

Jacob G. McPherson, PhD

Prepared: 2025.06.24

Contact Information

Office address

4444 Forest Park Ave., Campus Box 8502; St. Louis, MO 63108

Phone: 314-273-1183

Email: mcperson.jacob@wustl.edu

Present Position

2025 - present Associate Professor (*Investigator track*)
 Program in Physical Therapy, Department of Anesthesiology
 Washington University School of Medicine; St. Louis, MO

Education

Undergraduate

2001 - 2005 **B.S.** – Biomedical Engineering, Applied Sciences
 University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC

Graduate

2005 - 2008 **M.S.** – Biomedical Engineering
 Northwestern University, Evanston, IL

2008 - 2011 **Ph.D.** – Biomedical Engineering
 Northwestern University, Evanston, IL
Thesis: McPherson JG (2011). *A quantitative and neuropharmacological investigation of mechanisms underlying upper limb movement abnormalities in individuals with chronic hemiparetic stroke*. ProQuest Dissertations and Theses, No. 3488499.
Advisor: Julius P.A. Dewald, P.T., Ph.D.

Post-graduate training

2011 - 2013 **Post-doctoral Fellowship:** Physiology and Biophysics (Neurophysiology)
 University of Washington School of Medicine, Seattle, WA

2013 - 2015 **Post-doctoral Fellowship:** Physical Therapy, Phys. Med. And Rehabil.
 Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine, Chicago, IL

Academic and Promotion History

2004 **Undergraduate Research Assistant**
 University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC

2005 - 2011 **Graduate Research Assistant**
 Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine, Chicago, IL

2011 - 2013 **Senior Fellow** (post-doctoral)
 University of Washington School of Medicine, Seattle, WA

- 2012 - 2013 **Sackler Scholar of Integrative Biophysics**
University of Washington School of Medicine, Seattle, WA
- 2013 - 2015 **Post-doctoral Fellow**
Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine, Chicago, IL
- 2015 - 2019 **Assistant Professor** (tenure earning)
Department of Biomedical Engineering
Florida International University, Miami, FL
- 2019 - 2025 **Assistant Professor**
Program in Physical Therapy, Department of Anesthesiology
Affiliate Faculty: Department of Biomedical Engineering
Faculty: Washington University Pain Center, Program and Neurosciences
Washington University School of Medicine, St. Louis, MO
- 2025 - **Associate Professor (with tenure)**
Program in Physical Therapy, Department of Anesthesiology
Affiliate Faculty: Department of Biomedical Engineering
Faculty: Washington University Pain Center, Program and Neurosciences
Washington University School of Medicine, St. Louis, MO

Honors and Awards

- 2011 Finalist, Best Student Paper. *IEEE International Conference on Rehabilitation Robotics*. Zurich, CH, 2011.
- 2015 Research featured in *IEEE Spectrum*: “Stimulating damaged spines rewires rats for recovery.” Sept 14th, 2015.
- 2015 Research featured in *Medical Xpress*: “New electrostatic stimulation technique improves damaged nerve function in rats.” Sept 15th, 2015.
- 2015 Research featured in *Nature*: “Electric zaps help spinal-cord rehab.” 525: 428. Sept 24, 2015.
- 2015 Research featured in *Nature*: Nudo, RJ. “Rehabilitation: Boost for movement.” *Nature*, 527: 314-315, Sept 19th, 2015.
- 2015 Research featured: Ozpinar A, Tempel ZJ, Monaco EA 3rd. “Targeted, activity-dependent spinal stimulation produces long-lasting motor recovery in chronic cervical spinal cord injury.” Commentary in *Neurosurgery*. 2016 Feb; 78(2): N18-9. doi: 10.1227/01.neu.0000479893.25489.47.
- 2018 Research featured: “New insights into stroke treatment.” *Medindia*. Feb. 16th, 2018.
- 2018 Research featured: “Study could lead to new therapies to improve movement control in stroke survivors.” *The Medical News*. Feb. 16th, 2018.
- 2018 Research featured: “New research on the brain’s backup motor systems could open door to novel stroke therapies.” *EurekAlert!* (American Association for the Advancement of Science; AAAS). Feb. 14th, 2018.
- 2020 Top cited article of 2018 – 2019, *The Journal of Physiology*.

- 2023 Research featured: “Zeroing in on neuropathic pain in spinal cord injury: partnerships in the modern research community.” *Department of Defense Congressionally Directed Medical Research Program – Spinal Cord Injury Directorate*.
- 2025 Research featured: “The ins and outs of spinal cord stimulation.” *Brain Communications*, January 15th, 2025.

Editorial and Review Responsibilities

Editorial Positions

- 2016 - **Section Editor:** *Spinal Interfaces*; The Encyclopedia of Computational Neuroscience. Jaeger D and Jung R, eds. Springer, NY. ISBN: 978-1-4614-6676-5

Ad Hoc Manuscript Reviews

- 2005 - (non-exhaustive list): eLife, Cell Reports Methods, Science Advances, Neuron, Current Biology, Journal of Physiology, Brain Stimulation, Experimental Neurology, Journal of Neural Engineering Neurorehabilitation and Neural Repair, Journal of Neurophysiology, Journal of Orthopaedic and Sports Physical Therapy, IEEE Transactions on Neural Systems and Rehabilitation Engineering, Journal of Neuroengineering and Rehabilitation, Archives of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, Journal of Electromyography and Kinesiology, Scientific Reports

Extramural Grant Review

- 2017 - **Reviewer pool:** National Science Foundation
- 2019 - **Reviewer pool:** National Institutes of Health
- 2019 - **Reviewer pool:** American Heart Association
- 2020 - **Reviewer:** NIH/NINDS BNVT study section
- 2022 - **Reviewer:** NIH/NINDS ICN/IFCN study sections
- 2022 - **Reviewer:** VA Rehabilitation Research and Development grants
- 2023 - **Reviewer:** NIH/NINDS ZNS1-SRB Program Grant (P01) study section
- 2024 - **Reviewer:** Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC) of Canada Z-N-1502/EG 1502 - Biological Systems and Functions
- 2025 - **Reviewer:** Swiss National Science Foundation

Community Service Contributions

Washington University in St. Louis School of Medicine Committee and Administrative Service:

- 2019 - Program in Physical Therapy MSP PhD program applicant reviewer
- 2020 - Program in Physical Therapy, co-lead: Pain Thread
- 2022 - Program in Physical Therapy, DPT student coaching
- 2023 - Dept. of Neurosurgery, NIH Mock Study Section

- 2024 Program in Physical Therapy, Research Faculty Search Committee
- 2024 Institute for Clinical and Translational Sciences NIH Mock Study Section
- 2025 - Member, WashU Institutional Review Board

Washington University in St. Louis Committee and Administrative Service:

- 2019 - 2020 Dept. of Biomedical Engineering Faculty Search Committee
- 2019 - Dept. of Biomedical Engineering PhD program applicant reviewer

Other University Committee and Administrative Service:

Florida International University (Miami, FL):

- 2015 - 2017 **Dept.** of Biomedical Engineering Seminar Series Committee
- 2015 - 2019 **Dept.** of Biomedical Engineering Graduate Program Committee
- 2016 - 2019 **College** of Engineering and Computing Scholarship Committee
- 2017 - 2019 **College** of Engineering and Computing Faculty Council (*Secretary*)
- 2018 - 2019 **University** Provost's Leadership in Evaluating Teaching Committee

Membership in Professional Societies

- 2017 - Society for Neuroscience
- 2016 - 2017 International Association for the Study of Pain
- 2017 - International Society of Motor Control
- 2018 - International Motoneuron Society
- 2018 - American Heart Association

Teaching

Major External Invited Presentations

- 2012 A novel, physiologically based intervention for motor rehabilitation following spinal cord injury. *HD Patton Society Symposium*. Leavenworth, WA; September 14th, 2012.
- 2013 Targeted, activity-dependent spinal stimulation for motor rehabilitation following spinal cord injury. *Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine Grand Rounds, Department of Physical Therapy and Human Movement Sciences*. Chicago, IL; April 23rd, 2013.
- 2013 Targeted, activity-dependent spinal stimulation for motor rehabilitation following spinal cord injury. *3rd Annual Sackler Biophysics Symposium*. Seattle, WA; June 6th, 2013.

- 2014 Integrating technology with physiology to drive novel neurorehabilitation interventions. *Florida International University, Wallace H. Coulter Foundation and Department of Biomedical Engineering Seminar Series*. Miami, FL; May 12th, 2014.
- 2016 MRI and spinal cord injury edema: a biomarker for walking with potential predictive ability? *13th Annual Society of Brain Mapping and Therapeutics World Congress*. Miami, FL; April 9th, 2016.
- 2016 Neuroprosthetics to drive activity-dependent plasticity. *1st Annual Neural Engineering Research Symposium, University of Miami and the Miami Project to Cure Paralysis*. Miami, FL; Oct. 13th, 2016.
- 2017 Altered neuromodulatory drive post-stroke: evidence and implications. *University of Florida, Rehabilitation Science Seminar Series*. Gainesville, FL; February 22nd, 2017.
- 2017 Neuroprosthetics for plasticity-based sensorimotor recovery. *Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine Movement and Rehabilitation Sciences Training Day*. Chicago, IL; August 25th, 2017.
- 2018 Hebbian-type neural plasticity in spinal sensorimotor circuits. *International Motoneuron Society Conference*. Boulder, CO. June 11-14, 2018.
- 2018 Neuroprosthetics for plasticity-based multimodal rehabilitation. *Progress in Clinical Motor Control: Neurorehabilitation I*. State College, PA. July 23-25, 2018.
- 2018 Spinal neuromodulation for plasticity-based, multimodal rehabilitation. *American Society of Neurorehabilitation Annual Meeting*. San Diego, CA. October 31st, 2018.
- 2018 Therapeutic intraspinal microstimulation to rebalance transmission in motor and pain pathways after spinal cord injury. *Drexel University College of Medicine, Department of Neurobiology and Anatomy Seminar Series*. Philadelphia, PA; November 14th, 2018.
- 2018 Leveraging the interconnectivity of spinal motor and pain pathways to drive multi-modal rehabilitation. *University of Florida, Department of Applied Physiology and Kinesiology Seminar Series*. Gainesville, FL; December 10th, 2018.
- 2018 Therapeutic intraspinal microstimulation to rebalance transmission in motor and pain pathways after spinal cord injury. *University of Miami, Department of Biomedical Engineering Seminar Series*. Miami, FL; December 12th, 2018.
- 2019 Leveraging the interconnectivity of spinal motor and pain pathways to drive multi-modal rehabilitation. *Resident Research Day Keynote Address*. Larkin Community Hospital Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation. Miami, FL. June 3rd, 2019.
- 2020 Activity-dependent plasticity in spinal sensorimotor circuits: from basic science to clinical relevance. *Annual Spinal Cord Plasticity Meeting (Sponsors: National Center for Neuromodulation for Research and National Center for Adaptive Neurotechnologies)*. Charleston, SC. March 23rd, 2020 (postponed due to SARS-COV-2; delivered December 2020).
- 2022 It's not a matter of if, but when: spatial vs. temporal specificity for plasticity-promoting spinal neuromodulation. *Spinal Cord Plasticity in Motor Control Meeting: Neuromodulation for Engaging and Enhancing Spinal Cord Plasticity*. November 11th, 2022. San Diego, CA. Sponsored by the National Center of Neuromodulation for

Rehabilitation (P2C HD086844) and the National Center for Adaptive Neurotechnologies (P41 EB018783).

- 2023 A matter of 'if' not 'when'? Spatial and temporal specificity for plasticity-promoting spinal neuromodulation. *Arizona State University Department of Biomedical Engineering Seminar Series*. April 21st, 2023. Tempe, AZ.
- 2023 Zombie cats, cyborg rats, and monkeys with computer chip hats: just another day in the clinic? *Progress in Clinical Motor Control Meeting*. July 13-15th, 2023. Chicago, IL.

Washington University Presentations and Lectures

- 2021 Spontaneous neural synchrony links intrinsic spinal sensory and motor networks during unconsciousness: implications for plasticity-promoting interventions. *Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis Department of Anesthesiology Seminar Series*.
- 2023 Why do pets like to be petted? Does the spinal cord sound like a sleep machine? Can you get better at playing the piano by taking a nap? Curiosities from a guided tour through the lumbar enlargement. *Washington University Program in Physical Therapy Seminar Series*. January 24th, 2023. St. Louis, MO.
- 2023 Zombie cats, cyborg rats, and monkeys with computer chip hats: just another day in the clinic? *Avioli Musculoskeletal Research Seminar*. Oct. 27th, 2024. St. Louis, MO.

