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A Newsletter for UM Neuroscience Undergraduate Students and Alumni

University of Miami | from the Office of Neuroscience Advising | Spring/Summer 2024

UNEU

Interdisciplinary + Academia + Research

Welcome to the new NEU cohort, Class of 2027!

We welcomed our new Neuroscience cohort at the Orientation held on August 18th, 2023, at the Learning Center (LC) building.

Dr. Helen Bramlett, Program Director, went over the major requirements and spoke about future research opportunities. NEU Advisor, Martha Medina went over the degree, Bachelor of Science, requirements, and some registration tips.

In this Issue:

- Fall Orientation 1
- NEU Student News, 2
- NEU Student Spotlight, 3
- NEU Students Abroad, 4
- Nu Rho Psi Fall Events, 5 - 7
- Alumni Spotlight, 8

UNEU Student News

Neuroscience sophomore, **India Wynter**, was selected as a Pre-College Community Assistant for the Summer Scholars Program. This was a great opportunity to work with high school students from around the world who are potential undergraduates for the next two years. India is a Foote Fellow and Isaac Singer Scholar

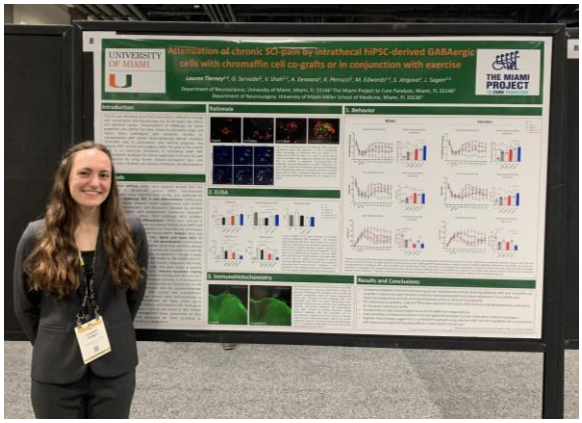
Michael Eugene Robinson Jr, Senior, was accepted to the Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship (SURF) program at the Miller School of Medicine. He is a Singer Scholar and a Foote Fellow.

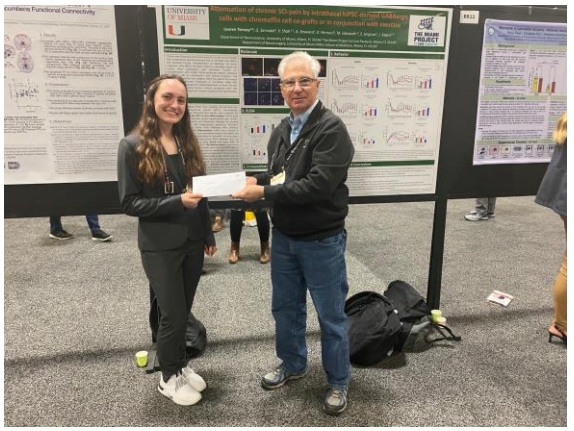
Ariana Rejas, Senior, was selected to participate at the L'Attitude convention. She was chosen among hundreds of applicants for one of 48 sponsored invitations by the Hispanic Scholarship Fund (HSF). The convention was held in Miami on September 27th -30th , 2023.
As an HSF Scholar, Ariana was invited as a mentor at the 2024 Hispanic Scholarship Fund Entrepreneurship conference.
Ariana is the current Nu Rho Psi Secretary.

Lexx Lang, Freshman, was selected as a research guide assistant in the UQUEST Lab. He is also a research assistant at the OB/GYN Oncology lab at the Miller School of Medicine with Dr. Sophia George. This summer he will be in Cape Verde and Milan as part of a physician/research shadowing experience.

NEU Student Spotlight

Lauren Tierney, NEU Senior, was invited to present at the 2023 Society for Neuroscience conference held in Washington D.C. She received a travel award form Nu Rho Psi Nationals. She presented a poster with findings from her work at the Miami Project to Cure Paralysis internship.



