

Heather L. Bennett, PhD

Assistant Professor of Biology
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ACADEMIC & PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

Assistant Professor of Biology, Trinity College, Hartford, CT 2021
Assistant Professor of Biology, Bard College, Annandale-on-Hudson, NY 2018-2021

EDUCATION & TRAINING

Children's Hospital of Philadelphia/University of Pennsylvania September 2015-July 2018
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
IRACDA Postdoctoral Research and Training Program
Penn Port Fellow, Department of Neurology
Advisor: Robert G. Kalb, MD

Brown University May 2015
Providence, Rhode Island
Molecular Biology, Cellular Biology, & Biochemistry
PhD, in Molecular Biology, Cellular Biology, & Biochemistry Graduate Program
Dissertation Advisor: Anne C. Hart, PhD
Thesis Title: *Loss of Notch or JNK Signaling Results in FOXO Dependent Compensatory Sleep in C. elegans*

University of Pennsylvania Post Baccalaureate Research Program (PREP) June 2007-2009
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania/ Children's Hospital of Philadelphia
Penn PREP Fellow, Department of Rheumatology & Immunology
Advisor: Stefania Gallucci, MD

Stockton University May 2006
Pomona, New Jersey
Biology Major
B.S., Biology

TEACHING & COURSE DESIGN

**Denotes courses that I developed and designed, # denotes courses I designed in collaboration*

BARD COLLEGE

BIO135: From Egg to Organism, non-majors * 2019, 2020
BIO325: *Developmental Genetics (4 credits/ lecture & lab) ** 2019
BIO436: *Alzheimer's Disease: Past, Present, and Future (4 credit seminar) ** 2019
BIO159: *Principles of Developmental Biology (4 credits/ lecture & lab) ** 2018, 2020

RUTGERS CAMDEN

*SP Topics: Molecular and Behavioral Genetics of Neurological Disease (4 credit seminar) ** 2017

LINCOLN UNIVERSITY

BIOL208: Genetics (4 credits/ lecture & lab) 2016

BROWN UNIVERSITY

Teaching Assistant, *BioMed Responsible Conduct in Research Course*, Brown University Fall 2014
Required for all entering PhD students in Division of Biology and Medicine

Instructor, *Sex and Chromosomes: The Genetics and Biochemistry of Development #* 2013
Summer at Brown, Continuing Education Department, 3-week summer course designed for high school students.

Senior Scholar/Teaching Assistant, *Essential Laboratory Calculations Initiative to Maximize Student Development (IMSD) 1-week Training Module* 2011

Senior Scholar/ Teaching Assistant, *Graphic Presentation of Scientific Data*, Initiative to Maximize Student Development (IMSD) 1-week Training Module 2011

Teaching Assistant, *Evolutionary Biology & Ecology*, Brown University Fall 2011

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Bennett HL, McClanahan PD, Fang-Yen C, Kalb R.G. *Preconditioning of Caenorhabditis elegans to Anoxic Insult by Inactivation of Cholinergic, GABAergic, and Muscle Activity. Genes Brain Behavior.* 2020 Nov 5:e12713. doi: 10.1111/gbb.12713. Online ahead of print. PMID: 33155386

Huang H, Hayden DJ, Zhu CT, **Bennett HL**, Venkatachalam V, Skuja LL, Hart AC. *Gap Junctions and NCA Cation Channels Are Critical for Developmentally Timed Sleep and Arousal in Caenorhabditis elegans. Genetics.* 2018 Dec;210(4):1369-1381. doi: 10.1534/genetics.118.301551.

Bennett, HL., Khoruzhik, Y., Hayden D., Huang, H, Sanders, J., Walsh, MB., Biron, D., Hart, AC. *Normal Sleep Bouts Are Not Essential for C. elegans Survival and FoxO Is Important for Compensatory Changes in Sleep. BMC Neuroscience.* 2018 Mar 9;19(1):10. doi: 10.1186/s12868-018-0408-1.

