

# Advancing Diversity in NeuroImaging Research Initiative

Center for Cognitive and Behavioral Brain Imaging

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# THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

CENTER FOR COGNITIVE AND  
BEHAVIORAL BRAIN IMAGING



## MISSION STATEMENT

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The Center for Cognitive and Behavioral Brain Imaging is dedicated to pursuing structural and functional magnetic resonance studies using state-of-the-art techniques, contributing to the development of future brain imaging modalities, and to disseminating knowledge about brain, mind, and imaging to students and the public. In our work, we value our commitment to the uniqueness of each individual. This includes, but is not limited to, valuing individuals with differences in race, ethnicity, country of origin, age, sex, gender, sexual orientation, religion, physical and mental abilities, immigration status, religion, and socioeconomic status.





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## VISION FOR THE CENTER AND OUR FIELD

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Rigorous, Collaborative, and  
Open Science Research

Use our science to promote the  
well-being of our communities.

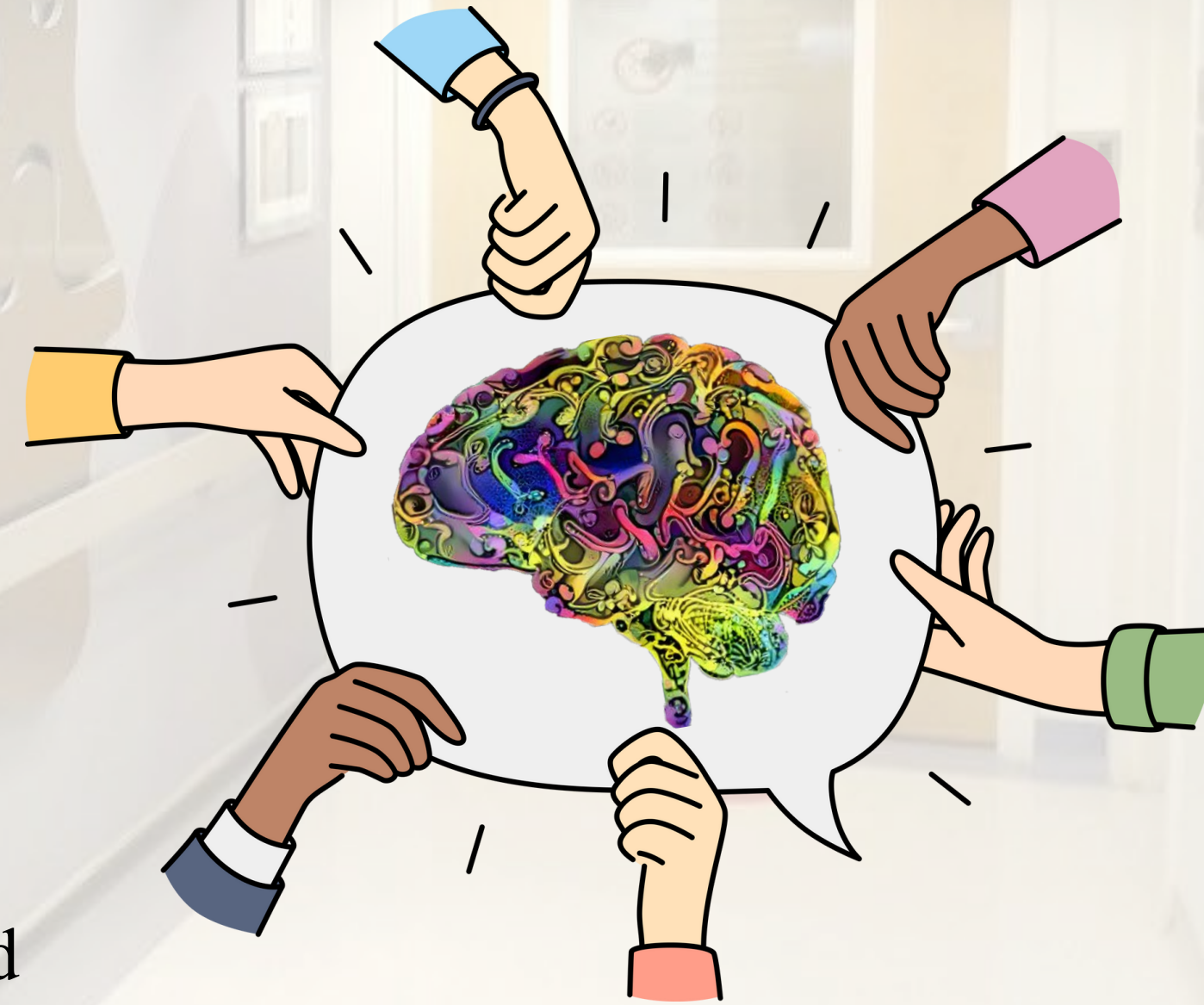
Cultivate an inclusive,  
respectable, and transparent  
climate to train our students



