

YASMINE BASSIL, PHD

NEUROSCIENTIST | RESEARCH LEADER | PROGRAM BUILDER

yasminebassil@gmail.com | 678-823-3999

Atlanta, GA | Open to Relocation

yasminebassil.com | [linkedin](#)

SUMMARY

Neuroscientist with a parallel track record in program and partnership management — establishing shared research infrastructure and cross-institutional collaborations, securing \$260K+ in competitive funding, and serving as primary stakeholder liaison across students, faculty, and institutional leadership. Built a lab-based research program from the ground up: tracking milestones and deliverables across 15+ team members, 110+ participants, and 5+ lab partnerships — while leading 5+ years of program and portfolio management beyond the lab, spanning academic, nonprofit, and industry-sponsored initiatives.

Seeking to lead scientific partnership and program strategy — building structures for emerging projects and partnerships, with a community-minded approach to connecting people and ideas.

SKILLS (selected)

leadership

cross-functional leadership stakeholder engagement partnership development mentorship

program

project management operational planning program building & evaluation budget admin

research

statistical modeling & data analysis competitive funding (\$260K+) science communication

technical

python, R, git Microsoft Office Airtable

LANGUAGES

English & Arabic (fluent), French (intermediate)

EXPERIENCE (selected)

NEUROSCIENCE PHD RESEARCHER

Aug 2020 – Jun 2026

Neural Plasticity Research Lab, Emory University

Research Leadership:

- Proposed and built a multi-year research program from the ground up: defining scope, structure, and operations to study aging & spatial cognition; secured \$260K (NSF GRFP, NIH T32); expanding into an interdepartment, cross-species, multi-institution initiative.
- Spearheaded building lab operational infrastructure: documentation systems (meeting agendas & schedules, storage drives, data & computational servers, lab wiki), standard operating procedures (method-specific protocols, room & equipment maintenance), and continuity protocols (onboarding, transitions).
- Formed community partnerships to create recruitment database of 110+ older adult participants across 5 labs.

Mentorship:

- Directed 15+ member research team across 6 years: mentored trainees to produce 9 presentations at local & national conferences (incl. 5 awards), 4 published theses (Highest Honors), and 5 competitive fellowships (incl. Fulbright, DAAD-Rise, Georgia Tech President's Undergraduate Research Award).
- Managed up to 4 concurrent sub-studies (incl. deliverables, timelines, operating plans), running weekly cross-project meetings to align on milestones, evaluations, and risk mitigation.

Technical Infrastructure:

- Developed novel neuroimaging methodology (concurrent TMS-fMRI) and co-developed a GUI-based neuroimaging workbench (MR.Flow), owning front-end and UX/UI design and establishing shared imaging capability across the Atlanta scientific community.
- Built program-related technical infrastructure, including VR assessments (Unity) and data viz & analysis pipelines (Python, R, bash/zsh), open-sourcing all tools via 7 lab-wide GitHub repos.

INTERNAL AFFAIRS LEAD

Apr 2024 – Apr 2025

Arabs in Neuroscience

- Pitched and led organizational restructuring for an international nonprofit: redesigned internal structure into a 3-tier membership model, established communications from senior leadership to members, and defined roles, responsibilities, and documentation protocols.
- Co-led planning & execution of the organization's first-ever conference social at the Society for Neuroscience meeting: independently managed venue logistics, presentation materials, and running on-site event.

CO-PRESIDENT

Jun 2023 – Jun 2025

Graduates in Neuroscience, Emory University

- Served as primary stakeholder liaison between 120+ PhD students and program leadership, managing a 22-member executive board across 12 positions and directing 10+ annual program events.

- Rebuilt **organizational operating infrastructure** from scratch: established first internal documentation system, defined officer roles & transition protocols for continuity risk mitigation, implemented recurring meeting cadences, and developed operating plans & budget infrastructure — sustaining long-term institutional relationships beyond any single leadership term.

