

## Neuroscientist of the year 2016

Tania Roth, Associate Professor in the Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences at UD, was named the 2016 Neuroscientist of the Year by the Delaware Chapter of the Society for Neuroscience. The award was presented at the annual Delaware Neuroscience Research and Poster Symposium on December 9.

Roth's research focuses on understanding mechanisms responsible for environmental influences on gene activity in the brain and the development of behavior. Last year she was awarded a \$1.5 million, five-year grant from the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development to study the link between maltreatment, epigenetic modifications in the brain, and aberrant parenting behavior.

Tania Roth, 2016 Neuroscientist of the Year with Dr. Jeff Rosen, President of the Delaware Chapter of the Society for Neuroscience and Dr. Melissa Harrington, Director of the Delaware Center for Neuroscience Research.



## Poster winners

### Post-doctoral:

1<sup>st</sup> Prize: Dr. Sridhar Boppana, Dept. of Biology, Delaware State University "Expression of the vesicular acetylcholine transporter in the larval and adult *Drosophila* central nervous system."

2<sup>nd</sup> Prize: Dr. Joseph Lombardo, Dept. of Biology, Delaware State University "Non-reciprocal effects of KCNQ/Kv7 channel modulation on the excitability of spinal motoneurons in mouse neonates."

### Graduate student:

1<sup>st</sup> prize (tie)

Deidre Carter, Department of Biology, Delaware State University "Alexander's Disease: an astrocyte mouse model of TDP-43 proteinopathy"

Alexandra Turano, Dept. of Psychological and Brain Sciences, University of Delaware, "Sex differences in microglia number and activation in the developing rat brain."

2<sup>nd</sup> prize

Trisha Chakraborty, Dept. of Psychological & Brain Science University of Delaware "Estimation of permeability of blood brain barrier to exogenous oxytocin administration."

3<sup>rd</sup> prize

David Maisson, Dept of Psychological & Brain Sciences University of Delaware "Distinct Contributions of Hippocampal and Prefrontal Afferents to Nucleus Reunions During Spatial Working Memory."

### Undergraduate students

1<sup>st</sup> place

Dan Sangiamo, Dept. of Psychological and Brain Sciences, University of Delaware, "Semantics" of ultrasonic communication modulates agonistic and aggressive behavior in mice."

2<sup>nd</sup> place (tie)

Justin Sherer, Dept. of Biology, Delaware State University "Overexpression of HSP27 modulates TDP-43 localization and expression."

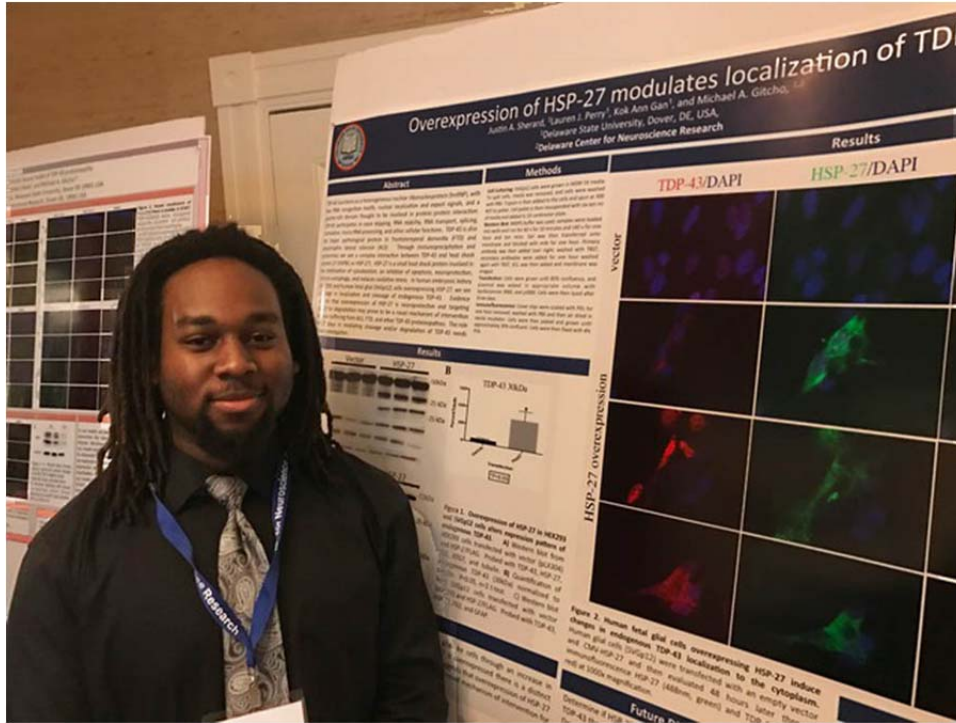
Morgan Spurrier, Dept. of Psychological and Brain Sciences University of Delaware "Sex differences in the acoustic structure of mouse ultrasonic vocalizations."

