

3<sup>rd</sup> Biennial  
Deaf & Hard-of-Hearing  
Scientists ROC Conference

**The Open Road:**  
**Creating Opportunities with Deaf**  
**& Hard-of-Hearing Scientists**

Hosted by:  
UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER  
MEDICAL CENTER  
AND  
ROCHESTER INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY  
NATIONAL TECHNICAL INSTITUTE FOR THE  
DEAF

August 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup>, 2022



**RIT**

National Technical  
Institute for the Deaf

*About our program:*  
**Deaf & Hard-of-Hearing Scientists ROC**

Deaf and hard-of-hearing (D/HH) individuals are greatly under-represented in our nation's biomedical research workforce, for reasons that include lack of access to opportunities, inadequate support, a dearth of peer role models, and a poor understanding of their unique needs at the research-intensive universities where young scientists are trained.

Deaf/HH Scientists Roc Conference aims to advance the success of deaf and hard-of-hearing individuals in biomedical and behavioral sciences research careers. It will do so by bringing together aspiring and successful Deaf/HH scientists and allied groups from across the nation to network and build a community – thereby creating opportunities for Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing Scientists as they navigate their training and career paths. Our mission is both to forge new alliances between D/HH and hearing scientists, and also to provide an opportunity for D/HH scientists to network, build community, meet peer role models, present and share data, and gain important skills through workshops and small group sessions.



### **Gerard J. Buckley, Ed.D.**

National Technical Institute for the Deaf, President  
Rochester Institute of Technology,  
Vice President and Dean for NTID

Dr. Gerard Buckley has more than 30 years of experience in higher education, including more than 20 years serving in a variety of capacities at NTID. From 1990 to 1993, Buckley served as chairperson and assistant professor of the Department of Educational Outreach at NTID, followed by five years as director of NTID's Center for Outreach and assistant professor on the RIT/NTID Social Work Support Team. From 1998 to 2003, he served as NTID associate dean for student services, and held the position of NTID assistant vice president for college advancement with responsibility for the admissions, placement, marketing, and outreach operations of the college from 2004 until beginning his role as President of NTID and Vice President of RIT on January 1, 2011.

Dr. Buckley has maintained an active teaching portfolio over the past 20 years. He was awarded tenure in 1998. He has twice been awarded the NTID Faculty/Staff Humanitarian Award by the NTID Student Congress, and was named Distinguished Alumnus for NTID in 1985 and for RIT's College of Liberal Arts in 1996.

He has served as President of the Board of the American Deafness and Rehabilitation Association and as President of the Lexington School for the Deaf Board of Trustees in New York City. He also has served on the National Advisory Board of NIH's Institute on Deafness at the recommendation of Senator Robert Dole (retired).

Buckley holds a B.S. in Social Work from RIT/NTID, an M.S.W. from University of Missouri and an Ed.D. in Special Education from the University of Kansas.

He is a native of St. Louis, MO. He and his wife, Judy, live outside of Rochester, N.Y. They have three adult children and five grandchildren.

**Stephen Dewhurst, Ph.D.**

Vice Dean for Research

Professor and Chair Microbiology & Immunology

University of Rochester School of Medicine & Dentistry

Stephen Dewhurst serves as the interim Vice President for Research at the University of Rochester (UR) as well as the Vice Dean for Research for the UR's School of Medicine & Dentistry. His research focuses on pathogenic human viruses, including HIV, influenza and SARS-CoV-2, and he codirects the UR's HIV Clinical Trials Unit (CTU), which conducts HIV vaccine and treatment trials and engages with communities affected by HIV; he also codirects the Rochester Partnership for Research and Academic Career Training of Deaf Postdoctoral Scholars, a unique partnership between UR and the National Technical Institute for the Deaf (NTID) at the Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT). He has received numerous mentoring and teaching awards, including the UR's highest award for graduate education (the William H. Riker University Award for Graduate Teaching).

**Matthew Dye, Ph.D.**

Associate Professor, Liberal Studies

Director, NTID SPACE Center

National Technical Institute for the Deaf

Dr. Matt Dye is an Associate Professor in the Department of Liberal Studies at RIT/NTID and Director of the NTID Sensory, Perceptual and Cognitive Ecology Center. He also has an affiliate appointment with the Department of Psychology at RIT and an adjunct appointment with the Department of Neuroscience at URMC. Dr. Dye's researches how being born deaf and/or using a sign language influences the development and function of the visual system. His lab conducts research on brain reorganization in the face of altered sensory input, asking what happens to the brain areas and neural pathways associated with visual and multi-sensory processing when auditory input is missing. Most of his research looks at selective visual attention in deaf individuals, asking whether their greater reliance upon visual information in their environment means that their perceptual and cognitive systems are better able to select and process visual information. His research program is funded by the National Science Foundation and by NIH.

