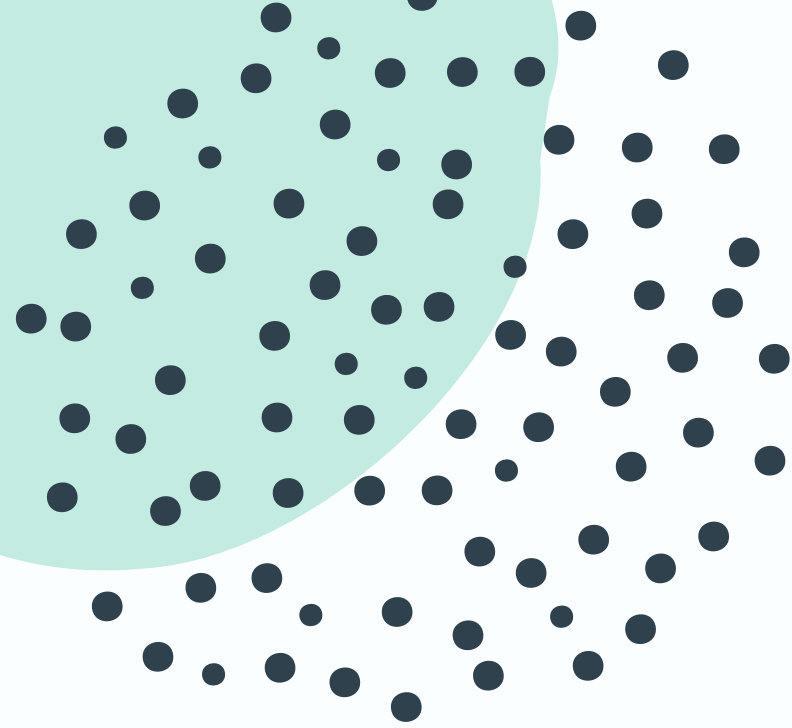


POSTDOCS OF OHSU

A collection of stories from your fellow postdocs,
including your Postdoc Society officers!

