Kenta Asahina, Ph.D.

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PERSONAL INFORMAION

Place of birth: Chiba, Japan
Present nationality: Japanese (permanent residency to USA)

EDUCATION

The Rockefeller University, New York, NY 2002-2008
Ph.D., Neurobiology

University of Tokyo, Tokyo, Japan 1998-2002
B.S., Zoology

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Salk Institute for Biological Studies
Associate Professor, Molecular Neurobiology Laboratory 5/2022-Present

University of California, San Diego, Division of Biological Sciences
Adjunct Faculty, Section of Neurobiology 7/2016-Present

University of California, San Diego, Neuroscience Graduate Program
Adjunct Faculty 7/2016-Present

Salk Institute for Biological Studies
Assistant Professor, Molecular Neurobiology Laboratory 10/2014-4/2022

California Institute of Technology, Division of Biology
Postdoctoral Scholar. Advisor: Dr. David J. Anderson 8/2008–10/2014

The Rockefeller University, Laboratory of Neurogenetics and Behavior
Graduate (Ph.D.) thesis research. Advisor: Dr. Leslie B. Vosshall 7/2002–6/2008

The University of Tokyo, Department of Biology, Faculty of Science
Undergraduate thesis research. Advisor: Dr. Takeo Kubo 6/2001–6/2002

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-reviewed publications

1. Palacios Castillo, L. M.*, Fajner, V.*, Yalbir, E., Shahul, S., Ruff, B., Lee, J.V., Koger, A., Heller, J., Ishii, K., Morad, V., Trask, M., Warren, C., Frighetto, G., Frye, M.A., **Asahina, K.** Cellular and functional dissection of the octopaminergic system in the *Drosophila* brain. (* equal contribution) *Curr. Biol.*, in press (*bioRxiv* https://doi.org/10.64898/2026.02.06.704492 (2026))
2. **Asahina, K.**, Zelikowsky, M. Comparative perspectives on neuropeptide function and social isolation. *Biol. Psychiatry* 97, 942-952. doi: 10.1016/j.biopsych.2025.01.019 (2025) **[Review]** PMCID: PMC12048258
3. Wohl, M.P., Liu, J., **Asahina, K.** *Drosophila* tachykininergic neurons modulate the activity of two groups of receptor-expressing neurons to regulate aggressive tone. *J. Neurosci.* 43(19):3394-3420. doi: 10.1523/JNEUROSCI.1734-22.2023 (2023) **[Research article]** PMCID: PMC10184743
4. Ishii, K., Cortese, M., Leng, X., Shokhirev, M.N., **Asahina, K.** A neurogenetic mechanism of experience-dependent suppression of aggression. *Sci. Adv.* 8(36):eabg3203. doi: 10.1126/sciadv.abg3203 (2022). **[Research article]** PMCID: PMC9451153
5. **Asahina, K.**, de Bivort, B.L., Grunwald Kadow, I.C., Yapici, N. Editorial: Revisiting Behavioral Variability: What It Reveals About Neural Circuit Structure and Function. *Front Behav Neurosci.* 16:956388. (2022) doi: 10.3389/fnbeh.2022.956388 **[Editorial]** PMCID: PMC9240743
6. Leng, X., Wohl, M., Ishii, K., Nayak, P., **Asahina, K.** Quantifying influence of human choice on the automated detection of *Drosophila* behavior by a supervised machine learning algorithm. *PLoS One* 15:e0241696 (2020) doi: 10.1371/journal.pone.0241696 **[Research article]** PMCID: PMC7743940
7. Ishii, K., Wohl, M., DeSouza, A., **Asahina, K**. Sex-determining genes distinctly regulate courtship capability and target preference via sexually dimorphic neurons. *Elife* 9:e52701 (2020) doi: 10.7554/eLife.52701 **[Research article]** PMCID: PMC7173972
8. Wohl, M., Ishii, K., **Asahina, K**. Layered roles of *fruitless* isoforms in specification and function of male aggression-promoting neurons in *Drosophila*. *Elife* 9:e52702 (2020) doi: 10.7554/eLife.52702 **[Research article]** PMCID: PMC7173971
9. **Asahina, K.** Sex differences in *Drosophila* behavior: qualitative and quantitative dimorphism. *Curr Opin Physiol.* 6, 35–45 (2018) **[Review]** PMCID: PMC6205217
10. **Asahina, K.**, Watanabe, K., Duistermars, B.J., Hoopfer, E., González, C.R., Eyjólfsdóttir, E.A., Perona, P., Anderson, D.J. Sexually dimorphic Tachykinin-expressing neurons control male-specific aggression in *Drosophila*. *Cell* 156, 221-235 (2014) **[Research article]** PMCID: PMC3978814
11. **Asahina, K.***, Louis, M.*, Piccinotti, S. and Vosshall, L.B. A circuit supporting concentration-invariant odor perception in *Drosophila*. *J. Biol.* 8, 9 (Epub) (2009) (* equal contribution) **[Research article]** PMCID: PMC2656214
12. **Asahina, K.**, Pavlenkovich, V., and Vosshall, L.B. The survival advantage of olfaction in a competitive environment. *Curr, Biol.* 18, 1153-1155 (2008). **[Research article]** PMCID: PMC2575080

