University of Pittsburgh, Department of Neuroscience
Undergraduate e-Newsletter

Neuroscience People

Due to the overwhelming response of students

Professor Judy Cameron
is offering

“How to Speak to the Public About Science”

for the spring 2114 term.

This course is now a three-credit course that will count as an advanced elective for undergraduate majors. Students must have a GPA of 3.5 or higher to receive permission to enroll.

Contact Betsy at eog1@pitt.edu for your permission number today!

Course info:
NROSCI 2014
Class number
M-F 9:30—10:45,
Room A214 Langley Hall

Spring Term Registration begins November 1st. You MUST meet with your advisor to have your ADV hold lifted.

Please check the catalog for courses requiring special permission as you will need to contact Betsy at eog1@pitt.edu to get permission numbers for courses that require one.

Additional Electives offered in the spring term are:

NROSCI 1030—Psychiatric Disorders and Brain Function, Dr. Anthony Grace, class# 10325

NROSCI 1034—Neural Basis of Cognition, Dr. Carol Colby, class# 24812

NROSCI 1036—Neurobiology of Aging, Dr. James Goss, class# 12480

MSMPHL 3375—Neuropharmacology, Dr. Michael Palladino, class # 15207

Please contact the advising office for more information about the courses and to obtain permission to enroll.

Happy Thanksgiving!
# Important Dates

## Fall Term 2111

- **November 1, 2010**: Spring Term Registration Begins
- **November 12, 2010**: Deadline to apply for May graduation
- **November 24—28, 2010**: Thanksgiving Recess
- **December 10, 2010**: Deadline to register w/o penalty
- **December 12—18, 2010**: Finals Week
- **December 18, 2010**: Fall Term Ends
- **December 19, 2010**: Residence Hall Close

## November 2010 Calendar

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<th>Sunday</th>
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Major Requirements
Students must complete BIOSC 0150, BIOSC 0160, CHEM 0110, and CHEM 0120 with a grade of C or better (not C-) in order to declare Neuroscience as a major. Students must earn a B– or better in Intro to Neuroscience in order to continue in the major. To graduate with a BS degree in Neuroscience, students must maintain a 2.0 GPA in major courses and in co-requisite courses.

Departmental Honors
Departmental Honors are awarded to students who have achieved outstanding academic success. To qualify for this distinguished honor, a minimum overall GPA of 3.25, a minimum Neuroscience GPA of 3.25, and a substantial amount of approved Neuroscience research must be conducted. Additionally, students are required to give a public presentation of their research. Eligible students must then pass a faculty review.

Capstone Requirement
Students who have matriculated to A & S since Fall of 2007 must complete a capstone experience. For more information, please contact the advising office via email or call 412-624-5156.

Fellowship Opportunities

University of Pittsburgh Fellowships

Brackenridge Undergraduate Summer Research Fellowship
Research participants receive a monthly $800 stipend to assure their freedom from the need to work during the summer.

Chancellor's Undergraduate Research Fellowship
$600 one-term stipend for undergraduate students engaged in research.

Chancellor's Undergraduate Teaching Fellowship
$600 one-term stipend for undergraduate students engaged in teaching with a faculty member.

Apply for Fellowships Early!

Online Advising
Now Available!
Schedule your appointment today!

STUDENTS
Please remember to request a grade change form be submitted upon completion of course work in classes where a “G” grade was entered. Also, a course repeat form must be submitted when courses are taken more than once.
## Newsletter Spotlight

- **Neuroscience People**
- **Important Dates**
- **Major Requirements/Fellowships**
- **Employment/Volunteer Opportunities**

