

## CONTRIBUTING AUTHOR BIOGRAPHIES

## DALBIR BAHGA:

Dalbir Bahga is a graduate of Florida Atlantic University's Neuroscience and Behavior program. During her last 2 years, she worked closely with Dr. Guthrie in a neuroscience lab to understand the importance of research and how it's conducted. The experience fed her passion for the sciences and allowed her to work on a thesis to investigate SVZ neurogenesis in mice. This project enabled her to explore important relationships of neurogenesis, BDNF, and Huntington's disease. She hopes to carry her interests in the sciences into the medical field.

## HOUDA BOUCEKKINE:

Currently, I have graduated from FAU with my bachelor's degree in Biological Sciences and a minor in Anthropology. With graduation came the end of my research, and I will potentially be passing it on to a graduate student who will build upon my previous research for her thesis. I began working in Dr. Nambu's lab a year ago, in spring 2011. My project involved the analysis of Group B Sox gene expression within intestinal stem cells of the fruit fly. Now that I have graduated, I will be attending University of Miami Miller School of Medicine in pursuit of an M.D. with hopes to get involved in some research along the way as I would like to incorporate research later on in my career.

## EMMA NUNAN:

I was born in England but have lived in Florida since I was three. I graduated from FAU's Harriet L. Wilkes Honors College in May 2012 with a concentration in International Studies and minors in History and Psychology. I have been very interested in the Olympic Games since I was five years old, so I was excited to be able to study them from an academic perspective. This paper is part of a greater research I did for my honors undergraduate thesis.

## JOSHUA SCHOLL:

Josh Scholl was born in Germany and lived there until the age of eight. When he moved to Florida in 1996 he was fascinated by reptiles. He is currently a senior at Florida Atlantic University working towards biology and geographic information systems degrees with broad research interests in conservation ecology. As an undergraduate he worked under the direction of Dr. Frazier in her Terrestrial Ecology Lab. His main research goal was to determine which factors dictate gopher tortoise population dynamics and habitat use in degraded environments. Josh is also an avid environmentalist and is involved in several FAU organizations, including SEEDS and Mission Green, which promote and engage in activities centered on sustainability. Josh aspires to become a professional researcher and to earn his Ph.D. in ecology with a focus in botany and conservation.

**MICHELLE STRASBERG:**

Originally from Argentina, Michelle Strasberg moved to the United States at the age of eleven allowing her to become fluent in English and Spanish. She is currently a senior student at the Harriet L. Wilkes Honors College of Florida Atlantic University. Her concentration is Psychology with a minor in Spanish. After graduating from the Honors College, Michelle plans to attend graduate school in pursuit of a degree in childhood development.

**MELANIE PINEDA:**

At the time of the submission of my article, I was a senior working on my honors thesis under the direction of Dr. Nancy Jones. I am glad to say that I am currently working with the same advisor as a Ph.D. student in Experimental Psychology. I am passionate about my research interests, which include infant-development and mother-infant interactions. I am thankful for having my work selected for inclusion in this journal and hope to produce more publications in the upcoming years. I encourage undergraduate students to seek research opportunities that are interesting to them and to submit their work to the Undergraduate Research Journal.