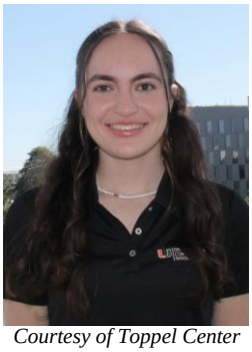


Lauren also received the highest UM honor given, Iron Arrow. She was tapped Fall 2023 when she received her jacket. Here she is along Dr. Bramlett, also an Iron Arrow.

Lauren was inducted into the Omicron Delta Kappa Honor Society, UM chapter, where she was recognized not only for being a top student but as an outstanding member of the UM community for all her leadership and volunteer roles.

Lauren is a Foote Fellow, Isaac Singer Scholar, and President of the UM chapter of Nu Rho Psi. Her future is bright! Stay tuned for an update on her distinctions and milestones after graduation on our Alumni Spotlight section.

Congratulations Lauren on all your accomplishments and upcoming graduation!

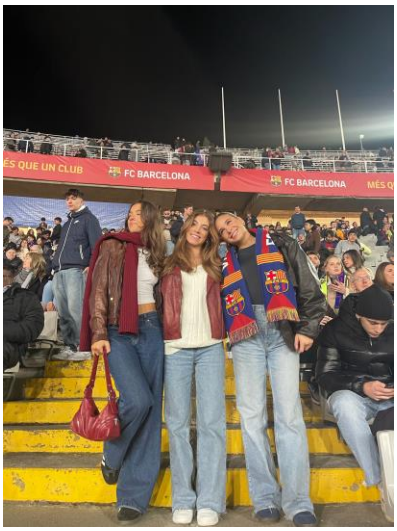


Courtesy of Toppel Center

UNEU Students Abroad

Thanks to careful planning and help from the UM Study Abroad advisors, NEU students are able to make room for a **UAbroad** experience.

Checkout these great pictures from your NEU classmates during their abroad trips.

