2017 Annual Retreat of the USC Neuroscience Graduate Program
American Jewish University, Brandeis-Bardin Campus, Brandeis, CA; September 15, 16, & 17, 2017

FRIDAY SEPT 15th
4:00pm – 5:30pm Registration and Check-In - Fligelman House
Note: we will not be able to accommodate attendees arriving after 8:30pm
5:30pm – 6:30pm USC NGP Opening Night Reception - BCI Dance Pavilion
6:30pm – 8:00pm Opening Night NGP Dinner - Gunter Family Dining Center

All NGP Retreat Lectures take place in the WAPNER AUDITORIUM

7:30pm - 8:00pm Mr. Eric Henricks and the current NGF Officers -
Introduction of New USC NGP Students and New NGF Officers;
The Ceremonial Passing of the USC NGP Sacred Book of Secrets

8:00pm – 9:00+pm The 2016 NGP Interactive Ethics and Professionalism Workshop
Introduction by Pat Levitt, Ph.D.
Dr. Shai Silberberg, National Institutes of Health
‘Assuring a bright future for biomedical research’

9:00pm - Really Late NGP Retreat Campfire and S’mores
(directions to be provided)

SATURDAY SEPT 16th
8am – 9am Breakfast - Gunter Family Dining Center
9:00am – 10:30am Session A - Wapner Auditorium (Chair: Artemis Zavaliangos-Petropulu)
Professor Sook-Lei Liew, USC Departments of Occupational Therapy, Biokinesiology, Biomedical Engineering, and Neurology
‘Large scale neuroimaging and neuromodulation to promote motor recovery after stroke’

Louise Menendez, NGP Graduate Student
‘Developing an In Vitro Model of Sensory Hair Cells using Direct Cellular Reprogramming’

Professor Laurent Itti, USC Viterbi School of Engineering, Computer Science Department
‘Neural correlates of visual salience in the primate brain’

Rorry Brenner, NGP Graduate Student
‘Perfect Accuracy with Human-in-the-Loop Computer Vision’

10:30am – 10:45am Coffee Break

10:45am – 12:00 pm Morning Featured NGP Faculty Speaker:
Introductions by Jing (Lily) Zou
Professor Mara Mather, USC School of Gerontology
‘How emotional arousal transforms how we see, think and remember’
12:00pm – 1:00pm  Lunch - Gunter Family Dining Center

1:00pm – 3:00 pm  USC NGP Team Building Activities -  
(instructions to be provided)

3:00pm - 5:00pm  Free time and onsite activities on your own  
(swimming, archery, horseback riding, climbing, hiking)

5:00pm – 6:00pm  USC NGP Retreat Distinguished Lecturer - Wapner Auditorium  
Introduction by Hongwei Dong, M.D., Ph.D.  
Professor Larry Swanson, University Professor, Appleman Professor of Biological Sciences, and Professor of Neurology and Psychology  
‘Toward understanding general organizing principles of cerebral cortical circuitry’

6:30pm – 8:00pm  NGP Dinner - Gunter Family Dining Center

8:00pm – 9:00pm  Team Awards and NGP Student Skits - Wapner Auditorium

9:00pm – 10:00pm+  Cocktail Hour/Ice Cream Social - Glaser Plaza

SUNDAY SEPT 17th
8am – 9am  Breakfast - Gunter Family Dining Center

9:00am – 10:30am  Session B - Wapner Auditorium (Chair: So Young Choi)

9:00am – 9:15am  Xiyue (Sherry) Wang, NGP Graduate Student  
‘An inhibitory control of defensive behaviors by zona incerta’

9:15am –9:45am  Professor Michael Bonaguidi, Department of Stem Cell Biology & Regenerative Medicine  
‘Title’

9:45am-10:00am  Brandalyn Riedel, NGP Graduate Student  
‘Predicting brain age with the assistance of genetics: From normal aging to Alzheimer’s disease’

10:00am-10:30am  Professor Bruce Herring, Department of Biological Sciences  
‘Understanding the role of GEF proteins in synaptic function and disease’

10:30am - 11:30am  NGP Retreat Visiting Scholar Presentation  
Introduction by Adam Lindquist  
Professor Leah Krubitzer, University of California Davis  
‘Cortical plasticity within and across lifetimes: Contributions to the Cortical Phenotype’

11:30am – 12:00pm  Round Table Discussions on NGP-Related Topics with the NGP Directors, Faculty, and Students

12:00pm  Room Checkout and Departure