

Arun Asok, PhD

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EDUCATION

Johns Hopkins University, Carey Business School **Baltimore, MD**
Master of Business Administration (MBA) May 2027

Honors: Dean's Scholarship, Michael C. Perkinson Scholarship for Global Business and Diplomacy

Johns Hopkins University, Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies **Washington, DC**
Master of International Relations (MAIR) May 2027

Honors: Scholarship for Technology and International Affairs

University of Delaware **Newark, DE**
Doctorate (PhD) in Psychology and Neuroscience May 2016

Honors: APA Dissertation Grant, NSF EPSCOR subaward, Dissertation Fellowship, Graduate Research Fellowship

Temple University **Philadelphia, PA**
Bachelor of Science (BS) in Neuroscience and Psychology Aug 2010

Honors: Neuroscience distinction, Magna cum Laude, Psi Chi Honor Society, Golden Key Honor Society

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Alien Therapeutics (ATP) Inc. **Philadelphia, PA**
Founder / CEO Mar 2022 – Aug 2024

- Founded an early-stage biotechnology company **pioneering Circular RNA therapeutics** and AI-driven disease classification, targeting a **multi-billion-dollar market**.
- Secured Wilson, Sonsini, Goodrich & Rosati (representatives of Apple, Twitter, etc.) as corporate attorneys for IP protection, negotiating a 1.5% equity stake and deferred legal fees.
- **Developed brand presence** by networking with pharma reps, suppliers, vendors, and vetting incubator spaces.

Exponent Inc. **Philadelphia, PA**
Human Factors Scientist/Consultant Apr 2023 – Jul 2023

- Provided **human factors subject matter expertise** for a multi-million-dollar consulting firm, synthesizing data from depositions and case files to deliver expert testimony reports for major corporations.
- Mastered legislative tracking (BillTrack50), legal terminology, contract analysis, and billing structures.

University of Wisconsin **Milwaukee, WI**
Assistant Professor of Neuroscience (Tenure-Track) Jul 2020 – Jul 2021

- **Directed \$1M** in startup funding and **\$1M in equipment** to establish a world-class laboratory within 6 months from scratch, encompassing molecular biology, electrophysiology, optics, surgery, and behavioral research.
- **Recruited graduate students**, an administrative assistant, and interviewed post-doctoral researchers to conduct pioneering research on memory, stress, and fear-related diseases.
- Collaborated university-wide to enhance the biosafety infrastructure for advanced in vivo viral vector research.

Columbia University & Howard Hughes Medical Institute **New York, NY**
Postdoctoral / Associate Research Scientist (**H-index = 21**) Jun 2016 – Dec 2021

- **Collaborated with Nobel laureate Eric Kandel** to unravel mechanisms of memory using next-generation approaches in sequencing, optogenetics, chemogenetics, and advanced microscopy.
- **Recruited and managed** students across various projects, including senior theses and paper authorship.
- Received a **\$186,000**, 3-year NIMH Postdoctoral National Research Service Award.

ADDITIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

Software: MS Office, Python, Matlab, IBM SPSS, Graphpad PRISM, Power BI, Tableau, Basic SQL

Certifications: IBM Artificial Intelligence Engineering Professional Certificate (2024), Google Cybersecurity Professional Certificate (2024), IBM Data Science Professional Certificate (2023)