

Summer Elizabeth Allen, Ph.D.

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<https://sciencebysummer.com/>

WORK EXPERIENCE

Science Writer, Editor, Educator (freelance)

April 2012-April 2017; Feb. 2019-current

- Researched, conducted interviews, and wrote articles, blog posts, press releases, and research briefs for a variety of organizations and publications, including the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the Society for Neuroscience, IEEE PULSE magazine, Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology News, BrainFacts, Brown Medicine magazine, Greater Good Magazine, the Schizophrenia Research Forum, and the Pain Research Forum
- Researched and wrote chapters for OpenStax *Biology* and *Microbiology*, peer-reviewed, open-access college textbooks (48 percent of US colleges have adopted OpenStax textbooks, saving 2.2 million students an estimated \$177 million)
- Collated data, analyzed data, made graphs, wrote sections, and edited materials for a successfully funded NIH predoctoral training grant application for the Brown University Neuroscience Graduate Program
- Edited scientific manuscripts for clarity, grammar, and accuracy of scientific expression
- Taught courses:
 - The Talking Brain (a one-day class for 4th and 5th graders)
 - From Brain to Sensation: Neurobiology of Perception (a course for middle school students)
 - Neuroscience in Action (an online course for high school students from around the world)

Research and Writing Fellow, Greater Good Science Center, UC Berkeley (remote) April 2017-Jan. 2019

- Performed literature searches using Google Scholar and PubMed, curated hundreds of scientific studies and review articles, synthesized findings, and wrote five 35-80 page white papers
- Tracked new scientific research, interviewed sources, came up with story ideas, and wrote feature articles and research briefs for Greater Good magazine

Graduate and Postdoctoral Researcher, Neuroscience Department Brown University Aug. 2005-June 2014

- Performed studies on calcium channel genes involved in neuronal communication, epilepsy, migraine, and chronic pain in the lab of Dr. Diane Lipscombe; presented findings at seminars and international conferences
- Wrote and presented about science in diverse formats, including: book chapters, grant applications, conference abstracts, posters, teaching materials and lectures, oral seminars, scientific manuscripts, review articles, and a 168-page dissertation
- Wrote two funded grants: (1) an interdisciplinary grant from the Brown Institute for Brain Science and (2) a National Institutes of Health grant, which was funded on first submission and supported my studies for two years (a total of \$60,511)
- Developed curriculum, chose readings, wrote assignments, designed activities, facilitated class discussions, and delivered lectures for a highly-rated 15-hour course about psychopharmacology (Psychoactive Drugs: Brain, Body, and Society) for 23 advanced high school students
- Ran lab sessions, graded work, helped students with writing as a teaching assistant for neuroanatomy course
- Supervised and mentored undergraduate and graduate students; taught experimental design, laboratory techniques, and data analysis; monitored progress on projects; helped students develop public speaking and writing skills
- Assisted Senior Editor for the neuroscience journal *Brain Research*; evaluated manuscript quality, found and assigned reviewers, assessed reviews, and assisted with publication decisions
- Appointed as Graduate Student Representative: planned graduate student recruitment weekends; served on admissions committee; acted as liaison between students and faculty

Intern Reporter, Rhode Island Public Radio

Sept. 2012-Dec. 2012

- Performed research, contacted and interviewed sources, wrote and voiced news stories, produced and edited audio, and published web content under strict deadlines

Research Assistant, Oregon Health and Science University

2000-2005

- Designed, performed, troubleshooted, and analyzed experiments on the development of the food intake system and the neurobiology of obesity in the lab of Drs. M. Susan Smith and Kevin Grove at the Oregon National Primate Research Center
- Presented findings in seminars and poster presentations
- Co-authored four scientific journal articles

EDUCATION

PhD, Neuroscience, Brown University

2012

BA, cum laude, Biology, Carleton College

2005

COMPUTER SKILLS

Adobe Audition, Photoshop, Illustrator, and In Design. Microsoft Word, Excel, and Powerpoint. Reference management software (EndNote, Mendeley). Data analysis and statistical software (Stata, SPSS, Origin). Research search engines and databases (PubMed/MEDLINE, Google Scholar, PsycINFO, Web of Science).

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Allen SE, Toro CP, Andrade A, López-Soto EJ, Denome S, Lipscombe D. 2017. Cell-Specific RNA Binding Protein Rbfox2 Regulates $Ca_v2.2$ mRNA Exon Composition and $Ca_v2.2$ Current Size. *eNeuro*.

Lipscombe D, **Allen SE**, Toro CP. 2013. Control of neuronal voltage-gated calcium ion channels from RNA to protein. *Trends in Neuroscience*. 36(10): 598-609.

Lipscombe D, Andrade A, **Allen SE**. 2013. Alternative splicing: functional diversity among voltage-gated calcium channels and behavioral consequences. *Biochimica et Biophysica Acta (BBA) Biomembranes*. 1828(7): 1522-1529.

Allen SE, Darnell RB, Lipscombe D. 2010. The neuronal splicing factor Nova controls alternative splicing in N-type and P-type Ca_v2 calcium channels. *Channels*. 4(6):483-9.

Glavas MM, Grayson BE, **Allen SE**, Copp DR, Smith MS, Cowley MA, Grove KL. 2008. Characterization of brainstem peptide YY (PYY) neurons. *J Comp Neurol*. 10;506(2):194-210.

Grayson BE, **Allen SE**, Billes SK, Williams SM, Smith MS, Grove KL. 2006. Prenatal development of hypothalamic neuropeptide systems in the nonhuman primate. *Neuroscience*. 28;143(4):975-86.

Campbell RE, Smith MS, Grayson BE, **Allen SE**, French-Mullen JMH, Grove KL. 2003. Orexin neurons express a functional pancreatic polypeptide Y4 receptor. *J. Neurosci*. 23:1487-1497.

Grove KL, **Allen S**, Grayson BE, Smith MS. 2003. Postnatal development of the hypothalamic neuropeptide Y system. *Neuroscience* 116:393-406.