

SHANNON FARRIS, Ph.D.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

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EDUCATION AND TRAINING:

- 2012– present **Postdoctoral Fellow**
National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, NIH
Research Triangle Park, NC
Postdoctoral Advisor: Serena M. Dudek, Ph.D.
- 2012 **Ph.D. in Biomedical Sciences**
University of California Irvine
Irvine, CA
Dissertation Advisor: Oswald Steward, Ph.D.
- 2007 **B.S. in Biochemistry, conc. in Molecular Biology**
California Polytechnic State University San Luis Obispo
San Luis Obispo, CA

FUNDING:

- 2017–2018 \$50,000 (PI: Farris)
NIEHS Division of Intramural Research Innovative Research Award
Mechanisms Underlying Hippocampal CA2 Resistance to Injury
Goal: Identify the epitranscriptomic effects of injury on CA2 neurons using cell-type specific TU-tagging with m6A-Seq and assess targets for roles in conferring CA2 resistance to cell death.
- 2016–2018 K99 MH109626 (PI: Farris)
NIH Pathway to Independence Award K99/R00
Cell-Type Specific Regulation of Dendritic mRNA in the Hippocampus
Goal: Identify whether different hippocampal subregions have distinct complements of dendritic RNA using RNA-Seq and assess the impact of local translation on (the lack of) plasticity in CA2.

AWARDS & HONORS:

- 2016 Best Poster Presentation Award, 14th annual NIEHS Science Day
2016 NIH Fellows Award for Research Excellence (FARE Award)
2015 NIH Fellows Award for Research Excellence (FARE Award)
2015 Poster Abstract Award, UT Austin Conference on Learning & Memory
2015 Travel Award, UT Austin Conference on Learning & Memory
2013 Best Poster Presentation Award, 11th annual NIEHS Science Day
2012 Best Poster Award, American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology Meeting

- 2012 Travel Award, American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology Meeting
2011 Travel Award, NIH Graduate Student Research Conference
2010 1st Place Graduate Presentation Award, 21st Graduate Women in Science Conference

PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS:

1. **Farris S**, Wang Y, Ward JM, Dudek SM. (2017) Optimized method for robust transcriptome profiling of minute tissues using laser capture microdissection and low-input RNA-Seq. *Frontiers Molecular Neuroscience*. doi: 10.3389/fnmol.2017.00185
2. Pirbhoy PS, **Farris S**, Steward O. (2017) Synaptically-driven phosphorylation of ribosomal protein S6 is differentially regulated at active synapses vs. dendrites and cell bodies by MAPK and PI3K/mTOR signaling pathways. *Learning and Memory*. (Accepted).
3. Fernandez de Velasco EM, Zhang L, Vo B, Tipps M, **Farris S**, Xia Z, Anderson A, Weaver CD, Dudek SM, Wickman K. (2017) GIRK2 splice variants and neuronal G protein-gated K⁺ channels: implications for channel function and behavior. *Scientific Reports*. 7(1):1639. doi: 10.1038/s41598-017-01820-2.
4. Pirbhoy PS, **Farris S**, Steward O. (2016) Synaptic activation of ribosomal protein S6 phosphorylation occurs locally in activated dendritic domains. *Learning and Memory*. 23: 255-269. doi:10.1101/lm.041947.116
5. Alexander GM*, **Farris S***, Pirone JR, Zheng C, Colgin LL, Dudek SM. (2016) Social and novel contexts modify hippocampal CA2 representations of space. *Nature Communications*. 7:10300. doi: 10.1038/ncomms10300.
(*co-first authors) (Featured Image)
6. Dudek SM, Alexander GM, **Farris S**. (2016) Rediscovering area CA2: unique properties and functions. *Nature reviews. Neuroscience*. 17(2):89-102. doi:10.1038/nrn.2015.22.
(Cover Art)
7. Steward O, **Farris S**, Darnell J, Van Driesche SJ, Pirbhoy PS. (2015) Localization and local translation of Arc/Arg3.1 mRNA at synapses: some observations and paradoxes. *Frontiers in Molecular Neuroscience*. 7:101. doi:10.3389/fnmol.2014.00101.
(Recommended in Faculty of 1000)
8. **Farris S**, Lewandowski G, Cox CD, Steward O. (2014) Selective localization of *Arc* mRNA in dendrites involves activity- and translation- dependent mRNA degradation. *Journal of Neuroscience*. 34(13): 4481-93. doi:10.1523/JNEUROSCI.4944-13.2014.
(Featured Article)
9. Chotiner JK, Nielson J, **Farris S**, Lewandowski G, Huang F, Banos K, de Leon R, Steward O. (2010) Assessment of the role of MAP kinase in mediating activity-dependent transcriptional activation of the immediate early gene Arc/Arg3.1 in the dentate gyrus in vivo. *Learning & Memory*. 17(2): 117-129. doi:10.1101/lm.1585910.

MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPARATION:

Alexander GM, Brown LY, **Farris S**, Lustberg D, Pantazis C, Gloss B, Plummer NW, Riddick NV, Moy SS, Jensen P, Dudek SM. CA2 Neuronal Activity Controls Hippocampal-Prefrontal Cortical Gamma Oscillations and Social Behavior. (*Under Revision*).

Sarkar P*, Dunn CJ*, Bailey ER, **Farris S**, Zhao M, Dudek SM, Saha RN. Histone hypervariants H2A.Z.1 and H2A.Z.2 play independent and context-specific roles in neuronal activity-induced transcription of *Arc/Arg3.1* and other immediate early genes. (*equal contribution). (*Under Revision*).

Steward O, Matsudaira KM, **Farris S**, Pirbhoy PS, Worley P, Okamura K, Okuno H, Bito H. Delayed degradation and impaired dendritic delivery of intron-lacking EGFP-*Arc/Arg3.1* mRNA in EGFP-Arc transgenic mice. (*Submitted for Initial Review*).

Farris S, Ward JM, Samadi M, Wang Y, Dudek SM. Hippocampal subregions express distinct dendritic transcriptomes that reveal a role for enhanced mitochondrial function in CA2. (*In preparation*).

BOOK CHAPTERS:

Farris S, Dynes JL, Steward O. (2017) Messenger RNA Trafficking and Memory Formation. *Reference Module in Neuroscience and Biobehavioral Psychology*. (2nd ed.). Elsevier, Inc. *In press*.

Farris S and Dudek SM. (2014) From Where? Synaptic Tagging Allows The Nucleus Not To Care. Sajikumar, S. (Ed.) *Synaptic Tagging and Capture: From Synapses to Behavior*. (XXIII pp. 143-153). Springer.

Steward O, Dynes JL, **Farris S**. (2014) Local Protein Synthesis at Synapses. V. Pickel & M. Segal (Eds.) *The Synapse: Structure and Function*. (1st ed., pp. 173-191). Elsevier, Inc.

Complete List of Published Work in NCBI My Bibliography:

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/sites/myncbi/1N31mtuPgukG/bibliography/40276623/public/?sort=date&direction=descending>

12 primary research articles, reviews, and book chapters (7 listed in PubMed). h-index: 5; i10-index: 5

TEACHING & MENTORSHIP:

NIEHS, NIH, Research Triangle Park, NC

2014–2017	Research Mentor for NIH Summer Internship Program in Biomedical Research
2013–2015	Research Mentor for Duke Independent Study in Neuroscience Program
2014	Scientists Teaching Science Pedagogy 12-week online course

UC Irvine, Irvine, CA

2011	Summer Research Mentor for High School student
2011	Teaching Assistant, Neurobiology of Learning & Memory
2008	Teaching Assistant, Undergraduate Biochemistry Laboratory
2008	Teaching Assistant, AIDS Fundamentals

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT/PROFESSIONAL SERVICE:

NIEHS, NIH, Research Triangle Park, NC

- 2017– Ad Hoc reviewer for PLOS ONE
- 2016– Ad Hoc reviewer for Scientific Reports, Nature Publishing Group
- 2016– Society for Neuroscience Triangle Chapter Science Policy Committee
- 2016– Society for Neuroscience Triangle Chapter Sponsorship Committee
- 2014–2016 Society for Neuroscience Triangle Chapter Representative
- 2014–2015 Society for Neuroscience Early Career Policy Fellow
- 2013–2014 NIEHS Annual Biomedical Career Symposium Committee

UC Irvine, Irvine, CA

- 2010–2012 Graduate Student Health Insurance Policy Committee
- 2010–2012 Associated Graduate Student Social Committee
- 2009–2010 Department of Anatomy & Neurobiology Journal Club Administrator

