

SUMMER 2022

BLACK IN ANATOMY

NEWSLETTER



UPDATES

In this summer edition of the newsletter, we are excited to share a recap of Black in Anatomy at the Experimental Biology conference and several other exciting updates, including a new seasonal segment on decolonizing the body!

NEW SEGMENT ANNOUNCEMENT


In this newsletter we are introducing our new segment called "Decolonizing the Body," created to highlight the history behind the naming of certain anatomical structures and share more inclusive and anatomically correct alternatives.

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

[POST DOCTORAL POSITION](#) in craniofacial development, disease, and evolution at the [Pennsylvania State University](#). Please direct questions to Dr. Joan Richtsmeier (jta10@psu.edu).

RECENT SOCIAL MEDIA POSTS

**March Medical Illustrators
Diversity in SciArt**




Beginning in March, we are highlighting **medical illustrators** who have contributed to the **diversification** of medical images with **integrity** and **originality**.

Stock image from pixabay.com

Check out **#BlackinAnatSciArt** or the **BlackinAnat website** to learn more about **these artists** and their **portfolios!**

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**MEDICAL ILLUSTRATOR HIGHLIGHT
Naomi Robson**



Black in Anatomy relies heavily on **medical illustration** in support of our mission.

We would like to honor our very own **creative director**, whose art is the public face of **#BlackinAnat!**

@robson_visuals
www.robsonvisuals.com

@blackinanatomy

**MEDICAL ILLUSTRATOR HIGHLIGHT
Kuukua Wilson**



Kuukua Wilson is a **medical illustrator** with a Bachelor of Fine Arts: Painting and Drawing, and a Master's of Scientific Illustration.

kuukua.wilson.com


Check out the rest of this post to see **Kuukua's work** and learn about what **inclusivity** in the **medical illustration field** means to her.

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Pan-African Colors

The Universal Negro Improvement Association and African Communities League (UNIA-ACL) was founded by **Marcus Garvey** and the red, black, and green flag was adopted in 1920.

Q. What are the National Colors of the Negro Race as selected by the Convention?
A. Red, black and green.
Q. What do these Colors represent?
A. Red is the color of the blood which men must shed for their redemption and liberty; black is the color of the noble and distinguished face to which we belong; green is the color of the luxuriant vegetation of our Motherland.



McGuire, George (1921). Universal Negro catechism: a course of instruction in religious and historical knowledge pertaining to

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**BLACK IN ANATOMY
Pan-African Colors**

Many flags use yellow or gold as a symbol for mineral wealth, independence, or sunshine. The Black in Anatomy logo colors honor the Pan-African colors, and our gold symbolizes hope, justice, and equality.

Blood shared and shed

Black people and our strength

Natural resources and growth

Hope, justice, and equality



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COMMUNITY UPDATES

ZANA SIMS, PHD CANDIDATE



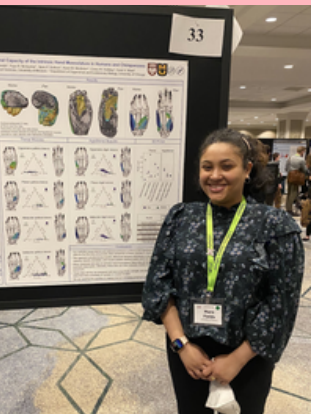
Zana, a PhD candidate in Functional Anatomy and Evolution at Johns Hopkins University, has been awarded a dissertation grant from the Leakey Foundation for her project "Examining phylogenetic and dietary signals using cervical root cross sections in extant catarrhines." Her project will explore the tooth roots of apes and monkeys to understand how root shape changes depending on the type of diet the animal consumes. This work will be applied to fossil primates to help us learn more about the diets of early East African apes like Ekembo.

Zana and her co-author, Catherine Llera Martin also won the AAA-AABA Anatomy in Anthropology prize for their presentation "Using weighted spherical harmonics to detect functional locomotor signals at the distal femoral articulation!"



MELISSA CARROLL, PHD

Dr. Melissa Carroll, founder of Black in Anatomy and associate professor at the George Washington University (GW) School of Medicine and Health Sciences was awarded the inaugural GW Out for Health Lavender Award, which celebrates faculty members who go above and beyond to be LGBTQ+ inclusive in their curricula.



MARA FIELDS, PHD STUDENT

Mara was awarded a National Science Foundation (NSF) Graduate Research Fellowship to support her graduate education at the University of Missouri. Mara's research utilizes microCT imaging to understand the biomechanics of pedal (foot) grasping in primates. Having a better understanding of primate foot anatomy and its relation to locomotor specialization can help us answer questions about the beginnings of bipedalism in human ancestors.