## CONFERENCE COMMITTEE



**Stefanie Fingler,  
MBA**  
Research Program  
Administrator,  
Dept of Medicine;  
Conference Chair,  
DEAF-ROC

University of Rochester Medical  
Center



**Erin Lee, MS**  
Sr. Information  
Analyst,  
Ctr. for Vaccine  
Biology &  
Immunol.;  
Conference

Co-Chair, DEAF-ROC  
University of Rochester Medical  
Center



**Nancy Starr**  
Sr Staff Specialist,  
Office of the  
Associate Dean of  
Research,  
National Technical  
Institute for the Deaf,  
Rochester Institute of Technology



**Laurie Furibondo,  
MHA**  
Senior Director for  
Research  
Development,  
Office of the  
Associate Dean of Research,  
National Technical Institute for the  
Deaf, Rochester Institute of  
Technology



**Nancy Popolizio**  
Executive Assistant to the NTID President  
and Office Manager,  
National Technical Institute for the Deaf,  
Rochester Institute of Technology

### SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS

Aileen Aldalur (URMC)

Alfred Vitale (URMC)

Camille Ouellette (RIT-NTID)

Denise Kavin (RIT-NTID)

Elaine Smolock (URMC)

Geo Kartheiser (RIT-NTID)

Josh Butler (URMC)

Kelly Matthews (URMC-NCDHR)

Laura Sugarwala (URMC)

Susan Murad (RIT-NTID)

Patricia White (URMC)

Melody "Pepsi" Holmquist (RIT-NTID)

Shazia Siddiqi (URMC)

Steve Barnett (URMC-NCDHR)

Vince Samar (RIT-NTID)

Matthew Lynn (RIT-NTID)

**DEAF/HH SCIENTISTS ROC**

Thursday, August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022

8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

National Institute for the Deaf Student Development Center,  
Rochester Institute of Technology

**8:00 – 9:00 AM**

**REGISTRATION & CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST**  
SDC 1300/1310

**9:00 – 9:30 AM**

**WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION**

Stephen Dewhurst, PhD & Gerard Buckley, EdD  
SDC 1300/1310

**9:30 – 10:30 AM**

**KEYNOTE PRESENTATION:**

**GETTING CREATIVE WITH RESEARCH: HOW I BECAME A  
COMMUNITY SCIENTIST**

Alicia K. Wooten, PhD  
SDC 1300/1310

**10:30 – 11:00 AM**

**BREAK WITH REFRESHMENTS**

**11:00 AM – 12:00 PM**

**PANEL DISCUSSION**

**NAVIGATING THE JOB MARKET: FROM ACADEMIA, INDUSTRY &  
GOVERNMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

Moderator: Tiffany Panko

Panelists: David Meek, Elizabeth Ayers, Mariam Paracha,  
Kara Farquharson, & Michelle Koplitz  
SDC 1300/1310

**12:00 – 1:30 PM**

**LUNCH**

SDC Dining Commons

**1:30 – 2:30 PM**

**KEYNOTE PRESENTATION:**

**DEVELOPING A WORLD VIEW: HISTORY INFORMS THE FUTURE  
OF DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING PEOPLE IN STEM**

Harry G. Lang, EdD, LHD  
SDC 1300/1310

**DEAF/HH SCIENTISTS ROC**

Thursday, August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022

8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

National Institute for the Deaf Student Development Center,  
Rochester Institute of Technology

**2:30 – 3:15 PM**

**SHORT TALKS**

**CHALLENGES IN MENTORING AND ESTABLISHING PRODUCTIVE  
TRAINING ENVIRONMENTS**

Mariam Paracha, Pharm.D. and Sarah Sarchet, MS

Shazia Siddiqi, MD, MPH and Timothy Dye, PhD

Q &A

SDC 1300/1310

**3:15 – 3:45 PM**

**BREAK WITH REFRESHMENTS**

**3:45 – 4:45 PM**

**KEYNOTE PRESENTATION:**

**BUILD IT AND THEY WILL COME – INCREASING THE DEAF AND  
HARD OF HEARING STEM PIPELINE**

Michael McKee, MD, MPH

SDC 1300/1310

**4:45 – 6:00 PM**

**COCKTAIL RECEPTION**

SDC 1300/1310

## DEAF/HH SCIENTISTS ROC

Friday, August 12<sup>th</sup>, 2022

8:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Saunders Research Building,

University of Rochester Medical Center

**8:00 – 9:00 AM**

### REGISTRATION & CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST

SRB Atrium

**9:00 – 10:30 AM**

### POSTER SESSION

SRB Atrium

**10:30 AM – 12:00 PM**

### BREAKOUT SESSIONS:

#### Grant Writing

##### Facilitators:

Elaine Smolock, PhD  
Sara Blick-Nitko  
SRB 1402

#### Moving Your Research in the Right Direction

##### Facilitator:

Patricia White, PhD

##### Presenters:

Phu Duong, PhD  
Nnaemeka Nnamani, PhD  
Henry Adler, PhD  
SRB 1406

#### Navigating the Lab Setting

##### Facilitators:

Pepsi Holmquist, PhD  
Craig Morrell, PhD  
SRB 1412

**12:00 – 1:30 PM**

### LUNCH

SRB Atrium

**1:30 – 3:00 PM**

### BREAKOUT SESSIONS:

#### Grant Writing

##### Facilitators:

Elaine Smolock, PhD  
Sara Blick-Nitko  
SRB 1402

#### Moving Your Research in the Right Direction

##### Facilitator:

Patricia White, PhD

##### Presenters:

Phu Duong, PhD  
Nnaemeka Nnamani, PhD  
Henry Adler, PhD  
SRB 1406

#### Interpreters in STEM

##### Facilitators:

Cheryl Reminder, BS, CI  
SRB 1412

**3:00 – 3:30 PM**

### CLOSING REMARKS AND AWARDS

Stephen Dewhurst, PhD & Gerard Buckley, EdD  
Helen Wood Hall Auditorium

**Thursday, August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022**  
**9:30 - 10:30 a.m.**

**ALICIA K. WOOTEN, PhD**

*Assistant Professor  
Department of Biology  
Gallaudet University  
Washington, DC*

