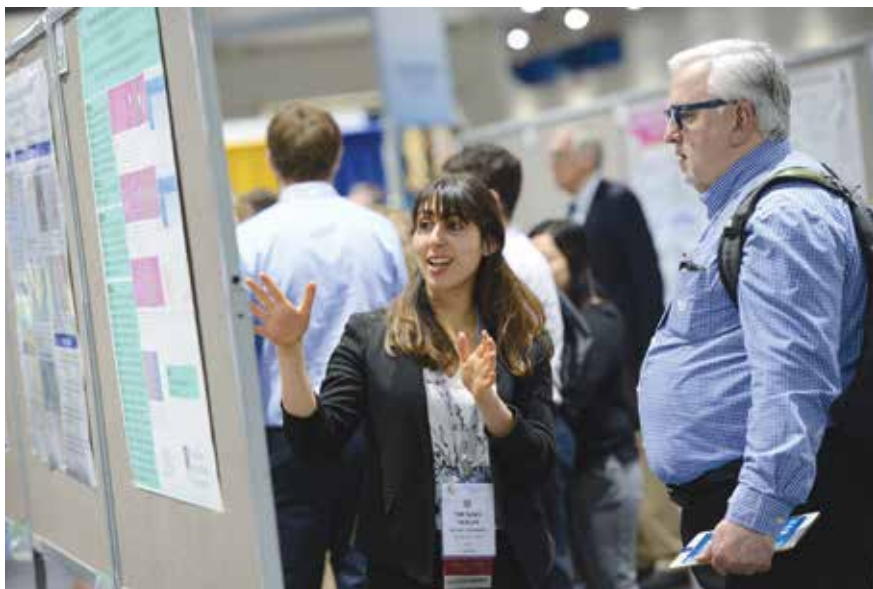


The Anatomy Voice

Monday,
April 23



The Official Daily Newspaper of the AAA Annual Meeting



Nickoo Merati, McGill University, presents her research during Sunday's poster session.

Genetics Session Features Nobel Prize Winners

Eric Wieschaus and Martin Chalfie both have funny stories about winning the Nobel Prize.

For Wieschaus, legend has it that in 1995 he told the caller from Sweden that he had the wrong number. Of course, the caller had the right person and informed Wieschaus that he had been awarded the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine.

Chalfie apparently was famous for asking the annual question of "OK, who

was the schnook who got the prize this year?" In 2008, Chalfie was the schnook who won the Nobel Prize for Chemistry.

The two men combined their research, vast knowledge and collection of stories for a session titled "The Genetics of Anatomical Development: Nobel Lessons from Invertebrates Plenary Session" on Sunday morning. It's safe to say the session had at least as many

Continued on page 8

Service, Education and Scientific Achievement Awardees Honored

Basmajian Award

Jason Organ, Ph.D., Assistant Professor at Indiana University School of Medicine.

Dr. Organ is our 2018 Basmajian Award winner which honors him for his excellence in teaching gross anatomy and accomplishments in biomedical research and scholarship in education.

He earned his B.A. and M.A. both in Anthropology and both from the University of Missouri. His first anatomy mentor, Dr. Carol Ward, was the first person to teach him how to teach. "I started as an undergrad volunteer in her lab, cataloging human



Dr. Jason Organ

fossils casts belonging to the human ancestor *Australopithecus anamensis*. She advised me to take an extra year of courses in basic science during my M.A. so I could get into an anatomy graduate program."

Dr. Organ completed his Ph.D. at Johns Hopkins School of Medicine in Functional Anatomy and Evolution 2008. "I worked studying the internal structural properties of bone and muscle in the tails of monkeys that can suspend from their tails (have prehensile tails), and compared these properties to those in monkeys that cannot suspend. This gave me my first experience looking at anatomical adaptation in multiple systems at the same time: skeletal and muscular." Rounding all this out with a postdoc with Rebecca

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Attendees stop to check out the "Anatomy by the Decade" display, located adjacent to booth 316 in the exhibit hall

