

**CURRICULUM VITAE**

**Sydney M. Vita**

**Current Title:** Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Physiology

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**Education:**

Undergraduate: Community College of Denver, Denver, CO (2012-2013)

AA Psychology, 2013

University of Colorado Denver, Denver, CO (2013-2015)

BA Psychology, 2015

Graduate: University Mississippi Medical Center, Jackson, MS (2015 - 2020)

PhD Neuroscience, 2020

Postdoctoral: Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center, New Orleans, LA (20 - Present)

Physiology

**Certifications and Credentials:**

2019 – Present Adult CPR, AED, and First Aid - FirstAidforFree.com

## Academic, Professional, and Research Appointments:

2015-2018 Neuroscience Laboratory Graduate Research Assistant

University of Mississippi Medical Center

Jackson, MS

2018-2020 Neuroscience Laboratory Graduate Research Assistant

University of Texas Health Sciences

Houston, TX

2020-Present Department of Physiology Postdoctoral Fellow

Louisiana State University Health

Sciences Center, New Orleans, LA

## Membership in Professional Organizations:

2016 – present Society for Neuroscience

2016 – 2017 Mississippi Academy of Sciences

2017 – present National Neurotrauma Society

2017 – present Women in Neurotrauma

2017 – 2018 International Brain Injury Association

2021 – present Postdoctoral Association, LSUHSC

* 2021 - present: Vice President

2021 – present American Physiological Society

**Awards and Honors:**

2013 Graduated Cum Laude

2013 College Responsibility Grant ($2000)

2015 Graduated Magna Cum Laude

2016 School of Graduate Studies Research Day, Poster Presentation Award

2017 Mississippi Academy of Sciences Research Day, Graduate Student Poster Award ($100)

2017 Neuroscience Research Day, Poster Presentation Award

2017 Graduate School Honors Day

2017 School of Graduate Studies Research Day, Poster Presentation Award

2018 Neuroscience Research Day, Poster Presentation Award

2018 Graduate School Honors Day

2018 School of Graduate Studies Research Day, Poster Presentation Award

2018 Mission Connect, Best Graduate Student Poster Award ($100)

2018 Dee S. and Patricia Osborne Endowed Scholarship in the Neurosciences ($2000)

# TEACHING EXPERIENCE AND RESPONSIBILITIES

**Formal Course Responsibilities:**

**Undergraduate Courses Taught**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Semester** | **Course Title** | **Number of Students** |
| **LSUHSC** | | |
| Spring 2021 | PREP Skills Workshop (Fascilitated 1 hour on whistle blowing and research ethics) | 5 |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |

## Undergraduate, Graduate, and Medical Students Trained:

### Undergraduate:

2021-present Ra’Janae Morris, ENDURE Program Undergraduate

# RESEARCH AND SCHOLARSHIP

## Grants and Contracts:

***ACTIVE:***

T32 AA007577 (Molina) 09/01/2009–11/30/2019

NIH/NIAAA $402,449/year

*Biomedical Alcohol Research Training Program*

The goal is to educate and train pre and postdoctoral fellows for careers as independent scientists in the field of alcohol research.

Role: Postdoctoral Trainee, November 2020 – present

## Publications:

### Journal Articles (Refereed)

1. **Vita, S.M.;** Dulin, J.N. In Memoriam: Ray Grill (1966-2018). Neural Regen Res 2018; 13: 1488.
2. Maynard, M.E.; Redell, J.B.; Zhao, J.; Hood, K.N.; **Vita, S.M.**; Kobori, N.; Dash, P.K. Sarm1 loss reduces axonal damage and improves cognitive outcome after repetitive mild closed head injury. Experimental Neurology, 327, 113207. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.expneurol.2020.113207
3. Redell, J. B., Maynard, M. E., Underwood, E. L., **Vita, S. M.**, Dash, P. K., & Kobori, N. (2020). Traumatic brain injury and hippocampal neurogenesis: Functional implications. Experimental Neurology, 331, 113372. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.expneurol.2020.113372
4. **Vita SM**, Grayson BE, Grill RJ. Acute damage to the blood-brain barrier and perineuronal net integrity in a clinically-relevant of rat model traumatic brain. Neuroreport. 2020;31: 1167–1174. doi:10.1097/WNR.0000000000001531
5. **Vita SM**, Redell JB, Maynard ME, Zhao J, Grill RJ, Dash PK, et al. P-glycoprotein Expression Is Upregulated in a Pre-Clinical Model of Traumatic Brain Injury. Neurotrauma Rep. 2020;1: 207–217. doi:10.1089/neur.2020.0034

