William A Liberti III

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RESEARCH INTERESTS Systems Neuroscience, Neuroethology, Reinforcement Learning, Tool development, Motor Sequencing & Learning, Neuroprosthetics, Electrophysiology, Neurophotonics.

EDUCATION

Boston University Graduate Medical School, Boston, MA

Ph.D., Neuroscience, July 2017

• Advisor: Timothy Gardner, Ph.D

Boston University, Boston, MA

B.S., Biochemistry & Molecular Biology With Distinction, May 2012

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Postdoctoral Fellow

October 2017 to Present

U.C. Berkeley Department of Electrical Engineering & Computer Science

Research Summary: Large-scale neural recordings in freely behaving animals performing interesting behaviors

Graduate Research Assistant

May 2013 to July 2017

Graduate Program in Neuroscience, Neurophotonics Graduate Fellow

Research Summary: Designed and implemented of tools for Electrophysiology and Calcium imaging in awake behaving Zebra Finches to study motor learning and the stability of motor sequencing. The key finding was that the flexible participation of excitatory projection neurons (stabilized by mesoscopic-level inhibition), forms the mechanistic basis of memory maintenance and and motor stability in the songbird.

REFEREED
PUBLICATIONS &
PROCEEDINGS

- 1. **Liberti WA***, Schmid T*, Forli A, Snyder M, Yartsev M "A Stable Hippocampal Code Underlies Aerial Navigation in Bats" *Nature (in press)*
- 2. Alvarado JS, Goffinet J, Michael V, **Liberti WA**, Hatfield J, Gardner TJ, Pearson J, Mooney R. "Neural dynamics underlying birdsong practice and performance" *Nature* 599, p635-639 (2021)
- 3. Liberti D, Kremp M, **Liberti WA**, Penkala I, Li S, Zhou S, Morrisey EE "Alveolar epithelial cell fate is maintained in a spatially restricted manner to promote lung regeneration after acute injury" *Cell Reports 35.6* (2021): 109092.
- 4. Yanny K*, Antipa N*, **Liberti WA**, Dehaeck S, Monakhova K, Liu FL, Shen K, Ng R, Waller L "Randoscope: Computational Single-shot Miniature 3D Fluorescence Microscopy" *Light: Science & Applications* 171 (2020)
- 5. Yanny K*, Antipa N*, **Liberti WA**, Dehaeck S, Monakhova K, Liu FL, Shen K, Ng R, Waller L "Compressed Sensing 3D Fluorescence Microscopy Using Optimized Phase Mask." *Computational Optical Sensing and Imaging* (2020)
- 6. Cohen Y, Shen J, Semu D, Leman DP, **Liberti WA**, Perkins LN, Gardner TJ "Hidden neural states underlie canary song syntax." *Nature* 582, p539-544 (2020)
- 7. **Liberti WA**, Gong XL, Rosebery TR, Carmena JM, "Local network coordination supports neuroprosthetic control." *IEEE Transactions on Neural Systems and Rehabilitation Engineering* (2019)
- 8. **Liberti WA**, Perkins LN, Leman DP, Gardner TJ "An open source, wireless capable miniature microscope system" *Journal of Neural Engineering* 14.4 (2017): 045001.
- 9. **Liberti WA***, Markowitz JE*, Perkins LN, Leman DP, Liberti DC, Guitchounts G, Velho T, Lois C, Kotton DN, Gardner TJ "Unstable neurons underlie a stable learned behavior" *Nature Neuroscience* 19.12 (2016): 1665-1671.
- 10. Markowitz JE*, **Liberti, WA***, Guitchounts G, Velho T, Lois C, Gardner, TJ "Mesoscopic patterns of neural activity support songbird cortical sequences" *PLoS Biology*, 13.6 (2015): e1002158.
- 11. Guitchounts G*, Markowitz JE,*, **Liberti WA***, Gardner TJ "A carbon-fiber electrode array for long-term neural recording." *Journal of Neural Engineering*, 10, 046016 (2013).

Preprints

- 12. Shen J*, Blute T*, Liberti WA*, Yen W, Liberti DC, Kotten DN, Cruz-Martin A, Gardner TJ "Songbird neural-organotypic culture as an in-vitro model for interrogating self-organizing sparse networks" bioRxiv (in submission)
- 13. Leman DP, Chen IA, Bolding KA, Tai J, Wilmerding LK, Gritton HJ, Cohen Y, Yen WW, Perkins LN, Liberti WA, Kilic K, Han X, Cruz-Martn A, Gardner TJ, Otchy TM, Davison IG "Large-scale cellular-resolution imaging of neural activity in freely behaving mice" bioRxiv (under revision)
 - * indicates co-authorship

PATENTS

Minimally invasive splaying microfiber electrode array and methods of fabricating and implanting the same. U.S. Patent Application 14/902,734, 2014