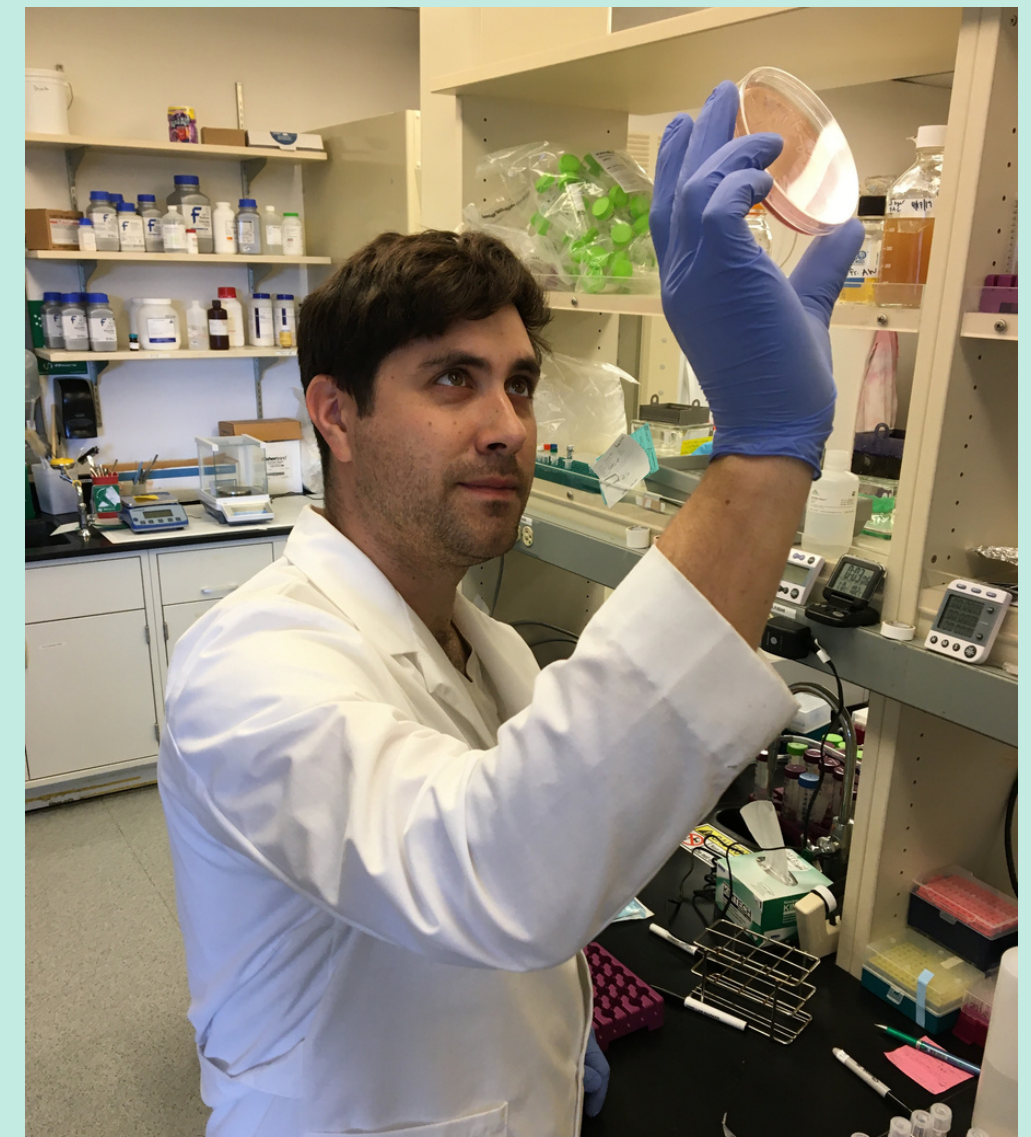




I joined OHSU in early 2019, and my primary research focuses on the regulation of innate immunity and inflammatory cytokines in intestinal epithelial cells. In essence, I study how the gut responds to microbes. I've already found many great collaborators across the basic sciences at OHSU, and am very excited to continue my training here. I completed my graduate education at Stanford University, where I studied the molecular mechanisms of dengue virus infection and antiviral compounds. Of course, I do more than work. I love to garden, to brew beer, to row, and to compete in triathlons. I also have a bad habit of developing more hobbies than I can sustain. While I do miss the fair weather and excellent cycling roads of California, I'm a long-time fan of Portland and the Pacific Northwest in general, having gone to Reed College as an undergrad and grown up near Seattle. I've been very happy to return to Portland, and to join OHSU for my postdoctoral training.

