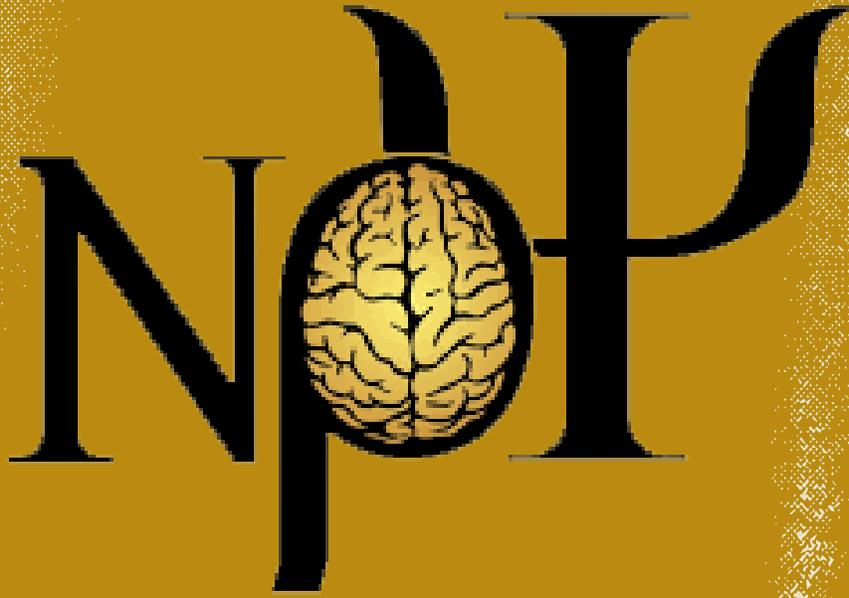
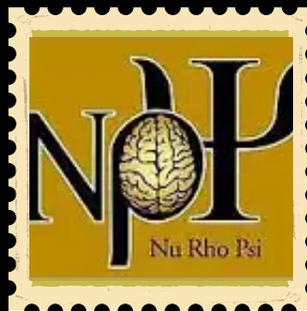


2024-2025

Newsletter



Dedicated to
Jeani Narcum & Dr. Michael Kerchner



January 2026

Newsletter

We're deeply honored to bring you this newsletter in special dedication to Jeani Narcum and Dr. Mike Kerchner. Mike and Jeani poured countless hours, emails, phone calls, time, heart, energy, and even space within their home, into the foundation that you now know and continue to shape. Mike created and compiled the newsletter for several years, as one of the many things he did behind the scenes that many might not know. The organization wouldn't be what it is without the foundation they were an integral part in building.

With the deepest gratitude,
Nu Rho Psi

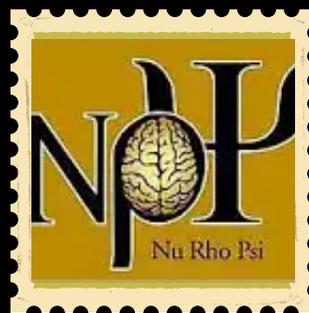
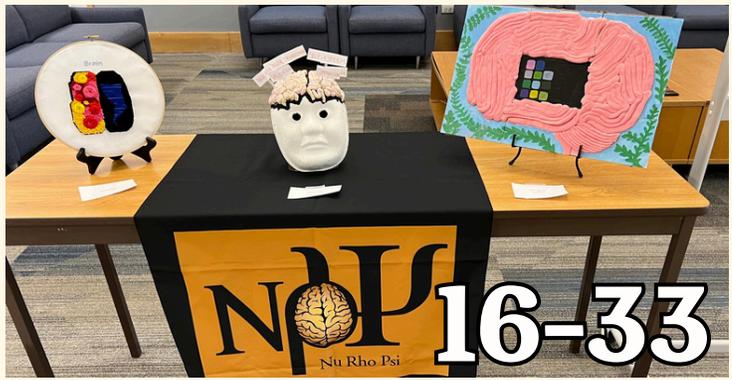
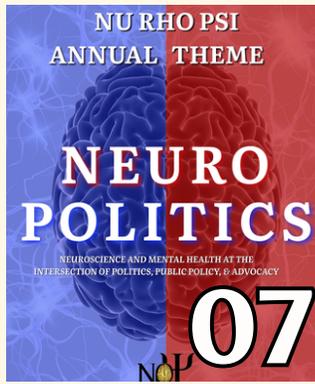
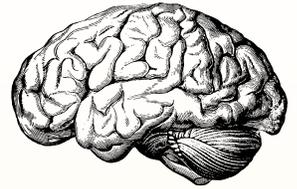


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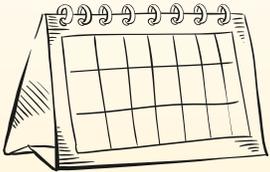


<u>Important Spring Dates</u>	04 - 05
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<u>2025-2026 Theme</u>	07-08
<u>National Meeting Recap</u>	09-10
<u>Podcast</u>	10-11
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<u>Socials</u>	14-15
<u>2024 - 2025 In Review</u>	16-30
<u>Letters from the Council</u>	34-42



Important Dates

Spring 2026



Advisors Meeting February 6, 2026

Undergraduate Research Grants April 3, 2026

NEURON Research Conference April 11, 2026

SYNAPSE Research Conference April 18, 2026

AXON Conference May 1, 2026

**Outstanding Student
Member of the Year Award** May 1, 2026

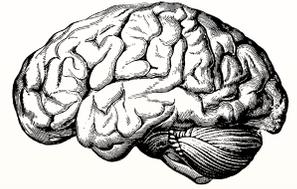
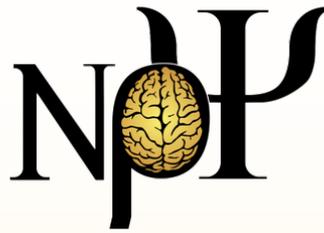
**Outstanding Faculty
Member of the Year Award** May 1, 2026

Chapter of the Year Award May 2, 2026

Stay up to date at:

<https://NuRhoPsi.org/Events> | <https://NuRhoPsi.org>

Questions? Contact President-Elect Dr. Phil Quirk at President@NuRhoPsi.org



Student Research Conferences Spring 2026

NEURON

**Northeast Under/graduate Research
Organization for Neuroscience**

Saturday, April 11

Quinnipiac University, Hamden, CT

More information on registration to come



Conference website

SYNAPSE

**Symposium for Young Neuroscientist
and Professors of the South East**

Saturday, April 18 | 9:30 AM - 3:30 PM

Register/submit abstracts by
Friday, March 27, 2026

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill



Registration website

AXON

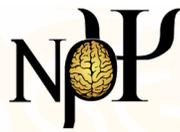
**Advancing Cross-Disciplinary
Outreach in Neuroscience**

Saturday, May 2 | 9 AM - 5:30 PM

Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ



Conference website



Undergraduate Emergent Research Hardship Grant

This grant supports high quality research projects conducted by **inducted, undergraduate student members of Nu Rho Psi** who have experienced a loss of funding that has significantly impacted an active research project. The grant provides up to **\$1000 to subsidize direct research costs** (i.e., reagents, chemicals, animals, antibodies) **and/or provide direct student financial support** (i.e., stipend, living costs).

Application Materials

- Project description
- Budget description
- Statement of hardship letter from faculty member, detailing loss of funding.
- Acknowledgement of project timeline
- IACUC and IRB approval (if applicable)

Selection Criteria

- Scientific merit
- Clarity & sophistication of writing
- **Senior projects (thesis research) will receive priority.**
- Validity and impact of the hardship described.
- Active, ongoing project that lost funding impacting completion of project.

Submissions reviewed on monthly basis



Questions? Contact President-Elect, Dr. Phil Quirk at President@NuRhoPsi.org

2025-2026 ANNUAL THEME

NEURO POLITICS

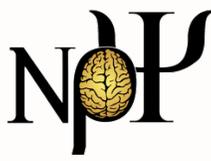
DEFINITION

“Neuro politics is a field of study that combines neuroscience and political science in order to better understand the decision-making process involved in political behavior and political decision-making. Why do we vote the way we vote? Why are current political systems structured the way they are? How does the way our brain processes information influence our political attitudes and beliefs?”