RESEARCH FEATURE



FASEB JOURNAL
The Journal of the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology

Anatomy | Free Access

The curious case of ligamentum arteriosum: It is more than a ligament

Benedicta Quaye, Wolfgang Kummer

First published: 16 April 2020 | <https://doi.org/10.1096/fasebj.2020.34.s1.02270>

BENEDICTA QUAYE MENSAH, PHD

Dr. Benedicta Quaye Mensah's abstract titled "The curious case of ligamentum arteriosum: It is more than a ligament" was published in the FASEB Journal.

This study described the morphology, innervation, and neurochemistry of the ligamentum arteriosum, a structure within the cardiopulmonary system generally considered a remnant of the embryonic bypass (ductus arteriosus), which obliterates soon after childbirth. The findings from this research could be considered in prognosis for patient survival in pulmonary hypertension.

DECOLONIZING THE BODY

WITH DR. ERIN-MARIE



Dr. Erin Marie Williams-Hatala is a human evolutionary biologist that researches the evolution of the primate upper limb. She teaches anatomy and biology courses at Chatham University in Pittsburgh, PA, where she lives with her husband and two dogs.

The idea for "Decolonizing the Body" originated when Dr. WH (as she is known to her students) realized that many reproductive organs and processes are named after the person that first described them in Western texts, who is generally a (long dead) White man.

"Decolonizing the Body" is an effort by Black in Anatomy to educate students and anatomists about the history of anatomical structures, and to encourage educators to use anatomical names instead of eponyms.

THE GREATER VESTIBULAR GLANDS

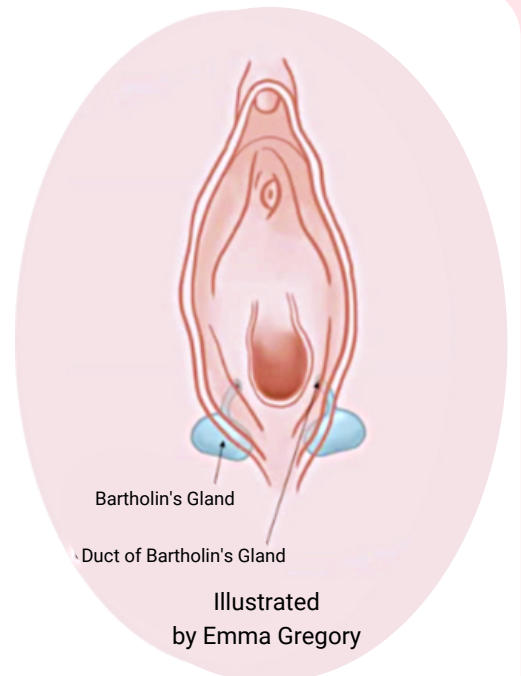
ANATOMY

The greater vestibular glands are a pair of pea-sized glands located posterior to the vestibular bulbs in the superficial perineal pouch. Each open via a 2 cm duct on either side of the vaginal opening to produce secretions during sexual arousal.

ORIGIN OF THE EPONYM

Caspar Bartholin (1655–1738) published the first description of the glands in *De ovariis mulierum et generationis historia epistola anatomica*, 1678.

Bartholin was a Professor of Medicine, Anatomy and Physics at the University of Copenhagen, Denmark.



WHY USE THE TERM GREATER VESTIBULAR GLAND?

The greater vestibular glands are the larger of the paired glands opening into the vestibule. Their smaller counterparts are called the lesser vestibular glands. It makes sense to use a name that:

- 1) denotes their larger size
- 2) nods to the smaller glands in the same region
- 3) points to their location in the body and
- 4) is consistent with the Terminologica Anatomica, the international standard for anatomy terms.

Using eponyms can create confusion: in this instance, there is a separate structure also commonly called the “Bartholin’s duct” that is located in the mouth. As a result, the use of the anatomical term (greater vestibular gland) will help students, doctors, and patients make meaningful connections between the structure and its location/function and will help reduce confusion.



JOIN US IN DECOLONIZING THE BODY!

Stay tuned for our ongoing "Decolonizing the Body" segment in our upcoming newsletters and on our social media, where we will want to hear from you about the anatomical structures whose eponyms are still widely used.

