

Katherine Furman

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Education

- August 2019 – Present **Ph.D. - University of Michigan** | Burgess Lab, Michigan Neuroscience Institute
Neuroscience Graduate Program, Ann Arbor, MI
- Thesis Mentor: Christian R. Burgess, Ph.D.
 - Thesis Title: “Melanin-concentrating hormone neurons differentially regulate feeding and sleep as a function of downstream projection area”
- August 2015 – May 2019 **B.S. - New York University** | College of Arts and Sciences, New York, NY | *Cum Laude*
Bachelor of Science Degree in Neural Science with High Honors, May 2019
- Honors Thesis: “Assessing behavioral relevance of pup ultrasonic vocalizations as a function of maternal experience” Advisor: Robert C. Froemke, PhD
 - Neural Science Honors Scholar
 - University Honors Scholar
 - Chemistry Minor
- September 2011 – May 2015 **A.S. - Raritan Valley Community College** | Branchburg, NJ | *Magna Cum Laude*
Associate of Science Degree in General Science, May 2015
- Dually enrolled throughout all four years of high school
 - Member of Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society

Research Experience

- January 2020 – Present **PhD Candidate** | Michigan Neuroscience Institute
- **Laboratory of Dr. Christian R. Burgess, PhD**
 - Examining the role of melanin-concentrating hormone (MCH) neurons in the mouse Lateral Hypothalamus in motivational aspects of consummatory behavior
 - Developing high-throughput behavioral tracking setups in combination with optogenetics and data science techniques
 - Funded by NIDA T-32 Training Grant in Addiction (PI: Shelly Flagel)
 - Funded by Ruth L. Kirschstein Predoctoral F31 Individual National Research Service Award #1F31DK135283-01 (PI: Katherine L. Furman)
- September 2019 – December 2019 **PhD Rotation Student** | Michigan Neuroscience Institute
- **Laboratory of Dr. Joanna Spencer-Segal, MD PhD**
 - Rotation project examined the effects of diazepam on mouse anxiety-like behaviors
 - Funded by NIH T-32 Early-Stage Training in the Neurosciences Fellowship
- January 2018 – May 2019 **BP-ENDURE Research Fellow** | NYU Skirball Institute for Biomolecular Medicine
- **Laboratory of Dr. Robert C. Froemke, PhD**
 - Senior thesis project used Conditioned Place-Preference and Operant Conditioning paradigms to assess the preference of female mice for infant-related auditory cues, including pup ultrasonic vocalizations, dependent on maternal experience
 - Funded by NIH Blueprint Program for Enhancing Neuroscience Diversity through Undergraduate Research Experiences & NYU Dean’s Undergraduate Research Fund
- June 2018 – August 2018 **BP-ENDURE Summer Research Fellow** | Yale University Department of Psychiatry
- **Laboratory of Dr. Marina R. Picciotto, PhD**
 - Utilized fiber photometry to measure effects of cholinergic systems on inhibitory neuron activity in subtypes of interneurons in the basolateral amygdala of mice during stress-related behaviors
 - Funded by NIH Blueprint Program for Enhancing Neuroscience Diversity through Undergraduate Research Experiences (BP-ENDURE)

June 2017 –
August 2017

BP-ENDURE Summer Research Fellow | University of Michigan Molecular & Behavioral Neuroscience Institute

- **Laboratory of Dr. Jill B. Becker, PhD**
- Used Fast-Scan Cyclic Voltammetry in anaesthetized rats to investigate sex-differences in selective estrogen receptor subtype involvement in cocaine-induced dopamine release in the nucleus accumbens
- Funded by NIH Blueprint Program for Enhancing Neuroscience Diversity through Undergraduate Research Experiences (BP-ENDURE)

January 2016 –
December 2017

Student Research Assistant | NYU Center for Neural Science

- **Laboratory of Dr. Cristina Alberini, PhD**
- Main project involved characterizing expression of insulin-like growth factor II mRNA through in-situ hybridization, with the goal of understanding mechanisms by which it promotes memory consolidation
- Subprojects include extensive use of NeuroLucida360 to analyze dendritic spine density of hippocampal cell cultures

Teaching Experience

Winter 2023

PSYCH336: Neuropsychopharmacology of Drugs of Abuse | UM Psychology Department

- Lead instructor for PSYCH336: Neuropsychopharmacology of Drugs of Abuse, an upper-level undergraduate course in the University of Michigan Psychology Dept.
- Independently responsible for course development, lecture sessions, grading, office hours, and all other course responsibilities
- 34 students enrolled