Dana Foundation Career Network in
Neuroscience and Society

*Check out our full Neuro politics
Guide on the Nu Rho Psi website!*



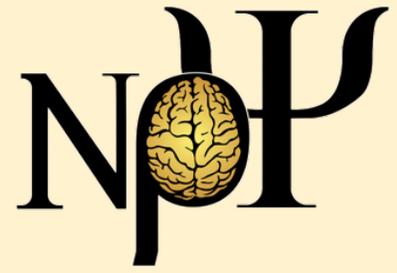


NEUROPOLITICS CHAPTER ACTIVITY GRANT RECIPIENTS

- DePaul University
- Florida International University
- Northern Kentucky University
- Skidmore College
- Slippery Rock University
- Union College
- University of Arizona
- University of North Carolina - Chapel Hill
- Wayne State University

RECAP

Nu Rho Psi Annual Meeting



THANK YOU TO ALL WHO ATTENDED!

We hope you enjoyed meeting your peers, learning more about the organization's initiatives, and choosing next year's annual theme!

Due to technical difficulties during the meeting, **Dr. Liya Yu's keynote address is uploaded to our website & YouTube, and emailed to those who registered.**

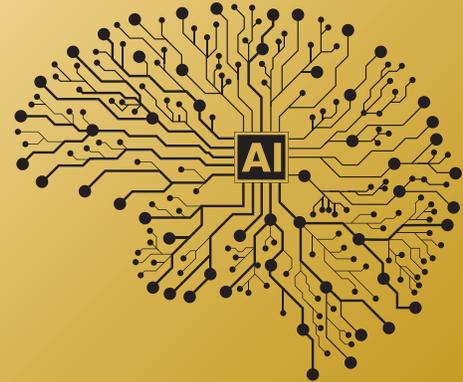
AND

We will be hosting a **LIVE Q&A with Dr. Yu** this semester!

Dates and more information to come via email and announcements on our socials.

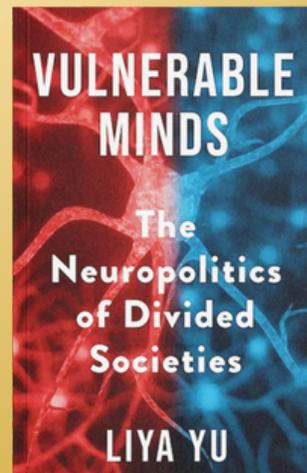


2026-2027 Theme Neuroscience & AI!



More information Fall 2026

Congratulations to our raffle winners!



*Abby Russo
Erica Anderson
Felicia Summer
Marisa Incer
Mathew Pondo*



Conversations *with* Neuroscientists

Special Keynote Address

Dr. Liya Yu

M.Phil & PhD Columbia University

Dr. Yu is a Berlin-based
Neuropolitical scientist,
philosopher, theorist, author,
and performance artist.

In this talk, she covers topics in
neuropolitics & social
neuroscience, and what she calls
the Neuropolitical Social Contract.



@NuRhoPsi

AVAILABLE NOW

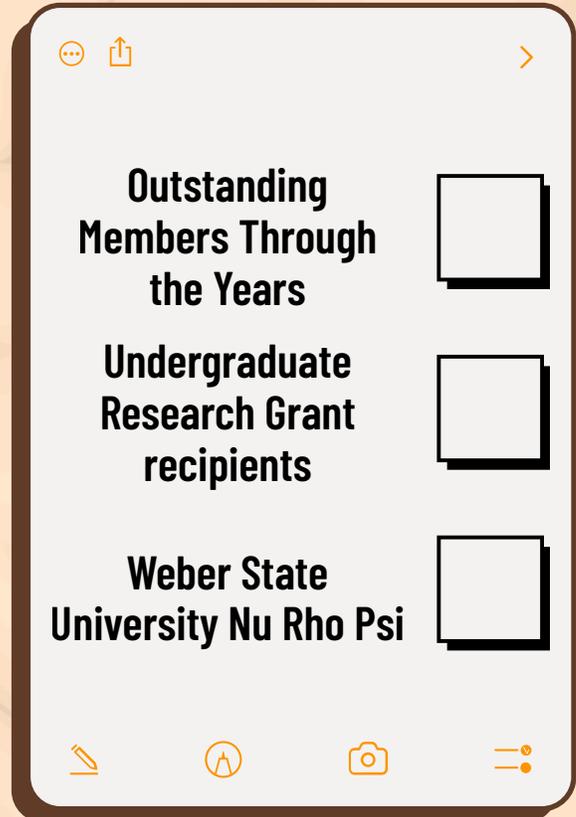
<https://tinyurl.com/NRPKeynote25>





Check Out our Podcast for

Nu Rho Psi



Conversations with Neuroscientists by Nu Rho Psi
Available on YouTube @NuRhoPsi

*Interested in
being featured?*



How to Contact:

For the 2025-2026 Academic Year, the National Office is adopting a new media policy. **If your chapter would like to be featured on our socials and website**, please follow one of the following steps:

- **On Instagram**: Please tag us or add as a collaborator to your post. This signifies to the National Office the consent by the chapter and all members within the photos, with the understanding the the photos may be featured on our socials, website, and other marketing materials.
- **By E-mail**: Please e-mail your photos, a brief description of the significance (details about past event, induction, etc.), as well as the names and pronouns of the students featured in the photos to communications@NuRhoPsi.org.
- **Google Drive Submission**: Please utilize this Google form to submit the details of your event <https://tinyurl.com/NRPMediaFeature2025>

The National organization will not approve photos that have minors in them (for example, from an outreach event), unless their faces are blurred.

*Contact
Us*



@NuRhoPsi

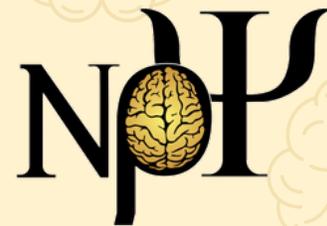


Communications@NuRhoPsi.org



www.NuRhoPsi.org

Want to create merch for your chapter?



DESIGN YOUR MERCH

Choose a supplier and design your merch!

CONTACT THE NATIONAL OFFICE

Contact the National Office at Exec@NuRhoPsi.org and NuRhoPsiMedia@gmail.com.

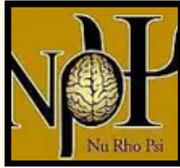
Include your chapter, name, role within the chapter, the design, how the logo will be used (clothing, letterhead, etc.), and the supplier you're using.

RESPONSE FROM NATIONAL OFFICE

The National Office will respond with feedback and/or approval of the design. If the design is approved, you will receive a formal letter approving your use of the logo that can be provided to merch companies.

MOVE FORWARD WITH ORDERS!

Share the link with your chapter and local community, and start placing orders!



NU RHO PSI
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@NuRhoPsi.Bsky.Social



[HTTPS://TINYURL.COM/
NRPGROUPME](https://tinyurl.com/nrpgroupme)

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SUBSCRIBE

*Available at the bottom
of any existing blog post*

Subscribe to our calendar to keep up with events and deadlines!

SUBSCRIBE TO CALENDAR ▾

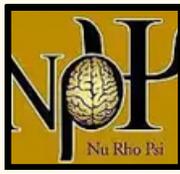
<https://NuRhoPsi.org/Events>



Communications@NuRhoPsi.org



www.NuRhoPsi.org



NU RHO PSI
Contact Info

Visit our calendar!

< > This Month April 2026 ▾

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
30	31	1	2	3 Undergraduate Rese..	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11 9:00 am - 5:00 pm NEURON Research Conference	12
13	14	15	16	17	18 9:00 am - 3:30 pm SYNAPSE Research Conference	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	1 Chapter of the Year ... Outstanding Faculty ...	2	3

<https://NuRhoPsi.org/Events>





2024-2025

Years in Review

As we bring in a new year and new semester, we want to celebrate the accomplishments and people that helped make the last couple of years of Nu Rho Psi so incredible



2024-2025 Inductions

Welcoming our new members!

Wayne State University



Trinity College



Emmanuel College



University of Arizona

2024-2025 Inductions

Welcoming our new
members!



Slippery Rock University



University of North
Carolina - Chapel Hill



Belmont University



Georgia State
University

2024-2025 Inductions

Welcoming our new members!