13. Fishilevich, E., Domingos, A.I., **Asahina, K.**, Naef, F., Vosshall, L.B. and Louis, M. Chemotaxis behavior mediated by single larval olfactory neurons in *Drosophila*. *Curr Biol* 15, 2086-2096 (2005). **[Research article]** PMID: 16332533

Book chapter

1. **Asahina, K**. Neuromodulation of conflicts and hierarchy in insects. In: Yamanaka N, Atkinson P, editors. *Comprehensive Molecular Insect Science, 2nd Edition* Oxford: Elsevier; 2025. Chapter 3.09; p.263-280

Submitted preprints

1. Ventimiglia, D., Chamiec-Case, E., Lee, C.S., Ruff, B., **Asahina, K.** Neural circuits regulating social dominance implement a strategy predicted by evolutionary game theory. *bioRxiv* https://doi.org/10.64898/2026.02.20.706896 (2026) **[Under revision at *Nature Neuroscience*]**
2. Hu, L., Ma, P., Menon, V., Madhavan, A.S., **Asahina, K.**, Müller, L.M., Bowman, A.J. Phasor EO-FLIM: Lifetime imaging with picosecond noise and 500 Hz frame rate. bioRxiv https://doi.org/10.64898/2026.05.29.728614 (2026) **[Under review at *Nature Communications*]**
3. Szuperak, M., Selcho, M., Eichler, K., McClanahan, P.D., **Asahina, K.**, Rosa, J.B., Fang-Yen, C., Thum, A.S., Kayser, M.S. A switch in arousal circuit architecture shapes sleep across the lifespan. *bioRxiv* https://doi.org/10.1101/2025.11.05.686742 (2025) **[Under revision at *Nature Communications*]**

Invited review publications

1. **Asahina, K.** Neuromodulation and strategic action choice in *Drosophila* aggression. *Ann. Rev. Neurosci.* 40, 51-75 (2017). **[Review]** PMID: 28375770
2. Kennedy, A., **Asahina, K.**, Hoopfer, E., Inagaki, H., Jung, Y., Lee, H., Remedios, R., Anderson, D.J. Internal states and behavioral decision-making: toward an integration of emotion and cognition. *Cold Spring Harb Symp Quant Biol*. 79, 199-210 (2015). **[Review]** PMID: 25948637
3. **Asahina, K.** and Benton, R., Meeting Report: Smell and Taste on a high – Symposium on Chemical Senses: From Genes to Perception. *EMBO Report* 8, 634-638 (2007). **[Meeting report]** PMCID: PMC1905892

AWARDS AND FUNDING

Current and past awards

NIH NIDCD R01 (2 R01 DC015577-06A1) **April 2023 – March 2028**
"Peptidergic neuromodulation of microcircuits that control chemosensation-induced behaviors" (Asahina, PI)
This project aims to elucidate the roles of neuropeptides in modulating neural circuits that process pheromonal cues and transform them into stereotypical behaviors in the brain of the common fruit fly *Drosophila melanogaster*.

The Kavli Institute Innovative Research Grant **July 2026 – June 2027**
"Multiplexed imaging of voltage dynamics and neuromodulator release *in vivo*" (Asahina, co-PI)
This project aimed to establish a hardware and compatible biological reagents for simultaneously image the neural activity and neurotransmitter release from live samples, using *Drosophila* as a model.

