Justin M. Moscarello, PhD

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Dept. of Psychological & Brain Sciences
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Biography

Dr. Justin Moscarello is principal investigator of the Moscarello Lab for the Neuroscientific Study of Learning, Memory, and Emotion in the Department of Psychological & Brain Sciences at Texas A&M University. His research focuses on the neural substrates of aversive associative memory, leveraging cutting-edge techniques and behavioral theory to dissect the mechanisms by which experience shapes behavior. The overall goal of this research is to advance the field's fundamental understanding of brain-behavior relationships, as well as to provide neuroscientific insight that may facilitate the development of novel therapies for neurological and psychiatric disorders. Dr. Moscarello also teaches graduate and undergraduate courses in Psychology and Neuroscience.

Current Title & Position

2017- **Assistant Professor of Behavioral & Cellular Neuroscience**
Department of Psychological & Brain Sciences
Institute for Neuroscience
College of Arts & Sciences
Texas A&M University (TAMU)

Employment History

2014-16 **Senior Research Scientist**
Center for Neural Science, New York University (NYU)

2010-14 **Postdoctoral Fellow**
Center for Neural Science, NYU

2004-10 **Graduate Student Researcher**
Department of Psychological & Brain Science, University of California Santa Barbara (UCSB)

2004-10 **Teaching Assistant**
Department of Psychological & Brain Science, UCSB

Education & Training

Postdoctoral Fellowship

2010-14 **LeDoux Lab**
Center for Neural Science, NYU
Mentor: Professor Joseph LeDoux

Graduate & Undergraduate Degrees

2010 **PhD Psychology, emphasis in Neuroscience & Behavior**
Department of Psychological & Brain Sciences, UCSB
Mentor: Professor Aaron Ettenberg

2003 **BA Physical Anthropology**
UCSB

Honors & Awards

2011-14 **Ruth L. Kirchstein National Research Service Award** (postdoctoral)

2009 **Harry J. Carlisle Award for Outstanding Graduate Student**, Dept. of Psychological & Brain Sciences, UCSB

2008-09 **Ruth L. Kirchstein National Research Service Award** (predoctoral)

2007 **Dean's Fellowship**, College of Arts & Sciences, UCSB

2006 **Advanced to PhD candidate with Distinction**

2003 Graduated with **High Honors** and with **Distinction** in major

2002-03 **Dean's Honor List**, College of Arts & Sciences, UCSB

Grants Under Review

2024 **R01**
National Institute of Mental Health (R01MH139748)
Title: Subcortical mechanisms for persistent safety-seeking behavior
Total Award: $2,097,288
Role: PI

Research Funding

2021-23 **R03**
National Institute of Mental Health (R03MH128654)
Title: The thalamic nucleus reuniens mediates the transition from reactive to proactive defensive behavior via feedforward inhibition
Total Award: $143,252
Role: PI

2021-23 **R21**
National Institute of Mental Health (R21MH126327)
Title: Dissecting the role of the bed nucleus of the stria terminalis in avoidant behavior
Total Award: $405,628
Role: PI

2020 **T3**
President's Excellence Fund Initiative, TAMU
Title: Machine Learning Enabled Wireless Optogenetic Devices for the Treatment of Psychiatric Illness
Total Award: $30,000
Role: Team Member

2019-21 **X-Grant**
President's Excellence Fund Initiative, TAMU
Title: Engineering brain health using an adaptive wireless optogenetic stimulator
Total Award: $1,497,862
Role: Team Member

2018-19 **NARSAD Young Investigator Award**
Brain & Behavior Foundation
Title: Neural Mechanisms of Resilience
Total Award: $70,000
Role: PI

2011-14 **Postdoctoral National Research Service Award (NRSA)**
National Institute of Mental Health (F32MH094061)
Title: The role of medial prefrontal cortex in active avoidance behavior
Total award: $155, 466
Role: PI

2008-09 **Predoctoral National Research Service Award (NRSA)**
National Institute on Drug Abuse (F31DA024505)
Title: Dopamine terminal regions interact as a function of motivation & reinforcement
Total award: $63, 399
Role: PI

2007 **Dean's Fellowship**
College of Letters & Sciences, UCSB
Total award: $15,000

Publications

Manuscripts in Press (Trainee's names underlined)

Diehl MM, **Moscarello JM**, Trask S (2024) Behavioral outputs and overlapping circuits between conditional fear and active avoidance. *Neurobiology of Learning & Memory*.