Ohio State

University



University of Illinois



University of Maryland



DePaul University



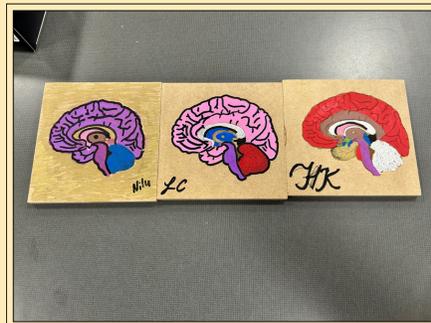
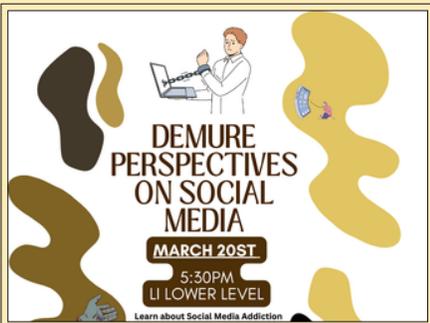

2025
SOCIAL MEDIA & THE BRAIN
CHAPTER ACTIVITY GRANTS
RANDOLPH-MACON UNIVERSITY



UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA



LAKE FOREST COLLEGE



DEPAUL UNIVERSITY



Congratulations **NOP** Lake Forest College Chapter of the Year Recipient

'24-'25



4:15 PM. NU RHO PSI KEYNOTE LECTURE
presented via Teams
Gabrielle Starr, Ph.D.
President, Pomona College

4:15 PM. OPENING KEYNOTE LECTURE
presented via Teams
Virginia Lee, Ph.D.
John H. Ware 3rd Endowed Professor in Alzheimer's Research, Director of the Center of Neurodegenerative Disease Research, University of Pennsylvania

4:15 PM. WHY BRAINS CRAVE BEAUTY: LEARNING THE ARTS AND CREATIVITY
presented via Teams
Gabrielle Starr, Ph.D.
President, Pomona College

4:15 PM. MIND AND SOCIETY DIALOGUE
in Table Room, Brown Hall
Dr. Adele Diamond, Ph.D.
Canada Research Chair Tier 1 Professor of Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience, University of British Columbia

4:15 PM. TRANSLATING NEUROBIOLOGICAL INSIGHTS INTO HOW TO AID CHILDREN'S EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONS: HOW MONTESSORI HAD MUCH OF THIS RIGHT
presented via Teams
Dr. Adele Diamond, Ph.D.
Canada Research Chair Tier 1 Professor of Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience, University of British Columbia

THURSDAY October 31
TWELFTH ANNUAL **ROBERT B. GLASSMAN MEMORIAL Brain, Mind, and Behavior Symposium**
7-9 PM. Faculty/Alumni Talks
8-10 PM. Student Research Presentations

4:00-6:30 PM. Undergraduate and Alumni Research Poster Session
Cohen Center Hall, Main Student Center

4:00 PM. WELCOME REMARKS AND UNVEILING OF ANNUAL NEUROSCIENCE SCULPTURE 4:30 PM.
Introduction, by Psi Chi

POSTER SESSION 4:45-6:10 PM.
Enjoy posters and talks by current students and recent alumni of original student/faculty research conducted at Lake Forest, Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Science, Marquette University, Northwestern University, University of Minnesota, Illinois Institute of Technology, and Rush University.

CLOSING CEREMONY 6:10 PM.
Introduction, by Psi Chi
Closing Remarks for Brain Awareness Week and Glassman Symposium
Recognition of student scholars and researchers

FRIDAY November 1
All events are **OPEN to the PUBLIC!**

7:00 PM. HONOR CARLSON, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Neuroscience & Psychology, Lake Forest College, "FRAND COPY": A CREATIVE COMBINATION ASSESSING THE BEHAVIORAL AND PHARMACOLOGICAL IMPACT OF COMBINED FENTANYL AND XYLAZINE

7:25 PM. Saul Bello Reja, Ph.D., Postdoctoral Fellow, Oregon Health Sciences University, DEVELOPMENT AND STRUCTURE OF MOTOR CONTROL IN SPINAL CORD

7:45 PM. Catherine Reedy, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of English, Lake Forest College, INFECTED BRAINS AND PESTILENT CONGREGATIONS IN SHAKESPEARE

8:05 PM. Sarah Appleyby '18, Ph.D. Candidate in Neuroscience, University of Pennsylvania, ROOM FOR DISCRETE: SCHEMATIC DIFFERENCES IN THE BRAINSTEM CONTROL OF THE "DESSERT STOMACH"

8:25 PM. D. Brian Moore, Ph.D., Professor of Neuroscience, Lake Forest College, "MOLECULAR SCISSORS" AND ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE

9:45 PM. CLOSING REMARKS, SYNAPSE

SEMINARS IN NEUROSCIENCE
THESE EVENTS ARE FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.

Organized by Neuroscience Program and Nu Rho Psi (The Neuroscience Honor Society)

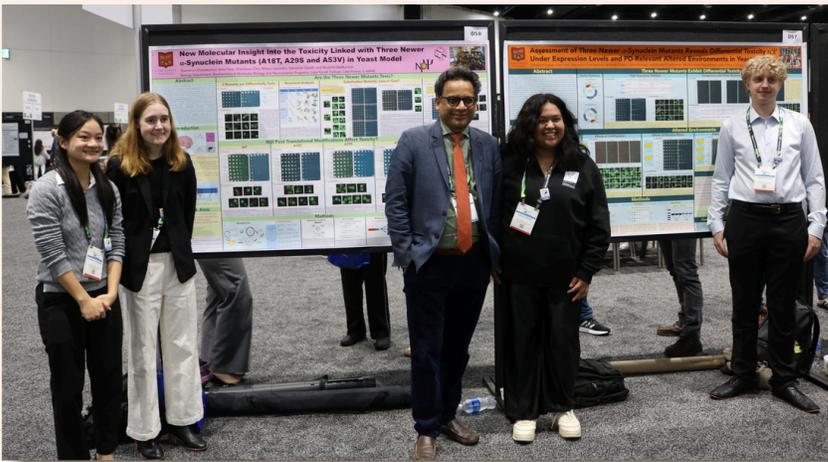
SEPTEMBER 12 at 4:15-5:15 PM. in LILLARD 044
WHY YOUR BRAIN MAKES ITS OWN CANNABIS AND HOW IT MIGHT PROTECT YOU AGAINST STRESS
Sachin Patel, M.D./Ph.D., Lizzie Gilman Professor and Chair of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine
Sponsors: Psychology Department, Health Professions Program, Psi Chi, Future Health Professionals

OCTOBER 28 at 4:15-5:15 PM. on TEAMS
TRANSMISSION OF MISFOLDED PROTEINS IN NEURODEGENERATIVE DISORDERS: A COMMON MECHANISM OF DISEASE PROGRESSION
Virginia Lee, Ph.D. John H. Ware 3rd Endowed Professor in Alzheimer's Research, Director of the Center of Neurodegenerative Disease Research, University of Pennsylvania
Sponsors: Biochemistry & Molecular Biology Program, Health Professions Program, ASBMB student chapter, Future Health Professionals

BRAIN AWARENESS WEEK (OCTOBER 28-30)

OCTOBER 29 at 4:15-5:15 PM. on TEAMS
WHY BRAINS CRAVE BEAUTY: LEARNING THE ARTS AND CREATIVITY
Gabrielle Starr, Ph.D. President, Pomona College
Sponsors: Philosophy, Art, English, Music, and Theater Departments

OCTOBER 30 at 4:15-5:15 PM. in TABLE ROOM
ANNUAL MIND AND SOCIETY DIALOGUE LECTURE
TRANSLATING NEUROBIOLOGICAL INSIGHTS INTO HOW TO AID CHILDREN'S EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONS: HOW MONTESSORI HAD MUCH OF THIS RIGHT
Dr. Adele Diamond, Ph.D. Canada Research Chair Tier 1 Professor of Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience, University of British Columbia
Sponsors: The Forest Bluff School, Education and Psychology Departments, and Psi Chi



