From the President’s Desk
Wendy Lynch, Ph.D.

A Historic Time and Our First Ever Virtual Meeting!

Hello Division 28 Members!

I am looking forward to “seeing” many of you at our upcoming Division 28 meeting on August 7th, which, for the first time in our 54-year history, will be held virtually! Justin Strickland, our 2020 Program Chair, has put together an outstanding program which includes live programming as well as pre-recorded content available through the larger APA convention (also held virtually, August 6-9). The live component will be held on August 7th from 2:00 to 3:50 PM EST and will include a Data Blitz featuring research from our Early-Career Members, my Presidential Address on Sex and Gender Differences in Substance Use Disorder, and our business meeting. We will also be honoring this year’s Div. 28 Award winners, including Justin Strickland (Outstanding Dissertation), Elias Klemperer (Outstanding Dissertation), Andrew Huhn (Young Psychopharmacologist Award), and Ken Perkins (MED Associates Brady-Schuster Award), and a presentation from each of these awardees will be available as part of our pre-recorded programming. Please also join us for a NIAAA/NIDA-sponsored Student Poster and Social Hour, which will begin right after our live programming at 4PM EST.

We will also have a wealth of pre-recorded material as part of our program and co-sponsored with other Divisions that will be available for an entire year beginning on August 6th through the APA convention registration. This content spans the interests of our members, and includes talks and symposia highlighting topics of immediate interest to our field, such as mobile assessment and intervention in substance use disorder, drug regulation, personalized medicine, sex as a biological variable, and more. Additional details on the scientific program are provided in Justin’s column of this newsletter. Convention information and program details that are currently available can also be found on the APA convention website (https://convention.apa.org/). A special thanks to Justin Strickland for adapting so well, rolling with all the last-minute changes, and developing this outstanding program under pandemic conditions. A big thanks also to each of the speakers who are contributing their time to this meeting by giving a live or pre-recorded presentation and to each of you who have registered for the meeting or are planning to join us. I also want to thank Med Associates, Pinney Associates, and Suzette Evans, whose annual contributions fund our awards and allow us to keep membership costs low.

This is a historic time, and the members of Division 28 and the Executive Committee have been very active in their efforts to address not only issues related to substance use and COVID-19, but also issues of systemic racism in our field. In response to COVID-19, the Executive Committee compiled a list of resources and information available on the intersection of psychopharmacology, substance use, and COVID-19. These resources were shared with our membership, in social media,
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and compiled with other APA Divisions to provide a broad overview of resources available in Psychology. In response to systemic racism and the Black Lives Matter movement, the Executive Committee developed some actionable items that we are now working to implement to help increase the representation of Black people at all levels of Division 28 membership. These include fundraising plans to establish a diversity award and to create a diversity column for our newsletter, which is included for the first time with this edition. This column will be used to promote and support our underrepresented members and to highlight research on health disparities. We also formed a Diversity subcommittee consisting of myself, Kelly Dunn (President-Elect), Meredith Berry (Newsletter Editor), and Richard Yi (Divisional Awards) to work on these initiatives and to create new ones to help ensure that our diversity goals are achieved. A statement summarizing our diversity plan and Anti-Racism Statement can be found in the Diversity Column of this Newsletter and on our Division 28 website in the near future.

The Executive Committee has also been working on a number of other initiatives, including working with our divisional members and APA to compose a response to NIH’s 5-year strategic plan and working to increase our divisional presence on social media. For all of these efforts, I’d like to give a big thanks to the members of the Executive Committee for all of their hard work. I want to also congratulate the newly elected members of our Executive Committee, including Ryan Vandrey as President-Elect, Dustin Stairs as Member-at-Large, and once again, Bill Stoops as Council Representative. I want to thank everyone who ran for these positions.

I hope to see you soon at our live event on August 7th!
2020 APA Convention Update
Justin Strickland, Ph.D.

As many of you know, APA convention planning has undergone a number of changes over the last few months with our move to the virtual setting. But, do not fear, the content you know and love from Division 28 will still be there, along with some exciting new initiatives.

The 2020 convention will be held entirely virtually with content available to view for a full one year! Division 28 in particular has many exciting symposia planned, including topics like sex and gender vulnerabilities, behavioral economics, mobile research assessment, and more! Visit the main convention website at http://convention.apa.org to register and learn more about the scientific program.

But, in some ways, this does miss out on one of the things Division 28 members love about convention: the face-to-face catch-ups and interactions with our colleagues. Because of this, we at Division 28 have put together a brief “live” portion of the virtual meeting to occur during the convention. This event will occur on Friday, August 7th from 2:00 to 3:50pm (Eastern Time). We hope that this event will provide the opportunity to catch up with colleagues, old, and meet colleagues, new, as well as act as a venue for sharing the cutting-edge that makes Division 28 great. For many of you, this might be the first time you are able to attend the convention, and so is an excellent opportunity to see what it is all about! There will be NO cost to attend the event. You will also NOT be required to register for the convention to attend nor do you need to be an APA member. To ensure the integrity of the Zoom event, we just ask that you pre-register using the following link: https://tinyurl.com/y9x85e75

Finally, Division 28 will again be participating in the NIAAA/NIDA-sponsored Student Poster and Social Hour, which is planned for Friday, August 7th from 4:00 to 6:00pm (Eastern Time), immediately after our planned live event. We hope that this will encourage many of you to take the opportunity to meet with and learn about the excellent work our student and early career members are engaged in! To preregister for this event click here! To view each poster: Visit this website.