MONDAY HIGHLIGHTS

Mentoring Breakfast - 7:30 am - 8:30 am

Stem Cells in Human Development and Disease Plenary Session - 8:30 am - 10:00 am

Developmental Biology Award Hybrid Symposium - 10:30 am - 12:00 pm

Anatomy Education Platform Session 2 - Clinical Anatomy Education - 10:30 am - 12:00 pm

Career Networking Lunch - 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm

Poster Session - 12:00 pm - 2:00 pm

AAA Members Meeting - 5:45 pm - 6:30 pm

Student and Postdoc Poster Reception - 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm

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Speakers Share Research Regarding Cribiform Plates, Embryonic Developments during Morphological Sciences Session

Topics presented during Sunday's Morphological Sciences Award Hybrid Symposium included avian skulls, the correlation between cribiform plates and olfaction and vertebrate scanning.

Bhart-Anjan Bhullar, Yale University, spoke about correlation and causation during "The Origin of the Avian Head as told by Transformations in the Fossil Record and Embryonic Development."

Discussing the avian skull, he explained that he was looking for a common underlying cause to understand how one gets from a reptile skull to a brain skull. He lined up juvenile and adult skulls of the alligator, early dinosaur and early stem bird, and found that four of the six were alike – the three juvenile skulls and the adult stem bird skull. The shared features included short face, large eyes and large brain.

Bhullar shared data comparing shape versus size, explaining that early bird relatives traverse the basal part of the trajectory.

"Maybe a lot of the avian skull changes are owed to a small number of underlying factors," he said. "The head is very complex and its parts are deeply integrated."

Bhullar also spoke about the importance of, and the origins of, beaks. "The

avian beak is morphologically complex, involving rostral bones and palate."

His research has included focusing on embryonic developments, and presented data that examined the beak origins of the alligator, turtle, emu and chicken.

"You can build as many theories as you want, as many models what you want," said Bhullar. "But the only true history of the record of life is in anatomy," he said, adding the importance of deep dives to understand form.

Deborah Bird, University of California, Los Angeles, spoke about "Olfaction at Depth: Cribiform Plate Size Declines with Dive Depth and Duration in Aquatic Arctoids."

She opened her presentation by asking the audience to look at illustrations of the arctic fox and elephant seal, focusing on their snouts. Explaining that species have had gains and losses of olfactory function, she then moved on to explain that mammals who forage underwater have been found to be noseblind. Aquatic carnivores, she explained, are less reliant on olfaction than terrestrials.

"Deeper, longer diving aquatics are even less reliant on odorant cues," said Bird, as she provided a detailed explanation of the role of the cribiform plate. Its function was explained using the animation of an arctic fox skull.

Cribiform plate size, she explained, is strongly correlated to the number of functional olfactory genes. Research has proven that there is a size difference in cribiform plates between aquatic species and terrestrials.

"Aquatics are less reliant on olfaction," she said, "but why is there so much variance among the aquatics themselves?" The deepest diving pinniped is the Northern Elephant seal, which can dive up to 1,500 meters and stay out to sea for nine months out of year.

Continued on page 6

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Calling all Members: Attend the Members Meeting

The Members Meeting is open to all AAA Members and you are invited to attend, no matter your level of involvement in the Association. This meeting is today at 5:45 pm in Room 8 and will cover Association business, including financials, new elected officials and a discussion about a possible name change for the Association.

Terminology, Surgical Procedures Among Topics During Gender Session

Gender in America is a topic that is changing seemingly every day. But a person's gender is a vital element to their healthcare, one that can be overlooked in its significance.

That was made clear in the session titled "The Anatomy of Gender" on Saturday, which was chaired by Yasmin Carter of the University of Massachusetts Medical School. Several different aspects of gender and health were discussed, including gender confirmation surgery.

"Sex and gender-based differences are the key to healthcare," Carter said. "Any person who sees their doctor or pharmacist or physical therapist or nurse should be aware of the differences in genders and be able to treat the patient appropriately."

"Sex and gender-based medicine takes the whole person into consideration," Carter added. "Who better to teach that than us?"

