

KRISTEN CINCOTTA

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PROFILE

Biomedical research scientist with an interest in promoting public health best practices, education, and awareness. Research experience in cellular and molecular biology, histology, biochemistry and statistics. Excellent writing and speaking abilities. Comfortable distilling complex scientific ideas for a lay audience.

EDUCATION

Emory University, Atlanta, GA

May 2012

PhD, Neuroscience

Doctoral dissertation: Characterization of LR11/SorLA in Mild Cognitive Impairment

Ithaca College, Ithaca, NY

May 2002

BA, Biology

Senior Honors Research Thesis: Determination of Histamine and Prostaglandin Release from Guinea Pig Cardiac Mast Cells

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Graduate Student Research in Neuroscience, *Emory University*, Atlanta, GA

Doctoral student, 2002 - 2012

- Conducted independent research study characterizing the expression of the low density lipoprotein receptor LR11 in Alzheimer's disease and mild cognitive impairment and evaluated its value as a diagnostic biomarker and potential therapeutic target. This work included developing a novel quantitative immunohistochemistry technique for measuring protein expression in brain and the organization, maintenance, and statistical analysis of extensive databases of case information and results.
- Additional lab work included proteomic and high throughput assay development to identify both naturally occurring and man-made interacting compounds of LR11, as well as characterization of the effects of interacting proteins on LR11 and APP trafficking using cell biology, molecular biology, and imaging techniques.

Biochemistry Intern, *Syngenta Biotechnology*, Raleigh, NC

2001 (Jan – Sept)

- Assisted with group projects focused on identifying small compounds designed to inhibit target gene products in an attempt to develop crop protection agents.
- Specific training in all stages of compound identification, including protein expression and purification techniques, assay development and robotic screening.

Undergraduate Research, *Ithaca College*, Ithaca, NY

1999-2000; 2001-2002

- Conducted numerous research projects using electrophysiology, biochemistry and immunohistochemistry to study the effects of neuro-immune interactions on cardiac function over the course of six semesters and two summer internships.
- Devised and performed an independent senior honors research project measuring the release of histamine from cardiac mast cells in response to neurochemicals.

PUBLICATIONS

KRISTEN CINCOTTA

- **Sager KL**, Wu J, Herskowitz JH et al (2012) *Neuronal LR11 Expression Does Not Differentiate between Clinically-Defined Alzheimer's Disease and Control Brains*. PLoS ONE 7(8): e40527.
- **Sager KL**, Wu J, Leurgans SE et al (2007) *Neuronal LR11/SorLA expression is reduced in mild cognitive impairment*. Annals of Neurology 62(6): 640-7.
- Jelson GS, DeMasi GM, **Sager KL**, et al (2003) *Modulation of guinea pig intrinsic cardiac neurons by prostaglandins*. American Journal of Physiology: Regulatory, Integrative and Comparative Physiology 285(3): R682-9.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- **Sager KL**, Levey AI, Lah JJ. *LR11 Increases Soluble APP Release In Response to PKC Activation and Head Activator*. Poster presentation, Society for Neuroscience Annual Meeting. San Diego, CA. Nov 7, 2007.
- **Sager KL**, Rees HD, Gearing M, et al. *LR11 Expression is Highly Variable in Mild Cognitive Impairment (MCI) and Correlates with Cognitive Impairment*. Poster Presentation, Society for Neuroscience Annual Meeting. Atlanta, GA. Oct 15, 2006.
- **Sager KL**, Rees HD, Gearing M, et al *LR11 Levels in Mild Cognitive Impairment (MCI) and Alzheimer's Disease (AD): Correlation with Plaque Pathology and Global Cognitive Scores*. Poster Presentation, Society for Neuroscience Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA. Oct 27, 2004.
- **Sager KL**, Gearing M, Rees HD, et al. *Quantification of LR11 Expression in Mild Cognitive Impairment*. Poster Presentation, International Conference on Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders. Philadelphia, PA. July 20, 2004.
- **Sager KL**, Hardwick J. *What Excites Cardiac Mast Cells and Why We Care*. Oral Presentation, National Conference on Undergraduate Research. Whitewater, WI. April 2002.
- **Sager KL**, Hardwick J. *Effects of Prostaglandins on Guinea Pig Cardiac Neurons*. Poster Presentation, Eastern Colleges Science Conference. Staten Island, NY. April 2000.

INDEPENDENT RESEARCH FUNDING AWARDS

- National Institutes of Health National Research Service Award (NRSA, 2007 - 2010)
- The Doctor Lloyd Westley Luttrell Memorial Foundation for Alzheimer's Research Grant (2004 – 2006).

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Introduction to Graduate Cell Biology (IBS 501), Emory University, Atlanta, GA
Graduate Student Teaching Assistant, Spring 2004

- Served as a teaching assistant for the course organizer and guest lecturers. Helped prepare and disseminate teaching materials, lead monthly review sessions for students, conducted weekly office hours, and proctored and graded exams.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Sigma Xi, Ithaca College Chapter (Associate Member, Inducted 2002) • AAAS (Student Member, 2007 – Present)
• Society for Neuroscience (Student Member, 2003 – Present) •

ACADEMIC SERVICE AND HONORS

KRISTEN CINCOTTA

Emory University

- Neuroscience Program Admissions Committee Student Representative (2003 – 2005)
- Graduate Student Council Neuroscience Program Representative (2005-2007)

Ithaca College

- Humanities and Sciences Honors Program Executive Committee Member (1999-2002)
 - Tri-Beta Biology Honors Society (Inducted, May 1999; President August 2000-May 2002)
 - Ithaca College Oracle Society (Freshman Honors Society, Inducted Fall 2000)
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VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

Breast Cancer 3 Day

Atlanta 2007, 2008; Boston 2010

- Raised \$17,735 in three years as a walker.
- Successfully captained a team of four walkers and three crew members for the Boston 2010 event that raised over \$15,000.
- Recognized as an Online Ambassador for the 3 Day community for my personal blog www.KristenWalks.com and for my leadership in the Twitter community, 2010 – present.
- Administrator of the website www.3DayTweeps.com, an online community uniting 3 Day walkers and crew members through social media that currently has 92 registered users.

Susan G. Komen for the Cure, Atlanta Affiliate

April 2012 – Present

- Represented the Atlanta affiliate of Susan G. Komen for the Cure at local health fairs and fundraising events.
 - Served as point person addressing questions and distributing materials regarding breast health and cancer prevention.
 - Recruited participants for the annual Race for the Cure event.
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REFERENCES

James (Jim) Lah, MD, PhD

Assistant Professor of Neurology, Emory University - PhD Advisor

Office Phone: (404) 727-3509

Email: jlah@emory.edu

Jean Hardwick, PhD

Professor, Department of Biology, Ithaca College - Undergraduate Research Advisor

Office Phone: (607) 274-3213

Email: jhardwick@ithaca.edu