Sept 19, 2022

NEUROSCI613: Developmental Neuroscience | UM Neuroscience Graduate Program

- Invited guest lecture for a cohort of 22 first year Neuroscience PhD students
- Lecture discussion covered critical reading tactics, helping teach students how to read and analyze scientific literature effectively

Winter 2022

PSYCH230: Introduction to Behavioral Neuroscience | UM Psychology Department

- Graduate Student Instructor (GSI) for PSYCH230: Introduction to Behavioral Neuroscience, an undergraduate course in the Psychology department at the University of Michigan, taught under primary instructor Dr. Martin Sarter
- Held three weekly discussion sessions in a hybrid (Zoom & in-person) format, held weekly office hours, graded assignments, attended course lectures, and helped in course planning with a team of 8 GSIs.
- Personally responsible for ~60 students total across 3 discussion sections

Fall 2019 – Winter
2023

Python for Data Science | Girls Who Code @ UM Dept. of Comp. Medicine & Bioinformatics

- Worked with a team of PhD students to develop a curriculum and instructional format using Jupyter notebooks to effectively teach introductory Python for data science
- Taught this curriculum to classes of 15-20 high school women for three academic years
- Experience teaching both in-person and virtually due to the COVID-19 pandemic

August 2020, 2021,
2022, 2023, 2024

Introduction to MATLAB | U of M Neuroscience Graduate Program Bootcamp

- Independently developed a week-long curriculum to teach introductory MATLAB programming to cohorts of 18-25 incoming PhD Students
- Taught these lessons to students in a virtual format as well as in-person

Awards, Scholarships & Grants

2023-2026

Ruth L. Kirschstein Predoctoral F31 Individual National Research Service Award

- Grant # 1F31DK135283-01, PI: Katherine L. Furman
- National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases
- Awarded \$40,184 yearly for a duration of three years
- Title: *Elucidating MCH neural circuitry underlying consummatory behavior*

Summer 2024	RELATE Science Communication Fellow University of Michigan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Underwent an 8-week training course in accessible science communication
May 14, 2024	Outstanding Poster Award Michigan Neuroscience Conference <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Selected as the sole recipient of the Outstanding Poster Award, out of approximately 65 poster presenters at the Michigan Neuroscience Conference Poster Title: <i>Melanin-concentrating hormone efferents in NAc mediate the reward value of food and do not induce REM sleep</i>
November 2023	Rackham Conference Travel Award U of M Rackham School of Graduate Studies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Awarded in the amount of \$675.00 for travel to present at the Society for Neuroscience 53rd Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C. Poster title: <i>"Melanin-concentrating hormone neurons differentially regulate feeding and arousal as a function of downstream projection area"</i>
October 2022	COVID-19 Pandemic Research Recovery Award University of Michigan Medical School <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Awarded in the amount of \$5,000 for research costs aimed to offset the setbacks to research posed by the early stages of the COVID-19 pandemic Proposal Title: <i>"Functional heterogeneity of MCH neurons' role in feeding"</i>
June 2022	Rackham Conference Travel Award U of M Rackham School of Graduate Studies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Awarded in the amount of \$1,500 for travel to present at the International Behavioral Neuroscience Society 31st Annual Meeting in Glasgow, Scotland, UK. Poster title: <i>"Melanin-concentrating hormone neurons differentially regulate feeding and arousal as a function of downstream projection area"</i>
July 2021	Champion Award in Diversity, Equity & Inclusion U of M Neuroscience Graduate Program <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Awarded for "going above and beyond in giving of time and creativity" for work with the NGP Recruitment and Admissions Task Force
September 2020-August 2022	NIDA T-32 Training Program in the Neurosciences U of M Neuroscience Graduate Program <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Awarded this competitive fellowship to fully fund two years of my PhD research involving the motivational aspects of feeding circuitry under Dr. Christian Burgess
September 2019-August 2020	NIH T-32 Early Stage Training in the Neurosciences Fellowship U of M Neuroscience Graduate Program <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Awarded trainee fellowship by Neuroscience Graduate Program Directors for financial support in the first year of graduate school
May 2019	Best Research Talk Award NYU Undergraduate Research Conference <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Awarded by members of NYU Faculty of Arts and Sciences Title: <i>"Nature Versus Nurture: Maternal Responses to Infant Distress Cues"</i> Authors: Katherine L. Furman, Robert C. Froemke
April 2019	NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program – Honorable Mention <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As a senior undergraduate, received an Honorable Mention as recognition for an excellent NSF GRFP application
April 2019	NYU University Honors Scholar <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recognized as a University-wide Honors Scholar, recognition given to those students within the top 40% of their graduating class
April 2019	Sherrington Award for Neural Science Research NYU Center for Neural Science <ul style="list-style-type: none"> First place thesis prize for undergraduate research in Neural Science Thesis title: "Assessing behavioral relevance of pup ultrasonic vocalizations as a function of maternal experience" Advisor: Robert Froemke

