

PATRICIA COONEY, Ph.D.

cooneypc4@gmail.com | patriciacooney.com | [Google Scholar](https://scholar.google.com/) | [linkedin.com/in/patricia-cooney-phd/](https://www.linkedin.com/in/patricia-cooney-phd/)

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY:

Biopharma communications professional and neuroscientist with extensive experience in analytical thinking, science communication, and project conceptualization. Expertise in quantitative and qualitative analysis of complex datasets, plus written and oral presentation of technical work. Adept at creative problem-solving, passionate about teaching and mentorship, and proficient in cross-functional, collaborative projects.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

RUSSO PARTNERS December 2023—Present
New York, NY

Account Coordinator

- Collaboratively developed and edited nuanced public communications including press releases, bylined articles, executive communications, corporate decks, and social media text and graphics from client interviews and company research for 11 biotech and medtech companies
- Targeted and coordinated media opportunities tailored for client company leadership and spokespeople to highlight technology to stakeholders and potential investors

CENTER FOR THEORETICAL NEUROSCIENCE October 2022—September 2023
New York, NY

Postdoctoral Research Scientist

- Developed research project to link experimental findings to a predictive model of circuit function
- Analyzed biological datasets and built Python simulations to test neural circuit mechanisms
- Furthered skills in quantitative analysis, and acquired knowledge of physics, statistics, and theory
- Designed and taught lecture on mathematical models of movement for ~30 trainees

PROJECT ALS September 2021—December 2022
New York, NY

Part-time Science Communicator, Research & News Writer

- Consulted with team of non-profit organizers and lead researchers from 7 labs studying Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis to synthesize strategic communications to stakeholders
- Authored 4 online articles highlighting ongoing and published research supported by Project ALS
- Organized internal documentation of research developments and cross-functional team progress
- Developed familiarity with multifaceted drug development and clinical diagnostics approaches

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY September 2017—October 2022
New York, NY

National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellow

- Secured \$138,000 in funding for 3 years of doctoral research through an independently designed research proposal including scientific outreach objectives through the National Science Foundation
- Managed, planned, and adapted 4-year thesis project with 5 senior academic collaborators across 3 disciplines and 2 engineering collaborators, culminating in peer-reviewed publication in PNAS
- Communicated results in 3 public seminars and spearheaded manuscript writing and revision
- Consulted with 3 engineers and experimentalists to redesign common lab tool, impacting at least 5 novel investigations of behavior by streamlining experiment speed and improving data accuracy
- Mentored undergraduate researcher for 2 years, designing and adapting an independent project for student, teaching experimental and analysis skills
- Developed custom-written MATLAB scripts for data processing and statistical testing
- Visually and verbally summarized results for peer-reviewed publication in Development
- Cultivated expertise in neuroscience, genetics, development, quantitative imaging and data analysis

MAX PLANCK INSTITUTE OF NEUROBIOLOGY

September 2016—July 2017

Fulbright Scholar

Martinsried, Germany

- Acquired Fulbright Scholarship (\$17,500 in funding, top 25% of ~350 U.S. research applicants to Germany) through original proposal to conduct independent research project
- Collaborated with 3 graduate students, conducting whole brain functional imaging and data analysis

COLLEGE OF CHARLESTON

May 2013—April 2016

Research Assistant

Charleston, SC

- Secured \$24,500 in funding for research activities and presentations by synthesizing state of research and writing competitive research proposals
- Communicated independent research results by authoring a peer-reviewed publication, an awardee conference talk, and multiple conference presentations
- Collaborated on developmental and morphological studies with 2 senior students, resulting in peer-reviewed publication, 2 local poster presentations, and 1 national poster presentation
- Implemented longitudinal behavioral study with qualitative and quantitative analyses

LEADERSHIP and OUTREACH:

- **Seminar Leader:** Led weekly seminars on select scientific papers; facilitated group discussions with ~20 undergraduates; cowrote exams on course materials (2021)
- **Sprechgesang Institute Artist:** Planned and delivered 3 collaborative public lectures on intersection of neuroscience research with topics in math, journalism, and the arts; developed multimedia content on sensory integration, objective observation, and predictability and chaos in machine learning (2017-21)
- **Graduate Peer Mentor:** Mentored 2 first-year graduate students in transition to student life (2021)
- **Graduate Program Recruitment Organizer:** Led content and logistics planning on team of 6 graduate students and 3 professors for 2 annual graduate program recruitment events (2019-20)

EDUCATION:

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

2017—2022

PhD, Neurobiology and Behavior

New York, NY

- National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellow (3-year award of full stipend and tuition, top 16% of Life Sciences graduate researchers nationwide)

HONORS COLLEGE AT THE COLLEGE OF CHARLESTON

2012—2016

BS, Biology, Minors: Neuroscience, Music

Charleston, SC

- Alumnus Speaker for Charleston Fellows Interview Weekend in 2022 (keynote speaker for event)
- Barry M. Goldwater Scholar (1-year tuition, top 30% of 1200 applicants nationwide)
- Bishop Robert Smith Awardee (Highest, most selective honor for individual in graduating class)
- Swanson Scholar, William Aiken Fellow (1 of 11 Honors students awarded ~\$80,000 of tuition)

KEY SKILLS:

- Effective multidisciplinary communication, spanning life sciences and arts
- Strategic written, verbal, and visual presentation of scientific concepts for diverse audiences
- Creative problem-solving, innovation, and cross-functional collaboration
- Quantitative and qualitative analysis of varied datasets
- Project conceptualization and management using primary and secondary research approaches
- Data management and computer programming in Python & MATLAB

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- **Proficient in** Python; MATLAB; Adobe Illustrator & Express; Canva; Wix; Microsoft Office
- **Scribe:** Compiled lecture notes in Overleaf LaTeX, Math Tools for Theoretical Neuroscience (2020)
- **Singer, Outdoor Enthusiast, Dog Mom, Runner**