

Education

2027	McGovern Medical School, <i>Houston, TX</i> Medical Scientist Training Program	MD
2025	University of Texas at Houston, <i>Houston, TX</i> Neuroscience, advisor: Valentin Dragoi	PhD
2017	Johns Hopkins University, <i>Baltimore, MD</i> Post-Baccalaureate Premedical Program	
2014	Swarthmore College, <i>Swarthmore, PA</i> With high honors in philosophy and linguistics	BA
2013	University of Oxford, <i>Oxford, UK</i> Study abroad: philosophy of mind	

Work

2021 – Now	Graduate Research Assistant, Dragoi Lab McGovern Medical School, <i>Houston, TX</i> Investigate how neural circuits process visual information <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Implement new machine learning algorithm generating optimal stimuli for neurons in visual cortex• Develop novel applications to laminar layers, surround and synchrony
2016 - 2019	Research Assistant, Marvel Lab Johns Hopkins Medical School, <i>Baltimore, MD</i> Studied how the cerebellum contributes to cognition <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Designed new cognitive tasks to examine visuospatial skills, gestalt processing, implicit sequence learning and verbal encoding• Administered cognitive tasks, emotional questionnaires and motor tests

Publications

- M. Joyce, P. Nadkarni, S. Kronemer, [...], **M. Slapik**, et. al. (2022). "Quality of life changes following the onset of cerebellar ataxia: Symptoms and concerns self-reported by ataxia patients and informants." *Cerebellum*.
- O. Morgan., **M. Slapik**, K. Iannuzzelli, et. al. (2020). "The Cerebellum and Sequencing in Motor and Cognitive Domains: Evidence from Cerebellar Ataxia." *Cerebellum*.
- S. Kronemer, **M. Slapik**, J. Pietrowski, et. al. (2020). "Neuropsychiatric Symptoms as a Reliable Phenomenology of Cerebellar Ataxia." *Cerebellum*.

M. Slapik, S. I. Kronemer, O. Morgan, et. al. (2018). "Visuospatial Organization and Recall in Cerebellar Ataxia." *Cerebellum*.

Presentations

Talks

- M. Slapik, Andrei, S. Khan, et al. (2022). "Optimal Stimuli as a New Method to Investigate Neural Networks." Pre-candidacy Talk at Fall Neuroscience Retreat for UTHealth. Cleveland, TX.
- O. Morgan, M. Slapik, K. Iannuzzelli, et al. (2018). "Motor and Cognitive Sequencing in Cerebellar Ataxia." Hot Chair Talk. National Ataxia Foundation's 9th Ataxia Investigators Meeting. Virtual.
- O. Morgan, M. Slapik, S. Kronemer, et al. (2018). "Motor-cognitive Multitasking in Cerebellar Ataxia." Presentation to the faculty and staff of the Johns Hopkins Ataxia Clinic, Baltimore, MD.
- M. Slapik, O. Morgan, J. Creighton, et. al. (2018). "Timing and Sequencing in Cerebellar Ataxia." Nanosymposium talk accepted for presentation at: Society for Neuroscience San Diego, CA.
- O. Morgan, J. Creighton, M. Slapik, et. al. (2018). "Neural correlates of value-driven attentional capture in addiction." Nanosymposium talk accepted for presentation at: Society for Neuroscience, San Diego, CA.
- M. Slapik, O. Morgan, C. Marvel. (2018). "Language Abilities in Cerebellar Ataxia." Presentation to the faculty and staff of the Johns Hopkins Ataxia Clinic, Baltimore, MD.
- M. Slapik, S. Kronemer, O. Morgan, et. al. (2017). "Visuospatial Organization and Recall in Cerebellar Ataxia." Talk presented at: Sensorimotor Day, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD.