NIH NIGMS R35 (2 R35 GM119844-06) **August 2016 – June 2026**
"Genetic factors controlling the intensity of social behavior" (Asahina, PI)
The goal of this project is to understand the functions of genes controlling the intensity of social interactions at molecular and cellular levels, by empolying advanced genetic approaches.

The Kavli Institute Innovative Research Grant **September 2024 – August 2025**
"Developing sweat bees as a novel neurogenetic model of sociality" (Asahina, co-PI)
This project aimed to establish a technology to generate transgenic sweat bees, primitively eusocial bees that have unique characteristics that are advantageous for investigating the neural origin of sociality.

Salk Innovation Grant **July 2023 – June 2024**
"Developing the sweat bees as a novel genetic model of sociality"
This project aims to establish a technology to genetically transform the sweat bees, primitively eusocial bees that have unique characteristics that are advantageous for investigating the neural origin of sociality.

The Local Initiative for Excellence (L.I.F.E.) Foundation Research Grant **November 2019 – October 2022**
"Cell type-specific molecular and epigenetic impacts of stress on aminergic neurons"
This project aims to understand the neuronal and genetic mechanisms by which biogenic amines mediate multiple types of behavioral changes caused by stress.

Rose Hill Foundation Innovator Grant **July 2019 – June 2021**
"Contribution of neural sexual dimorphism on the sex difference in lifespan" (Asahina, PI)
This project aims to uncover the role of the sex difference in the nervous system on the lifespan of the common fruit fly *Drosophila melanogaster*.

Center for Brain Activity Mapping Seed Grant **January 2018 – January 2020**
"Developing novel virus-based neuronal labeling and tracing reagents for insect model organisms" (Asahina, co-PI)
This project aims to develop a new virus-based gene delivery tool for social Hymenopteran species, including honeybees (*Apis mellifera*) and European paper wasp (*Polistes dominula*), with the

The Kavli Institute Innovative Research Grant **July 2015 – June 2016**
"Novel light-activatable GPCRs to manipulate neuropeptidergic signaling" (Asahina, co-PI)
This project aimed to develop a new molecular tool to manipulate GPCR signaling cascade, both in vertebrate and invertebrate nervous systems, by engineering non-canonical invertebrate opsins.

TRAINEES

Staff Scientist

Valentina Fajner, Ph.D. January 2024 – present

Postdoctoral fellows

Vaibhav Menon, Ph.D., NINDS T32 fellow July 2025 – present
Donovan Ventimiglia, Ph.D., Kavli Institute for Brain and Mind fellow October 2019 – November 2024
(Current position: Staff scientist, Johns Hopkins University)
Sheetal Potdar, Ph.D. September 2018 – August 2024
Kenichi Ishii, Ph.D., Japan Society for Promotion of Science Fellow April 2015 – August 2020
(Current position: Associate Professor, Setsunan University, Osaka, Japan)
Matteo Cortese, Ph.D. November 2017 – July 2020
(Current position: Scientific writer, Replimune)
Stella Kramer, Ph.D. July 2016 – May 2017

Graduate students

Ezgi Yalbir (UCSD Biological Sciences Graduate Program Student) September 2024 – present
Margot Wohl (UCSD Neuroscience Graduate Program Student) March 2015 – June 2020
Andre DeSouza (UCSD Neuroscience Graduate Program Student) April 2016 – September 2018

Master student

Shafana Shahul (UCSD School of Biological Sciences BS/MS Program) July 2026 – present
Zane Zadorozhna (UCSD School of Biological Sciences BS/MS Program) April 2026 – May 2027
Juliana Fox (UCSD School of Biological Sciences BS/MS Program) July 2023 – April 2024
(Current position: Brain and Cognitive Science Graduate Program, MIT)
Xubo Leng (UCSD Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering) September 2018 – June 2020
(Current position: Neuroscience Graduate Program, Washington University at St. Louis)

