

Kelly T. Varga  
Curriculum Vitae  
1/7/2016

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## **EDUCATION**

**Ph.D.** -Laboratory of Integrative Neurosciences, Department of Biological Sciences  
The University of Illinois at Chicago; 2014

**B.A** - Department of Biological Sciences  
St. Xavier University; 2007

**A.S** - Biological Sciences  
Daytona Beach Community College; 2005

## **PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS/ EMPLOYMENT**

**University of North Texas at Dallas**, Department of Biological Sciences, Lecturer- 2015-present.

**St. Xavier University**, Department of Biological Sciences, Lecturer- 2014-2015

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

### **University of North Texas at Dallas; Undergraduate/Graduate Courses**

Biology for Science Majors I (Fall 2015)  
Biology for Science Majors I Lab (Fall 2015)  
Biology for Educators (Fall 2015)  
Environmental Science (Fall 2015)  
Environmental Science Lab (Fall 2015)

### **St. Xavier University; Undergraduate Courses**

Human Biology (Fall, 2014; Spring, 2015)  
Neuroscience (Fall, 2014)  
Neuroscience Lab (Fall, 2014)  
General Biology (Spring, 2015)  
General Biology Lab (Fall, 2014; Spring, 2015)

## **The University of Illinois at Chicago; Teaching Assistant; Undergraduate Courses**

Cellular Neurobiology Lab (Spring, 2013; Spring, 2014)

Biology of the Brain (Fall, 2012; Fall, 2013)

General Microbiology (Summer, 2013)

Cell Biology (Summer, 2014)

Microbiology Laboratory (Summer, 2010; Fall, 2010; Spring, 2011; Summer, 2011)

Cell Biology Lab (Spring, 2010)

Comparative Vertebrate Anatomy Lab (Fall, 2009)

## **TEACHING AREAS/COURSES PREPARED TO TEACH**

General Biology (I and II) including Lab

Biology for Non Majors

Anatomy and Physiology including Lab

Comparative Anatomy and Physiology

Cell Biology including Lab

Neuroscience/Neurobiology

Hormones and Behavior

Environmental Science including Lab

Biology For Educators

Psychology

Microbiology including Lab

## **AWARDS AND HONORS**

**Best Teaching Assistant-** nominated by undergraduate colloquium in Biological Sciences, one award given per academic year, UIC, 2012

**Excellence in Biological Research Award,** acknowledges one student per year who has excelled in the conduct of original research projects, St. Xavier University, 2007.

**Who's Who Among Students in American Universities And Colleges-** recognized by faculty and staff as one of 39 others who demonstrate outstanding educational leadership, St. Xavier University, 2007.

## **SERVICE TO PROFESSIONALISM**

**University of North Texas at Dallas.** Search Committee member for Spanish Tenure-Track Assistant Professor. Regularly attended search committee meetings including but not limited to:

- Discussing equal opportunity hiring measures with Human Resources
- Reviewing applicant pool
- Generating a "short-list" of applicants

- Contact of references
- Interview final candidate choices
- Preparing proposed hiring decision

**University of North Texas at Dallas.** Eureka S.T.E.M Camp (Summer 2016): Volunteered faculty participation and creation of S.T.E.M camp activity “Interpretive Painting: How do cells help you in everyday life?”

**University of North Texas at Dallas.** Founding Faculty Advisor of UNTD Biology Club (spring 2016-present): Founding faculty advisor to the university’s first Biology Club on campus.

**University of North Texas at Dallas.** Strategic Planning Committee (2016): Active committee member participating in the issues of retention and recruitment. These included:

- Chair member of initiative 1.3.8.3; Developed a plan to assess effectiveness of retention initiative
- Committee Member on initiative 1.4.2; Developed a working definition and understanding of “teacher-scholar” model. The main objectives within this subcommittee included:
  - 1.4.2.1 Review of peer-institutional standards and definitions
  - 1.4.2.2 Collection of faculty views
  - 1.4.2.3 Meeting with HR to review job descriptions holding of regular meetings with faculty about policy and implementation at UNT Dallas.

**University of North Texas at Dallas.** Faculty Work Life Committee (2015-Present): Standing committee on faculty Work Life dealing with current issues among faculty and with scheduled meetings.

**St. Xavier University.** Attended the adjunct faculty workshop-*Innovative Ways to Liven up the Classroom*- February 2015.

**St. Xavier University.** Assisted a student in presenting at the annual SICB meeting, 2015.

**St. Xavier University.** Attended the *Experiments and Models for Teaching Undergraduate Neuroscience* Workshop; University of Missouri-Columbia –Summer 2014.

**The University of Illinois at Chicago,** Participation on Animal Care and Use- approved, 2013  
Helped to prepare the IBC protocol for lentivirus application in chromaffin cells.

## **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS/AFFILIATIONS**

Beta Beta Beta National Honor Society- (2006- present).

Society for Neuroscience - 2013-present

Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology- 2014-2015.

Chicago Brain Foundation- 2012-2013.

Chicago Society for Neuroscience- 2012-2013.

International Society for Autism Research - 2007-2009.

## **GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS**

Graduate Student Travel Award, UIC; attendance to present at Society for Neuroscience-2014.

