

Page 1

**Q1 Faculty Information:**

Last name:	<b>Pirrone</b>
First name:	<b>Vanessa</b>
Faculty Position:	<b>Assistant Professor</b>
Department:	<b>Microbiology and Immunology</b>
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**Q2 Type of Research?**

**Translational Research,**  
Other (please  
specify):  
I work on a combination of Basic Science, Clinical, and  
Translational Research.

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**Q3 Please describe your research interests:**

HIV, neurocognitive impairment, substance abuse, depression, cancer

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## Medical Student Research Opportunities

**Q4** Please provide a brief description of research opportunity/project(s):

1) Title of project(s):	<b>Dysregulation of the Wnt signaling pathway in the development of colorectal cancer in HIV-infected patients</b>
Brief Description:	<b>Looking at the dysregulation of the Wnt signaling pathway with respect to the HIV-1 protein Nef in conjunction with colorectal cancer.</b>
Duration:	<b>Summer, but can be flexible</b>
Time commitment:	<b>Long enough for completion of experimentation. Can be flexible, for discussion</b>
Specific Requirements:	<b>Committment (duration as well as daily time) must be long enough to complete appropriate experimentation.</b>
Funded or unfunded (yes or no):	<b>Yes</b>
2) Title of project(s):	<b>Exploring the effects of depression on HAND</b>
Brief Description:	<b>Looking at linkages with respect to immune mediators and depression on the development of HIV-1-associated neurocognitive disorders in HIV-1 infected patients.</b>
Duration:	<b>Summer, but can be flexible</b>
Time commitment:	<b>Long enough for completion of experimentation. Can be flexible, for discussion</b>
Specific Requirements:	<b>Committment (duration as well as daily time) must be long enough to complete appropriate experimentation.</b>
Funded or unfunded (yes or no);	<b>Yes</b>

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**Q5** Please indicate the specific level of experience required, if applicable:

**Open to all medical students**

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