Rotation students

Alexandra Garcia (UCSD Biological Sciences Graduate Program) April – May 2026
Bobbie Morales (UCSD Biological Sciences Graduate Program) January – February 2026
Elizabeth Chamiec-Case (UCSD Neuroscience Graduate Program) March – June 2022
Julia Napoli (UCSD Biological Sciences Graduate Program) February – April 2022
Jaqueline R. Mosko (UCSD Neuroscience Graduate Program) January – March 2021
Jo-hsien Yu (UCSD Biological Sciences Graduate Program) November – December 2020
Amy Geffre (UCSD Biological Sciences Graduate Program) January – March 2019
Carmine Chavez-Martinez (UCSD Biological Sciences Graduate Program) September – November 2018
Donghyung Lee (UCSD Biological Sciences Graduate Program) January – February 2018
Yao Yao (UCSD Biological Sciences Graduate Program) November – December 2017

Nicholas Deason (UCSD Biological Sciences Graduate Program)	September – November 2017
Ben Tsuda (UCSD Neuroscience MSTP Graduate Program)	August – September 2016
Ye Zhang (UCSD Biological Sciences Graduate Program)	March – May 2016
Rose Malinow (UCSD Biological Sciences Graduate Program)	September – October 2015
Evan Campbell (UCSD Biological Sciences Graduate Program)	November – December 2014
Lindsey Salay (UCSD Biological Sciences Graduate Program)	November – December 2014
Tian Wang (UCSD Biological Sciences Graduate Program)	November – December 2014
Bahram Kheradmand (UCSD Biological Sciences Graduate Program)	November 2013 – January 2014

Research Assistants

Bruce Ruff	July 2025 – present
Juliana Fox, M.S.	April 2024 – August 2025
Victor Lee	July 2024 – June 2025
Max Trask, M.S.	May 2023 – March 2024
Ezgi Yalbir	October 2022 – September 2024
Veronica Morad	September 2022 – present
Juliet Heller	May 2022 – May 2023
Megan Cheng	October 2021 – September 2022
Aundrea Koger	November 2020 – January 2023
Henry Kwan	August 2020 – September 2021
Amey Mukim, M.S.	August 2020 –January 2021
Courtney Ambrosius	September 2016 – August 2018, July 2019 – February 2020
Adam Samulak	July 2018 – June 2019
Sparsha Saxena	July 2017 –June 2019
Pavan Nayak	November 2015 – May 2016
Teagen Grey Partin, M.S.	December 2014 – July 2016

Undergraduate students

Karl Li (UCSD)	May 2026 – present
Rin Murakoso (UCSD)	March 2026 – present
Leah Catalano (UCSD)	January 2026 – present
Andy Movsesyan (UCSD)	July 2025 – present
Peter Truong (UCSD)	March – June 2025
Shafana Shahul (UCSD)	January 2025 – June 2026
Miranda Blanco (UCSD, STARneuro program student)	November 2024 – present
Sarah Velazquez (UCSD)	September – December 2024
Bruce Ruff (UCLA summer student)	June – September 2024
Baochan Sun (UCSD)	July 2023 – December 2024
Sonakshi Bhalla (Rice University summer student)	May – August 2023
Claire Lee (UCSD)	May 2023 – June 2025
Victor Lee (UCSD)	April 2023 – July 2024
Ibrahim Kahn (UCSD)	February 2023 – June 2024

Ishta Madan (UCSD)	May 2022 – June 2023
Kristaps Zilgalvis (UCSD)	March 2022 – July 2023
Jessie Hao (UCSD)	January 2020 – June 2021
Henry Goh (UCSD)	Ocotber 2019 – June 2021
Eric De La Parra (UCSD)	Ocotber 2019 – May 2020
Andrew Parker (UCSD)	Ocotber 2019 – January 2020
Jett Liu (UC Santa Barbara summer student)	June – August 2018, June – August 2019
Noah Greenfield (Emory University summer student)	June – August 2019
David Tu (UCSD, the Regents Scholar Research Initiative student)	September 2018 – April 2019
Nikhil Jampana (UCSD)	January 2018 – March 2019
Chun Yin (Caven) Chow (UCSD)	May 2016 – April 2017
Maria Villalon Landeros (UCSD work-study student)	October 2015 – June 2017
Cheng-lin (Vivian) Shaw (UCSD summer student)	October 2015 – August 2016
Julia Liu (UC Berkeley summer student)	June – August 2015