Courses

Washington University in St. Louis:

- 2019 – Movement Sciences PhD Program: Program Seminar
- 2019 – Movement Sciences PhD Program: Biocontrol
- 2019 – Movement Sciences PhD Program: Bio-Instrumentation (Co-course master since 2024)
- 2020 – Doctor of Physical Therapy Program: Diagnosis and Evidence Analysis III
- 2020 – Doctor of Physical Therapy Program: Neuroscience

Florida International University (2015 – 2019):

- 2015 – 2019 BME 3403: Engineering Analysis of Biological Systems
- 2015 – 2019 BME 5411: Biomedical Physiology and Engineering II
- 2015 – 2019 BME 4211: Orthopedic Biomechanics
- 2015 – 2019 BME 4908: Biomedical Engineering Senior Design

Mentorship and Sponsorship Record

Served as **faculty research mentor and/or sponsor** for:

Undergraduate students

- 2015 - 2019 Valentina Melero
Research mentor and sponsor for Coulter Undergraduate Research Excellence Program Fellowship; Current position: Biomedical Engineer, Boston Scientific
- 2016 - 2017 Kelly Rojas
Research mentor and sponsor for Ronald E. McNair Post-baccalaureate Achievement Program Scholarship
- 2017 Rayniel Perez, BS
Research mentor
- 2017 Afra Toma, BS, MS, PhD
Research mentor and professional/career development mentor
Current position: Defended PhD in Bioengineering Georgia Tech/Emory, 08/2024; now a consultant for LEK Consulting in San Francisco, CA.
- 2023 - 2024 Jane Wu
Research mentor and sponsor for Amgen and BioSurf Scholarships

Graduate students

Masters students

- 2016 - 2018 Vivian Soliz, BS, MS
Advisor: Jacob McPherson, PhD
Program: FIU Biomedical Engineering (Professional Track)
- 2016 - 2017 Daniel Duben, BS, MS
Advisor: Jacob McPherson, PhD
Program: FIU Biomedical Engineering (Professional Track)
- 2016 - 2017 Nathalie Brossard, BS, MS
Advisor: Jacob McPherson, PhD
Program: FIU Biomedical Engineering (Professional Track)
- 2016 - 2017 Luis Barreto, BS, MS
Advisor: Jacob McPherson, PhD
Program: FIU Biomedical Engineering (Professional Track)
- 2017 Alexander Copa, BS, MS
Advisor: Jacob McPherson, PhD
Program: FIU Biomedical Engineering (Professional Track)
- 2018 Rabeya Zinnat Adury
Advisor: Ranu Jung, PhD
Program: FIU Biomedical Engineering (Research Track)
Role (if not advisor): Thesis Committee Member
- 2018 - 2020 Lorraine Campos
Advisor: Jacob McPherson, PhD
Program: FIU Biomedical Engineering (Research Track)

PhD students

- 2014 - 2016 Andrew Smith, PT, PhD
 Advisor: James Elliott, PT, PhD
 Program: Northwestern University Neuroscience Program
 Role (if not advisor): Dissertation Committee Member
 Current position: Associate Professor, University of Colorado
- 2015 - 2019 Ricardo Siu
 Advisor: Ranu Jung, PhD
 Program: FIU Biomedical Engineering
 Role (if not advisor): Dissertation Committee Member
 Current position: post-doctoral fellow, Case Western Reserve University
- 2015 - 2020 Andres Peña
 Advisor: Ranu Jung, PhD
 Program: FIU Biomedical Engineering
 Role (if not advisor): Dissertation Committee Member
 Current position: Assistant Professor, University of Arkansas
- 2017 - 2020 Iian Black
 Advisor: Ranu Jung, PhD
 Program: FIU Biomedical Engineering
 Role (if not advisor): Dissertation Committee Member
- 2016 - 2021 Lakshmini Balachandar
 Advisor: Jorge Riera, PhD
 Program: FIU Biomedical Engineering
 Role (if not advisor): Dissertation Committee Member
- 2016 - 2021 Md Ashfaq Ahmed
 Advisor: Ranu Jung, PhD
 Program: FIU Biomedical Engineering
 Role (if not advisor): Dissertation Committee Member
- 2017 - 2021 Arezoo Pour
 Advisor: Zachary Danziger, PhD
 Program: FIU Biomedical Engineering
 Role (if not advisor): Dissertation Committee Member
- 2017 - 2022 Carolina Moncion
 Advisor: Jorge Riera, PhD
 Program: FIU Biomedical Engineering
 Role (if not advisor): Dissertation Committee Member
- 2017 - 2024 Maria Bandres
 Advisor: Jacob McPherson, PhD, also sponsor for NINDS F99/K00 award
 Program: FIU Biomedical Engineering, 2017-2019; Washington University
 Biomedical Engineering, beginning Fall 2019.
 Defended dissertation: 09/06/2024
 Current position: post-doctoral fellow, Columbia University
- 2018 - 2021 Megan Buchanan
 Advisor: Jacob McPherson, PhD

Program: FIU Biomedical Engineering, 2018-2019; Washington University Biomedical Engineering, beginning Fall 2019.

- 2019 - 2022 Sathyakumar Kuntaegowdanahalli
 Advisor: Ranu Jung, PhD
 Program: FIU Biomedical Engineering
 Role (if not advisor): Dissertation Committee Member
- 2022 - Jacob Parsons
 Advisor: Gretchen A Meyer, PhD
 Program: WashU Movement Sciences PhD Program
 Role (if not advisor): Dissertation Committee Member
- 2023 - Gerson Moreno Romero
 Advisor: Jacob McPherson, PhD, and sponsor for Chancellor's-Olin Fellowship, American Association for the Advancement of Hispanics in Higher Education fellowship and Hispanic Scholarship Fund fellowship
 Program: Washington University Biomedical Engineering
- 2023 - Avery Twyman
 Advisor: Jacob McPherson, PhD, and sponsor for NINDS Translational Research in Membrane Excitability Disorders (TriMED) T32 fellowship
 Program: Washington University Biomedical Engineering
- 2025 Adrian Rivera (Rotation student)
 Advisor: Jacob McPherson
 Program: Washington University Biomedical Engineering