- Selected by faculty members within the Center for Neural Science as the sole recipient of this prestigious award among all undergraduate honors theses submitted
- June 2017 – May 2019 **NIH Blueprint Program for Enhancing Neuroscience Diversity through Undergraduate Research Experiences (BP-ENDURE) | NYU/Hunter College - New York, NY**
- Extremely competitive program, through which trainees receive 2 years of research funding from an NIH initiative to promote training and success in neuroscience among undergraduates from diverse backgrounds
 - Received two years of funded travel to present at the Society for Neuroscience, as well as other conferences and professional opportunities
 - Attended weekly professional development seminars
- February 2019 **Dean's Opportunity Fund for Graduate School | NYU College of Arts & Science**
- Selected from a competitive applicant pool to receive funding for graduate school application-related fees
- February 2019 **First Place Prize – ERN Video Competition | Emerging Researchers National Conference**
- Animated, filmed, and produced a 3-minute video detailing senior thesis work.
 - Selected for a first place prize from hundreds of applicants across the country.
 - Awarded travel funding to the Emerging Researchers National Conference, as well as AAAS Membership.
 - Video Title: *How do mothers learn to respond to their child's cry?* (Can be viewed here: <https://vimeo.com/289799744>)
- Fall 2018 **Student Travel Award Program | ABRCMS 2018**
- Selected from a competitive application pool to receive travel funding for the 2018 Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students in Indianapolis, IN
 - Awarded by ABRCMS internal selection committee
 - Oral Presentation Title: *"Behavioral preference for pup ultrasonic vocalizations in female mice"* Authors: Katherine L. Furman, Ioana Carcea, Robert C. Froemke
- Fall 2018 **Dean's Undergraduate Research Conference Grant | NYU College of Arts & Science**
- Awards travel funding for undergraduate researchers to present at conferences
 - Applied and was awarded funding for airfare and registration for ABRCMS 2018
- May 2018 **Best Poster Presentation Award | NYU Undergraduate Research Conference**
- Awarded by members of NYU Faculty of Arts and Sciences
 - Poster Title: *"Behavioral preference for pup ultrasonic vocalizations in female mice"* Authors: **Katherine L. Furman**, Ioana Carcea, Robert C. Froemke
- Spring 2018 **Dean's Undergraduate Research Fund | NYU College of Arts & Sciences**
- Awards research grants to students with outstanding research proposals, displaying the skills necessary to pursue their own research
 - 2018 Robert Selander Research Scholar, an honor awarded to young researchers with excellent research proposals
 - Project Title: *"Oxytocin-Dependent Behavioral Preference for Pup Calls in Female Mice"* (mentored by Robert C. Froemke)
- September 2016 – May 2019 **Irving H. Jurow Scholarship | New York University**
- \$10,000 yearly, awarded to undergraduates at the College of Arts and Sciences who display outstanding academic achievement
- Fall 2017 **Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship Departmental Nominee | New York University**
- Nominated by the NYU Center for Neural Science as one of two outstanding candidates for the Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship
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Publications