A significant portion of the session focused on surgery, both female-to-male and male-to-female. Dr. Maurice Garcia of Cedars-Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles discussed in great detail the procedures involved in both versions of gender confirmation surgery. Perhaps the most amazing part of the surgery is how parts of the body are

redefined and re-purposed, rather than discarded.

"A clitoris is a penis and a penis is a clitoris. It's just that a clitoris doesn't

Continued on page 8

Maurice Garcia discusses technical aspects of gender confirmation surgery during "The Anatomy of Gender."



April 6-9, 2019

See you next year in Orlando

**American Association of Anatomists
Annual Meeting at Experimental
Biology 2019**



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Get involved in AAA's Annual Meeting!

Put your research front and center by submitting a session proposal for an education or scientific symposium in 2019.

#anatomy18



@DrMAMcNulty - Bridging #anatomy18 sessions today: could there be #continuing #CE sessions on anatomy of vaginoplasty & phalloplasty? For surgeons, other clinicians, #anatomy educators? #expbio

@OrganJM - Wow! So interesting. Got to see the bisected pelvis of a cadaver upon which a vaginoplasty was performed. #anatomy18

@angeliquee_93 - Harmon: Practices for integrating transgender anatomy into #anated Phenomenal talk! Inspired, and hope to one day be an anatomy educator who can incorporate aspects of transgender anatomy into her courses #anatomy18

@vdoloughlin - #anatomy18 Carter: we as #anatomists are the only ones who know exactly what the #perineum is. LOL!

Awards

Continued from Page 1

German, Ph.D. also at Johns Hopkins, Dr. Organ has spent the last five years at Indiana University, where he has begun to combine all of my training to look at physiologic adaptation in bone and muscle in mice that are trained to climb (my first paper in this regard was published in the March 2018 edition of *The Anatomical Record*)

Along with his teaching and research duties, Dr. Organ also writes for the PLOS Science Communication blog. His love of good communication goes back to his days as a student. "When I was a MA student, I had trouble talking about my research on human ancestor fossils because the other anthropology graduate students didn't have the same biomedical and biomechanical language, and they didn't understand what I was talking about. This was also my first experience with learning to become a better communicator of science!"

Dr. Organ will receive his award at our Awards ceremony on Tuesday Night at 7:30pm.

Henry Gray Scientific Achievement Award

Kurt Albertine, Ph.D., FAAA University of Utah School of Medicine

Dr. Albertine graduate from Lawrence University with his undergraduate degree and received his Ph.D. from Loyola University Stritch School of Medicine in 1979.



Dr. Kurt Albertine

He received post-doctoral training in pulmonary and cardiovascular physiology at the Cardiovascular Research Institute, University of California, San Francisco (1980-83). He is currently a Professor of Pediatrics at University of Utah, and has also held positions of Assistant and Associate Dean for Faculty Administration, and created and directed two core laboratories.

Dr. Albertine's research focus is acute and chronic lung disease, with emphasis on neonatal chronic lung disease. He, along with two colleagues, created the chronically ventilated preterm lamb model of bronchopulmonary dysplasia in the early 1990s. His research is identifying molecular mechanisms that disrupt alveolar and vascular development of the lung, as well as the associated co-morbidities of disrupted development of the brain, liver, kidney, distal ileum, and growth in preterm neonates who require prolonged mechanical ventilation with oxygen-rich gas.

Current studies are testing hypotheses about the effect of preterm birth and prolonged mechanical ventilation on the epigenetic platform that determines early postnatal development of these organs and long-term outcomes later in life. His research program has been NIH-funded since 1980. He is Editor-in-Chief of *The Anatomical Record* (2006-2020), one of the three journals of the AAA.

His talk during his award lecture on Tuesday April 24 is titled "Pathogenesis of Bronchopulmonary Dysplasia: An Unanticipated Journey." Dr. Albertine shared that this talk is really about his scientific journey, which wasn't anticipated. "I would like the audience, particularly the young audience, to appreciate that scientific career paths and contributions are affected by chance, luck of being at the right place at the right time, risk-taking, and passion and perseverance." Join us for all the award lecture talks starting with Dr. Albertine in Room 9 at 4:00 pm on Tuesday, April 24.

