

Ling-Lie Chau Graduate Student Award for Brain Research



Ayanna Wade FY19-20 Award Recipient

Ayanna Wade is a fourth year PhD student at the University of California, Davis, in the lab of Dr. Alex Nord. Ayanna's experience with research started as an undergraduate at Augustana College in Rock Island, Illinois, where she completed multiple projects studying human cognition at Augustana, the University of Iowa, and Stanford University. During these research experiences, Ayanna developed a deep interest in the biological underpinnings of memory and other cognitive functions. At Davis, Ayanna has applied this interest toward studying how mutations to a chromatin remodeler implicated in autism consistently impact cognition and memory. Ayanna plans to continue learning about the relationship between genes, neuronal function, and behavior during a career in science.

Impact of Philanthropy

Ayanna Wade attended the Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Statistical Methods for Functional Genomics course, thanks to the Ling-Lie Chau Graduate Student Award for Brain Research. The course enabled Ayanna to make great strides in understanding the appropriate analysis of functional genomics data, receive expert guidance to apply to her own analysis questions, and expand her professional network.