- November 8, 2024 Journal of Neuroscience, *Melanin concentrating hormone neuron projections to the nucleus accumbens mediate the reward value of food and do not induce food consumption or REM sleep*. **Katherine L. Furman**, Lorelei Baron, Hannah C. Lyons, Timothy Cha, Jack R. Evans, Jayeeta Manna, Limei Zhu, Joanna Mattis, and Christian R. Burgess.
- December 17, 2021 Journal of Open Source Education (JOSE), *Teaching Python for Data Science: Collaborative development of a modular & interactive curriculum*. Marlena Duda, Kelly L. Sovacool, Negar Farzaneh, Vy Nguyen, Sarah Haynes, Hayley Falk, **Katherine L. Furman**, Logan Walker, Rucheng Diao, Morgan Oneka, Audrey Drotos, Alana Woloshin, Gabrielle Dotson, April Kriebel, Lucy Meng, Stephanie Thiede, Shweta Ramdas, Zena Lapp, Brooke N. Wolford. doi: <https://doi.org/10.21105/jose.00138>
- May 23, 2023 American Physiology Summit, 2023 Meeting Abstracts. *KNDy innervation of MCH neurons modulates sleep in an estradiol-dependent manner*. Bethany Beekly, **Katherine Furman**, Christian Burgess, Carol Elias. <https://doi.org/10.1152/physiol.2023.38.S1.5732862>

Presentations

- Poster Presentation, October 8, 2024 **Society for Neuroscience 54th Annual Meeting** | Chicago, IL
"Melanin-concentrating hormone neuron projections to the nucleus accumbens mediate the reward value of food and do not induce food consumption or REM sleep" **Katherine L. Furman**, Lorelei Baron, Hannah C. Lyons, Timothy Cha, Jack R. Evans, Jayeeta Manna, Limei Zhu, Joanna Mattis, and Christian R. Burgess.
- SfN-Sponsored Social, October 6, 2024 **Society for Neuroscience 54th Annual Meeting** | Chicago, IL
"Yes And!: Engaging Neuroscientists and Society through Improv Theater" R. Keith Duncan, **Katherine L. Furman**, Bibi A. Sulaman
- Symposium Session, June 20–21, 2024 **ConnectUR Undergraduate Research Conference** | Online Conference
"Applied Improvisation to Build Communication Skills in a Summer Undergraduate Research Program" R. Keith Duncan, **Katherine L. Furman**, Kate A. Giffin, Bibi A. Sulaman
- Research Talk, July 10, 2024 **Neural Control of Metabolism Mtg, Michigan Diabetes Research Center** | Ann Arbor, MI
"There's always room for dessert: MCH neuron regulation of feeding behavior" Katherine L. Furman
- Poster Presentation, May 20, 2024 **Society for Neuroscience; Michigan Chapter** | Ann Arbor, MI
"Melanin-concentrating hormone efferents in NAc mediate the reward value of food and do not induce REM sleep" **Katherine L. Furman**, Hannah C. Lyons, Jack R. Evans, Timothy Cha, Christian R. Burgess
- Poster Presentation, May 13, 2024 **Michigan Neuroscience Conference** | Ann Arbor, MI
"Melanin-concentrating hormone efferents in NAc mediate the reward value of food and do not induce REM sleep" **Katherine L. Furman**, Hannah C. Lyons, Jack R. Evans, Timothy Cha, Christian R. Burgess *Received Outstanding Poster Award
- Public Talk, April 11, 2024 **NerdNite Ann Arbor @ LIVE Nightclub** | Ann Arbor, MI
"Mouse Mind Control: How neuroscientists use lasers to activate brain cells, and solve science mysteries" **Katherine L. Furman**
- Poster Presentation, November 11, 2023 **Society for Neuroscience 53rd Annual Meeting** | Washington, D.C.
"Melanin concentrating hormone neurons differentially regulate feeding and arousal as a function of downstream projection area" **Katherine L. Furman**, Hannah C. Lyons, Timothy Cha, Jack R. Evans, Lucia Kim, Christian R. Burgess
- Poster Presentation, June 28, 2023 **Michigan Neuroscience Conference** | Ann Arbor, MI

“Melanin concentrating hormone neurons differentially regulate feeding and arousal as a function of downstream projection area” Katherine L. Furman, Hannah C. Lyons, Jack R. Evans, Lucia Kim, Christian R. Burgess