Sriram U, Xu J, Chain R, Varghese L, **Bennett HL.**, Zoltick PW. and Gallucci S. *IL-4 suppresses the responses to TLR7 and TLR9 stimulation and increases the permissiveness to retroviral infection of murine conventional dendritic cells. PLOS One* 2014. Jan 29;9(1): e87668. doi: 10.1371/journal.pone.0087668.

Sriram U, Varghese L, **Bennett HL.**, Jog N, Shivers DK., Ning Y, Behrens EM., Caricchio R and Gallucci, S. *Myeloid Dendritic Cells from B6.NZM Sle1/Sle2/Sle3 Lupus-prone Mice express an Interferon Signature that Precedes Disease Onset. Journal of Immunology* 2012 Jul 1;189(1):80-91. doi:10.4049/jimmunol.1101686.

INVITED TALKS

Bennett HL *Using C. elegans to Uncover the Mechanisms Underlying the Preconditioning Response to Oxygen Deprivation.* Biology Seminar series, Stonehill College Easton, MA. October 2020.

Bennett HL *Elucidating the mechanisms underlying the preconditioning response to oxygen deprivation in C. elegans.* Research in Progress to UPenn Worm Group, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA. April 2020. *Cancelled due to COVID-19 pandemic*

Bennett HL *Neural preconditioning underlying oxygen deprivation in C. elegans.* Samuel Nabrit Conference, Brown University, Providence, RI. June 2019.

Bennett HL *Neural preconditioning underlying oxygen deprivation in C. elegans.* Keynote speaker at Hudson Valley Life Science Symposium, Bard College, Annandale, NY. May 2019.

Bennett HL, *Using C. elegans to uncover the secrets of biology.* Bryn Mawr College Posse Foundation Scholars Incoming 1st year class. Bryn Mawr College, Philadelphia, PA. July 2017.

Bennett HL, *Using C. elegans to investigate the nervous system in the pre-conditioning response to oxygen deprivation.* SACNAS Science Café, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA, May 2017

Bennett HL, *Using C. elegans to investigate how animals survive in low oxygen conditions*. Tri-Beta Biology Honor Society Induction Research Seminar. Lincoln University, Oxford PA. March 2017

Bennett HL, *Using C. elegans to investigate how animals survive in low oxygen conditions*. Research Seminar course. Bard College, Annandale, NY. November 2016.

Bennett HL, *C. elegans to unlock the magic of biology*. Bryn Mawr College Posse Foundation Scholars Freshman class. Bryn Mawr College, Philadelphia, PA. July 2016.

Bennett HL, *C. elegans to study sleep, stress, and neuronal circuitry in response to anoxic insult*. University of Pennsylvania Neuroscience Undergraduate group selected postdoctoral talk. University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA. February 2016.

SELECTED POSTER PRESENTATIONS

(underlined indicates undergraduate student)

Espinosa A. and **Bennett HL**. Investigating Cellular Stress in Oxygen Deprivation in *C. elegans*. Bard College Family Weekend, Bard College, October 2019.

Bennett HL and Kalb RG. Neural pre-conditioning underlying oxygen deprivation in *C. elegans*. *C. elegans* Topic Meeting: Neuronal Development, Synaptic Function & Behavior. Madison, WI June 2018.

Bennett HL and Kalb RG. Neural pre-conditioning underlying oxygen deprivation in *C. elegans*. IRACDA National Conference. Birmingham, AL June 2017.

Bennett HL and Kalb RG. Neural pre-conditioning underlying oxygen deprivation in *C. elegans*. CHOP Research Poster Day. Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, Philadelphia, PA February 2017.