Additional Division 28 programming for the 2020 virtual convention:

- Invited Address: Outstanding Dissertation Award and Young Psychopharmacologist Award Winner Presentations
- Invited Address: MED Associates Brady/Schuster Award Winner Presentation

Collaborative Symposia:
- The Past, Present, and Future of the NIH Sex as a Biological Variable Policy
- A Push and a Nudge: Leveraging Behavioral Economics to Improve Psychological Health
- A Collaborative Data Blitz on Sex and Gender Vulnerabilities in Psychological Health
- Fingerprinting Treatment: Evaluating Individual Differences in Support of Personalized Medicine
- Harm Reduction or Harm Induction? Exploring the Current Research on E-cigarettes and Vaping*
- Diverse Translational Perspectives in the Development of Opioid and Substance Use Disorders*
*Co-Sponsored Symposia

Divisional Symposia:
- Behavioral Economics of Drug Regulation
- Mobile Assessment and Intervention in Addiction: Recent Advances
• Advances in Substance Use Disorder Research: Comorbidity and Its Underestimated Implications*
• An Update on Alcohol Use Disorder: From Etiology to Treatment*
• E-cigarette use Among youth: An examination of behaviors, motives and policies*
• Paradigm shift: Research on the introduction of harm reduction into diverse settings and populations*
*Co-Sponsored with Division 50

We look forward to seeing you in cyberspace!

Student Representative Column
Mariel Bello & Gaylen Fronk

How to become better allies for our BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and People of Color) colleagues in academia.

Recent events and tragedies such as the deaths of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, and others have shed a national spotlight on the ongoing racial injustices being experienced by BIPOC communities. Many universities, corporations, and organizations have released statements and action plans detailing how they plan to improve. Indeed, many of these initiatives have been in response to calls to action spearheaded by students and other young people. As future scientists, researchers, professors, mentors, clinicians, and policy makers, it is increasingly important for us to engage with these issues by educating ourselves and prioritizing time for action towards goals. However, we recognize that knowing where or how to start can be difficult. One recommendation is to devote effort towards allyship. We have compiled five starting steps for those looking to become better allies for our BIPOC colleagues, but check out Guide to Allyship for more.

1. **Be open to listening and accepting criticism, even if it’s uncomfortable.** To become a better ally is to be open and willing to understand the experiences of those whom you want to support. The best method to reach that understanding is to commit yourself to being a good listener and accepting criticism, even if it makes you uncomfortable. When BIPOC colleagues share their narratives and concerns, consider it as an opportunity to grow and learn rather than get defensive. Understand that these concerns are not a personal attack, and trust the experiences of those who are oppressed. It may be useful to review these common behaviors/phrases and avoid them in conversation.

2. **Be aware of your privileges and how you unintentionally contribute to oppressive systems.** Privilege is multidimensional and is shaped by an individual’s intersecting identities (e.g., race, gender, class, education, sexuality) and lived experiences. As an ally, it is important to acknowledge the privileges that you carry and have benefited from at the expense of others. If it feels difficult to believe this applies to you, try reading *White Fragility* by Robin DiAngelo for some context.

3. **Educate yourself and do your research!** While often well-intentioned, asking your BIPOC colleagues to educate you on issues of systemic racism and oppression places a very heavy emotional and practical burden on them. Go one step further and work towards educating yourself and doing your research, so that you can educate other allies and relieve the labor from your BIPOC colleagues. Start with a book—*Me and White Supremacy* by Layla Saad.
and *How to Be an Antiracist* by Ibram X. Kendi, or go to an organizing event in your community. You can also check out ShutdownSTEM for a multimedia resource compilation or this podcast playlist if you prefer listening over reading.

4. **Use your privilege to amplify historically underrepresented voices (whether digitally or in-person).** To become an effective ally, it’s important to use your own privilege to elevate the voices of your BIPOC colleagues and assist in efforts towards equity in academia and other institutions. As an ally, never speak for others, but dismantle obstacles faced by your BIPOC colleagues by allowing them to speak for themselves and standing with them.

5. **Commit to the continued time and effort it will take to become a better ally.** Becoming a better ally is a daily process and not a one time event that occurs after recent tragedies experienced by BIPOC lives. Don’t be afraid to get things wrong: if it’s a choice between not speaking up at all OR speaking out and getting it wrong, then choose to get it wrong. Learn from your mistakes, and share with others what you have learned and strive towards doing better next time.

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**Division 28 Anti-Racism Statement, Diversity Plan, and Creation of a Diversity Column**

*Division 28, Psychopharmacology and Substance Abuse, values the lives of Black people and their contributions to science and society. We are committed to working with other divisions as well as with researchers, health professionals, and policy makers at other organizations to eliminate inequities, oppression, and discrimination, such as those based on race, and elevate Black voices and promote equality. The Drug War, which stems from the view of addiction as a moral failing, has disproportionately impacted Black Americans who, despite using drugs at similar, if not lower rates than white Americans, have markedly higher arrest and incarceration rates. There are also racial inequities with regard to effective treatments for substance use disorder, and Black Americans are particularly at risk for poor treatment outcomes. Black lives matter, and it is time to remedy the negative impact that systemic racism has had on substance use and addiction policies in our country and on the field of Psychopharmacology and Substance Abuse in general.*

*Division 28 values diversity in its membership and we are now bolstering our commitment to encouraging and promoting diversity and inclusiveness. In particular, we are currently developing campaigns to increase the representation of Black people at all levels of Division membership, from senior leadership to trainees. We are developing actionable items to make these goals a reality, including fundraising plans to establish a diversity award and plans to create a diversity column for our newsletter to promote and support our underrepresented members and to highlight research on health disparities. We recognize that diversity of experiences and identities bring diversity of perspectives, ideas, and approaches – which improves science, scholarship, and public health. We believe that increasing diversity at Division 28 is not simply about getting greater representation of minority voices over the next couple of years – it is a crucial investment in the scholarship and careers of current and future scientists who do work in Psychopharmacology and Substance Abuse.*

*As this column evolves, we envision a place where we promote and support our underrepresented members and to highlight research on health disparities, among other topics of relevance. For this issue, we begin by highlighting resources for educating ourselves, advocacy, and actionable items to help affect social change, and we encourage all Division 28 members to engage.*
We also encourage you to do your own research into what organizations make sense for you to donate to if you are able. For further reading to help educate ourselves, see resources listed in the Student Representative Column of this issue.