AWARDS

PLoS Young Investigator Award	2018
• GPN 1 st place poster prize	2016, 2017
• Neurophotonics Graduate Fellowship	2016
• BioWeek 1 st place poster prize	2015
• B.U. Computational Neuroscience Fellowship	2013
• Department of Biology Teaching Fellowship	2012–2015
• Department of Chemistry Teaching Fellowship	2011–2012

Presentations First Author Conference Abstracts

• "Wireless calcium imaging in the hippocampus of freely flying bats"	Chicago, 2019
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• "Cortical sequences underlie neuroprosthetic control"	Chicago, 2019
• "Local network coordination supports neuroprosthetic control"	San Francisco, 2019
• "Local network coordination supports neuroprosthetic control"	San Diego, 2018
• "Spatiotemporal credit assignment in neuroprosthetic control"	Janelia, 2018
• "Premotor network exploration during practice"	COSYNE, Denver CO, 2018
• "Social context mediated pre-motor encoding"	Washington DC, 2017
• "Structured illumination ready Miniscopes" (Second co-author)	Janelia, 2017
• "Rules for motor planning and order in the songbird HVC"	San Diego, 2017
• "Sleep promotes maintenance of stable motor performance in songbirds"	San Diego, 2016
• "Unstable neurons underlie a stable learned behavior"	Salt Lake City, 2016
• "Stability and drift in songbird cortical sequencing"	Chicago, 2015
• "Mesoscopic patterns of neural activity support songbird cortical sequence	es" Washington DC, 2014
• "A carbon-fiber electrode array for long-term neural recording."	New Orleans, 2012

Invited Talks

• SPiNES Seminar (NYU), Postdoc talk series	June~2022
• Physics of Life Symposium (CUNY/Princeton)	March 2022
• Simons Collaboration for the Global Brain (UCSF), Postdoc talk series	December 2021
• UC Berkeley (HWNI), Retreat	October 2021
• UC Berkeley (HWNI), Retreat	September 2019
• UC Berkeley (Neuroscience), Cortex Club Seminar	February 2019
• Janelia Research Campus, (Mechanistic Cognition Meeting)	February 2019
• 6th European Birdsong Meeting, (Odense, Denmark), Keynote	April 2018
• Georgia Tech (Neuroscience), Invited talk	April 2018
• Santa Clara U. (Bioengineering), Invited talk	February 2018
• Tufts (Neuroscience), Invited talk	July 2017
• Duke (Neuroscience), Invited talk	April 2017
• UC Berkeley (Neuroscience), Invited talk	March 2017
• UC Berkeley (EE& CS), Invited talk	February 2017
NSF-NRT Neurophotonics Spotlight	September 2016
• Computational and Systems Neuroscience (COSYNE)	February 2016
Boston College Neuroscience Seminar Guest Speaker	January 2016

• Boston U. Biology Seminar Series • Boston U. Graduate Program in Neuroscience Retreat

Boston U. Neuroscience Seminar Series

March 2015June 2015

May 2015, Sept 2016, April 2017

2 of 3

TEACHING EXPERIENCE	CHEMISTRY Boston University CH203 - Organic Chemistry CH131- Inorganic Chemistry for Engineers	2011–2012 2011–2012
	NEUROSCIENCE/BIOLOGY Boston University BI315 - Systems Physiology BI644/NE644 - Neuroscience Design Lab	2012–2013 2013–2016
Mentorship	Daniel Leman Undergraduate Researcher; Developed surgical/optical methods to longitudinally record cells in H Received UROP award every semester from 2015-2017.	2014–2017 VC.
	Michelle Crough	2015-2017
	Undergraduate Researcher; Pioneered cell-type specific imaging in the songbird HVC Miko Dimov	2015-2016
	Undergraduate Researcher; Adapted optical recording rigs to study motor systems in canaries Carlos Gomez Biomedical Engineering Senior design project; Designed proof-of-concept wireless miniature	2015–2016
	microscopes. Ale Eguren Biomedical Engineering Senior design project; Designed proof-of-concept multi-wavelength capable	2015–2016
	miniature microscopes. Christe Ye Research for credit; Explored the effects of sleep on the stability of vocal motor production	2016–2017
SERVICE	CELEST Electronics & Experimental Design Course Course Overview: Through NSF initiative CELEST: (Center of Excellence for Learning in Science and Technology). Taught students from traditionally underrepresented backgrounds in program in $C/C++$ and design simple circuits.	
	Graduate Resident Assistant $Overview$: Support diverse student populations in living/learning communities on Boston campus.	2011–2017 University's

2016-present

Ad Hoc Referee: PLoS ONE, IEEE/EBMC, eLife(Reviewing Editor),

Public

- Personal website
- GitHub
- Google Scholar