

ERINNE CHERISSE ONG, M.Sc.

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Neuroscientist-by-training with a strong background in media and project management. I am motivated to build a career in science communication and outreach, with the aim of helping advance the (biomedical) research ecosystem while bringing it closer to the societal groups that it aims to serve and who need it most.

EDUCATION

Georg-August-University Göttingen (Germany)

Master of Science in Neurosciences

Oct. 2022 – Apr. 2024

- Awarded a stipend by the International Max Planck Research School

De La Salle University (Philippines)

Bachelor of Science in Biology

Sep. 2017 – Feb. 2021

- Top 10% of graduating class with cumulative GPA of 3.787/4.0
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RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

German Cancer Research Center (Germany)

Research staff

Jun. 2024 – Present

- Supervisor: Prof Frank Winkler (Clinical Cooperation Unit Experimental Neurooncology)
- Evaluates combinatorial drug treatments against glioblastoma through both *in vitro* and *in vivo* models, measuring survival, cell proliferation, and cell death
- Performs calcium imaging to investigate network communication in glioblastoma as influenced by neuronal mechanisms
- First in the lab to optimize a tissue clearing and light sheet microscopy protocol for visualization of 3D neuronal-tumor spheroid co-cultures

Max Planck Institute for Multidisciplinary Sciences (Germany)

Master's thesis student

Oct. 2023 – Mar. 2024

- Supervisor: Prof Klaus-Armin Nave (Neurogenetics Department)
- Examined the role of myelin damage and glial dysfunction in Alzheimer's disease pathologies using fluorescence imaging, biochemical assays, and behavioral tests
- Actively participated in manuscript preparation and revision, and was entrusted by the first author as the point-person for editing and proofreading during each submission round

European Neuroscience Institute (Germany)

Research intern

Jan. 2023 – Feb. 2023

- Supervisor: Brett Carter, PhD (Synaptic Physiology and Plasticity Group)
- Captured short-term plasticity responses of barrel cortex synapses at varying external calcium concentrations through slice electrophysiology techniques

DLSU Center for Natural Sciences and Environmental Research (Philippines)

Undergraduate thesis student

Nov. 2019 – Oct. 2020

- Supervisor: Ma. Luisa Enriquez, PhD (Molecular Science Unit Laboratory)
 - Assessed the cytotoxic and genotoxic effects of *Citrus microcarpa* juice and essential oil extracts on three cancer cell lines
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WORK EXPERIENCE

Asian Development Bank (Global)

External Editorial Consultant (Freelance/Project-based)

Jun. 2025 – Present

- Transforms technical papers on data science, machine learning, and economics projects into engaging articles geared towards policymakers and the general public

Wildtype Media Group (Singapore)

Freelance Science Writer and Editor

Oct. 2022 – Present

Staff Writer

Apr. 2021 – Oct. 2022

- Writes and edits 500-word press releases and 2000-word features based on journal articles and expert interviews across diverse fields in health, technology, and sustainability
- Coordinated with design and marketing teams to pitch content ideas and subsequently produce collaterals aligned with each client's branding and target audience
- Stepped up after an organizational restructuring to manage accounts and liaise with clients, leading to retainment of two long-term partners and contract extension of a new client

De La Salle University – Advanced Research Institute for Informatics, Computing and Networking (Philippines)

Project Assistant

Jul. 2021 – Sep. 2022

- Juggled an all-in-one role to strategize content direction, set publication timelines, produce multimedia collaterals, and manage public relations for multiple research groups

EXTRACURRICULAR ENGAGEMENTS

Ologist Philippines

Associate Editor and Co-founder

Oct. 2024 – Present

- Performs developmental editing of news-feature articles and social media slide decks that cover various scientific advances contextualized within contemporary social issues
- Established style guide and SOPs for producing public-facing science media content and events that spotlight Filipino researchers and are geared toward the Filipino audience

GradMAP Philippines

President

Apr. 2024 – May 2025

Mentor

Aug. 2022 – Present

- Delivers one-on-one mentorship to support Filipino scientists to pursue graduate studies
- Led planning and execution of two simultaneous six-month program tracks, a grant program, and several workshops and webinars on exploring global career paths in STEM
- Raised over 7,000 EUR for grant program that awarded 15+ Filipino students with funding for graduate school application-related expenses