By all accounts, Breonna Taylor was a successful emergency medical technician. She had wanted to go back to school for a nursing degree, and was bubbly and outgoing. Elijah McClain was a massage therapist and animal lover, who played the violin for shelter kittens on his lunch breaks. Muhammad Muhaymin cared deeply for his dog, Chiquita, and brought Chiquita everywhere. Muhammad’s sister noted, “when my brother loved, he really loved”, describing his deeply loving nature. To inquire about the current employment, investigations into, and prosecution statuses of several police officers involved in the murders of Breonna Taylor, Elijah McClain, Muhammad Muhaymin, and countless others, call the local police departments responsible and DA offices (google it). Send letters and emails. Let them know you are paying attention and you want justice. For an article with updated information on the Breonna Taylor case, including links to the police report, and action items, click here. To learn more about the killing of Muhammad Muhaymin by police officers, click here, and read the article and follow the link to the bodycam footage within. As of earlier this month at the time of writing this column, all police officers connected to the murder of Muhammad Muhaymin still worked for the Phoenix PD and have not been charged, despite the Phoenix Medical Examiner’s office ruling his death a homicide, according to this article. You can call the Phoenix PD and demand justice at (602) 262-6747; (602) 262-4580; (602) 262-7626; (602) 262-6141. You can call the Maricopa County DA’s Office at (602) 506-3411; (602) 506-8522; (602) 506-8541.

• Register here for a free webinar you can attend on August 4 from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. entitled “Opportunities and Limitations of Alternatives to Drug Criminalization” hosted by NYS Harm Reduction Association.

• To sign up to view the release of the film “Picture a Scientist” click this link. This film highlights three women and the challenges they have faced as a woman or a woman of color in the world of science.

• Visit the website of Academics for Black Survival and Wellness here (academics4blacklives) for more information on how you can embark on a 21-day personal and professional development initiative for those who are non-Black academics to honor the toll of racial trauma on Black people, resist anti-Blackness and white supremacy, and facilitate accountability and collective action.

• For Black academics, visit academics4blacklives for a 21-day space of wellness. Read this article and others within it and related to diversity in colleges for current statistics on lack of diversity in academia and steps you can take as academics to address this (i.e., make it a priority to hire Black faculty, hire Black students).

As this column continues to develop, we welcome commentary/feedback, news on research and publications of minority members and non-members, as well as research on health disparities, anti-racist materials, action-items, and resources, advocacy, and allyship materials. This could include advocacy across drug policy, academia, or other areas. Please email the Newsletter Editor, Meredith Berry at mberry@ufl.edu with your feedback on this or future columns, thoughts on enhancing diversity, or if you get the feels from this column and need to email someone.
Early Career Psychologist Column
Ryan Lacy, Ph.D.

Academic Career Paths in the Midst of Covid-19

I’m quite certain we’ve all been thinking about this. The pandemic and quarantine have impacted us all and, unfortunately, we are not out of the woods yet. Based on what I have been reading from others on this topic and heard from our colleagues, and in reviewing the official statements of many institutions, these changes do not leave anyone with much optimism. At this point, it appears that the most hard-hit group are those at a transition phase, i.e., from graduate school to post-doc or post-doc to faculty position. Please see this Google Doc maintained by Dr. Karen Kelsky: List of Schools That Have Announced Hiring Freezes or Pauses (Incomplete/Unofficial)

Graduate Students:

Multiple institutions have extended graduate student funding by 1 year, but many have not. Consequently, many graduate student organizations have come together to petition their institutions for assurances that they will be protected. Every institution has to manage these situations in different ways, and these might vary between programs within the same institution. Figure out where you stand so you can make informed decisions moving forward.

Research: Almost everyone I know has had to completely shut down their labs (myself included). If you were working on your dissertation experiments and only have half of the data your committee agreed to, what can you do? Will you be able to extend and complete them next year? Can you modify your experimental design in a way that your committee will still allow you to defend? Keep in mind, defending means you’ll be done with grad school and maybe without a job. Trying to stay put might be a better choice for some.

Teaching: Now might be a chance to get some (additional) teaching experience. A large portion of institutions are going to be either completely or partially online in Fall 2020. This may be an opportunity to maintain your stipend via teaching. This could be a “win-win” in that getting some teaching experience generally only helps increase your marketability. Furthermore, when most schools transitioned to online only in March, they set up a natural experiment. The results of this experiment showed that online instruction is viable and will likely be incorporated into the curriculum moving forward. Interestingly, some faculty had such positive experiences they have elected to teach online courses regularly. Here are some suggestions and ideas for those facing this reality from Dr. Rob Weir: Not All Online Experiences Are Equal

Post-Docs:

Most institutions have implemented faculty hiring freezes through Fall 2021. Tragically, some individuals have reported that their offers have been rescinded. Others have indicated that the institution followed through with hiring if the offer was made before official hiring freezes took place. While some job offers have been extended but official start dates have been postponed until 2021 (in line with hiring freeze policy). So, what are some actionable steps to take at this point?

Funding: If you haven’t, talk to your mentor/supervisor. Figure out your ability to extend your post-doc. Again, the safest bet appears to be staying put and weathering the storm. If you’re early in your post-doc you are probably okay. It appears that funding already secured is not being revoked, which can hopefully help you extend. Alternatively, there may be opportunities to secure your own funding that could help secure your current or a new position. Finally, I’ve seen a few new post-doc ads posted in recent weeks. Perhaps there’s a
chance to find a new or move to a different post-doc given the jump to faculty is not viable for most.