**“GETTING CREATIVE WITH RESEARCH: HOW I BECAME A  
COMMUNITY SCIENTIST”**



Alicia Wooten is a proud San Antonio, TX native who uses both American Sign Language and spoken English as modes of communication. Her love of science and figuring things out led her to study Biomedical Sciences at the Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT) receiving her BS. She completed a post-baccalaureate program at the University of Rochester to gain more experience and studied HIV in the brain. Alicia then went on to complete her Ph.D. in Molecular and Translational Medicine at Boston University. Her interests include lung biology and understanding how the immune system functions against pathogens. Currently, she is a professor at Gallaudet University, where she teaches biology to future generations of scientists. Alicia is passionate about making science communication accessible to all minority groups and advocating for more minority groups, especially those in the deaf community, to pursue a career in science. She is a co-founder of Atomic Hands, a resource that focuses on engaging the community in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) through American Sign Language (ASL).

*Thursday, August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022  
11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.*

**PANEL DISCUSSION**

**“NAVIGATING THE JOB MARKET: FROM ACADEMIA, INDUSTRY,  
& GOVERNMENT OPPORTUNITIES”**

**MODERATOR:**



**Tiffany Panko, MD, MBA**  
*Assistant Research Professor,  
Center for Culture and Language,  
National Technical Institute for the Deaf,  
Rochester Institute of Technology*

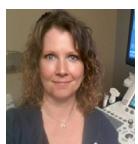
**PANELISTS:**



**David Meek, EdD**  
*Visiting Assistant  
Professor,  
SPaCE Center,  
National Technical  
Institute for the  
Deaf, Rochester Institute of  
Technology*



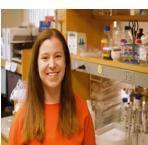
**Mariam Paracha,  
PharmD**  
*Visiting Assistant  
Professor,  
Department of  
Science &  
Mathematics, National Technical  
Institute for the Deaf, Rochester  
Institute of Technology  
Adjunct Instructor, Department of  
Neurology, University of Rochester  
Medical Center*



**Elizabeth Ayers, MS**  
*Senior Lecturer,  
Dep't of Science &  
Mathematics,  
National Technical  
Institute for the Deaf,  
Rochester Institute of Technology*



**Michelle Koplitz,  
MHS**  
*Graduate Student,  
Department of  
Translational  
Biomedical Sciences, UR Clinical  
& Translational Science Institute,  
University of Rochester Medical  
Center*



**Kara Farquharson**  
*Graduate Student,  
Department of  
Microbiology,  
Boston University  
School of Medicine*

**Thursday, August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022**  
**1:30 – 2:30 p.m.**

**HARRY G. LANG, EdD, LHD**

*Professor Emeritus*

*National Technical Institute for the Deaf*  
*Rochester Institute of Technology*  
*Rochester, NY*

**“DEVELOPING A WORLD VIEW: HISTORY INFORMS THE FUTURE OF DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING PEOPLE IN STEM”**



Harry G. Lang is a deaf professor with 41 years of experience in teaching physics and mathematics to deaf and hard-of-hearing students at the National Technical Institute for the Deaf at Rochester Institute of Technology. He is a graduate of the Western Pennsylvania School for the Deaf (Pittsburgh) and earned his BS in Physics from Bethany College (West Virginia), his MS degree in Electrical Engineering from Rochester Institute of Technology, and his doctorate in Education from the University of Rochester. He has published over 50 research and theoretical papers on teaching science to deaf students. In addition, he has authored a dozen

books. For twenty years, Lang focused his educational research on identifying the characteristics of effective teachers, matching teaching and learning styles, and examining the factors that contribute to effective teacher education. He has conducted extensive research also in technical sign language and its relationship to learning. He was for six years the chairman of NTID's faculty development department, responsible for in-service teacher training and he taught a graduate level methods course for science and mathematics education for deaf students for more than three decades. He has presented papers and workshops in several countries. Lang co-directed a major National Science Foundation grant project for three years, establishing a network of science teachers interested in addressing hands-on activities in the instruction of deaf students in science classes and conducting research on teaching and learning science. Among his other NSF grants was the “Classroom of the Sea” project in collaboration with the University of Connecticut and the National Undersea Research Center. Lang was the Senior Advisor on the production team of the PBS documentary, “Through Deaf Eyes,” which received the DuPont Columbia Journalism Award. He was awarded the Rochester Institute of Technology Eisenhart Award for Outstanding Teaching (1984) and the Trustees Scholarship Award (2006) in recognition of establishing an outstanding record of academic scholarship. In 2019 he received the Dr. John S. and Dr. Betty J. Schuchman Deaf History Award recognizing significant scholarship in the field of Deaf history.

*Thursday, August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022  
2:30 – 3:15 p.m.*

## **SHORT TALKS**

### **“CHALLENGES IN MENTORING AND ESTABLISHING PRODUCTIVE TRAINING ENVIRONMENTS”**

#### **FEATURED SPEAKERS:**



**Mariam Paracha,  
PharmD**  
*Visiting Assistant  
Professor,  
Department of  
Science &  
Mathematics,*

*National Technical Institute for the  
Deaf, Rochester Institute of  
Technology  
Adjunct Instructor, Department of  
Neurology, University of Rochester  
Medical Center*



**Sarah Sarchet,  
MS**  
*Senior Lecturer,  
School of  
Science &  
Mathematics,*

*Rochester Institute of Technology –  
National Technical Institute for the  
Deaf*



