

It is our pleasure to present the fourteenth volume of *Pioneering Neuroscience: The Grinnell Journal of Neurophysiology*. The articles collected in this volume represent original contributions to the field of neuroscience offered by students of Biology 150: Introduction to Biological Inquiry - the Language of Neurons. For the first time this year, there were two sections of this course offered, and thus this volume has more articles than ever before. As has been true for the twelve previous classes of Bio 150, most of these students were in their first semester in college. For all of the students, this was their first college-level biology course!

The articles in this volume explore several themes in neural communication: the effect of inhibiting nitric oxide synthase, serotonin and octopamine's roles in synaptic plasticity, the involvement of various glutamate receptors in the production of EPSPs, and molecular mechanisms regulating neurotransmitter release. As usual, all of this was done using the wonderful model system of the crayfish neuromuscular junction. We hope you enjoy this volume and trust you will be as impressed as we are with what these students have accomplished in such a short time.

We wish to thank the students of Biology 150 for their hard work and collegiality. None of this would have been possible without the major contributions of Sue Kolbe and Jason Parks, lab instructors, the excellent work of mentors/lab assistants Allie Byrnes '15 and Joy Becker '15, and writing mentor Talora Martin '15.

The cover picture was downloaded from <http://imgur.com/xcXLbWW>.

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