

CURRICULUM VITAE

August, 2021

Gabriel R. Fries, Ph.D.

PRESENT TITLE: Assistant Professor
Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences
McGovern Medical School
University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston

Adjunct Faculty
Center for Precision Health (CPH)
School of Biomedical Informatics (SBMI)
University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston

WORK ADDRESS: Behavioral and Biomedical Sciences Building
1941 East Road, BBSB 2629
Houston, TX 77054

UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION

03/2005 - 12/2008 B.Sc. in Biomedical Sciences
Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil
Honors thesis: *The effects of sodium butyrate and histone deacetylase (HDAC) activity in the prefrontal cortex of rats in an animal model of mania.*

GRADUATE EDUCATION

03/2009 - 02/2011 M.Sc. in Biological Sciences (Biochemistry)
Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil
Thesis: *Memory and brain-derived neurotrophic factor (BDNF) levels in an animal model of bipolar disorder in early and late stages of illness.*

03/2011 - 05/2014 Ph.D. in Biological Sciences (Biochemistry)
Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil, with a year as a visiting research fellow at the Max Planck Institute of Psychiatry, Germany
Dissertation: *The role of cellular resilience, stress, and epigenetics in the*

pathophysiology, progression, and response to treatment in mood disorders.

POSTGRADUATE TRAINING

06/2014 – 03/2015 Postdoctoral Research
Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul
Porto Alegre, Brazil

04/2015 – 10/2018 Postdoctoral Research
The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston
Houston, TX

ACADEMIC & ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENTS

Assistant Professor, 09/2019 – Present
Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences
McGovern Medical School
The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston
Houston, TX

Associate Faculty Member, 05/2019 – Present
Neuroscience Graduate Program
MD Anderson Cancer Center UTHHealth Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences
Houston, TX

Adjunct Faculty, 04/2019 – Present
Center for Precision Health
School of Biomedical Informatics
The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston
Houston, TX

Instructor, 10/2018 – 08/2019
Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences
McGovern Medical School
The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston
Houston, TX

HONORS AND AWARDS

2021 Young Investigator Grant, American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP)

- 2020 Mentored Research Scientist Development K01 Award, National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH)
- 2020 Selected for the Career Development Institute for Psychiatry (CDI), University of Pittsburgh
- 2019 Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences (CCTS) Pilot Project Award, The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston
- 2019 KL2 Institutional Scholar Award, Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences (CCTS), The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston
- 2019 UTHRO Endowment for Healthy Aging Geriatric Studies for Junior Faculty Program
- 2018 Rafaelsen Young Investigator Award, The International College of Neuropsychopharmacology (CINP)
- 2018 Dean's Excellence in Research Award for Postdoctoral Research Fellows, The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston
- 2018 Samuel Gershon Award for Junior Investigators, International Society of Bipolar Disorder (ISBD)
- 2017 Postdoctoral Travel Award, University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston
- 2016 ACNP Travel Award, American College of Neuropsychopharmacology (ACNP)
- 2016 Top Poster Award finalist (one of 41 out of 900 abstracts), Society of Biological Psychiatry (SOBP)
- 2015 Society of Biological Psychiatry (SOBP) International Travel Award
- 2013 'Sandwich' Doctorate Fellowship, a 1-year award to do research at the Max Planck Institute of Psychiatry, in Germany, awarded by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD)
- 2011 SBBq - Conesul Young Scientist Award, awarded by Brazilian Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
- 2011 Predoctoral Fellowship, Coordination for the Improvement of Higher Education Personnel (CAPES, Brazil)
- 2011 Honorable Mention for Oral Presentation, 31st Scientific Week of the Hospital de Clínicas de Porto Alegre
- 2009 Master's Degree Fellowship, National Council for Scientific and Technological Development (CNPq, Brazil)
- 2008 Best Presentation at the 20th Scientific Week of the Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul, nominated for the Young Scientist Award
- 2008 Honourable Mention – Best Poster, 2nd Meeting of the Brazilian Society for Bipolar Disorder

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

2018 – Present	Member, UTHealth Consortium on Aging
2018 – Present	Member, International Society for Bipolar Disorders (ISBD)
2019 – Present	Member, Society of Biological Psychiatry (SOBP)
2019 – Present	Adjunct Faculty, School of Biomedical Informatics, UTHealth
2019 – Present	Associate Faculty Member, MD Anderson Cancer Center UTHealth Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences (GSBS), TX
2021 – Present	Associate Member, American College of Neuropsychopharmacology (ACNP)