# Workforce Diversity in Neuroimaging

Researchers from diverse backgrounds are of critical importance to advancing brain imaging research

- The majority of neuroimaging research participants identify as white (Sterling et al., 2022).
- Models fit on majority white samples fail to generalize to other racial and ethnic groups (Li et al., 2022).
- Researchers from diverse backgrounds help recruit underrepresented participants, reduce systematic bias, invigorate problem solving, and bring novel perspectives to research (Thakur et al., 2021, Media & Lee, 2012).





# Advancing Diversity in Neuroimaging Research

(ADNiR Initiative)

The ADNiR Initiative was launched in 2020 to create a community of neuroimaging researchers that represented the growing diversity of the nation to foster a better understanding of the human brain.

- Two-year, paid internship
- Perform research in a CCBBI-affiliated lab
- Receive professional development
- Attend seminars and workshops focused on topics and techniques in cognitive neuroscience
- Attend and present their research at scientific conferences

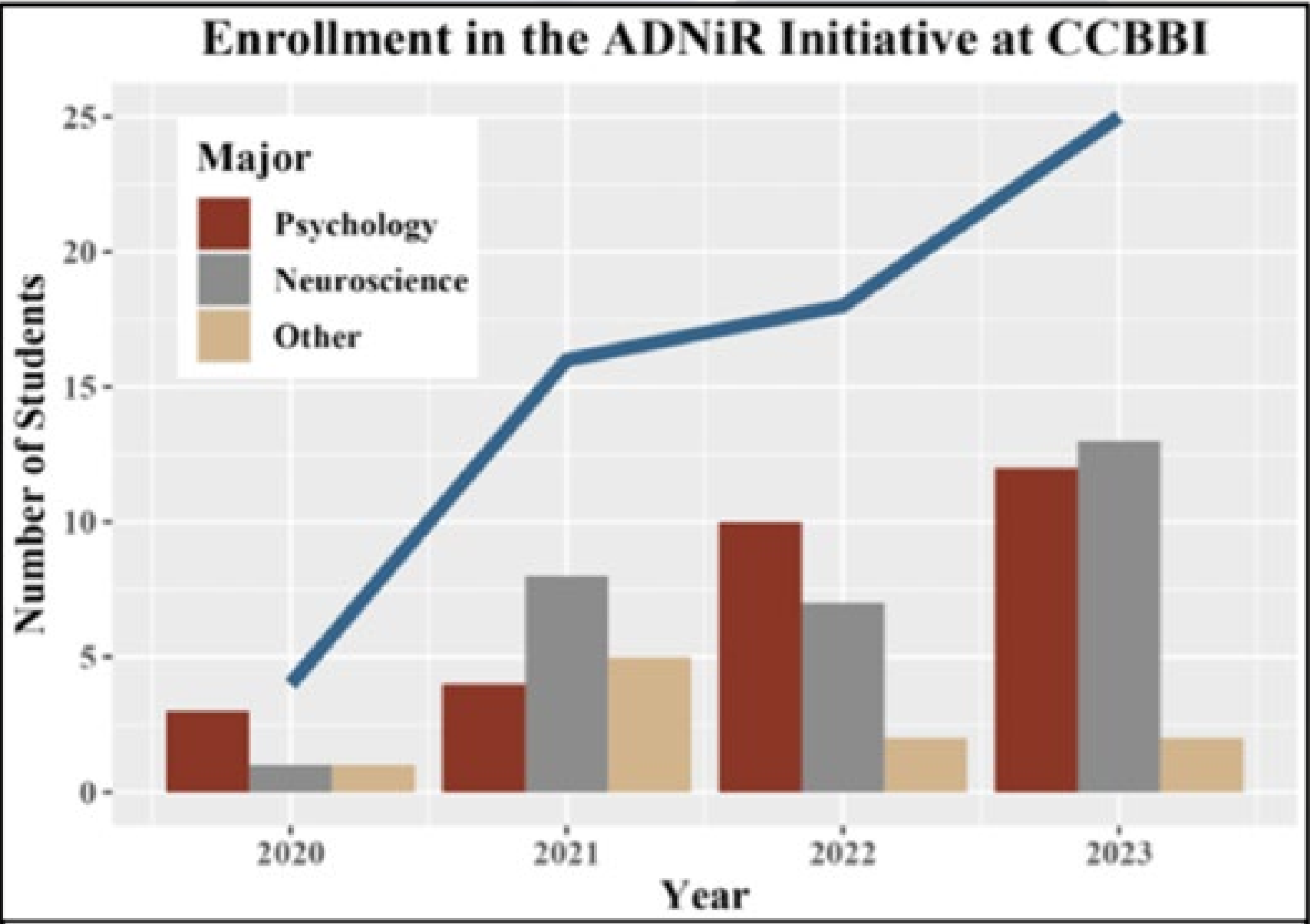
For more information:

[ccbbi.osu.edu/adnir-initiative](http://ccbbi.osu.edu/adnir-initiative)



# Growth of the ADNiR Initiative

Increased Interest in ADNiR Initiative



ADNiR Alumni STEM Careers

## 2020 Cohort



Yasemin Gokcen

Graduate student,  
University of  
California,  
Merced, in the  
Department of  
Cognitive and  