Dave Constant

SECRETARY



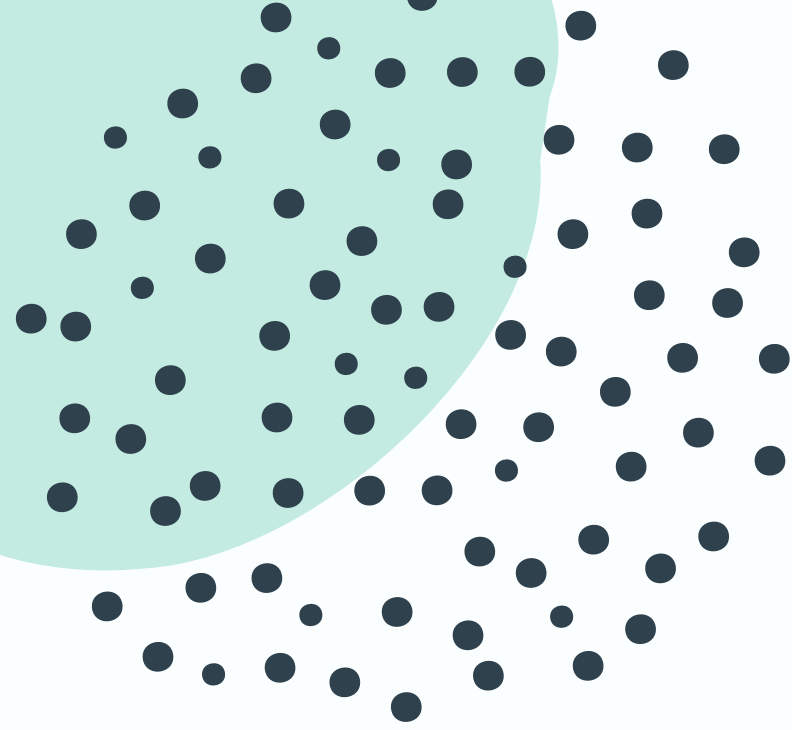
Cirila Estela Vasquez Guzman

DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION



As a post-doc in the Department of Family Medicine at OHSU, life is really hectic! I work on many projects, write, research, and analyze as well as attend lots of meetings. I am most proud of my pilot research that is currently being conducted. I am investigating and will be presenting at a conference the perceptions of the medical school environment among racially, ethnically, and socially underrepresented minorities (RES-URM). As a first generation Latinx immigrant woman, I love being part of amazing teams such as RELATE, BACKGROUND, and NNACoE doing the work to transform the face and practice of modern medicine because we all win with an equitable and humanistic healthcare system.