EDITORIAL POSITIONS

03/2017 – 02/2020	Junior Editor Journal: <i>Brazilian Journal of Psychiatry</i>
02/2018 – 07/2019	Guest Editor of the Special Issue “Molecular Psychiatry” Journal: <i>International Journal of Molecular Sciences</i>
08/2018 – Present	Review Editor Journal: <i>Frontiers in Genetics</i>
08/2018 – Present	Review Editor Journal: <i>Frontiers in Psychiatry</i>
03/2020 – Present	Associate Editor Journal: <i>Brazilian Journal of Psychiatry</i>
04/2020 – Present	Editorial Board member Journal: <i>International Journal of Molecular Sciences (Section: Biochemistry)</i>
05/2020 – 01/2021	Guest Editor of the Special Issue “Immunological and Pathophysiological Mechanisms Involved in Stress-related Chronic Diseases” Journal: <i>Journal of Immunology Research</i>
06/2020 – Present	Guest Editor of the Special Issue “The Pharmacogenomics of Mood Disorders” Journal: <i>Pharmaceuticals</i>
06/2020 – Present	Topic Editor of the Research Topic “The Role of Resilience and the Interplay between Genetics and Environment in Bipolar Disorder: Journal: <i>Frontiers in Psychiatry</i>

AD-HOC REVIEWER

I have acted as a peer-reviewer for a total of 67 journals, listed below (alphabetical order):

Acta Psychiatrica Scandinavica

American Journal of Medical Genetics Part B:

Advances in Medicine

Neuropsychiatric Genetics

Aging

Annals of the Brazilian Academy of Sciences

Australian and New Zealand Journal of Psychiatry
Behavioural Brain Research
Behavioral Neurology
Biological Psychiatry
Biological Psychiatry: Cognitive Neuroscience and Neuroimaging
Biomedicine & Pharmacotherapy
Bipolar Disorders
BMC Psychiatry
Brain Research
Brazilian Journal of Psychiatry
British Journal of Pharmacology
Canadian Journal of Psychiatry
Clinical Nutrition
Clinical Psychopharmacology and Neuroscience
Current Molecular Medicine
Environmental Pollution
European Archives of Psychiatry and Clinical Neurosciences
European Neuropsychopharmacology
European Psychiatry
Expert Opinion on Therapeutic Targets
Expert Review of Clinical Immunology
Expert Review of Neurotherapeutics
Frontiers in Genetics
Frontiers in Pharmacology
Frontiers in Psychiatry
Genetics and Molecular Biology
Hormones and Behavior
International Journal of Developmental Neuroscience
International Journal of Bipolar Disorders
Jornal Brasileiro de Psiquiatria
Journal of Affective Disorders
Journal of Cellular Biochemistry
Journal of Geriatric Psychiatry and Neurology
Journal of Neural Transmission
Journal of Physiology and Biochemistry
Journal of Psychiatric Research
Journal of Psychosomatic Research
MicroRNA
Mini-Reviews in Medicinal Chemistry
Molecular and Cellular Biochemistry
Molecular Neurobiology
Molecular Neuropsychiatry
Molecular Psychiatry
Neural Plasticity
Neurobiology of Disease
Neuroimmunomodulation
Neuropsychopharmacology
Neuroscience & Biobehavioral Reviews
Neuroscience Letters
Nordic Journal of Psychiatry
npj Schizophrenia
Schizophrenia Bulletin
Plos One
Progress in Neuropsychopharmacology and Biological Psychiatry
Psychiatria Danubina
Psychiatry Research
Psychoneuroendocrinology
Psychopharmacology
Revista HCPA (Online)
Scientific Reports
The International Journal of Neuropsychopharmacology
The Primary Care Companion