High school students

Isabella Stelter (Scripps Ranch High School)	June 2018 – July 2020
Elyas Obbad (Rancho Bernardo High School)	June – September 2017

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES AND SERVICE

Salk Institute

- Salk Neuroscience NIH/NINDS T32 steering committee member — July 2024 – present
- Internal Funding Committee member — June 2023 – present
- Space Committee member — May 2019 – July 2025
- Co-contact PIs for the "Instrument Design, Engineering and Application (IDEA)" laboratory initiative (jointly with Dr. Eiman Azim) — January 2017 – present
- Salk co-contact PI for Purdue Polytechnic Institute's Capstone Project (jointly with Dr. Eiman Azim) — January 2018 – June 2023
- Organizer of the Molecular Neurobiology Laboratory Lunch Seminar Series — June 2016 – present
- Neuroscience Faculty Search Committee member — November 2022 – April 2023
- Plant Biome Faculty Search Committee member — October 2022 – May 2023
- Promotion Committee member for Assistant Professor Dmitry Lyumkis — September 2022 – April 2023
- Academic Council member — May 2021 – January 2023
- Faculty co-chair, Engagement and Wellbeing Initiative — September 2020 – October 2021
- Thursday Seminar Series Committee member — June 2015 – June 2022
- Neuroscience Faculty Search Committee member — January – May 2017
- Ad-hoc reviewer of the Salk Innovation Grant — October 2017
- Ad-hoc reviewer of the Salk Women $ Science Research Award — March 2017

University of California, San Diego

Courses and committees

- Biomedical Sciences graduate program, Cellular and Molecular Medicine seminar series pre-session lecture (BIOM 272/274) — March 2021
- Biological Sciences/Neuroscience graduate program course lecture: "Internal states and animal behavior" (BGGN 255) — 2020 – present
- Biological Sciences graduate program admission committee — 2018 – present
- Neuroscience graduate program Neurosciences Seminar Series Faculty committee — 2018 – 2019
- Biological Sciences/Neuroscience graduate program course lecture: "Genetic tools for neuroscience" (BGGN 249A/NEU 200A) — 2017 – present
- Biological Sciences graduate program Bootcamp laboratory project (BGGN208) — September 2016
- Neuroscience graduate program Bootcamp laboratory project (BGGN 210/NEU 210) — September 2015, September 2017
- Bootcamp seminars for Biological Science and Neuroscience graduate programs — 2015 – present
- Neuroscience graduate program minor proposition committee — 2015 – 2016
- Interviewing faculty for recruitment of Biological Sciences graduate program — 2016 – present
- Interviewing faculty for recruitment of Neuroscience graduate program — 2015 – present
- Speaker at Neuroscience graduate program retreat — May 2015
- Speaker at Biological Science graduate program retreat — September 2014, September 2018

Thesis committees

- Shiuantze Wu (Biological Sciences graduate program, Su lab) — 2019 – 2022
- Laura Beebe (Biological Sciences graduate program, Wang lab) — 2019 – 2021
- Amin Shayan (Biological Sciences master program, Mandyam lab) — 2019 – 2020
- Bharat Sekar (Biological Sciences master program, Wang lab) — 2018 – 2019
- Ye Zhang (Biological Sciences graduate program, Su lab) — 2017 – 2020
- Peter Osseward (Neuroscience graduate program, Pfaff lab) — 2016 – 2021
- Bahram Kheradmand (Biological Sciences graduate program, Nieh lab) — 2015 – 2020
- Sachin Sethi (Biological Sciences graduate program, Wang lab) — 2015 – 2019
- Wilmer Del Cid (Neuroscience graduate program, Su lab) — 2016 – 2018
- Nicole Hoffner (Neuroscience graduate program, Joiner lab) — 2016 – 2017

Other Professional Activities

- Chief co-editor of Frontiers in Behavioral Neuroscience Research Topic: "Revisiting Behavioral Variability: What It Reveals About Neural Circuit Structure and Function" (final version published in June 2022)