Although COVID-19 has certainly made things very different, it has also allowed me to see the need for life-work integration/balance. After 14 years of leaving home, my move back to Portland, OR for this post-doc has allowed me to reconnect with my family and enjoy amazing food, learning from my mother. Here is a pic of me cooking Oaxacan mole in my new Oaxacan apron. My mother is the reason why I have made it this far in my academic journey and I have really enjoyed learning in the kitchen alongside her during the weekends - always taking notes of our traditional recipes. #Oaxacan #Academic #PostDoc #Equity #Representation #Transformation



My name is Andre Walcott and I'm a postdoc at the Knight Cancer Institute's Cancer Early Detection Advanced Research Center (CEDAR). My postdoc focuses on developing ways to make the biomedical sciences more accessible and providing professional/career development opportunities to trainees in CEDAR. I received my Ph.D. in Behavioral Neuroscience at OHSU in 2019. My dissertation focused on the interactions between sociality and alcohol consumption in prairie voles. In my free time I like to bike around Portland, try new beer/food, and spend time with my fiancé Daniel and our two cats (Gizmo and Gadget).

Andre Walcott

CAREER DEVELOPMENT



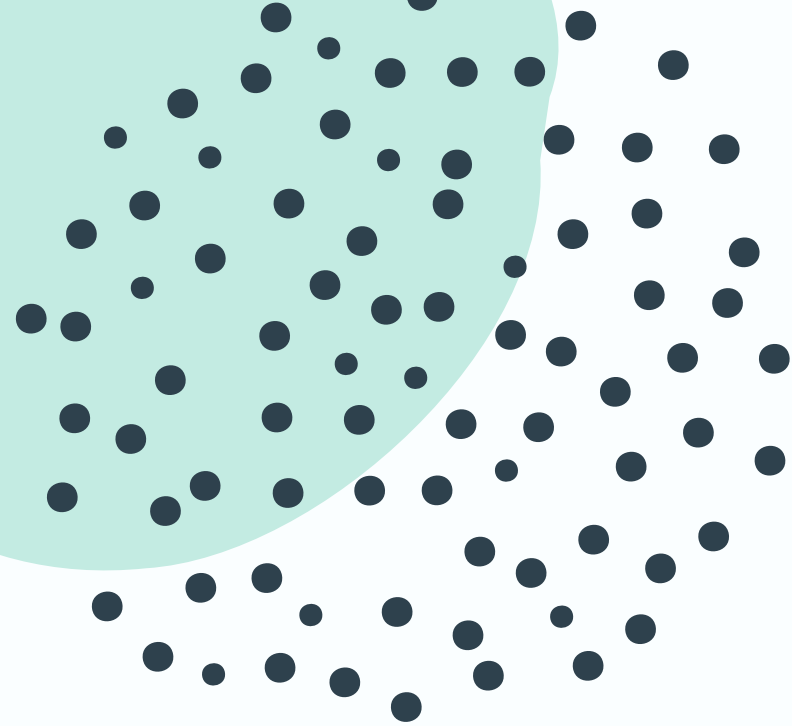
Carly Starke

SOCIAL



I joined OHSU at the Vaccine and Gene Therapy Institute in September 2019. My main research focus is to understand how immune response dysregulation leads to tissue pathology, disease progression, and pathogen persistence in the context of highly relevant human diseases, including HIV and COVID-19. I completed my PhD at the National Institutes of Health in partnership with Georgetown University, studying SIV immunopathogenesis in non-human primates. I've loved moving to the Pacific Northwest from the east coast. Most weekends I can be found rock climbing, backpacking, and mountaineering.





I have been a postdoc at OHSU for exactly 1 year. I came here from the University of Arizona down in Tucson, but I am originally from North Carolina. My work involves recording neural activity directly from deep structures in the brains of non-human primates so there are very few places in the world where I could continue my research. The Oregon National Primate Research Center (ONPRC) was one of my top targets for a postdoc due to the amazing resources we have here and luckily for me, the Behavioral Neuroscience Department had just hired Vincent Costa when I started looking for a postdoc. Vinny's lab is a perfect blend what I knew how to do already (in vivo electrophysiology) with new techniques for the manipulation of neural circuitry (e.g., through pharmacogenetics). I also really love Portland and enjoy all things outdoors. In pre-Covid times I was always playing soccer and would love to start again once it is safe. After 6 years in the southwest desert, I was also ready for some rain. Being part of a new lab, the thing I am most proud of is that I have been able to handle much of the setup I needed on my own. I went from having a lot of guidance from a larger, experienced team during my PhD to being the person who is more in charge of the projects in my new lab. I trained my first monkeys and didn't have to use essentially any senior support for the first time. It feels good to know that when the chips were down, I was able to rise to the occasion.

