As scientists, we are measured by the impact of the papers we publish in peer-review journals. Although there are no perfect measures of 'impact', the number of times a paper is cited in other articles is a commonly used benchmark. If you want to read more different ways of measuring the impact of research output of scientists rather than the average impact factor of journals, see e.g. Bergstrom et al., J Neurosci 28, 11433, 2008. In neuroscience, the average number of citations for a paper is < 20, so anything above a few hundred indicates a highly cited paper. Here is a subset of top-cited papers from NGP alumni, all with more than 250 citations. In parentheses is the year they received their PhD from the Neuroscience Graduate Program at OHSU.

Randy York (2001)

http://www.nature.com/nature/journal/v392/n6676/abs/392622a0.html

James Smart (2003)


Christian Rosenmund (1993)


Christopher Fiorillo (1998)

http://www.sciencemag.org/cgi/content/abstract/299/5614/1898

Andre Rivard (2007)


Ngan Vo (2002)


Ken Tovar (2000)

http://www.jneurosci.org/cgi/content/abstract/19/10/4180

Jacques Wadiche (1998)