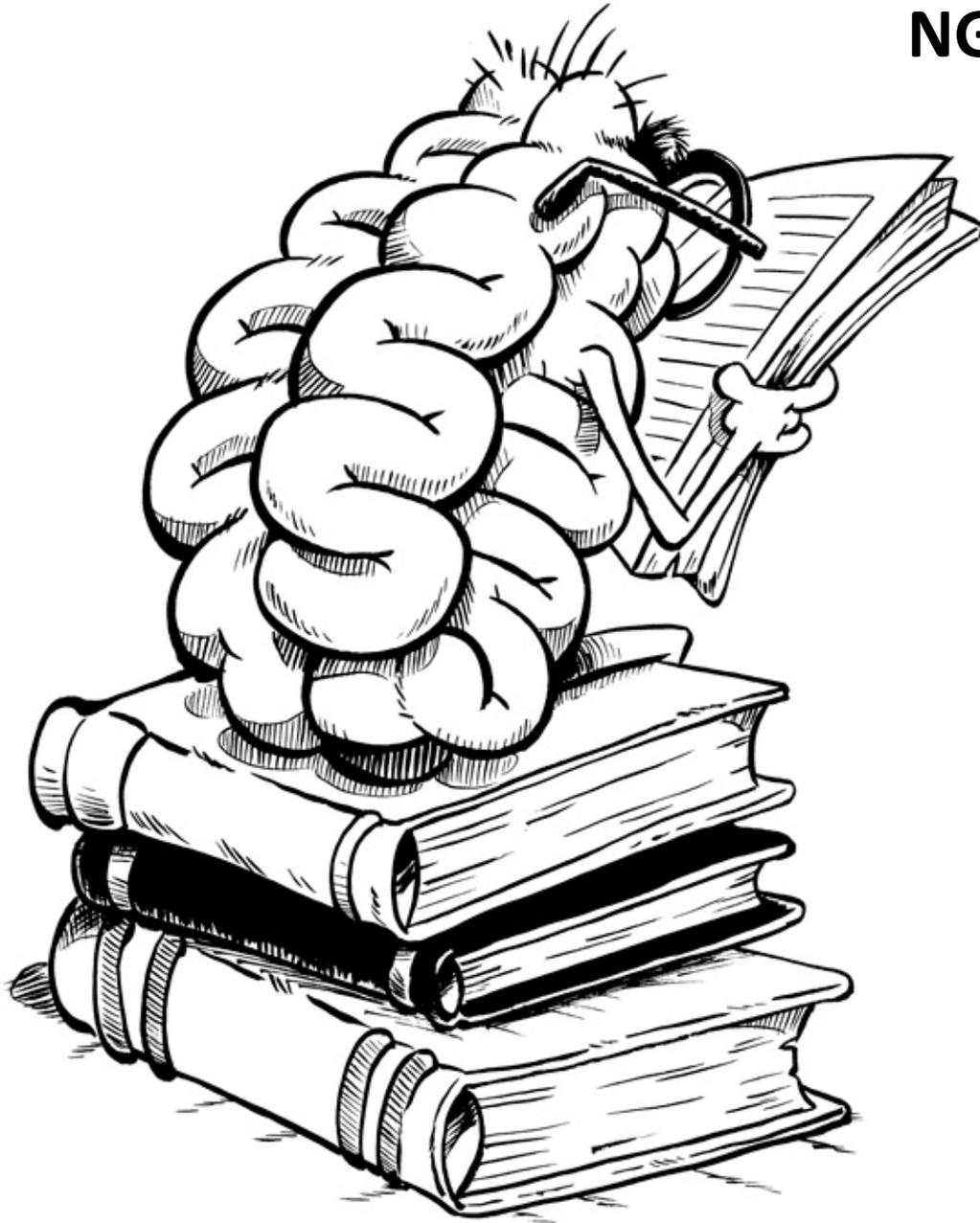


# **NGP Journal Club Guidelines 2017-2018**

**Sean Flynn  
Amanda Hernan**



# General Guidelines

- **No more themes for paper selection**
- Paper must be selected and approved **3-4 weeks before presentation**
- **Pick a catchy title for the talk** (not the title of the paper!!) and send to Carrie
- **Prepare a 40 minute talk**
  - 40 minute PowerPoint presentation + 15 minutes for questions
  - Outline background
  - Key figures
  - Conclusions/Interpretation
- **Everyone (1<sup>st</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> years) will give a Journal Club!**
- Do at least one practice talk before your scheduled presentation.
- Faculty supervisors are listed on the NGP website.