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

- 2006–2007 Laboratory Assistant, Polyclonal Antibody Production Laboratory, Santa Cruz Biotechnology, Inc., Paso Robles, CA
- 2006–2007 Undergraduate Research Assistant, Center for Coastal Marine Sciences, California Polytechnic State University San Luis Obispo, San Luis Obispo, CA

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS & AFFILIATIONS:

- 2015– RNA Society of North Carolina
- 2015– Duke Center for RNA Biology
- 2012 American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
- 2009– Society for Neuroscience

INVITED SPEAKER PRESENTATIONS:

Farris S, Ward JM, Samadi M, Wang Y, Dudek SM (July, 2017). Transcriptome Profiling in Hippocampal Dendrites Reveals a Role for Mitochondria in CA2 Physiology and Function. *EMBO Meeting on RNA Localisation and Local Translation*. Barga, Italy. [Flash Talk]

Farris S, Wang Y, Ward JM, Dudek SM (2016). Transcriptome profiling in hippocampal CA2. *Winter Conference on Brain Research*. Breckenridge, CO.

Farris S, Alexander GM, Pirone JR, Dudek SM (2015). CA2 place cells link social and contextual information with representations of space. *UT Austin Conference on Learning & Memory*. Austin, TX.

Farris S, Wang Y, Ward JM, Dudek SM. (2015) Plasticity in Hippocampal Area CA2: Lost in Translation? *NIEHS Genomics Day*. Research Triangle Park, NC.

Farris S, Steward O (2012). Activity induces Arc mRNA degradation that is dependent upon translation and NMDA receptor activation. *Keystone Symposium: Synapses and Circuits*. Steamboat Springs, CO.

Farris S, Steward O (2010). Activity and translation-dependent mRNA degradation in neuronal dendrites. *40th Society for Neuroscience*. San Diego, CA.

POSTER PRESENTATIONS:

Farris S, Ward JM, Samadi M, Wang Y, Dudek SM (2017). Transcriptome Profiling in Hippocampal Dendrites Reveals a Role for Mitochondria in CA2 Physiology and Function. *CSHL Wiring the Brain*. Cold Spring Harbor, NY.

Farris S, Ward JM, Samadi, M, Wang Y, Dudek SM (2016). Transcriptome profiling in hippocampal dendrites. *46th Society for Neuroscience*. San Diego, CA.

Farris S, Wang Y, Ward J, Dudek SM (2015). Transcriptome profiling in hippocampal CA2. *45th Society for Neuroscience*. Chicago, IL.

Farris S, Wang Y, Ward J, Dudek SM (2015). Plasticity in hippocampal CA2: lost in translation? *EMBO Meeting on RNA Localisation and Local Translation*. Hersonissos, Greece.

Alexander GM, **Farris S, Dudek SM (2014).** Firing properties and immediate early gene mapping in hippocampal area CA2. *44th Society for Neuroscience*. Washington, DC.

Pantazis C, Zhao M, Alexander GA, **Farris S, Dudek SM (2014).** Role of IGF-1R in hippocampal CA2 plasticity and function. *13th Rett Syndrome Symposium*. Chantilly, VA.

Farris S, Alexander GM, Dudek SM (2013). Novel spatial exploration does induce immediate early gene expression in rat hippocampal area CA2. *43rd Society for Neuroscience*. San Diego, CA.

Farris S, Steward O (2012). Activity induces Arc mRNA degradation that is dependent upon translation. *42nd Society for Neuroscience*. New Orleans, LA.

Farris S, Salgado P, Steward O (2011). Site-specific phosphorylation of ribosomal protein S6 as an early marker for astrocyte activation in response to CNS injury. *41st Society for Neuroscience*. Washington, DC.

Farris S, Salgado P, Steward O (2011). Ribosomal protein S6 is phosphorylated at activated synapses *in vivo* in response to strong synaptic activity. *CSHL Conference on Synapses: From Molecules to Circuits & Behavior*. Cold Spring Harbor, NY.

Farris S, Lewandowski G, Steward O (2009). Activity-dependent mRNA degradation in neuronal dendrites. *49th American Society for Cell Biology*. San Diego, CA.

Farris S, Lewandowski G, Dynes JL, Steward O (2009) Sizing of Arc/Arg3.1 mRNA foci in dendritic lamina containing activated synapses using fluorescence in situ hybridization. *39th Society for Neuroscience*. Chicago, IL.