

## Enduring Interneuronopathy in the Prefrontal Cortex of Young Adult Offspring Exposed to Ethanol In Utero

**Alex Skorput, Ph.D.**

*Postdoctoral Fellow*

Department of Neuroscience  
University of New England  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

**Monday, August 17<sup>th</sup> 2015**

12:00-1:00 p.m.

Room 113

Center for Excellence in the  
Neurosciences

*Lunch will be Provided*

Hosted by: Edward Bilk, Ph.D.

Co-hosted by: Catherine E. Schuman, Ph.D.



**Dr. Alex Skorput** graduated from UNE in 2004 with a BS in medical biology, and recently received a PhD in experimental and molecular medicine from Dartmouth College. He will share his work examining the role of abnormal GABAergic interneuron migration in the developmental etiology, and enduring consequences, of in utero ethanol exposure on the cerebral cortex.

Cortical processing depends upon a balance of synaptic inhibition and excitation within the intracortical circuit. While comprising

only 20% of the total neuronal population, GABAergic interneurons

are critical for normal cortical development. However, the mechanisms by which this occurs are poorly understood. In this seminar Dr. Skorput will present anatomical, electrophysiological, and behavioral data suggesting a role for interneuronopathy in the etiology of FASD, and describe mechanistic studies aimed at elucidating therapeutic avenues for its attenuation.