Research Talk, May 3 rd , 2023	Neural Control of Metabolism Mtg, Michigan Diabetes Research Center Ann Arbor, MI <i>“There’s always room for dessert: MCH neuron regulation of feeding behavior” Katherine L. Furman</i>
Research Talk, January 9 th , 2023	Candidate Talk – Michigan Neuroscience Graduate Program Ann Arbor, MI <i>“There’s always room for dessert: MCH neuron regulation of feeding behavior” Katherine L. Furman</i>
Poster Presentation, Sept. 30 th , 2022	Michigan Neuroscience Graduate Program Retreat Maumee Bay, OH <i>“Melanin-concentrating hormone neurons differentially regulate feeding and arousal as a function of downstream projection area” Katherine L. Furman, Lucia Kim, Jack R. Evans, Christian R. Burgess</i>
Poster Presentation, June 9 th , 2022	International Behavioral Neuroscience Society 31st Annual Meeting Glasgow, UK <i>“Melanin-concentrating hormone neurons differentially regulate feeding and arousal as a function of downstream projection area” Katherine L. Furman, Lucia Kim, Christian R. Burgess</i>
Poster Presentation, May 5 th , 2022	Michigan Neuroscience Conference University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI <i>“Elucidating MCH neural circuitry underlying consummatory behavior” Katherine L. Furman, Lucia Kim, Christian R. Burgess</i>
Research Talk; February 15, 2021	University of Michigan Neuroscience Seminar Series Talk delivered virtually <i>“Life gives you lemons, you pass them down: Paternally transmitted intergenerational stress through reproductive tract extracellular vesicles” Katherine L. Furman</i>
Invited Talk; July 23, 2020	Florida Atlantic University – Summer REU Talk delivered virtually <i>“My life as a Neuroscientist” Katherine L. Furman</i>
Research Talk; May 3 rd , 2019	NYU College of Arts & Sciences Undergraduate Research Conference New York, NY <i>“Nature versus Nurture: Maternal Responses to Infant Distress Cues” Katherine L. Furman, Robert C. Froemke</i>
Research Talk; April 26 th , 2019	NYU Center for Neural Science Undergraduate Research Festival New York, NY <i>“Nature versus Nurture: Maternal Responses to Infant Distress Cues” Katherine L. Furman, Robert C. Froemke</i>
Research Talk; February 21 st , 2019	Emerging Researchers National (ERN) Conference Washington, DC <i>“Behavioral preference for pup ultrasonic vocalizations in female mice” Katherine L. Furman, Adam Mar, Ioana Carcea, Robert C. Froemke (invited to present, but unable to attend)</i>
Research Talk; November 15 th , 2018	Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students Indianapolis, IN <i>“Behavioral preference for pup ultrasonic vocalizations in female mice” Katherine L. Furman, Adam Mar, Ioana Carcea, Robert C. Froemke</i>
Poster Presentation; November 6 th , 2018	Society for Neuroscience 48th Annual Meeting San Diego, CA <i>“Assessing behavioral preference for mouse pup calls as a function of maternal experience and oxytocin signaling” Katherine L. Furman, Adam Mar, Ioana Carcea, Robert C. Froemke</i>
Poster Presentation; November 3 rd , 2018	8th Annual ENDURE Meeting @ Society for Neuroscience San Diego, CA <i>“in-vivo optical recording of BLA inhibitory interneuron activity during stress-related behaviors” Katherine L. Furman, Steven Pittenger, Richard Crouse, Marina R. Picciotto</i>
Research Talk; August 2 nd , 2018	Summer Research Symposium Yale University – New Haven, CT <i>“Which types of inhibitory neurons influence depressive behaviors?” Oral presentation by Katherine L. Furman</i>

Poster Presentation; August 2 nd , 2018	Summer Research Symposium Yale University – New Haven, CT <i>“in-vivo optical recording of BLA inhibitory interneuron activity during stress-related behaviors”</i> Katherine L. Furman , Steven Pittenger, Richard Crouse, Marina R. Picciotto
Poster Presentation; May 5 th , 2018	Undergraduate Research Conference NYU College of Arts & Sciences <i>“Behavioral preference for pup ultrasonic vocalizations in female mice”</i> Katherine L. Furman , Ioana Carcea, Robert C. Froemke
Poster Presentation; April 27 th , 2018	Undergraduate Research Festival NYU Center for Neural Science <i>“Sex-differences in the effect of estradiol on cocaine-induced dopamine release: Role of selective estrogen receptors”</i> Katherine L. Furman , Katie E. Yoest, Jennifer A. Cummings, Brandon J. Aragona, Jill B. Becker
Poster Presentation; April 25 th , 2018	Under-Graduate Research Conference Hunter College - New York, NY <i>“Sex-differences in the effect of estradiol on cocaine-induced dopamine release: Role of selective estrogen receptors”</i> Katherine L. Furman , Katie E. Yoest, Jennifer A. Cummings, Brandon J. Aragona, Jill B. Becker
Poster Presentation; November 11 th , 2017	Society for Neuroscience 47th Annual Meeting Washington, D.C. <i>“Sex-differences in the effect of estradiol on cocaine-induced dopamine release: Role of selective estrogen receptors”</i> Katherine L. Furman , Katie E. Yoest, Jennifer A. Cummings, Brandon J. Aragona, Jill B. Becker
Poster Presentation; August 9 th , 2017	Summer Research Symposium University of Michigan - Ann Arbor, MI <i>“Sex-differences in the effect of estradiol on cocaine-induced dopamine release: Role of selective estrogen receptors”</i> Katherine L. Furman , Katie E. Yoest, Jennifer A. Cummings, Brandon J. Aragona, Jill B. Becker

