Neuroscape News

January 2023

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.

NOW PLAYING:

NeuroSquared Podcast

Neuroscape's Joaquin Anguera is co-hosting a new podcast, NeuroSquared, with high school volunteer Sonya Surapaneni. It features conversations with scientists who work with neurodiverse populations, including the one pictured above with Benjamin Yerys of the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, discussing his work with autistic children.

Watch Here
OPPORTUNITY:

Participate in Our Studies

We are actively recruiting participants for several exciting studies to advance understanding and improvement of cognition and mental health. You may be eligible if you fit one of these groups:

**ACE Validation Study**
- Open to participants 7-107 years old interested in playing a computer game cognitive assessment. We especially need more participants 7-10 years old. [Get more information](#).

**ACE External Validation Study**
- Open to participants 7-107 years old willing to play through 2 batteries of cognitive assessment. [Get more information](#).

**POET Study**
- Open to U.S. veterans age 18-76 years old with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). [Get more information](#).

**Virtual Reality Study in Memory and Attention**
- Open to healthy adults 65-85 years old willing to complete a few in-lab visits (fMRI) and multiple at-home sessions. [Get more information](#).

**Study on Emotional Well-Being in Adults**
- Healthy adults 65-85 years of age willing to complete an in-lab fMRI session and to potentially participate in a remote, app-delivered intervention study. [Get more information](#).

We are not currently recruiting for any psychedelic studies, but please check our [studies participation page](#) for updates.

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STAFF SPOTLIGHT:

Travelling a Journey of Growth
Three things drive Dom Wall’s work at Neuroscape: the desire to learn, the desire to have a tangible impact on people’s lives, and the community at Neuroscape. “I consider myself a lifelong learner, so I get excited when most people in the room are smarter than me because it provides me opportunities to grow,” he says.

Wall’s journey to becoming a clinical research coordinator at Neuroscape has been all about growth. He first became interested in neuroscience when he was an undergraduate student at the University of San Francisco. He now works on the MediTrain team coordinating the study participants.

In addition to his work on MediTrain, Wall has worked on the Music and Meditation study, the MEC study (MediTrain, Engage, Coherence), the Engage PCS (pediatric cancer survivor) study, and the Nexus platform development. He is most excited to be launching the MediTrain Older Adult study. “We’ve been in the planning stages, and now we’re eyeing a launch date in the next few months,” he says. The goal of the study is to better understand the effects of MediTrain on attention and cognition in older adults with mild cognitive impairment.

**VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT:**

**Building Community and Diversity Into Study Recruitment**
Growing up, Monique de Villa witnessed the struggles her Filipino-immigrant parents had navigating the healthcare system here and how that manifested into their future mental, physical, and emotional health. Living in Merced, CA, now, de Villa continues to see the “glaring need for high-quality, culturally-informed resources that help people manage their health and enhance their well-being,” she says.

Those experiences are now shaping her work to earn a master’s of public health (MPH) at the University of San Francisco, as well as her work as a volunteer at Neuroscape. Working with David Ziegler on the MediTrain studies (see “Staff Spotlight” above as well), de Villa is helping to increase the diversity of study participants by creating community-based partnerships with local ambassadors.

“Community advocates and leaders have valuable insight into the neighborhoods that they live in and will help us better understand their community’s needs, priorities, and desires when it comes to their health and well-being,” de Villa says. “I’m able to use many of the theories and concepts we talk about in my public health classes and apply them in my role.”

AROUND TOWN:

Preserving the Brain
Last fall, Neuroscape was featured as part of a 14-part exhibition on display in Fondazione Prada’s Milan venue exploring the complexity of scientific research, from identifying therapeutic targets, to validation of new therapies, and delivering treatment to the patient.