



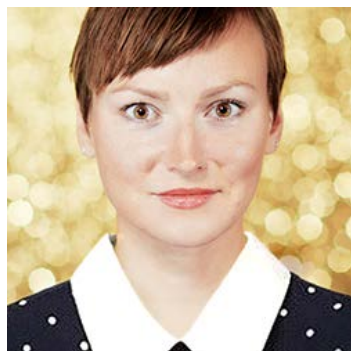
Pharmacology

2017 Annual Retreat

Networking Session

Alumni Bios

Katherine Cornish, PhD



Dr. Katherine Cornish received her PhD in Pharmacology in 2013. Her dissertation research focused on the development of new immunotherapies against nicotine as a way to prevent relapse in former nicotine users. Previously, she held a position with a local life science chemical supply company where she created new scientific marketing materials such as catalogs, flyers, and website content. Currently, she is employed with a contract research organization in St. Paul where she designs and manages pre-clinical studies for the regulatory submission of new medical devices and biologics. She has enjoyed the translational nature of her work both past and present and finds science policy and science communication fascinating. Outside of science she has been involved with North Star Roller Derby, a Minneapolis-based roller derby league, since 2010 and enjoys taking advantage of the warm weather by being outdoors whenever possible.

Brooke Kelley, PhD



Dr. Brooke Kelley earned his PhD from the Department of Pharmacology in 2003. As a student of Dr. Stan Thayer, Dr. Kelley studied the effects of cannabinoids on synaptic transmission, focusing on the interactions between endogenous and exogenous ligands and receptor desensitization. He then continued his training as a post-doctoral fellow at the University of Washington. Since 2011, Dr. Kelley has worked for Medtronic in Fridley. His primary role is to serve as a subject matter expert regarding the clinical evidence around neurostimulation therapies to treat chronic pain. Several functional areas of the company in which he plays a role include regulatory affairs, product development, evaluation of acquisitions, clinical strategy, and clinical evidence dissemination. During his time at Medtronic, Dr. Kelley has traveled regularly to meet with customers, collaborators, and regulatory authorities around the world to ensure patient access to new and existing therapies to treat extremely painful and disabling conditions.



Pharmacology

2017 Annual Retreat

Networking Session

Alumni Bios

Heather Meehan, PhD



Dr. Heather Meehan received her PhD in 2001 under the mentorship of Dr. Greg Connell. Her dissertation research focused on how intracellular iron integrated with key cellular processes, such as cell cycle progression. After graduating, Dr. Meehan worked as a research, then senior scientist for Gentra Systems. When Gentra was acquired by Qiagen in 2006, she advanced to a directorship in sales and marketing in the 5 Prime division of Qiagen. Later, Dr. Meehan entered her current positions as vice president of marketing for Custom by Qiagen and vice president of commercial operations for Quantabio, another Qiagen division. Dr. Meehan works actively as a scientific mentor, serving as the Qiagen sponsor for Young Women in Bio, Women in Science for high school students, and as an alumni mentor for the University of St. Thomas.

Tinna Ross, PhD



Dr. Tinna Ross completed her Pharmacology doctoral work in Dr. George Wilcox's lab. Her thesis examined the role of cytokines in the transmission of chronic pain. After graduating, she did a short post-doctoral fellowship at the NIH, then became a research associate at the Alzheimer's Research Center in Saint Paul, where she worked to examine the intranasal delivery of peptides to the brain. In 2003, Dr. Ross began to switch her career from research to teaching. She taught at various schools, including St. Catherine's and Century College, before becoming a full-time professor at North Hennepin Community College. At North Hennepin, she teaches anatomy and physiology and has been involved in several NSF and NIH grants that focus on educational research.