Oleksiak CR, Plas SL, Carriaga D, Vasudevan K, Maren S, **Moscarello JM** (2024) Ventral hippocampus mediates inter-trial responding in signaled active avoidance. *Behavioural Brain Research*.
Preprint: https://www.biorxiv.org/content/10.1101/2024.03.18.585627v1

Plas PL, Oleksiak CR, Pitre C, Melton C, **Moscarello JM**, Maren S (2024) Acute stress yields a sex-dependent facilitation of signaled active avoidance. *Neurobiology of Stress.* Preprint: https://www.biorxiv.org/content/10.1101/2024.04.27.591470v1

Manuscripts Under Review (Trainee's names underlined)

Sears RM, Andrade E, Samels, SB, Laughlin LC, Moloney DM, Wilson DA, Alwood MR, **Moscarello JM**, Cain CK (2024) Devaluation of response-produced safety signals reveals circuits for goal-directed versus habitual avoidance in the dorsal striatum. Under review at *Nature Communications.* Preprint: https://www.biorxiv.org/content/10.1101/2024.02.07.579321v1

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles (Trainee's names underlined)

Penzo MA, **Moscarello JM** (2023) From aversive associations to defensive programs: experience-dependent synaptic modifications in central amygdala. *Trends in Neuroscience*, 46: 701-711.

Guerra DP, Wang W, Souza KA, **Moscarello JM** (2023) A sex-specific role for the bed nucleus of the stria terminalis in proactive defensive behavior. *Neuropsychopharmacology,* 48: 1234-1244.

Moscarello JM, Penzo M (2022) The central nucleus of the amygdala and the construction of defensive modes across the threat imminence continuum. *Nature Neuroscience*, 25: 999-1008.

Oleksiak CR, Ramanathan KR, Miles OW, Perry SJ, Maren S, **Moscarello JM** (2021) Ventral hippocampus mediates the context dependence of two-way signaled avoidance in male rats. *Neurobiology of Learning & Memory,* 183: 107458.

Moscarello JM (2020) Prefrontal cortex projections to the nucleus reuniens suppress freezing following two-way signaled avoidance training. *Learning & Memory*, 27: 119-123.

Krypotos AM, **Moscarello JM**, Sears RM, LeDoux JE, Galatzer-Levy I (2018) A principled method to identify individual differences and behavioral shifts in signaled active avoidance. *Learning & Memory*, 15(11): 564-568.

Moscarello JM, Maren S (2018) Flexibility in the face of fear: hippocampal-prefrontal regulation of fear and avoidance. *Current Opinion in Behavioral Sciences,* 19: 44-49. 3.422

Moscarello JM, Hartley CA (2017) Agency and the calibration of motivated behavior. *Trends in Cognitive Science*, 21(10): 725-735.

Boeke E, **Moscarello JM**, LeDoux JE, Phelps E, Hartley C (2017) Active avoidance: neural mechanisms and attenuation of Pavlovian conditioned responding. *Journal of Neuroscience*, 37(18): 4808-18. 5.673

LeDoux JE*, **Moscarello J***, Sears R, Campese V (2017) The birth, death, and resurrection of avoidance: a reconceptualization of a troubled paradigm. *Molecular Psychiatry*, 22: 24-36. **denotes shared 1st authorship*

Ramirez F*, **Moscarello JM***, LeDoux JE, Sears RM (2015) Active avoidance requires a serial basal to nucleus accumbens circuit. *Journal of Neuroscience*, 35(8): 3470-77. **denotes shared 1st authorship*

Campese V, Gonzaga R, **Moscarello JM**, LeDoux JE (2015) Modulation of instrumental responding by a conditioned threat stimulus requires lateral and basal amygdala. *Frontiers in Behavioral Neuroscience,* 9: 1-10.

Moscarello JM, LeDoux J (2014) Diverse effects of conditioned threat stimuli on behavior. *Cold Spring Harbor Symposia on Quantitative Biology,* 79: 11-19.

