

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Science – Honours Psychology (Behavioural Neuroscience), Minor in Multidisciplinary Studies in Science

Concordia University; Montréal, Québec

January 2018 – June 2021 (expected)

Diploma of Collegial Studies (D.E.C.) – Health Sciences Program

Dawson College; Montréal, Québec

2015 - 2017

AWARDS & HONOURS

Concordia Undergraduate Student Research Award – Concordia University 2019 & 2020

- Awarded \$5,760 as an outstanding student to conduct an intensive research project

Hendricus Kuit Memorial Entrance Scholarship – Concordia University 2018, 2019, & 2020

- Awarded \$1,000 for academic excellence upon entry to university, renewed yearly on merit

Dean's List - Concordia University

2019

Graduation Honour – Dawson College

2018

SELECTED ACADEMIC RESEARCH

Tracking Epigenetic Mechanisms of Healthy and Unhealthy Eating Behaviours

Center for Clinical Research in Health – Concordia University

May 2020 – Present

- Examining the epigenetic link between eating disorders and specific nutrients, and validating a novel dietary record; supervised by Dr. Linda Booij and Dr. Valérie Marcil
- Leading a literature review, refining measures, crafting ethics applications, and recruiting participants from multiple hospital and community sites
- Conducting a systematic review on differential gene expression and nutrition in psychiatric illnesses

Hons. Thesis – How is Reward Intensity Encoded in the Rat Brain?

Center for Studies in Behavioural Neurobiology – Concordia University

May 2019 – May 2020

- Investigated how reward intensity is computed in mechanisms of learning; supervised by Dr. Peter Shizgal
- Led the design of the behavioural paradigm, trained subjects, collected and analysed data, and performed tissue sectioning and immunofluorescence staining
- Generated standard operating procedures for optical implants, tissue staining, and imaging

Postnatal Renal Tubule Morphogenesis is Independent of the Gene Vangl2

Research Institute, McGill University Health Center

May 2018 – August 2018

- Examined the effects of kidney development in young mice lacking key genetic components for proper tubule growth; supervised by Dr. Elena Torban
 - Collaborated in renal tissue sectioning, immunohistochemistry, image acquisition of tubular cross sections, image processing, and statistical analyses
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PUBLICATIONS, CONFERENCES, AND PRESENTATIONS

Derish I, Lee JKH, Wong-King-Cheong M, Babayeva S, **Caplan J**, et al. (2020) Differential role of planar cell polarity gene Vangl2 in embryonic and adult mammalian kidneys. PLOS ONE 15(3): e0230586. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0230586>

Event Coordinator and Workshop Leader / Panelist

BOLD Science: A Student Conference on Multidisciplinary Research
Science College Research Day

May 2019
December 2019

WORK EXPERIENCE

Research Coordinator

Shizgal Behavioural Neuroscience Lab – Concordia University September 2020 – Present

- Managing on-going projects, developing protocols, completing administrative tasks, and training undergraduate volunteers

Chief Operating Officer

WellMTL; Montréal, QC

September 2020 – Present

- Overseeing university mental health groups, mobilizing knowledge transfer workshops, managing daily operations and finances, and gaining endorsements

EXTRACURRICULAR & VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

Co-Creator and Co-Editor-in-Chief

Concordia Journal of Psychology and Neuroscience

July 2020 – Present

- Headed the creation of the CJPJN, an open source, peer reviewed, empirical journal for undergraduate researchers, in collaboration with graduate and research colleagues

Co-President and Councillor

Science College Student Association – Concordia University

May 2020– Present

- Organizing social and academic events and promoting collaboration among students
- Spearheading a multidisciplinary graduate mentorship program

Co-Chair and Event Coordinator

Pose for Hope, Douglas Hospital Research Center; Montréal, QC

September 2020

- Initiated and planned a yoga fundraiser to benefit the Douglas Institute's Eating Disorder Continuum alongside a recovered philanthropic patient

Founder and President

Stronger than Stigma: Concordia Students for Mental Health

November 2018 – May 2020

- Founded a student-led mental health initiative and launched yearly mental health summits
- Created and presented at educational mental health workshops

Emergency Department Volunteer

Royal Victoria Hospital Volunteer Services, Montréal, QC

October 2018 – March 2020

- Supported and advocated for emergency room patients during their extreme emotional states, aided with general information inquiries, and assisted staff with non-medical tasks
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