
Alynda Wood | Curriculum Vitae

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Education

Emory University **Atlanta, GA**
Doctor of Philosophy, Biological and Biomedical Sciences - Neuroscience 2014–2021
Defended Oct. 19, 2021; degree to be conferred Dec. 2021

Hampshire College **Amherst, MA**
Bachelor of Arts, Neuroscience 2009–2012
Five College Cognitive Neuroscience Certificate

Research Positions

Postdoctoral Fellow **Emory University, Atlanta, GA**
Supervisor: Dr. Samuel Sober Nov. 1 2021 - present

Doctoral Student
Supervisor: Dr. Samuel Sober 2015 - 2021
Projects: Neurophysiology and neuroanatomy underlying vocal motor skill learning in the Bengalese finch.

Postbaccalaureate Fellow **National Institutes of Health (NINDS), Bethesda, MD**
Supervisor: Dr. Leonardo Belluscio 2012–2014
Projects: Mechanisms of development and plasticity in the mouse olfactory system.

Senior Thesis (“Division III”) Student **Hampshire College, Amherst, MA**
Supervisors: Dr. Charles Ross and Dr. Jane Couperus 2011–2012
Project: Molecular mechanisms of associative learning in *Caenorhabditis elegans*.

Summer Research Intern **University of Virginia, Charlottesville VA**
Supervisor: Dr. Brian Wiltgen June–Aug. 2011
Project: NMDA receptor-independent spatial learning; age-related learning deficits in a mouse model of Alzheimer’s disease.

Publications

[1] **A. N. Wood**, “New roles for dopamine in motor skill acquisition: Lessons from primates, rodents, and songbirds,” *J. Neurophysiol.*, May 2021.

- [2] K. S. Lehmann, **A. N. Wood**, D. Cummings, L. Bai, B. Stevens, and L. Belluscio, "Complement 3 signaling is necessary for the developmental refinement of olfactory bulb circuitry (preprint)," *bioRxiv*, biorxiv.org/content/10.1101/449454v1, Oct. 2018.
- [3] J. Fan, L. Jia, Y. Li, S. Ebrahim, H. May-Simera, **A. N. Wood**, R. J. Morell, P. Liu, J. Lei, B. Kachar, L. Belluscio, H. Qian, T. Li, W. Li, G. Wistow, and L. Dong, "Maturation arrest in early postnatal sensory receptors by deletion of the mir-183/96/182 cluster in mouse," *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U. S. A.*, vol. 114, no. 21, E4271–E4280, May 2017.
- [4] L. A. Hoffmann, V. Saravanan, **A. N. Wood**, L. He, and S. J. Sober, "Dopaminergic contributions to vocal learning," *J. Neurosci.*, vol. 36, no. 7, pp. 2176–2189, Feb. 2016.
- [5] B. J. Wiltgen, **A. N. Wood**, and B. Levy, "The cellular mechanisms of memory are modified by experience," *Learn. Mem.*, vol. 18, no. 12, pp. 747–750, Dec. 2011.

Conference Presentations

Alynda Wood, Raveena Chhibber, and Samuel Sober. *Sequence-dependent modulation of neural activity in the songbird basal ganglia*. Society for Neuroscience Annual Meeting (virtual). November 10, 2021 (planned).

Alynda Wood, Lukas Hoffmann, Varun Saravanan, Joyce Li, Amanda Jacob, and Samuel Sober. *Effects of dopamine depletion in the songbird basal ganglia*. Society for Neuroscience Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL, Oct. 20, 2019.

Alynda Wood, Lukas Hoffmann, Varun Saravanan, Amanda Jacob, Connor Gallimore, David Hercules, and Samuel Sober. *Dopaminergic contributions to vocal learning*. Gordon Research Conference: Basal Ganglia, Ventura, CA, Mar. 15, 2018 and Gordon Research Seminar: Basal Ganglia, Ventura, CA, Mar. 11, 2018. (Poster prize winner)

Alynda Wood, Amanda Jacob, Connor Gallimore, David Hercules, and Samuel Sober. *Catecholaminergic input to the Bengalese finch song system*. Society for Neuroscience Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C., November 12, 2017.

Alynda Wood and Samuel Sober. *Catecholaminergic projections to song system nuclei in Bengalese finch*. Society for Neuroscience Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL. Oct. 19, 2015

Alynda Wood, Diana Cummings, and Leonardo Belluscio. *Refinement of olfactory bulb circuitry requires complement cascade signaling*. Society for Neuroscience Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA. November 10, 2013.

Research Grants and Fellowships

National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship	2015–2019
Hampshire College Justine Salton Memorial Fund Student Research Grant	2011–2012
Hampshire College Ray and Lorna Coppinger Fund Student Research Grant	2011–2012
Hampshire College Culture, Brain, and Development Program Internship Grant	2011

Honors and Awards

AAAS Catalyzing Advocacy in Science and Engineering Fellow	2019
Emory Neuroscience Director's Award for Extraordinary Leadership	2018
Emory Neuroscience Outreach Award	2018
Emory Grad. Division of Biological & Biomedical Sciences Career Teaching Award	2018
Gordon Research Conference: Basal Ganglia Poster Prize	2018
ARCS Scholar Award	2017–2019
Emory University Division Scholar Award	2014–2019
Hampshire College Ingenuity Award for Student Leadership	2012
Who's Who Among Students in American Community Colleges	2009
Piedmont Virginia Community College President's List	2007 & 2009