JANUARY 30 at 4:15-5:15 PM. in LILLARD 044
SEROTONIN: THE HAPPY BRAIN CHEMICAL THAT MAKES YOU FEEL GOOD
Dr. Gonzalo Torres, Ph.D. Professor and Chair of Department of Molecular Pharmacology and Neuroscience, Loyola University Chicago Stritch School of Medicine
Sponsors: Psychology Department, Health Professions Program, Biochemistry & Molecular Biology Program, Future Health Professionals, ASBMB Chapter, and Psi Chi

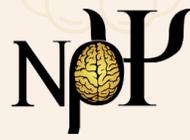
MARCH 18 at 4:15-5:15 PM. on TEAMS
TRANSLATIONAL NONHUMAN PRIMATE MODELS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF PERSONALIZED MEDICINE APPROACHES TO COCAINE USE DISORDER
Dr. Michael Nader, Ph.D. Professor of Translational Neuroscience and Radiology and Director of the Center for Addiction Research, Wake Forest University School of Medicine
Sponsors: Biology and Psychology Departments, Tibetsa, Psi Chi

APRIL 26 at 5:00-6:00 PM. in McORMICK AUDITORIUM
2025 ANNUAL NU RHO PSI INDUCTION LECTURE
BRAIN CIRCUITS FOR ACTION CONTROL
Dr. EunJung Hwang, Ph.D. Assistant Professor of Cell Biology and Anatomy, Rosalind Franklin University

APRIL 26 at 5:00-6:00 PM. in McORMICK AUDITORIUM
2025 ANNUAL NU RHO PSI INDUCTION LECTURE
BRAIN CIRCUITS FOR ACTION CONTROL
Dr. EunJung Hwang, Ph.D. Assistant Professor of Cell Biology and Anatomy, Rosalind Franklin University

For more information and Teams invitations, contact Professor Shubhik DebBurman
debburman@lakeforest.edu • 847-735-6040

Congratulations
'24-'25



Award Recipients



Nikhila Juluri

Case Western Reserve University
2024 Dr. Switzer Scholarship Recipient



Sofia Fraile

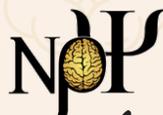
Florida International University
2024-2025 Outstanding Student
Member of the Year



Dr. Sarah Clark

Georgia State University
2024-2025 Outstanding Faculty
Member of the Year

'24-'25



Congratulations **Sofia Fraile**

Florida International University

Outstanding Student Member of the Year

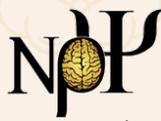
“Serving as Vice President and later President of the Delta of Florida chapter of Nu Rho Psi was one of the most rewarding parts of my undergraduate experience. Leading a record-breaking semester of 18 events, I worked with an incredible Executive Board to offer members diverse opportunities—ranging from neuroscience outreach at local elementary schools to a career spotlight talk with a medical research scientist and an interactive tour of a high-tech medical simulation center. Each event was intended to help members connect, learn, and grow both academically and professionally.

During my term, I also led the launch of several chapter-first initiatives: a Mentorship Program that pairs upperclassmen with underclassmen for goal-oriented skill building and academic/professional guidance; a points-based engagement system to fuel active participation; and vast recruitment efforts through strategic use of social media and participation at institutional events. Additionally, I collaborated with faculty to begin a tradition of awarding certificates to outstanding members by honoring contributions such as “Most Active Member” an “Exceptional Mentorship”. Lastly, I developed an interactive Notion website to centralize resources, announcements, and research opportunities—ensuring the chapter remains dynamic and accessible for future members. Nu Rho Psi shaped not only my passion for neuroscience but also my commitment to building strong, supportive academic communities.

I am deeply grateful for the mentorship, collaboration, and friendships I found through this organization. This Fall, I begin a Ph.D. in Cognitive Neuroscience, carrying forward the leadership, organizational, and outreach skills I developed as part of Nu Rho Psi.”



'24-'25



Congratulations

Nikhila Juluri

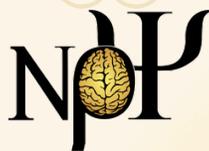
**Case Western Reserve University
Dr. Switzer Scholarship Recipient**

“When I first had the opportunity to co-found the Nu Rho Psi chapter at Case Western Reserve University, I never imagined how transformative the experience would become. Serving as co-president has been one of the most rewarding aspects of my college journey, allowing me to bridge my passion for neuroscience with meaningful community engagement. From organizing our memorable induction ceremonies to coordinating events that brought our campus together, every moment has reinforced why Nu Rho Psi's mission resonates so deeply with me. Some of our most impactful initiatives have stayed with me long after they concluded. I'll never forget the joy we felt making blankets for children and donating them to our local hospital. It was incredible to see how our love for brain science could translate into tangible care for our community. Our "digital detox" event, where participants traded their phones for two hours of arts and crafts while we explored the relationship between social media and brain function, sparked fascinating conversations about technology's impact on our minds.

Perhaps most exciting has been our work launching *Vagus*, our school's neuroscience journal, which has given students a platform to share their research and discoveries. Through Nu Rho Psi, I've been able to connect with professors and fellow students who share my enthusiasm for understanding the brain, creating a network that has enriched both my academic pursuits and my sense of belonging on campus. This organization has truly shown me how pursuing our scientific passions can build community and make a difference.”



★ '24-'25



Congratulations

Undergraduate Research Grant Recipients

**Razeen
Thammachack**
Ohio State University

Sebastian Gacek
Lake Forest College

Shrinidhi Kittur
University of Virginia

Sofia Fazazi
College of Wooster

Harish R. Koyya
Georgia State
University

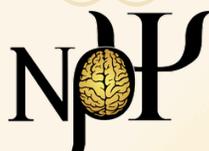
Nilufar Imomdodova
Lake Forest College

Katherine S. Watson
Christopher Newport
University

★
Alex Jakubiec
Wayne State
University

★
G. Andrew Mickley Recipient

★ '25-'26



Congratulations

Undergraduate Research Grant Recipients

Kate Feist
Lake Forest College

Samuel Madison
University of St.
Thomas - Minnesota

Ashlyn Duffee
DePaul University

Julia Renz
University of
Colorado - Boulder

Isabella Phillips
Mercer University

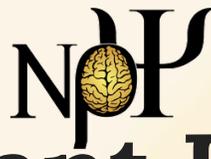
Abbey O'Brien
University of St.
Thomas

Trinity Murray
North Central
College

★
Angela Liu
University of North
Carolina - Chapel Hill

★
G. Andrew Mickley Recipient

Congratulations



Travel Grant Recipients

2024 SfN in Chicago



Christopher Turner
University of Virginia

Alexandar Trendov
Wayne State University

**Sara Gregory
Guedez Suarez**
Georgia State University

Avalon Marker
Weber State University

Yuhan Sun
University of California
Los Angeles

2025 SfN in San Diego



Chiara Blake
Northeastern University

Benjamin Pethe
Tulane University

Valentina Roldan
Florida International
University

**Shanamon
Chandavimol**
Lake Forest College

Sarah Goerold
Colorado State
University

Anna Drillen
Emmanuel University

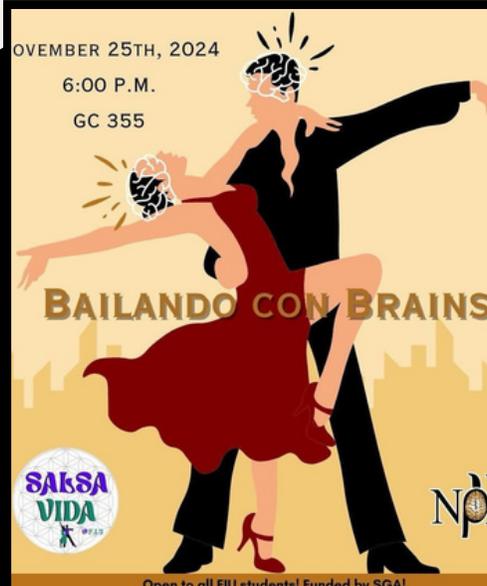
Sofia Nelson
Fairfield College

ACADEMIC EVENTS

Meeting professors, collaborating with campus clubs, gaining technical skills and learning about potential post-graduation paths