Galatzer-Levy IR, **Moscarello JM,** Blessing EM, Klein J, Cain CK, LeDoux JE (2014) Heterogeneity in signaled active avoidance: substantive and methodological relevance of diversity in instrumental defensive responses. *Frontiers in Systems Neuroscience*, 8: 1-12.

Moscarello JM, LeDoux JE (2013) Active avoidance learning requires prefrontal suppression of amygdala mediated defensive reactions. *Journal of Neuroscience*, 33: 3815-23.

Moscarello JM, LeDoux JE (2013) The contribution of the amygdala to aversive and appetitive Pavlovian learning processes. *Emotion Review*, 5: 248-53.

Martinez RCR, Gupta N, Lazaro-Munoz G, Sears RM, Kim S, **Moscarello JM**, LeDoux JE, Cain CK (2013) Active vs. reactive threat responding is associated with differential c-Fos expression in specific regions of the amygdala and prefrontal cortex. *Learning & Memory*, 20: 446-52.

Moscarello JM, Ben-Shahar O, Ettenberg A (2010) External incentives and internal states guide goal-directed behavior via the differential recruitment of the nucleus accumbens and medial prefrontal cortex. *Neuroscience*, 170: 468-77.

Moscarello JM, Ben-Shahar O, Ettenberg A (2009) Effects of food deprivation on goal-directed behavior, spontaneous locomotion, and c-Fos immunoreactivity in the amygdala. *Behavioural Brain Research*, 197: 9-15.

Guzman D, **Moscarello JM**, Ettenberg A (2009) The effects of medial prefrontal cortex infusions of cocaine in a runway model of drug self-administration: evidence for reinforcing but not anxiogenic effects. *European Journal of Pharmacology*, 605: 117-22.

Moscarello JM, Ben-Shahar O, Ettenberg A (2007) Dynamic interaction between medial prefrontal cortex and nucleus accumbens as a function of both motivational state and reinforcer magnitude. *Brain Research*, 1169: 69-76.

Ben-Shahar O, **Moscarello JM**, Ettenberg A (2006) One hour, but not six hours, of daily access to cocaine results in elevated levels of the dopamine transporter. *Brain Research*, 1095: 148-53.

Ben-Shahar O, **Moscarello JM**, Jacob B, Roarty MP, Ettenberg A (2005) Prolonged daily exposure to IV cocaine results in tolerance to its stimulant effects. *Pharmacology, Biochemistry, & Behavior*, 82: 411-6.

Book Chapters

Campese VD, Sears RM, **Moscarello JM**, Diaz-Mataix L, Cain CK, LeDoux JE (2015) The neural foundations of reaction and action in aversive motivation. In: *Current Topics in Behavioral Neuroscience*. Eds. Simpson EH, Balsam PD. Switzerland: Springer International.

Hartley CA, **Moscarello JM**, Quirk GJ, Phelps EA (2014) The cognitive neuroscience of fear and its control: from animal models to human experience. In: *The Cognitive Neurosciences*. Eds. Gazzaniga MS, Mangun GR. Cambridge: MIT Press.

Selected Published Abstracts (Grad students' names underlined)

Alwood MR, **Moscarello JM** (2024) Dorsal hippocampus underpins dissociable patterns of defensive behavior in male and female rats. *Winter Conference on Brain Research.*

Alwood MR, **Moscarello JM** (2023) Dorsal hippocampus underpins dissociable patterns of defensive behavior in male and female rats. *Pavlovian Society Meeting*.

Plas SL, Oleksiak CR, **Moscarello JM**, Maren S (2023) Acute Stress Facilitates Two-Way Signaled Active Avoidance in Male and Female Rats. *Pavlovian Society Meeting*.

Alwood MR, **Moscarello JM** (2023) Dorsal hippocampus underpins dissociable patterns of defensive behavior in male and female rats. *Pavlovian Society Meeting*.

Guerra DP, Benesch J, Gorman JC, Ho DT, Karam YE, Zhang A, **Moscarello JM** (2023) Sex-specific role for the bed nucleus of the stria terminalis in avoidant behavior. *Pavlovian Society Meeting*.