- Ad-hoc reviewer of *Nature; Nature Reviews Neuroscience; Nature Communications*; *eLife; PNAS; Genetics; PLoS Biology; PLoS One; PLoS Computational Biology; PLoS Genetics; The FASEB Journal; Current Biology*; *Journal of Neurogenetics; Current Opinion in Insect Science; Science Advances; Scientific Reports; Frontiers in Behavioral Neuroscience; Fly (Austin)* (since 2013)
- Ad-hoc reviewer of applications for NIH career development (K) grants (ZRG1_T32A-F(22)T) (June 2026), Wellcome Trust (2025), NIH study section "Neuroscience of Interoception and Chemosensation (NIC)" (February 2025), NIH Special Emphasis Panels for BRAIN Initiative Targeted BRAIN Circuits Projects (ZRG1 ICN-D (55) in October 2023, ZRG1 ICN-W (55) in March 2024), Israel Science Foundation (spring 2023), German-Israeli Foundation for Scientific Research (summer 2022), NIH Behavioral Neuroscience fellowship panel (F02A) (spring 2022), NIH study section "Neurobiology of Motivated Behavior (NMB)" (June 2021, June 2022), NIH BRAIN Initiative NRSA Postdoctoral Fellowship (F32) (ZMH1 ERB-S (05)) (February 2021), the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (2020), Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (2020), NIH Special Emphasis Panel ZRG1 MDCN-P(57): *Cellular and Molecular Biology of Complex Brain Disorders* (March/November 2018), and the European Research Council Starting Grant (2018)
- Guest lecturer and lab instructor at "*Drosophila* Neurobiology: Genes, Circuits & Behavior" Course at Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory (July 2017)
- Member of Society for Neuroscience (since 2014)
- Member of International Society for Neuroethology (since 2016)
- Member of Genetics Society of America (since 2017)
- Member of Japan Neuroscience Society (since 2017)

Invited Lectures

- Seminar at Gwangju Institute of Science and Technology (Gwangju, South Korea) — June 2026
- Seminar at UC Riverside (Riverside, CA) — March 2026
- Seminar at European Neuroscience Institute (Göttingen, Germany) — September 2025
- Seminar at Trinity College (Dublin, Ireland) — June 2025
- Gordon Conference "Modulation of Neural Circuits and Behavior" (Les Diablerets, Switzerland) — May 2025
- Japan Neuroscience Society Annual Conference (Fukuoka, Japan) — July 2024
- North Carolina State University Genetics seminar series (Raleigh, NC) — March 2024
- Janelia Conference: "Sexually Dimorphic Circuits and Behavior" (Janelia Research Campus, Ashburn, VA) — March 2024
- University of Utah Annual Neuroscience Symposium (Snowbird, UT) — October 2023
- Arizona State University Neuroscience seminar series (Tempe, AZ) — September 2023
- Janelia Conference: "Neuropeptide Signaling: Bridging Cell Biology, Neurophysiology, and Behavior" (Janelia Research Campus, Ashburn, VA) — April 2023
- Seminar at University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center (Dallas, TX) — November 2022