MENTORSHIP AND SUPERVISION

05/2021 – present Alexandra Campbell, Research Assistant I

- I act as her primary supervisor.
Institution: The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston.
- 05/2021 – 07/2021 Christopher Busby, Medical student (MS2)
I acted as his mentor during the Medical School Summer Research Program (MedSURP)
Institution: The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston.
- 05/2021 – 07/2021 Salah Mirza, undergraduate Student
I acted as his mentor during the Summer Undergraduate Research Program (GradSURP) at UTHealth
Institution: The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston.
- 08/2019 – 06/2021 Wei Zhang, Postdoctoral Research Fellow
I acted as his postdoctoral co-supervisor.
Institution: The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston.
- 10/2019 – present Camila Nayane Lima, Postdoctoral Research Fellow
I act as her primary postdoctoral supervisor.
Institution: The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston.
- 10/2019 – 11/2019 Omar Pink, Medical student (UTHealth)
I was his Mentor during his optional research rotation as a Medical Student in our University. (Project: *Epigenetic alterations in the dimensional evaluation of psychosis in children*).
Institution: The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston.
- 05/2019 – 07/2019 Madeline Zamzow, undergraduate student (University of Minnesota Duluth).
I acted as her Mentor during the Summer Undergraduate Research Program (GradSURP) at UTHealth. (Project: *The in vitro effects of lithium on epigenetic aging*).
Institution: The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston.
- 06/2019 – 08/2019 Joao Luis Barichello de Quevedo, pre-baccalaureate student.
I was his Mentor during his pre-baccalaureate internship in the Department of Psychiatry at UTHealth. (Project: *The cross-talk between oxidative stress and epigenetic aging*).

Institution: The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston.

- 09/2017 – 12/2017 Hanjing Emily Wu, M.D, Ph.D, PGY 4 Research Track Resident
I was her Co-Mentor during her period of research in our laboratory (as part of her Residency research track). (Project: *Accelerated epigenetic aging in bipolar disorder*).
Institution: The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston.
- 06/2017 – 08/2017 Alexander Nguyen, undergraduate student.
I was his Co-Mentor during his Summer internship at our laboratory. (Project: *Analysis of exosomal microRNAs in subjects at risk of bipolar disorder*).
Institution: The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston.
- 01/2016 – 05/2016 Massimo Tusconi, M.D., visiting researcher (resident).
I was his Co-Mentor during his visiting period. He was a Psychiatry resident in Italy and came to our Department to get experience in Research. (Project: *Transcriptome and methylome analyses in offspring of bipolar parents*).
Institution: The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston.
- 09/2015 - 12/2015 Blake McAlpin, M.Sc., graduate rotation student from the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences.
I was his Co-Supervisor during his rotation at our laboratory. (Project: *Transcriptome and methylome analyses in offspring of bipolar parents*).
Institution: The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston.
- 09/2015 - 12/2015 Qiongzhen Li, Ph.D., visiting researcher.
I was her Co-Mentor during the period in which she was a visiting researcher at our Department. (Project: *The role of DNA methylation in bipolar disorder*).
Institution: The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston.
- 01/2012 - 06/2012 Pâmela Ferrari, undergraduate student.
I was the Co-Mentor of her B.Sc. dissertation. (Title: *Assessment of the eutaxin/CCL11 levels in patients with bipolar disorder in early and late stages*).
Institution: Centro Universitário Metodista, Brazil.

TEACHING

- 05/2021 Course: "Translational Neuroscience", class on "Neurobiology of Bipolar

- Disorder". This course was taught to graduate students and postdoctoral fellows at UTHealth.
- 02/2021 Class on "Grant Writing" taught to Research-track Psychiatry Residents.
Institution: The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston (UTHealth)
- 07/2020 Course: "Translational Psychiatry Series", class on "Epigenetics". This seminar series is taught to Psychiatry residents at UTHealth.
Institution: The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston (UTHealth)
- 07/2020 – present Translational Psychiatry Series. Monthly lectures on translational and biological psychiatry topics as part of the didactics for the PGY-4 residents. (Director)
Institution: The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston (UTHealth)
- 06/2020 Course: "Translational Neuroscience", class on "Neurobiology of Bipolar Disorder". This course was taught to graduate students and postdoctoral fellows at UTHealth.
Institution: The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston (UTHealth)
- 03/2020 Course: "Epigenetics of Psychiatric Disorders", part of the Child Psychiatry Didactics for fellows.
Institution: The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston (UTHealth)
- 09/2019 – 12/2019 Course: "Scientific Writing" (GS21 1152)
MD Anderson Cancer Center UTHealth Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences (GSBS)
Institution: The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston (UTHealth)
- 08/2019 – present Problem-Based Learning (PBL) facilitator
Institution: The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston (UTHealth)
- 06/2019 Course: "Translational Neuroscience", class on "Neurobiology of Bipolar Disorder". This course was taught to graduate students and postdoctoral fellows at UTHealth.
Institution: The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston (UTHealth)
- 06/2019 Class on "Translational Bioinformatics: Epigenetics of Bipolar Disorder" taught to