3<sup>rd</sup> place

Krishali Patel, Dept. of Biology, Delaware State University "Modeling Parkinson's disease from Synergistic Interaction with Commercially-used Pesticides."

**Some pictures from the poster session:**

The symposium was held at the Buena Vista State Conference Center this year, with posters set up all over the downstairs of the house.



2<sup>nd</sup> place winner in the undergraduate division, Justin Sherer from Delaware State University



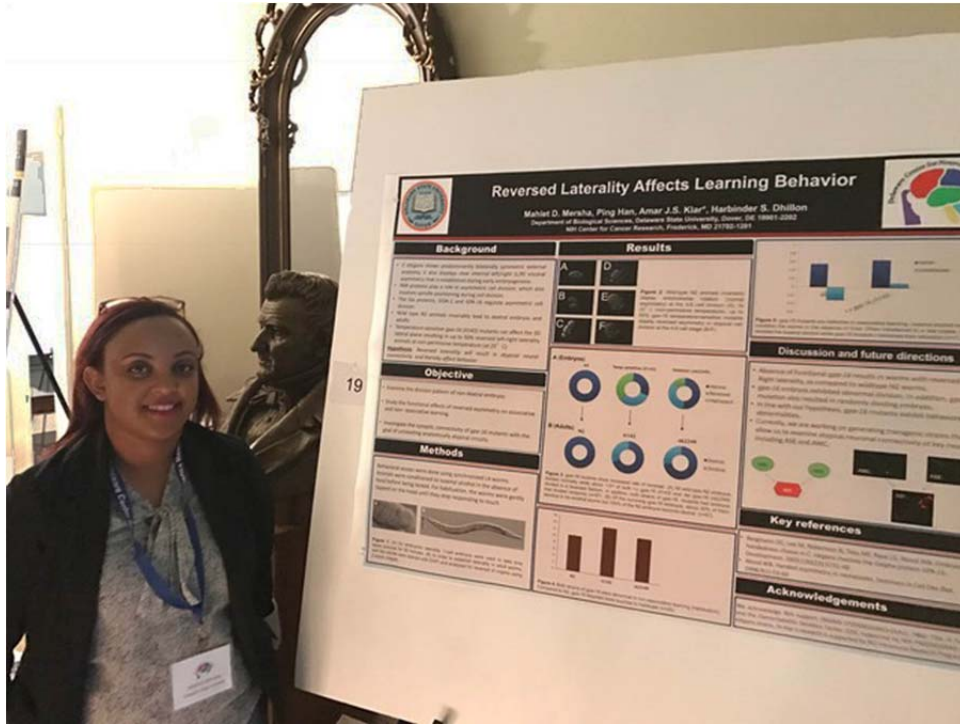
Second place winner in the undergraduate division, Morgan Spurrier, of the University of Delaware, was set up in the library.



Matt Butchbach of Nemours, A.I. duPont Hospital for Children listens to a pitch during the poster session.



David Maisson, 3<sup>rd</sup> place winner in the graduate division, collects his certificate.



Mahlet Merasha, a PhD student from Delaware State University, presents her poster next to a bust of a duPont.



Alexandra Turano, 1<sup>st</sup> place finisher in the graduate division, collects her certificate.