

## osama m. ahmed, phd

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### academic employment

- 2022 – present **university of washington, seattle**  
dept. of psychology  
program in neuroscience  
weill neurohub term assistant professor
- 2017 – 2022 **princeton university**  
princeton neuroscience institute  
presidential postdoctoral researcher  
advisor: dr. mala murthy

### education

- 2009 – 2017 **university of california, san francisco**  
phd in neuroscience  
advisor: dr. nirao shah  
thesis: evolution of mechanisms that control mating in drosophila males
- 2005 – 2009 **university of pennsylvania**  
bse in bioengineering  
minor: comparative literature and theory

### major grants and fellowships

- 2022 – 2025 8. simons collaboration on the global brain – bridge to independence award (\$610,000)
- 2019 – 2023 7. burroughs wellcome fund postdoctoral enrichment program (\$60,000)
- 2019 – 2022 6. presidential postdoctoral research fellows program (*inaugural awardee*)
- 2019 5. BRAINS fellowship
- 2018 – 2020 4. carl storm underrepresented minority fellowship
- 2018 – 2020 3. supplement to “dissecting sensorimotor pathways underlying social interactions: models, circuits, and behavior” (R01NS104899)
- 2014 – 2017 2. UCSF discovery fellowship (*inaugural awardee*)
- 2010 – 2013 1. national science foundation graduate research fellowship program

### grants to trainees

- 2024 3. ian quah (graduate student) - UW provost fellowship (\$19,000)
- 2023 2. karin hellevik (undergraduate student) - mary gates research scholarship (\$5,000)
- 2023 1. lydia zhang (graduate student) - UW psychology dept scholar award (\$20,000)

### awards and honors

- 2022 10. best of access, diversity, and inclusion (BADI) award, princeton university
- 2020 9. 1,000 inspiring black scientists in america

- 2015 8. finalist, university of california-wide "grad slam"
- 7. best poster, "the assembly and function of neural circuits" meeting
- 2014 6. 1st place, UCSF 3-minute thesis challenge
- 5. people's choice award, UCSF 3-minute thesis challenge
- 4. UCSF student mental health initiative peer programming grant
- 3. michael e. debakey award for journalism and media excellence
- 2013 2. winner, FASEB stand up for science video competition
- 2009 1. penn engineering exceptional service award

### academic publications

- 2023 10. **ahmed om**, crocker a, murthy m. *transcriptional profiling of drosophila male-specific P1 (pC1) neurons*. biorxiv
- 9. brezovec\* le, berger\* ab, hao\* ya, lin\* a, **ahmed\* om**, pacheco da, thiberge sy, murthy m, clandinin tr. *BIFROST: a method for registering diverse imaging datasets*. biorxiv. \*co-first authors
- 2020 8. jones j, foster w, twomet c, burdge j, **ahmed om**, pereira td, wojick ja, corder g, plotkin jb, abdu-saboor i. *a machine-vision approach for automated pain measurement at millisecond timescales*. elife
- 2019 7. **ahmed om**, murthy m. *neuroscience: tantalized flies are primed for satiety*. curr bio
- 6. **ahmed om**, avila-herrera a, tun km, serpa ph, peng j, knapp jm, stern dl, davis gw, pollard ks, shah nm. *evolution of mechanisms that control mating in drosophila males*. cell reports
- 2018 5. mckinsey gl, **ahmed om**, shah nm. *neural control of sexually dimorphic social behaviors*. current opinion in physiology
- 2013 4. fan\* p, manoli\* ds, **ahmed om**, chen y, agarwal n, kwong s, cai ag, neitz j, renslo a, baker bs, shah nm. *genetic and neural mechanisms that inhibit drosophila from mating with other species*. cell. \*co-first authors
- 2012 3. xu x, coats jk, yang cf, wang a, **ahmed om**, alvarado m, izumi t, shah nm. *modular genetic control of sexually dimorphic behaviors*. cell
- 2009 2. chen qy, alarcon s, tharp a, **ahmed om**, estrella nl, greene ta, rucker j, breslin pa. *perceptual variation in umami taste and polymorphisms in TAS1R taste receptor genes*. am j clin nutr
- 2008 1. gordesky-gold b, rivers n, **ahmed om**, breslin pa. *drosophila melanogaster prefers compounds perceived sweet by humans*. chemical senses

### invited seminars

- 2023 32. monell chemical senses center, student apprenticeship program
- 31. gordon research conference, neuroethology
- 30. northwestern university, feinberg school of medicine, neuroscience
- 29. UW, neural computation and engineering connection
- 28. university of pennsylvania, computational neuroscience initiative
- 27. university of california, berkeley, neuroscience

