

GENETICS & GENOMICS ACADEMY (GGA) 2nd ANNUAL RETREAT

The GGA invites ALL trainees to submit abstracts for poster presentations of their G&G research at the GGA Retreat on Friday, Aug 25th, 2023.

We encourage undergraduate students, graduate students, postdocs, staff and visiting students to present their work.

Posters should be on display the entire day of the retreat (more details on the retreat schedule are [here](#).)

There will be cash prizes!

INSTRUCTIONS for ABSTRACT FORMAT and SUBMISSION

Please use Microsoft Word or Google Docs to generate your abstract

Font: Calibri, 12 pt, single spaced text

Name and affiliation: Please list

1. your name (in **bold** text),
2. whether you are a “PhD Student”, “MS Student”, “Postdoctoral Scholar”, “Undergraduate Student”, “Visiting Student”, “Staff”, or other (please define your “Staff” or “other” position) and
3. your PI’s last name.

If you are a graduate student, please list your PhD program. All others should list your home department. Then list the college to which your lab is affiliated.

Title: Should be in italics and “sentence case” (Capitalize the first word and all proper nouns, not all-caps)

Abstract: Word limit is 250

File name: Please save your abstract file with the name “GGA_retreat_2022_LastName” where you replace “LastName” with your last name.

Submit: Once your abstract is in the correct format, please email the Word file or Google Doc link to Rebecca Stojancic (rsstojan@ncsu.edu)

Deadline: All abstracts MUST be submitted by **Aug 1, 2023**

EXAMPLE ABSTRACT

Anakin Skywalker, PhD Student in Obi-Wan Kenobi Lab, Genetics Program, CVM

A brief history of midi-chlorians

Midi-chlorians were intelligent microscopic life-forms that lived symbiotically inside the cells of all living things. When present in sufficient numbers, they could allow their host to detect the pervasive energy field known as the Force. Midi-chlorian counts were linked to potential in the Force, ranging from normal Human levels of 2,500 per cell to the much higher levels of Jedi. The highest known midi-chlorian count—over 20,000 per cell—belonged to the Jedi Anakin Skywalker, who was believed to have been conceived by the midi-chlorians. Midi-chlorian counts were measured through a blood test; the Jedi used this method to locate Force-sensitive children before their Order was purged by the Galactic Empire. With the rise of the Empire, research into Jedi and the Force was banned, and though midi-chlorians continued to be tested for, sometimes by the Empire itself to root out hidden Jedi and other Force-sensitives, knowledge of them was diminished and inquiries into them were branded as illegal medical research. Midi-chlorians were only rediscovered after the New Jedi Order was founded. When not forbidden, studies of midi-chlorians occurred among both those who could master the Force and those who could not. While medical teams worked to understand the relationship between midi-chlorians and the Force, Jedi healers performed their own studies of the organisms. Even more esoteric studies were conducted by the Dark Lord of the Sith Darth Plagueis, who discovered a way to manipulate the midi-chlorians to create new life.¹

¹ <https://starwars.fandom.com/wiki/Midi-chlorian/Legends>