



# College of Osteopathic Medicine - Faculty Research Interests 2021

[www.une.edu/com/research](http://www.une.edu/com/research)

Faculty	Research Interests
<b>Hywda A. Arafat, MD, PhD, MSc.,MEdL</b> <i>Clinical Professor</i> <a href="mailto:harafat@une.edu">harafat@une.edu</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Medical education related to cultural humility, social determinants of health and health care disparities; curricular modifications as tools for the development of both faculty and students</li> </ul>
<b>Kathleen Becker, PhD</b> <i>Assistant Professor</i> <a href="mailto:kbecker3@une.edu">kbecker3@une.edu</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bone formation and cross-talk between bone, fat, and the nervous system  </li> <li>• Development and utilization of novel genetic models for the study of disease</li> </ul>
<b>Carol A. Brenner, PhD</b> <a href="mailto:cbrenner1@une.edu">cbrenner1@une.edu</a> <i>Clinical Prof.; Assoc. Dean, Research &amp; Scholarship</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mitochondrial biology   Clinical Research   Reproductive sciences   Infertility  </li> <li>• Rural and underserved medicine   Public Health Research   Pregnancy and COVID-19</li> </ul>
<b>Ling Cao, M.D., PhD</b> <i>Professor</i> <a href="mailto:lcao@une.edu">lcao@une.edu</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Neuroimmune mechanisms of chronic pain and HIV-associated neurological disorders  </li> <li>• Chronic pain related clinical/population studies</li> </ul>
<b>Stuart N. Damon, DO, MS</b> <i>Assistant Clinical Professor</i> <a href="mailto:sdamon@une.edu">sdamon@une.edu</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cognitive Load Theory applied to simulation   Asperger autism   Rural medicine</li> </ul>
<b>Russell J. Ferland, PhD,</b> <i>Professor; Chair, Dept. of Biomedical Sciences</i> <a href="mailto:rferland2@une.edu">rferland2@une.edu</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Primary cilia in developmental disorders   Genetics &amp; mechanisms of epileptogenesis (epilepsy)</li> </ul>
<b>Diana Goode, PhD</b> <i>Assistant Professor</i> <a href="mailto:dgoode@une.edu">dgoode@une.edu</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Neuro-immune interactions in pain   HIV pathogenesis &amp; peripheral neuropathy</li> </ul>
<b>Eliza Grlickova-Duzevik, MD, PhD</b> <i>Assistant Clinical Prof.</i> <a href="mailto:egrlickovaduzevik@une.edu">egrlickovaduzevik@une.edu</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bioinformatics   Neuroscience   Molecular and cellular Biology</li> </ul>
<b>Marilyn R. Gugliucci, MA, PhD, Professor</b> <i>Director of Geriatrics Research</i> <a href="mailto:mgugliucci@une.edu">mgugliucci@une.edu</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 48 Hour Hospice Home Immersion Research   Balancing Act Falls Prevention Research  </li> <li>• Virtual Reality Education Research   MMC Gender Institute Student Research Liaison</li> </ul>
<b>Benjamin Harrison, PhD</b> <i>Assistant Professor</i> <a href="mailto:bharrison2@une.edu">bharrison2@une.edu</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Neuroplasticity and Genomics</li> </ul>
<b>Selma C. Holden, MD, MPH, MS</b> <i>Assistant Clinical Professor</i> <a href="mailto:sholden1@une.edu">sholden1@une.edu</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ketamine Assisted Psychotherapy in the General Population  </li> <li>• MDMA Assisted Psychotherapy for Post Traumatic Stress</li> </ul>
<b>Karen Houseknecht, PhD, Professor and Associate Provost</b> <a href="mailto:khouseknecht@une.edu">khouseknecht@une.edu</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To learn more about Dr. Houseknecht's vast research interests, please visit: <a href="https://www.une.edu/people/karen-l-houseknecht">https://www.une.edu/people/karen-l-houseknecht</a></li> </ul>
<b>Tamara King, PhD</b> <i>Professor</i> <a href="mailto:tking6@une.edu">tking6@une.edu</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mechanisms underlying cancer-induced bone pain  </li> <li>• Mechanisms underlying advanced osteoarthritis induced pain</li> </ul>
<b>Meghan May, MS, PhD</b> <i>Professor</i> <a href="mailto:mmay3@une.edu">mmay3@une.edu</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pathogen Evolution &amp; Genomics; Emerging Infectious Diseases   Mechanisms of Infection-mediated Pain   Improved Clinical Diagnostics for Infections &amp; Case Reports in Infectious Disease</li> </ul>
<b>Ian D. Meng, PhD, Prof.; Director of COBRE &amp; Ctr for Excellence in Neuroscience</b> <a href="mailto:imeng@une.edu">imeng@une.edu</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Migraine headache; Medication overuse headache  </li> <li>• Transformation of migraine headache to chronic daily headache   Chronic Dry Eye Syndrome</li> </ul>

NOTE: The UNE COM faculty listed on this document are either conducting active research or, if not, are open to discussing their research interests with COM students as well as possibly directing students to someone who shares the student's research interests.