**Shazia Siddiqi,  
MD**  
*Staff Scientist,  
Department of  
Obstetrics &  
Gynecology,  
University of*

*Rochester Medical Center*



**Timothy Dye, PhD**  
*Professor,  
Department of  
Obstetrics &  
Gynecology  
University of  
Rochester Medical  
Center*

*Thursday, August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022  
3:45 – 4:45 p.m.*

**MICHAEL M. MCKEE, MD, MPH**

*Associate Professor*

*Department of Family Medicine*

*University of Michigan*

*Ann Arbor, MI*

**“BUILD IT AND THEY WILL COME – INCREASING THE DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING STEM PIPELINE”**



Dr. Michael McKee is a family physician with clinical and research expertise in disability health. He was born deaf and is a cochlear implant user. As a deaf physician, he is especially interested in advocating for the rights of Deaf and hard of hearing patients to obtain equitable health care including accessible communication. His research focus includes health disparities for individuals with various disabilities, health information accessibility, health literacy, and telemedicine applications. Dr. McKee graduated from the University of Florida College of Medicine. He completed his family medicine residency at the University of South Carolina Department of Family Medicine & Preventive Medicine at Palmetto Health. He completed his preventive cardiology fellowship at University of Rochester. He is an Associate Professor at the Department of Family Medicine at the University of Michigan/Michigan Medicine.

In addition to serving on the board of the Association of Medical Professionals with Hearing Losses (AMPHL), he is also currently an appointed member of the Roundtable on Health Literacy of the National Academy of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine. He is the director for the MDisability and the Deaf Health Clinic. He is also a co-director for the Center for Disability Health & Wellness. Outside of work, he enjoys hiking, kayaking, gardening and beekeeping.

**Friday, August 12<sup>th</sup>, 2022**  
**9:00 - 10:30 a.m.**

## POSTER SESSION

**Presenter(s) listed BOLD**

1.	MENTAL HEALTH DISPARITIES BETWEEN DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING & HEARING PEERS  <b>Ivy Baker<sup>1</sup></b> , Valerie DeVos <sup>2</sup> , Kenneth De Haan <sup>3</sup> , Sheila Pratt <sup>4</sup> , Olga Kravchenko <sup>5</sup> , Jonathan Maeir <sup>5</sup> , Malihe Alikhani <sup>6</sup> , Richard D. Boyce <sup>4</sup> <sup>1</sup> Doris Duke Charitable Foundation, Doris Duke Fellowship; <sup>2</sup> Hillman Academy; <sup>3</sup> Language -Education & Culture, Gallaudet University; <sup>4</sup> Department of Biomedical Informatics, University of Pittsburgh; <sup>5</sup> Department of Family Medicine, University of Pittsburgh; <sup>6</sup> School of Computing and Information, University of Pittsburgh
2.	CHALLENGE AND OPPORTUNITES OF DEAF/HH LEARNERS IN INCLUSIVE SCHOOL  <b>Tamirat Balcha</b>
3.	THE IMMUNOMETABOLIC ROLE OF PLATELETS IN UNCOMPLICATED MALARIA INFECTION  <b>Sara K. Blick-Nitko<sup>1,2</sup></b> , Sara K. Ture <sup>2</sup> , Alison Livada <sup>1,2</sup> , Preeti Maurya <sup>2</sup> , Joshua Munger <sup>3,4</sup> , Xenia Schafer <sup>3</sup> , Craig Morrell <sup>1,2,4</sup> <sup>1</sup> Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, University of Rochester Medical Center, Rochester, NY <sup>2</sup> Aab Cardiovascular Research Institute, University of Rochester Medical Center, Rochester, NY <sup>3</sup> Department of Biochemistry and Biophysics, University of Rochester Medical Center, Rochester, NY <sup>4</sup> Department of Microbiology and Immunology, University of Rochester Medical Center, Rochester, NY
4.	PREDICTING DE NOVO PEPTIDES BINDING TO TRAP PROTEIN FOR DRUG DELIVERY DESIGN  <b>Q. Campbell</b> , Z. Yang, A. White Department of Chemical Engineering, University of Rochester
5.	AUDISM AND SELF-PERCEPTION OF DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING INDIVIDUALS  <b>C. Lucas Cirrincione</b> , Chase Martin, Dylan Levenson, S. Jordan Wright, Peter Hauser National Technical Institute for the Deaf Research Center on Culture and Language, Rochester Institute of Technology, Rochester NY