**Internal Positions:** While not abundant, I've heard of some institutions allowing individuals to move to new positions within the same institution. This (by technicality) does not break the hiring freeze rule. If you already have a position, changing to a new position does not increase the number of people employed by the institution and thus hiring remains “frozen.” Now may be the time to start looking for such positions with the caveat that they may be rare.

**Outside Academia:** Keep in mind, we’re not in uncharted territory in terms of non-profit, industry, or government positions for folks with PhDs. Following the Great Recession of 2008, hiring freezes were widespread at all levels of the education system. Now may be the time to think flexibly about your options. For some, outside academia may a more attractive option. See the link to this article by Dr. L. Maren Wood in the *The Chronicle of Higher Education: For Would-Be Academics, Now Is the Time to Get Serious About Plan B*

The intent of this article is not to paint a bleak picture of the future – it is meant to help confront the reality of our current situation. Everyone is coping with the repercussions of Covid-19 and everyone wants their career trajectory to remain stable. It may be some time before we get back to normal, so until then I encourage you to remain optimistic, flexible, and resolute. We are all in this together.

**Division 28 Social Media Initiatives**

Division 28 is revitalizing its social medial presence. If you have research or news links that you would like to post to the division’s Twitter and Facebook accounts, please email them to Elizabeth Holly, Gaylen Fronk, and Mariel Bello for posting. Follow Division 28 on social media, on Twitter @APADiv28 and on Facebook ["APA Division of Psychopharmacology and Substance Abuse (Division 28)"]. Early Career Psychologists can also follow @APADiv28ECP on Twitter for additional ECP-relevant content.

**Division 28 Archives Project**

Justin Strickland, Ph.D.

Division 28 has been working on developing a permanent, accessible, and searchable archives that highlights the history of our division and the contributions to psychopharmacology and substance use, specifically, and psychological science, broadly. If you are interested in learning more about this project, please visit this link on the APA webpage.

We ask of you, members and friends of Division 28, that if you have anything you believe should be added, to share these materials. Please contact Justin Strickland or Mark Smith with any items you may have or questions and thank you in advance!
Upcoming Textbook Release

Substance Use Disorders: A Biopsychosocial Perspective

Perry M. Duncan, Ph.D.

I am an emeritus professor of psychology, retired from Old Dominion University in Norfolk. I have written a textbook on substance use disorders, published by Cambridge University Press. The book will be available in the United Kingdom in September and in the United States in December. The book is entitled Substance Use Disorders: A Biopsychosocial Perspective. The book emphasizes the behavioral aspects of substance use disorders, although with the biopsychosocial view of the disorders the topics of genetics, brain function, and personality and other co-occurring disorders are also covered. The book will be of interest to professors who teach courses on substance use disorders to advanced undergraduates and graduate students. The following abbreviated outline provides further information.

Organisation of the book: Chapter One introduces the biopsychosocial concept of substance use disorders, and describes research methods used to investigate SUD. Chapter Two describes the diagnosis of SUD, including use of diagnostic criteria listed in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders published by the American Psychiatric Association. Chapter Three presents the disease theory of addiction, including the benefits and limitations of this explanation of the disorder. Chapters Four and Five present basic information from neuroscience relevant to SUD. Chapter Four summarizes psychopharmacological principles of how psychoactive drugs affect brain function. Chapter Five describes current theories of how drug-produced changes in brain function contribute to addiction.

Chapters Six, Seven and Eight present findings about the causes of and risk factors related to SUD. These origins of the disorder include abnormal brain function, genetic factors, psychiatric and developmental factors, as well as processes such as reinforcement, learning and inhibition that control behavior in general and also give rise to compulsive drug use. Chapters Five through Eight identify the essential components of a biopsychosocial explanation of substance use disorders. Chapter Nine describes the harmful effects of alcohol, a drug with widespread use in many cultures. Although alcohol has moderate addictive potential, its heavy use damages and shortens lives of many who are not addicted. Chapters Ten through Fifteen describe SUD for specific drugs of abuse, including risk factors, the course of the disorder and the adverse consequences. Chapter Sixteen describes how many individuals suffering from SUD stop compulsive and destructive drug use, either with or without the assistance of health-care professionals.
New Fellows Nominations
Adam Leventhal, Ph.D.

Division 28 is seeking nominations for new Fellows. As described by APA, “Fellow status is an honor bestowed upon APA members who have shown evidence of unusual and outstanding contributions or performance in the field of psychology. Fellow status requires that a person’s work has had a national impact on the field of psychology beyond a local, state, or regional level. A high level of competence or steady and continuing contributions are not sufficient to warrant fellow status. National impact must be demonstrated.”

In Division 28 a successful nominee will typically be 8-15 years post-doctorate, have a minimum of 30 publications and a track record of external funding, and can document national impact of their research. If you would like to nominate a colleague for consideration for Fellow status, please send their CV and contact information to the address below. You may also nominate somebody who is already an APA Fellow in another APA division that has made significant contributions to the psychology of psychopharmacology and substance use, but who is not yet a Fellow of Division 28.

Self-nominations are also welcomed.
Contact Information for Fellow Nominations:
Adam Leventhal, Ph.D.
Division 28 Fellows Chair
Email: adam.leventhal@usc.edu

Upcoming Events
Meredith Berry, Ph.D.

2020 Annual APA Convention
APA is going virtual this year! See the 2020 APA Convention Update section of this newsletter for more details. We can’t wait to catch up with you in cyberspace!

Please visit the APA Division 28 News and Events section of our website to learn about other upcoming events and meetings. To submit an announcement of an upcoming event to the website and/or newsletter, please send all information or flyers to the newsletter editor, Meredith Berry (mberry@ufl.edu).

Psychopharmacology and Substance Abuse News Editorial Policy

Psychopharmacology and Substance Abuse News is a thrice-yearly publication of Division 28. It is devoted to keeping its members informed about the activities of Division 28 and to news and comments concerning all aspects of psychopharmacology and substance abuse. Articles, comments, announcements, and advertisements should be sent to the editor, Meredith Berry (mberry@ufl.edu).

