



2019 Trainee Leaders & Working Group Members

A Note from Training & Development Committee Chair Lauren Tindale

ASHG Trainee Leaders aim to create and expand opportunities for all trainees in human genetics. Trainees have specific concerns including career exploration, trainee-mentor relationships, networking, funding, skill acquisition, and job opportunities. The Training and Development Committee (TDC) continually works to develop online resources and sessions at the annual meeting that are specifically geared to the interests of ASHG trainee members. Trainee Leaders are also present on all standing committees at ASHG and provide an invaluable trainee voice across the society's leadership.

Please feel free to explore the ASHG trainee resources, contact one of our Trainee Leaders, or get involved by applying to our leadership opportunities in the fall!

Best regards,

Lauren



Lauren Tindale

Training & Development Committee (Chair)

PhD candidate, Canada's Michael Smith Genome Sciences Centre,
Simon Fraser University

I study the genetics of healthy aging and longevity in a group of Super-Seniors.

Innovative, perceptive, perseverant

2019 Trainee Leaders (Listed Alphabetically)



Beryl B Cummings

Program Committee

Graduate Student, Massachusetts General Hospital, Broad Institute, Boston, USA

My work focuses on using transcriptome sequencing to inform variant interpretation and rare disease diagnosis

Witty, helpful, resilient



Burcu Darst, PhD

Training & Development Committee

Postdoctoral Scholar, University of Southern California

My research uses genomics to understand the onset of complex diseases, including prostate cancer and Alzheimer's Disease.

Adventurous, determined, resilient



Emily Davenport, PhD

Training & Development Committee (Chair-Elect)

Postdoctoral Fellow, Cornell University and the Max Planck Institute for Developmental Biology

My work focuses on understanding what determines human gut microbiome composition, including environmental and host genetic factors.

Determined, diligent, sarcastic



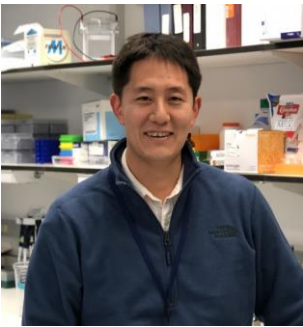
Ky'Era Actkins

Training & Development Committee

PhD Candidate, Meharry Medical College

I study the genetics underlying health disparities.

Imaginative, optimistic, friendly



Ted Han, PhD

Training & Development Committee

Postdoctoral Researcher, National Human Genome Research Institute

I am a post-doctoral fellow at NHGRI studying rare Mendelian disorders with a focus on lysosomal storage disorders and neurodegenerative diseases while also working with the Undiagnosed Diseases Program.

Calm, curious, practical



Ha Eun Kong

Awards Committee

MD/PhD Candidate, Emory University School of Medicine

I am investigating the molecular basis for the pathogenesis of Fragile X Tremor and Ataxia Syndrome (FXTAS).

Driven, curious, friendly



Grace Kwon

Training and Development Committee

MD/PhD Candidate, University of Connecticut and The Jackson Laboratory for Genomic Medicine

My research focuses on the role of long noncoding RNAs in allergic asthma, specifically in airway epithelium.

Eccentric, dependable, cat mom



Mila Mirceta

Training and Development Committee

PhD Candidate, Hospital for Sick Children, University of Toronto

My research focuses on understanding the mechanism of DNA expansion in the C9orf72 gene that causes amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) and frontotemporal dementia (FTD).

Passionate, outgoing, reliable



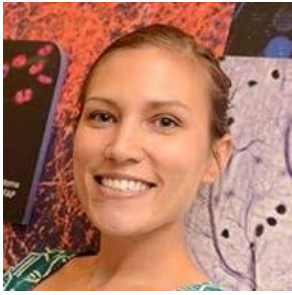
Zachary Nevin

Board of Directors

MD/PhD Student, Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine

I am developing human organoid models of genetic brain diseases while finishing med school.

Imaginative, inquisitive, sincere



Alexis Norris, PhD

Information and Education Committee

Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Kennedy Krieger Institute & Johns Hopkins University

My research utilizes computational tools to identify genes and pathways dysregulated in psychiatric disorders.

Enthusiastic, engaging, and empowering



Christopher Robles

Training & Development Committee

PhD Candidate, University of California, Los Angeles

My research focuses on ancient DNA, and developing statistical methods to analyze large data sets and determine how Neanderthal ancestry impacts modern human phenotypes.

Adventurous, energetic, compassionate



Xinchun Wang, PhD

Awards Committee

Postdoctoral Fellow, Columbia University

My research focuses on studying how mutations and genetic variation in the non-coding genome contribute to human disease.

Curious, driven, imaginative

2018 Trainee Working Group Members

Trainee Newsletter Working Group

[Burcu Darst](#) – University of Southern California (leader)
[Sumantra Chatterjee](#) – NYU Langone Medical Center
[Ted Han](#) – National Human Genome Research Institute
[Sarah Gagliano](#) - University of Michigan
[Allison McCague](#) - Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine
[Sandra Smieszek](#) - Case Western Reserve University
[Kathryn Vaillancourt](#) - Douglas Mental Health University Institute
[Brooke Wolford](#) - University of Michigan
[Jennifer Zieba](#) - Baylor College of Medicine

Trainee Paper Spotlight Working Group

[Emily Davenport](#) - Cornell University (leader)
[Grace Kwon](#) - University of Connecticut, The Jackson Laboratory for Genomic Medicine
[Mila Mirceta](#) - Hospital for Sick Children, University of Toronto

#ASHGtrainee Twitter Working Group

[Emily Davenport](#) - Cornell University (co-leader)
[Christopher Robles](#) - University of California, Los Angeles

FASEB Training & Career Development Subcommittee Working Group

[Doug Dluzen](#) – Morgan State University (Chair)
[Emily Davenport](#) - Cornell University