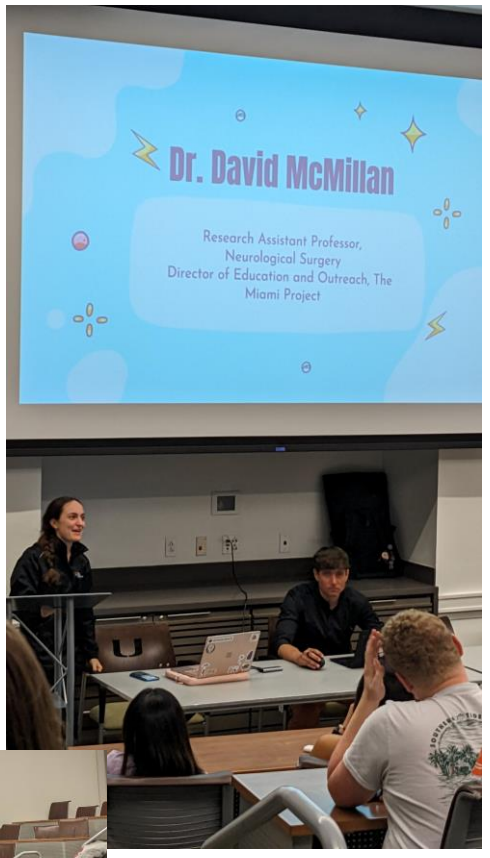


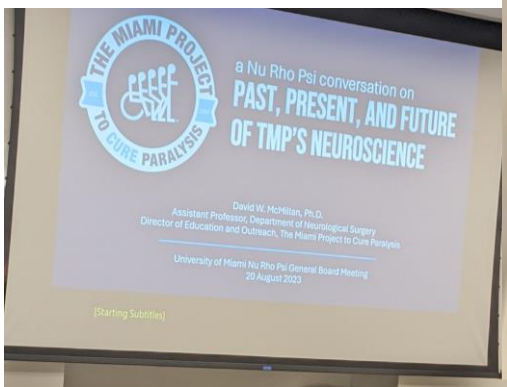
Lulu Muscarello
Barcelona, Spain

Samantha Braun
and Nevaeh Kehn
Seville, Spain

Nu Rho Psi Fall Events

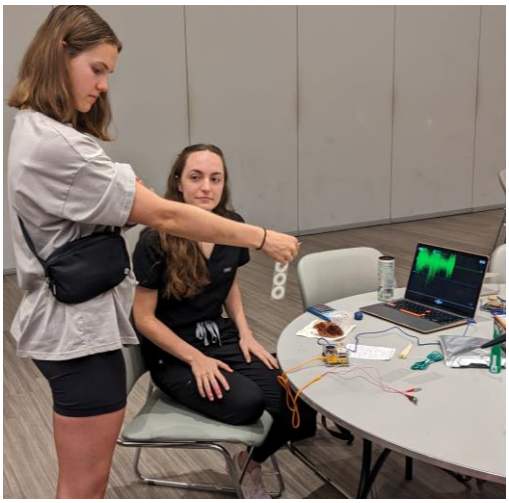
Nu Rho Psi General Body Meeting is the first meeting of the semester. It was held on September 20th, 2023 in the Senate Room of the Shalala Student Center. Dr. David McMillan spoke about his work at The Miami Project to Cure Paralysis and the different research opportunities available to students.





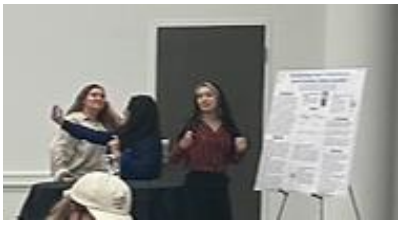
Students lined up for questions after the event.

The **Brain Fair**, game night for NEU students, took place on October 11th, 2023 at the Shalala West Ballroom. Games ranged from Twizzlers neurons to Brain model puzzles, and more! Even the delicious cupcakes were in theme. Fun night for all!



On September 8th, 2023 Nu Rho Psi hosted the **Mentorship Mixer**. Upperclassmen Mentors and Freshmen Mentees gathered to finally meet and play some Ice-Breaker, Getting to Know You games.

The Semiannual, anticipated **Faculty-Student Mixer** was held on November 9th, 2023 at the Shalala Student Center, Activities Room. NEU Seniors got to show off their Research Lab Posters and discuss results with Faculty and Peers.



UNEU Alumni Spotlight

With a Dual Degree, Bachelor of Science (BS) in Neuroscience and Bachelor of Science in Health Science (BSHS) **Nishal Narain** is unstoppable! He is currently in the Neural Engineering Masters Program at UM where he is excelling with a 3.9 GPA.

Nishal has assisted at the U.M. Chemistry laboratory during his undergrad years as well as shadowed Neurosurgeons and Cardiac surgeons. He was also a research assistant for the Peritz Scheinberg Cerebral Vascular Disease Research Laboratories where he performed data mining on neuronal cell images with the goal of determining if a known protein has the potential of being beneficial under ischemic conditions.

Nishal also volunteered at Skeldon District Hospital and New Amsterdam Regional Hospital, in Guyana, in several departments, such as accident and emergency, maternity, and pediatrics. He was also a Cardiology and Respiratory volunteer at local South Florida hospitals: Memorial Regional Hospital and Memorial Hospital Pembroke.

He is currently a Laboratory Research Assistant at the Miller School of Medicine where he is working alongside Dr. Alberto Caban-Martinez researching cancerous environmental concerns for firefighters.

In his busy schedule Nishal still finds time for several hobbies plus working in graphic design for Decker Design. He is a VR/AR enthusiast, a Lego builder of Expert Sets (Titanic, Eiffel Tower, and Taj Mahal), reading Manhuas, Manhwas, and Mangas, Traveling. and loves walking his dog. His motto to live by- “Always be willing to try or learn something new.”

Nishal is a member of the Nu Rho Psi Neuroscience Honor Society.

Congratulations Nishal on all your Achievements!