THE
UNIVERSITY
OF UTAH®

Neuroscience PhD Program

At the University of Utah, we're training passionate and well-rounded scientists to become the next generation of leaders.

About the Program

Founded in 1986, the University of Utah's Neuroscience PhD Program is an interdepartmental graduate program designed to provide predoctoral students with a broad-based training in neuroscience disciplines.

• Over 80 participating faculty from 26 departments, offering a wider choice of mentors than is available in a conventional department

• For students who graduated between 2008-2014, 98 percent are in science-related positions

• Full tuition, living stipend and health benefits; affordable cost of living

"The faculty mentors here at the University of Utah are incredibly supportive and collaborative. And the sense of community within the neuroscience program forges collegial bonds that will go beyond your graduate career here."

Arnulfo Tunon-Ortiz, Neuroscience PhD Candidate

What makes the University of Utah Neuroscience PhD Program unique?

We offer rigorous training in a world-class academic environment, collegial and collaborative mentorship, and a vibrant research community.

Students also have the unique professional opportunity to lead initiatives such as the *Annual Snowbird Neuroscience Symposium* and *Neuroscience Program Lecturer Series*.

Learn more or apply at neuroscience.med.utah.edu.

Completed applications must be received by December 1 for consideration of entrance to the fall semester of the following year. **GRE scores are not required.**

Have a question?
Ask our program manager.

Email Nicole Caldwell, academic program manager, at nicole@neuro.utah.edu.

Message from the Director

Dear Prospective Student,

Thank you for your interest in the Interdepartmental Program in Neuroscience at the University of Utah. Neuroscience research is rapidly expanding and we are excited to be in the midst of it as Salt Lake City is the hub of research in the Mountain West region. Diversity is essential for personal and scientific growth. Thus, we wholeheartedly embrace, support, and encourage a kind, diverse, and inclusive community.

The primary mission of our program is to mentor and train the next generation of world-leading scientists. Academically, our goal is to provide a broad-based neuroscience education in the first year through a combination of classes, lab rotations, critical thinking and writing experiences. Once you join a thesis lab, you will develop a deep expertise in your chosen field of study. With over 80 faculty from 26 departments, students have the opportunity to train with world leaders in molecular, developmental, systems, or cognitive neuroscience. Moreover, basic and translational approaches and collaborations are common (and encouraged!) at Utah.

The research environment at Utah is student-focused. Students receive top notch mentoring and hands on experience in world class research labs. Our students also shine beyond the bench. You will gain leadership experience by organizing retreats, seminars, and outreach events and science communication experience through talks, seminars, and writing workshops. In sum, we care about your success and aim to foster scientific excellence while promoting diverse career paths and a gratifying work-life balance.

If you would like more information about our exciting program, please contact our program manager Nicole Caldwell at nicole.caldwell@neuro.utah.edu.

Good luck with your application!

Megan Williams Ph.D.
Associate Professor and Thomas N. Parks Endowed Chair
Department of Neurobiology
Director, Interdepartmental Program in Neuroscience
University of Utah
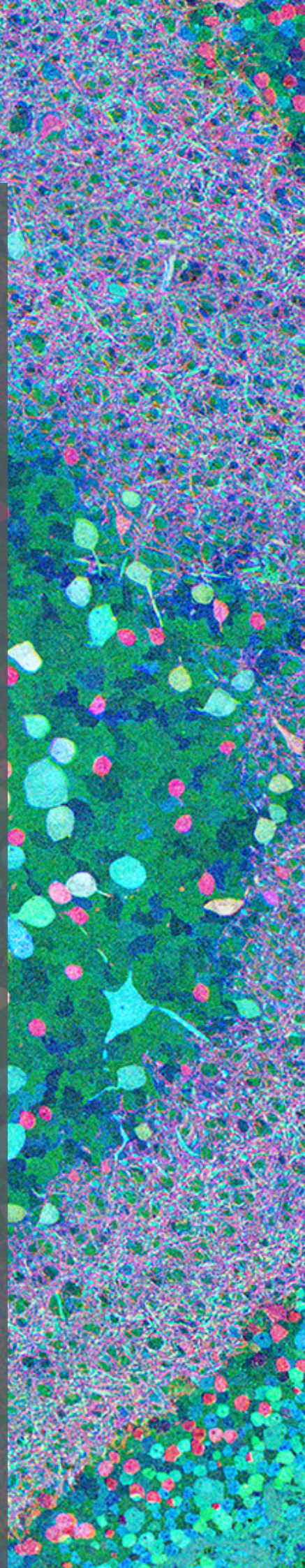
Commitment to Diversity and Inclusion

The University of Utah Neuroscience PhD Program is committed to promoting diversity and inclusion within our program and our broader community. We value a society that recognizes and supports differences in race, religion, age, ethnicity, disability, socio-economic background, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity and gender expression. We strive to create an inclusive environment where everyone feels that they belong and everyone has an equal opportunity to succeed.

We work to implement our commitment to diversity and inclusion by:

• Fostering conversation and community connection through social events.

• Actively recruiting and graduating a more diverse student body through recruitment of underrepresented groups; keeping the cost barrier low by eliminating the GRE; and developing supportive mentor-mentee relationships.

• Establishment of the Student Diversity Committee to assess and communicate diversity issues, and support further diversity initiatives.

• Developing student-led outreach events, with a particular focus on K-12 students from underrepresented minority groups.

Why Utah?

Salt Lake City is a wonderfully livable city, combining the amenities of a large metropolitan area with the ease of a small town. Salt Lake's symphony, ballet, theatre and film scenes delight audiences year-round. Sports fans thrill to hockey, baseball, and professional basketball. Outdoor enthusiasts find hiking trails a mere five minutes from downtown. And, no matter which activity you choose, there's a pub, bistro, restaurant, or café ready to complement the event.

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