Sameer Aryal

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

Genome-scale neurogenetics; Molecular mechanisms of memory; Molecular basis of neuropsychiatric disorders.

EDUCATION

New York University, New York, NY

Ph.D. Candidate, Basic Medical Science, August 2013 - May 2020 (expected)

- Dissertation: "Genome-wide examination of *de novo* protein synthesis in fragile X syndrome : mechanisms and specificity"
- Advisor: Eric Klann, Ph.D.Cumulative GPA: 3.97/4.0

Williams College, Williamstown, MA

B.A., Biology (honors) and Economics, June 2012

- Dissertation: "The role of DopR neuronal circuits in regulating endogenous arousal in *D. melanogaster*"
- Advisor: Tim Lebestky, Ph.D.
- Cumulative GPA: 3.57/4.0; Biology: 3.63; Economics: 3.67

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

New York University Center for Neural Science, New York, NY

 $Graduate\ Research\ Assistant$

June 2014 - present

Developed, implemented, and analyzed the results of various molecular and genome-wide assays, including ribosome profiling (Ribo-Seq) and translating ribosome affinity purification (Trap-Seq), to quantitatively determine the mechanistic basis of elevated mRNA translation in the brain of a mouse model of fragile X syndrome. Also developed a novel assay to measure the rate of ribosome translocation in primary neurons.

A*STAR-Duke-NUS Neuroscience Research Partnership, Singapore

Research Assistant

Aug 2012 - May 2013

Wrote MATLAB scripts to analyze *D. melanogaster* motion-tracking datasets. Also authored a MATLAB library to visualize biological data via 'estimation plots,' which emphasize effect sizes rather than p-values. Won the Singapore International Pre-Graduate Award (SIPGA) to carry out this research in the Adam Claridge-Chang laboratory.

Williams College, MA

Honors Student

Sept 2011 - May 2012

Investigated which neuronal circuits regulate arousal, and how they are connected, in the *D. melanogaster* brain. Conditionally activated specific circuits in the fly brain by expressing the temperature-gated Transient Receptor Potential A1 (trpA1) channels in different subsets of neurons and then monitored the flies' behavioral phenotypes through sleep and locomotor assays.

PUBLICATIONS

1. Ho, J., Tumkaya, T., *Aryal, S.*, Choi, H., Claridge-Chang, A. Moving beyond P values: data analysis with estimation graphics. *Nature Methods.* 2019.

- 2. Bowling, H., Bhattacharya, A., Zhang, G., [et al., including *Aryal*, *S.*], Klann, E. Altered steady state and activity-dependent de novo protein expression in fragile X syndrome. *Nature Communications*. 2019.
- 3. Aryal, S., Klann, E. Turning up translation in fragile X syndrome. Science. 2018.
- Mohammad, F., Aryal, S., Ho, J., Stewart, J.C., Norman, N.A., Tan, T.L., Eisaka, A., Claridge-Chang, A. Ancient anxiety pathways influence Drosophila defence behaviors. Current Biology. 2016.

Papers in Preparation

- 1. **Aryal**, **S.**, Longo, F., Klann, E. P70-S6 Kinase 1-dependent alterations in cortical messenger RNA translation in fragile X syndrome. Under review in *Science Translational Medicine*.
- 2. Longo F., *Aryal S.*, Anastasiades P., Baimel C., Maltese M., Albanese F., Zhu J., Santini E., Tritsch N., Carter A., Klann E. Selective disruption of cortico-striatal circuitry results in repetitive and perseverative behaviors in fragile X syndrome model mice.
- 3. Longo F., Mancini M., Ibraheem P.L., *Aryal S.*, Mesini C., Patel J., Penhos E., Rahman N., Donohue M., Santini E., Rice M.E., Klann E. Genetic reduction of PERK-eiF2a signaling in dopaminergic neurons drives cognitive and age-dependent motor dysfunction. Under review in *Nature Communications*.

Honors and Awards

- Awarded a registration and travel scholarship to attend the 2017 Summer Institute in Statistics for Big Data at University of Washington, Seattle.

 April 2017
- Inducted into Sigma Xi Scientific Research Society.

June 2012

May 2007

- Awarded Robert L Gaudino Fellowship at Williams College, MA to conduct independent Economics research on healthcare access in rural Nepal.

 January 2010
- Awarded Brilliance in Nepal by the British Council in Kathmandu for securing the highest marks in University of Cambridge Advanced-Level Biology examinations in entire Nepal in the May/June 2007 session.
- Graduated valedictorian from Budhanilkantha School, Kathmandu, Nepal.

Conference Presentations

- *Invited speaker*, Nanosymposium on "Neurodevelopmental Disorders Mechanisms." Society for Neuroscience Annual Meeting. 2017.
- Invited speaker, Annual Molecular Pharmacology Retreat. Sackler Institute at NYU School of Medicine. 2017.
- Presented posters describing my graduate research at:
 - Society for Neuroscience Annual Meeting. 2015, 2016, and 2018.
 - Molecular and Cellular Cognition Society Annual Meeting. 2015, 2016, and 2018.
 - Brains and Behavior: Order and Disorder in the Nervous System. Cold Spring Harbor Laboratories, 2018.
 - RNA Therapeutics: From Base Pairs to Bedsides Symposium. 2018.

Additional Qualifications

- Intern at the Office of Industrial Liaison, NYU Langone Health. Created a business plan for an NYU-developed technology by researching the technology, identifying its competitive advantages, analyzing the market for the technology, and describing the business model for the company. July Nov 2017
- Graduate Teaching Assistant to Dr. Angus Wilson in the seminar "Introduction to Research" at the Sackler Institute at NYU School of Medicine.

 Fall 2017
- Peer tutor for beginner and intermediate Macroeconomics and Econometrics at Williams College, MA.

 2010-2012

Computer Skills

- Statistical Packages: R, MATLAB.
- Languages: Python, Shell scripting (Bash).
- Applications: LATEX; common database, spreadsheet, and presentation software.
- Environments: High Performance Computing (SGE/Slurm), Unix/Linux, Windows.