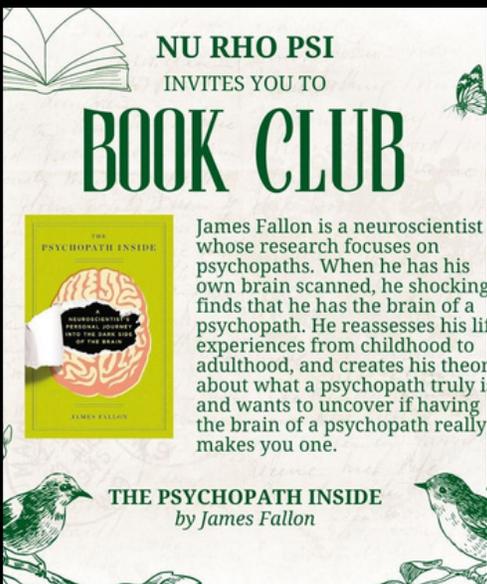
BRAIN DISSECTION & PIZZA
Bradley University



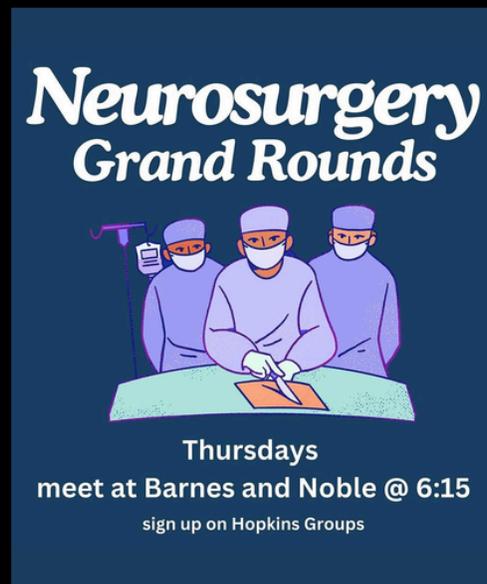
BAILANDO CON BRAINS
Florida International University



DINNER WITH A PROFESSOR
University of Virginia



BOOK CLUB: THE PSYCHOPATH INSIDE
Temple University



NEUROSURGERY GRAND ROUNDS
Johns Hopkins University



RESEARCH WORKSHOP
University of Texas - Austin

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT EVENTS

Preparing our members for conferences, internships, interviews, jobs, and learning more about post-graduation paths.

Nu Rho Psi: Neuroscience Honors Society

RESUME WORKSHOP

19TH NOV 2024
6:30-7:30 at BPS1236

Elevate your resume at our upcoming workshop and learn how to be prepared for your next application!

BPS1236

RESUME WORKSHOP
University of Maryland

NRP
Nu Rho Psi at UCI

Clinical Case Study

[stAdi] verb

An in-depth analysis of a patient's medical condition, treatment, and outcome

CLINICAL CASE STUDY
University of California - Irvine

NRP

how to make a poster!

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10TH
5PM - 6PM @ CHEM 218

We will have Jordan Pilch from KEYS presenting on how to make a poster and presenting skills! Join us to learn some important info, especially those who are interested in research!

HOW TO MAKE A POSTER
University of Arizona

SUMMER RESEARCH INTERNSHIP PANEL

PANELISTS

- REZA KAZEMI
MIT SUMMER RESEARCH INTERNSHIP BIOLOGY (MSRP-BIO)
- DANIELA ALVARADO
HARVARD-AMGEN SCHOLARS PROGRAM
- SOFIA AGUDELO
MIT SUMMER RESEARCH INTERNSHIP BIOLOGY (MSRP-BIO)
- NAYERIC CAIRO
YALE BIOMED AMGEN SCHOLARS PROGRAM
- VANESA SMIELAK
JOHNS HOPKINS BASIC SCIENCE INSTITUTE SUMMER RESEARCH INTERNSHIP (BSRI-SRP)

SUMMER RESEARCH INTERNSHIP PANEL
Florida International University

Pre-Professional Panel

Join us to hear from students and professionals in medical school, research, and graduate programs.

11.6.2024

PRE-PROFESSIONAL PANEL
Temple University

The Neuroscience Club & Nu Ro Psi host

GRAD STUDENT PANEL

Brian Castelluccio
Graduated in 2018 from a clinical psychology PhD program (neuropsychology concentration)

Elizabeth S. Grosnich
Clinical psychologist, affiliated with Mandel Center for MS at Mount Sinai Rehabilitation, holds faculty positions at Quinnipiac University and UConn School of Medicine

Emily Wertheimer
Current neuroscience PhD student and works in Levy and Brennand Labs at Yale

Tracey Suter
Neuroscientist at a NewCo within Third Rock Ventures after graduating from Brown University in 2019

Nick Crotty
Masters in neuroscience student at Trinity College

Rittenberg Lounge 12-1:30pm
Wednesday, November 8th

GRAD STUDENT PANEL
Trinity College

COMMUNITY SERVICE EVENTS

Forming relationships in the community and working on causes close to us



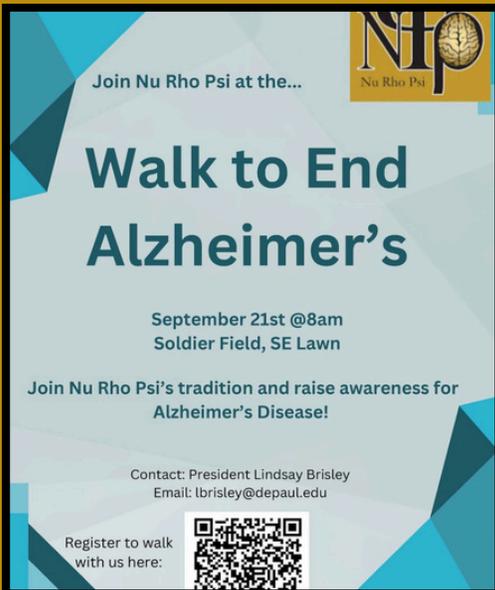
BLANKETS OF LOVE
Johns Hopkins University



CARD MAKING EVENT
Virginia Polytechnical Institute



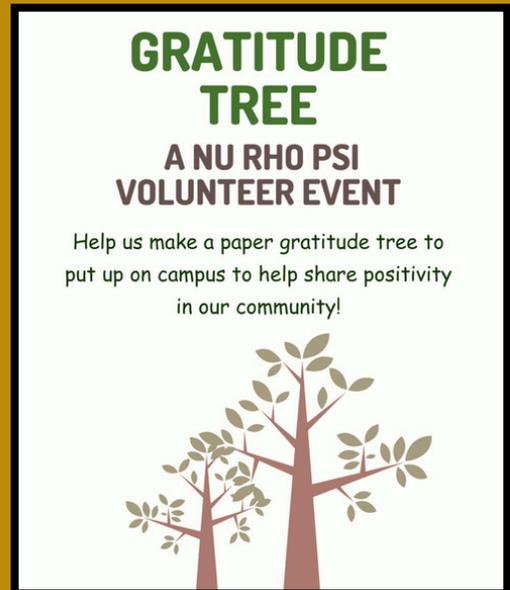
WALK FOR ALS
Belmont University



WALK TO END ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE
DePaul University



DETROIT BRAIN DAY
Wayne State University



GRATITUDE TREE
University of Colorado

SOCIAL EVENTS

Bringing the members of the chapter closer together through fun events!