You can also read content from archived Division 28 newsletters here.
Division 28 Membership Information
Brent Kaplan, Ph.D.

Individual Memberships

Division 28 is committed to:

- Basic and Applied Research
- Undergraduate, Graduate, and Postdoctoral training
- Evidenced-based Clinical Practice
- Public Service and Advocacy

We accept APA members and non-members, and have different membership levels available for students, early career psychologists (terminal degree within the past 7 years), and regular members.

Members receive a thrice-yearly newsletter, and are eligible for 1 of 3 annual awards (Outstanding Dissertation, Early Career Psychopharmacologist, Med Associates Brady/Schuster Award). See the previous award winners at our Division 28 rewards page!

Please consider joining or renewing your membership this year. Contact our membership chair Brent Kaplan (brentkaplan@uky.edu) or visit our Division 28 membership page on our website for more information!

Corporate Affiliate Memberships

Corporate contributions support efforts in research, practice, and education. A membership contribution of $1000 is tax deductible.*

Division 28 is pleased to offer the following benefits to our corporate affiliate members:

- Access to thrice yearly newsletter
- Acknowledgement of support with corporate logo in newsletter
- Newsletter acknowledgement hyperlinked to corporate website, and available to all through newsletter posting on the Division 28 website
- Recognition of corporate support at annual APA membership meeting
- Liaison(s) eligible to subscribe to Division members-only listserv
- Liaison(s) participation in active and growing Division 28 social media presence
- Receive overview of relevant programming at APA convention

Please refer to the website for questions regarding Division 28 Corporate Affiliate Membership or contact:

Dr. Wendy Lynch (Division 28 President) at wjl6w@virginia.edu
or
Dr. Will Aklin (Division 28 Treasurer) at aklinwm@nida.nih.gov

*This is the recommended level of support. Any corporate contributions are tax exempt, and our tax number will be supplied upon request. Other levels of support are available.
Call for Papers: Experimental and Clinical Psychopharmacology
Special Issue: Intersection of Minority Health, Health Disparities, and Social Determinants of Health with Psychopharmacology and Substance Use

The incorporation of psychopharmacology and basic behavioral addiction science into research on minority health and health disparities is underleveraged. Similarly, psychopharmacology and substance use research has often overlooked the societal context in which drugs and other addictive reinforcers are consumed. This special issue is soliciting reviews and original research articles addressing the intersection of minority health, health disparities, and social determinants of health (MHDS) with psychopharmacology and substance use. Particular topics of interest include but are not limited to studies that address the intersection/association of one or more MHDS factors with one or more psychopharmacological/behavioral factors.

MHDS factors of interest include sociodemographics variables, such as race, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, sexual/gender minority status, or other priority populations (e.g., people with mental illness, people experiencing homelessness, people with chronic disease) or socioenvironmental factors, such as discrimination, racism, stigma, neighborhood, disadvantage, opportunity, culture, or others. Psychopharmacological/behavioral factors of interest include: (1) the subjective, behavioral, cognitive, or neurobiological effects of acute or chronic use of addictive substances, (2) behavioral economic processes that underlie addiction, (3) addiction endophenotypes like impulsivity, reward sensitivity or others, (4) pharmacological treatments of addiction or behavioral treatments that leverage basic behavioral science principles (e.g., contingency management), (5) cognitions about the effects of drug use (e.g., expectancies), and (6) affective/motivational processes in addiction (e.g., stress reactivity, affect regulation substance use motives). We encourage submission of review articles and original research reports in these areas. Research from a spectrum of methodologies are encouraged, including human laboratory studies involving drug administration or deprivation or other manipulations (e.g., stress), ecological momentary assessment or other naturalistic approaches, clinical trials, cross-sectional/longitudinal observational studies, qualitative studies on the experience of substance use or recovery, and other data collection methods (e.g. analysis of publicly available data, including social media postings). Studies can involve primary data collection or involve secondary analyses that leverage existing datasets that have yet to study cross-population heterogeneity in outcomes. While descriptive research of substance use prevalence across different populations will be certainly considered, papers that address psychopharmacological / behavioral processes and treatments will be prioritized. Authors from racial/ethnic minority or other underrepresented groups are especially encouraged to submit manuscripts.

Researchers in this area may submit review articles or primary research reports to Experimental and Clinical Psychopharmacology to be considered for inclusion in this special issue. Manuscripts should be submitted as usual through the APA Online Submission Portal (http://pha.edmgr.com/), and the cover letter should indicate that the authors wish the manuscript to be considered for publication in the special issue: Intersection of minority health, health disparities, and social determinants of health with psychopharmacology and substance use. All submissions will undergo our normal peer review. Manuscripts received no later than November 1, 2020 will be considered for inclusion in the special issue. We strongly encourage individuals to contact the guest editors in advance with their ideas and a draft the title and abstract.

Questions or inquiries about the special issue can be directed to the Guest Editors of the issue, Hector Lopez-Vergara, Ph.D. at hlopez-vergara@uri.edu, Tamika Zapolski, Ph.D. at tzapolsk@iupui.edu, or Adam Leventhal, Ph.D. adam.leventhal@usc.edu, or the Editor, William W. Stoops, PhD at William.stoops@uky.edu.
Experimental and Clinical Psychopharmacology

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Training and Employment Announcements

UNIVERSITY OF VERMONT’S CENTER ON BEHAVIOR AND HEALTH
POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP

The University of Vermont’s Center on Behavior and Health announces an NIH postdoctoral research fellowship opportunity in our internationally recognized center of excellence for the study of substance abuse. The fellow will participate in the conduct of an ongoing NIDA/FDA-funded trials on the use of tobacco in vulnerable populations, including pregnant women, as well as develop new research opportunities in related areas. The mentoring team has an exceptional track record of helping fellows further their careers as independent investigators.