While Dr. Albertine credits much of his scientific life to AAA, he also admits to being interested in science from a very young age. "I remember dissecting dead animals and insects starting when I was 5."

Beyond those early beginnings, Dr. Albertine has been a long-time member of AAA. "The AAA was where I cut my scientific teeth. The AAA saw my first oral presentation at its 1977 annual meeting in Detroit, MI, my second peer-reviewed publication was in 1980 in *The Anatomical Record*. Our ride together grew from there, to the point where my tenure as the current Editor-in-Chief of *The Anatomical Record* is the second longest in the Journal's storied history of 112 years (Aaron "John" Ladman was Editor-in-Chief for about 32 years)."

Henry Gray Distinguished Educator

Valerie D. O'Loughlin, Ph.D., FAAA, Indiana University School of Medicine

Valerie Dean O'Loughlin received her undergraduate degree from the College of William and Mary, and her Ph.D. in biological anthropology from Indiana University. She is Professor of Anatomy at Indiana University School of Medicine (IUSM), where she teaches human gross anatomy to medical students, basic human anatomy to undergraduates, and human anatomy for medical imaging evaluation to undergraduate and graduate students.



Dr. Valerie Dean O'Loughlin

She also teaches a pedagogical methods course and mentors MS and Ph.D. students pursuing anatomy education research.

She will give her award lecture on Tuesday, April 24 at 4:30pm in Room 9. Titled, "Authentic Anatomy Education: Leave Your Ego at the Door to Create Memorable Learning Experiences," she will discuss how educators can design lessons to have a powerful impact and how small memorable moments in the classroom can stick with students long after the class has ended.

Dr. O'Loughlin is also the President Emeritus of the Human Anatomy and Physiology Society (HAPS) and currently serves on the Steering Committee of HAPS. She has served on the AAA membership committee, educational affairs committee, Basmajian awards committee, and several task forces. She and her colleagues Polly Husmann and Jim Brokaw organized and held the inaugural Anatomy Education Research Institute (AERI) in 2017, which was funded by an AAA Innovations grant.

She earned multiple teaching awards from IUSM and received the 2007 AAA Basmajian Award for excellence in teaching gross anatomy and outstanding accomplishments in scholarship in education. In 2014 she received the Scholar Educator award from the Indiana University School of Medicine, which recognizes a single faculty member who approaches teaching through a scholarly lens. Dr. O'Loughlin is co-author of two undergraduate textbooks published by McGraw-Hill: McKinley/O'Loughlin/Pennfather-O'Brien, *Human Anatomy 5e*, and McKinley/O'Loughlin/Bidle, *Anatomy and Physiology, An Integrative Approach 3e*.

Before all her accomplishments however, she always knew she was interested in the sciences. "I've always had a love of anthropology, and in my undergraduate years I double-majored in anthropology and physics. (yeah, don't ask me why I did that – perhaps a glutton for punishment?) I was interested in those fields as well as math, but ultimately decided to pursue biological anthropology in graduate school. One of the 'dreaded courses' that the biological anthropology students had to take was the Human Gross Anatomy course. I found this course incredibly challenging, difficult, yet fascinating at the same time. I later minored in the anatomical sciences and was a graduate teaching assistant in the undergraduate anatomy labs. That led to a teaching position in anatomy, and here I am!"

A.J. Ladman Exemplary Service Award

Jeffrey Laitman, Ph.D., FAAA, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai

Dr. Laitman started at Icahn School

of Medicine in 1977 as an Instructor of Anatomy and is currently Distinguished Professor. He is also Professor and Director of the Center for Anatomy and Functional Morphology; Professor of Otolaryngology; Professor of Medical Education; and Director of the Anatomical Gift Program. He earned his undergraduate degree from Brooklyn College and his M.Phil. and Ph.D. from Yale University.