WAFFLES & JEOPARDY
Northeastern University



ICE CREAM SOCIAL
University of Kansas



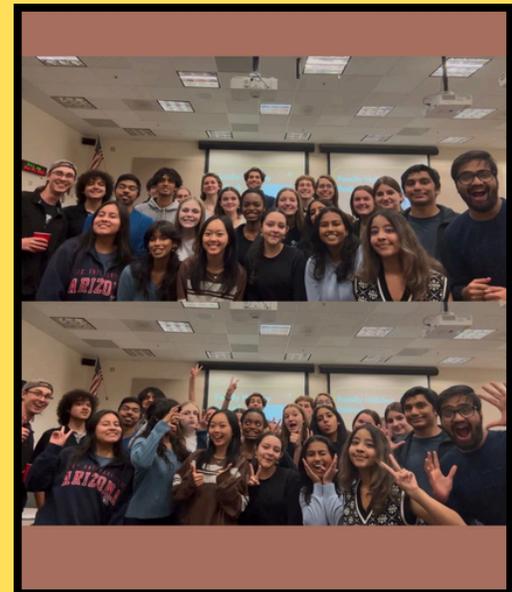
HALLOWEEN COOKIE
DECORATING
University of California - LA



GAME NIGHT
Ohio State University



HOT CHOCOLATE &
PAINT BAR
Pioneer Valley



HOLIDAY POTLUCK
University of Arizona

MORE EVENTS FROM OUR CHAPTERS



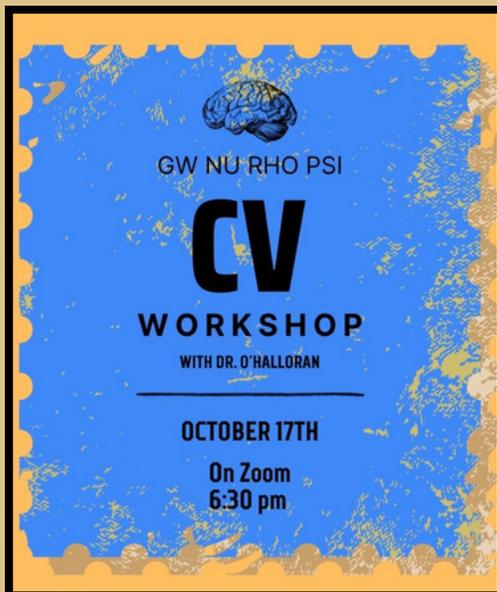
FIDGET TOY DRIVE
Georgia State University



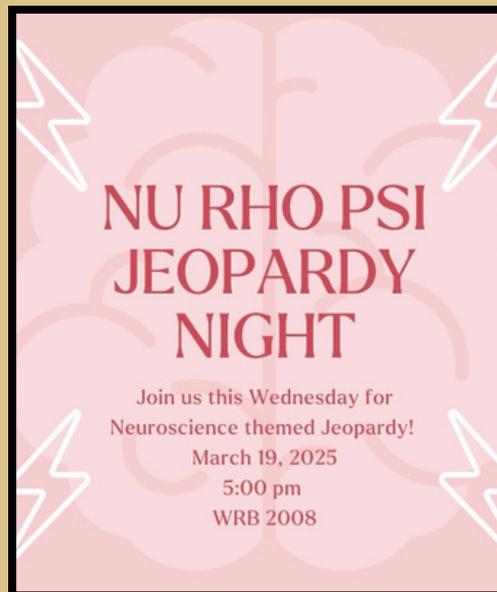
BRAIN DISSECTION
Miami University



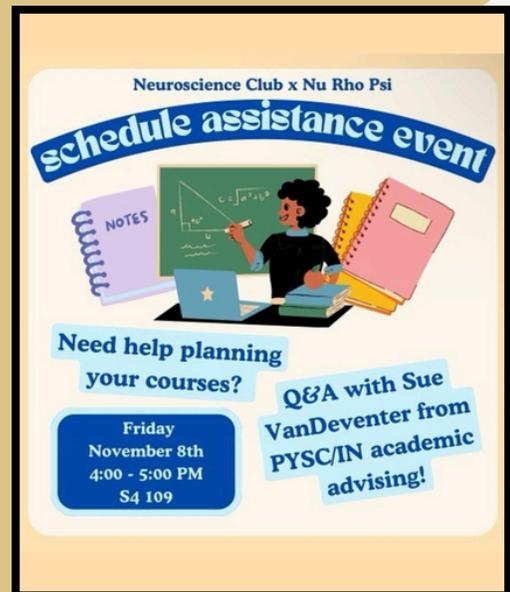
MENTORSHIP MIXER
University of Miami



CV WORKSHOP
George Washington University

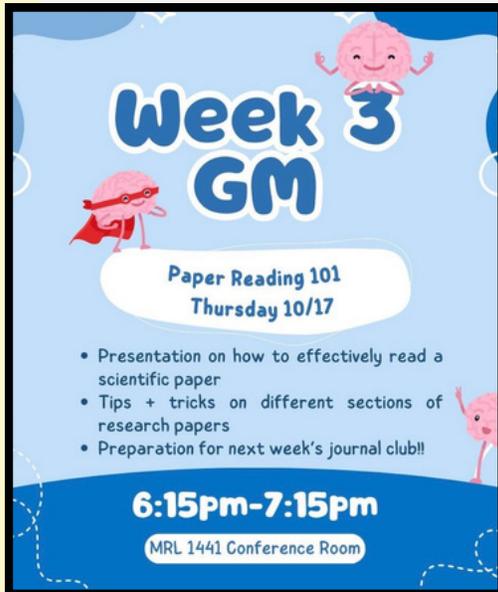


JEOPARDY NIGHT
University of Nevada - Reno



SCHEDULE ASSISTANCE EVENT
Binghamton University

MORE EVENTS FROM OUR CHAPTERS



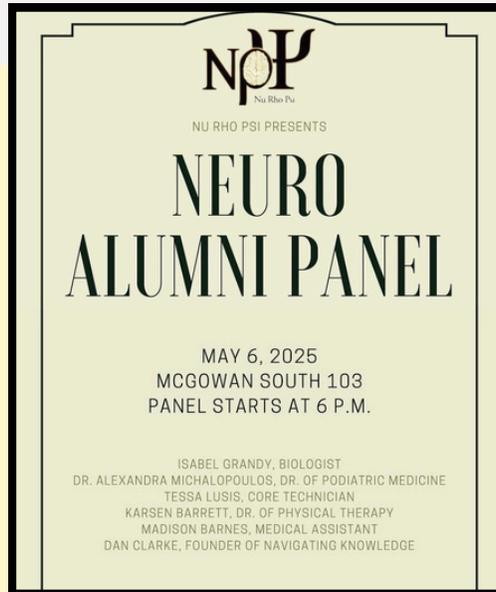
Week 3 GM

Paper Reading 101
Thursday 10/17

- Presentation on how to effectively read a scientific paper
- Tips + tricks on different sections of research papers
- Preparation for next week's journal club!

6:15pm-7:15pm
MRL 1441 Conference Room

PAPER READING 101
University of California - Los Angeles



NOΨ
Nu Rho Psi

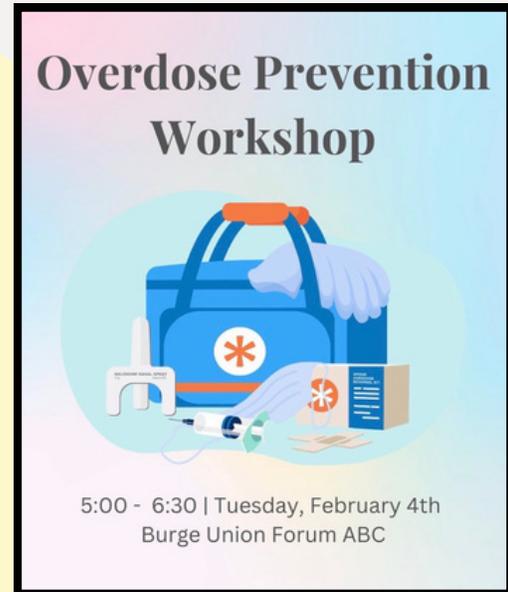
NU RHO PSI PRESENTS

NEURO ALUMNI PANEL

MAY 6, 2025
MCGOWAN SOUTH 103
PANEL STARTS AT 6 P.M.

ISABEL GRANDY, BIOLOGIST
DR. ALEXANDRA MICHALOPOULOS, DR. OF PODIATRIC MEDICINE
TESSA LUSIS, CORE TECHNICIAN
KARSEN BARRETT, DR. OF PHYSICAL THERAPY
MADISON BARNES, MEDICAL ASSISTANT
DAN CLARKE, FOUNDER OF NAVIGATING KNOWLEDGE

NEURO ALUMNI PANEL
DePaul University



Overdose Prevention Workshop



5:00 - 6:30 | Tuesday, February 4th
Burge Union Forum ABC

OVERDOSE PREVENTION WORKSHOP
University of Kansas



NOΨ
Nu Rho Psi

Nu Rho Psi Post-Graduate Panel

November 6th | 6 pm | Room to be announced



We are planning a Post-Graduate Opportunities Panel for members to learn more about different career paths after UMass!

