

Impact Factor Podcast Live: Dumb It Up!



Join Drexel's Graduate College for a special live recording of the Impact Factor podcast hosted by Drexel alumna, Katie Van Aken, PhD '17!



Thursday, November 17

6:00 - 7:00 PM ET

Papadakis Integrated Science Building (PISB)
Room 104, First Floor

Have you ever tried to explain your PhD research to your grandparents? Have you ever had to convince a person or entity to fund your very specific research? Getting your PhD involves often presenting and sharing your work to other experts in your field. But the bigger challenge is learning how to explain a technical research topic to someone who hasn't studied it for years. Let's talk about how grad school can and should prepare students to communicate technical topics to a general audience.

Scan the QR code to register for the event. Guests are invited to stay for the afterparty to meet and greet with Katie and the panelists!



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About the Host - Katie Van Aken, PhD'17



After graduating from Haverford College with an undergraduate degree in Physics, Katie joined the Materials Science and Engineering department as a PhD student in Dr. Yury Gogotsi's lab. She researched electrolytes and carbon materials for energy storage and graduated in 2017. Katie went on to do a post-doc in the Electrical Engineering department at Drexel and then left to pursue a career in industry. She is currently in a project manager role at Syncro Medical, working on software development projects for medical device companies. Katie launched the Impact Factor Podcast in June of this year to discuss issues relevant to students who are at different stages of pursuing their PhD.

Panelists Biographies

Ben Haslund-Gorley



Ben Haslund-Gorley researched N-glycoprotein alterations in sepsis and diabetes with the Marth Lab while obtaining his undergraduate degree in Biology at UC Santa Barbara. He was accepted to the MD/PhD program at Drexel University College of Medicine in 2019 and is entering his fourth year of the physician-scientist training program. He joined the Comunale Lab to apply glycoproteomic and glycomic analytical techniques to translational research. His work with Lyme disease patient sera provided by the Bay Area Lyme Foundation detected N-glycan biomarkers specific to acute Lyme disease. This work was confirmed using multiple analytical methods including HPLC, MALDI-MS, and UPLC-ESI-MS at two research institutions. Ben is passionate to translate scientific findings to improve patient outcomes and hopes to develop a novel acute Lyme disease diagnostic using a glycomic platform.

Claire Witherel



Dr. Claire Witherel is currently a Medical Science Liaison at Integra LifeSciences. In that role, she supports the Tissue Technologies, Wound Reconstruction & Care product portfolio, along with Nerve and Tendon products in the Surgical Reconstruction Division, helping to lead clinical evidence generation, develop/foster relationships with KOLs, support upstream development of new technologies and studies.

Christina Love



Professor Christina Love is an Associate Teaching Professor at Drexel University where she teaches physics to almost every type of major, including physics, fashion design, biology, and business. Prof. Love is currently developing the IceCube Neutrino Observatory Citizen Science Program, which will allow the public to help analyze signals from outer space that were recorded in a detector at the South Pole.