Post-doctoral Fellows

- 2017 - 2018 Behdad Tahayori, PT, PhD
 Mentor: Jacob McPherson, PhD
 Discipline: Neurophysiology and neurorehabilitation engineering
 Current position: Assistant Professor of Physical Therapy, University of St. Augustine for Health Sciences
- 2023 - Javier de Lucas Romero, PhD
 Mentor: Jacob McPherson, PhD
 Discipline: Neurophysiology and neurorehabilitation

Other learners

- 2023 - Jeremie Ferey, PhD (senior scientist/lab manager)
 Mentors: Jacob McPherson, PhD, and Gretchen Meyer, PhD
 Discipline: Neurophysiology and muscle physiology
- 2023 - Lucía Lopez Nieto, BS (visiting research scholar)
 Mentor: Jacob McPherson, PhD
 Discipline: Neurophysiology and neurorehabilitation

Research

Present extramural grants

1. 5 R01 NS11234-04 **McPherson JG** (PI) 03/15/2019 – 02/28/2026
NINDS \$1,142,506
Title: “Intraspinal microstimulation for multi-modal rehabilitation.”
Role: Principal Investigator
Effort: 40% FTE
2. W81XWH-22-1-1100 **McPherson JG**, Thompson AK (Co-PIs) 09/30/2022 – 9/30/2025
Dept. of Defense, CDMRP \$933,911
Title: “Targeted spinal cord plasticity for alleviating SCI-related neuropathic pain.”
Role: Principal Investigator
Effort: 30% FTE
3. F99 NS13581101 Bandres (trainee), **McPherson JG** (sponsor) 09/15/2023 – 08/31/2025
NINDS \$72,128
Title: “Integrative spinal physiology to restore neural control of sensorimotor functions after neurological injury.”
Role: Sponsor and primary mentor for PhD student trainee

Present Intramural Grants

1. McDonnell Center for Systems Neuroscience 07/01/2024 – 06/30/2026
McPherson JG and de Lucas* (Co-PIs) \$100,000
Title: “Parvalbumin interneurons and retinoic acid signaling in spinal cord injury-related neuropathic pain.”
Role: Principal Investigator
*post-doctoral trainee of McPherson JG

Submitted Applications

1. Howard Hughes Medical Institute
Moreno Romero (trainee) and **McPherson JG** (Sponsor PI)
Title: Gilliam Fellows Program
2. WM Keck Foundation Post-doctoral Fellowship
Lucas Romero (trainee) and **McPherson JG** (sponsor PI)
3. Christopher and Dana Reeve Foundation **McPherson JG** (PI)
Title: “*Enhancing SCI rehabilitation through synergism of regeneration and plasticity.*”
4. R21 **McPherson JG** (Contact PI), Meyer GA (mPI)
NINDS/NIMH
Title: “GLP-1 receptor agonists to enhance sensorimotor and neuromuscular recovery after spinal cord injury.”
5. R21 **McPherson JG** (PI)
NINDS/NIMH
Title: “*Parvalbumin-expressing spinal interneurons and spinal cord injury-related neuropathic pain.*”

6. SCIRTS Post-doctoral Fellowship Lucas Romero (Trainee), **McPherson JG** (Sponsor PI)
Craig H. Neilsen Foundation
Title: *"Addressing spinal cord injury-related pain at the circuit level through parvalbumin expressing neurons."*
7. SCIRTS Senior Research Grant **McPherson JG** (PI)
Craig H. Neilsen Foundation
Title: *"GLP-1 receptor agonists to prevent or mitigate SCI-related sensorimotor and muscle pathologies."*

Past Extramural Grants

1. R01 NS054269 Dewald (PI) 09/01/2005 - 05/31/2010
NINDS \$1,150,031
Title: *"Monoaminergic drive and discoordination following stroke."*
Role: Graduate research associate
2. Scholar of Integrative Biophysics **McPherson JG** (PI) 01/01/2012 - 10/01/2013
Raymond and Beverly Sackler Foundation \$89,333
Title: *"Development of flexible, biocompatible electrode arrays for chronic stimulation of the central nervous system following neurological injury."*
Role: Principal Investigator
3. R01 HD079076-01A1 Elliott (PI) 12/01/2014 - 05/01/2015
NICHD \$1,258,840
Title: *"Neuromuscular mechanisms underlying poor recovery from whiplash injuries."*
Role: Post-doctoral research associate
4. K12HD073945 Dewald, **McPherson JG** (PI) 01/01/2017 - 06/30/2018
NICHD IRE-K12 Program \$187,500
Title: *"Spinal stimulation for neuropathic pain."*
Role: Scholar/Principal Investigator of individual award under parent K12 (PI, Dewald)
5. SEED Grant **McPherson JG** (multi-PI) 5/01/2017 - 04/30/2018
Wallace H. Coulter Foundation \$25,000
Title: *"Exploring Neural Contributions to Aortic Valve Function and Disease"*
Role: Principal Investigator
6. SEED Grant **McPherson JG** (Multi-PI) 06/21/2018 – 06/20/2019
Wallace H. Coulter Foundation \$59,952.34
Title: *"Non-invasive decoding of neuromuscular activity for rehabilitation and prosthetic control."*
Role: Principal Investigator
7. SCIRTS Grant 460399 Danziger and **McPherson** (Co-PIs) 07/31/2017 - 06/30/2021
Craig H. Neilsen Foundation \$321,000
Title: *"Post-SCI bladder reflex conditioning with pelvic neuromodulation."*
Role: Co-Principal Investigator
8. 3 R01 NS11234-04S1 **McPherson JG** (PI) 05/04/2022 – 05/03/2023
NINDS \$78,750
Title: *"Intraspinal microstimulation for multi-modal rehabilitation."* – Research supplement to promote retention.

