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

IN THE HEADLINES:

Newsweek's Greatest Disruptors

Along with Eddie Martucci and Matt Omernick, Neuroscape's Executive Director Adam Gazzaley was named on Newsweek's Inaugural list of America’s 50 Greatest Disruptors for co-founding Akili Interactive.
FACULTY SPOTLIGHT:

Fulfilling a High School Goal

Last month, a classmate of Jenny Mitchell’s from high school reminded her of a time when she was 15 years old and said that she wanted to study the brain to determine the mostly psychedelic drugs her friends were taking would affect them long-term. “There were instances in which their psychedelic use was extremely positive and healing,” she recalls, “and then others in which it was very dark and destructive and I found this intriguing and wanted to figure out what made the experience go in one direction versus the other.”

As a PhD faculty member with the Psychedelics Division at Neuroscape, Mitchell is now fulfilling that goal. In this role, she is most excited to study how setting and context influence the effects of psychedelics on patients. “We know that the feelings someone brings into the room, and the support and comfort they receive while in there, completely color the psychedelic experience, and we’d like to determine how best to manipulate set and setting to ensure the maximal therapeutic benefit of these compounds,” she explains.

The Psychedelics program has an ambitious 10 year plan, and Mitchell is excited about the team that has been assembled to execute the creative experimental programs: “The sky's the limit.”
Fred Fajardo has always been interested in understanding the role psychedelics can play in clinical settings. So when a professor of his at the University of San Francisco (USF) brought Neuroscape to his attention in the summer of 2021, he leapt at the chance to volunteer as a research assistant. A few cold emails later, he was on the team.

A third year psychology major at USF, Fajardo has been working in the Psychedelics Division to assist with the recruitment process, study documentation, and data logging. He has also recently been able to work on-site to assist with the experimental sessions. His biggest task for a while was responding to recruitment inquiries. “Because of the large public interest in psychedelic medicine, we continue to receive a large amount of inquiries,” Fajardo says.

Fajardo is planning to attend graduate school when he completes his undergraduate degree. Neuroscape, he says, has opened his eyes to different paths he can take beyond grad school. “There’s only so much to learn from a classroom,” he says, “and Neuroscape has provided an opportunity to learn about research in a hands-on manner.”
These news picks include articles about Neuroscape research and technology:

- Clinical psychologists appear to have cautiously favorable attitudes toward psychedelic-assisted mental health treatments
- Staycations v. vacations
- How metacognition—thinking about thinking—can improve the mental-health crisis

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