Dr. Jeffrey Laitman

He will present his award lecture on Tuesday April 24, at 5:00pm in Room 9. The title of his talk is from

a speech that John F. Kennedy gave some weeks before he was inaugurated as President in 1961. "His talk was entitled, 'For of those to whom much is given, much is required.' His words gave new voice to this profound message originally from the Bible (KJV Luke 12:48) reminding us that we all owe our fellow men and women. Those of us that are given much owe all that much more. I see the opportunity to address my colleagues as a moment to remind us all of this ancient, yet central, message. I think we sometimes forget how much we have, and the obligation to give back. I hope I will give my colleagues a moment to pause and think on the gifts that we have been given, and upon how much more we can all do to share."

Dr. Laitman has been a member of AAA since 1978 and during his time with AAA he has served on several committees, been awarded the Distinguished Educator Award and the Basmajian Award, has served as a Director on the Board, and as President from 2011-2013. He is Senior Associate Editor of *The Anatomical Record*. He has taught thousands of medical students over the years and has served as a mentor to many.

Dr. Laitman shared that he considers annual meetings to be a form of therapy. "Meetings have been my therapy sessions and its members my frequent therapists. I would never have made it this far in my academic path without the guidance, kindnesses, mentoring, and overall goodness so generously given to me."

"I am very honored to receive the Ladman Award, which is given for 'Service and/or Mentoring'. To me, those are essentially the same. I see the highest 'service' one can give to their field as helping one's colleagues, particularly those in their formative years," concluded Dr. Laitman.

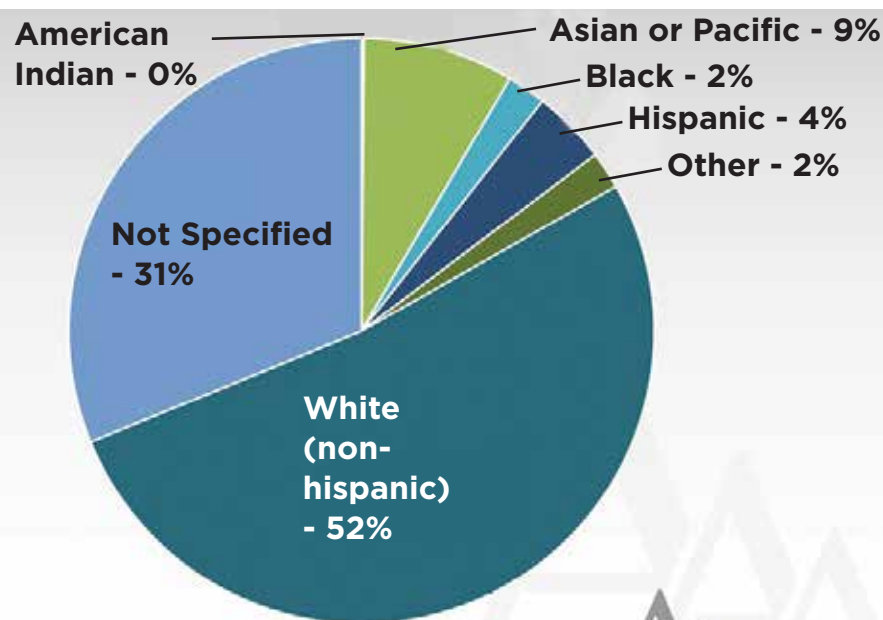
Update your Anatomy Connected Profile to Help us Accomplish our Diversity and Inclusion Goals

As part of our broader mission related to Diversity and Inclusion with the Association, we'd like to get a true picture of the demographic makeup of the membership. To do this, we've asked members to update their Anatomy Connected profiles with demographic information. When you login to your profile, scroll to the bottom to find the optional information. You can choose to fill in as many fields as you'd like. You can keep them visible or hidden. They will be used by AAA staff and the

D&I committee to better understand the makeup of our membership and if we are being inclusive in our programs and awards.

Below see our current known demographic makeup of the race/ethnicity of our members. As you can see, we have 31% not specified. These are members who have not filled out their demographic information. If this is you, we ask that you help us keep accurate membership record so that we can better support all members.

Membership Demographics



#anatomy18



@throckman - Hmm, yeah, umm. Great issue/question in anatomy: provide info to students about donors? I get the pros (clinical relevance, humanization), but I remain uncomfortable with this..What do you think, #anatomy18?