Bennett HL, Huang H, Singh K, Hart AC. Notch DSL ligand *lag-2* is required for *C. elegans* lethargus quiescence. Mind/ Brain Research Day. Brown University, Providence, RI. March 2014

Bennett HL, Huang H, Singh K, Hart AC. Notch DSL ligand *lag-2* is required for *C. elegans* lethargus quiescence. 19th International *C. elegans* Meeting. Abstract Book: p226. 2013

Singh K, Huang H, **Bennett HL**, Hart AC. *Dissecting Notch pathway regulating sleep-like behavior in C. elegans*. 26th Annual Meeting of the Associated Professional Sleep Societies. 2012

Bennett HL, Singh K, Anderson E, Corkins ME, Hart AC. *A role for heterochronic genes in regulating C. elegans quiescence*. 18th International *C. elegans* Meeting. Abstract Book: p 49. 2011

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT & PEDAGOGY

National Center for Faculty Development and Diversity (NCFDD)	2019
<i>NCFDD 14-day Writing Challenge</i>	
<i>NCFDD Summer Bootcamp</i>	
Center for Faculty and Curricular Development (CFCD), Bard College	2019
<i>Using Small Group, Peer Review, and Reading Groups</i>	
<i>Getting the Most Out of Student Presentations</i>	
<i>Best Practices for Dynamic Classroom Discussion</i>	
<i>Three Things to do in the First Week of Class</i>	
College and University Teaching Seminar for PENN-PORT Fellows, U. Pennsylvania	2016
Harriet W. Sheridan Center for Teaching & Learning, Brown University	
<i>Certificate III: Professional Development</i>	2014
<i>Certificate I: Reflective Teaching Practices</i>	2013
Attended many workshops/modules to develop reflective teaching practices	
Video recorded teaching observation	
<i>Talking Science with Cornelia Dean: Effective Communication of your Science</i>	2014

Finding the Mentoring You Need

Initiative to Maximize Student Development Workshops & Modules, Brown University

<i>Professionalism & Career Development: Preparing for the Postdoc Experience</i>	2013
<i>Graphic Presentation of Scientific Data</i>	2011
<i>Resources, Tools, and Basic Techniques in Molecular Biology</i>	2010
<i>Designing and Delivering Scientific Presentations</i>	2010
<i>Key Principles of Scientific Writing</i>	2010

ACADEMIC AWARDS & FUNDING

Cell Press' Cell Mentor, named as one of 1,000 inspiring Black scientists in America	2020
Bard Summer Research Institute Institutional Internal Grant Student Stipend, Funding for 2 students	2019
Tri-Beta Biology Honor Society Faculty Inductee	2017
IRACDA K12 Postdoctoral Fellowship University of Pennsylvania PENN PORT Program	2015
Honorable Mention Ford Foundation Graduate Dissertation Fellowship	2014
Genetic Society of America (GSA) FASEB MARC Program Travel Award	2013
NIH funded Initiative to Maximize Student Development (IMSD) Fellowship Graduate Program	2009
The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey <i>Distinguished Leadership Award</i> (Given every year to one graduating senior)	2006

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- Sleep Research Society (SRS)
- Genetics Society of America (GSA)
- American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS)

PUBLIC & SCIENTIFIC SOCIETAL SERVICE

REVIEWER FOR SCIENTIFIC JOURNALS AND CONFERENCES

- Peer J*
- PLOS Genetics*

CONFERENCE, PANELS, WORKSHOP

<u>Panelist</u> : IMSD Alumni Career Panel	November 2020
Hosted by Brown University Initiative to Maximize Student Development (IMSD) Office	
<u>Panelist</u> : Preparing Future Faculty: Teaching and Research at the Undergraduate Level	May 2019
Hosted by Postdocs for Diversity in Science (PDS), Children's Hospital of Philadelphia	
<u>Panelist</u> : Young Scholars Conference	
Hosted by Graduate Women in Science and Engineering (GWiSE), Brown University	October 2018
<u>Session Chair</u> : Synaptic Function and Modulation	
<i>C. elegans Neuronal Development, Synaptic Function, & Behavior Topic Meeting</i> Madison, WI	June 2018

SCIENTIFIC SOCIETAL COMMITTEES

<u>Committee Member</u> : <i>C. elegans</i> Scientific Community "Scientific Mentor Match Initiative"	2020-present
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Program initiative within the *C. elegans* scientific community or field with the goals to foster diversity, equality, and inclusion by facilitating career mentoring by matching senior mentors with postdocs and junior faculty, prioritizing mentees in underrepresented groups. I aided in the development of the questionnaires and mentoring pairings for those who signed up for the program.