannan Gao, Kristen Kay, Rachel Hohe
Members: Emily Fink, Lavanya Jain, Gabrielle Mey, Kelly Mitchell, Yee Peng Phoon, Anthony Santilli, Katie Troike, Lingjun Zhang