

# What's On!-- In Brain Sciences

A Brain Science Research Consortium Unit Weekly Publication - Friday, Feb 8, 2019

The Brain Science Research Consortium Unit (BSRCU) is the first RCU created from the University of Maryland School of Medicine [Accel-MED Initiative](#), and seeks to align basic and clinical research endeavors in the brain sciences. This information-sharing newsletter will be published electronically every Friday. If you would like to contribute to an upcoming issue, please email [BSRCUinfo@som.umaryland.edu](mailto:BSRCUinfo@som.umaryland.edu) with the subject line "Submission."

## Featured Event

**Program in Neuroscience  
Bradley Alger Lecture**

[Suzanne Haber, PhD](#)



Professor, Depts of Neuroscience  
and Pharmacology & Physiology  
University of Rochester School of  
Medicine and Dentistry

*"From monkey anatomy to human imaging:  
insights into the circuits underlying  
decision-making, psychiatric disease and  
neuromodulation"*

**February 14, 2019  
4:00-5:00 PM  
HSF II Auditorium**

## Featured Publication

[Dorsal Raphe Dual Serotonin-Glutamate  
Neurons Drive Reward by Establishing  
Excitatory Synapses on VTA  
Mesoaccumbens Dopamine Neurons](#)

Wang HL1, Zhang S, Qi J, Wang H, Cachope R,  
Mejias-Aponte CA, Gomez JA, Mateo-Semidey GE,  
Beaudoin GMJ, Paladini CA, Cheer JF, Morales M.  
Cell Rep. doi: 10.1016/j.celrep.2019.01.014.

## New Grant



National Institute  
of Mental Health

**Congratulations!**  
[James M. Gold, PhD](#)  
Professor of Psychiatry

For receiving a  
five-year R01  
grant entitled:  
"Predictive  
Coding as a  
Framework for  
Understanding  
Psychosis" from the National  
Institute of Mental Health  
(NIMH/NIH).



### Suggestions

Comments?  
Click [Here](#)

### Calendar

Upcoming Brain  
Science Events  
Across UMB  
Click [Here](#)

### New RFAs

See [Here](#) for an  
updated list of  
RFAs in the brain  
sciences



## Faculty Spotlight

### Todd D. Gould, MD

*Associate Professor in the Departments of Psychiatry,  
Pharmacology, and Anatomy & Neurobiology*

Dr. Gould received his medical degree from the University of Virginia, and completed his fellowship training in the Laboratory of Molecular Pathophysiology and Experimental Therapeutics at the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) intramural program. While at NIMH, Dr. Gould used genetic, molecular, cellular, and behavioral approaches to understand how lithium exerts its mood stabilizing effects in preclinical models used for the study of depression and bipolar disorder. Dr. Gould's laboratory investigates the mechanisms of action of current and future mood stabilizers and antidepressants using a variety of translational neuroscience approaches, including genetic, pharmacological, biochemical, photometric, electroencephalographic, and behavioral. The aim of his research program is to provide a mechanistic understanding for psychiatric drug actions, and to assess the feasibility of novel treatment strategies. His present work is largely focused on rapid-acting antidepressant drug pharmacology, which is motivated by the clinical finding that symptoms of treatment-resistant major depression are relieved within hours following a single subanesthetic dose of the anesthetic drug ketamine. His research team, along with School of Medicine faculty, Drs. Scott Thompson, Edson Albuquerque, Edna Pereira, Greg Elmer and Panos Zanos, identified and established the antidepressant potential of the ketamine metabolite, hydroxynorketamine (Zanos et al., Nature 2016), which will be entering Phase I clinical studies this year. Additionally, his work with Dr. Robert Schwarcz identified the 4-chlorokynurenine NMDA receptor glycine site antagonist as a putative antidepressant, which led directly to ongoing Phase II clinical studies for its use in treatment-refractory major depression ([NCT02484456](#)).

Dr. Gould is currently the Principal Investigator on several grants including an NIH R01 for the study of novel rapid-acting antidepressants, an NIH Bench to Bedside Award funding translational antidepressant mechanistic studies in collaboration with the NIH intramural program, a Veterans Administration Merit Award to identify new treatments for post traumatic stress disorder and anhedonia, and two independent pharmaceutical grants. Further, as part of a School of Nursing NIH P30 Award, Dr. Gould is the co-PI of the Model Development and Phenotyping Core, and he is also a co-Investigator on five additional federal grants. He is proud to have received the UMB Program in Neuroscience's Most Collaborative Faculty Award for the past two years.

In addition to re-conceptualizing the treatment of depression, Dr. Gould's outside interests include shredding Patapsco State Park mountain biking trails near his home, teaching extreme wrestling moves to his daughters ages 5 and 6, and spending time with his wife of 14 years, who is faculty in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at John's Hopkins University.

More information on Dr. Gould, as well as his full academic portfolio, can be found at <http://www.medschool.umaryland.edu/profiles/Gould-Todd/>

For more information go to [www.medschool.umaryland.edu/BSRCU/](http://www.medschool.umaryland.edu/BSRCU/)

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