Information  
Sciences



Alexa Shin

Medical student  
at the  
University of  
Toledo

## 2021 Cohort



Aria n Sorani

Clinical research  
coordinator at  
The Ohio State  
University Wexner  
Medical Center



Jessica Timog

Graduate student,  
The Ohio State  
University in the  
Department of  
Speech and  
Hearing



# Current ADNiR Scholars

## 2022 Cohort



Florencia Ontiveros

Mentor: Dr. Kristen Hoskinson

Interests: Development, traumatic brain injury, and cognitive neuroscience.



Mengxin (Ava) Ran

Mentor: Dr. Julie Golomb

Interests: Visual processing, neuroimaging, and cognition.

## 2023 Cohort



Ajuna Mwesigye

Mentor: Drs. Saygin and Osher

Interests: Carcinogens, brain development, and cognition



Lingwen Ren

Mentor: Dr. Jay Fournier

Interests: Individual differences, neuroscience, and personalized medicine.



# Today's Presentations



Florencia Ontiveros

Florencia Ontiveros (2022 ADNiR recipient)

Undergraduate at OSU (mentor: Dr. Kristen Hoskinson, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Health)

ADNiR mentored research focused on the relationship between brain trauma severity and white matter lesions in pediatric patients



Jessica Timog

Jess Timog (2021 ADNiR recipient)

Graduate student at OSU (M.A. Speech-Language Pathology / Ph.D. in Speech and Hearing Science)

ADNiR mentored research focused on the relationship between gray matter lesions and deficits in speech processing in aphasia patients