*Curriculum Vitae*

**Taylor Hite**

Department of Behavioral Neuroscience

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**Education**

* **Georgia State University (*Atlanta, GA)***
  + Bachelor of Science, Neuroscience Cum Laude *(August 2015-May 2019)*

**Research Interests**

* **Parturition and brain development:** how do events leading up to and immediately following birth impact fetal brain development?
* **Development and addiction/mental illness:** how do aspects of development influence susceptibility to addiction/likelihood of psychiatric illness later in life?
* **Molecular/genetic mechanisms of addiction**

**Professional Experience**

**Lab Technician *(11/19-Current)***

Employer: Georgia State University, Department of Neuroscience

Advisor: Dr. Alexandra Castillo-Ruiz, Ph.D.

PI: Nancy G. Forger, Ph.D.

* Currently, we are looking out how different aspects of birth impact cell death patterns in the perinatal mouse brain, including microbiota exposure, vasopressin release, and birth timing.
* Responsibilities: Data collection, brain slicing, mounting brain sections to slides, coverslipping slides, immunohistochemistry, solution making, and statistical analysis of data. In addition, I make sure everyone in the lab has up-to-date training, compile and submit Purchase Card (P-Card) statements, and attend weekly lab meetings to discuss project progress.

**Undergraduate Research Assistant *(05/18-11/19)***

Employer: Georgia State University, Department of Neuroscience

Advisor: Dr. Alexandra Castillo-Ruiz, Ph.D.

PI: Dr. Nancy G. Forger, Ph.D.

* Investigated the effect of birth timing on post-mitotic cell death patterns in the perinatal mouse brain using activated caspase-3 as a marker of cell death.
* Responsibilities: Data collection, brain slicing, mounting brain sections to slides, coverslipping slides, immunohistochemistry, solution making, statistical analysis of data, and attended weekly lab meeting to discuss project progress.

**Undergraduate Summer Internship *(06/18-07/18):***

Employer: Georgia Aquarium through Georgia State University Department of Neuroscience

Advisor: Dr. Michael Black, Ph.D.

* Project: Study of whale shark behavior in an aquarium setting
* Responsibilities: Observing and recording various whale shark behaviors using a computer program.

**Poster Presentations**

**Hite, T.,** Castillo-Ruiz, A., Yakout, D., Forger, NG., "Effects of birth timing on patterns of cell death in the perinatal mouse brain" National Convention for Undergraduate Research (NCUR), Kennesaw, GA. ***April 2019***

**Hite, T.,** Castillo-Ruiz, A., Yakout, D. "Effects of birth timing on patterns of cell death in the perinatal mouse brain" Georgia State Undergraduate Research Convention (GSURC), Atlanta, GA. ***April 2019***

**Publications**

Castillo-Ruiz, A., **Hite, T.,** Yakout, D., Rosen, J., Forger, NG., “Does birth trigger cell death in the developing brain?” Submitted, ***November 2019***

**Skills**

* Immunohistochemistry
* Thionin counterstaining
* Mounting brain sections to slides
* Sectioning brains using a microtome
* Microscopy
* Data analysis
* Peer leadership in lab and other fields
* P-card/budget management
* Scientific writing
* Presenting confidently to an audience
* Thresholding via ImageJ
* Proficient in Stereo Investigato

**Related Volunteer and Work Experience**

**Lab Technician *(November 2019-Present)***

* Employer: Georgia State University

**Undergraduate Research Assistant *(May 2018-November 2019)***

* Employer: Georgia State University

**Medical Mission to Nigeria (December 2017)**

Organization: Pre-Medical Students Making a Difference (MSMD) in partnership with Dr. Isioma Okoba, M.D.

* During this two-and-a-half-week medical mission, we hosted 4 health fairs in 4 different villages in rural Delta State, Nigeria. During the health fairs, I shadowed Nigerian doctors, interacted with patients, and distributed medication with a huge emphasis on informing patients of local healthcare facilities to help manage their health.

**Relevant Coursework**

* Animal Biology
* Cognitive Neuroscience
* Hormones and Behavior
* Intro to Drugs and Behavior
* Molecular and Cellular Biology
* Neuroscience Laboratory
* Neuroscience of Motivation and Emotion
* Principles of Neuroscience I and II
* Psychopathology and Abnormal Psychology
* Research and Design Analysis
* Scientific Methods in Neuroscience-Critical Thinking Through Writing

**Scholarships and Honors**

* Dean’s List (Fall 2015, Spring 2016, Fall 2016, Summer 2017, Fall 2017, Spring 2018)
* President’s List (Spring 2017)
* Lee Project Scholarship (Fall 2018)
* Nu Rho Psi Honors Society (Inducted Fall 2018)