6.	<p>IMPACTS OF ROADSIDE HABITAT RESTORATION ON ANIMAL-RELATED VEHICULAR COLLISIONS IN NEW YORK, USA</p> <p><b>Hannah DeFelice</b><sup>1</sup> and Dr. Stack Whitney<sup>1,2</sup></p> <p><sup>1</sup> Environmental Science Program, Gosnell School of Life Sciences, Rochester Institute of Technology, Rochester NY 14623</p> <p><sup>2</sup> Science, Technology &amp; Society Department, Rochester Institute of Technology, Rochester NY 14623</p>
7.	<p>COMPARING HEALTHCARE EXPERIENCES BETWEEN DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING VS HEARING PATIENTS DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC</p> <p><b>Valerie DeVos</b><sup>1</sup>, Ivy Baker<sup>2</sup>, Kenneth De Haan<sup>3</sup>, Sheila Pratt<sup>3</sup>, Olga Kravchenko<sup>4</sup>, Jonathan Maeir<sup>5</sup>, Malihe Alikhani<sup>6</sup>, Richard D. Boyce<sup>3</sup></p> <p><sup>1</sup>Hillman Academy; <sup>2</sup>Doris Duke Charitable Foundation, Doris Duke Fellowship; <sup>3</sup>Language - Education &amp; Culture, Gallaudet University; <sup>4</sup>Department of Biomedical Informatics, University of Pittsburgh; <sup>5</sup>Department of Family Medicine, University of Pittsburgh; <sup>6</sup>School of Computing and Information, University of Pittsburgh</p>
8.	<p>MENSTRUAL STIGMA AND REUSABLE PERIOD PRODUCTS IN THE ROCHESTER DEAF COMMUNITY</p> <p><b>Ella Doane</b><sup>1</sup>, Tiffany Panko<sup>1,2</sup>, Cindy Jiao<sup>3</sup></p> <p><sup>1</sup> Rochester Institute of Technology / National Technical Institute for the Deaf, Center on Cognition &amp; Language</p> <p><sup>2</sup> University of Rochester Medical Center, Department of Obstetrics &amp; Gynecology</p> <p><sup>3</sup> University of Rochester School of Medicine &amp; Dentistry</p>
9.	<p>IMPACTS OF ABORTION SITGMA ON THE DEAF COMMUNITY</p> <p><b>Rachel Doane</b>, Tiffany Panko, MD, MBA, and Corrine Occhino, PhD</p> <p>Center on Culture and Language, National Technical Institute for the Deaf, Rochester Institute of Technology, Rochester NY</p>
10.	<p>RXASL: MEDICATION-RELATED EXPERIENCES OF DEAF AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE USERS</p> <p><b>Barbara Essex BS</b><sup>1</sup>, Kaixin Li BA<sup>2</sup>, Olivia Brumfield BS<sup>2</sup>, Ellen Wagner MS<sup>2</sup>, Mariam Paracha PharmD<sup>1,2</sup></p> <p><sup>1</sup> Rochester Institute of Technology, and National Technical Institute for the Deaf, Rochester NY. <sup>2</sup> University of Rochester, Rochester, NY</p>

11.	<p>ELUCIDATING THE FUNCTION OF IL-27 IN THE INNATE IMMUNE RESPONSE AGAINST LEGIONELLA PNEUMOPHILA INFECTION</p> <p><b>Kara Farquharson</b><sup>1</sup>, Johannes Platten<sup>2</sup>, Archana Jayaraman<sup>1</sup>, Sarah Walachowski<sup>1,2</sup>, Arjun Sharma<sup>1,2</sup>, Markus Bosmann<sup>1,2</sup></p> <p><sup>1</sup>Pulmonary Center, Department of Medicine, Boston University School of Medicine, Boston, MA, 02118, USA</p> <p><sup>2</sup>Center for Thrombosis and Hemostasis, University Medical Center Mainz, Mainz, 55131, Germany</p>
12.	<p>UNCOVERING THE NEURAL BASIS OF PATERNAL CARE IN AFRICAN STRIPED MICE</p> <p><b>Anna Kasper</b>, Forrest D. Rogers, Catherine J. Peña <u>Princeton Neuroscience Institute, Princeton University</u></p>
13.	<p>ANALYSIS OF TEMPORALLY DISTINCT ROLES OF THE NOTCH LIGAND JAGGED1 DURING SENSORY DEVELOPMENT OF THE COCHLEA</p> <p><b>Courtney Kellogg</b><sup>1,2</sup> and Amy Kiernan<sup>2</sup></p> <p><sup>1</sup>Department of Pathology, University of Rochester, Rochester, NY</p> <p><sup>2</sup>Department of Ophthalmology, University of Rochester, Rochester, NY</p>
14.	<p>A SPIKING NEURON MODEL OF THE AUDITORY MIDBRAIN CELLS</p> <p><b>Kameron Kinast</b> and Dr. Laurel Carney Rochester Institute of Technology; Department of Biomedical Engineering, University of Rochester</p>
15.	<p>PROBING PAL-TOLB INTERACTIONS VIA SITE-DIRECTED MUTAGENESIS</p> <p><b>Alyssa Kingston</b>, Isabelle Pilo, Yasmeen Cartwright, Dr. Lea Vacca Michel School of Chemistry and Materials Science, Rochester Institute of Technology, Rochester, NY</p>
16.	<p>BIAS, LANGUAGE, GENDER, &amp; HEARING WITHIN THE ABILITY OF FACIAL RECOGNITION</p> <p><b>Dylan J. Levenson</b> Rochester Institute of Technology, Rochester, NY</p>
17.	<p>IMPLICIT BIASES AND HEARING STATUS IMPACT ON FACIAL RECOGNITION</p> <p><b>Dylan J. Levenson</b> Rochester Institute of Technology, Rochester, NY</p>

