

DEPARTMENT OF NEUROLOGICAL SCIENCES

**MOVEMENT**

**DISORDERS**

**FELLOWSHIP**

**PROGRAM**

# MOVEMENT DISORDERS FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

## INFORMATION

The Movement Disorders Fellowship at the University of Nebraska Medical Center (UNMC) provides comprehensive training in all aspects of the subspecialty, including learning phenomenology, clinical care, chemodenervation, deep brain stimulation programming, brain mapping/targeting for deep brain stimulation (DBS) procedures, DUOPA, and intrathecal baclofen pump use. Every year, we welcome one fellow per track into our program to prepare them for independent practice in the subspecialty.

### Fellowship Tracks

Our fellowship duration ranges from one to three years depending on the research component.

There are two tracks:

1. Clinical Track Fellowship in Movement Disorders — One year duration. This is geared toward developing clinical skills in movement disorders beyond those achieved during residency. Most of the research activities are replaced by active clinical training.
2. Academic Track Fellowship in Movement Disorders — Two to three years duration. This is geared toward developing clinical, research, and teaching skills in movement disorders. Fellows in this track will not only obtain comprehensive training in all aspects of clinical movement disorders, but they will also develop skills in research and education necessary for their success in an academic environment. The duration of two versus three years will depend upon the research component and career goals of the application. Consideration for inclusion within the faculty at the level of instructor will be given for the third year of training.

### What the UNMC Fellowship Offers

- Free nights and weekends, with no call
- A collegial team, nurturing environment, and faculty dedicated to your success
- A structured curriculum with three hours per week of lectures and practical sessions
- State-of-the-art comprehensive multidisciplinary Parkinson's disease center
- Comprehensive Movement Disorders clinic
- Dedicated dystonia, spasticity and chemodenervation clinic
- Huntington Disease Society of America Center of Excellence
- Busy deep brain stimulation program using all approved targets (VIM, STN, and GPi)
- Exposure to intrathecal Baclofen pump candidacy process and programming basics
- A very active magneto-encephalography (MEG) research team
- Faculty are members of the Parkinson's Study Group (PSG) and Huntington's Study Group (HSG) and involved in their clinical trials
- Worldwide leaders in Movement Disorders research
- Multiple research and publishing opportunities
- An extremely supportive administrative, clinical and research staff

### Teaching Team

The team is comprised of five Movement Disorders sub-specialists (Drs. Hellman, Seier, Smith, Situ and Woodward) a Cognitive, Geriatric and Neuro-degenerative disorders sub-specialist (Dr. Murman), two DBS-trained neurosurgeons (Drs. Abosch and Josue Avecillas-Chasin). Our team also includes multiple registered nurses/case managers medical assistants, neuropsychologists, research coordinators and a host of physical therapy and occupational therapy associates

### Facilities and Patients

The multidisciplinary UNMC Movement Disorders Center is dedicated to providing comprehensive care for all patients with movement disorders. As the only specialized movement disorders program in the state of Nebraska and the largest program in a five-state area, our state-of-the-art clinic welcomes patients not only from across the state and the region, but also from across the country and abroad.

### Structured Curriculum

The Movement Disorders curriculum includes three hours of conferences each week, including formal lectures, journal club, video rounds, research meetings, case conferences, challenging DBS programming discussions, demonstration sessions, cadaver-based Chemodenervation anatomy workshops and hands-on simulation workshops. Fellows also have many opportunities for teaching others, if interested. This is a team teaching experience. Didactics are not only attended by fellows, but also by the Movement Disorders faculty, nurses, and case managers, as well as interested faculty and trainees from related disciplines

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## NEUROLOGY FACULTY

### Amy Hellman, MD



Dr. Hellman is an associate professor in the UNMC Department of Neurological Sciences and she also serves as director of the UNMC Huntington's Disease Center of Excellence and program director of the

UNMC Neurology Residency Program. Her interests include Parkinson's disease, chorea, and dystonia. Dr. Hellman evaluates patients with movement disorders including Parkinson's disease, chorea, dystonia, spasticity, gait abnormalities and ataxia. She also performs botulinum toxin injections and deep brain stimulation. Her research interests include Parkinson's disease and Huntington's disease.

### Daniel Murman, MD



Dr. Murman is a professor at UNMC and director of the Memory Disorders & Behavioral Neurology Program. His interests include behavioral, cognitive and geriatric neurology. His research interests include the

treatment of neurologic conditions in the aging population and research focused on Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease, and related neurodegenerative disorders.