Eligibility: Applicants must have completed their training in psychology, behavior analysis, or a related discipline. Trainees are selected on the basis of scholastic record and commitment to a career in tobacco research. Individuals must be highly motivated, possess initiative and a desire to learn and expand their interests and expertise. Experience with behavioral economics is highly valued. There may be additional application requirements if you are a non-US citizen or non-permanent resident.

Appointment: 2-3 yrs.

Benefits: Stipend, medical insurance coverage, and travel funds supported by NIH Institutional Training Awards.

To apply: Send application form (downloaded from VCBH website), a cover letter, curriculum vitae, statement of research interests, and 3 letters of reference to: Dr. Sarah Heil c/o Ms. Marissa Palmer (marissa.palmer@uvm.edu).

About us: The VCBH was established in 2013, sponsored in part by a Centers of Biomedical Research Excellence (COBRE) Award from the National Institute on General Medical Sciences and a Centers of Tobacco Regulatory Science (TCORS) Award from the National Institute on Drug Abuse. The VCBH resides within the College of Medicine at the University of Vermont, with the director and administrative offices being located within the Department of Psychiatry, and participating investigators, collaborators, and advisors across 15 academic departments in the College of Medicine and 7 colleges within UVM and 5 other universities. The VCBH is further strengthened by interdisciplinary collaborations with key community healthcare leaders and distinguished scientific advisory panels. The focus of the VCBH is on investigating relationships between personal behaviors and risk for chronic disease and premature death, with a specific focus on understanding mechanisms underpinning risk, and developing effective interventions and policies to promote healthy behavior.

For more information: Contact Ms. Marissa Wells, mwells2@uvm.edu or see our website.

Burlington, Vermont is located in the beautiful Lake Champlain region, surrounded by the Green and Adirondack Mountains. It is a great place for families, boasting excellent schools and year-round recreational opportunities. It is home to the University of Vermont and many other colleges that provide an academically stimulating and culturally rich environment. Montreal and Boston are within easy driving distances.

JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY
POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS IN SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND PSYCHOPHARMACOLOGY
HUMAN RESEARCH TRAINING

Postdoctoral research fellowships available in a stimulating, productive program with excellent resources. Prepare to be an independent investigator.

HUMAN LABORATORY -- behavioral & clinical pharmacology of abused drugs (abuse liability, self-administration, cognitive/ memory function, impulsivity, neuroimaging); anti-drug abuse medication development; behavioral research related to addiction: delay discounting, behavioral economics, and sexual risk behavior. Opioids, cocaine, anxiolytics, alcohol, caffeine, nicotine, hallucinogens, psilocybin, salvinorin A, MDMA, methamphetamine.

CLINICAL TRIALS -- testing medications, behavioral therapies (especially incentive/contingency-based), and combinations; psychiatric comorbidity research; addiction & pregnancy/women; therapeutic applications for psilocybin (cancer anxiety & smoking cessation). Opioid, cocaine, tobacco, mixed/other dependencies

Eligibility: U.S. citizen, permanent resident. Many backgrounds are appropriate, including experimental or clinical psychology, pharmacology, psychiatry, neuroscience, public health, and social work. Background in human or nonhuman research is appropriate

NIH stipend levels: $37,000 to $51,000

Start Date: Flexible.

Faculty: George Bigelow, Roland Griffiths, Maxine Stitzer, Eric Strain, Kenneth Silverman, Robert Brooner, Miriam Mintzer, Una McCann, Ryan Vandrey, Matthew Johnson, Kelly Dunn, David Thompkins, Denis Antoine, Fred Barrett

To apply: Contact George Bigelow; BPRU, Behavioral Biology Research Center; 5510 Nathan Shock Drive; Johns Hopkins Bayview Campus; Baltimore, Maryland 21224-6823. (410) 550-003, bigelow@hmi.edu. For more information see www.bpru.org.

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY, COLLEGE OF MEDICINE
POSTDOCTORAL FELLOW

The University of Kentucky College of Medicine Department of Behavioral Science is seeking applicants for a post-doctoral fellowship. This is a two-year fellowship, with an optional third year, funded by National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) T32 that is designed to train researchers in behavioral aspects of substance use disorders. The fellowship also provides ample opportunity for professional development, including grant writing and enhancing presentation and publication skills. Applicants should be highly motivated, have recently obtained a doctorate in psychology, pharmacology or a related discipline and must be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident.

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The fellowship includes salary, tuition (if applicable) and expenses for travel to conferences.

For further application details, please email Dr. Craig Rush (crush2@uky.edu).

**UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN FRANCISCO POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP**

The Substance Abuse Research Program at the University of California, San Francisco is currently accepting applications to its two-year postdoctoral research training program. This program, funded by a National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) T32 grant, aims to produce the next generation of leaders in the field of drug abuse treatment and services research. With the support of faculty mentors, scholars design and implement studies on treatment of drug and alcohol dependence. Current research interests of faculty include trials of efficacy and effectiveness of psychosocial and pharmacologic treatment of drug abuse, including:

- Tobacco dependence and food insecurity
- Innovative methodology including Internet-based studies
- Treatment of complex patients in innovative settings
- Diagnostic techniques and research on treatment tailored for HIV-positive drug abusers and drug abusers with psychiatric and medical disorders
- Provision of services to drug and alcohol abusing populations
- Instrument development in drug abuse

A variety of university-affiliated and community substance abuse programs are available as research sites. These include inpatient and outpatient setting programs that treat a range of problems related to drugs of abuse, including dependence on cocaine, nicotine, alcohol, and opiates. Our program encourages close research involvement with your preceptor, and involvement in selected classes, seminars, and grant preparation. Resources from other significant extramural funding and R01-level grants are also routinely available to scholars. Funds for travel and training opportunities are available.