18.	<p>NAVIGATING AS A DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING UNDERGRADUATE IN RESEARCH LABORATORIES: BARRIERS AND INCLUSION</p> <p><b>Jason D. Listman</b>, Kim B. Kurz, Amanda Picioli, &amp; Paul A. Craig, Department of American Sign Language and Interpreting Education, Communication Studies and Services Department, School of Chemistry and Materials Science, Rochester Institute of Technology Rochester NY</p>
19.	<p>USE OF THE REMOVE INTERPRETING TEST WITH SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETERS TO ASSESS THE EFFECTS OF WORKING REMOTELY FROM HOME DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC</p> <p><b>Gretchen Roman</b>,<sup>1,2</sup> Vincent Samar,<sup>3</sup> Deborah Ossip,<sup>1,2</sup> Michael McKee,<sup>4</sup> Steven Barnett,<sup>5</sup> and Reza Yousefi-Nooraie<sup>1,2</sup>  <sup>1</sup>Clinical &amp; Translational Science Institute, University of Rochester, 265 Crittenden Boulevard, Rochester, NY, USA; <sup>2</sup>Department of Public Health Sciences, University of Rochester, 265 Crittenden Boulevard, Rochester, NY, USA; <sup>3</sup>Department of Liberal Studies, National Technical Institute for the Deaf, Rochester Institute of Technology, 52 Lomb Memorial Drive, Rochester, NY, USA; <sup>4</sup>Department of Family Medicine, University of Michigan, 1018 Fuller Street, Ann Arbor, MI, USA; <sup>5</sup>Department of Family Medicine, University of Rochester, 1381 South Avenue, Rochester, NY, USA</p>
20.	<p>DEVELOPING A CULTURALLY, LINGUISTICALLY, VISUALLY ACCESSIBLE REDCAP EXTERNAL MODULE</p> <p><b>Jennifer Stewardson</b><sup>1</sup>, Lori DeWindt<sup>1</sup>, Erika Sutter<sup>1</sup>, Steven Barnett<sup>1</sup>, Carl Reed<sup>2</sup>, Mark McEver<sup>2</sup>, Paul Harris<sup>2</sup>  Institutions: <sup>1</sup>Rochester Prevention Research Center: National Center for Deaf Health Research (NCDHR), University of Rochester, Rochester, NY <sup>2</sup>Vanderbilt University Medical Center Data Coordinating Center Core, Vanderbilt Institute for Clinical and Translational Research, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN</p>
21.	<p>AVAILABILITY OF IMMEDIATE IN-PERSON COMMUNICATION ACCESS FOR DEAF PATIENTS IN NYS HOSPITALS</p> <p><b>Gabriel Veit</b>, Wendy Dannels, Richard Dirmyer, Jessica Contreras, Brian Mak  XR Accessibility Solutions Laboratory, Center on Culture and Language, National Technical Institute for the Deaf Research, Rochester Institute of Technology</p>

22.	<p>POINT OF CARE HIV DIAGNOSTIC TEST</p> <p><b>Brittany J. Watterson<sup>1</sup></b>, Samuel L. Hunt<sup>1</sup>, Jeffrey Beard<sup>2</sup>, Benjamin L. Miller<sup>1,2</sup> Departments of <sup>1</sup>Dermatology and <sup>2</sup>Biomedical Engineering, University of Rochester, Rochester NY</p>
23.	<p>INVESTIGATION INTO DEAF HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS' EXPERIENCES DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC</p> <p><b>Rebecca Zelic</b> Department of Rehabilitation Sciences, St George's University of London, London, United Kingdom</p>

**Friday, August 12<sup>th</sup>, 2022**  
**10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**  
**1:30 – 3:00 p.m.**

## **BREAKOUT SESSION**

### **GRANT WRITING**

This session will provide an overview of grant preparation including: searching for funding opportunities, understanding the funding announcement, assembling the application, and discussing what reviewers are looking for in a good application. The session will also focus on how to best craft your biosketch and set career goals for those in training and early-stage investigator positions.



**Sara Blick-Nitko**

*Ph.D. Student*

*Cell Biology of Disease*

*Morrell Lab – Aab Cardiovascular Research Institute*

*University of Rochester Medical Center*



**Elaine Smolock, PhD**

*Director of Writing Services and Training Grant Development - URSMD-myHub*

*Co-Director of UMRC-PREP - - Dept of Microbiol Immunol.*

*Co-Director of Summer Scholars - URSMD-GEPA*

*University of Rochester Medical Center*

**Friday, August 12<sup>th</sup>, 2022**  
**10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**  
**1:30 – 3:00 p.m.**

## **BREAKOUT SESSION**

### **MOVING YOUR RESEARCH IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION**

In this session, a panel of Deaf and Hard of Hearing researchers at different career stages – postdoctoral, early career academic, and established academic – will give brief talks on how they achieved their goals. They will also discuss ideas and practices that they discovered are important for success at their career stage.



**Patricia White, PhD**  
*Research Associate Professor*  
*Department of Neuroscience*  
*University of Rochester Medical Center*



**Phu Duong, Ph.D.**  
*Postdoctoral Associate*  
*Department of Biomedical Genetics*  
*University of Rochester Medical Center*



**Nnaemeka Nnamani, Ph.D.**  
*Visiting Assistant Professor*  
*Department of Science & Mathematics*  
*National Technical Institute for the Deaf*  
*Rochester Institute of Technology*



**Henry Adler, Ph.D.**  
*Research Assistant Professor*  
*Center for Hearing & Deafness*  
*University of Buffalo*

**Friday, August 12<sup>th</sup>, 2022**  
**10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**

## **BREAKOUT SESSION**

### **NAVIGATING THE LAB SETTING**

This session provides a brief overview of safe laboratory practices and incorporate more inclusive strategies working with Deaf scientists in a modern research environment and small group activities that address barriers in inclusion, eliminate disparities and promote collaboration between the deaf and hearing peers in research.



**Pepsi Holmquist, Ph.D.**  
*Visiting Assistant Professor,  
Department of Science and Mathematics  
National Technical Institute for the Deaf  
Rochester Institute of Technology*



**Craig Morrell, DVM, PhD**  
*Professor,  
Department of Medicine  
Associate Director,  
Aab Cardiovascular Research Institute  
University of Rochester Medical Center*

*Friday, August 12<sup>th</sup>, 2022  
1:30 – 3:00 p.m.*

## **BREAKOUT SESSION**

### **INTERPRETERS IN STEM**

This session will be an opportunity to learn about and discuss the interpreting process. Specifically, we will focus on collaboration and strategies that interpreters employ to navigate the complex environment of interpreting in STEM disciplines.