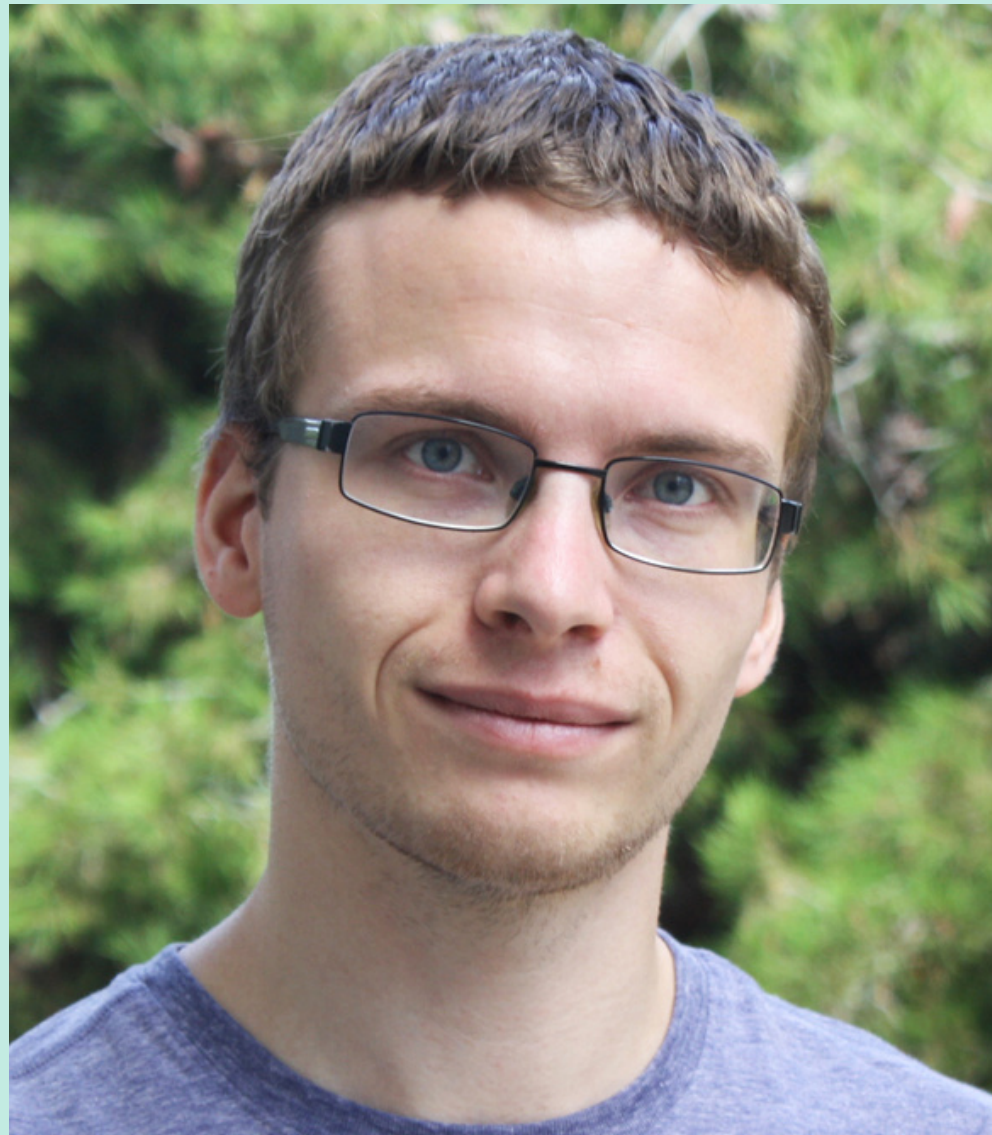
Jeremiah Morrow

POSTDOC ENGAGEMENT

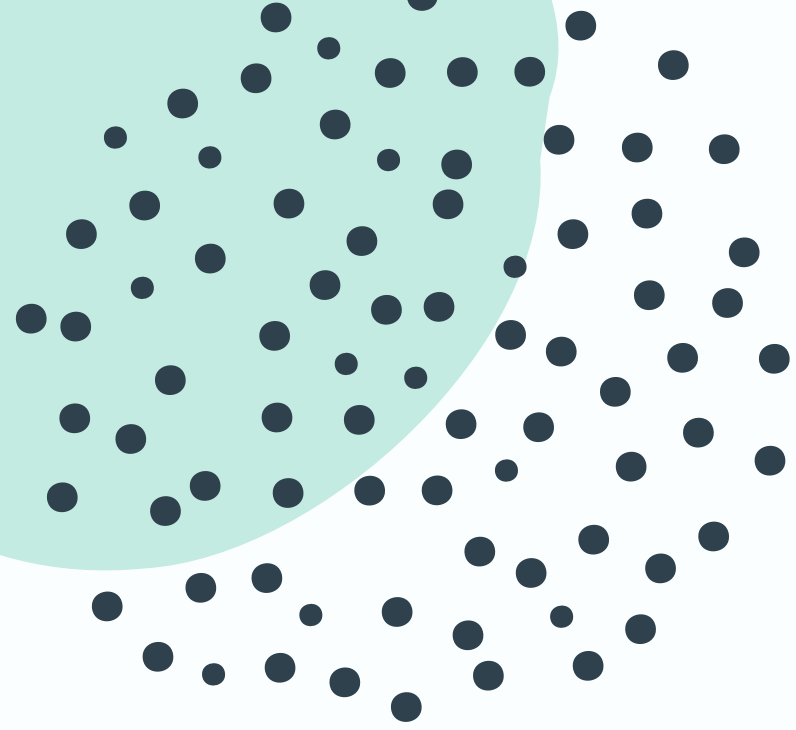


Thijs Walbeek

COMMUNICATIONS



My research interests are in behavioral neuroendocrinology with a focus on circadian rhythms and sleep. I got my BSc and MSc from the University of Groningen in the Netherlands, and completed my Ph.D at UC San Diego. During my Ph.D, I worked on the physiological consequences of increased circadian plasticity, and discovered that, in mice, we can mostly eliminate jetlag with simple light manipulation. Since joining OHSU in fall 2019, where I work in the Oregon Institute of Occupational Health Sciences, I work on the effect of sex hormones on circadian rhythms and neuroplasticity. When I'm not in the lab I enjoy rock climbing and board games. I am always excited to meet other scientists, so please reach out to grab some (virtual) coffee!