Oleksiak CR, Plas SL, Carriaga D, Vasudevan K, Maren S, **Moscarello JM** (2023) Ventral hippocampus regulates inter-trial responding in a two-way signaled active avoidance task in male and female rats. *Pavlovian Society Meeting*.

Plas SL, Oleksiak CR, **Moscarello JM**, Maren S (2023) Acute Stress Facilitates Two-Way Signaled Active Avoidance in Male and Female Rats. *Pavlovian Society Meeting*.

Alwood MR, **Moscarello JM** (2023) Sex-specific effect of dorsal hippocampus inaction on proactive defensive behavior. *Gordon Research Conference: Amygdala Function in Cognition, Health, and Disease*.

Oleksiak CR, Guerra DP, Maren S, **Moscarello JM** (2023) Contributions of the bed nucleus of the stria terminalis and its ventral hippocampal inputs to avoidant behavior. *Gordon Research Conference: Amygdala Function in Cognition, Health, and Disease.*

Moscarello JM, Guerra DP, de Souza KA, Wang W (2022) The bed nucleus of the stria terminalis mediates the expression of two-way active avoidance. *American College of Neuropsychopharmacology Annual Meeting*

Plas SL, Oleksiak CR, **Moscarello JM**, Maren S, Liberzon I (2022) Single prolonged stress impairs acquisition and extinction recall. *2022 Abstract Viewer/Itinerary Planner,* Washington DC: Society for Neuroscience.

Oleksiak CR, Carriaga D, Plas S, Vasudevan K, Maren S, **Moscarello JM** (2022) Chemogenetic activation of the ventral hippocampus selectively increases intertrial avoidance responses during signaled active avoidance in rats. *2022 Abstract Viewer/Itinerary Planner,* Washington DC: Society for Neuroscience.

Alwood MR, **Moscarello JM** (2022) Chemogenetic inactivation of the dorsal hippocampus facilitates avoidance learning in female but not male rats. *Pavlovian Society Meeting*.

Guerra DP, **Moscarello JM** (2022) The bed nucleus of the stria terminalis mediates the expression of avoidant behavior in male rats. *Pavlovian Society Meeting*.

Guerra DP, **Moscarello JM** (2021) The BNST mediates the expression of two-way signaled avoidance in male rats. *2021 Abstract Viewer/Itinerary Planner,* Washington DC: Society for Neuroscience.

Kreitlow MR, Keppler LJ, **Moscarello JM** (2021) A systems consolidation-like process recruits the retrosplenial cortex to the long-term maintenance of signaled avoidance. *2021 Abstract Viewer/Itinerary Planner,* Washington DC: Society for Neuroscience.

Kreitlow MR, Keppler L, **Moscarello JM** (2020) Time following initial acquisition is sufficient to make signaled active avoidance dependent on the retrosplenial cortex. *SfN Global Connectome.*

Oleksiak CR, Ramanathan KR, Miles OW, Maren S, **Moscarello JM** (2020) Ventral, but not dorsal, hippocampus mediates the context dependence of signaled active avoidance. *SfN Global Connectome.*

Guerra DP, **Moscarello JM** (2020) The role of the BNST in two-way signaled avoidance. *Pavlovian Society Meeting*.

Oleksiak CR, Ramanathan KR, Miles OW, **Moscarello JM**, Maren S (2020) Ventral, but not dorsal, hippocampus mediates the context-dependence of signaled active avoidance. *Pavlovian Society Meeting*.

Oleksiak CR, **Moscarello JM**, Maren S (2019) Signaled active avoidance performance is context-dependent. *2019 Abstract Viewer/Itinerary Planner,* Washington DC: Society for Neuroscience.

