

2026 MU VRSP mentor profile form

Mentor	Carie R. Boychuk
Departmental bio web page.	https://cvm.missouri.edu/pathobiology-and-integrative-biomedical-sciences/faculty/carie-boychuk-phd/
Other relevant web pages, as applicable. E.g., lab group/personal web page, Google Scholar/ORCiD profiles, others	https://boychuklab.com/
Research interests.	Autonomic neuroscience
Active projects.	Vagal motor neuron circuit output in high fat diet Stress circuits hyperactivity in sudden death in epilepsy
Research team. E.g., graduate students, post docs, technicians, other scholars	2 postdoc, 1 grad student, 1 undergrad and a tech
About you... Education/training Personal information, as interested—e.g., hobbies, etc.	BS: University of Florida Ph.D.: University of Florida 1st postdoc: George Washington University 2nd postdoc: University of Lexington
Mentor Profile	
I am available to mentor students in career and life decisions, even if they do not choose research.	
Very Untrue 1 --- 2 --- 3 --- 4 --- 5 Very True	
My students are/can be involved in the creation/development of their projects.	
Very Untrue 1 --- 2 --- 3 --- 4 --- 5 Very True	
I expect students to contribute to manuscripts/publications.	
Very Untrue 1 --- 2 --- 3 --- 4 --- 5 Very True	
Students have the option to continue to work on this project.	
Very Untrue 1 --- 2 --- 3 --- 4 --- 5 Very True	
My students often work closely with a research team, e.g., lab tech or other students.	
Very Untrue 1 --- 2 --- 3 --- 4 --- 5 Very True	
I frequently touch base with my research team—e.g., students, technicians, etc.	
Very Untrue 1 --- 2 --- 3 --- 4 --- 5 Very True	
My mentoring style is very hands off.	
Very Untrue 1 --- 2 --- 3 --- 4 --- 5 Very True	
Current/active project profile & timeline, including clinical vs. basic science.	All basic science

Lab structure, if applicable.	
What does a typical day of research look like for VRSP scholars?	Reading, writing and working hands on in the lab
What does engagement look like for your lab/project?	Working hands on in the lab

Example

Mentor	Tamara Hancock
Departmental bio web page.	http://vpbio.missouri.edu/faculty/Hancock_Tamara.html
Other relevant web pages, as applicable. E.g., lab group/personal web page, Google Scholar/ORCiD profiles, others	https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=OAJec6UAAA&hl=en (Google Scholar)
Research interests.	Professional socialization and identity development; well-being, mental health, & inclusion; qualitative methods
Active projects.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Utilization focused evaluation of VRSP & development of programmatic scaffolds for mentorship. Investigation of mental health prevalence, experiences, and affects in a sample of veterinarians from North America.
Research team. E.g., graduate students, post docs, technicians, other scholars	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Currently collaborating with Caity Nelson (DVM candidate). I am collaborating with Dr. Kerry Karaffa on these data sets. Please note he is unable to ethically collaborate directly on projects with student involvement given his role in the CVM.
About you... Education/training Personal information, as interested—e.g., hobbies, etc.	<p>DVM, Iowa State University (2011) MS, Veterinary Pathobiology, University of Missouri (2014) Diplomate ACVP (clinical) (2014) PhD, Learning, Teaching, & Curriculum, University of Missouri (2018)</p> <p>I am married and my husband and I have one child—a 6 year old who is in kindergarten here in Columbia.</p> <p>I have one 11 year old rat terrier mix and one 1 year old cat.</p> <p>I am a pretty active person—I love to run and just be moving outside. I love to read and cook/bake—I bake mostly breads but do occasionally venture into sweet treats. I like puzzles, play Pokemon GO and LEGO with my kid a lot.</p>

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Current/active project profile & timeline, including clinical vs. basic science.

My projects are all social science research. Currently working on an ongoing evaluation and improvement project with VRSP. Some elements are ongoing and some may be emergent. If interested project elements could be developed with scholar collaboration should these tasks arise.

The veterinarian data set is in an early cursory analysis stage. The scholar could be involved with coding and interpretation of data.

Lab structure, if applicable.

N/A

What does a typical day of research look like for VRSP scholars?

Reading, thinking, writing, and digesting. May interview people or develop interview protocols. May transcribe or analyze data. May produce data visualizations or other public/VRSP facing materials.

What does engagement look like for your lab/project?

Contributing to the work—whatever that looks like for the scholar. I love to hear scholar ideas and perspectives and have them be a part of the research—a true collaboration. That said, it's most important for me to meet scholars where they are and help them find a space that is “engaged” for them.