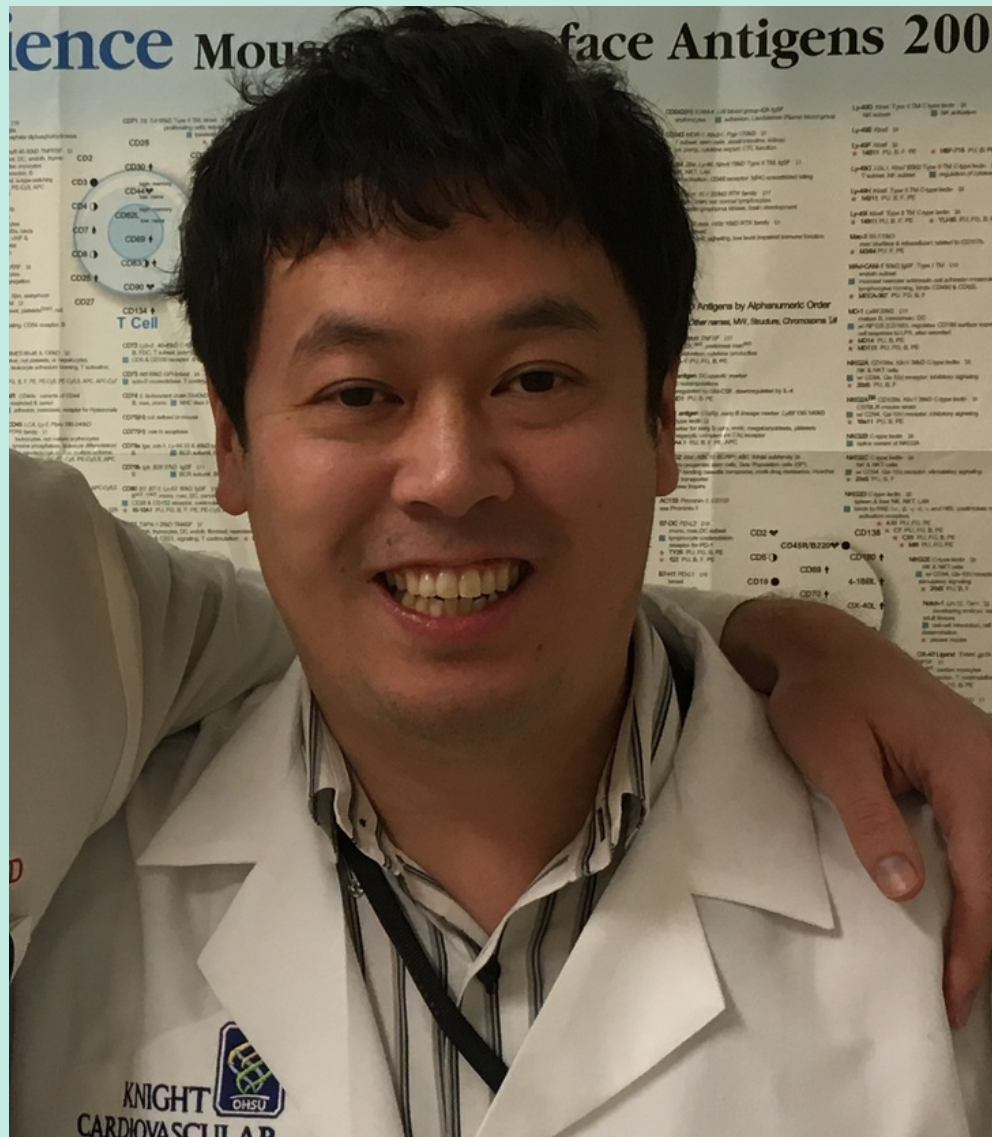


Hello! I am Wendy, a pain postdoc in Pediatric Psychology. I came to OHSU from the east coast for the tram- let's be honest, it was really cool to valet my bike and then get that view of Mt Hood everyday (pre-COVID times). Outside of work, I love to do anything that involves travel, meeting people and adventure- again- COVID has changed how that looks! In my time as postdoc at OHSU, I am most proud of an NIH grant that didn't get scored, because it had some awesome ideas that excited me, but apparently not Reviewer #1. You may occasionally see me biking around OHSU/SW, so if you do- we can be new friends from a distance!