Scan the QR code so we can get your input on what information you would like to hear from this event!

*Must be logged into umass.edu email

POST-GRADUATE PANEL
Pioneer Valley Consortium



GRAD PANEL **NOΨ** **WAYNE STATE**
School of Medicine

APRIL 18TH, 4-5 PM VIA ZOOM

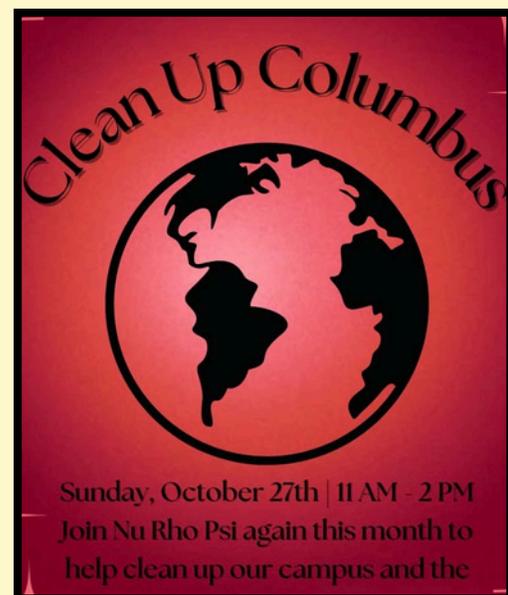
Interested in grad school or applying to WSU's Translational Neuroscience Program (TNP)? Join us for an online panel with 4 TNP grad students!

RSVP Here! 

 TAYLOR TAKLA PhD Candidate 4th year Taylor's research is focused on neuroimaging & neurorehabilitation in people with multiple sclerosis.	 JILLIAN EICHSTAEDT PhD Candidate 4th year Jillian's research is focused on understanding how behavior, neurochemistry, & brain network interactions can help us understand difficulties in maintaining weight loss in obesity treatment.	 LEXI SOLTESZ PhD Student 1st year Lexi works with Dr. Gino Panza to study autonomic dysfunction in people with spinal cord injury & examines the effects of mild intermittent hypoxia.
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SAMANTHA ELY PhD Candidate-3rd year

GRAD PANEL
Wayne State University



Clean Up Columbus



Sunday, October 27th | 11 AM - 2 PM
Join Nu Rho Psi again this month to help clean up our campus and the

CLEAN UP COLUMBUS
Ohio State University



Letter from the National Communications Director



Hi Nu Rho Psientists! It is with a heartfelt thank you to the National Council for offering me the opportunity to serve as National Communications Director for a 2025-2028 term.

In 2024, Nu Rho Psi piloted the initial year of Regional Media Directors. The idea for a Media Team came from a series of conversations between the Council, initiated by **Noor Alesawy** (Wayne State University chapter founder; National Secretary, '21-'23) and **Dr. Mike Kerchner**. In our inaugural year, I was joined by **Maya Holman** (DePaul University γ -IL, 2024-present), **Lauren Chris** (Florida State University β -FL, 2024 - present), **Adrianna Kallabat** (University of Michigan, Summer & Fall 2024), and **Aurianna Moore** (Carlow University, Summer 2024). All 4 members contributed important creativity and perspective that shaped the initial year. During this time, we had our pilot season of ***Conversations with Neuroscientists*** on Instagram & YouTube, released guides on *Tips to Conferences & Presenting Research* and *Neuroscience of Gratitude*, and were able to connect with all of you!

As we enter the academic year, I'm overjoyed to welcome back Maya and Lauren, who continue to motivate and inspire me to be a more creative, dedicated, curious, and overall better director, leader, and person. We have created an updated Media & Feature Policy (page 12) to streamline the process of featuring you and your chapter and an Annual Theme & National Meeting tab on our website, with guidance, resources, and information about organizing your event!

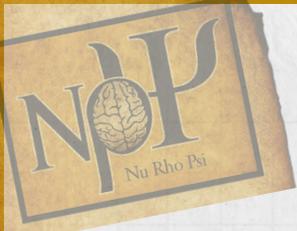
We hope you enjoyed the rest of the newsletter, and our Neuropolitics Guide! This Spring semester, look forward to the release of Season 2 of ***Conversations with Neuroscientists*** on your favorite podcast platform and our live taping events of the podcast! The executive council and media teams have so much more we're working on and eager to share with you. Be sure to stay up to date with us, and always reach out with any ideas, questions, or events! My favorite thing is hearing from YOU! Warmest wishes and utmost curiosity in this new academic year,

Tara Ellis-Vaughn

(they/them)

NuRhoPsiMedia@gmail.com





Meet your Media Fellows

Maya Holman, B.S.



she/her



Post-baccalaureate ophthalmology researcher at Wash U in St. Louis

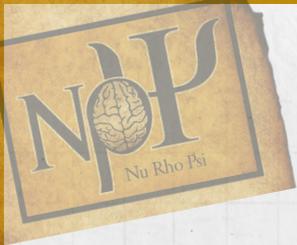
Undergraduate institution:
DePaul University (2020-2024)

Nu Rho Psi Leadership Roles:
President at DePaul,
Nu Rho Psi Fellow

Have you visited our YouTube? You'll recognize Maya, if so! (If you haven't checked it out yet, you really should.) Between her full time job, volunteering, developing resources at Wash U and in the St. Louis community, she's consistently generating & developing incredible new ideas and is deeply passionate about providing numerous perspectives, opportunities, knowledge, and resources to the Nu Rho Psi community. And she's an MD/MBA applicant!

During her time as a Fellow, she is the brain behind our Gratitude Guide last Fall (+ some to-be-released materials!), as well as the spectacular host of our Conversations with Neuroscientists podcast! Some of the neuroscientists she's interviewed include Dr. Tessa Solomon-Lane, a behavioral neuroscientist, and Famesh Patel, current MD student and former President of the University of Arizona chapter! You can learn more about Maya in our Outstanding Members Through the Years Panel, where she was a panelist joined by several Nu Rho Psi members at different post-graduation phases of their careers.





Meet your Media Fellows

Lauren Chris, B.S.



she/her



PharmD student at University of Florida - Jacksonville

Undergraduate institution:
Florida State University
(2020-2024)

Nu Rho Psi Leadership Roles:
Public Relations Chair,
Nu Rho Psi Fellow



Since you're reading this newsletter, you're already familiar with some of Lauren's work as a Fellow! She also brought to you Conversations with Neuroscientists features on Dinara Smith from Florida State University, who researched mathematics learning, and Dr. Robin Li, a pain management clinic founder and professor in the department of pharmacy.

Did you know we raffled off 5 copies of Dr. Liya Yu's book Vulnerable Minds at our Annual Meeting? That's part of Lauren's doing, too! She works diligently behind the scenes on a number of engagement projects that will be shared over the next several years, and is enthusiastic about spotlighting the heart of our organization: you and your chapters. Lauren is a 2nd year PharmD student who is incredibly active in her program, and has a unique perspective on utilizing her neuroscience degree to pursue a career in Pharmacy. She is passionate about sharing with others another potential path after graduation, and you can learn more about her in this semester's Outstanding Members Through the Years panel!

Letters from the '24- '25 **PRESIDENTS**

*President-Elect, Dr. Leila Allen
Florida International University
(she/her)*



Hello fellow Nu Rho Psientists!

Welcome to a new academic year. I am Leila Allen, the faculty advisor for Nu Rho Psi and Founding Director of our Bachelor's of Science in Behavioral Neuroscience at Florida International University (FIU) in Miami. I will be stepping into the President position this fall and would like to sincerely thank Thomas Fischer (Past-President) and Beth Ann Rice (current President) for all the guidance and support they have given. Their initiatives have helped make Nu Rho Psi members become more connected, informed, included, and have streamlined the eligibility guidelines so more neuroscience students can become involved sooner. Our redesigned website (www.nurhopsi.org) makes it simpler for members to connect with one another, keep abreast of meeting dates and award deadlines, access to updated bylaws, and especially to simplify the process for new chapters to be formed.

Social media has made it possible for chapters to highlight events and share ideas, and our National Marketing Director, Tara Ellis-Vaughn, has done an incredible job promoting our Nu Rho Psi chapters and members on our Instagram ([@nurhopsi](https://www.instagram.com/nurhopsi)) and website. Please continue sharing your amazing posts and ideas.

