NLM Training Program in Biomedical Informatics and Data Science

Current Trainees – as of November 1, 2025

Predoctoral Trainees (PhD students)

Trainee	Mentors	Project Title	Training Period
Lindsay Altidor, BCM (Baylor College of Medicine)	Miriana Maletic-Savatic, BCM; Jay Hennig, BCM	Decoding Neural Network Dynamics in Brain Organoids: Intelligence-on-a-dish for Precision Medicine and High-Throughput Drug Development	06/30/25 - 06/29/26
Isha Chakraborty, Rice University (Rice)	Ashutosh Sabharwal, Rice; Sameer Sheth, BCM; Nicole Provenza, BCM	Automated Visual Assessments in Healthcare: Using Explainable Computer Vision to Disentangle Motion Behavior Representations for Improving Clinical Outcomes	01/01/25 - 12/31/26
Ana Guadalupe Chavez, BCM	Benjamin Hayden, BCM; Krešo Josic, University of Houston	Neural Mechanisms of Language: Bridging Speech Encoding and Decoding for Restorative Communication	05/01/25 - 04/30/26
Matthew Cheung, Rice	Ashok Veeraraghavan, Rice; Guha Balakrishnan, Rice; Laurence Court, MDA (UT MD Anderson Cancer Center)	Effectively Communicating Uncertainties in Medical Image Reconstruction	06/16/23 - 06/15/26
Ryan Doughty, Rice	Todd Treangen, Rice; Michael Tisza, BCM	Understanding Population Level intra-host Viral Diversity and Evolution Via Petabase-scale DNA Sequence Analyses	12/01/24 - 11/30/26
Rongbin "Leon" Li, UTHealth (UT Health Science Center at Houston)	Wenjin Jim Zheng, UTH; Xiaoqian Jiang, UTH	Large Language Model in Drug Combination Prediction	06/30/23 - 06/02/25; 08/23/25 - 08/22/26
Justin Nguyen, UT Medical Branch at Galveston (UTMB)	George Golovko, UTMB; Slobodan Paessler, UTMB	Unraveling Natural and Vaccine-Elicited Immunity to Lassa Fever (UNVEIL)	01/01/25 - 12/31/26
Lokesha (Kesha) Pugalenthi, Rice	Tatiana Schnur, UTH Guha Balakrishnan, Rice	Multimodal Machine Learning Classification of Language Impairment in Acute Stroke	01/11/26 - 01/10/27
Jared Slone, Rice	Lydia Kavraki, Rice; Alexandre Reuben, MDA	TCR-pMHC Binding Affinity Prediction with Applications to Personalized Immunotherapy	05/01/23 - 04/30/26
Christina van Hal, UTHealth	Todd Johnson, UTH; Elmer Bernstam, UTH	Robust Assessment of Health Care Data Quality for Estimating Causal Effects	01/01/24 - 12/31/26

Ethan Woods, Rice	Meng Li, Rice; Gabriel Loor, BCM	Integer Regression for Medical Risk Scoring	06/01/25 - 05/31/26

Postdoctoral Trainees

Trainee	Mentors	Project Title	Training Period
Amanda Alexander, UH (University of Houston)	Krešimir Josić, UH; Matthew Bennett, Rice (Rice University)	Mathematical Approaches to Understanding the Dynamics and Organization of Synthetic Multicellular Systems	05/01/24 - 04/30/26
Tyler Lovelace, UTHealth (UT Health Science Center at Houston)	Zhongming Zhao, UTH Vicky Yao, Rice	Mapping Cellular and Tissue Dysregulation in Alzheimer's Disease with Self-Supervised Causal Modeling of Single-Cell Multi-Omic and Spatial Data	01/01/26 - 12/31/26
Austin Marshall, HMRI (Houston Methodist Research Institute)	Sonia Villapol, HMRI; Todd Treangen, Rice	Design and Implementation of Software for Use with Nanopore Amplicon Sequencing to Observe Alterations to the Gut Microbiome in Alzheimer's Disease Research	06/01/24 - 05/31/26
Saleh Ramezani, MDA (UT MD Anderson Cancer Center)	C. Dave Fuller, MDA Cristian Coarfa, BCM (Baylor College of Medicine)	Development of a Probabilistic Deep Learning Model for Regional Lymph Node Assessment in Invasive Breast Cancer Using Multi-Modal Imaging	01/01/25 - 12/31/26
Meigen Yu, MDA	Xiaodong Cheng, MDA; Cristian Coarfa, BCM	Exploring Pseudogene and lncRNA Interactions in Gene Regulation: Implications for Sickle Cell Amenia and Cancer Therapy	05/01/24 - 04/30/26

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