- Summer undergraduate students.
Institution: Rice University
- 04/2019 Class on “Epigenetics” taught to PGY-1 and PGY-2 residents in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences.
Institution: The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston(UTHealth)
- 10/2018 Course: “Current Topics in the Neurobiology of Disease” (GS14 10), class on “The role of Epigenetics in Psychiatric Disorders”. This course was taught to graduate students, medical school students, postdoctoral fellows, and residents at UTHealth.
Institution: The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston (UTHealth)
- 11/2015 Course: “Translational Psychiatry Course”, section on Psychiatric Genetics. This course was taught to psychiatry residents and clinical fellows at UTHealth, and topics included the genetic basis of psychiatric disorders and the experimental approaches taken to study genetics of complex disorders.
Institution: The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston (UTHealth)
- 2012 Course: “Clinical Excellence in Bipolar Disorder”. This was a course aimed for clinical psychiatrists and was developed to convey aspects of the neurobiological underpinnings of bipolar disorder. I was responsible for the lectures and for the experimental demonstration at the laboratory.
Institution: Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil
- 06/2012 Practical (laboratory) classes for undergraduate students (Major: Nutritional Science) at the “Biochemistry” course. Lecture topics included the fundamental basis of oxidative stress and their assessments in the laboratory. The lecture was followed by a laboratory class in which the students performed the assessment of glutathione levels in samples from different sources.
Institution: Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil
- 08/2011 Course: “Basic mechanisms of neuroplasticity”, taught for the 2nd year Psychology course.
Institution: LaSalle University, Brazil
- 2010 – 2012 Course: “From the bench to the clinical practice: translational medicine in the

developments of tests in Psychiatry”, at the Graduate School of Psychiatry. This course was taught by me a total of six times to master- and Ph.D.-level students on the importance of translational research, animal models, and preclinical experiments.

Institution: Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil

INVITED TALKS AND PRESENTATIONS

- 07/2021 Seminars of the Graduate School of Biosciences, Federal University of Health Sciences of Porto Alegre (UFCSPA), Brazil
Talk: *The Epigenetics of Aging in Bipolar Disorder*
- 06/2021 Seminars of the Graduate School of Biochemistry, Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul (UFRGS), Brazil
Talk: *The Epigenetics of Aging in Bipolar Disorder*
- 06/2021 Innovations in Psychiatry Education (IPE), UTHealth
Talk: *Lessons Learned: Curricular Revision Utilizing a Multidisciplinary Team*
- 05/2021 23rd Annual Conference of the International Society for Bipolar Disorders (ISBD)
Chair of the symposium “Pathways of Aging Acceleration in Bipolar Disorder: Exploring New Targets for Treatment Development” and presenter of the talk “*Accelerated Epigenetic Aging and its Association with Poor Functioning in Bipolar Disorder*”.
- 05/2021 76th Annual Scientific Convention of the Society of Biological Psychiatry (SOBP)
Chair of the symposium “The Epigenetics of Bipolar Disorder and Lithium Response” and presenter of the talk “*Epigenetic alterations in the hippocampus of patients with bipolar disorder*”
- 04/2021 Grand Rounds of the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences (UTHealth)
Talk: *Accelerated Aging in Bipolar Disorder*
- 01/2021 Pharmacology Lecture Series, Penn State College of Medicine
Talk: *The Epigenetics of Aging in Bipolar Disorder*
- 12/2020 Epigenetics of Disease Collaborative Workshop