- 26. northwestern university, neuroscience department
- 2022 25. arizona state university, behavioral neuroscience and comparative psychology
- 24. CAJAL training course, quantitative approaches to behavior
- 23. yale university, yale black postdoctoral association
- 22. stanford university, wu tsai neurosciences institute
- 21. simons collaboration on the global brain, SURF program, *keynote*
- 2021 20. harvard university, bridging brains and bioacoustics
- 19. newcastle university, centre for behaviour and evolution
- 18. monell chemical senses center, student apprenticeship program
- 17. UCSF, neuroscience external postdoc series
- 16. computational neuroethology workshop
- 15. northwestern university, department of neurobiology
- 14. university of massachusetts amherst, department of biology
- 13. UMASS chan medical school, department of neurobiology
- 12. mt. holyoke college, department of biology
- 11. amherst college, department of biology
- 10. emory university, department of biology
- 9. university of washington, department of psychology
- 2019 8. princeton university, neuroscience institute
- 7. monell chemical senses center, student apprenticeship program
- 2017 6. society for integrative and comparative biology
- 2016 5. janelia, genetic and neurobiological basis for evolution of behavior.
- 2014 4. princeton university, molecular biology colloquium
- 2013 3. university of california – san francisco, neuroscience departmental
- 2010 2. monell chemical senses center, student apprenticeship program
- 2009 1. monell chemical senses center, student apprenticeship program

### teaching at UW

- fall 2023 PSYCH542: **advances in neural systems and behavior**
- winter 2023 PSYCH448: **brains in motion**. median student rating: 4.9/5
- ARTS395: **seminar in community-based arts practice**. UW-tacoma guest lecture
- fall 2022 PSYCH542: **advances in neurogenetics**
- NEUSCI490: **seminar in computational neuroscience**. guest lecture

### research advising at ahmed lab

- 2023 **sarah pugliese** (phd rotation student, neuroscience)
- 2023 – present **princess tarabishi** (phd rotation student, neuroscience)
- kyle thieringer** (phd rotation student, neuroscience)
- ian quah** (phd student, psychology)
- UW provost fellow*
- carter archuleta** (undergrad, biological physics and astronomy)
- mary bun** (undergrad, electrical engineering)

**karin hellevik** (undergrad, psychology)  
*mary gates research scholar*

2022 – present **hibah javed** (research tech)  
**lydia zhang** (phd student, psychology)  
*UW psychology department scholar*

### thesis advisory committees

2023 – present **willem weertman**, psychology phd student, david gire lab, uw  
**sarah pugliese**, neuroscience phd student, john tuthill lab, uw

2022 – present **emily siff**, neuroscience phd student, john carlson lab, yale university  
**jessica jones**, neuroscience phd student, john tuthill lab, uw  
**leila elabaddy**, neuroscience phd student, john tuthill lab, uw

### visible university service

2023 **royalty research fund**, proposal reviewer  
**undergraduate awards committee**, psychology department

### visible professional service

2022 – present **journal reviews**: current biology, nature, science advances

2022 – 2023 **COSYNE conference**, abstract reviewer  
**faculty opinions**, associate faculty member

2020 – 2022 **neuroecology seminar series**, co-organizer

2020 **SACNAS** (society for advancement of chicanos/hispanics and native americans in science), abstract reviewer

### visible outreach and service

2023 23. **PENS** (pelham einstein neuro scholars) career series, speaker  
22. **paperbark magazine**, conversation with dr. yan wang

2022 21. **university of oregon spotlight**, diversity in neuroscience, interviewee

2021 20. **princeton neuroscience** applying to faculty positions session, panelist  
19. **simons-NSBP scholars program**, speaker

2020 18. **black in neuroscience** conference, judge  
17. **princeton EPSP**, mentor

2019 – 2020 16. **princeton neuroscience graduate program**, interviewer

2017 – present 15. **science with tom**, advisory board member

2017 14. **the fog at bay** mental health podcast, interviewee

2016 13. **science with tom** videocast, consultant, interviewee

2015 – 2018 12. **carry the one radio** podcast, advisor

2015 – 2016 11. **the fog at bay** mental health podcast, producer

2015 10. **what is the golgi?** science video, vocalist  
9. **how to give a talk**, web designer  
8. **UCSF science and health education partnership**, panelist

- 2014 7. **BAASICS - it's complicated**, speaker
- 2014 6. **science, neat**, speaker
- 5. **what is the unfolded protein response?** science video, narrator
- 4. **this week in science**, episode 470, guest host
- 2013 3. **funding basic science to revolutionize medicine**, co-director, editor, narrator  
*winner of the FASEB stand up for science competition*
- 2010 2. **science and health education partnership** - bio&chemteach, volunteer teacher
- 2009 – 2015 1. **carry the one radio** science podcast, founder, host

#### **solicited writings**

- 2014 **ahmed om.** making an impact outside of the lab: how to get involved in science outreach. the GSA reporter
- 2013 **ahmed om.** social media for science outreach - a case study: CTOR podcasts. [nature.com/spoton](http://nature.com/spoton)