Role: Principal Investigator

9. 3 R01 NS11234-04S2 **McPherson JG** (PI) 05/05/2022 – 05/04/2023
NINDS \$62,950/annual
Title: “*Intraspinal microstimulation for multi-modal rehabilitation.*” – Research supplement to promote diversity in health-related research.
Role: Principal Investigator
10. 19IPLOI34760603-S1 **McPherson JG** (PI) 07/01/2021 – 06/30/2022
American Heart Association Innovative Project Award \$45,455
Title: “*Restorative neuroplasticity in brainstem motor pathways to enhance rehabilitation post-stroke.*” Research supplement
Role: Principal Investigator
11. 19IPLOI34760603 **McPherson JG** (PI) 07/01/2019 – 09/30/2024
American Heart Association Innovative Project Award \$199,998
Title: “*Restorative neuroplasticity in brainstem motor pathways to enhance rehabilitation post-stroke.*”
Role: Principal Investigator
12. Univ. of Missouri Spinal Cord Injury/Disease Research Program 03/01/2024 – 02/28/2025
Ray (PI) and **McPherson JG** (Co-I) \$100,000
Title: “*Electrical stimulation therapy to improve outcomes of nerve transfer surgery in tetraplegia.*”
Role: Co-investigator

Bibliography

Peer-reviewed articles (‡post-doctoral trainee author; †student author; *corresponding author.)

1. **McPherson JG**, Ellis MD, Heckman CJ, Dewald JPA (2008). Evidence for increased activation of persistent inward currents in individuals with chronic hemiparetic stroke. *J Neurophysiol.* 2008 Dec; 100(6): 3236-3243. DOI: 10.1152/jn.90563.2008
2. Stienen AH, **McPherson JG**, Schouten AC, Dewald JPA (2011). The ACT-4D: a novel rehabilitation robot for the quantification of upper limb motor impairments following brain injury. *IEEE Int Conf Rehabil Robot.* 2011:5975460. DOI: 10.1109/ICORR.2011.5975460.
3. **McPherson JG**, Stienen AH, Drogos JM, Dewald JPA (2011). The relationship between the flexion synergy and stretch reflexes in individuals with chronic hemiparetic stroke. *IEEE Int Conf Rehabil Robot.* 2011: 5975516. DOI: 10.1109/ICORR.2011.5975516.
4. **McPherson JG**, Edwards WB, Prasad A, Troy KL, Griffith JW, Schnitzer TJ (2014). Dual energy x-ray absorptiometry of the knee in individuals with spinal cord injury: methodology and correlation with quantitative computed tomography. *Spinal Cord.* 2014 Nov; 52(11): 821-825. DOI: 10.1038/sc.2014.122.
5. Smith AC, Parrish TB, Hoggarth MA, **McPherson JG**, Tysseling VM, Wasielewski M, Kim HE, Hornby TG, Elliott JM (2015). Potential associations between chronic whiplash and incomplete spinal cord injury. *Spinal Cord Ser Cases.* 2015; 1. pii: 15024. PMID: 27630770.

6. **McPherson JG**, Miller RR, Perlmutter SI (2015). Targeted, activity-dependent spinal stimulation produces long-lasting motor recovery in chronic cervical spinal cord injury. *Proc Natl Acad Sci USA*. 2015 Sept 29; 112(39): 12193-12198. DOI: 10.1073/pnas.1505383112.
7. Smith AC, Knikou M, Yelick K, Alexander A, Murnane M, Kristelis A, Houmpavlis P, **McPherson JG**, Wasielewski M, Hoggarth M, Elliott (2016). MRI measures of fat infiltration in lower extremities following motor incomplete spinal cord injury: reliability and potential implications for muscle activation. *Conf Proc IEEE Eng Med Biol Soc*. 2016 Aug; 2016:5451-5456. DOI: 10.1109/EMBC.2016.7591960.
8. Elliott JM, Sudarshan D, Haxie C, Hoggarth M, **McPherson JG**, Sparks C, Weber K (2016). Advancements in imaging technology: do they (or will they) equate to advancements in our knowledge of recovery in whiplash? *J Orthop Sports Phys Ther*. 2016 Oct; 46(10):862-873. PMID: 27690846.
9. Smith AC, Weber KA, Parrish TB, Hornby TG, Tysseling VM, **McPherson JG**, Wasielewski M, Elliott JM (2017). Ambulatory function in motor incomplete spinal cord injury: a magnetic resonance imaging study of spinal cord edema and lower extremity muscle morphometry. *Spinal Cord*. 2017 Jul; 55(7): 672-678. DOI: 10.1038/sc.2017.18.
10. **McPherson JG**, Stienen AH, Drogos JM, Dewald JPA (2017). Modification of spastic stretch reflexes at the elbow by flexion synergy expression in individuals with chronic, hemiparetic stroke. *Arch Phys Med Rehabil*. 2018 Mar; 99(3): 491-500; Epub 2017 Jul 24. DOI: 10.1016/j.apmr.2017.06.019.
11. **McPherson JG**, Chen A, Ellis MD, Yao J, Heckman CJ, Dewald JPA (2018). Progressive recruitment of contralesional cortico-reticulospinal pathways drives impairment post-stroke. *J Physiol*. 2018 Apr 1; 596(7):1211-1225. DOI: 10.1113/JP274968.
12. **McPherson JG**, McPherson LM, Thompson CK, Ellis MD, Heckman CJ, Dewald JPA (2018). Altered neuromodulatory drive may contribute to exaggerated tonic vibration reflexes in chronic hemiparetic stroke. *Front Hum Neurosci*. 2018 Apr 9; 12:131. DOI: 10.3389/fnhum.2018.00131.
13. **McPherson JG**, Ellis MD, Harden RN, Carmona C, Drogos JM, Heckman CJ, Dewald JPA (2018). Neuromodulatory inputs to motoneurons contribute to the loss of independent joint control in chronic moderate to severe hemiparetic stroke. *Front Neurol*. 2018 Jun 21; 9:470. DOI: 10.3389/fneur.2018.00470.
14. **McPherson JG***, Smith AC, Duben D, Wasielewski M, McMahon K, Parrish TB, Elliott JM (2018). Short- and long-term reproducibility of diffusion-weighted magnetic resonance imaging of lower extremity musculature in asymptomatic individuals and a comparison to individuals with spinal cord injury. *BMC Musculoskeletal Disorders*. 2018 Dec 6th; 19:443. DOI: 10.1186/s12891-01802361-7. *corresponding author
15. **McPherson JG**, Stienen AH, Schmit BD, Dewald JPA (2018). Biomechanical parameters of the elbow stretch reflex in chronic hemiparetic stroke. *Exp. Brain Res*. 2018 Oct 1st; DOI: 10.1007/s00221-018-5389-x.
16. **McPherson JG**, Chen A, Ellis MD, Yao J, Heckman CJ, Dewald JPA (2019). Response to Letter to the Editor. *J Physiol*. 2019 Aug; 597(16): 4413-4414; DOI: 10.1113/JP278464.