- Talk: *The role of epigenetics in accelerating aging in bipolar disorder*
- 11/2020 NeuroMood Lab Research Meeting, Queen's University
Talk: *The Epigenetics of Aging in Bipolar Disorder*
- 10/2020 2020 Houston Mood Disorders Conference (virtual conference)
Talk: *Genetics of Bipolar Disorder*
- 10/2020 10th Annual Postdoctoral Science Symposium (APSS), Break-out session:
Science & Mental Health
Talk: *The role of epigenetics in psychiatric disorders*
- 05/2020 22nd Annual Conference of the International Society for Bipolar Disorders (ISBD)
(virtual conference due to COVID-19)
Talk: *The In Vitro Effects of Lithium on Aging Markers in Cells From Patients With Bipolar Disorder and Controls*
- 05/2020 75th Annual Scientific Convention of the Society of Biological Psychiatry (SOBP)
(event cancelled due to COVID-19; virtual presentation was recorded and made available to public)
Talk: *Investigation of Epigenetic Aging in Bipolar Disorder and the In Vitro Anti-Aging Effects of Lithium*
- 10/2019 Early Life Stress and Reward System Symposium
Pontifical Catholic University of Rio Grande do Sul, Porto Alegre, RS, Brazil
Talk: *Peripheral blood DNA methylation in cocaine use disorder*
- 09/2019 2019 CPH Seminars on Precision Medicine
School of Biomedical Informatics, UTHealth, Houston, TX
Talk: *Deciphering the role of DNA methylation in bipolar disorder*
- 04/2019 Grands Rounds, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Neuroscience
University of Cincinnati, OH
Talk: *The Epigenetic Basis of Bipolar Disorder*
- 10/2018 Grand Rounds, Department of Psychiatry & Behavioral Sciences
McGovern Medical School, UTHealth, Houston, TX

Talk: *The Epigenetic Basis of Psychiatric Disorders*

- 10/2018 2018 McGovern Medical School Research Retreat, Houston, TX
Talk: *The role of epigenetic mechanisms in bipolar disorder*
- 05/2018 1st Annual Gulf Coast Consortia Mental Health Research Symposium
BioScience Research Collaborative, Houston, TX
Talk: *The role of epigenetic mechanisms in bipolar disorder*
- 03/2018 20th Annual Conference of the International Society for Bipolar Disorders (ISBD),
Mexico City, MX
Talk: *The role of DNA methylation in the risk and accelerated aging in bipolar disorder*
- 03/2016 Translational Psychiatry Seminar Series
McGovern Medical School, UTHealth, Houston, TX
Talk: *Integrated methylome and transcriptome network analysis to identify markers of vulnerability in youth at high risk for bipolar disorder.*
- 06/2014 Scientific Talks of the Clinical Hospital of Porto Alegre, Brazil.
Talk: *Resilience in bipolar disorder: the role of FKBP5 and DNA methylation.*
- 03/2014 Scientific Seminars at the Max Planck Institute of Psychiatry, Munich, Germany.
Talk: *The role of the HPA axis and FKBP51 in bipolar disorder: assessing GR sensitivity, FKBP51 activity and epigenetics in a Brazilian cohort.*
- 06/2012 Innovative Therapies Symposium
Clinical Hospital of Porto Alegre, Brazil.
Talk: *Innovative therapies in the treatment of psychiatric disorders*
- 06/2010 Innovative Therapies Symposium
Clinical Hospital of Porto Alegre, Brazil.
Title: *Innovative therapies in psychiatry*

SERVICE ON GRANT REVIEW PANELS

- 2021 Review Committee, Department of Psychiatry Seed Grants, UTHealth
- 2021 NIH Peer Review Committee, Molecular Genetics A (MGA) Study Section

2020	Estonian Research Council (ETAg), Estonia
2020	Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG), Germany
2019-present	FWF Austrian Science Fund, Austria
2019	Fondazione Cariplo, <i>Scientific Research on Major Depressive Disorder and Anxiety Syndrome: prevention, early diagnosis and personalized therapy</i> , Italy
2018	French National Research Agency (ANR), <i>CT-SCarBip</i> , France
2018	National Science Center Poland (NCN), <i>PRELUDIUM</i> , Poland

SERVICE ON COMMITTEES

2020 – present	Psychiatry Residence Curriculum Committee The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston
2020	Reviewer Panel of the Poster session at the 2020 American Physician Scientists Association (APSA) South Regional Meeting
2020-2023	Program Planning Committee, Annual Meetings of the Society of Biological Psychiatry (SOBP)
2019-2020	Scientific Committee, 2020 Houston Mood Disorders Conference The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston
2019-2020	Scientific Program Committee, 22 nd Annual ISBD Conference International Society for Bipolar Disorders (ISBD)
2019-present	Admissions committee, Neuroscience Graduate Program The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center UTHealth Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences
2019-2020	Interviewer of applicants to the McGovern Medical School The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston
2019	Planning Committee, 2019 Houston Mood Disorders Conference The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston
2018-present	Interviewer of applicants to the Psychiatry Residence at the McGovern Medical School The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston

- 2017 Reviewer Panel of the Poster session at the 2017 McGovern Medical School Research Retreat
The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston
- 2016 Reviewer committee of the Postdoctoral Association Travel Award
The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston
- 2011 Reviewer Panel of the oral presentations of the 31st Annual Scientific Week
Clinical Hospital of Porto Alegre, Brazil

SERVICE ON THESIS AND DISSERTATION DEFENSE COMMITTEES

- 2021 Ph.D. Candidacy exam committee, Yashwanth Lagisetty
Quantitative Science Program
MD Anderson Cancer Center UTHealth Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences
- 2021 Ph.D. Thesis Monitoring committee, Amazigh Mokhtari
BioSPC Doctoral School
University of Paris Descartes, France
- 2021 Dissertation (Ph.D.) Defense committee, Diana Mueller
Graduate Program of Genetics and Molecular Biology
Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil
- 2020 Ph.D. Candidacy exam committee, Jessie Morrill
Biochemistry Graduate Program
MD Anderson Cancer Center UTHealth Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences
- 2020 Ph.D. Candidacy exam committee, Emily Mendez
Neuroscience Graduate Program
MD Anderson Cancer Center UTHealth Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences
- 2019-present Ph.D. dissertation committee, Tuba Aksoy
Neuroscience Graduate Program
MD Anderson Cancer Center UTHealth Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences
- 2015 Ph.D. candidate qualifying exam committee, Miréia Sulzbach

- Graduate Program of Psychiatry
Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil
- 2015 Dissertation (Ph.D.) Defense committee, Leonardo Evangelista da Silveira
Graduate Program of Psychiatry
Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil
- 2015 Ph.D. candidate qualifying exam committee, Letícia Sanguinetti Czepielewski
Graduate Program of Psychiatry
Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil
- 2015 Thesis (M.Sc.) Defense Committee, Danitsa Marcos Rodrigues
Graduate Program of Biological Sciences: Neuroscience
Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil
- 2015 Thesis (M.Sc.) Defense Committee, Lucas Kich Grun
Graduate Program in Biological Sciences: Biochemistry
Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil
- 2014 Dissertation (B.Sc.) Defense committee, Eduarda Dias da Rosa
Major: Pharmacy
Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil
- 2014 Dissertation (Ph.D.) Defense committee, Aroldo Ayub Dargél
Graduate Program of Psychiatry
Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil
- 2014 Dissertation (B.Sc.) Defense committee, Giovana Bristot
Major: Biomedicine
Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil
- 2012 Dissertation (B.Sc.) Defense committee, Aline Ávila dos Santos
Major: Biomedicine
Centro Universitario Metodista, Brazil

RESEARCH SUPPORT**Ongoing research grants:**

1. K01 MH121580-01A1 (PI: Fries) 7/01/2020 – 6/30/2024

National Institute on Mental Health (NIMH)

“Deciphering the role of neuronal and peripheral DNA methylation in suicide and bipolar disorder”

This study will identify a clinically-relevant DNA methylation biosignature to predict suicidal behavior in bipolar disorder patients and its association with clinical and neuroanatomical parameters.

Role: Principal Investigator.

2. 1 R21 MH 117636-01A1 (PI: Quevedo) 07/1/2019 – 6/30/2021 (NCE 6/30/2022)

National Institute on Mental Health (NIMH)

“Neural-derived extracellular vesicles microRNAs in bipolar disorder: a peripheral window into the brain”.

In this project, we aim to identify alterations that may lead to the potential development of miRNAs as biomarkers of BD as well as better understand its pathogenic mechanisms.

Role: Co-Investigator.

Pending research grants:**1. AFSP Young Investigator Innovation Grant (Fries, PI) 01/1/2022 – 12/31/2024**

American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP)

“The neuronal transcriptome of suicide in bipolar disorder”.

This study will investigate the transcriptomic alterations in postmortem prefrontal cortex from bipolar disorder subjects who died of suicide or of other causes and integrate those with methylomic and genomic markers.

Role: PI

Completed research grants:**1. KL2 Institutional Scholar Award (PI: Fries) 09/1/2019 - 6/30/2020**

UTHealth Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences (CCTS)

“Neuronal DNA methylation biosignature of suicide in bipolar disorder”.

