

## Neuroscience Medical Student Scholars Program University of Cincinnati College of Medicine

Neuroscience MSSP Director: John Quinlan, M.D. [john.quinlan@uc.edu](mailto:john.quinlan@uc.edu)  
ML 0525

### Neuroscience MSSP Goal:

*To provide an enriched exposure in the neurosciences to those students who demonstrate a strong interest. This enhanced experience will be accomplished through a multi-disciplinary, longitudinal approach that bridges the pre-clinical and clinical years of student training.*

### Background:

Major breakthroughs in molecular biology and basic neuroscience have defined the cause of many diseases of the nervous system, and are transforming the practice of neurology, neurosurgery, neuropathology, and rehabilitation. Basic research is giving new information regarding how the brain works and how brain injury occurs-and how it can be prevented or mitigated. Recognizing the exciting opportunities now available to medical students to better understand nervous system function and to design new treatments for neurological diseases, we've developed an interdepartmental program: The Neuroscience Medical Student Scholars Program, NSMSSP. This pathway will provide additional exposure to the neurosciences, including adult and pediatric neurology, neuropathology, neurosurgery, and psychiatry (physical medicine), by creating a four-year program of additional activities for the motivated medical student in the clinical and basic sciences.

### Faculty Mentoring:

One of the most important elements of this educational pathway is an emphasis on mentoring. Upon entrance to the program, each student will be paired with a clinical or basic neuroscientist in the field of their interest as a faculty mentor. The mentor will be specifically chosen because of their track-record in mentoring and education. Mentors will meet with students regularly to discuss topics ranging from research issues and new approaches to treating neurological disease to career opportunities. Mentors will help student select summer research experiences, or even help arrange longer research periods if possible, and help develop opportunities for in-depth study. In addition, the student will be assigned a resident mentor. Residents are closer in age/position to the medical student and can provide a valuable perspective. Meetings with resident mentors will be much less formal and structured. By the end of the second academic year the student should have a good idea of the discipline, both academically and "socially".

### Program Administration and Coordination:

Dr. John Quinlan serves as the Neurosciences MSSP Program Director. He is also the medical student clerkship director in the department of neurology. Although, he will be assisted in his responsibilities by additional neurosciences faculty, Dr. Quinlan is responsible all aspects of the program.

## **Enrollment:**

Enrollment limit is variable and depends upon student interest and availability of required resources. Candidates will be selected for the program based on their interest in the neurosciences, prior exposures to the neurosciences, personal statement and interview.

## **Graduation**

- NS MSSP students will receive special recognition during the graduation ceremony, and the Outstanding NSEP Research Prize recipient will also receive recognition.

## **Evaluation and Feedback**

To ensure that this mentoring experience is positive and educational for the student, an evaluation process will be put in place that is similar to the evaluations for current faculty lectures and clinical teaching. In addition, the students will be expected to create an educational “portfolio”, detailing their experiences throughout their four years. Like an educational scrapbook, this portfolio will include lectures given, research experiences and clinical exposures. This will allow the student and the faculty member to provide feedback regarding their experience in this new pathway, and to give constructive feedback to the student as they progress. Each year, after review of feedback received from students, faculty and resident mentors, the curriculum will be revised by the Advisory Board to allow continuous quality improvement in the program.

## **Required Activities and Experiences**

### **Year One**

Summer Research experience

- Details will be discussed and reviewed during scheduled meetings with director and faculty

Meeting with Mentors

- Quarterly meetings with mentor

Grand Rounds

- Quarterly attendance

Subspecialty Conferences

- Minimum two per year

Resident Seminars

- Quarterly
  - Options Include
    - Journal Clubs
    - Morbidly and Mortality Conference
    - Professors hours/Chairman’s Case
    - Brain Cutting

Brain Mind and Behavior fieldtrips

- Must attend six of eight seminars

Shadowing

- Quarterly

## **Year Two**

Meeting with Mentors

- Quarterly meetings with mentor

Grand Rounds

- Quarterly attendance

Subspecialty Conferences

- Minimum two per year

Resident Seminars

- Quarterly
  - Options Include
    - Journal Clubs
    - Morbidly and Mortality Conference
    - Professors hours/Chairman's Case
    - Brain Cutting

Shadowing

- Quarterly

## **Year Three**

Meeting with Mentors

- Quarterly meetings with mentor

Subspecialty Conferences

- Minimum two per year

Clinical Neuroscience clerkship

## **Year Four**

Meeting with Mentors

- Quarterly meetings with mentor

Subspecialty Conferences

- Minimum two per year

Resident Seminars

- Minimum two per year

Neuroscience AI

Neuroscience Elective

## **Application Process**

A CV and personal statement must be submitted. Participating in an MSSP program is above and beyond your normal classwork load. In your MSSP personal statement,

please also answer the following question (400 words or less):

*Describe how you will meet this challenge and any strategies that you will use to ensure your success?*

**To apply:** click the following link to MedOneStop [www.medonestop.uc.edu](http://www.medonestop.uc.edu) . Once logged in, the application can be found under the **Extracurricular** tab named Medical Student Scholars Program (MSSP).