**Cheryl Reminder, B.S., CI**  
*Coordinator for Outreach, NRSC*  
*Department of Access Services*  
*National Technical Institute for the Deaf*  
*Rochester Institute of Technology*

## **PROGRAM POSTER**

### **myHub: University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry Professional Development**

Elaine M. Smolock, PhD  
Eric Vaughn, MEd

myHub at the University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry is a centralized core that provides professional development resources for our learners. The overarching premise of myHub is to empower URSMD learners to pursue impactful, fulfilling, and prosperous careers. To achieve this, myHub provides programs and events that supplement every trainee's scientific education with the professional and career development opportunities most appropriate to their interests and goals. myHub offers support for graduate students and postdoctoral appointees related to skills development (statistical analysis, communication, leadership, management, marketing, mentoring, networking, survival skills, and teaching); career planning; writing; grants and fellowships; and research ethics. URBEST specifically creates programming focused on training pathways including: Industry, Manufacturing and Entrepreneurship; Regulatory Affairs, Compliance and Review; Science and Technology Policy; Data Science; Science Communication and Outreach; and Higher Education and Teaching.

## PROGRAM POSTER

### **Rochester Partnership to Advance Research and Academic Careers for Deaf Scholars**

University of Rochester & Rochester Institute of Technology/National Technical Institute for the Deaf

Gerry Buckley, Steve Dewhurst, Matt Dye (MPIs)

The primary objective of the Rochester Partnership to Advance Research and Academic Careers of Deaf (RPP-DEAF) Scholars is to rigorously train and support the career advancement of deaf and hard of hearing (D/HH) post-doctoral Scholars for independent academic careers that support the biomedical research enterprise.

The program represents a unique partnership between the University of Rochester (UR) and the Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT) and its National Technical Institute for the Deaf (NTID); it has 4 aims:

1. To provide leadership that “mentors the mentors” (with emphasis on Deaf-aware mentoring practices and Deaf culture), builds community for D/HH Scholars, and coordinates recruitment.
2. To provide individualized, mentored teaching experiences and career development activities for all Scholars.
3. To provide individualized, mentored research experiences for all Scholars.
4. To continuously evaluate the program and its outcomes

Program Highlights include:

1. A mentored research experience that is typical of other competitive postdoctoral biomedical research opportunities at leading research University (this usually occurs at UR). Each fellow devotes 75% effort to these activities.
2. A mentored practicum teaching experience to improve the fellow’s academic and teaching skills experience (this usually occurs at NTID/RIT) as well as other professional skills necessary for success. Each fellow devotes 25% effort to these activities.
3. A Research Career Development Program that takes advantage of a well-developed Mentor-Scholar Development Program in UR’s Clinical and Translational Science Institute (CTSI) to provide team mentoring relevant to D/HH postdoctoral Scholars early in their career development.

## PROGRAM POSTER

### PhD in Translational Biomedical Science Program

University of Rochester Clinical & Translational Science Institute

University of Rochester School of Medicine & Dentistry

Program Director: Juilee Thakar, PhD

Associate Program Director: Edwin van Wijngaarden, PhD

Program Coordinator: Alaina Maiorano

Translational Biomedical Science (TBS) transforms research into practical ideas that will improve the health of our world. The PhD in TBS focuses on creating a new kind of investigator – one who has a much broader view of the scientific world. We have designed the TBS program to provide fundamental knowledge of translational science and skills, basic science, biostatistics, and public health. TBS graduates emerge from the program ready to pursue productive research careers in academia, government, and industry.

**A true interdisciplinary program.** Our trainees work with world-renowned scientists internally and externally to the University who possess expansive backgrounds and expertise.

**Tailored to your needs.** With the program leadership, you design your program of study – both didactic coursework and research – to fit your research interests and career goals.

**Mentor approach.** Trainees select their primary mentor at the end of their first year of training, and from there they assemble an engaged, interdisciplinary committee to oversee their dissertation research and advise them throughout the program.

**Survival skills for research.** You will learn what it takes to survive and thrive in an academic environment, write grants, give presentations, how to write and review manuscripts, and how to find postdoctoral positions and jobs after graduation through career development programs.

**We are diverse.** Over 58% of the TBS trainees represent diversity in culture, race, and ethnicity (including two alumni and one current trainee identifying as culturally Deaf with ASL as their first language). We support and advocate for Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing trainees in the PhD in TBS program, as well as in other PhD programs in the School of Medicine & Dentistry.

## PROGRAM POSTER

### Group Mentoring at a Distance: Videoconferencing to Promote Deaf Scholar Resilience, Persistence, Retention, and Success

Peter C. Hauser<sup>1</sup>, Jessica Cuculick<sup>1</sup>, and Steve Barnett<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>National Technical Institute for the Deaf/Rochester Institute of Technology,  
and <sup>2</sup>School of Medicine and Dentistry/University of Rochester

**Motivation:** Aspiring Deaf and hard-of-hearing (DHH) scientists often navigate biomedical doctoral training in programs that do not provide DHH peers and role models. This experience can be lonely and frustrating and can negatively impact scholar resilience, persistence, retention, and success. Many Rochester Bridges to the Doctorate (RB2D) alumni have matriculated to biomedical science doctoral programs and found it difficult to thrive as the sole DHH student.