The LaSallian

Editor in Chief

Sep. 2019 – Oct. 2020

Menagerie Staffer

Jun. 2018 – Aug. 2019

- Edited 300+ articles on science and technology, society and the nation, arts and culture in 11 monthly broadsheets and managed breaking news coverage on social media
- Streamlined content development workflows to improve productivity and efficiency of the production cycle, increasing annual article outputs by more than 15%
- Orchestrated the shift to remote working during the COVID-19 pandemic, including redirecting the focus to digital media from the organization's initial print-centric model

PUBLICATIONS AND OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS

Research papers

- Sasmita AO, **Ong EC**, ..., Depp C, Nave K-A. 2024. Parental origin of transgene modulates amyloid- β plaque burden in the 5xFAD mouse model of Alzheimer's disease. *Neuron* **113**(6), P838-846.E4. doi: 10.1016/j.neuron.2024.12.025
- Sasmita AO, Depp C, Nazarenko T, Sun T, Siems SB, **Ong EC**, ..., Nave K-A. 2024. Oligodendrocytes and neurons contribute to amyloid- β deposition in Alzheimer's disease. *Nature Neuroscience* **27**, 1668–1674. doi: 10.1038/s41593-024-01730-3

Conference contributions

- **Ong EC**, ..., Heuer S, Wick W, Winkler F. Co-inhibition of tumor intrinsic and extrinsic regulators of glioblastoma network activity and tumor proliferation [Poster]. EACR Cancer Neuroscience; 2025 Oct 13-15; Bilbao, Spain.
- Sasmita AO, Nazarenko T, Sun T, Yu X, **Ong EC**, ..., Depp C, Nave K-A. Oligodendrocytes contribute to A β plaque burden primarily derived from excitatory neurons in vivo [Poster]. EuroGlia; 2023 Jul 8-11; Berlin, DE.
- **Ong EC**, Co CJ, Mulingbayan IM, Oyong GG, Enriquez ML. Cytotoxicity of *Citrus microcarpa* peel-derived essential oil on small cell lung carcinoma, acute monocytic leukemia, and colon adenocarcinoma cell lines [Presentation]. Metro Manila Health Research and Development Consortium; 2021 Sep 24-25; Manila, Philippines.
 - Won second place for solo presentation in the oral research paper competition

Science communication articles

**Note that most of my work under Wildtype Media and as a freelancer did not have a byline due to the nature of our contracts with the clientele. More samples at erinneong.github.io/portfolio*

- [Magazine cover story / Cell and gene therapies] **Ong EC**. 2025 Mar 7. Editing the basics. *A*STAR Research*. research.a-star.edu.sg/articles/features/editing-the-basics
- [Corporate spotlight / Supercomputing] **Ong EC**. 2024 Dec 23. Flag-bearers of innovation. *Asian Scientist Magazine*. asianscientist.com/2024/12/print/flag-bearers-of-innovation
- [Research brief / Radiation, neurology] **Ong EC**. 2022 Nov 3. The dark side of brain radiotherapy. *A*STAR Research*. research.a-star.edu.sg/articles/highlights/the-dark-side-of-brain-radiotherapy
- [Advertorial / Psychology, digital health] **Ong EC**. 2021 Oct 10. Mental health support goes digital. *Asian Scientist Magazine*. asianscientist.com/2021/10/features/holmusk-mental-health-support-goes-digital
- [Personality profile / Telehealth] **Ong EC**. 2021 May 15. Reaching everyone through affordable healthcare. *Asian Scientist Magazine*. asianscientist.com/2021/05/features/asias-changemakers-edward-booty-reach52

SKILLS

Media and management: digital and print publishing, science communication, editing and proofreading, academic and technical writing, oral presentation, project coordination, social media management, stakeholder management, event planning and management

Lab techniques: mouse handling and experimentation (FELASA certification), cell culture methods, immunohistochemistry, confocal microscopy, tissue clearing, light sheet microscopy, patch clamp electrophysiology, PCR, Western blot, RNA sequencing, FACS, data analysis

Technologies: MS Office, Google Suite, WordPress, InDesign, Fiji, basic Python and R, Trello

Languages: English (C2; TOEFL score 118/120); German (A2, taking classes); Filipino (C2)