Oleksiak CR, **Moscarello JM**, Maren S (2019) Signaled active avoidance performance is context-dependent. *Conference on Learning & Memory: UT Austin*

Selected Talks & Symposia

2024 **NIEHS Neurobiology Lab Seminar**
Title: Fear, Anxiety, and the Neural Substrates of Avoidance
Type: Seminar

2023 **Pavlovian Society**
Title: Fear, Anxiety, and the Neural Substrates of Active Avoidance
Type: Symposium

2023 **Rosalind Franklin University**
Title: Sex-specific neural mechanisms of proactive defensive behavior
Type: Seminar

2022 **Purdue University Neuroscience & Behavior Seminar**
Title: Threat Imminence and the Neural Circuitry of Active Avoidance
Type: Seminar (virtual)

2021 **Baylor University Psychology & Neuroscience Series**
Title: Fear, Anxiety, and Two-Way Active Avoidance
Type: Seminar (virtual)

2021 **Winter Conference on the Neurobiology of Learning & Memory**
Title: The Role of Threat Imminence in Active Avoidance
Type: Symposium (virtual)

2020 **Department of Psychology – University of Texas**
Title: The Role of Threat Imminence in Active Avoidance
Type: Seminar (virtual)

2019 **Pavlovian Society Meeting – Vancouver, BC, Canada**
Title: Fear, Anxiety, and Two-Way Active Avoidance
Type: Symposium

2019 **Trauma, Anxiety, and Resilience Symposium – TAMU Health Sciences Center**
Title: Neural Pathways of Active Avoidance
Type: Symposium

2019 **Expert Meeting on Avoidance Behavior, Pain, & Fear – KU Leuven, Belgium**
Title: The role of the BNST in active avoidance behavior
Type: Symposium

2018 **Association for Psychological Science Annual Conference – San Francisco, CA**
Title: When brain systems compete: prefrontal mechanisms resolve between conflicting defensive behaviors
Type: Symposium

2017 **Department of Psychology – University of Texas**
Title: Neural pathways of active avoidance behavior.
Type: Seminar

2017 **Department of Neuroscience and Experimental Therapeutics – TAMU Health Sciences Center**
Title: Neural pathways of active avoidance behavior.
Type: Seminar

2017 **Winter Conference on Neural Plasticity – Grenada**
Title: Avoidance learning recruits a PFC-nucleus reuniens pathway to suppress conditioned freezing
Type: Symposium

Graduate Advising

Doctoral Committee Chair

Present

Marco Liera	2024-ongoing	PhD, Neuroscience
Matt Alwood	2020-ongoing	PhD, Neuroscience
Diana Guerra	2018-ongoing	PhD, Psychology

Doctoral Committee Co-Chair

Present

Hugo Bayer	2021-ongoing	PhD, Neuroscience
Tugce Tuna	2021-ongoing	PhD, Neuroscience

Past

Cecily Oleksiak	2018-2024	PhD, Neuroscience

Dissertation: *Role of the Ventral Hippocampus in the Contextual Control of Avoidance*

Doctoral Committee Member

Present

Aakriti Rastogi	2024-ongoing	PhD, Biology
Sam Sweck	2023-ongoing	PhD, Neuroscience
Samantha Plas	2021-ongoing	PhD, Neuroscience
Nathan Vardaleon	2021-ongoing	PhD, Psychology
Astrid Cardona	2019-ongoing	PhD, Psychology
Sophia Handel	2019-ongoing	PhD, Psychology

Past

Travis Johnston 2022-2023 PhD, Neuroscience
Dissertation: *Effect of Hypertension After Spinal Cord Injury*

Kay Vasudevan 2019-2024 PhD, Neuroscience
Dissertation: *Thalamic Modulation of Hippocampal Context Memories During Conditioned Fear Learning*

Shelby Blair 2018-2024 PhD, Psychology
Dissertation: *Role of Steroid Hormones and Their Neuroactive Metabolites in Pavlovian Fear Conditioning*

Omar Sial 2017-2021 PhD, Psychology
Dissertation: *Early-Life Stress Combined with a Western-Style Diet Leads to Behavioral, Physiological, and Neurobiological Dysregulation*

Analise Binette 2017-2023 PhD, Neuroscience
Dissertation: *Prefrontal Cortical Regulation of Stress Effects on Fear Extinction*

Michael Totty 2017-2022 PhD, Neuroscience
Dissertation: *Thalamic Coordination of Prefrontal-Hippocampal Interactions Underlying the Retrieval of Fear Extinction Memories*

Reed Ressler 2017-2021 PhD, Neuroscience
Dissertation: *Synaptic and Associative Mechanisms Mediating Pavlovian Conditioning to Unpredictable Threats*

