Student Updates:

- **Congratulations Are In Order**…… Nathaniel Klooster: For successfully defending his thesis last week!

- **Upcoming Dissertation Defense**
  
  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 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

- **CCOM Special Seminar**
  
  Jon Lorsch, PhD, Director, National Institute of General Medical Services, National Institutes of Health
  “Developing a more efficient, productive and sustainable biomedical research enterprise”
  - April 26, 2016 at 9:30-10:30am in 1289 CBRB (Kelch Conference Room)

- **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.

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

- **Graduate College Updates**
  
  **Photo Booth** UI Grad Success is inviting Graduate students to sign up to have a professional photo taken at no charge. Use for websites, publicity, and/or LinkedIn. **More information**
  - June 6, 2016 (Monday) at 12:15pm to 4:15pm in 423 GILH
Student Updates (con’t):

- **Graduate College Updates (con’t)**
  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]

- **Positions Available**
  Two predoctoral and one postdoctoral positions available
  The University of Iowa Pain Research Program T32, “Interdisciplinary Training in Pain Research” has **two predoctoral** and **one postdoctoral** position available as early as July 1, 2016. The training grant provides structured training in pain research and pain medicine that may be conducted in the laboratory or with human subjects or patients. Pain and its associated morbidities are broadly defined for the purposes of the training grant, and new mentors are welcome in the program from any college. The initial appointment is for one year, and renewable for a second year through a competitive process. The training program is customized to the trainee’s interests and career goals, and the project is developed in consultation with a faculty mentor. Participation in the program requires attendance by the trainee and the mentor at monthly seminars and biweekly work-in-progress meetings of the program. **Predoctoral Positions:** These positions are open to advanced PhD students (those approaching the end of their second year or later), and will provide stipend, tuition, health benefits and some funds for travel and supplies. MSTP students are not eligible per the funding agency. **Postdoctoral Positions:** These positions provide a period of protected time for residents and fellows to develop an independent research program leading to submission of a F32, K01, K08 or K23 application. Preference is given to MD or MD PhD trainees (during or after residency) or other terminal degrees involving clinical care, although PhD trainees will also be considered. Clinician trainees will have the ability to work one day a week in their discipline and have their stipend supplemented by the department in accordance with their clinical service and rank so long as the clinical work is directly relevant to their research. Levels of appointment for postdoctoral trainees may be as Fellow, Associate, Instructor or Assistant Professor, with the department responsible for the difference between the salary and the NIH stipend level. Some funds are available for tuition so trainees can benefit from customized coursework in their chosen field.
  For consideration, please contact Julie-Weeks@uiowa.edu for application materials. The submission deadline for complete applications is **May 22, 2016**. Applicants must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents.

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 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 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]