17. **McPherson JG***, Bandres MF[†] (2021). Spontaneous neural synchrony links intrinsic spinal sensory and motor networks during unconsciousness *eLife*. 2021;10:e66308 DOI: 10.7554/eLife.66308. [†]student author; *corresponding author.
18. Bandres, MF[†], Gomes, J., **McPherson, JG*** (2021). Spontaneous multimodal neural transmission suggests that adult spinal networks maintain an intrinsic state of readiness to execute sensorimotor behaviors. *J Neurosci*, doi:10.1523/JNEUROSCI.0662-21.2021. [†]student author; *corresponding author.
19. Bandres MF[†], Gomes JL, **McPherson JG*** (2022). Spinal stimulation for motor rehabilitation immediately modulates nociceptive transmission. *J Neural Engineering*. doi: 10.1088/1741-2552/ac9a00 [†]student author; *corresponding author.
20. Bandres MF[†], Gomes J, Moreno-Romero GN[‡], Twyman AR[†], **McPherson JG*** (2023) Precision neuromodulation: promises and challenges of spinal stimulation for multi-modal rehabilitation. *Front. Rehabil. Sci.*, 4; DOI: 10.3389/fresc.2023.1135593. [†]student author; *corresponding author.
21. Bandres MF[†], Gomes JL, **McPherson JG*** (2024). Intraspinal microstimulation of the ventral horn has therapeutically relevant cross-modal effects on nociception. *Brain Communications*. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1101/2023.04.12.536477>. [†]student author; *corresponding author.
22. Twyman AR[†], Moreno-Romero GN[‡], Bandres MF[†], **McPherson JG*** (2024). Unintentionally intentional: unintended effects of spinal stimulation as a platform for multi-modal neurorehabilitation after spinal cord injury. *Bioelectronic Medicine*. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s42234-024-00144-7>. [†]student author; *corresponding author.
23. Twyman AR[†], Bandres MF[†], **McPherson JG*** (2024). Nonlinear firing dynamics in spinal interneurons may delineate the presence or absence of spinal cord injury-related neuropathic pain. *IEEE Xplore*, (accepted; DOI pending). [†]student author; *corresponding author.
24. Bandres MF[†], **McPherson JG*** (2024). Chronic spinal cord injury increases spontaneous intraspinal neural transmission and spike train variability. *IEEE Xplore*, (accepted; DOI pending). [†]student author; *corresponding author.
25. Moreno-Romero GN[‡], Bandres MF[†], **McPherson JG*** (2024). Sensory-targeted intraspinal microstimulation for spinal cord injury rehabilitation. *IEEE Xplore*, (accepted; DOI pending). [†]student author; *corresponding author.
26. Lucas Romero J^ζ, Bandres MF[†], **McPherson JG*** (2024). Spinal noradrenergic alpha-2 receptors mediate the antinociceptive effects of therapeutic intraspinal microstimulation. *IEEE Xplore* (accepted; DOI pending). ^ζpost-doctoral trainee author; [†]student author; *corresponding author.
27. Bandres MF[†], **McPherson JG*** (2024). Spinal cord injury-related neuropathic pain is associated with abnormal spontaneous transmission in spinal pain pathways. *J Physiol*. (conditionally accepted) [†]student author; *corresponding author.
28. **McPherson JG***, Bandres MF[†] (2024). Neural population dynamics reveal that motor-targeted intraspinal microstimulation preferentially depresses nociceptive transmission in spinal cord injury-related neuropathic pain. *Pain Reports* (conditionally accepted). [†]student author; *corresponding author.

29. Lucas Romero J[§], Bandres MF[†], **McPherson JG*** (2025). Targeted inactivation of spinal $\alpha 2$ adrenoceptors promotes paradoxical antinociception. *BioRxiv* (and in review). [§]post-doctoral trainee author; [†]student author; *corresponding author.

Book chapters

1. Dewald JPA, Ellis MD, Acosta AM, **McPherson JG**, Stienen AH, (2012). Implementation of impairment-based neurorehabilitation devices and technologies following brain injury. In: Dietz V, Nef T, Rymer Z (eds.) *Neurorehabilitation Technology*: Chapter 19: 343-358. Springer, 1st edition. DOI: 10.1007/978-1-4471-2277-7.
2. Dewald JPA, Ellis MD, Acosta AM, **McPherson JG**, Stienen AH (2016). Implementation of impairment-based neurorehabilitation devices and technologies following brain injury. In: Dietz V, Reinkensmeyer DJ (eds.) *Neurorehabilitation Technology*: Springer, 2nd edition. DOI: 10.1007/978-3-319-28603-7.
3. Lemay M, **McPherson JG*** (2019). Spinal Interfaces: An Overview. In: Jaeger D and Jung R (eds.) *Encyclopedia of Computational Neuroscience*. ISBN: 978-1-4614-6674-1. *corresponding author.
4. Moorjani S, **McPherson JG**, Perlmutter S (2019). Electrical Conditioning for Spike Timing-Dependent Plasticity of Neural Circuits. In: Jaeger D and Jung R (eds.) *Encyclopedia of Computational Neuroscience*. Springer. ISBN: 978-1-4614-6674-1.

Selected abstracts ([§]post-doctoral trainee author; [†]student author; *corresponding author.)

1. **McPherson JG**, Ellis MD, Heckman CJ, Dewald JPA (2007). Bistable motoneuron behavior as indicator of increased bulbospinal monoaminergic drive following stroke. *Society for Neuroscience Annual Meeting*. San Diego, CA.
2. **McPherson JG**, Ellis MD, Heckman CJ, Dewald JPA (2008). Enhanced tonic vibration reflexes in individuals with chronic hemiparetic stroke. *Mechanisms of Plasticity and Disease in Motoneurons*. Seattle, WA.
3. **McPherson JG**, Acosta AM, Dewald JPA (2009). Stretch reflex hyperexcitability as a function of shoulder abduction loading during the onset of ballistic reaching in individuals with chronic hemiparetic stroke. *Society for Neuroscience Annual Meeting*. Chicago, IL.
4. **McPherson JG**, Stienen AH, Dewald JPA (2010). The relationship between velocity and shoulder abduction loading in post-stroke upper limb stretch reflexes. *Society for Neuroscience Annual Meeting*. San Diego, CA.
5. Alcaro M, Lucido C, Meiksins L, Surico N, **McPherson JG**, Sukal-Moulton T, Dewald JPA (2011). Tonic vibration reflexes in children with hemiplegia. *American Physical Therapy Association Combined Sections Meeting*. New Orleans, LA.