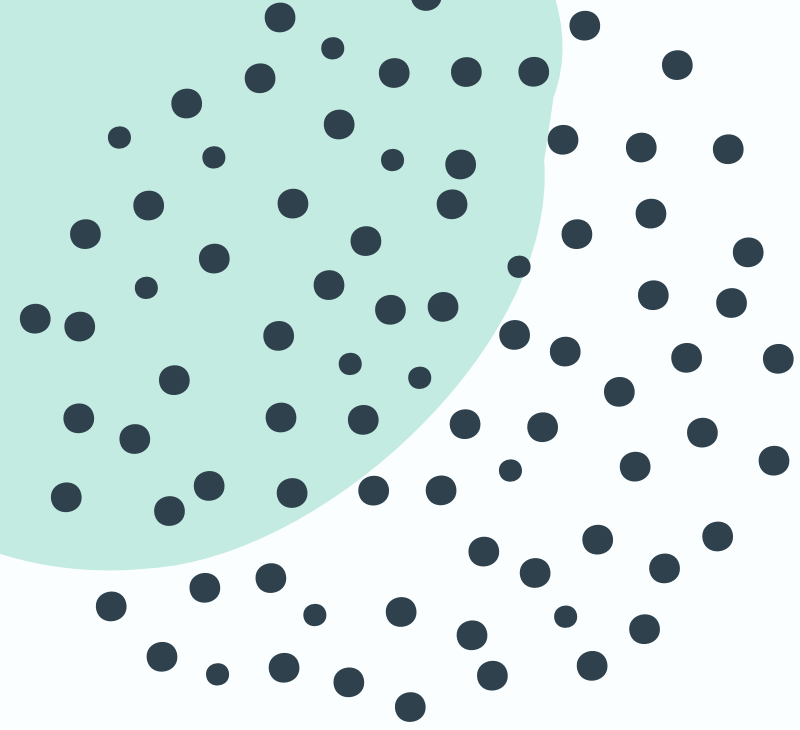
Wendy Gaultney



Koya Ozawa

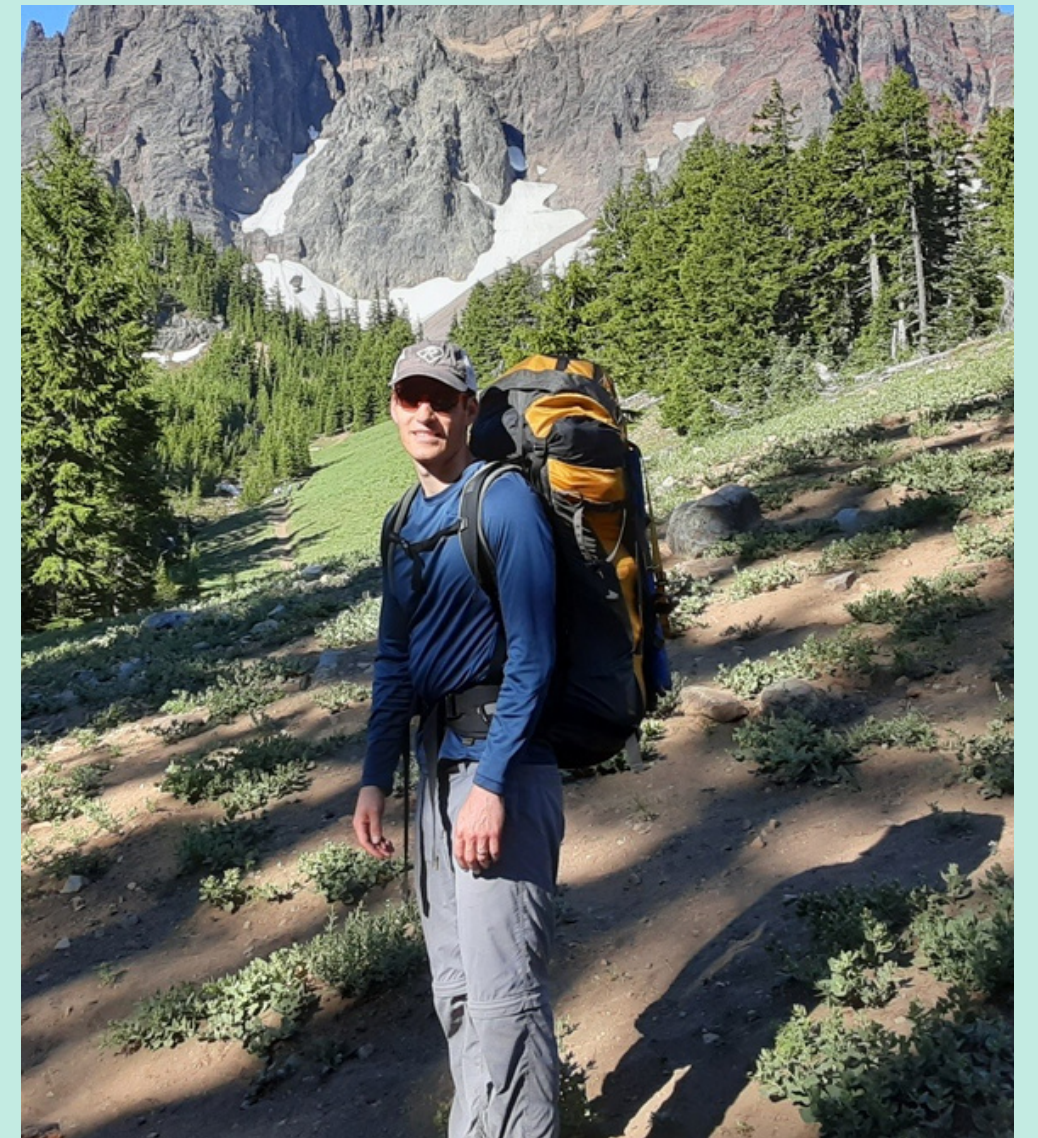


Koya Ozawa is a Japan-born, physician-scientist engaged in translational cardiovascular research. He has used unique non-invasive imaging tools to better understand diseases and to develop novel therapies. He completed his clinical training in Japan, including a cardiology fellowship with advanced imaging in CT, CMR, echocardiography and PET. Currently, Dr. Ozawa is in his fifth year as a postdoctoral research scientist at Oregon Health and Science University. His research, which is supported by grants from the Manpei Suzuki Diabetes Foundation, The Japan Society for the Promotion of Science, and Japanese Society of Echocardiography, has focused on using ultrasound perfusion imaging and molecular imaging in atherosclerosis and acute ischemia. Since arriving in the lab, he has gained substantial experience with pre-clinical molecular imaging and models of disease, and has done a lot of work to gain knowledge in the field of platelet and endothelial biology. He was Young Investigator Award Finalists at the American Society of Echocardiography Scientific Sessions 2019, European Association of Cardiovascular Imaging EuroEcho annual meeting, and Japanese Society of Echocardiography Scientific Sessions 2018. His eventual career goal is to lead efforts for innovation in cardiovascular translational research and education. A million thanks to the best mentor, Jonathan Lindner, in the world.