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### Spring Term (2014) Course Offerings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Catalog</th>
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<td>11032</td>
<td>NROSCI 0080 Brain and Behavior</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Tu, Th</td>
<td>2:30-3:45</td>
<td>LANGY A221</td>
<td>Drill</td>
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<tr>
<td>25345</td>
<td>NROSCI 0080 Brain and Behavior</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Sat</td>
<td>9:30-11:55AM</td>
<td>CL 208A</td>
<td>Drill</td>
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<tr>
<td>11610</td>
<td>NROSCI 0081 Drugs and Behavior</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>MWF</td>
<td>10:00-10:50</td>
<td>CLAPP L-9</td>
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<td>10317</td>
<td>NROSCI 1000 Intro to Neuroscience</td>
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<td>Tu, Th</td>
<td>4:00-5:15</td>
<td>CL 324</td>
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<td>10716</td>
<td>NROSCI 1003 UHC Intro to Neuroscience</td>
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<td>CL 324</td>
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<td>NROSCI 1012 Neurophysiology</td>
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<td>NROSCI 1030 Psych Disorders &amp; Brain Function</td>
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<td>12480</td>
<td>NROSCI 1036 Neurbiology of Aging</td>
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<td>LANGY A224</td>
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<td>24813</td>
<td>NROSCI 1047 Pro Seminar</td>
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<td>NROSCI 1800 Neuroscience Writing Practicum 1</td>
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<td>10829</td>
<td>NROSCI 1962 Thesis Research/Wr Prac</td>
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Exam today!

The Spring Term 2011 **Neuropharmacology** course will be offered on **Tuesday and Thursday from 1:30 pm – 3:00 pm in BSTWR 1395**. This course will count as an advanced elective for Neuroscience majors. Please contact Betsy at eog1@pitt.edu for permissions.
Research Jobs in Brain Imaging

The Psychiatric Molecular Imaging Program (PMIP) is a research lab within the University of Pittsburgh Departments of Radiology and Psychiatry. The objective of the lab is to utilize Positron Emission Tomography imaging methodology to characterize the neurochemistry of the brain in schizophrenia and addictive disorders to accelerate therapeutic discovery. The PMIP has two clinical research associate job openings (full-time) for which we seek individuals with a bachelor’s degree in neuroscience (recent graduates and graduating seniors are encouraged to apply for these positions) who are highly motivated and committed to a future career in medicine or neuroscience. Job responsibilities will include participation in scientific discussions within and outside the group, assisting the PI and his collaborators in writing protocols, recruiting and screening study participants, implementing the study protocols at the brain imaging center, and administering neurocognitive tasks and clinical rating scales tasks.

If interested to learn more about these opportunities, please contact Raj Narendran, MD at narendranr@upmc.edu.

S.M.A.R.T. Scholarships

The SMART Scholarship Program is a highly-selective, prestigious, national program that fully supports their education, including full tuition and a very generous stipend while they are in school. The Science, Mathematics, And Research for Transformation (SMART) scholarship-for-service Program fully funds undergraduate and graduate degrees in a wide range of technical areas, including all fields of Engineering, Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Brain and Cognitive Sciences, and Mathematics.

The SMART application web page is at www.asee.org/SMAR T. The application deadline is December 2010 for the 2011 school year. SMART provides:

- Full Tuition – to any accredited U.S. University
- A very generous stipend while in school
  - $25,000 for undergraduates
  - $33,000 for masters candidates
  - $33,000 to $41,800 for doctoral candidates
  - Book allowance – $1,000
  - Health Insurance
  - Paid Summer internships
  - All required student fees
  - Travel fees for internships

Summer internships at the facility/laboratory are required. In return for fully funding their education, students are required to work as a civilian employee at a Service (Army, Navy, Air Force) or DoD Agency (NSA, DIA, DARPA, etc.) laboratory, or similar activity, for a period equal to the time the program paid for their school. Students must be U.S. Citizens, able to obtain a DoD Security Clearance, and be willing to work in a defense facility/laboratory upon graduation.

There will be approximately 300 new awards this year. A list of SMART fellows from previous years is listed by University at:

http://www.asee.org/fellowships/smart/schools/scholar%5Fdirectory/list%5Fby%5Fschool/

Interested students should visit:

www.asee.org/SMAR T. There are links to the application portal and other program related information. Additional applicant and SMART related questions can be answered via:

Email: smart@asee.org
Internship positions (unpaid) in the Biobehavioral Medicine Program of the University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute (UPCI) are available immediately on a project studying the psychobiological responses to stress in daily life and under controlled laboratory conditions. We are seeking two students to potentially volunteer (or earn academic credit if interested and able) up to 10 hours a week, depending on which roles they fill. We are looking for people to be trained in handling and analyzing cardiovascular data, sleep data, laboratory slides, as well as other administrative tasks as needed. This will depend on both your interest, skills, as well as availability.