Going forward, I plan to focus on incentives for members, especially through promotion and enhancement of grants and awards offered. We have just rolled out a new Undergraduate Emergent Research Hardship grant, which will be reviewed and awarded on an ongoing basis to support members who have had disruptions in their funding. I look forward to hearing your ideas to support our chapters and welcome feedback anytime (president@nurhopsi.org).

We have a lot of exciting things coming up – it's never been a better time to be a part of Nu Rho Psi! Thank you for making Nu Rho Psi a wonderful community for burgeoning neuroscientists and I hope you have a great semester!

*If you missed this semester's Advisor meeting, please reach out to
president@NuRhoPsi.org for the recording and slides*

Prof. Leila Allen

President@NuRhoPsi.org

Letters from the '24- '25 **PRESIDENTS**

*President, Dr. Beth Ann Rice
Slippery Rock University
(she/her)*



On behalf of the entire Nu Rho Psi community, I would like to extend a warm welcome to our newest members. We are thrilled to have you join our ranks and look forward to your active participation.

One of my priorities as President has been to simplify and clarify the process of starting and maintaining a chapter. With the support of our talented Communications Director, Tara Ellis-Vaughn, we've been working diligently to update our chapter guidelines and create user-friendly materials that will make these processes more efficient and accessible. These resources will be available soon on our newly redesigned website, and we hope they serve as a valuable tool for both new and established chapters.

After speaking with many of our chapter advisors at the recent advisor meeting, it became clear that there was a strong need for clearer membership guidelines. We took this feedback to heart and worked with the National Council to revise and streamline the requirements. These updates are designed to uphold the high standards of our honorary society while also making it easier to engage promising students earlier in their academic journey. The updated membership guidelines are available on our website in advance of the National Meeting (<https://nurhoppsi.org/chapters/joining-nu-rho-psi/>).

We've now uploaded Dr. Liya Yu's recorded keynote address on Neuropolitics to our YouTube! (<https://tinyurl.com/NRPKeynote25>)

Thank you for your continued dedication to the mission of Nu Rho Psi.

Prof. Beth Ann Rice
President@NuRhoPsi.org

Letters from the '24- '25 **PRESIDENTS**

*Past President, Dr. Tom Fischer
Wayne State University
(he/him)*



Greetings fellow Nu Rho Psi members!

As I near the end of my time on council, I've been reflecting in gratitude for all of the wonderful people I've encountered on my 3-year journey. From the many student members I've met to my fellow council members that I have worked with, I've come to greatly appreciate the time and effort all devote to the success of Nu Rho Psi. I would especially like to thank our outgoing Executive Director, Dr. Michael Kerchner. Mike has been an integral part of the growth and development of Nu Rho Psi in his 10 years of service, and we all owe him our gratitude. And a special shout-out to his wife, Jeani, who works behind the scenes in the "home office" to keep things running smoothly. Chances are many of you have been fortunate to interact with Jeani! Wishing them the very best in their retirement.

As a chapter advisor at Wayne State University, I've come to know both the ups and downs that come with running a chapter. Our members have organized some wonderful activities, but like most chapters we experience challenges in keeping things moving forward. One of my goals of my time on council was to help put members from across the country in touch with each other so that our collective experiences can be shared to help each other. We now have a yearly "Student Summit" of chapter leaders held each fall where representatives from across the country discuss both their successes and challenges. One of the outcomes was the creation of a group chat for student leaders on the platform "GroupMe". This is a place where you can ask questions and share your activities with your fellow student leaders. For information on joining the message board, reach out to our awesome media director, Tara, at nurhopsimedia@gmail.com.

Thank you all for letting me be part of your journey for the past 3 years. Wishing all much success this coming year and all that follow!

Prof. Tom Fischer
President@NuRhoPsi.org



Letter From Executive Director

DR. BOB CALIN-JAGEMAN

DOMINICAN UNIVERSITY

(HE/HIM)



708.524.6581



national_office@NuRhoPsi.org

I'm honored and excited to be named the next executive director for Nu Rho Psi. Our founding director, Andy Mickley, and current director, Mike Kerchner, have worked tirelessly and successfully to develop Nu Rho Psi into a premier honors society. They helped develop the infrastructure and processes needed for Nu Rho Psi to thrive, helped initiate and nurture the outstanding scholarship and travel award programs, and oversaw explosive growth in chapters and membership. It is overwhelming but extremely exciting to take the helm of such a storied and successful organization.

I'm excited in part because Nu Rho Psi has meant so much to me and to my students over my 18 years teaching and directing an undergraduate neuroscience major. I helped found my university's chapter in 2010, just as our first class of neuroscience majors was nearing graduation. Since then, I've helped induct numerous members, seeing the way that Nu Rho Psi helps build confidence and community for neuroscience majors. Several of my mentees have earned Nu Rho Psi travel awards, and I've been able to witness first-hand the transformative impact of this program. In addition to leading my university's Nu Rho Psi chapter, I have long been involved with the administration of the organization, serving as "webmaster" from 2008 to 2020. It seems like ancient history now, but I helped build Nu Rho Psi's first online member portal, and then in 2019 helped Nu Rho Psi transition to a 2nd-generation system, the one currently still in use (getting us updated to a 3rd generation system is one of my goals for 2026; stay tuned!)

These are challenging times for neuroscientists. So there is perhaps no more important time for Nu Rho Psi to embody its founding goals, which include not only recognizing student excellence but also "encouraging intellectual and social interaction" among neuroscientists, "increasing public awareness of neuroscience and its benefits for... society" and "encouraging service to the community". In other words, Nu Rho Psi is much more than just your honors cord and pin – it has been and will continue to be centered on community, public outreach, and service. I thank all those over the years who have welcomed and supported me in the Nu Rho Psi community, and I look forward to helping to channel all your energies into continuing the great mission of this wonderful honors society.

Sincerely

Bob Calin-Jageman





Letter From Outgoing Executive Director

DR. MICHAEL KERCHNER

WASHINGTON COLLEGE

(HE/HIM)

In 2005 through 2007 I served as the President-elect, President and Past President of the Faculty for Undergraduate Neuroscience (FUN). Among the achievements that occurred during this service was establishing Nu Rho Psi-The National Honor Society in Neuroscience. The first chapter to apply and receive a charter was Baldwin Wallace University. I had the honor of signing the Chapter Certificate and approval letter for the very first Chapter of NRP.

The first Executive Director for NRP was Dr. Andrew Mickley, also from Baldwin Wallace University. Andy led the charge and from 2006- 2016, establishing 70 new chapters and inducting 3773 lifetime members of NRP. And, in 2016 I was proud and honored to be selected as the 2nd Executive Director of NRP.

Since 2016, our organization has grown to **126 chapters and over 14,000 lifetime members**. NRP now has current Chapter Advisors who were inducted into NRP as undergraduates. Growth and involvement that is a true testament to the support for and belief in the true purpose, mission and goals of our academic honor society. Since 2016, we have increased the number of undergraduate research grants from 2 per year to now 8, and expect that number to increase even more in the next few years. We now provide financial support for regional student neuroscience conferences (Neuron, MidBrains, etc.), chapter activity grants, and provide travel grants for student presenters to attend the annual SfN meeting each year. We have also established The Dr. Robert C Switzer, III Scholarship, an annual \$2,000 tuition scholarship funded by NeuroScience Associates/NSA Labs.

As I reflect on the last 9 years that I have served as Executive Director, I know that none of this success would have been possible if not for the time, energy, and support from an amazing and dedicated Council. I have very fond memories of the relationships that I have had with these talented and diligent council members. However, what I enjoyed most was meeting the student members who were awarded travel grants to attend the annual SfN conferences, and the many letters and notes from members who wrote to share the importance their membership made in their acceptance into graduate and professional schools. Learning of their accomplishments and knowing NRP played a role in their success is what added to my pride in representing NRP as the Executive Director.

Now is the time for me to step aside and finally make more time for myself, my wife and our families. I will stay connected to NRP. But my hope is to play more golf, return to Maine and the Maritimes to hike, climb and kayak with my wife.

Sincerely,

Dr. Michael Kerchner



THANK YOU MIKE!!!!!!