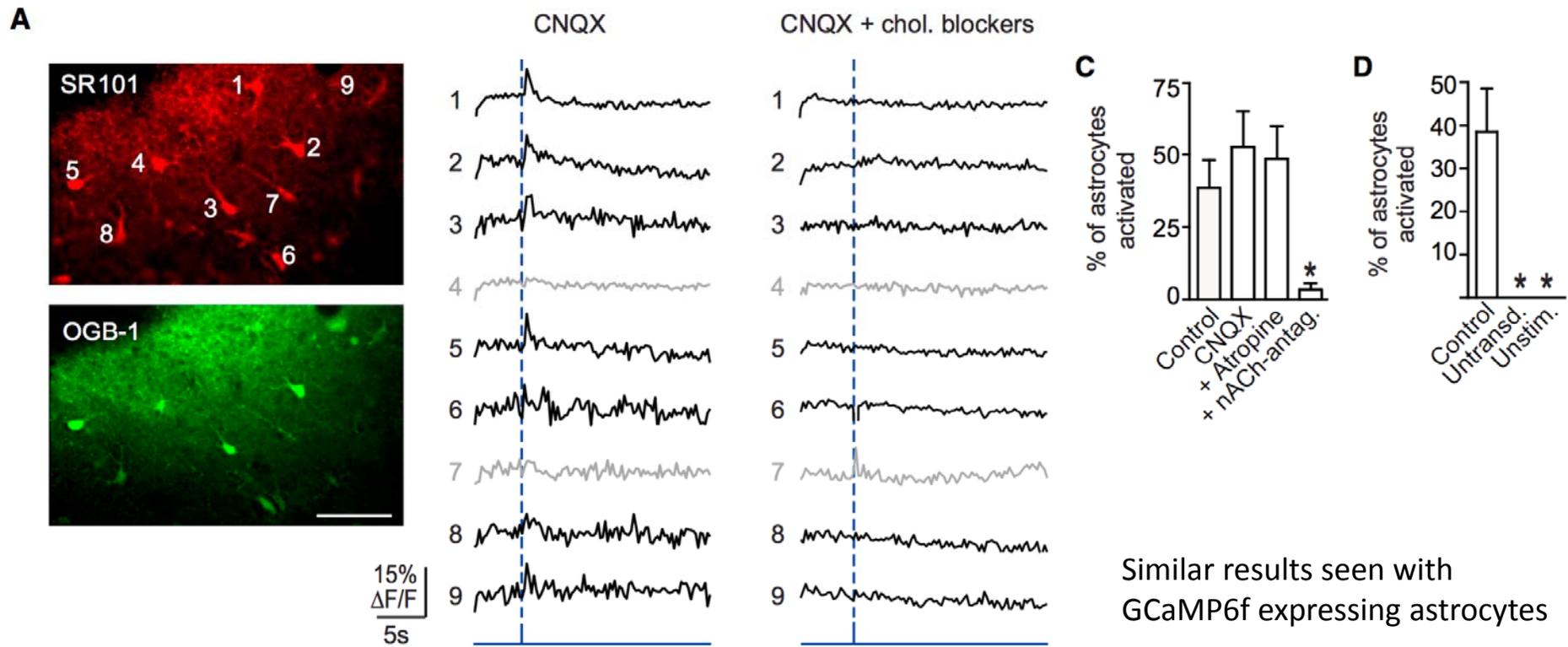
# Paper Selection

- Select a paper **3-4 weeks** in advance of your scheduled presentation and send it to NGP faculty supervisor for approval. Work with a scientific mentor if necessary. The scientific mentor can be your faculty advisor but does not have to be.
- Select an article published within the last 3 years (2014-2017). Some suggestions: **Nature, Science, Neuron/Cell, J Neurosci**
- Pick a paper that will interest many of the listeners. If you have any questions about the significance of the paper, ask someone working in that field.
- Use these 3 questions to guide your paper selection:
  - Why would the audience be interested in this paper?
  - Will it generate excitement for the subject in someone who is not involved in that particular aspect of neuroscience?
  - Can I make the information in the paper relevant to all or most of the audience?

# Preparation of PowerPoint Slides

- Keep the visuals simple. Visuals should complement what you say, not compete with what you say.
- Titles on all slides.
- Use brief phrases
- Use bullets.
- Results slide: State the result/outcome of the experiment in title.
- Summary slide: Summary of results, so usually has only 3-4 points.
- Conclusion slide: The answer/message; only 1 or 2 points.
- Implication/Interpretation slide: Do you believe the conclusions? What other experiments would you like to see?

