

Thomas A. Mennella, PhD

Associate Professor of Biology

Contact Information

Beginning in Fall 2022:

Physical and Biological Sciences Department
Western New England University
1215 Wilbraham Road
Springfield, Massachusetts 01119
thomas.mennella@wne.edu

Education

PhD: Biological Sciences, University at Albany, SUNY *December 2004*

Advisor: Richard S. Zitomer, PhD

Thesis: “Transcriptional repression of the hypoxic genes by Tup1 and the molecular mechanism of derepression in *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*”

BS: Biological Sciences, University at Albany, SUNY *May 1998*

Teaching

Associate Professor: Bay Path University

BIO-460: Bioethics *Fall 2015, 2016, Spring 2017-22*
BIO-210: Genetics *Fall 2012-22*
BIO-210L: Genetics Lab *Fall 2012-15*
BIO-300: Biochemistry *Fall 2015, Spring 2016, Fall 2020, Spring 2021*
BIO-320/L: Cell and Molecular Biology (with associated lab) *Spring 2013-22*
BIO-498: Research Project (supervising undergraduate research) *Fall 2012, Spring 2013, Spring 2014*
WEL-400: Leadership in Practice (capstone of the WELL program) *Fall 2013*
ASO-500: Applied DNA Biology *Fall 2017-21*
ASO-670: Capstone I (Independent Research) *Fall 2017-21*
ASO-680: Capstone II (Thesis Writing and Defense) *Spring 2018-22*

Assistant Professor: Delaware State University

BIOL-310: Molecular Biology with associated lab *Fall 2009, 2011*
BIOL-590: Professional Development Workshop I *Fall 2010, 2011*
BIOL-355: Forensic DNA Investigations (with associated lab) *Spring 2011, 2012*
BIOL-422: Biochemical Mechanisms (developed by T. Mennella)
with associated lab *Spring 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012*
BIOL-591: Professional Development Workshop II *Spring 2011*
BIOL-650: Biological Mechanisms (developed by T. Mennella) *Fall 2008, 2010*
BIOL-108: Human Heredity (lab only) *Fall 2008*

Lecturer: University of Massachusetts – Amherst

PSYCH191B: Principles of Biology *Spring 2008, Fall 2007*
 PSYCH 330: Behavioral Neuroscience *Spring 2008*

Teaching Assistant: University at Albany, State University of New York

BIO366: Biochemistry II (Co-instructor) *Spring 2000, Spring 2001*
 BIO365: Biochemistry I *Fall 2001*
 BIO212: Introductory Genetics *Fall 1999, Fall 2000*
 BIO407: Parasitology *Spring 1999*
 BIO110: General Biology I *Fall 1998*

Service**Bay Path University**

Faculty Chair, Elected Representative of the Faculty Body *2021-2022*
 Member, Faculty Governance Resource Group *2017-2018*
 Member/Chair, Educational Assessment Committee *2018-2022*
 Member, Faculty Research and Development Committee *2012-2018*
 Member, Academic Technology Committee *2014-2016*
 Co-director, MLSC Capital Grant Initiative (Awarded: \$500,000) *2014-2016*
 Member, NEASC Reaccreditation Team, Standard 6 (Students) *2014-2016*
 Member, Course Redesign Teams, Biology, Cohort 1 and 4 *2012-2017*
 Faculty Team Leader, MLSC Planning Grant Initiative (Awarded: \$50,000) *2013*
 Member, Course Redesign Task Force *2012-2013*

Scientific Community

Ad Hoc Reviewer, *The American Biology Teacher* *2014-2018*
 Ad Hoc Reviewer, Wiley Press *2012-2017*

Western Massachusetts Community

Member, Longmeadow School District Technology Committee *2016-2017*
 Active Member, Blueberry Hill School PTO *2012-2017*
 Member, Longmeadow Elementary Schools Redistricting Committee *2015*
 Elected Member, Blueberry Hill School Council (Longmeadow, MA) *2013-2015*

Delaware State University**Department of Biological Sciences**

Director of Graduate Programs *2011-2012*
 Chair, Graduate Programs Committee *2009-2012*
 Assistant Director, Bachelors of Science Program in Forensic Biology *2009-2012*
 Member, Assessment Committee *2008-2012*
 Member, Research Committee *2009-2010*
 Member, Graduate Programs Committee *2008-2009*