Candidates should possess good computer skills, dedication to research, attention to detail, good organizational skills, strong work ethic, and the ability to work autonomously or in a group. Regular weekly availability is necessary.

Interested individuals should contact Shane Belin at belinsc2@upmc.edu. Please provide a resume and a brief statement of your background and goals.

Student Research/Clinical Assistant- Volunteer

UPMC Sports Concussion Program at the UPMC Center for Sport Medicine

Title: Student Research/Clinical Assistant- Volunteer

Duties: Responsibilities include both research duties such as: subject recruitment, data collection, conducting informed consent procedures, entering and analyzing data, assisting in the development of manuscripts/reports and presentations, and participation in Grand Round discussions; and clinical duties such as: administering computerized neurocognitive concussion tests; interacting with concussion patients; “shadowing” clinical neuropsychologists, physicians, and fellows; and observing and recording data during clinical evaluations.

Qualifications: Juniors/Seniors and Graduate/Professional students only; preference for applicants from Neurosciences, Psychology, Pre-Medicine, Medicine, and Kinesiology programs; applicants should have basic word processing, spreadsheet and related skills; applicants should have strong interpersonal and written and oral communication skills, and be comfortable interacting with subjects, patients, researchers, and clinicians.

Start Date: Fall Semester 2010- week of August 30, 2010 preferred

Time Commitment: 1-5 days per week; hours (7:30am-3pm) and days (Mondays-Fridays) vary; minimum commitment of 5 weeks- semester-long commitment preferred

Location: UPMC Sports Concussion Program, UPMC Center for Sports Medicine
3200 South Water Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15203

To Apply: Send a resume and cover letter indicating your interest- both research and clinical- in the position to the contact person below. Interviews will begin immediately and continue until the positions are filled.

Contact: Dr. Anthony P. Kontos, Assistant Research Director
UPMC Sports Concussion Program, UPMC Center for Sports Medicine
email- akontos@pitt.edu
The Arts and Sciences Advising Center
is Recruiting for Peer Advisors!
Earn academic credit in the spring leading to potential paid employment in the summer!
Gain leadership experience
Prepare for summer employment helping freshmen during PittStarts
Gain insight into academic and career planning
Obtain valuable professional work experience

Peer Advisor Internship hours include:
Formal training every Wednesday from 3-5 p.m. during spring term
Five flexible hours per week working on specific projects for the Advising Center

Requirements to apply:
Minimum 2.75 GPA
Available to work at summer 2011 PittStarts

For more information and to apply for the Peer Advisor Internship, stop by the Arts and Sciences Advising Center in 201 Thackeray Hall or call 412-624-6444.

Application deadline is November 8, 2010

NCUR UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH AWARDS
Arts and Sciences undergraduates doing research in humanities, social sciences, and natural sciences:

Apply for awards to attend
NCUR 25
the National Conference on Undergraduate Research
Ithaca College, March 31-April 2, 2011

• Students choose one presentation method for the conference—
  Oral presentation; poster presentation; performing arts (dance, music, drama/theater); or visual arts/gallery presentation.

• The research project must have been undertaken at the University of Pittsburgh with a Pitt faculty member.

To Apply
Submit an abstract via e-mail attachment to oel@pitt.edu.
In the e-mail, include your phone number, e-mail address and the name of your faculty mentor.

Application Deadline: Monday, November 15, 2010

Guidelines for Abstracts
Abstracts should be formatted in Microsoft Word.
State in clear terms the central research question and purpose of the research.
Provide a brief discussion of the research methodology.
State conclusions, either final or anticipated.
Be well organized.
Abstracts should be 250-350 words in length, including title.

