



Summer Program in Neuroscience, Ethics, and Survival (SPINES)

SPINES is a four-week long course at the Marine Biological Laboratory (MBL), aimed at graduate students, postdoctoral fellows and early career faculty, with the purpose of increasing success in research careers in neuroscience. SPINES has been taught at the MBL for over 20 years.

SPINES has a strong record of success and has helped in the career development of many young neuroscientists, especially those from underrepresented groups. The course has the following aims:

- 1) To provide exposure to modern neuroscience concepts through lectures from MBL scientists and visiting faculty
- 2) To introduce students to successful minority and women faculty as role models
- 3) To provide high quality laboratory experiences in neuroscience
- 4) To teach professional development skills, including communications skills, critical reading, dual career couples, diversity in science, health disparities, developing successful grant applications, and how to successfully obtain tenure
- 5) To provide students with a professional network that includes their fellow students, the faculty of SPINES and others they meet at the MBL

Quotes about SPINES

- *"This was truly a unique experience that I would not have missed for anything. The lecture roster reads like a who's who of neuroscience and nowhere else can a student have such a privileged experience."*
- *"This experience has given me a clearer direction for my future career as well as allowing me to meet and interact with several prominent scientists in the field."*

MBL

The Marine Biological Laboratory (MBL) is an international center devoted to basic research and education in biology, biomedicine, and environmental science. Every summer, more than 1,400 visiting scientists and students are drawn to the MBL from over 200 institutions around the globe.

To date, more than 50 Nobel Laureates have taught, taken courses, or conducted research at the MBL.

For further information about SPINES or about the MBL, or to apply for the course, please visit our website:

http://www.mbl.edu/education/courses/special_topics/spines.html

SPINES is open to all students, but we especially encourage applications from individuals from underrepresented minority groups, from economically or socially disadvantaged backgrounds, and those with disabilities.