Senior Scientist Meet and Greet Workshop
PTHMS (645 N Michigan Avenue, Room 715)
Friday, July 14th - 7:30 to 9:00 am

What: We are excited to invite you to the Senior Scientist Meet and Greet workshop, an educational / mentorship activity to introduce graduate students to scientific leaders spanning engineering, basic science (kinesiology, neuroscience, psychology, biology), and clinical rehabilitation (physicians, physical and occupational therapists, speech pathologists, and neuropsychologists).

When/Where: The workshop will take place over breakfast from 7:30 to 9:00 am on July 14th in Physical Therapy and Human Movement Sciences, 645 N Michigan Avenue, Room 715 (entrance to the building on Erie Street between TGIF and Ferragamo).

Who: If you are PhD student or Postdoctoral fellow who would like to participate or if you are a Scientist who would like to participate as a mentor, please register for the breakfast here.

The Details: The primary objective of the workshop is to facilitate networking and intellectual conversations between graduate students and scientists who are leaders in the field of rehabilitation science and engineering in an informal environment. Mentees will be placed into groups of 6-10 individuals. Each group will rotate to 3 different tables with a unique discussion topic facilitated by the mentors. Topics will include:

1. Career Planning: Taking the next step
2. Translational Science: Connecting the lab and the clinic
3. Funding for Rehabilitation Research

Schedule
7:30-7:40: Opening remarks and meet the Mentors
7:45-8:05: Rotation 1
8:10-8:30: Rotation 2
8:35-8:55: Rotation 3
8:55-9:00: Closing remarks
Conversation Starters:

Introductions (All Rotations first 5 minutes max)

Each Mentor and Mentee should introduce themselves by answering the following questions:

1. Where are you now? Position, Lab, PI, University (Example: I am an Assistant Professor jointly appointed in the Department of Physical Therapy Rehabilitation and Movement Science and the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering at Northeastern University)

2. What do you study? (Example: My research focuses on the integration on non-invasive brain stimulation, robotics, and virtual reality for intervention and assessment in patients with neurological impairment)

3. What is a fun fact about you? (Example: I have taught adaptive snowboarding for 20 years)

Career Planning: Taking the next step

- What factors should I consider when selecting a PhD/Postdoc position or laboratory? What are the most important questions to ask to ensure the experience matches your expectations?
- What are key aspects of the mentor-mentee relationship? How do I develop a mentorship network?
- How can I make the most of my PhD/Postdoc experience to enhance my research skills and advance my career prospects? Are there any specific professional development (non-technical) skills I should focus on developing during my PhD/Postdoc?
- What are the most important things I can do to make myself competitive for a faculty position or transition into industry after completing a PhD/Postdoc? What is an appropriate timeline to prepare for a career transition?
- Do you have any tips to maintain a healthy work-life balance?

Translational Science: Connecting the lab and the clinic

- What is the current landscape of translational rehabilitation research in our field, and what are the emerging trends and areas of focus?
- How can I establish collaborations and partnerships with clinicians, therapists, and other healthcare professionals (and vice versa) to facilitate the translation of research findings into practice?
- What are the key challenges and barriers typically encountered when translating research findings into rehabilitation interventions or therapies?
- How can I effectively communicate and disseminate my translational research findings to various stakeholders, including scientist, clinicians, policymakers, and patients?

Funding for Rehabilitation Research

- How can early career stage researchers and clinicians gain experience in finding funding.
- What strategies can I employ to ensure the sustainability and scalability of my research?
- Can you provide guidance on developing partnerships with industry or commercializing research findings in the context of translational rehabilitation research?
- Are there funding opportunities or grant programs specifically focused on translational rehabilitation research that I should be aware of?