## Peer-Reviewed Abstracts (poster presentation unless noted; \*\*mentee presenter):

1. **Vita, S.M.;** K.R. Clark, R.J. Grill. Acute pathophysiologies associated with mild, “head on” concussion injury in the Sprague-Dawley [abstract]. Program No. 322.07/Y8. 2016 Neuroscience Meeting Planner. San Diego, CA: Society for Neuroscience, 2016. Online.
2. **Vita, S.M.;** Grill, R.J. Pathophysiologies associated with cTBI in the Sprague-Dawley rat. Presented at the Mission Connect Symposium, Houston, TX, December 2, 2016 (Poster and Podium Presentations)
3. Vita, S.M.; Grill, R.J. Acute pathophysiologies associated with mild, “head on” concussion injury in the Sprague-Dawley rat. Presented at the Mississippi Acadamy of Sciences, Oxford, MS. February 23, 2017. \*Received “Best Graduate Student Poster Presentation” Award
4. Vita, S.M.; R.J. Grill. Concussive TBI produces deficits to the blood–brain barrier and perineuronal nets in rats [abstract 0526]. (2017) Accepted Abstracts from the International Brain Injury Association’s 12th World Congress on Brain Injury, Brain Injury, 31:6-7, 719-1017, DOI:10.1080/02699052.2017.1312145
5. Vita, S.M.; Grill, R.J. mTBI and Neurovasculature. Presented at the Mission Connect Symposium. Houston, TX. November 30, 2019. (Poster Presentation) \*Received “Best Graduate Student Poster Presentation” Award
6. Vita, S.M.; Grill, R.J. mTBI and Neurovasculature. Presented at 25th Annual Neuroscience Poster Session. Houston, TX. December 1, 2019. (Poster Presentation) \*Received the “Dee S. and Patricia Osborne Endowed Scholarship in the Neurosciences” for best overall poster

## Conference Participation:

1. Oral presenter. *Pathophysiologies associated with cTBI in the Sprague-Dawley rat*. 2016 Mission Connect Symposium - Houston, TX

## Continuing professional education, refresher courses, & workshops at professional meetings/symposia:

## Perspectives in Alcohol Research, Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center, Fall 2018-present.

For one hour each week during long semesters, trainees and faculty members in the alcohol research field discuss relevant topics including recently published alcohol-related literature, model systems and techniques, and research ethics. This elective is discussion-based and trainees lead the majority of sessions. 15 hours per semester, Instructors: Robert Siggins, PhD

# SERVICE ACTIVITIES

## University/Institutional Service:

2016 Volunteer, Discovery U, Mississippi Children’s Museum, Jackson, MS

2019 Volunteer, Brain Night for Kids, McGovern Museum of Health and Medical Science, Houston, TX

2021 Volunteer Interviewer, Mock Job Interviews, Association of Women in Science – Southern Louisiana Chapter, LSUHSC, New Orleans, LA

## National Service:

2016 – 2018 Volunteer Fundraiser & Participant, Walk to Defeat ALS

2017 – 2018 Volunteer, Crisis Text Line

## Community Service and Outreach Activities:

March 2017 Cheerleader (Krewe de Wonder Women), Youth Run NOLA, New Orleans, LA

February 2018 Judge, VEX Robotics Tournament, Jackson, MS

2021 – present Volunteer, School Gardening Project, Homer Plessy Community School, Treme, New Orleans, LA

February 2021 Judge, Greater New Orleans Science and Engineering Fair, Senior Division of Biomedical Health and Translational Sciences; Senior Division of Computational Biology, Bioinformatics and Biomedical Engineering, New Orleans, LA