Teaching and Outreach

Teaching

Co-Instructor <i>NBB 190 Freshman Seminar</i>	Emory University, Atlanta, GA <i>Spring 2022</i>
Topic: Motor learning and motor control. Planned for Spring 2022.	
Writing Mentor <i>Undergraduate Grant Writing Workshop</i>	Emory University, Atlanta, GA <i>Oct. 2016, 2017, 2018 & 2019</i>
Topic: Writing competitive applications for the National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship	
Guest Lecturer <i>IBS 706 Ethical Conduct in Research</i>	Emory University, Atlanta, GA <i>Mar. 23, 2018</i>
Topic: Discrimination and harassment in academia	
Guest Lecturer <i>NS 570R Professional Development</i>	Emory University, Atlanta, GA <i>Jan. 20, 2016 & Jan. 18, 2017</i>
Topic: Science outreach	
Guest Lecturer <i>HLTH 385 Motor Physiology</i>	Emory University, Atlanta, GA <i>Oct. 2 & 4, 2017</i>
Topic: Sensorimotor adaptation	
Guest Lecturer <i>CS 350 Analysis of Neural Data</i>	Hampshire College, Amherst, MA <i>Apr. 10, 2017</i>
Topic: Using songbirds to study motor control and motor learning	
Graduate Teaching Assistant <i>IBS 514: Cellular and Molecular Neuroscience</i>	Emory University, Atlanta, GA <i>Spring 2016</i>

Undergraduate Teaching Assistant
CS 148: Other Minds

Hampshire College, Amherst, MA
Fall 2010

Curriculum Development

Internship Mentor

Emory University, Atlanta, GA

Georgia Intern Fellowships for Teachers Program

Summer 2016

Hosted two local middle school teachers in the lab for a neuroscience research internship and collaboratively develop a week-long neuroscience module for 7th grade biology.

Course Development

Hampshire College, Amherst, MA

Supervisor: Dr. Laura Sizer

Jan. 2011

Re-designed *CS 148: Other Minds* using faculty and student feedback (independent study project).

PreK-12 Outreach Visits (selected)

Guest Instructor

North Paulding High School, Dallas, GA

11th & 12th Grade

Feb. 27, 2020

Topic: Using songbirds to understand the neural control of skill learning; careers in science

Guest Instructor

Level Creek Elementary School, Suwanee, GA

3rd Grade Class

Oct. 27, 2015; Oct. 11, 2016; Nov. 1, 2017, Oct. 17, 2018

Topic: Q&A about brains; touching brain specimens.

Guest Instructor

Atlanta Children's Shelter, Atlanta, GA

Summer Preschool Program

June 17, 2016; July 19, 2017

Topic: Hands-on activities including coloring brain headbands and touching brain specimens.

Talks and Panels

Research Presentations

Speaker (Invited)

Emory University, Atlanta, GA

Dopaminergic contributions to learning in songbirds

Feb. 22, 2020

Presented at the *American Parkinson's Disease Association Center for Advanced Research at Emory University Workshop*

Speaker

Emory University, Atlanta, GA

Neural mechanisms of bird song

Feb. 21, 2020

Presented at the *Frontiers in Neuroscience Seminar Series*

Speaker

Emory University, Atlanta, GA

Neural mechanisms of motor sequencing in songbirds

Jan. 28, 2020

Presented at the *Graduate Division of Biological and Biomedical Sciences Student Research Symposium*

Speaker (Invited)

Hampshire College, Amherst, MA

Neural mechanisms of skill learning

Apr. 1, 2017

Presented at *Neil Fest: Celebrating and Honoring Neil Stillings*

Navigating Graduate School

Discussion Group Leader (Invited) <i>Jones Program in Ethics: What Makes a Mentor</i>	Emory University, Atlanta, GA <i>Aug. 11, 2020</i>
Panelist (Invited) <i>Mythbusters: Graduate School Edition</i>	University of North Georgia, Oconee, GA <i>Feb. 20, 2019</i>
Panelist (Invited) <i>Jones Program in Ethics: Wisdom from Current Students</i>	Emory University, Atlanta, GA <i>Aug. 20, 2018</i>

Service

Peer Liaison <i>Graduates in Neuroscience</i>	Emory University, Atlanta, GA <i>2018-2019</i>
Student Representative <i>Atlanta Chapter of the Society for Neuroscience</i> Brain Awareness Co-Coordinator	Emory University, Atlanta, GA <i>2015-2018</i>
Volunteer Docent <i>Genome Exhibit</i>	Smithsonian Museum of Natural History, Washington, D.C. <i>2013-2014</i>
Seminar Series Co-Chair <i>Postbac Committee</i>	National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, MD <i>2013-2014</i>
Student Representative (appointed) <i>Educational Policy Committee</i>	Hampshire College, Amherst, MA <i>2011-2012</i>
Student Representative (elected) <i>Board of Trustees Academic Affairs Committee</i>	Hampshire College, Amherst, MA <i>2010-2011</i>
Student Group Organizer <i>Culture, Brain, and Development Program</i>	Hampshire College, Amherst, MA <i>2009-2011</i>

Professional Memberships

National Science Policy Network	<i>2020–present</i>
American Association for the Advancement of Science	<i>2014–present</i>
Society for Neuroscience	<i>2014–present</i>