College of Mathematics, Natural Sciences and Technology

Member, College Graduate Programs Committee 2010-2012
Assessment Coordinator for DSU subprojects, NIH INBRE Grant 2009-2012
Member, Faculty Search Committee for Bioinformatics Faculty Line 2010

University

Member, Admissions Committee 2010-2012
Member, Self Study Task Force for MSCHE Accreditation Review 2010-2011
Member, Research Committee Two of the Strategic Planning Initiative 2010-2011

Scholarly Community

Frequent Reviewer for Wiley Publishing 2009-2012
Ad Hoc Reviewer, *PLOS One* 2012
Abstract Reviewer and Judge, ABRCMS 2011
Reviewer, "Molecular Biology" by Clark for Academic Press 2011
Participant, the 5th Comprehensive Review of the MCAT Exam 2010
Judge, ABRCMS 2010

Delaware Community

Member, St. George's High School Biotechnology Curriculum Committee 2010-2012
Moderator, Delaware Brain Bee 2010, 2011
Moderator, Delaware Science Olympiad 2009, 2010
Participant Lab, Delaware AeroSpace Education Foundation's Destination
Academy High School program 2010

Research

Graduate Research Supervisor – Science Department, Bay Path University
(includes BIO-680 research course) *Fall 2017-21*

Undergraduate Research Supervisor – Science Department, Bay Path University
(includes BIO-498 research course and Honors Program research projects) *Fall 2012-2016*

Principle Investigator – Department of Biological Sciences
Delaware State University *August 2008 - May 2012*

Post-Doctoral Research Fellow - de Vries Lab, Psychology Department,
University of Massachusetts - Amherst *September 2006 – July 2008*

Post-Doctoral Research Associate - Buratowski Lab, Department of Biological Chemistry and Molecular
Pharmacology, Harvard Medical School *January 2005 – July 2006*

Research Assistant/Graduate Student - Zitomer Lab, Department of Biological Sciences,
University at Albany, SUNY *April 1999 – December 2004*

Publications

Education/Pedagogy Papers

Mennella, TA. 2016. *Comparing the Efficacy of Flipped vs. Alternative Active Learning in a College Genetics Course.* The American Biology Teacher. 78(6):471-9.

Mennella, TA. 2015. *Providing a Genuine Research Experience for College Undergraduates within the Context of a Single Semester Laboratory Course.* The American Biology Teacher. 77(7):526-31.

Scientific Research Papers

Williams B, Northcutt KV, Rusanowsky RD, **Mennella TA**, Lonstein JS, Quadros-Mennella PS.

2013. Progesterone receptor expression in the brain of the socially monogamous and paternal male prairie vole. Brain Res. Mar 7;1499:12-20

Silva AC, Xu X, **Mennella TA**, Keogh MC. 2012. The replication independent histone H3-H4 chaperones HIR, Asf1 and Rtt106 are primary regulators of chromatin integrity.

J Biol Chem. Jan 13; 287(3):1709-18. (Epub 2011 Nov 29)

Keogh MC, **Mennella TA**, Sawa C, Berthelet S, Krogan NJ, Wolek A, Podolny V, Carpenter LR, Greenblatt JF, Baetz K, Buratowski S. 2006. The *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* histone H2A variant Htz1 is acetylated by NuA4. Genes and Development. 20(6): 660-5

Klinkenberg LG, **Mennella TA**, Luetkenhaus K, Zitomer RS. 2005. Combinatorial repression of the hypoxic genes of *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* by DNA binding proteins Rox1 and Mot3. Eukaryotic Cell. 4(4): 649-60

Mennella TA, Klinkenberg LG, Zitomer RS. 2003. Recruitment of Tup1-Ssn6 by yeast hypoxic genes and chromatin-independent exclusion of TATA Binding Protein. Euk Cell. 2(6): 1288-303

Kastaniotis AJ, **Mennella TA**, Konrad C, Torres AM, Zitomer RS. 2000. Roles of transcription factor Mot3 and chromatin in repression of the hypoxic gene *ANB1* in yeast. Mol Cell Biol. 20(19): 7088-98

Other

eMagazine Articles – **Mennella, T.** [Many and ongoing, written as the higher education editor]. Flipped Learning Review. <http://flr.flglobal.org/>

Radio Segment – **Mennella, T.** The Academic Minute. Broadcast on WAMC (Albany, New York's NPR affiliate) on June 7, 2018.

