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# Mitchell B. Slapik

McGovern Medical School
Medical Scientist Training Program
Department of Neurobiology and Anatomy
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## Education

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

## Work

2021 – Now **Graduate Research Assistant, Dragoi Lab**
McGovern Medical School, *Houston, TX*

Use computational methods to study visual cortex in macaque monkeys

- 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, *Baltimore, MD*

Studied the cognitive effects of cerebellar ataxia to determine how the cerebellum contributes to cognition

- Designed new cognitive tasks to examine visuospatial skills, gestalt processing, implicit sequence learning and verbal encoding

## 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

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

**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 8$^{th}$ 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. Kronemer, J. Mandel, et al. (2017). "Visuospatial Processing and Strategy Formation in Cerebellar Ataxia." Society for Neuroscience, Washington, D.C.

## Volunteering

2021 – Now
**Volunteer Counselor**
Crisis Text Line, *Houston, TX*
- 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, *Houston, TX*
- 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, *Baltimore, MD*
- Asist 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, *Baltimore, MD*
- 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, *Philadelphia, PA*
- Took incoming calls, paged nurses, restocked supplies, and observed procedures

2015 – 2016
**Front-Desk Volunteer**
Washington West Project, *Philadelphia, PA*
- Enrolled patients for STD and HIV screening and counseling

## Awards

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| 2018 | Awarded travel stipend at The National Ataxia Foundation's 8th Ataxia Investigator's Meeting |
| 2014 | Awarded high honors in philosophy and linguistics in the Swarthmore College Honors Program |
| 2010 | National merit semifinalist |

## 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

## Hobbies

2003 – Now **Jazz Saxophone**
- Bayou City Funk
- The Chirp Chirps

2019 - Now **Machine Learning Journal Club**
- Leadership Committee

2000 - Now **Classical and Jazz Piano**