View samples of discipline-specific abstracts
www.ithaca.edu/ncur2011/abstracts/sample
CCNMD Undergraduate Research Fellowship

The National Institute of Mental Health Conte Center for the Neuroscience of Mental Disorders (CCNMD) Undergraduate Research Fellowship provides highly talented undergraduate students with early-career, hands-on engagement in cutting edge neuroscience research. Research opportunities focus on schizophrenia and related disorders, and the neurobiological systems behind these illnesses. Fellows begin the program during the summer following the freshman or sophomore year with a full-time, 10-week research experience supported by a $4,000 stipend.

Full details of the program and application information can be found on the CCNMD Undergraduate Research Fellowship website.

Virtual Poster Session

Competition continues until November 2010. Interested students should make a video of themselves discussing a scientific poster and upload their submission to YouTube. Details about the competition, including a flyer and official entry form, can be found at: http://www.jyi.org/competitions/virtual_poster_2010/.

Last year’s participants and winning entries can be viewed at http://www.youtube.com/JYIJournal.

Rabbits help lower cholesterol. Cats may lead to a breakthrough in the AIDS epidemic. And dogs have taught doctors new heart surgery techniques. Even lobsters help scientists understand Parkinson's disease. Since the turn of the century, animal research has helped wipe out such diseases as smallpox and polio while increasing the human lifespan by 28 years. Whether it's fighting epilepsy, finding a cure for Alzheimer's or making progress in brain and spinal cord trauma, the link between human health and animal health is absolutely crucial.

The University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine provides an outstanding environment for the training of future veterinary scientists through our combined VMD-PhD program. It's an excellent way for you to continue your education while impacting the future of medicine - for humans and all species.

Who knows what today's research could do for future generations?

Find out more by visiting www.PennVetPhD.org
The School of Arts and Sciences’ Office of Undergraduate Studies is looking for applicants to join a diverse community of undergraduate scholars and researchers from the humanities, natural sciences and social sciences. Awardees receive $3,500 to support a summer term of independent research and scholarship.

Learn about what makes an award-worthy proposal, the application requirements, the application process, expectations of awardees and the summer research experience.

Office of Experiential Learning
412-624-6828
Neuroscience Club

The Neuro Club will be hosting a movie night on Wednesday, October 6th from about 7:30-9:30 PM in Langley 219B. We will be watching Awakenings, a movie based on a book written by British neuroscientist Oliver Sacks.

Here is a synopsis of the movie from Netflix.com:
Based on the true story, medical researcher Dr. Malcolm Sayer (Robin Williams) attempts to treat a group of patients who've laid comatose in a Bronx hospital for 30 years. Sayer prescribes an experimental drug, and it works. Robert De Niro co-stars as a patient unconscious since adolescence who must come to terms with life as an adult.

And here is a trailer of the movie:
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FURflBxeTyl

Come by Langley to relax with us for a great, FREE movie... See you there!

The Pitt Pulse is a student organization wholly committed to creating a respectable, reliable and relevant monthly periodical available on Pitt’s campus. We feature articles relevant to all pre-health students including advice on academics and gaining related experience, accounts of volunteering and conducting research, discourse on admission and standardized tests and opinions of politics and medicine. You can also enjoy profiles of local health-care professionals and of professional schools of interest.

Find more information at www.pitt.edu/~sorc/thepulse

Pittsburgh Scientific

Pittsburgh Scientific is a student publication featuring research at the University. The goals of this organization are two-fold: to publish an online magazine that will showcase current undergraduate research at the University of Pittsburgh and to enlighten current students of practical opportunities within their fields. Through this, we hope to formally recognize significant scientific endeavors by the undergraduate community, and to promote awareness of the importance of science and research.

Our website, pittscience.org, publishes articles that highlight research being done at the University. In addition, the website will post research positions available to undergraduates.
We eagerly welcome anyone interested in becoming part of our team. Many aspects of our journal are still open to change for students interested in leadership.
For those currently conducting research under the direction of a Pitt researcher, and have or are interested in writing a manuscript for publication, please contact us. Once you have submitted your manuscript to us, our editors will write an article summarizing the research you conducted. This article must then be approved by you and your Principal Investigator prior to official publication.
We are also currently looking for those who are interested in scientific writing, if you have an interest in writing for a student publication please contact us.

Contact Information: pittscience@gmail.com