



VANDERBILT KENNEDY CENTER

Eleventh Annual Science Day
Tuesday, September 17, 2019

Celebrating 54 Years of Discovery

Vanderbilt Kennedy Center Science Day

Tuesday, Sept. 17, 2019

- 10:30 a.m. **Check-in, poster hanging begins; lunch available in Student Life Center lobby**
- 11:30 p.m. **Welcome and Opening Remarks**
- **Kevin Ess, M.D., Ph.D.**, Science Day Chair
 - **Lisa Monteggia, Ph.D.**, Barlow Family Director of the Vanderbilt Brain Institute
 - **Jeff Neul, M.D., Ph.D.**, Vanderbilt Kennedy Center Director
- 11:55 a.m. **Introduction of Keynote Speaker**
Kevin Ess, M.D., Ph.D., Science Day Chair
- 12:00 p.m. **Keynote Address: *Translational Studies of Sensory Function in Autism: Emergent Properties of a Collaborative Model***
Mark Wallace, Ph.D., Louise B. McGavock Endowed Chair; Professor of Hearing & Speech Sciences, Psychiatry & Behavioral Sciences, and Psychology; Dean, Vanderbilt University Graduate School
Carissa Cascio, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Psychiatry & Behavioral Sciences
Tiffany Woynaroski, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Hearing & Speech Sciences
- 1:00 p.m. **Poster Session 1**
- 2:00 p.m. **Poster Session 2**
- 3:00 p.m. **Introduction of VKC Data Blitz presenters**
Kevin Ess, M.D., Ph.D., Science Day Chair
Data Blitz Presenters:
- **Jin Wang**, (*Clinical/Behavioral/Intervention Research*): “Neural representations of phonology in temporal cortex scaffold longitudinal reading gains in 5- to 7- year-old children”
 - **Tyler Perfitt**, (*Clinical/Molecular Neuroscience*): “Autism and ID-Linked Synaptic Proteins Modulate Signaling to the Nucleus and Activity-Dependent Gene Expression”
 - **Hernán González**, (*Systems Neuroscience*): “Nucleus basalis MRI functional connectivity abnormalities in patients with temporal lobe epilepsy”
 - **Kunj Patel**, (Undergraduate): “Significant Differences in Social Evaluative Stress Between Early Adolescents with Autism Spectrum Disorder and Typical Development”
- 4:00 p.m. **Announcement of 2019 VKC Science Day Poster Award winners, closing remarks**
- 2019 VKC Science Day theme committee members:
 - **Kevin Ess, M.D., Ph.D.** (*Undergraduate, Science Day Chair*), Gerald M. Fenichel Chair in Neurology; Associate Professor of Pediatrics, Cell & Developmental Biology, and Neurology; Director, Division of Pediatric Neurology
 - **James Booth, Ph.D.** (*Systems Neuroscience*), Patricia & Rodes Hart Chair and Professor of Psychology & Human Development
 - **Sachin Patel, M.D., Ph.D.** (*Cellular/Molecular Neuroscience*), James G. Blakemore Chair and Associate Professor of Psychiatry & Behavioral Sciences; Associate Professor of Molecular Physiology & Biophysics and Pharmacology
 - **Tiffany Woynaroski, Ph.D.** (*Clinical/Behavioral/Intervention*), Assistant Professor of Hearing & Speech Sciences
 - **Jeff Neul, M.D., Ph.D.**, VKC Director
- 4:30 p.m. **Posters Removed**

Science Day Goals

- To promote “centeredness” by providing a scientific forum for VKC faculty, their students, postdoctoral fellows, and trainees;
- To promote interdisciplinary research collaboration; and
- To provide faculty and trainees with an opportunity to present significant research findings and evidence-based service practices

In Grateful Appreciation

Vanderbilt Kennedy Center Science Day Faculty Planning Committee

- Kevin Ess, M.D., Ph.D. (Undergraduate, Science Day Chair), *Gerald M. Fenichel Chair in Neurology; Associate Professor of Pediatrics, Cell & Developmental Biology, and Neurology; Director, Division of Pediatric Neurology*
- James Booth, Ph.D. (Systems Neuroscience), *Patricia & Rodes Hart Chair and Professor of Psychology & Human Development*
- Sachin Patel, M.D., Ph.D. (Cellular/Molecular Neuroscience), *James G. Blakemore Chair and Associate Professor of Psychiatry & Behavioral Sciences; Associate Professor of Molecular Physiology & Biophysics and Pharmacology*
- Tiffany Woynaroski, Ph.D. (Clinical/Behavioral/Intervention), *Assistant Professor of Hearing & Speech Sciences*

Vanderbilt Kennedy Center Staff

- Science Day planning and coordination: Elizabeth Turner, Courtney Taylor, Jon Tapp
- Support: Laurie Fleming, Sue King

Vanderbilt Kennedy Center: Who We Are and Who We Serve

The Vanderbilt Kennedy Center for Research on Human Development has been transforming the lives of children and adults with disabilities through innovative research, training, and services for 53 years. Our mission is to facilitate discoveries and best practices that make positive differences in the lives of persons with developmental disabilities and their families. We support and apply scientific research to bring better services and training to our communities.

Vanderbilt Kennedy Center contacts:

Science Day-related questions: Elizabeth Turner, elizabeth.turner@vumc.org

General information: 615-322-8240

Tennessee Disability Pathfinder (*disability services information & referral*): 615-322-8529

Vanderbilt Autism Resource Line: 615-322-7565

Website: <https://vkc.vumc.org>

**Follow the VKC on Facebook (@VanderbiltKennedyCenter)
and Twitter (@Vanderbilt_KC)!**

Vanderbilt Kennedy Center Travel Awards

Attention: Poster Presenters

Thank you for taking part in Vanderbilt Kennedy Center Science Day! All poster presenters will be appointed as a Vanderbilt Kennedy Center Affiliate. All Affiliates may compete for VKC Travel Awards.

Vanderbilt Kennedy Center Travel Awards—Eligibility and Application Process

VKC Travel Awards supplement other funding sources. Applications (letter of request) will be considered for travel to present at scientific conferences or meetings beginning Sept. 18, 2019. A Travel Award will not exceed \$250, and an Affiliate is eligible for a single Award between annual Science Days. Travel Awards are available on a first-come, first-served basis until funds set aside for this purpose are fully committed.

Eligibility

Graduate students and postdoctoral fellows:

- Who are engaged in research with a VKC Investigator or Member
- Who are VKC Affiliates (i.e., who presented a poster at Vanderbilt Kennedy Center Science Day, Jan. 23, 2018)
- Who will use the funds to travel to a research conference at which the Affiliate is making a presentation

Process

- The VKC Affiliate submits a letter of request, co-signed by the VKC Investigator or Member with whom the trainee is conducting research. The letter should describe how the travel award would be used (conference title, location, dates, presentation title), and how the trainee's research interests and research training would be served.
- Letter of request should be submitted to Elizabeth Turner, Associate Director of VKC Communications, for review and decision: elizabeth.turner@vumc.org; (615) 322-8238; 1207 17th Ave. S., Suite 202, Nashville 37212.
- VKC Communications will notify Affiliate of decision. If a Travel Award is made, instructions for payment will be included in award letter.

Attention: Students Attending Science Day

Students often look for positions in research labs or programs, and in turn, researchers often are looking for interested students to become involved in their research. We hope you will use VKC Science Day as an opportunity to explore the range of research in many disciplines, to talk with trainees and faculty engaged in research, and to identify labs or research programs you may want to contact in the future.

Poster Abstracts

Poster abstracts are available on the VKC website at vkc.vumc.org/vkc/scienceday/.