Student Updates:

- **Congratulations Are In Order**
  Rachel Clark, Thomas James, Catherine Neff, Arianna Rigon, and Kayleen Schreiber: Each of these Neuroscience students received the Graduate College Summer Fellowships (spring 2017)!

- **Upcoming Dissertation Defense**
  Nathaniel Klooster: “The hippocampus and semantic memory beyond acquisition: A lesion study of hippocampal contributions to the maintenance, updating, and use of remote semantic memory”
  - April 22, 2016 (Friday) at 2pm in Room 2117 MERF

  Michael Freedberg: “Examining the effects of reward and punishment on incidental learning”
  - April 25, 2016 (Monday) at 1pm in Room W307 PBB

  Atulya Iyengar: “An integrative analysis of neuronal hyperexcitability, central pattern generation and aberrant motor behavior through the lens of drosophila neurogenetics”
  - April 25, 2016 (Monday) at 3pm in Room 1117 MERF

  Jacob McGlashon: Title -TBD
  - May 16, 2016 (Monday) at 3pm in Room 2117 MERF

- **Seminar Announcements**
  First Year Rotation Talks
  - April 19 (Tuesday) at 4pm in Room 1459 PBDB- Ryan Kelley, Dylan Todd, Sasha Tereschenko
  - April 26 (Tuesday) at 4pm in Room 1459 PBDB- Benton Purnell, Kate Rasmussen, McCall Sarrett
  - May 3 (Tuesday) at 4pm in Room 1459 PBDB - Stacey Peek, Gail Harmata, Banu Gumusoglu, Benjamin Decorte

  Psychology Colloquium: Bita Moghaddam [University of Pittsburg] “Prefrontal cortex encoding of cognitive inflexibility induced by anxiety” - A debilitating aspect of anxiety is its consequences on decision making and flexible control of behavior. These cognitive constructs depend on proper functioning of prefrontal cortex (PFC) subregions. Understanding how anxiety impacts PFC encoding of cognitive events is of great clinical and evolutionary significance. Using a clinically valid experimental model, we find that under anxiety, decision making may be skewed by salient and conflicting environmental stimuli at the expense of flexible top-down guided choices. Recording from PFC neurons further provided a neuronal encoding mechanism for how anxiety biases decision making when the choice involves overcoming a conflict. In particular, these data indicate that encoding of actions, as opposed to cues or outcome, by PFC neurons is especially vulnerable to anxiety.
  - April 22 (Friday) at 3:30pm in C125 PBB

- **CCOM Office of Graduate & Postdoctoral Studies Updates**
  Professional Development for Graduate Students
  Writing in the Disciplines (RHET: 7930: 3 s.h., pass/fail option available), meeting Wednesdays 2:30-5:00 - Graduate students may be interested in professional development opportunities that allow them to hone their skills of communication and persuasion. We are offering a course in the fall that allows graduate students at any stage of their studies to become better writers. This course has been enormously popular with graduate students from across the University who learn about the writing conventions and expectations of a wide array of disciplines in the sciences, social sciences, and humanities. Students work on their existing writing projects in the course. They develop habits of writing regularly. Students learn strategies for writing with clarity, precision, and style. The course helps new graduate students develop as writers, helps dissertating graduate students make progress on their theses, and helps all students in between. We consider many genres of writing, from the manuscript to the email to the job application and cover letter.

- **Outreach or Volunteer Opportunities**
  Health Sciences Visit Day
  UIHC is doing their Health Sciences Visit Day on Saturday, June 18. High school seniors with an interest in health sciences and their parents will visit UIHC—this serves as a recruitment tool to attract high school graduates from Iowa at UI. The Neuroscience program will do an activity interacting and engaging with high school seniors from 10:15-11:15am on June 18. If you are interested and available for this outreach event, please contact Gloria Lee. We will teach you how to run the activities.
Student Updates (con’t):

- **Graduate College Updates**
  Careers Outside of the Academy
  Careers Outside of the Academy is the Graduate College’s career education conference for graduate students and postdocs. Attendees will network with PhDs working in a wide variety of non-academic fields, listen to inspirational speakers, and participate in a workshop designed to improve their presentation style. Lunch will be provided. **Keynote:** David Sarno, MFA (founder for Lighthaus Inc.). Over 25 [panelists](#) from the local and regional community working in a variety of fields.  
  - April 23, 2016 (Saturday) at 9am to 4:30pm in MERF - [Event Schedule](#)  
  - [Event Flyer](#)  
  - Direct questions to [Joseph Cannella](mailto:joseph.cannella@case.edu)

  Seminar in College Teaching (Grad 6217) is a course designed primarily for graduate students planning to teach in their professional career. One section of the course will be offered this summer. Each student will write a teaching philosophy statement at the end of the course. College teaching practicum students, TAs, and graduate students planning to teach in the future are highly encouraged to enroll. This course will be taught by Dr. Mitchell Kelly in the College of Education - Dr. Kelly has received numerous awards for teaching excellence.  
  - [More information](#)

  Center for Teaching Graduate Teaching Fellowships The Center for Teaching is offering three graduate teaching fellowships for the 2016-2017 academic year. Fellows will design and implement teaching-related programming for their home departments and for inter-disciplinary events, will assist with new TA training in the beginning of the fall and spring semesters, and will design a capstone experience based on their professional and career interests. Fellows should be PhD students who have significant TA and/or teaching experience and who are interested in pursuing either an academic career at a teaching-focused institution or a position in a teaching-related field. We plan to invite 3 Fellows - ideally one in a STEM field, one in a humanities field, and one in a social science field. Applications are being accepted and are due by April 29th.  
  - [More information](#)

- **Society for Neuroscience (SfN)**  
  Annual Meeting - San Diego - November 12, 2016 (Sunday) through November 16, 2016 (Wednesday)

  SFN Abstract submission will open Thursday, April 14, and will close at 5 p.m. EDT on Thursday, May 5. Make sure your SfN membership, login, and billing address information are up-to-date prior to submitting. Check now and beat the rush when abstracts open on Thursday, April 14. Please contact the Program Office to make an appointment for paying your 2016 SfN Student Membership dues.

Faculty Updates:

- **Awards Committee Announcements**  
  **Judges Needed** - The Awards Committee is looking for faculty who would be willing to serve as judges for either the Publication Award or the Service Award. Review of materials will be late April. Please contact [Ryan LaLumiere](mailto:ryan.lalumiere@case.edu) if you are willing to help.

- **Spring Faculty Meeting**  
  SAVE THE DATE - Neuroscience Spring Faculty Meeting - May 18, 2016 (Wednesday) at 4pm in 2141-2 RCP

Program Office Reminders:

- **Individual development plans and Student Progress Reports**  
  ~ 1st year and 2nd year students are due Monday, April 18th  
  ~ 3rd year and older students the IDP, Student and Mentor Progress reports will be sent out on Friday, June 17 and due by July 15,  
  - [More information](#)