Posters

- S. Khan, A. Andrei, M. Slapik, et. al (2023). "Inhibitory Control of Up and Down Cortical States during Sleep." Spring Neuroscience Retreat for UTHealth, Houston, TX.
- M. Slapik, A. Andrei, S. Khan, et al. (2022). "Deep Networks Design Optimal Stimuli for Early Visual Cortex." Society for Neuroscience. San Diego, CA.
- M. Slapik, S. Patwardhan, R. Costa, et al. (2020). "Using Machine Learning To Classify Feeding Behavior in Aplysia." American Physician Scientists Association. Houston, TX.
- O. Morgan, M. Slapik, S. Kronemer, et al. (2019). "Motor-Cognitive Multitasking in Machado-Joseph's Disease." The International MJD Research Conference, Washington, DC.
- E. Hill, M. Slapik, O Morgan, et al. (2018). "Abstract Thinking in Cerebellar Ataxia." Poster at: Iowa Neuroscience Institute Workshop, *Cerebellum in Bipolar Disorder and Other Neuropsychiatric Diseases*, Iowa City, IA.
- C. Marvel, J. Creighton, O. Morgan, M. Slapik, et al. (2018). "Cerebro-Cerebellar Contributions to Working Memory in Early Lyme Disease." International Society of Behavioral Neuroscience, Anchorage, AK.

- O. Morgan, **M. Slapik**, S. Kronemer, et al. (2018). "Motor-cognitive Multitasking in Cerebellar Ataxia." The National Ataxia Foundation's 8th Ataxia Investigator's Meeting, Philadelphia, PA.
- M. Slapik**, J. Pietrowski, O. P. Morgan, et al. (2018). "A Characterization of Language Impairment in Cerebellar Ataxia." The National Ataxia Foundation's 8th Ataxia Investigator's Meeting. Philadelphia, PA.
- C. Marvel, J. Creighton, O. Morgan, **M. Slapik**, et al. (2018). "Cerebro-Cerebellar Contributions to Working Memory in Early Lyme Disease." Society for Neuroscience, San Diego, CA.
- M. Slapik**, S. Kronemser, J. Mandel, et al. (2017). "Visuospatial Processing and Strategy Formation in Cerebellar Ataxia." Society for Neuroscience, Washington, D.C.

Volunteering

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| 2021 – Now | Volunteer Counselor
Crisis Text Line, <i>Houston, TX</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support callers on the crisis line going through thoughts of suicide, self-harm, and other emotional crises • Undergo extensive training on therapy techniques like active listening and lack of judgement |
| 2021 – Now | Shadowing, Department of Psychiatry
UTHealth, <i>Houston, TX</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shadow psychiatrists and residents treating a variety of psychiatric disorders in an inpatient psychiatry ward |
| 2017 – 2019 | Team Leader, Health Resource Coordinator
Charm City Clinic, <i>Baltimore, MD</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assist clients with wide range of social issues, including medical treatment, insurance, employment, and housing • Led a small team of other volunteers and advised them on how to best assist their clients |
| 2016 – 2019 | Shadowing, Parkinson's Neuropsychiatric Clinic
Johns Hopkins Medicine, <i>Baltimore, MD</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shadowed a psychiatrist specializing in Parkinson's patients, addressing medication management, quality of life and psychiatric symptoms |
| 2015 – 2016 | Emergency Room Volunteer
Penn Presbyterian Medical Center, <i>Philadelphia, PA</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Took incoming calls, paged nurses, restocked supplies, and observed procedures |
| 2015 – 2016 | Front-Desk Volunteer
Washington West Project, <i>Philadelphia, PA</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enrolled patients for STD and HIV screening and counseling |

Awards

2022	Clinical and Translational Science Predoctoral Fellowship (TL1) McGovern Medical School
2022	Dee S. and Patricia Osborne Endowed Scholarship in the Neurosciences for 2 nd place pre-candidacy talk at Fall Neuroscience Retreat McGovern Medical School
2022	Travel Awards for Society for Neuroscience in San Diego, CA McGovern Medical School
2018	Travel Award for 8 th Annual Ataxia Investigator's Meeting The National Ataxia Foundation
2014	High Honors in philosophy and linguistics Swarthmore College Honors Program
2009	National Merit Semifinalist National Merit Scholarship Program

Certifications

2023	Machine Learning Specialization Stanford University (Coursera)
2023	Deep Learning Specialization deeplearning.ai (Coursera)

Organizations

2017 - Now	Society for Neuroscience
2017 - 2019	National Ataxia Foundation

Skills

Electrophysiology: Acute and chronic recording

MRI: Structural scans

Eye-Tracking: Eyelink

Data analysis: Matlab, Python, SPSS

Machine Learning: Matlab, Python

Task Development: E-Prime, PsychToolbox

Languages

English: Fluent

Spanish: Basic

Hobbies

Jazz Saxophone

Bayou City Funk, The Chirp Chirps

Machine Learning Journal Club

Leadership Committee

Classical and Jazz Piano