This project will investigate the role of DNA methylation in neurons and blood in the suicidality among patients with bipolar disorder.

Role: Principal Investigator.

2. CCTS Pilot Award (PI: Fries) 11/7/2019 – 9/30/2020

UTHealth Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences (CCTS)

“Accelerated aging in bipolar disorder: translating findings from the clinic to the laboratory”.

This project will investigate longitudinal changes in biomarkers of aging in cultured cells from patients with bipolar disorder and controls.

Role: Principal Investigator.

3. AACAP Pilot Research Award for Junior Faculty (PI: Sahu) 09/1/2018 – 8/31/2019

American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry (AACAP)

“The role of trauma and BDNF in the dimensional evaluation of psychosis in children and adolescents”.
This pilot study will investigate the role of childhood trauma and BDNF genetic and epigenetic alterations in the dimensional evaluation of psychosis in children and adolescents.

Role: Co-Investigator.

4. UTHRO Endowment for Healthy Aging Geriatric Studies for Junior Faculty Program

(PI: Fries) 4/16/2019 – 4/30/2020

UT Houston Retiree Organization (UTHRO) Endowment for Healthy Aging

“The cross-talk between oxidative stress and DNA methylation underlying differential epigenetic aging in healthy subjects”.

This pilot study will investigate the association between oxidative stress and accelerated epigenetic aging in a sample of healthy subjects.

Role: Principal Investigator.

5. 1 R01 DA 044859-01 (co-PIs: Schmitz, Walss-Bass) 9/1/2017 – 5/31/2022

National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA)

“Gene-environment interactions in COCCaINE Use Disorder: Collaborative Case-Control Initiative in Cocaine Addiction”.

The main goal of this study is to perform a population-based genetic epidemiological study of cocaine use disorder (CUD) in the region of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil, to characterize the role of environmental stressors, both trauma exposure and HIV infection, on epigenetic signatures and gene-environment interactions in patients with CUD.

Role: Co-Investigator.

PUBLISHED PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES

I have published and/or have accepted **114 peer-reviewed articles** and have **3,718 citations** to date, with an **h-index of 33** (Fries GR, Web of Science ResearcherID: ["C-1521-2009"], accessed in 8/4/2021). The articles are listed below in reverse chronological order.

1. ZHANG W, QUEVEDO J, **FRIES GR**. Essential genes from genome-wide screenings as a resource for neuropsychiatric disorders gene discovery. *Translational Psychiatry*, v. 11, 317, 2021.

2. SALARDA EM, ZHAO NO, LIMA CNNC, **FRIES GR**. Mini-review: The anti-aging effects of lithium. *Neuroscience Letters*, v. 759, 136051, 2021.

3. TONDO LP, VIOLA TW, **FRIES GR**, KLUWE-SCHIAVON B, CUPERTINO R, VIEIRA BS, FERREIRA P, FRANCO AR, LANE S, STERTZ L, ZHAO Z, HU R, MEYER T, SCHMIDT J, WALSS-BASS C, GRASSI-OLIVEIRA R. White matter deficits in cocaine use disorder: Convergent evidence from in vivo diffusion tensor imaging and ex vivo proteomics analysis. *Translational Psychiatry*, v. 11, 252, 2021.
4. CABRERA-MENDOZA B, MARTINEZ-MAGANA J, MONROY N, GENIS-MENDOZA A, FRESNO C, **FRIES GR**, WALSS-BASS C, LOPEZ-ARMENTA M, GARCIA-DOLORES F, DIAZ-OTANEZ C, FLORES G, VAZQUEZ-ROQUE R, NICOLONI H. Candidate pharmacological treatments for substance use disorder and suicide identified by gene co-expression network-based drug repositioning. *American Journal of Medical Genetics Part B: Neuropsychiatric Genetics*, v. 186, p. 193-206, 2021.
5. STERTZ L, DI RE J, PEI G, **FRIES GR**, MENDEZ E, LI S, CALLAHAN LS, RAVENTOS H, TIPO J, CHERUKURU R, ZHAO Z, LIU Y, JIA P, LAEZZA F, WALSS-BASS C. Convergent genomic and pharmacological evidence of PI3K/GSK3 signaling alterations in neurons from schizophrenia patients. *Neuropsychopharmacology*, v. 46(3), p. 673-682, 2021.
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