Department of Biological Sciences Travel Grant, UIC; attendance to present at Society for Neuroscience- 2014.

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Travel Award, UIC; attendance to present at Society for Neuroscience - 2013.

St. Xavier Research Grant Award- 2007.

## **INVITED TALKS**

Down the Biology Rabbit Hole: A Consideration beyond the Undergraduate Degree. Beta Beta Beta ("Tri-Beta") National Biology Honor Society, St. Xavier University, February, 2015.

Reduce, Reuse, Synaptic Vesicle Recycling: a novel look at the kinetics of Clathrin-Mediated Endocytosis. Keynote Speaker, National Biological Honors Society Regional Research Conference, St. Xavier University, March, 2014.

Reuse! Reduce! Recycle! The Synaptic Vesicle Cycle. Chicago Brain Bee, UIC Medical Campus, August, 2012.

## **FACULTY DEVELOPMENT/WORKSHOPS**

*AP Sciences Curriculum Alignment Workshop.* The College Board. The University of Texas at Dallas, Dallas, TX, August, 2016.

Certificate of Completion. "*Effective Teaching Practices*". Association of College and University Educators and the American Council on Education. Online Course. June, 2016.

*Developing and Sharing Best Practices: From Concept to Classroom*" American Society of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (ASBMB), University of Texas Southwestern Medical Campus, Dallas, TX, February, 2016

## **CONFERENCE ACTIVITY/PARTICIPATION**

*Synaptotagmin 1 and Phosphatidylserine: A necessary interaction for Clathrin-Mediated Endocytic Kinetics.* Society for Integrated and Comparative Behavior, West Palm Beach, FL. January, 2015.

*Phosphatidylserine is Important for CME Kinetics.* Chicago Brain Foundation, Chicago, IL. January, 2014.

*Phosphatidylserine is Important for Clathrin-Mediated Endocytosis.* Society for Neuroscience San Francisco, CA. November, 2013.

*Incidence and Density of Gonadotropin Releasing Hormone Immunoreactivity in the Forebrain of Adult Male Red-Sided Garter Snakes.* (Society for Behavioral Neuroendocrinology) Monterey, CA. April, 2007.

*Role of the Hypothalamus-Pituitary Adrenal (HPA) Axis on the Incidence and Density of Gonadotropin Releasing Hormone Immunoreactive (GnRH-ir) Cells in Adult Male Red-Sided Garter Snakes.* Society for Behavioral Neuroendocrinology, Pittsburg, PA. April, 2006.

## CAMPUS AND DEPARTMENTAL TALKS

Down the Biology Rabbit Hole: A Consideration beyond the Undergraduate Degree. Special Topics Lecture for the National Biological Honor Society: Beta, Beta, Beta (Tri-Beta), SXU. February, 2015.

Phosphatidylserine is important in CME. Department Lecture, UIC. February, 2014.

Understanding the dynamics of clathrin-mediated endocytosis. Departmental lecture, UIC. October, 2013.

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

**The University of Illinois at Chicago,** Doctoral Graduate Student 2009 – 2014

Revealed that the interaction between anionic phospholipid phosphatidylserine and vesicular protein Synaptotagmin 1 appear necessary for the fission dynamics of clathrin-mediated endocytosis through the use of cell-attached capacitance measurements (electrophysiology).

**Children's Memorial Research Center,** Laboratory Technician 2007-2009.

Assisted in research activities as they relate to the human genome research project on Autism including mouse colony maintenance, PCR genotyping, qPCR, sequencing, and assistance in the coordination of novel mouse genotyping assays.

**St. Xavier University,** Undergraduate Research Assistant 2005-2007.

Investigated the neuroendocrine aspects of reproductive physiology and behavior in the brain of the male red-sided garter snake.

## PUBLICATIONS

McAdam, R, **Varga, K**, Jiang, X, Young, F, Blandford, V, Gong, L-W, Sossin, W. *The juxtamembrane linker domain of Synaptotagmin 1 is critical for vesicle fission during clathrin-mediated endocytosis-* J.Cell Sci 2015; 128(12): 2229-2235.

**Varga, K**, Jiang, X, Gong, L-W. *Cell-Attached Capacitance Measurements in Mouse Adrenal Chromaffin Cell- Journal of Visualized Experiments: JoVE 2014, (92)*

Yao LH, Rao Y, Bang C, Kurilova S, **Varga K**, Wang CY, Weller BD, Cho W, Cheng J, Gong LW. *Actin polymerization does not provide direct mechanical forces for vesicle fission during clathrin-mediated endocytosis.* J. Neurosci 2013; 33(40): 15793-8.

Yao LH, Rao Y, **Varga K**, Wang CY, Xiao P, Lindau M and Gong LW. *Synaptotagmin I is necessary for the Ca<sup>2+</sup> dependence of clathrin-mediated endocytosis.* J Neurosci 2012; 32: 3778-3785.

## REFERENCES

### **Dr. Liang-Wei Gong**

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University of Illinois at Chicago  
SEL 4294, 840 W. Taylor St  
Chicago, IL 60657  
312-413-0089  
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*Principle Investigator, Advisor of Ph.D.*

### **Dr. Simon Alford**

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*Chair of my Thesis Committee*

### **Dr. Janet Richmond**

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### **Dr. Randolph Krohmer**

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