

*Highly analytical and detail-oriented neuro-pharmacologist currently pursuing PhD, Pharmacology with hands-on experience in research and development. Awards-winning professional with demonstrated background in bridging diverse scientific disciplines and making scientific ideas accessible to diverse audiences. Track record of collaborating with cross-functional teams. Knowledgeable in regulatory affairs and project management, biotechnology, and drug development procedures. Excellent communicator; English and Spanish (Native) and Portuguese (limited working proficiency). **Well prepared to excel in challenging pipeline / portfolio planning and development as well as regulatory affairs management roles.***

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- Team Collaboration
- Research & Development
- Medical Writing
- Issue & Problem Resolution
- Effective Communication
- Project Management
- Budget / Capital Management
- Regulatory Compliance
- Student Education & Support
- Pharmacology
- Molecular Biology
- Biochemistry
- Chemistry
- Crystallography
- Electrophysiology

EXPERIENCE HIGHLIGHTS

University of Colorado Anschutz 2016 to Present PhD Candidate, Pharmacology Program

Dissertation: Deciphering the role of Neurexin3 α at the synapse using disease relevant mutations.

Plan, execute, and spearhead complex projects from conception to completion. Communicate importance of research projects to selection committees and conference attendees. Promote high standards of scientific rigor and ethics. Monitor and ensure effective allocation / use of laboratory resources / materials to meet budgetary requirements. Deliver strategic leadership and training to four younger students and two lab technicians to increase productivity.

- Achieved \$150K of independent grant funding from HHMI as well as supported lab in obtaining \$1.25M in grant funding from the NIH.
- Acknowledged with award for research excellence (\$750) and \$5K HIRS merit award from pharmacology training program.
- Attained four conference travel awards, one best-student talk award, and one best poster award.
- Developed two first-author publications in the *Journal of Neuroscience* and *JoVE* and managed three collaborations resulting in three co-author publication in *Cell Reports* and *Epigenetics*.
- Obtained multiple awards for poster / oral presentations, outstanding research, and travel awards to present at meetings.

EDUCATION

PhD, Pharmacology

University of Colorado Anschutz
Medical Campus – **ongoing**

Relevant Coursework: Regulatory Affairs, Project Management

Bachelor of Science, Biotechnology

University of Florida, College of Agriculture and Life Science – **2015**

Relevant Coursework: Medical Biotechnology and Drug Development

University of Florida 2014 to 2016 Research Assistant, Pathology, Immunology, / Laboratory Medicine

Research Focus: Targeted drug discovery using x-ray crystallography to study specific protein-ligand interactions in the context of immunology.

Prepared and controlled budget with a focus on cost reduction; maintained high financial acuity. Led, trained, and guided personnel that resulted in co-author publication in *Scientific Reports*. Cooperated with two outside entities (FDA and Otsuka Pharmaceutical Co.) to enable the success of various projects. Identified and resolved potential issues.

- Attained a high degree of technical literacy and writing in immunology / structural biology leading to presentation of two research posters.
- Maintained lab operations compliance with all regulatory guidelines.
- Established and maintained a collaborative team environment.

LICENSES & CERTIFICATIONS

Project Management (30 hours)

The University of Colorado
Graduate School – 2019

Pluripotent Stem Cell Training Course

STEMCELL Technologies – 2018

Peer Sex Educator

Planned Parenthood of South, East and North Florida – 2015

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Restrepo, S., Schwartz, S. L., Kennedy, M. J., Aoto, J. Measuring Transcellular Interactions through Protein Aggregation in a Heterologous Cell System. *J. Vis. Exp.*, 2020.

Restrepo S., Langer N.J., Nelson K.A., Aoto J. Modeling a human mutation in Neurexin-3 α identifies a novel role in the regulation of transsynaptic signaling and neurotransmitter release at excitatory synapses. *J. Neuroscience*, 2019.

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

How does the ectodomain of Neurexin-3 α affect presynaptic organization? | Annual Gilliam Meeting | Virtual Poster | **2020**

Human mutation in Neurexin-3 α identifies novel role for extracellular sequences that govern readily releasable pool size and transsynaptic signaling | Winter Conference for Brain Research 2019 | Snowmass Colorado | Poster | **2019**

Conserved Site on Neurexin3 α modulates balance between excitation/inhibition | Society for Neuroscience | San Diego Convention Center | Poster | **2018**

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE

The Med Writers

Medical Writer

Developed and facilitated website content to pitch start-up biotech companies to venture capitalists. Crafted and improved scientific, nutritional, fitness, health, and medical writing for a general audience. Prepared and facilitated specialized manuscripts, courses, and textbooks for either a student or medical professional audience. Recognized as a more effective communicator and a faster writer.

Academia Industry Alliance (AIA)

Co-Chief Communications Officer

Cooperated with three biotechnology / pharmaceutical companies to put on career panel webinars. Raised and attained capital from vendors (~\$5K for an event) by collaborating with a cross-functional team. Improved the diversity of participating AIA officers by crafting new bylaws to replace outdated ones. Connected academics at University of Colorado to industry personnel in pharmaceutical / biotechnology sectors.

Women in STEM (WiSTEM)

Secretary and Outreach Coordinator

Planned and conducted career development events for women in STEM in collaboration with a diverse team of individuals at the University of Colorado. Established and maintained a diverse / inclusive environment by partnering with SACNAS and oSTEM to put on events for community.

Graduate Student Council (GSC)

Treasurer

Enhanced student participation in GSC events by 120%. Managed budget and all monetary expenses. Allocated and administered capital for organizations on campus with underrepresented minorities. Presented forth graduate students' concerns to university officials, resulted in better health insurance for students the following year.

George Washington High School (GWHS)

Denver Public Schools Career Coach Mentor

Provided strategic guidance to 12th grade students from underrepresented backgrounds; improved college acceptance and enrollment into STEM majors.