@CurrAnatomy - Listening to Mia Jenkins describe and show her observed case of situs inversus totalis..... totally geeking out here!! #anatomy18

@C_Vinovskis - Breckling: Anatomical educators may get information from anatomy textbooks (slow rate of publication) & peer-reviewed lit (published more rapidly). What if discrepancy between the two sources? #anatomy18

@drsarahcroker - Just saw a bunch of great posters on anatomical variation now listening to @AnatomyRoyer's thoughtful talk on the subject - this is all wonderful stuff! #anatomy18

@OKeeffe_GW - Great few days so far @expbio in San Diego with quite a few @anat_soc members on tour! #anatomy18



Be sure to visit the AAA booth (#316) in the exhibit hall to watch the I Am Anatomy contest videos and pick up a button.



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Loydie Jerome-Majewska addresses attendees during Sunday's First-time Attendee Breakfast.

Morphological

Continued from Page 2

Bird presented data showing what factors have influenced cribriform plate surface area and skull length.

"Mean diving depth predicts cribriform plate size among aquatic carnivores," she said. "The longer the dive, the smaller the cribriform plate. The results support our hypothesis that deeper and longer divers are less reliant on olfaction."

Adam Summers, University of Washington, issued an open invitation to the audience to come scan their specimens at his lab during "How and Why to Scan All the Vertebrates—Open Access Data as a Transformative Tool."

#anatomy18



@DrMAMcNulty – The morphological sciences session at #anatomy18 never fails to disappoint!! Now I want to learn more about #avian #skull #evolution... I never would be exposed to all this research without serving on #CECA

Summers spoke about the many benefits of a micro CT scanner, and what it offers researchers through open access platforms.

He explained that, when scanning, you want enough resolution, not all of it. "This leads you to a neat way to scan a lot of things at once," he said, as he explained the role that 3D-printed cans play in the process.

After scanning, the items are digitally dissected, and can be rotated. He got a chuckle from the audience when he explained that this idea developed from what they called the fish burrito – a grad student's idea to scan all the fishes for his dissertation, but not include markers to identify the different specimens.

"We scan about 80 specimens per day," he said. "The mission was to scan all the fishes. Now, we're about 20 months in and 10 percent done, with 3,132 species; 6,396 specimens, 359 families; and 98 terabytes of data."

Twitter has even become a part of this project. Summers (@Fishguy_FHL) said he would tweet photos of pretty fish skeletons, and would then receive questions about certain fishes. "I would say, we're going to scan all the fishes."

Be sure to check out #scanAllfishes and #oVertCN for updates from the different labs participating in the NSF grant-supported program.

And the best part, if you have vouchered museum specimens to scan, Summer's lab will cover your travel costs. Time to get scanning!

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An attendee poses a question to a speaker during the Morphological Sciences Hybrid Symposium.

Attendees Discuss Role of Analytics in Learning

Analytics have taken over the game of baseball. Mathematical geniuses have gathered data and use it to predict player performance to gain an advantage that could mean the difference between winning and losing.

Of course, there are a segment of “purists” who reject the notion of trying to decide games on paper and rely more on their own eyes than on equations. But it’s hard to argue with the data-driven approach.

Those analytical theories are now making it into the world of education. At Sunday’s “Anatomy Education Roundtable on Learning Analytics,” S. Toufeeq Ahmed of Vanderbilt University spoke in glowing terms about how analytics can help students become better at learning.

“The goal here is to improve learning and to improve teaching,” Ahmed said. “The idea is to make the interaction more meaningful with data and dashboard. It’s about how a student is performing.”

To do that at Vanderbilt, data is collected on everything a student does. The point is to get a broader view of the student beyond their grades and attendance rate. Students are asked to evaluate themselves regularly and to set goals that are achievable. Teachers also have input in the evaluations, the purpose being so both sides can work on making the student better at the various aspects of their lives.

