May 14, 2021
12:10 – 1 p.m.
ZOOM Meeting

Medical Microbiology
& Immunology
School of Medicine

Seminar Contact:
Autumn Vega
530-752-9401
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We hope to see you there!

Annie Ciernia, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor
Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
Djavad Mowafaghian Center for Brain
The University of British Columbia

Microglia Memory: Fine Tuning Gene Expression in the Brain

Research / Bio
Dr. Ciernia’s research interest is in understanding epigenetic mechanisms of transcriptional regulation involved in brain plasticity and neurodevelopmental disorders. She did her graduate work in Dr. Marcelo Wood’s laboratory at the University of California, Irvine focused on examining the role of a neuron-specific nucleosome remodeling complex in regulating transcription subserving long-term memory formation. Her postdoctoral work was with Dr. Janine LaSalle at the University of California, Davis. She focused on understanding how DNA methylation and chromatin accessibility impact gene expression in autism spectrum disorders. She was co-mentored in the Autism Training Program at the UC Davis MIND Institute by Dr. Jacqueline Crawley, an expert in animal models and behaviors related to neurodevelopment and Autism, and Dr. Paul Ashwood, an expert in ASD neuro-immunology. Dr. Ciernia’s current research focus is on understanding how early-life perturbations to the epigenome alter microglia-neuron interactions in the developing brain and lead to life-long changes in cellular function and behaviors.

Publications

