



## Nature, nurture and synaptic adhesion in between

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### SEMINAR & VISITING SPEAKER SERIES WORLD WIDE NEURO PLATFORM

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DATE

Monday, January 25, 2021  
12:00 PM (noon) CST

WORLD WIDE NEURO LINK

<https://www.crowdcast.io/e/mnn-seminar-series-2>

MEETING ID & PASSCODE

None required

SPEAKER

**Adema Ribic, Ph.D.**

Assistant Professor, Department of Psychology,  
University of Virginia

BIO

Born and raised in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Dr. Adema Ribic spent half of her childhood in safety shelters, and as a refugee of war in different places (and continents!). She completed her undergraduate degree in Biology at the University of Sarajevo, and specialized in Forensic Genetics at INGEB Sarajevo. She joined Max Planck Graduate Program in Molecular Biology in Germany soon after graduating, and studied neuronal expression of immune molecules in the primate brain. She later moved to USA for postdoc to study synaptic adhesion in mouse visual system. Dr. Ribic joined UVA in 2020 and her current (non-virtual) research is trying to understand how our experiences shape brain connectivity.

RESEARCH

Exposure to proper environment during early development is essential for brain maturation. Impaired sensory input or abnormal experiences can have long-term negative consequences on brain health. We seek to define the precise synaptic aberrations caused by abnormal visual experiences early in life, and how these can be remedied through viral, genetic and environmental approaches. Resulting knowledge will contribute to the development of new approaches to mitigate nervous system damage caused by abnormal early life experience.

OBJECTIVES

1. Identifying Mechanisms of Activity-Dependent Circuit Remodeling
2. Determining the Effects of Abnormal Experience on Brain Development
3. Contribute to Equity, Diversity and Inclusion in STEM

For more information:

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