Ahmed used a student who had expressed that he was having problems with time management as an example. Due to a questionnaire he filled out, it was discovered that he was in a band and performing three nights a week. That sort of time drain wasn’t going to help in being a better student.

But without the data gathering being done at Vanderbilt, that aspect of the student’s life likely wouldn’t have been discovered.



S. Toufeeq Ahmed

Ahmed went through the four types of analytics. Descriptive is what has happened. Diagnostics are what is happening and why. Predictive is what could happen. Prescriptive is what should happen.

“The goal is to give learners tools. The data is a tool, just like a notebook or a pencil,” Ahmed said.

During a table exercise on the implementation of Learning Analytics, many of the audience members pushed back on what could be done with the data after it’s collected. While universities have the best interests of the students in mind, the information could somehow be compromised or used for purposes that weren’t originally intended. One relevant opinion was that data and analytics without mentorship are not as effective.

They also pushed back on whether the amount of data and its availability could result in students becoming even more competitive. If a student knows where they stand at every moment of their academic life, it could lead to them becoming hypercompetitive and chasing analytics instead of pedagogy.



Attendees share their views on using data to improve learning.

The result would be students chasing data points.

“We want to focus on the level, not

on the numbers,” Ahmed said. “Data is just a tool for us to do that. This is a journey.”



Attendees listen to a presentation on analytical theories.



Sunday’s roundtable offers attendees the opportunity to share their experiences and opinions on data gathering in small group settings.

PAID LISTINGS

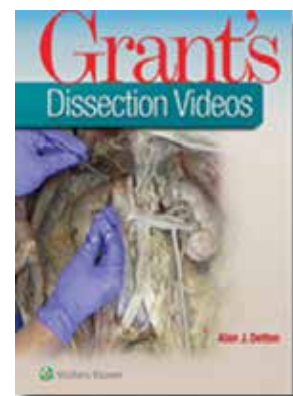
New Product Showcase

Wolters Kluwer

Booth 1130

[Grant’s Dissection Videos](#)

Grant’s Dissection Videos is an online collection of 78 high-resolution videos, totaling more than 13 hours, demonstrate the Grant’s method of cadaver dissection sequences, as described in Grant’s Dissector, Sixteenth Edition. Organized by body region, each video includes narration by Dr. Alan Detton and on-screen labeling and text. The videos show students what they are expected to achieve in lab, the steps required for each dissection, and the information they need to learn for practical exams. Stop by booth #1130 for a demo.



Turn in Your Scavenger Hunt Forms Today!

Have you picked up your scavenger hunt form? Available in the Anatomy Lounge the scavenger hunt is a fun way to learn more about the history of AAA and for a chance to win an Apple Watch!

Fill out the form and submit it back to the Anatomy Lounge by 3:30pm today, and we will announce the winner at the Member's meeting at 6pm in Room 8.



Martin Chalfie



Eric Wieschaus

Nobel Prize Winners

Continued from Page 1

Nobel Prize winners as any session at AAA's 2018 Annual Meeting.

Wieschaus led things off with a discussion on "Gene Activity and Cell Mechanics during Drosophila Embryonic Development."

"My talk was more cell biological and morphology based," said Wieschaus, who teaches at Princeton University. "It's a phenomena that anyone working on cells – yes, this is the same."

Chalfie followed with a discussion on "Determining Neuronal Fate in C. elegans." He started with a short story about working in a lab after his junior year of college. Nothing he did worked and he took it as a sign he should have nothing to do with biology. Fortunately, he overcame that summer of discontent. Chalfie followed by talking about the experiments involving worms and their

touch receptor neurons.

"One thing I wanted them to get was the idea of guarantors," said Chalfie, who teaches at Columbia University. "There's an evolutionary aspect to it."

Wieschaus has several stories that have gained mythological status over the years. One of them has him famously almost failing biology at Yale University. While there is a kernel of truth to that, the background is much more telling. Another had him so animated while teaching a class, that he stabbed himself in the leg with a pencil. Again, the facts have been embellished a bit.