**Approach:** To address the lack of a critical mass of DHH scholars at different universities, the RB2D program has developed a virtual community (Deaf Scientist Time-DST) . RB2D scholars, alumni, and DHH students from other universities videoconference monthly. The video modality is essential for visual communication (e.g., sign language) amongst DHH participants, and also promotes interpersonal connections. DHH faculty facilitate the meetings, which begin with a check-in to see how the scholars are doing and to address any urgent challenges. Each meeting has an additional specific goal, such as allowing participants to practice conference presentations for feedback, or learning effective survival strategies from more seasoned deaf scientists.

**Outcomes:** The first meeting included 10 DHH participants from five different sites. Participants shared that they are thrilled this resource is available and have excitedly offered potential topics for future meetings. We plan mixed methods (survey and interviews) to assess this new program and inform improvements. We believe that as more DHH scholars learn about this open virtual meeting, there will be greater participation and ultimately a critical mass of DHH aspiring scientists to network and support each other.

**Lessons Learned:** This virtual community was enthusiastically received by DHH participants, and is a promising approach to address isolation, promote community building, and foster persistence and success. This model likely has applications with other groups that are underrepresented in biomedical research fields.

## CONFERENCE TABLE

### **The National Technical Institute for the Deaf Co-op and Career Center Rochester Institute of Technology**



Amy Stornello, Sr. Employment Advisor/TITLE IX Deputy Coordinator

Amy Stornello has worked at RIT/NTID for the past 20+ years in various positions. Currently, she's the Senior Employment Advisor at NTID's Co-Op and Career Center (NC3), supporting Deaf/Hard of Hearing students in the science/health programs. RIT/NTID has forged partnerships with various employers across the U.S. who are becoming more aware of how to work with D/HH employees, wanting to recruit/hire/train and support them as well. Amy can also provide assistance with resume/cover letter development/editing, and other co-op/career preparation assistance.

## PARTICIPATING INSTITUTIONS & DEPARTMENTS

Boston University, Boston, MA  
Gallaudet University, Washington, DC  
Penn College of Technology, Williamsport, PA  
Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT), Rochester, NY  
National Technical Institute for the Deaf | RIT, Rochester, NY  
St. George's University of London, UK  
University of Central Lancashire, UK  
University of Buffalo, Buffalo, NY  
University of Detroit Mercy, Detroit, MI  
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI  
University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA  
University of Rochester, Rochester, NY  
UPMC Hillman Cancer Center Academy, Pittsburgh, PA  
Western NY Developmental Disabilities Services Office, West Seneca, NY

### UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER

Biomedical Engineering  
Biomedical Genetics  
Cell Biology of Disease  
Center for Vaccine Biology and Immunology  
Center of Advanced Research Technologies  
Chemical Engineering  
Clinical & Translational Science Institute  
Computer Science  
Cardiovascular Research Institute  
Deaf Wellness Center  
Dermatology  
Eastman Performing Arts Medicine  
Emergency Medicine  
Environmental Health and Safety  
Interpreter Services  
Medicine  
Microbiology & Immunology  
National Center for Deaf Health Research  
Neuroscience  
Obstetrics & Gynecology  
Office of Counsel  
Office of Disability Resources  
Office of Equity and Inclusion  
Pathology  
Psychiatry  
Public Health Sciences  
Translational Biomedical Science

## **PARTICIPATING INSTITUTIONS & DEPARTMENTS Cont.**

### **ROCHESTER INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY**

Academic Affairs  
Access Services  
American Sign Language & Interpreting Education  
Biology  
Chemistry  
College of Health Science & Technology  
Deaf MetaLiteracy Lab  
DeafTEC  
Environmental Science  
Health Science  
LS & Wellness  
Marketing Communications  
Master of Science in Secondary Education  
National Technical Institute for the Deaf  
NTID Center on Culture & Langugae  
NTID Co-Op & Career Center  
NTID Liberal Studies  
NTID Science & Mathematics  
Office of the Associate Dean of Research  
President's Office  
RIT Libraries  
School of Chemistry & Materials Science  
Science, Technology & Society  
Sensory, Perceptual & Cognitive Ecology Center  
Student Life Team

## SPECIAL THANKS

Mark Diltz (URMC) – Website Development  
National Technical Institute for the Deaf/RIT – Hearing Loops  
Hardeman Realtime, Inc. – Remote Captioning  
White Coat Captioning – Remote Captioning  
Don Feigel (NTID-RIT) – Videography  
Matthew Sluka & Lindsay Dobson (NTID-RIT) – Photography

### URMC and RIT-NTID Interpreters

Kira Avery  
Byron Behm  
Kirsten Borkowski  
Elizabeth Butcher  
Dana Cardona  
Danielle Cohen  
Cynthia Collward  
Ellen Cooper  
Martha Cousins  
Lauren Dearman  
Bill Degroote  
Kayla Donnellan  
Chris Grooms  
Sarah Jacobs  
Nancy Kikendall  
Carolyn Kropp  
Jen Mura  
Frank Polvino  
Ali Putney  
Megan Robertson  
Jennaca Saeva  
Sarah Schneckenburger  
Alisa Supplee  
Tiffany Taylor  
Alyx Vaisey  
Erika Vazquez  
Ellen Webster  
Kat Womack  
Lisa Zalar  
Jess Ziomek

*\*With a special thanks to Cynthia Collward and Ellen Webster for coordinating interpreter services\**

*Thank you for your participation and helping make this event a great success!*