



Welcome Neuroscience Majors! This promises to be an exciting year on the UM campus and in the Neuroscience program, as well. We are happy to announce that the Neuroscience Colloquium series will be offered again this year. In this series, famous neuroscientists from around the world are invited to come to UM to present their research. Often, these researchers spend one morning discussing their research with undergraduates on the Coral Gables Campus. Later in the day, they make a major presentation at the Medical School; a reception in their honor follows the presentation. All Neuroscience majors are invited to attend. You will be notified about these seminars by email and in upcoming newsletters. Please try to attend as these presentations are an excellent way to learn more about the field and to meet important scientists who work in the area.

I would also like to encourage all of you to get involved in Neuroscience research by volunteering to work in one of the 78 labs around the University. This is an important part of your experience here at UM, and a "hands on" way to learn about Neuroscience. This is also an excellent way to get strong letters of recommendation for graduate/medical school, and if you are fortunate, you might get your name on a research article published in a major journal! If you are interested, call or email me to set up an appointment, and I will contact Neuroscience faculty on your behalf to set up a research experience.

Next semester we are offering several Neuroscience courses for majors including, BIL 268 (Neurobiology), PSY 202 (Introduction to Psychobiology), BIL 468 (Developmental Biology), PSY 402 (Psychobiology), and BIL/PSY 403 (Neuroscience Laboratory). Be sure to make an appointment with Dr. Noriega for advising for Spring registration. Appointments will be available at www.psy.miami.edu in mid-October. Dr. Noriega will assist you with Spring registration as well as to ensure you are on track to meet graduation requirements.

I look forward to meeting you and helping you progress with your Neuroscience major. Have a great year!

Dr. Philip McCabe
 Director, Undergraduate Neuroscience Program
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SUMMER RESEARCH

Last summer, Richard Rammo, a senior majoring in Neuroscience (Neurobiology track), spent the month of July conducting research on stroke and its endovascular treatment at the Tufts-New England Medical Center. He helped compile a database of medical scans and angiograms for subsequent analysis using an imaging software platform. Richard learned about neuroradiology and neurosurgery by observing interventional neuroradiological and neurosurgical procedures, such as angioplasty, aneurysm clippings, and coil embolization. After the internship, he returned to Miami to resume investigations for his senior honors thesis in spinal cord injury with John Bethea, Ph.D. According to Richard, most of the damage in spinal cord injury results from programmed cell death (apoptosis) in the area surrounding the injury site through a process that may involve inflammation. His research centered on using anti-inflammatory models, such as NF- κ B knockout mice, in the hope of finding ways to reduce the degree of damage following spinal cord injury. He performed staining on spinal cord slices obtained from mice to determine the degree of axonal growth and cell death. The inflammatory model using NF- κ B knockouts is also applicable to Multiple Sclerosis, as it has been shown to reduce the progression of the disease.

Richard is currently working on his medical school applications. After finishing his MCATS last May, he is close to completing his primary applications and will work on secondaries and prepare for interviews this Fall. Due to an interest in medicine, he is volunteering at Miami Children's Hospital in the Neurology Department. Richard has said that his involvement in research and activities in his community was due largely to the FACT/FORUM program that helped him realize the opportunities at the University of Miami, Jackson Memorial, and Miami as a whole.

TUNS

The Undergraduate Neuroscience Society

The TUNS e-board:

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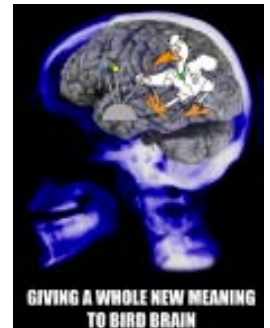
A Message from the President

The Undergraduate Neuroscience Society (TUNS) is a student-run organization for those intrigued by Neuroscience and Psychology related fields. Our goal is to enhance interest by providing members with a link to their peers and faculty. TUNS seeks to connect students to the research milieu and perhaps give them the opportunity to get involved in a project of their own.

We kicked off this semester on Tuesday, September 11th with our "Eat-Meet-and-Greet" party. New members and old members mingled over a slice of pizza as the executive board introduced themselves and made some exciting announcements about this upcoming year.

Thanks to Dr. McCabe and the Psychology Department everyone is able to enjoy a full year of FREE membership! This includes all lectures, events, and dinners. If you are interested in the TUNS t-shirt, you can purchase it at any meeting for \$2.00.

We have planned a variety of events which will appeal to both graduate school and medical school bound students. We offer a variety of lectures throughout the semester which highlight the crossover of medicine and research. At each of these lectures, students can sign up to give a short description of their own research. Our hope is that members get the chance to get to know each other's interests, as well as stimulate other students to get involved in research. If you would like to talk about your research at the next meeting, please send an email to tuns_um@yahoo.com.



In the spring semester, we will also host our annual Student-Faculty Dinner where we invite Neuroscience students and faculty to get to know each other on a personal level. In addition, we will participate in community sponsored events, such as the annual Multiple Sclerosis Walk, which raises money to fund research.

All majors are welcome to join and participate in TUNS. If you have any questions, please send an email to tuns_um@yahoo.com.

I hope to see you this semester!

Candace Haddox
President, TUNS

Upcoming Events

Wednesday, October 17 6:30pm Lecture, Location TBA

Tuesday, November 20 6:30pm Lecture by Dr. Steve Roper, Location TBA

Tour of Miami's Sleep Center; Time & Date TBA