Service & Outreach

2024-25 Academic Year	ComSciCon Michigan Organizing Committee Member <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Served on the organizing committee for the Communicating Science Conference (ComSciCon) serving the state of Michigan
September 2023-April 2024	BrainsRule! Education Committee Committee Member <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Helped design and develop curriculum activities for middle schoolers to learn about neuroscience during our March 2024 BrainsRule! event at the UM campus
Summer 2023	miLEAD Consulting Consultant <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Worked with a team of consultants to perform primary and secondary market research for a client seeking to understand how to successfully market their pharmaceutical product
September 2019 – Winter 2023	Girls Who Code Executive Committee Member, University of Michigan Chapter <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Girls Who Code is an organization which seeks to teach young girls how they can use programming in their lives and careers, while providing representation of women succeeding in STEM careers ○ Helped organize the club, and met weekly with a group of girls to coach them through a programming Capstone Project

- October 2021 – Present **Michigan NGP Curriculum & Academic Affairs Committee** | Graduate Student Member
- This committee consists of 6 faculty and 2 student members, and meets twice monthly to discuss curriculum, qualifying exams and other educational issues.
 - The graduate student member represents the entire body of students in the Michigan Neuroscience Graduate Program.
- December 2021– Present **Growing Up In Science – Cofounder** | UM Neuroscience Graduate Program
- Cofounded the UM NGP Chapter of Growing Up In Science (GUIS), along with another NGP student, A. Kane York.
 - GUIS invites speakers with STEM PhDs to discuss their career path, the obstacles they faced getting there, and the personal and other reasons why they chose to pursue a career in their field.
- August 2020 – August 2022 **Michigan NGP Recruitment & Admissions Task Force** | Graduate Student Member
- One of four Neuroscience Graduate Program students to serve on this Task Force with the goal of making the program’s recruitment and admissions process more equitable and inclusive
 - Organized virtual Open House events for students from various undergraduate institutions to learn about our admissions process
- September 2021 **NGP Director Student Interviewer** | UM Neuroscience Graduate Program
- Selected as one of four NGP student representatives to interview candidates for the position of Neuroscience Graduate Program Director
 - Responsible for devising interview questions representative of the concerns of the broader student body
- September 2020 – Present **UM, Speaking of Science** | Organizing Committee
- Attended Improv classes at Pointless School of Improv in Ann Arbor, MI
 - Used Improvisational techniques to develop and teach a curriculum in science communication skills for fellow graduate students & faculty.
- October 2020– September 2021 **Neuroscience Graduate Student Organization – Social Chair** | University of Michigan
- Serve on the Executive Board of the Neuroscience Graduate Student Organization, which helps to plan events and activities for Neuroscience Graduate Students.
 - As Outreach Chair, I lead the planning of creative, virtually-delivered social activities during the COVID-19 pandemic
- October 2019– September 2020 **Neuroscience Graduate Student Organization – Outreach Chair** | University of Michigan
- Served on the Executive Board of the Neuroscience Graduate Student Organization, which helps to plan events and activities for Neuroscience Graduate Students.
 - As Outreach Chair, I led the planning of neuroscience-related outreach events for the University of Michigan and greater Ann Arbor communities.
- Winter 2020 **BrainsRule! Volunteer Committee** | University of Michigan
- Helped recruit volunteers across various departments, organizations, and levels of expertise to volunteer at the 2020 UM BrainsRule! event
 - BrainsRule! is an annual outreach event where students, staff, and faculty at UM teach local middle schoolers about various aspects of neuroscience
 - *event cancelled due to COVID-19 pandemic*