6. **McPherson JG**, Stienen AH, Drogos JM, Dewald JPA (2011). The relationship between the flexion synergy and stretch reflexes in individuals with chronic hemiparetic stroke. *IEEE International Conference on Rehabilitation Robotics*. Zurich, Switzerland.
7. **McPherson JG**, Miller RR, Perlmutter SI (2013). Targeted, activity-dependent spinal stimulation for motor rehabilitation following spinal cord injury. *Society for Neuroscience Annual Meeting*. San Diego, CA.
8. Simonian N, **McPherson JG**, Schnitzer TJ (2014). Risk factors for fracture in individuals with spinal cord injury. *American Spinal Injury Association 2014 Annual Scientific Meeting*. San Antonio, TX.
9. Yeasted RE, **McPherson JG**, Schnitzer TJ (2014). Characterization of osteoarthritis pain variability. *Osteoarthritis Research Society International 2014 World Congress on Osteoarthritis*. Paris, France.
10. **McPherson JG**, Wasielewski M, Elliott JM (2015). Precision and reliability of diffusion-weighted MRI in healthy muscles of the lower extremity. *Society for Neuroscience Annual Meeting*. Chicago, IL.
11. Smith AC, Parrish TB, Hoggarth MA, **McPherson JG**, Tysseling VM, Wasielewski M, Kim HE, Hornby TG, Elliott JM (2016). Potential associations between chronic whiplash and incomplete spinal cord injury. *American Physical Therapy Association Combined Sections Meeting*. Anaheim, CA.
12. **McPherson JG**, Fendt N, Greenfield B, Gallardo S, LoCicero B, Ostrom J, Wayda A, Wasielewski M, Elliott JM (2016). Precision and reliability of diffusion-weighted MRI in skeletal muscle: implications for diagnosis of suspected denervation. *American Physical Therapy Association Combined Sections Meeting*. Anaheim, CA.
13. Smith AC, **McPherson JG**, Parrish TB, Wasielewski M, Elliott JM (2016). Spinal cord injury edema volume: a potential marker for correlating with walking ability. *Society of Brain Mapping and Therapeutics 13th Annual World Congress*. Miami, FL.
14. **McPherson JG*** (2017). Timing-dependent conditioning of deep dorsal horn neural circuits: methodology for closed-loop control and implications spinal cord injury-related neuropathic pain. *Society for Neuroscience Annual Meeting*. Washington, DC.
15. **McPherson JG***, Bandres M[†], Tahayori B[§] (2018). Intraspinal microstimulation for motor rehabilitation modulates neural transmission in pain pathways of the deep dorsal horn. *Society for Neuroscience Annual Meeting*. San Diego, CA.
16. **McPherson JG*** (2018). Therapeutic intraspinal microstimulation simultaneously modulates transmission in spinal motor and pain pathways. *Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine Movement and Rehabilitation Sciences Training Day*. Chicago, IL.
17. Bandres MF[†], **McPherson JG*** (2019). Therapeutic microstimulation in spinal motor regions modulates neural transmission in spinal pain pathways. *3rd Annual Miami Neural Engineering Symposium*. Miami, FL.
18. Bandres MF[†], Melero V[†], Campos L[†], **McPherson JG*** (2019). Intraspinal microstimulation in the ventral horn modulates transmission of sensory neurons in the dorsal horn. *Society for Neuroscience Annual Meeting*. Chicago, IL.

19. **McPherson JG***, Bandres MF[†], Melero V[†], Buchanan M[†] (2019). Intraspinal neural synchrony: oscillating between interpretations. *Society for Neuroscience Annual Meeting*. Chicago, IL.
20. Albin S, Smith A, Wasielewski M, **McPherson JG**, Kim H, Hoggarth M, Hornby TG, Elliott JM (2020). Incidence of reductions in leg muscle activation in severe whiplash associated disorders. *APTA Combined Sections Mtg*. Denver, CO.
21. Bandres MF[†], **McPherson JG*** (2021). Characterization of spontaneous sensorimotor neural transmission in the adult spinal cord *in vivo*. *American Society of Neurorehabilitation Annual Meeting*.
22. **McPherson JG***, Bandres MF[†] (2021). Spontaneous neural synchrony links intrinsic spinal sensory and motor networks during unconsciousness. *American Society of Neurorehabilitation Annual Meeting*.
23. Bandres MF[†], Gomes JL, **McPherson JG*** (2021). Spinal stimulation for motor rehabilitation differentially modulates nociceptive and non-nociceptive sensory transmission. *Society for Neuroscience 2021 Annual Meeting*. Held virtually due to COVID-19.
24. Bandres MF[†], Gomes JL, **McPherson JG*** (2021). Intraspinal stimulation intended to enhance motor output modulates spinal nociceptive transmission. *Biomedical Engineering Society 2021 Annual Meeting*. Orlando, FL.
25. Bandres MF[†], Gomes JL, **McPherson JG*** (2022). Intraspinal microstimulation intended for motor rehabilitation modulates spinal nociceptive neural transmission. *American Society of 2022 Neurorehabilitation Annual Meeting*. St. Louis, MO.
26. Bandres MF[†], **McPherson JG*** (2022). Ventral horn neurons contribute to sensory hyperexcitability after spinal cord injury. *Biomedical Engineering Society 2022 Annual Meeting*. San Antonio, TX.
27. Bandres MF[†], Gomes JL, **McPherson JG*** (2022). Ventral horn neural activity influences sensory hyperexcitability after spinal cord injury. *Society for Neuroscience 2022 Annual Meeting*. San Diego, CA.
28. Bandres MF[†], Gomes JL, **McPherson JG*** (2022). Ventral horn neural activity influences sensory hyperexcitability after spinal cord injury. *Spinal Cord Plasticity in Motor Control Meeting: Neuromodulation for Engaging and Enhancing Spinal Cord Plasticity*. San Diego, CA.
29. Bandres MF[†], Gomes JL, **McPherson JG***. 2023. Intraspinal microstimulation simultaneously rebalances motor and nociceptive transmission in chronic spinal cord injury. *American Society of Neurorehabilitation Annual Meeting*. Charleston, SC.
30. Bandres MF[†], Gomes JL, **McPherson JG***. 2023. Intraspinal microstimulation simultaneously rebalances motor and nociceptive transmission in chronic spinal cord injury. *Progress in Clinical Motor Control: Movement and Rehabilitation Sciences*. Chicago, IL.
31. Moreno-Romero GN[†], Bandres MF[†], **McPherson JG***. 2023. Modulation of spinal pain pathways via intraspinal microstimulation. *Progress in Clinical Motor Control: Movement and Rehabilitation Sciences*. Chicago, IL.

