

Damien Fair, PA-C, Ph.D.

Dr. Fair obtained his BA degree in 1998 from Augustana College, S.D. In 2001, he graduated with a master of medical science degree from the physician associate program at the Yale University School of Medicine. From 2001–2003 he joined the neurology department at Yale-New Haven Hospital and practiced as a physician assistant under the direction of Lawrence Brass, M.D. Subsequently, he entered the neuroscience graduate program at the Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis under the primary guidance of Bradley Schlaggar, M.D., Ph.D. and Steven Petersen, Ph.D. He continued on to do his postdoctoral fellowship at Oregon Health and Science University with Joel Nigg Ph.D., and Bonnie Nagel, Ph.D. He's now an Associate Professor in the Behavioral Neuroscience Department at OHSU.

Dr. Fair's laboratory focuses on mechanisms and principles that underlie the developing brain. The majority of this work uses functional MRI and resting state functional connectivity MRI to assess typical and atypical populations. His work cuts across both human and animal models (rodent and monkey) using these non-invasive tools as a bridge between species. He has published more than 80 journal articles in high-impact journals including Nature Neuroscience, Molecular Psychiatry, Neuron, PLoS, PNAS, Science, and Psychological Science, and his work has been cited well over 14,000 times. His research has been funded by grants from the Gates Foundation, McDonnell Foundation, MacArthur Foundation, and several from the National Institute of Health, and he has an impressive international network of collaborators. He's received many awards including the Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers Issued by President Barack Obama and the White House

Dr. Fair also is strongly committed to both teaching and public outreach. He serves as Director of OHSU President's Fellowship for Diversity and Inclusion in Research, a new OHSU initiative started out of his lab that aims to increase the number of underrepresented postdocs and junior faculty at OHSU. He also organizes the Youth Engaged in Science (YES) Initiative, a multi-faceted program aimed at exposing underrepresented middle and high school students to scientific research and related careers.