- Seminar at the Francis Crick Institute (London, U.K.) April 2022
- Weizmann Institute, "Sexual dimorphism of neuronal circuits and behavior" (Weizman Institute, Rehovot, Israel) April 2022
- Seminar at University of Texas at Austin (Austin, TX) December 2021
- NSF workshop: "Functional Logic of Neural Circuits: Diamonds in the Rough"
  - First phase: Duke University, NC (virtual) June 2021
  - Second phase: University of Puerto Rico, PR February 2022
  - Third phase: University of Puerto Rico, PR February 2023
- Seminar at West Virginia University (Morgantown, WV: virtual) April 2021
- University of California, San Diego Neuroscience seminar series (La Jolla, CA) June 2020
- Plenary lecture, Akira Arimura Memorial VIP/PACAP and Related Peptides Symposium (UCLA, CA) November 2019
- Department of Molecular, Cellular and Developmental Biology Seminar at University of California, Santa Barbara (CA) October 2019
- Kavli Workshop on Neural Circuits and Behavior of *Drosophila* (Kolymbari, Greece) June 2019
- Seminar at Technical University of Munich (Munich, Germany) April 2019
- Seminar at University of Lausanne (Lausanne, Switzerland) April 2019
- 21st International Neuroscience Winter Conference (Sölden, Austria) April 2019
- 60th Annual Drosophila Research Conference (Dallas, TX) March 2019
- Seminar at University of Toronto (Toronto, Canada) February 2019
- FENS-Kavli Network of Excellence/Kavli Institute for Brain and Mind joint symposium (La Jolla, CA) November 2018
- Society for Neuroscience Annual Meeting 2018 Minisymposium: "Neuropeptide Signaling: From Physiology to Behavior" (San Diego, CA) November 2018
- Seminar at University of Tokyo (Tokyo, Japan) August 2018
- The 41th Annual Meeting of the Japan Neuroscience Society (Kobe, Japan) July 2018
  Symposium: "Expressing love and hate: neural mechanisms controlling pathos"
- Seminar at Iowa State University (Ames, IA) June 2018
  The 40th Annual Meeting of the Japan Neuroscience Society (Chiba, Japan) July 2017
- Seminar at New York University School of Medicine (New York NY) July 2017
- Gordon Research Conference "Modulation of Neural Circuits & Behavior" (Newry, ME) June 2017
- University of California, Los Angeles "Synapse to Circuit Club" seminar series (Los Angeles, CA) May 2017
- Seminar at the National Center for Scientific Research (Gif-sur-Yvette, France) May 2017
- Seminar at Max-Planck Institute for Chemical Ecology (Jena, Germany) May 2017
- Seminar at Free University of Berlin (Berlin, Germany) May 2017
- EMBO|EMBL Symposium "Neural Circuits in the Past, Present and Future" (Heidelberg, Germany) May 2017
- Seminar at MRC Laboratory of Molecular Biology (Cambridge, U.K.) May 2017
- University of California, San Diego Neuroscience seminar series (La Jolla, CA) May 2017

- California Lutheran University Biology Department Research Seminar series (Thousand Oaks, CA) February 2017
- University of Arizona Neuroscience seminar series (Tucson, AZ) February 2017
- Arizona State University Neuroscience seminar series (Tempe, AZ) February 2017
- Nagoya University Advanced Biology Special Seminar series (Nagoya, Japan) November 2016
- Kanazawa University seminar at Integrated Systems Biology A course (Kanazawa, Japan) November 2016
- The 22nd International Conference of Zoology (Okinawa, Japan) November 2016
- Seminar at HHMI Janelia Research Campus (Ashburn, VA) September 2016
- 2016 International Congress for Neuroethology (Montevideo, Uruguay) April 2016
- 2015 Annual Southern California *Drosophila* meeting (Irvine, CA) September 2015
- Florida Atlantic University Neuroscience Program seminar series (Jupiter, FL) September 2015
- Seminar at Max-Planck Institute for Neurobiology (Martinsried, Germany) July 2015
- EMBO-Kavli meeting "Neural Circuits and Behaviour of *Drosophila*" (Kolympari, Greece) July 2015
- University of California, Riverside Neuroscience Program lecture series (Riverside, CA) May 2015
- ESF-EMBO symposium "Flies, worms and robots: combining perspectives on minibrains and behaviours" (Sant Feliu de Guixols, Spain) November 2014
- Nagoya International Symposium on Neural Circuits (Nagoya, Japan) March 2014
- Seminar at New York University (New York, NY) March 2014
- Seminar at University of California, San Diego (La Jolla, CA) March 2014
- Seminar at Champalimaud Centre for the Unknown (Lisbon, Portugal) February 2014
- Seminar at Salk Institute for Biological Study (La Jolla, CA) January 2014
- Seminar at University of Oxford (Oxford, U.K) November 2013
- California Institute of Technology BioLunch seminar series (Pasadena, CA) November 2013
- Seminar at RIKEN Brain Science Institute (Wako, Japan) July 2013
- Nagoya University Advanced Biology Special Seminar series (Nagoya, Japan) July 2013
- University of California, Los Angeles "Synapse to Circuit Club" seminar series (Los Angeles, CA) April 2013
- HHMI Janelia Research Campus Conference "Improving the Toolkit for *Drosophila* Neurogenetics" (Ashburn, VA) October 2009
- New York Area *Drosophila* Discussion Group (New York, NY) December 2007
- Bard College Biology seminar series (Annandale-on-Hudson, NY) February 2007
- European *Drosophila* Neurobiology Conference (Leuven, Belgium) September 2006
- Meeting on the Behavioural Neurogenetics of *Drosophila* Larvae (Manchester, U.K.) April 2006