

Rachel Plouffe

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EDUCATION BACKGROUND

- 2013 - 2014 **Vermont Teaching Certification** (7-12 grade science) – Teaching Apprenticeship Program, Champlain College, Burlington, VT
- 2006 - 2013 **Ph.D., Neuroscience** - Uniformed Services University. Bethesda, MD
Advisor: Yumin Zhang, MD, PhD.
- 2001 - 2005 **Bachelor of Science, Biology. Minor: Psychology** - Messiah College. Grantham, PA

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 2019 - Present **Lecturer** – University of Vermont, Burlington, VT
- Exploring Biology (BCOR 011)
- Neurobiology (BIOL 261)
- Diseases of the Nervous System (NSCI 270)
- Exploring Neuroscience (NSCI 111)
- 2018 - 2019 **Adjunct Professor** – Community College of Vermont, St. Albans, VT
- Anatomy and Physiology I (BIO-2011)
- Anatomy and Physiology II (BIO-2012)
- 2018 - 2019 **Academic Lab Assistant** – University of Vermont, Burlington, VT
- Exploring Biology (BCOR 011)
- Cell and Molecular Biology (BCOR 103)
- 2006 - 2018 **Private Tutor** – Self-Employed
- Tutored elementary through graduate school students in a variety of science courses.
- 2013 - 2014 **Student Teacher**
Science Department – Essex High School. Essex, VT
- 10th grade Biology and 11th grade Chemistry.
- 2012 - 2012 **Teaching Assistant,**
Anatomy and Physiology Department - Uniformed Services University. Bethesda, MD
- Clinical Head & Neck & Functional Neuroscience (ATO1012 Module II)
- 2007 - 2007 **Teaching Assistant**
Anatomy and Physiology Department - Uniformed Services University. Bethesda, MD
- Introduction to Neuroscience (NSO506)
- 2003 - 2005 **Tutor** - Learning Center - Messiah College. Grantham, PA
- Assisted students in a variety of science subjects and study skills.
- 2002 - 2004 **Supplemental Instructor** - Learning Center - Messiah College. Grantham, PA
- General Chemistry I, Biology III and Anatomy and Physiology I and II

LABORATORY EXPERIENCE

- 2006-2013 **Neuroscience PhD Candidate** - Uniformed Services University. Bethesda, MD
- Thesis proposal: “Therapeutic Mechanisms of Cannabinoid-Promoted Survival of Oligodendrocytes”. Advisor: Yumin Zhang, MD, PhD.
- 2005-2006 **Research Technician** - University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey. Newark, NJ
- Study the expression of Akt isoforms in oligodendrocyte cells.
- 2005-2005 **Research Technician** - Department of Neuroscience & Anatomy. Hershey, PA
- Study the expression of Akt isoforms in oligodendrocyte cells.

PUBLICATIONS (under maiden name “Ribeiro R”)

Ribeiro R, Yu F, Zhang Y. Therapeutic Potential of a Novel Cannabinoid Agent CB52 In the Mouse Model of Experimental Autoimmune Encephalomyelitis. *Neuroscience*. 2013 Dec 19;254:427-42

Ribeiro R, Wen J, Li S, Zhang Y. Involvement of ERK1/2, cPLA2 and NF- κ B in microglia suppression by Cannabinoid Receptor Agonists and Antagonists. *Prostaglandins Other Lipid Mediat* 2013 Jan; 100-101C:1-14

Wen J, **Ribeiro R**, Tanaka M, Zhang Y. Activation of CB2 receptor is required for the therapeutic effect of ABHD6 inhibition in experimental autoimmune encephalomyelitis. *Neuropharmacology*. 2015 Dec;99:196-209

Wen J, **Ribeiro R**, Zhang Y. Specific PKC Isoforms Regulate LPS-stimulated iNOS Induction in Murine Microglial Cells. *J Neuroinflammation*. 2011 Apr 21;8(1):38

Wen J, Ariyannur PS, **Ribeiro R**, Tanaka M, Moffett JR, Kirmani BF, Namboodiri AM, Zhang Y. Efficacy of N-Acetylserotonin and Melatonin in the EAE Model of Multiple Sclerosis. *J Neuroimmune Pharmacol*. 2016 Dec;11(4):763-773.

Li S, Vana A, **Ribeiro R**, Zhang Y. Distinct Role of Nitric Oxide and Peroxynitrite in Mediating Peroxynitrite Toxicity in Culture and in Experimental Autoimmune Encephalomyelitis. *Neuroscience*. 2011 Jun 16; 184: 107-19.

Vana A, Li S, **Ribeiro R**, Zhang Y. Arachidonyl Trifluoromethyl Ketone Ameliorates Experimental Autoimmune Encephalomyelitis via Blocking Peroxynitrite Formation in Mouse Spinal Cord White Matter. *Exp. Neurol*. 2011 Sep; 231(1): 45-55.

MEMBERSHIPS AND AWARDS

- 2018- Present **National Academic Advising Association**
- 2006-Present **Society for Neuroscience**
- 2019 **Teaching Excellence Award (nominee)** – Community College of Vermont
- 2013-2018 **Toastmasters International**
- 2014 **ETS Recognition of Excellence Award** (Praxis II – Biology)

LEADERSHIP AND VOLUNTEER WORK

- 2016-2018 **VP of Public Relations** – Toastmasters of Greater Burlington, Burlington, VT
- 2011-2012 **Co-Editor, GSC Newsletter** – USUHS, Bethesda, MD
- 2010-2012 **Neuroscience Student Representative** – USUHS, Bethesda, MD
- 2004-2005 **Volunteer Tutor** - Center for Champions. Harrisburg, PA