(1) Additional research resources for UNE COM medical students: <https://une1.sharepoint.com/teams/COM/Research/Resources/SitePages/Resources.aspx>

(2) UNE has several centers and institutes in support of research and scholarship designed to promote interdisciplinary research: <https://www.une.edu/research/centers>



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Faculty	Research Interests
<b>Derek C. Molliver, PhD</b> <i>Professor</i> <a href="mailto:dmolliver@une.edu">dmolliver@une.edu</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Signal transduction and proteomics in chronic pain   G protein-coupled receptor signaling pathways   Pain, metabolism and mitochondrial medicine</li> </ul>
<b>Stacey Pierce-Talsma, DO, MS, FNAOME</b> <i>Assoc. Dean, Academic Affairs</i> <a href="mailto:spiercetalsma@une.edu">spiercetalsma@une.edu</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Osteopathic manipulative medicine   Innovation in medical education   Yoga</li> </ul>
<b>Rebecca J. Rowe, PhD</b> <i>Associate Professor</i> <a href="mailto:rrowe@une.edu">rrowe@une.edu</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Medical Education Research</li> </ul>
<b>Mark Schuenke, PhD</b> <i>Professor; Associate Chair, Biomedical Sci. Dept.</i> <a href="mailto:mschuenke@une.edu">mschuenke@une.edu</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Anatomical and biomechanical relationships related to lumbopelvic pain   Peripheral nerve entrapment   Countermeasures to age-related muscle atrophy and diabetes</li> </ul>
<b>Kyle R. Scully, PhD</b> <i>Assistant Clinical Professor</i> <a href="mailto:kscully3@une.edu">kscully3@une.edu</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prehospital emergency medicine and natural products</li> </ul>
<b>Ryan M. Smith, DO, MEd, PhD</b> <i>Associate Clinical Prof.; Chief, Psychiatry</i> <a href="mailto:rsmith8@une.edu">rsmith8@une.edu</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Medical student/resident physician mental health   Electroconvulsive therapy  </li> <li>Suicide/psychiatric disorders &amp; treatment   Standardized test assessment preparation methods</li> </ul>
<b>Douglas Spicer, PhD, MMedL</b> <i>Associate Professor</i> <a href="mailto:dspicer@une.edu">dspicer@une.edu</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Innovations in medical education   Active learning pedagogies in medical education  </li> <li>Clinical reasoning skills</li> </ul>
<b>Christoph Straub, PhD</b> <i>Assistant Professor</i> <a href="mailto:cstraub@une.edu">cstraub@une.edu</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Neuroscience   Neurophysiology   Microcircuits   Chronic Pain</li> </ul>
<b>Joel M. Talsma, MS</b> <i>Assistant Clinical Professor</i> <a href="mailto:jtalsma@une.edu">jtalsma@une.edu</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Surgical approaches in pediatric surgery   Neurovascular anatomy of human joints  </li> <li>Relationship of fascia and connective tissue in sports related injuries</li> </ul>
<b>Kathryn Thompson, PhD</b> <i>Professor</i> <a href="mailto:kthompson@une.edu">kthompson@une.edu</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cognitive integration of basic and clinical sciences to improve learning and retention</li> <li>Culinary medicine   Concept mapping, team based learning</li> </ul>
<b>Kerry L. Tucker, PhD</b> <i>Associate Professor</i> <a href="mailto:ktucker2@une.edu">ktucker2@une.edu</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Primary cilia and pain processing   Primary cilia and brain development and function  </li> <li>Mouse models of congenital heart defects</li> </ul>
<b>Jenifer Van Deusen, M.Ed., PI ME-PCSS-U</b> <i>Interprof. Education Coord.</i> <a href="mailto:jvandeusen2@une.edu">jvandeusen2@une.edu</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Impact of Medication-Assisted Treatment/ Stigmatizing of people with OUD/ Training providers to treat people with OUD/SUD   Interprofessional education and team-based practice</li> </ul>
<b>Susan Wehry, MD</b> <a href="mailto:swehry@une.edu">swehry@une.edu</a> <i>Chief of Geriatrics, Primary Care</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Effect of enhanced self-efficacy on optimal aging   Use of digital technology by persons living with dementia   Reframing the physician burnout narrative</li> </ul>
<b>Frank Willard, PhD</b> <i>Professor of Anatomy</i> <a href="mailto:fwillard@une.edu">fwillard@une.edu</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Neurovascular anatomy of the cervical &amp; lumbosacral spine   Myofascial &amp; ligamentous support system of the lumbosacral spine &amp; its dysfunction in patients with low back pain</li> </ul>

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