Website Article – Quadros-Mennella, P and **Mennella, T.** *How to Encourage Academic Grit and a Growth Mindset in Your Students.* Academic Impressions. July 31, 2017. <https://www.academicimpressions.com/how-to-encourage-academic-grit-and-a-growth-mindset-in-your-students/>

Magazine Article – **Mennella, T.** *The Hidden Costs of Active Learning.* Campus Technology. April 5, 2017. <http://campustechnology.com/articles/2017/04/05/the-hidden-costs-of-active-learning.aspx>

Interviewed – Raths, David. *Where Flipped Learning Research Is Going.* Campus Technology. April 2015. <http://campustechnology.com/articles/2015/04/15/where-flipped-learning-research-is-going.aspx>

Guest Blog Post - Mennella, T. July 1, 2014. *My Flipped Classroom – I Will Never Teach Another Way Again.*
Posted on: EmergingEdTech.com. <http://www.emergingedtech.com/2014/07/my-flipped-classroom-i-will-never-teach-another-way-again/>

Essay - Mennella T. 2003. The out-of-hand omnipresent ome. *The Scientist*. 17(12):52

Abstracts

Young R, Gray J, Hinkle L, **Mennella TA**. “Exploring How the Yeast Tup1 Repressor of Transcription is also Involved in Gene Activation.” 2011. 4th Northeast Regional IDeA Meeting. Newport, Rhode Island.

Mennella TA, Zitomer RS. “Tup1 excludes TBP binding at *ANB1* both in the presence and absence of a positioned nucleosome.” 2002. Yeast Genetics and Molecular Biology Meeting. Madison, Wisconsin.

Presentations

Session Co-presenter, Future of Educational Technology (FETC) Annual Meeting, Orlando, FL. “We are from the Future; Our Schools Look Like This” (co-presented with Flipped Learning pioneer, Jon Bergmann)

January 2019

Keynote Speaker, Higher Education Flipped Learning Conference, Greeley, CO. Title: TBD.

June 2018

Session Co-presenter, ELI Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LO. “Leveraging Growth Mindset to Achieve Academic Success in All Students”

January 2018

Session Presenter, Educause: Connect, Portland, OR. “E-Reports: An Alternative to Exams with Better Learning, Less Stress”

March 2017

Session Presenter, Massachusetts STEM Summit, Worcester, MA. “An Alternative to Exams in the Sciences: eReports for Better Learning Opportunities with Less Stress”

November 2016

Session Presenter, The Teaching Professor Conference, Washington, D.C. “What's the Flippin' Difference: the Efficacy of Flipped Learning”

June 2016

Session Presenter, Massachusetts STEM Summit, Worcester, MA. “What's the Flippin' Difference? The Implementation and Effectiveness of Flipped Learning.”

November 2015

Invited Presenter, Keynote Address, “Flip & Scale” NERCOMP Workshop in Norwood, MA: “What's the Flippin' Difference? Approaches for, and the Effectiveness of, Flipped Learning in Higher Education”

June 2015

Co- Presenter, NERCOMP2015, Providence, RI. “Do Blended and Flipped Learning Really Work? Test Cases from Two Disciplines and Two Perspectives.”

March 2015

Invited Presenter, UMass – Dartmouth. “If You Flip It, They Will Learn: a How-To Guide for Flipping any Course in any Discipline”

February 2015

Invited Co-Presenter, NERCOMP Workshop in Southbridge, MA. “All Tablets are Not Created Equal”

January 2015

Session Presenter, NERCOMP2014, Providence, RI. “Flipping Your Classroom: What to Do with All That Time? Hi-Tech and No-Tech Approaches.”

March 2014

<i>Invited Speaker</i> , Annual DelawareINBRE Symposium	2011
With others, represented Delaware EPSCoR-RII for AAAS site visit	2009
<i>Presenter</i> , the DSU Center for Teaching and Learning's 5th Annual MiniGrant Recipients Symposium	2009
<i>Invited Speaker</i> , Delaware Biotechnology Institute's Luncheon Seminar Series	2008