### Mara Seier, MD



Dr. Mara Seier is an assistant professor in the UNMC Department of Neurological Sciences. She is the Director of the PD-Plus and the PD Comprehensive Clinics. Her interests include Parkinson's disease, botulinum toxin injections, and deep brain stimulation.

### Miguel Situ, MD



Dr. Miguel Situ is an assistant professor and associate program director of the Movement Disorders Fellowship Program. His interests include management of Parkinson's disease, botulinum toxin injections for dystonia, and

medical education in neurology. In 2021, Dr. Situ received the Fellowship Teaching Award.

### Erin Cameron-Smith, MD



Dr. Erin Smith is an assistant professor in the UNMC Department of Neurological Sciences, and program director of the Movement Disorders Fellowship Program. She is specialized in Parkinson's disease, botulinum toxin

injections and deep brain stimulation. Dr. Smith coordinates the PD Comprehensive Clinic. She is also involved in medical student and trainee education.

### Sarah Doss, MD



Dr. Sarah Doss is joining the UNMC Department of Neurological Sciences as an assistant professor. Her interests include management of cerebellar ataxia, tremor diseases and Parkinson's disease including deep brain

stimulation. She is the Director of the Ataxia Comprehensive Multi-Disciplinary Clinic.

### Kiel Woodward, MD



Dr. Kiel Woodward joined the Department of Neurological Sciences in July as an assistant professor. His interests include Parkinson's disease, tremors, balance problems, dystonia, tardive dyskinesias, restless legs

syndrome, tics and any other abnormal movements. He is particularly interested in gait disorders and plan to develop a clinic specifically for people with this problem.

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## NEUROSURGERY FACULTY

### Aviva Abosch, MD, PhD



Dr. Abosch is professor and chair of neurosurgery and holds the Nancy A. Keegan and Donald R. Volte, Jr. Chair of Neurosurgery at UNMC. Her clinical interests include functional and stereotactic surgery, and deep brain stimulation

for the treatment of movement disorders — including Parkinson's disease, essential tremor, dystonia, and novel indications. Her research interests include neuromodulation to improve existing therapies and discover new treatments for the movement disorders. She is a past president of the American Society for Stereotactic and Functional Neurosurgery (ASSFN).

### Josue Avecillas-Chasin, MD, PhD



Dr. Avecillas is an assistant professor in the UNMC Department of Neurosurgery. His clinical interests include neuromodulation for chronic pain, movement disorders, and psychiatric disorders. His research

interests include white matter and basal ganglia functional anatomy, tractography, and novel therapies for pain management. Currently, his research is mostly centered in the integration of brain mapping techniques into the clinical practice for personalizing neuromodulation therapies for patients with chronic pain, epilepsy, movement disorders, and psychiatric disorders. He received the stereotactic and functional young neurosurgeon clinical award by the Congress of Neurological Surgeons (CNS) in 2021 and the young neurosurgeon award by the World Federation of Neurosurgical Societies (WFNS) in 2016 for his work on personalized neuromodulation therapies.

## THE CITY OF OMAHA



Omaha is consistently ranked one of the three best cities to live in the U.S. Our cost of living is well below the national average, and our residents enjoy affordable housing, great public schools, a thriving economy, short commutes, and a low crime rate.

Omaha is also a fun place to live. We have a four-season climate, a thriving indie music scene, great restaurants, and enough cultural, sports, outdoors, and arts and entertainment activities to suit almost any tastes. Omaha is the home of the NCAA College World Series, the world-class Henry Doorly Zoo, the Omaha Performing Arts Holland Center, the Lauritzen Gardens Botanical Center, and numerous parks, trails, museums and theaters.

## TO APPLY

Applications are accepted through the Movement Disorder Fellowship Match Network, which is administered by the San Francisco Match. Candidates should register at [www.SFMatch.org](http://www.SFMatch.org).

Please note that sites participating in the Movement Disorders Fellowship Match Network are not allowed to offer a position outside the match unless a fellowship position is left unfilled after the match.

Dr. Smith is happy to answer questions about the program, and can be reached at [erin.cameronsmith@unmc.edu](mailto:erin.cameronsmith@unmc.edu).

*UNMC is an equal opportunity employer. Individuals from diverse backgrounds are encouraged to apply.*