Michael R. Bruchas, Ph.D.

Michael R. Bruchas, PhD, received both his Bachelor of Science in biology and his doctorate in pharmacology from Creighton University in 2004. He completed a postdoctoral fellowship in neuroscience at the University of Washington, Seattle, where he spent his post-doctoral research efforts examining how the brain encodes emotional behaviors, and how stress impacts anxiety, depression, and addiction. He was then recruited as an Assistant Professor to Washington University School of Medicine in late 2010 and was rapidly promoted to Associate Professor with tenure in July 2015 with appointments in the Departments of Anesthesiology, Neuroscience, Psychiatry, and Biomedical Engineering. Dr. Bruchas recently was recruited (effective August 1, 2018) to the University of Washington in Seattle, to the Center for the Neurobiology of Addiction, Pain, and Emotion with a primary and joint appointment in the Departments of Anesthesiology and Pharmacology, respectively.

Dr. Bruchas's laboratory focuses on understanding how brain circuits are wired, how they communicate with one another via chemical transmitters, in particular neuromodulators. The laboratory works to dissect the neural basis of stress, emotion, and reward. Dr. Bruchas' work has been continually funded by the NIH, NIDA, NIMH, NINDS and has led to over 70 peer-reviewed publications, book chapters, and a plethora of invited lectures worldwide. His laboratory's discoveries have been published in widely regarded high impact journals including *Science, Cell*, and *Neuron.* His research findings and commentaries have been featured on Public Radio, in *The Wall Street Journal, Nature Magazine, The New Yorker, The Smithsonian, Popular Science,* among several other international popular science publications.

Dr. Bruchas is actively involved in mentoring and training young researchers, including post-doctoral and research fellows, PhD students, and undergraduates. Many of his past trainees have continued careers in as faculty PIs in academic medicine or by pursing medical or doctoral degrees in neuroscience and pharmacology. Others have gone into pharmaceutical or computational scientific industry positions.

Dr. Bruchas has served on several NIH review panels, and is now the Chairperson of the Molecular Neuropharmacology and Signaling Study Section. In 2012, Bruchas received the very prestigious NIH Director's Transformative Research Award, as well as an NIH EUREKA (Exceptional Unconventional Research Enabling Knowledge Acceleration) Award in 2013, and in 2014 he was awarded the Young Investigator Award from the International Narcotics Research Conference. In 2016, his laboratory was awarded two NIH BRAIN Initiative's, for cutting-edge research on tool development in dissecting brain circuits. In 2017 he was elected as a Member to the American College of Neuropyschopharmacology. In 2018, he was awarded an NIH-MERIT award from NIDA and the Rising Star Award in Addiction from the Mahoney Institute of Neuroscience at the University of Pennsylvania. Dr. Bruchas is a co-founder of a neurotechnology company called Neurolux, which develops wireless tools for researchers to probe brain function with high resolution. He also serves as a scientific advisory board member for other startups looking to tackle the opioid crisis with non-opioid interventions.

Dr. Bruchas resides with his wife, Robin and daughter Muriel in the Fremont area of Seattle WA, and loves travel, exploring food, craft beer and wine, all types of music and especially opera, books, the outdoors and cycling.