# Astrocyte response to MSDB light activation is nAChR-dependent



OGB-1 – calcium indicator  
CNQX – AMPA/kainate  
receptor antagonist

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# Preparation of PowerPoint Slides

- Figures:
  - If copying a figure from a journal, omit the figure legend
  - Don't be afraid to break up figures across multiple slides.
- Tables:
  - Do not copy from a journal.
  - Retype and enlarge tables, omitting less important details.
  - Never present a complex table and then ask the audience to ignore part of it.
- Fonts:
  - Use 22-point Helvetica (18-point for smallest letters), or some other sans serif font, so that the writing is easy to read from the back of the room.
  - Use font size, color, boldness, spacing on the page to focus on important information.

# Student Leaders

- Bring feedback sheets to journal club presentation, collect and give to presenter.
- Recruit and assign student mentors for 1<sup>st</sup> year students
- Organize practice talks for all NGP students.
- Student leaders to give first introduction. After this, introductions are given by the week's previous presenter.
  - Prepare in advance and ask for important facts
    - Home town/state
    - Education
    - Current lab/project
    - Interesting facts (keep it professional...)
- Volunteers???

# Journal Club Mentoring

- Meet with your faculty supervisor and/or scientific mentor at least one week prior to your Journal Club presentation, and consult faculty members as necessary about your paper and your presentation.
- Faculty members are very busy – so schedule your meetings with the faculty mentors **AT LEAST 2 WEEKS IN ADVANCE.**

# Presentation Feedback

- Each presenter will receive comments about their presentations from the faculty supervisor and from those attending the journal club presentation.

# Non-presenting student responsibilities

- Students will write a one paragraph summary of the week's journal club paper. Bring this summary to journal club and hand in to faculty supervisor or student leaders at the beginning of Journal Club.
- You will answer the following questions:
  - (a) What was the main take-home message of the paper?
  - (b) What part did you like best?
  - (c) What part did you find the least convincing or the most confusing?
  - (d) After reading the paper, what one question would you ask the author?
- Define your intended audience – formal scientific paper or lay audience
- Your document should not exceed one page (must be typed, not handwritten). These assignments will be collected at the start of the Journal Club, and, when appropriate, will be used as a basis for discussion. If the student-lead discussion wanes at any point, the course directors will select a few answers and have the authors explain them to the class.

<b>Fall Semester 2017</b>	
31-Aug-16	<b>Organizational Meeting (pizza lunch)</b>
7-Sep-16	
14-Sep-16	Example Journal Club - Amanda
21-Sep-16	Roman Popov - 6 <sup>th</sup>
28-Sep-16	Riley St. Clair - 5 <sup>th</sup>
5-Oct-16	John McInnis – 4 <sup>th</sup>
12-Oct-16	Daniella Thorsdottir – 3 <sup>rd</sup>
19-Oct-16	Lindsey Tulipani – 2 <sup>nd</sup>
26-Oct-16	Rehan Ali - 6 <sup>th</sup>
2-Nov-16	Nicholas D'Alberto - 5 <sup>th</sup>
9-Nov-16	Alisha Linton – 4 <sup>th</sup>
16-Nov-16	<b>SFN Conference (11/12-11/16)</b>
23-Nov-16	<b>Thanksgiving Recess</b>
30-Nov-16	Megan Perkins – 3 <sup>rd</sup>
7-Dec-16	Katherine Tooke – 2 <sup>nd</sup>
14-Dec-16	<b>(Exam Period)</b>
<b>Spring Semester 2018</b>	
4-Jan-17	
11-Jan-17	
18-Jan-17	Megan Shipman - 5 <sup>th</sup>
25-Jan-17	Matthew McCabe – 4 <sup>th</sup>
1-Feb-17	Patrick Mullen – 3 <sup>rd</sup>
8-Feb-17	Nicholas Toker – 2 <sup>nd</sup>
15-Feb-17	Erin Cullen – 1 <sup>st</sup>
22-Feb-17	Harriosn Hsiang – 1 <sup>st</sup>
1-Mar-17	Theresa Legan – 1 <sup>st</sup>
8-Mar-17	Callum Thomas – 1 <sup>st</sup>
15-Mar-17	Wille Curry – 5 <sup>th</sup>
22-Mar-17	Gregory Johnson – 4 <sup>th</sup>
29-Mar-17	Yu Han – 2 <sup>nd</sup>
5-Apr-17	1st year lab rotation presnetations (Cullen, Hsiang)
12-Apr-17	1st year lab rotation presnetations (Legan, Thomas)
19-Apr-17	Mahafuza Aktar – 2 <sup>nd</sup>
26-Apr-17	Adrian Dutkiewicz -4 <sup>th</sup>
3-May-17	Zhaojin Li – 2 <sup>nd</sup>
10-May-17	<b>(Exam Period)</b>

- **Acknowledgements**

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