Neuroscape News

January 2020

Neuroscape is advancing the world of neuroscience and technology every day. Stay current with this bimonthly update, and also follow us on Facebook and Twitter for the latest news.

GET INVOLVED:

Neuroscape is actively recruiting participants who are able to visit our Mission Bay campus. You may be eligible if you are in one of the following groups:

- healthy children 7-12 years old
- children 12-16 years old with a clinical diagnosis or symptoms of ADHD
- healthy children 12-16 years old
- adults 60-80 years old willing to participate in cognitive and physical fitness training
- caregivers (50 years and older) who are the primary caregivers of a friend or family member with Alzheimer’s disease or related dementias

For more information or to sign up, please see our participation page.

Neuroscape relies on support and participation from people around the world to make its programs possible. Thank you to all our current and past...
volunteer participants! Even if you have participated in the past, you may still be eligible to participate in further studies.

**NOW PLAYING:**

**Experiential Medicine and Transformative Tech**

At the Transformative Technology Conference, Neuroscape Executive Director Adam Gazzaley discussed a new era for experiential medicine and the role of our technology.

**STAFF SPOTLIGHT:**

**In Service of the "Crown Jewel of Biology"**
An MRI technologist at Neuroscape, Elizabeth Pierce gets to work with her passion every day. She is primarily responsible for MRI safety and scanning for clinical trials. She also trains and assists Neuroscape researchers on all the equipment and makes sure the research participants are comfortable, while sharing the experience she has accumulated for over 20 years.

Pierce’s favorite part of the job is answering MRI-related questions from our research participants and their families. “Having experience in doing this helps me to ease their concerns,” she explains. “But it is also fun for me to share what I love.”

This past summer, Pierce also got to share the equipment with our summer interns in a special demo (photo above). “The MRI environment has a lot of technical equipment, gadgets, and computers,” she says. “I staged things so I could explain the kind of research projects we do, while also explaining my role in using all of the devices.”

Ultimately, Pierce says that her role at Neuroscape is one of service: “To assist the researchers in their work and see them succeed is what I strive to do each day.”

“One of my favorite quotes is by Dr. Frank Vertosick: ‘The brain floats serenely
in a bone vault like the crown jewel of biology.’ I am very grateful to be a part of a group that believes we can enhance the mind and improve that gem for betterment of humankind.”

**VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT**

A recent graduate of the cognitive science program at the University of California, Berkeley, Julia Bertolero has spent the past year coordinating data collection, working with study participants, and training other volunteers at Neuroscape across a range of studies, including with the app Engage. Bertolero is most excited by our vision of using video games integrated with the latest neuroscience technologies. “I never thought about using video games for neuroscience, but it’s such a fun way to make participation in our studies a little bit more engaging and to break away from the traditional, often boring psychology tasks,” she says. “And it’s also a new way to train the brain.”

“Julia is super dedicated and takes on any challenges you throw her way,” says Jacqueline Ayyoub, a research associate at Neuroscape. “Because of her outstanding performance and ability to take on more responsibility, staff and volunteers on team Engage have been able to grow and learn more.”
BRAIN NEWS ROUNDUP:

Our picks for some interesting neuroscience news from both Neuroscape and beyond:

- Can technology mend our broken minds?
- How VR, AR could support astronauts’ mental health in space
- Pursuing the psychological building blocks of music

Keep up-to-date with the latest news on our website and on Twitter.