CO-CHAIR Jun 2021 – Jun 2023

Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Committee, Emory Neuroscience Graduate Program

- Co-led a **17-member** DEI committee across **3** subcommittees and **2** faculty representatives, serving as institutional liaison between stakeholder groups — students, faculty, and Laney Graduate School admin.
- Led **program-level change management**: conducted admissions review to identify and reduce bias, revised curriculum for neurological inclusivity, and partnered with Emory's DEI office to launch a new unconscious bias certificate training program adopted program-wide.

ANNUAL EVENTS COMMITTEE LEAD Sep 2021 – Jun 2023

Computational Neural Engineering Training Program (CNTP), Georgia Institute of Technology & Emory University

- Led Annual Events Committee to plan and execute **cross-institutional programming** for **90+ trainees** across Georgia Tech and Emory, including an all-day Research Expo, new member orientation, and annual retreats.
- Led the organization of annual **Advisory Board Visitation Day** — coordinating logistics for **50+ faculty**, board members, and trainees, presenting directly to senior leadership and moderating a live Q&A that required balancing trainee and institutional interests.

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE CHAIR Jul 2019 – Dec 2019

Brainhack ATL 2019

- Built and led a **13-member organizing committee** spanning **3+ Atlanta institutions**, coordinating academic and industry stakeholders to design and execute a 3-day computational neuroscience hackathon.
- Managed external sponsor relationships, **securing \$35,000** in corporate & institutional funding; built **3 project tracks**, recruited **6 faculty speakers**, and drew **90+ applications** from **9 institutions**, selecting **30 attendees**.

STEM COMMUNICATIONS FELLOW May 2019 – Aug 2020

College of Sciences, Georgia Institute of Technology

- Contributed to **science communication strategy and execution** for the College of Sciences (6 schools): gathered research material through faculty/student interviews, and owned end-to-end production of social media & graphics, plus select articles, across **164+ published pieces**.

PRESIDENT May 2017 – May 2020

Undergraduate Research Ambassadors, Georgia Institute of Technology

- Established **full operational structure** of a **22-member** undergraduate research organization, building committees across **4 functional areas** and a **research opportunity portfolio** of **110+ entries** across **34 majors**.
- Grew program reach to **1,000+ students** per semester through an annual research fair, **2 monthly events** (workshops, panels), and weekly office hours, connecting **150+ undergrads** to labs per semester.

EDUCATION

PhD in Neuroscience — Emory University Aug 2020 – Jun 2026

Dissertation: Navigating Aging: Characterizing Behavioral and Neural Correlates of Aging-Related Deficits in Human Spatial Navigation · Taught **4 academic courses** across Georgia Tech & Emory, including **2 instructorships**.

BS in Neuroscience — Georgia Institute of Technology Aug 2016 – May 2020

Highest Honors · Zell Miller Scholarship · Psychology Minor · Research Option with Published Thesis.

FUNDING *(selected)*

NSF Graduate Research Fellowship (\$170K+, 2022–2025) · NIH T32 Neuroscience Training Grant (\$90K+, 2021–2022) · SfN Trainee Professional Development Award (\$1K, 2024) · WISH Conference Grant (\$1K, 2023)

HONORS *(selected)*

Emory Neuroscience Awards: Scientific Achievement (2026), Teaching (2025), Leadership (2024), Excellence in Mentorship (2023) — *each awarded by Neuroscience faculty committee from 120+ students.*

PUBLICATIONS, PRESENTATIONS, & PRESS *(selected)*

- **7** peer-reviewed publications (incl. first-author in *Frontiers in Aging Neuroscience* and *Neuropsychologia*, and a *Nature Protocols* consensus paper). **12** conference presentations (incl. 1 oral presentation, 2 awards).
- **17** invited talks, including Speaker at Atlanta Science Festival Tech Talks (2022) and Keynote Speaker at Georgia Tech Neuroscience Research Symposium (2021).