

INP Responsibilities

The INP is different from the other biological sciences departments. Because we are interdepartmental, there are many more seminars and other activities that are available to us. This section is intended to give you an idea of the core activities that you should take part in. Tuesdays at noon are INP time, and you should think of it that way. These are all opportunities that the program works hard to provide for us. They are meant to help us grow as scientists, and you should take advantage of them. If we don't use them, we could lose them!

General – These are the main events in our program. Be there or be ridiculed by your friends for missing out on free food.

- + Journal Club – Student run, free dinner and beer. This is a great way to get to know your fellow students and to learn in a relaxed atmosphere
- + Student Research Talks – Required to give one each year. Come support your fellow INP-ers and get some free pizza along the way
- + Student/Faculty Lunch – Once a month. Come meet a panel of INP faculty members and hear what they have to say about important topics
- + INP Seminar Series – Once a month. INP students invite prominent researchers from other institutions to come share their research. Opportunity for networking at lunch and dinner (always at classy, aka expensive, restaurants in New Haven)
- + HELP CAROL – Carol does so much for us. Do what you can to help her out whenever she asks

First Year

- + Classes – In your first year, you will take 4 required core courses for the program. In the fall you will have Neurobiology and Principles of Neuroscience. In the spring, you will take Bioethics of Neuroscience and Structural and Functional Organization of the Brain (aka Neuroanatomy)
 - Neurobiology – An undergraduate course taught by Haig Keshishian (co-DGS of INP) and Paul Forscher. Expect to get a solid background in neuroscience if you don't already have one, or a great refresher if you've already taken a similar course.
 - Principles of Neuroscience – A graduate course taught by Marina Picciotto and Mark Yeckel. This class is mostly filled with graduate and medical students. Each week, you will read papers chosen by a different faculty member and you will have to write a critical review. This is a discussion-based course, and Marina and Mark won't take "I'm quiet" as an excuse

- Bioethics of Neuroscience – INP-only course organized by two 3rd year and two 2nd year INP students. Each week there is a topic related to bioethics in neuroscience, assigned readings, a reaction paper, and some faculty guests to join in on the discussion
 - Neuroanatomy – a medical school course also taken by first-year medical students. There are lectures as well as labs associated with this course. The schedule is crazy, almost never the same from week-to-week. Don't plan on being able to spend long hours in your rotation lab during this course. Also don't plan on not being driven crazy by some med students. You will be in class a lot but you will also learn a lot, especially from the lab
- + Rotations – see rotations section
 - + Interview weekend – You all remember being here for interview weekend and how involved the current students were. This weekend cannot happen without great effort from the students. First years are in charge of organizing the Thursday evening party, the lunch on Friday, and activities for any interviewees that are still around on Saturday. Also, one person gets assigned to be the travel coordinator. Older students will certainly be around to help, but the majority of organizing is typically delegated to the first years

Second Year

- + Student Research Talks – 2-3 students will be responsible for organizing student research talks. This includes making the schedule, lining up faculty critics, and ordering the pizza
- + Journal Club – 2-3 students will be responsible for organizing journal club. This includes sending out reminder emails to people that have signed up to present or order food. It also includes photocopying the article to be presented and buying the beer
- + Student/Faculty lunch – 2-3 students will be responsible for organizing student/faculty lunch. This involves choosing topics, inviting faculty, ordering lunch, and helping to facilitate discussion
- + INP picnic – At the beginning of the year, the INP holds its annual picnic. This is organized by the 2nd years. They are in charge of getting the food and drink as well as grilling at the site
- + Skits at retreat – The annual INP retreat will be held in the fall. Traditionally, the newest students write and either tape or perform live several skits. Talk to older students and Carol for examples

- + TAing – It is expected that you will begin to fulfill your teaching requirement in the second year. Keep in mind that you must TA for one of the core INP courses. Talk to older students about their experiences, and feel free to contact departments such as Psychology or Cell Biology for other teaching opportunities