32. Bandres MF[†], Gomes JL, **McPherson JG***. 2023. Intraspinal microstimulation simultaneously rebalances motor and nociceptive transmission in chronic spinal cord injury. *Biomedical Engineering Society Annual Meeting*. Seattle, WA.
33. Moreno-Romero GN[†], Bandres MF[†], **McPherson JG***. 2023. Direct Modulation of Spinal Pain Pathways by Targeted Intraspinal Microstimulation. *Biomedical Engineering Society Annual Meeting*. Seattle, WA.
34. Bandres MF[†], Gomes JL, **McPherson JG***. 2023. Spinal stimulation simultaneously rebalances motor and nociceptive transmission in chronic spinal cord injury. *LatinXinBME Symposium*. Seattle, WA.
35. Bandres MF[†], Gomes JL, **McPherson JG***. 2023. Dorso-ventral characterization of spontaneous activity and multi-modal sensory transmission in the chronically injured spinal cord *in vivo*. *Society for Neuroscience Annual Meeting*. Washington, D.C.
36. Twyman AR[†], Bandres MF[†], **McPherson JG***. 2023. Intrinsic active membrane properties shape the firing dynamics of spontaneously active spinal interneurons in spinal cord injury-related neuropathic pain. *Society for Neuroscience Annual Meeting*. Washington, D.C.
37. Moreno-Romero GN[†], Bandres MF[†], **McPherson JG***. 2023. Sensory-targeted intraspinal microstimulation for spinal cord injury-related neuropathic pain. *Society for Neuroscience Annual Meeting*. Washington, D.C.
38. Bandres MF[†], Gomes JL, **McPherson JG***. 2023. Intraspinal microstimulation promotes simultaneous rebalancing of pathologic motor and nociceptive transmission in chronic spinal cord injury. *Society for Neuroscience Annual Meeting*. Washington, D.C.
39. Twyman AR[†], Bandres MF[†], **McPherson JG***. 2024. Nonlinear firing dynamics in spinal interneurons may delineate the presence or absence of spinal cord injury-related neuropathic pain. *IEEE Engineering and Medicine in Biology Conference (EMBC)*. Orlando, FL.
40. Bandres MF[†], **McPherson JG***. 2024. Chronic spinal cord injury increases spontaneous intraspinal neural transmission and spike train variability. *IEEE Engineering and Medicine in Biology Conference (EMBC)*. Orlando, FL.
41. Moreno-Romero GN[†], Bandres MF[†], **McPherson JG***. 2024. Sensory-targeted intraspinal microstimulation for spinal cord injury rehabilitation. *IEEE Engineering and Medicine in Biology Conference (EMBC)*. Orlando, FL.
42. de Lucas JR^ζ, Bandres MF[†], **McPherson JG***. 2024. Spinal noradrenergic alpha-2 receptors mediate the antinociceptive effects of therapeutic intraspinal microstimulation. *IEEE Engineering and Medicine in Biology Conference (EMBC)*. Orlando, FL.
43. Moreno-Romero GN[†], Bandres MF[†], **McPherson JG***. 2024. Features of asynchronous local field potential activity vary across structural and functional boundaries of spinal networks and are altered by spinal cord injury. *Society for Neuroscience Annual Meeting*. Chicago, IL.
44. Bandres MF[†], **McPherson JG***. 2024. Chronic spinal cord injury induces spinal hyperexcitability and constrains spinal variability during spontaneous activity. *Society for Neuroscience Annual Meeting*. Chicago, IL.

45. Twyman AR[†], Bandres MF[†], **McPherson JG***. 2024. Persistent inward currents in spinal sensory neurons associated with the presence of spinal cord injury-related neuropathic pain. *Society for Neuroscience Annual Meeting*. Chicago, IL.
46. de Lucas JR^ζ, Bandres MF[†], **McPherson JG***. 2024. Ventral intraspinal microstimulation suppresses nociceptive transmission through a noradrenergic-dependent mechanism. *Society for Neuroscience Annual Meeting*. Chicago, IL.
47. Moreno-Romero GN[†], Bandres MF[†], **McPherson JG***. 2024. Direct modulation of spinal pain pathways by targeted intraspinal microstimulation. *Biomedical Engineering Society Annual Meeting*. Baltimore, MD.
48. Twyman AR[†], Bandres MF[†], **McPherson JG***. 2024. Nonlinear firing dynamics in spinal sensory neurons after spinal cord injury and their role in neuropathic pain. *Biomedical Engineering Society Annual Meeting*. Baltimore, MD.
49. Bandres MF[†], Moreno Romero GN[†], **McPherson JG***. 2025. Paired peripheral nerve and intraspinal stimulation to promote plasticity in spinal cutaneous reflex pathways. *Society for Neuroscience Annual Meeting*. San Diego, CA.
50. Lucas Romero J^ζ, Bandres MF[†], **McPherson JG***. 2025. Paradoxical anti-nociception observed in vivo after $\alpha 2$ adrenergic receptor blockade. *Society for Neuroscience Annual Meeting*. San Diego, CA.
51. Moreno-Romero GN[†], Bandres MF[†], **McPherson JG***. 2025. Modulation of intraspinal local field potentials by sensory afferent feedback and spinal cord injury. *Society for Neuroscience Annual Meeting*. San Diego, CA.
52. Twyman AR[†], Moreno-Romero GN[†], Bandres MF[†], **McPherson JG***. Non-nociceptive cutaneous reflexes engage multi-modal spinal networks and influence nociceptive transmission. *Society for Neuroscience Annual Meeting*. San Diego, CA.