The reality of the pencil story was that he was teaching a group session at Princeton and put his pencil down on the table. Somehow, it stuck there and it jabbed into Wieschaus' leg when he took a step forward. There was a small amount of blood that was noticed by students before Wieschaus realized what had happened and pulled the pencil out of his leg.

"People noticed it and talk about it all the time," Wieschaus said. "It's like in an Old West movie when people get hit by arrows or a painting of St. Sebastian."

As for the time he "almost failed biology," Wieschaus has the explanation. It was back in the 1970s, when, much like today, students were politically active. Wieschaus was very much against the Vietnam War and was very serious and involved about being a Conscientious Objector to the war. Wieschaus was preoccupied with the trial of Black Panthers leader Bobby Seale and wound up getting behind in pretty much all of his classwork due to his activism.

Then the school did something remarkable. Recognizing that a lot of their students were in the same situation due to the political climate of the times, they essentially forgave the students. But when Wieschaus went to his biology professor, he was told that political activism and believing in a cause could also come with consequences. He was told, "If you can't stand the heat, get out of the fire."

Gender

Continued from Page 3

have a urethra and is shorter," Dr. Garcia said, referring to how he discusses the procedure with patients. "It's five hours of surgery in the (area the size) of four postage stamps."

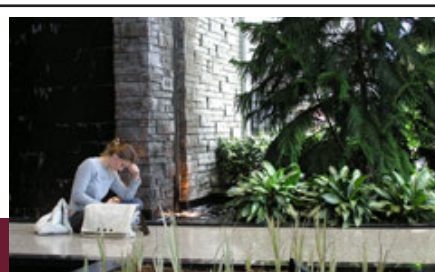
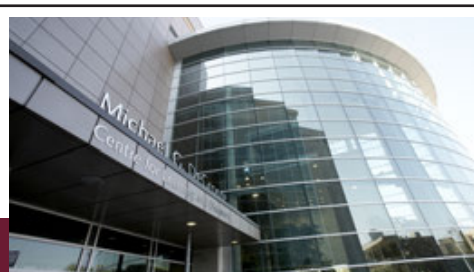
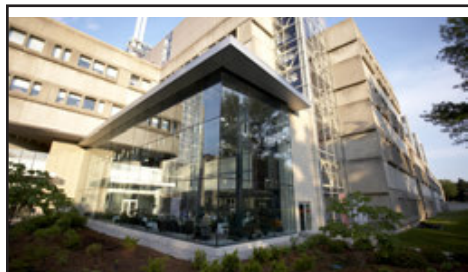
While the surgical aspect – and the accompanying photos – grabbed a lot of the attention, there were other aspects that were discussed. Surgeons and medical professionals have had to become comfortable with terminology that has changed several times over just the last few years. Traditional terminology has been replaced by more gender-neutral words and phrases. Doctors have had to embrace the proper way to talk to their patients

"One question I'm asked all the time is 'Can I achieve orgasms?' Yes. At least as good as before surgery," Garcia said. "It's sort of like wiring. We're connecting the wires that Mother Nature designed."

Derek Harmon of UC San Francisco led off the session by discussing the teaching of gender transition through anatomy. There was some disagreement on the panel, though. Harmon said early on that "Gender occurs in the mind. Sex is a matter of anatomy." Carter doesn't see it that way at all.

"Gender is a societal constraint – gender expression, gender identity, gender bias," Carter said. "Sex is at a chromosomal level. You're either a male or a female. Gender is a spectrum. Sex is a yes or no."

Carter told an amusing story regarding terminology. At one point in her presentation, the perineum was being discussed. "We're probably the only people who know where that is," Carter said, before referring to a segment from the John Oliver Show, where the host referred to the "taint." "I heard the word 'taint' on the John Oliver Show and said 'Oh, that's where that is.'"



SAVE THE DATE FOR OUR UPCOMING REGIONAL MEETING

Saturday, November 10, 2018

McMaster University | Hamilton, Ontario, Canada



Join us for this one-day meeting that includes morning speakers, poster session, and four afternoon workshops. Breakfast, lunch and evening reception included. A Friday evening welcome reception on November 9 is also planned for a chance to mix and mingle in an informal setting ahead of Saturday's meeting.