

MONIQUE MENDES

PH.D.

NEUROSCIENCE GRADUATE PROGRAM



University of Rochester Annual Neuroscience Retreat

SEPTEMBER 4TH

1:00-1:30 PM

GRADUATE STUDENT SPEAKER

Monique Mendes is originally from Kingston, Jamaica. She received her degree in Biology from the University of Florida. Monique came to the University of Rochester in search of a robust neuroscience program that focused on glial biology and a collaborative environment. In the laboratory of Dr. Ania Majewska, Monique is researching how specific brain cells, microglia, undergo a process called self-renewal. Microglia are the brain's immune cells and have long been appreciated for their critical roles during brain injury and disease. Recent studies, however, show that microglia maintain brain homeostasis by supporting developing neurons and remodeling neural circuitry during development. Despite their importance in the brain, very little is known about how microglia sustain themselves after they enter the brain during development. Monique successfully defended her thesis on July 31st 2020 and will continue her career as a Post-Doctoral Fellow in Dr. Mark Schnitzer's lab at the Stanford University in the fall.