More information can be found at: [http://psych.ucsf.edu/SUDTSR](http://psych.ucsf.edu/SUDTSR)

To Apply: Submit a cover letter, curriculum vitae, statement of research interests, and representative work or dissertation chapters, and 2 letters of reference to: jaime.smith@ucsf.edu. Applicants must have completed their doctoral degree and be a U.S. citizen or have Lawful Permanent Residency (green card) status at the time of appointment. Letters of reference should be sent directly from the recommenders to Ms. Adem.

Jaime Smith, CCRP, Division Administrator Substance Abuse Research Program ZSFG Psychiatry, UCSF School of Medicine jaime.smith@ucsf.edu

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**UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP**

The Department of Family Medicine and Public Health at the University of California, San Diego is seeking a post-doctoral researcher in epidemiology, economics, and policy research on drug use and abuse. This position is funded through awards from TRDRP (Tobacco-related Disease Research Program) and NIH/NIDA (National Institute on Drug Abuse). The one- to three-year position is immediately available.

The selected fellow will work closely with Dr. Yuyan Shi on projects about policy, economic, and neighborhood environments related to marijuana, tobacco, opioid, and other drugs. The candidate will also have opportunities to work with other inter-disciplinary researchers in the larger network of public health. Department of Family Medicine and Public Health at School of Medicine provides a multi-disciplinary and stimulating environment to prepare the candidate towards an independent career.

Applicants should have a doctorate in public health or social science (health services, health economics, health policy, community health, social work, behavioral medicine, psychology, epidemiology, urban studies, and other public health related fields). The ideal candidate will have strong quantitative skills, including prior experience in using statistical packages and analyzing large-scale population surveys or administrative records. Demonstrated ability to apply spatial analysis tools such as ArcGIS, or develop and implement survey questionnaires, or design and implement behavioral economics experiments will be an advantage. Strong writing and communication skills are also expected.

The University of California, San Diego is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employers. Minorities and women are strongly encouraged. U.S. citizen or permanent resident is preferred but not required. Visa sponsorship will be provided if needed. Applications will be considered until the position is filled. Interested candidates should submit a curriculum vitae, a cover letter describing research interests and experience, one writing sample, and three names of references to Dr. Yuyan Shi at yus001@ucsd.edu.

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**UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS, MCGOVERN MEDICAL SCHOOL POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP**

The Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, UTHealth Medical School in Houston, is recruiting outstanding Ph.D. clinician scientists for Postdoctoral Fellowship opportunities. We seek well-trained, motivated individuals with excellent communication and interpersonal skills, demonstrated proficiency in scientific writing, and the desire to learn the necessary skills to transition into independent faculty positions. The training period involves two years starting in September or October 2019. A key focus for the training period will be the development of successful grant planning and writing skills pursuant to applications to NIH, NSF and private foundations.

NIH-funded investigators in the Department will serve as mentors. Current work focuses on treatment outcomes, clinical trials, behavioral interventions (Dr. Jay Schmitz), human behavioral processes, neuroimaging and psychopharmacology (Dr. Scott Lane), molecular, genetic/epigenetics (Dr. Consuelo Walsh-Bass), neuroimaging, cognitive neurosciences (Dr. Jair Soares), Bayesian statistics, data science, novel adaptive trial designs (Dr. Charles Green). Training and/or interest in any
of these areas is welcomed, but we strongly emphasize team science and thus preference will be given to individuals seeking translational training across these domains. The department has strengths in clinical service and clinical research, particularly in the fields of substance use disorders and mood disorders. Our clinical research programs are housed at the state-of-the-art Behavioral and Biomedical Sciences Building (BBSB) and the UT Harris County Psychiatric Center, one of the largest inpatient academic psychiatric hospitals in the US with 250 acute care psychiatric beds.

UTHealth is an integral part of the Texas Medical Center (TMC), the largest medical center in the world, with a vibrant academic community and a plethora of outstanding collaborative and translational opportunities in the health sciences. Houston is the 4th largest US metropolitan area featuring continued growth and economic prosperity, vibrant opportunities, and a highly competitive cost of living relative to other culturally diverse metropolitan areas. Applicants must have completed a Ph.D or equivalent degree. Preference given to those with training or experience in programs with active NIH grant portfolios. Competitive salaries and benefits are available. To find out more information about these unique academically-driven positions or to apply, please forward a CV and letter of interest to Joy M. Schmitz, Ph.D., Professor and Director of the Center for Neurobehavioral Research on Addiction (CNRA), e-mail: Joy.M.Schmitz@uth.tmc.edu, phone: 713-486-2867, or Jair C. Soares, M.D., Professor and Chair, e-mail: Jair.C.Soares@uth.tmc.edu, phone: 713-486-2507. The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston is an EO/AA employer. M/F/D/V.

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES
POSTDOCTORAL FELLOW

A position for Postdoctoral Research Fellow is available at the UCLA Addictions Laboratory (Ph: Lara Ray). Our laboratory examines the clinical neuroscience of alcoholism, including studies of alcoholism etiology and treatment. Our focus is on translating basic science of addiction to clinically meaningful insights and interventions for clinical populations. Research methods employed include behavioral pharmacology, experimental psychopathology, neuroimaging, and clinical trials. Postdoctoral fellows will be actively involved in data analysis, manuscript preparation, and development of independent extramural grant applications. Research qualifications include a PhD or MD degree in clinical psychology, psychiatry, neuroscience, or a related field. Preferred qualifications include significant experience with substance use research and sophistication in data analytic methods. Mentoring and professional development will be provided by Dr. Lara Ray and affiliated UCLA faculty members. Opportunities for teaching and mentoring of graduate and undergraduate students is available. Opportunities for clinical practice and licensure in clinical psychology are also available. UCLA is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Lab Website: https://addictions.psych.ucla.edu/