EB CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

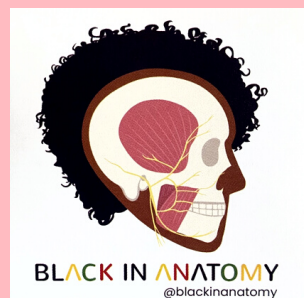
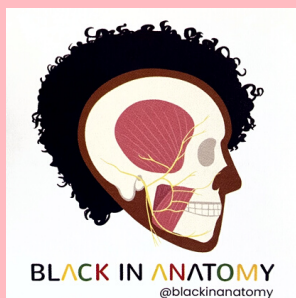
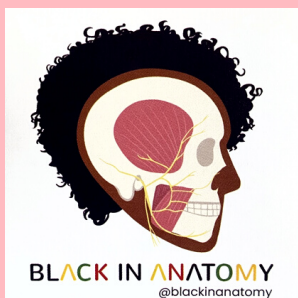
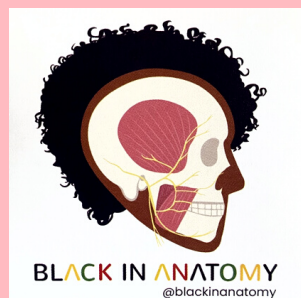


In April, the Black in Anatomy team joined many other incredible researchers and educators in attending the annual Experimental Biology Conference hosted by the American Association for Anatomy in Philadelphia, PA!

FRIDAY APRIL 1ST



A small social to start off the conference weekend!



We also launched our Black in Anatomy stickers!

SATURDAY APRIL 2ND



The first day of the conference started with a Pelvic Anatomy Master Class and a Round-table discussion on Inclusive Language (pictured to the left), featuring Black in Anatomy's founder, Dr. Melissa Carroll.



Later that afternoon, we attended a session on the evolution of the American Association for Anatomy, with presentations on Dr. Montague Cobb and the role of professional societies in advancing diversity, equity and inclusion.

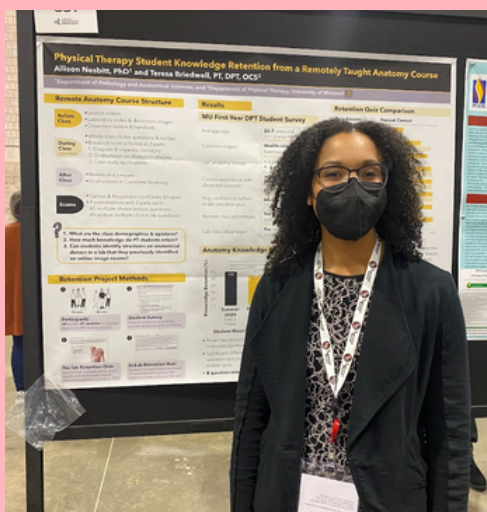
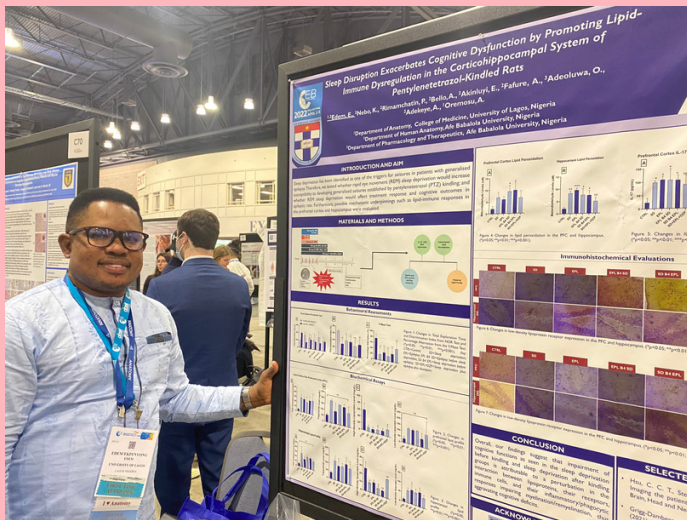


Pictured here are two of the Black in Anatomy Directors and two of our collaborators! From left to right: Drs. Loydie Jerome-Majewska, Melissa Carroll, Michael Blakey, Allison Nesbitt.

SUNDAY APRIL 3RD



On the second day of the conference we learned about decolonizing the anatomy curriculum in a session featuring Black in Anatomy's founding member, Dr. Sean McWatt.



Shortly after we visited some poster presentations with Dr. Smart Mbagwu, Edem E. Edem, Dr. Allison Nesbitt, and Dr. Sarah Amugongo Brown before the reception.

MONDAY (APRIL) 4TH- TUESDAY 5TH



Finally, there were many other incredible presentations that rounded off the EB 2022 conference, pictured here is a presentation on intrinsic hand muscles by Mara Fields.

WANT TO BE FEATURED?

Please submit your nominations for our next newsletter by October 20th via our website or using the QR code below!

IMPORTANT DATES

JULY 10

Anatomy Scholars Program (ASP) Application Deadline

The Application is now open for the 2023-2024 ASP scholar program from the American Association for Anatomy (AAA). This program is a professional development, mentoring and networking program to support early career underrepresented minorities in STEM academic positions in the US and Canada. You do not need to be an AAA member to apply.

WEEK OF OCTOBER 10TH

Black in Anatomy Week

Save the date for the second annual Black in Anatomy week!



WANT TO VOLUNTEER? KNOW SOMEONE TO NOMINATE?

There's a form for that!