I am starting my 3rd year as a postdoctoral scholar in Dr. Ann Hessel's lab. I came to OHSU after graduate studies at University of Mississippi Medical Center where my research focused on immune responses to viral infection in channel catfish. Here at ONPRC, I'm primarily focused on optimizing broadly neutralizing antibodies as therapeutics for HIV through Fc modifications and determining B cell/antibody responses to different HIV vaccine strategies. A Bend, OR native, I'm thrilled to be back in the Pacific NW and love to backpack and play sports, especially racquetball & disc golf.

David Spencer

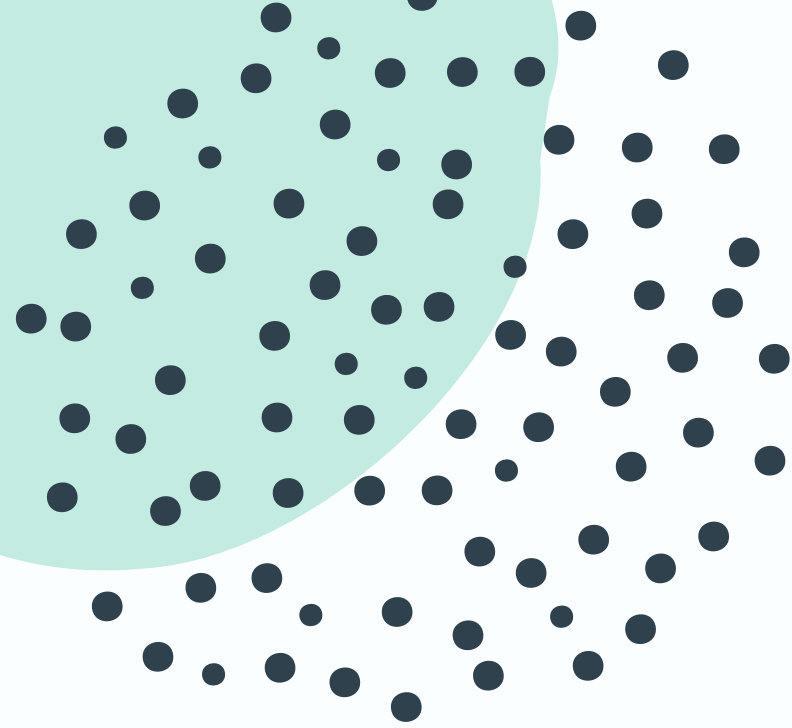


Alisha Bruton



I work with children who have attention and behavioral disorders. Recently, we finished an international, multi-site trial investigating a micronutrient supplement to treat emotional dysregulation in children with ADHD. Other projects include examining the way stress and body awareness impact health and emotional well-being in children. I've worked with a lot of children and families who are in difficult situations. Being able to listen and provide support for them is the most fulfilling part of what I do. I'm from Oakland, California, but I've been in Portland for almost 15 years. I went to medical school thinking I would open a clinical practice one day. I took a few research classes as electives and loved them. I took a few more and ended up halfway to a master's degree in research. I got the degree and somewhere along the way fell in love with research. When it came time to apply for residency, my gut said no and I only ended up applying for post-doc research positions... and here I am! I love being surrounded by so many intelligent, creative people! For fun, I go hiking, hunting, and fly fishing.





Hi Everyone! My name is Christine McClure and I'm a 1st year NCCIH T32 postdoc in the neurology department. I came to OHSU to work in the new BENFRA Botanical Dietary Supplements Center under Dr. Amala Soumyanath and Dr. Doris Kretzschmar. Here I assist with production of botanical extracts, determination of product integrity, and evaluation of the effects of Ashwagandha (*Withania somnifera*) on locomotion, reactivity, and sleep patterns in fruit flies.

I'm originally from Kansas, where I got a BS in Psychology and a BS in Women's Studies from Kansas State University. I moved to Portland 6 years ago for medical school and the beauty that Oregon has to offer. This year amidst the chaos I graduated as a naturopathic doctor from the National University of Natural Medicine (NUNM). I also obtained a Master of Science in Integrative Medicine Research from NUNM, where I got to conduct my first clinical trial on the safety and tolerability of Pau d' Arco (*Tabebuia avellanedae*) for primary dysmenorrhea. This led me to OHSU to learn more about conducting research on botanicals, from characterization through human clinical trials.

When I'm not in the lab or writing, you can find me hanging out with my boxer-mix dog Roscoe or out in the wilderness with my significant other, Dan. We like to explore and can be found out snowshoeing, hiking, kayaking, camping, and traveling.

Christine McClure