Karthik Ramanathan 2017-2020 PhD, Neuroscience
Dissertation: *Role of Thalamic Nucleus Reuniens in Pavlovian Fear Conditioning and Extinction*

Jingji Jin 2017-2018 PhD, Neuroscience
Dissertation: *Neural Circuits Underlying Context-Dependent Fear Memory Retrieval*

Teaching Experience

PBSI 235 (TAMU): Introduction to Cognitive & Behavioral Neuroscience, undergraduate lecture course (previously PSYC/NRSC 235). *Instructor of Record: developed all materials, delivered all lectures*

2024-2025: Fall, 136 students
2023-2024: Fall, 116 students
2022-2023: Spring, 116 students
2021-2022: Fall, 177 students
2019-2020: Spring, 112 students

PBSI 332 (TAMU): Neuroscience of Learning & Memory, undergraduate lecture course (previously PSYC/NRSC 332). *Instructor of Record: developed all materials, delivered all lectures*

2023-2024: Fall, 38 students; Spring, 114 students

2022-2023: Fall, 38 students
2021-2022: Spring, 46 students
2020-2021: Fall, 51 students
2019-2020: Fall 26 students; Spring 23 students
2018-2019: Fall, 16 students; Spring, 18 students
2017-2018: Spring, 36 students

PBSI/NRSC/BICH/BIO/BIMS 485 or 491 (TAMU): Directed Studies, undergraduate laboratory research. *Instructor of Record: mentored undergraduates who served as assistants to graduate-student researchers in my lab*

2023-2024: Fall, 8 students; Spring, 10 students; Summer, 5 students
2022-2023: Fall 8 students; Spring, 8 students; Summer 2023: 5 students
2021-2022: Fall, 1 student; Spring, 6 students; Summer, 1 student
2020-2021: Fall, 2 students; Spring, 3 students; Summer, 2 students
2019-2020: Fall, 3 students; Spring, 4 students; Summer, 1 student
2018-2019: Fall 2 students; Spring, 3 students; Summer, 3 students

PBSI 609 (TAMU): Physiological Psychology, graduate lecture course. *Instructor of Record: developed all materials, delivered all lectures*

2020-2021: Spring, 10 students

PSY 134 (UCSB): Psychopharmacology of Drugs of Abuse, undergraduate lecture course. *Instructor of Record: developed all materials, delivered all lectures*

2008-2009: Summer, 42 students
2007-2008: Summer, 35 students

Additional Teaching Activities

NRSC 602 (TAMU): Principles of Neuroscience Part 2, team-taught graduate lecture course. *Delivered two lectures on fear memory and the underlying cellular and synaptic mechanisms, wrote and graded a final-exam question on these lectures*

2023-2024: Spring, 15 students
2022-2023: Spring, 18 students
2021-2022: Spring, 19 students
2020-2021: Spring, 19 students
2019-2020: Spring, 20 students

RDNG 465 (TAMU): Reading in the Middle and Secondary Grades, undergraduate lecture course. *Delivered guest lecture on memory research*

2023-2024: Fall, 20 students; Spring, 15 students
2022-2023: Fall, 20 students; Spring, 20 students
2021-2022: Spring, 20 students
2020-2021: Fall, 20 students
2019-2020: Spring, 20 students

Undergraduate Advising

Undergraduate Research Assistants

2023-2024: Julian Benesch, Emma Ellisor, Clary Ghaly, Angel Gomez, Johanna Gorman, Yara Karam, Josh Skrehort, Zach Twomey, Sarabel Weiss, Korina Zhang
2022-2023: Angel Gomez, Veronica Gonzalez, Johanna Gorman, Dawn Ho, Yara Karam, Michael McCuskey, Alyssa Miller, Shelby Mills, Kathy Nguyen, Zach Twomey, Sarabel Weiss, Alina Zhang
2021-2022: Jessica Anderson, Michael-Thomas Dao, Kortney Dunn, Dawn Ho, Omar Khursheid, Alyssa Miller
2020-2021: Michael-Thomas Dao, Katie Williams, Andrew Willison
2019-2020: Harismitha Ayyappan, Alex Iacobucci, John Nguyen, Katie Williams
2018-2019: Julie Neil, Madison Rodriguez, Sarah Way

