

# ERINNE CHERISSE ONG, MSc

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<b>Education</b>	<b>University Hospital Heidelberg / German Cancer Research Center (Germany)</b> <i>PhD student</i> Jun. 2024 – Present
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Fellow of the UNITE School of Neurooncology (SFB 1389)</li><li>• Thesis (ongoing): Understanding tumor network communication to overcome therapeutic resistance in glioma (Prof. Dr. Frank Winkler)</li></ul>
	<b>University of Göttingen (Germany)</b> <i>Master of Science in Neurosciences</i> Oct. 2022 – Apr. 2024
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Awarded a stipend by the International Max Planck Research School</li><li>• Thesis: Investigating the contribution of dysfunctional myelin to tau pathology</li></ul>
	<b>De La Salle University (Philippines)</b> <i>Bachelor of Science in Biology</i> Sep. 2017 – Feb. 2021
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Top 10% of graduating class with cumulative GPA of 3.787/4.0</li><li>• Consistent recipient of the Jose Rizal Honors Certificate (term GPA &gt;3.4/4.0)</li></ul>	
<b>St. Stephen's High School (Philippines)</b> <i>Senior High School Diploma</i> Jun. 2012 – Mar. 2017	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Salutatorian (2<sup>nd</sup> out of 140 students) with final year average of 96.53%</li><li>• Graduated with High Honors for STEM (grades in science subjects &gt;95%)</li></ul>	
<b>Research Experience</b>	<b>Max Planck Institute for Multidisciplinary Sciences (Germany)</b> <i>Master's thesis student</i> Oct. 2023 – Mar. 2024
	<i>Research intern</i> May 2023 – Jun. 2023
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Supervisors: Andrew Sasmita, Prof. Klaus-Armin Nave (Neurogenetics Group)</li><li>• Investigated the role of myelin damage in Alzheimer's disease pathologies by combining imaging, biochemical, and behavioral assays</li></ul>
	<b>European Neuroscience Institute (Germany)</b> <i>Research intern</i> Jan. 2023 – Feb. 2023
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Supervisor: Dr. Brett Carter (Synaptic Physiology and Plasticity Group)</li><li>• Measured short-term plasticity responses of barrel cortex synapses at varying external calcium concentrations through slice electrophysiology techniques</li></ul>
<b>DLSU Center for Natural Sciences and Environmental Research (Philippines)</b> <i>Undergraduate thesis student</i> Nov. 2019 – Oct. 2020	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Supervisor: Dr. Ma. Luisa Enriquez (Molecular Science Unit Laboratory)</li><li>• Evaluated the cytotoxic and genotoxic effects of <i>Citrus microcarpa</i> juice and essential oil extracts on three cancer cell lines</li></ul>	
<b>Work Experience</b>	<b>Wildtype Media Group (Singapore)</b> <i>Staff Writer</i> Apr. 2021 – Aug. 2022
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Wrote multiple 500-word research highlights weekly for flagship publication, <i>Asian Scientist Magazine</i>, based on STEM journal articles</li><li>• Produced 1500-word in-depth features on scientific advancements across Asia with interviews from academic researchers and industry leaders</li><li>• Steered content direction and collaborated with clients for projects on diverse fields, including cancer, neuroscience, public health, machine learning</li></ul>	

## National Medical Admission Test Review (Philippines)

*Instructor (Self-employed)*

Nov. 2020 – May 2021

- Delivered online lectures to more than 300 students on cell biology, genetics, biochemistry, physiology, psychology, and ecology
- Developed a virtual assessment platform with over 100 practice test questions

## Research Publications

Sasmita AO, Depp C, ..., **Ong EC**, ..., Nave K-A. Oligodendrocytes and neurons contribute to amyloid- $\beta$  deposition in Alzheimer's disease. *Nature Neuroscience* **27**, 1668–1674. doi: 10.1038/s41593-024-01730-3

## Conference Contributions

Sasmita AO, **Ong EC**, Nazarenko T, Depp C, Nave K-A. Transgenic inheritance modulates plaque burden in the 5xFAD model of Alzheimer's disease [Poster]. 6<sup>th</sup> Encephalon; 2023 Dec 7; Göttingen, DE.

Sasmita AO, Nazarenko T, Sun T, Yu X, **Ong EC**, ..., Depp C, Nave K-A. Oligodendrocytes contribute to A $\beta$  plaque burden primarily derived from excitatory neurons in vivo [Poster]. EuroGlia; 2023 Jul 8-11; Berlin, DE.

**Ong EC**, Co CJ, Mulingbayan IM, Oyong GG, Enriquez ML. Cytotoxicity of *Citrus microcarpa* (Calamansi) peel-derived essential oil on small cell lung carcinoma, acute monocytic leukemia, and colon adenocarcinoma cell lines [Presentation]. Metro Manila Health Research and Development Consortium 5<sup>th</sup> International Symposium and 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Scientific Conference; 2021 Sep 24-25; Manila, PH.

- Won second place for solo presentation in the oral paper competition

## Selected Science Communication Articles

**Ong EC**. 2022 Oct 10. Decoding signals from space. *Asian Scientist Magazine*. <https://www.asianscientist.com/2022/10/print/decoding-signals-from-space/>

**Ong EC**. 2021 Sep 21. Posits: Coming soon to hardware near you. *Supercomputing Asia*. <https://www.asianscientist.com/2021/09/print/supercomputing-asia-singapore-supercomputers-posit-arithmetic/>

**Ong EC**. 2021 Jul 21. How China beat malaria. *Asian Scientist Magazine*. <https://www.asianscientist.com/2021/07/features/how-china-beat-malaria/>

## Extracurricular Activities

### GradMAP Philippines (STEM mentorship network)

*President*

Apr. 2024 – Present

*Director for Partnerships*

Apr. 2023 – Apr. 2024

*Mentor*

Aug. 2022 – Present

- Raised over 7,000 USD for grant program that awarded more than 15 Filipino students with funding for graduate school application-related expenses
- Established collaborations with academic and non-profit organizations to increase Filipinos' access to global opportunities in STEM
- Provided one-on-one mentorship and delivered online talks to support Filipino undergraduate students in pursuing global career opportunities in STEM

### The LaSallian (University campus publication)

*Editor in Chief*

Sep. 2019 – Oct. 2020

*Menagerie Staffer*

Jun. 2018 – Aug. 2019

- Substantively edited over 300 articles on science and technology, society and the nation, sports, and arts for 11 monthly print issues
- Streamlined workflows by introducing consolidated trackers for event coverage schedules and article development timelines