Undergraduate Honors Contracts

2023-2024: Monica Dhringa (PBSI 332), Kylie McDaniel (PBSI 332), Joshua Skrehot (PBSI 332)
2022-2023: Monica Dhiringa (PBSI 235), Kendall Hunter (PBSI 235), Kylie McDaniel (PBSI 235), Ariel Vantrese (PBSI 235), Katelyn Willis (PBSI 235)
2021-2022: Ashleigh Barna (PBSI 235), Kamryn Green (PBSI 235)
2020-2021: Nikita Nutalapati (PBSI332)
2019-2020: Elizabeth Langley (PBSI 332), Nikita Nutalapati (PBSI 235)
2018-2019: Alexander Iacobucci (PBSI 332)

Service Activities

Department & University

2023- **Life-Sciences Meta Major Steering Committee**
Represented the Behavioral and Cellular Neuroscience (BCNS) major in the development of the new, multi-college meta major for the life sciences at TAMU

2023 **Behavioral & Cognitive Neuroscience (BCNS) Major Working Group**
Developed the proposal for the BCNS major housed in Department of Psychological & Brain Sciences, TAMU

2022- **Space Committee**
Department of Psychological & Brain Sciences, TAMU

2019-23 **Graduate Student Recruiting & Admissions Committee**
Texas A&M Institute for Neuroscience, TAMU

2017- **Hosted speakers for the weekly TAMIN seminar**
Created itineraries for in-person or virtual speaker visits. **Past:** Laura Colgin, Associate Professor, UT Austin; Michael Drew, Assistant Professor, UT Austin; Cate Harley, Assistant Professor, NYU; Katie Hinde, Associate Professor, Arizona State University; Caitlin Orsini, Assistant Professor, UT Austin; Steve Ramirez, Assistant Professor, Boston University.

Planned: Nicole Ferrara, Assistant Professor, Rosalind Franklin University; Mario Penzo, Section Chief, NIMH Intramural Research Program; Sydney Trask, Assistant Professor, Purdue University

2017-22 **Graduate Studies & Admissions Committee**
Department of Psychological & Brain Sciences, TAMU

2018-19 **Secretary, Texas A&M LGBTQ Professional Network**
TAMU

2017-18 **Vice President, Texas A&M LGBTQ Professional Network**
TAMU

2006-09 **Graduate Student Member of Institutional Animal Care and Usage Committee**
UCSB

Wider Scientific Community

2024 **National Institutes for Health Neurological Sciences Training (NST-3) Study Section**
Ad hoc reviewer; reviewed D-SPAN F99 applications

2023 **Human Frontier Science Program**
Reviewed applications for 'Long-Term Fellowships' for post docs

2022 **NIH BRAIN Initiative: Targeted Brain Circuits Study Section**
Ad hoc reviewer; reviewed R01 applications

2022 **NIH Diversity K01 & MOSAIC K99 Postdoctoral Career Transition Award to Promote Diversity Study Section**
Ad hoc reviewer; reviewed K01 and K99/R00 applications

2022 **NIH National Institute of General Medical Sciences, Postdoctoral Research Associate Training Program Study Section**
Ad hoc reviewer; reviewed applications for postdoc fellowships in NIH intramural research labs

2022 **National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship Program (GRFP) Reviewer**
Reviewed NSF GRFP applications submitted by trainees either prior to, or in the early stages of, their graduate studies

2020 **NIH Early Career Reviewer Program**
Reviewed R01 and R21 applications submitted to the NIH BRAIN Initiative: Targeted Brain Circuits Study Section

2017- **Peer Reviewer for the following journals:** *Behavioural Brain Research; Brain Research; Biological Psychiatry; Cerebral Cortex; Current Biology; eLife; Emotion Review; Frontiers in Behavioral Neuroscience; Frontiers in*

Neuroscience; Hippocampus; JEP: Animal Learning & Cognition; Learning & Memory; Motivation & Emotion; Nature Human Behavior; Nature Neuroscience; Neuropsychopharmacology; Neuroscience & Biobehavioral Reviews; Neuroscience Letters; Pharmacology, Biochemistry, & Behavior; Science; Scientific Reports; The Journal of Anxiety Disorders; Translational Psychiatry