POSTDOCTORAL FELLOW

The UCLA Integrated Substance Abuse Programs (ISAP) invites applicants for a fulltime post-doctoral position in a thriving research organization with decades of experience conducting clinical research on substance use disorders (SUDs). This position is available for an individual interested in interdisciplinary research on SUD topics, emphasizing experimental clinical trials to develop and test effective treatments for SUDs, with a focus on opioid use disorder. Opportunities in the rich research environment based at UCLA include:

- numerous clinical trials on SUD treatment conducted by ISAP researchers and affiliated investigators at UCLA and across the nation;
- ISAP team involvement as prominent participants in the NIDA Clinical Trials Network;
- ongoing research focus on opioid use disorder (OUD), including studies on medication treatment for OUD and innovative delivery of OUD treatment;
- a focus on blending clinical practice and research, providing a rich setting in which to increase expertise in designing, conducting, and documenting clinical trials, as well as to learn skills in advanced methodologies applicable to clinical trials research.

Candidates should have a background in psychology, medicine, or neuroscience and be interested in developing expertise in clinical trials research involving pharmacotherapies and behavioral therapies for SUDs. Also of interest are candidates with expertise in implementation science and in statistical analysis that may be applied to clinical research on SUDs. Candidates must have:

- doctoral degree in psychology, medicine, public health, or social sciences;
- excellent writing and communication skills;
- ability to work in a fast-paced, collaborative research environment;
- ability to travel to clinical sites and interact with participants and clinical personnel.

Duration of the fellowship is flexible, initially for one year, with possible extension. Salary will be commensurate with experience and demonstrated capabilities in relevant areas, including writing for scholarly publications, familiarity with good research practices, and an understanding of ethical research and protection of human research participants.

Please send a cover letter, CV, and contact information for three references to:

Yih-Ing Hser, Ph.D. (yhs@mednet.ucla.edu)
Larissa Mooney, M.D. (lmooney@mednet.ucla.edu)

VIRGINIA TECH, FRALIN BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE
POSTDOCTORAL ASSOCIATE

Imagine working in a stimulating environment where you will be a part of cutting-edge research discoveries where

- multiple NIH grants fund a variety of diverse interdisciplinary and translational research projects
• invaluable grant-writing experience is gained and encouraged
• you will work closely with some of the leading researchers in addiction and behavioral economics
• you are encouraged to pitch your own ideas for meaningful research projects that fall within the scope of the lab
• postdoctoral associates average 5 published manuscripts per year

Imagine a growing research institute that attracts leading scientists from across the nation – The Fralin Biomedical Research Institute at VTC (formerly known as the Virginia Tech Carilion Research Institute) is a unique public-private partnership that leverages Virginia Tech’s world-class strength in basic sciences, bioinformatics, and engineering with Carilion Clinic’s highly experienced medical staff and a rich history in medical education. Virginia Tech Carilion (VTC) improves human health and quality of life by providing leadership in medical education and biomedical and clinical research. This academic health center was recently renamed Fralin Biomedical Research Institute at VTC in honor of the $50 million donation provided by the generosity of Heywood and Cynthia Fralin to progress the growth of this institute and its contributions to medical and research advancements.

**Position Summary:** The Addiction Recovery Research Center (ARRC) is directed by Dr. Warren K. Bickel, an accomplished scholar and researcher whose work is frequently cited and receives national and international recognition. This position will work primarily on NIH funded projects that are providing new information about substance and alcohol use disorders, health behaviors, and decision-making. Several projects are focusing on the use of the Experimental Tobacco Marketplace to investigate choice behavior among nicotine users from a behavioral economics framework. Other projects are focusing on treatments for opioid use disorder and the examination of Episodic Future Thinking to improve health in individuals with prediabetes and other lifestyle related disorders. Moreover, ARRC has ongoing projects to examine the effects of Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation on cigarette smoking and overeating. The position is well suited for individuals interested in technological and behavioral economic applications to addiction and health behavior. This postdoctoral position will also be involved in developing pilot research programs in the research areas of the lab and will be expected to help develop these additional projects.

**Appointment:** 1-3 yrs.

**Eligibility:** Candidates are expected to have a solid background in psychology, behavioral economics, and/or addiction or health behaviors research. In addition, experience with behavior analysis and/or clinical trials is highly desirable. The successful candidate will possess a PhD in psychology, neuroscience, or appropriate related discipline and have a record of research excellence as indicated by peer-reviewed publications and presentations.

**Benefits:** Full-time annual salary, medical insurance coverage, and travel funds supported by NIH grants. Translational research training and career development opportunities are provided as part of this position.

**For more information:** Contact Ms. Patsy Marshall (patsym@vtc.vt.edu).

**To apply:** Send cover letter, curriculum vitae, statement of research interests, and 3 letters of reference to: Dr. Warren K. Bickel c/o Ms. Patsy Marshall (patsym@vtc.vt.edu). Applications will be reviewed on an ongoing basis.

**About us:** The Addiction Recovery Research Center (ARRC) was established in 2011 as part of the Virginia Tech Carilion Research Institute (VTCRI). The existing facilities and research teams are World-class and focus on transdisciplinary research on the scientific underpinnings of health and a range of diseases and substance use disorders. A new biomedical expansion is currently being constructed and will include additional research laboratories to focus on brain health and disorders, biomaterials-body device interfaces, cardiovascular sciences, cancer, metabolism and obesity, and infectious disease and immunity. The Fralin Biomedical Research Institute at VTC represents a new model for biomedical and behavioral science in which creative scientists can approach major problems with breadth and depth in a nurturing and intellectually challenging environment.

**About Roanoke, Virginia:** Roanoke, Virginia is located in Southwest Virginia in the foothills of the Appalachian Mountains and accessible by the Blue Ridge Parkway. Roanoke is a vibrant community with an active downtown full of restaurants, theaters, museums, and an amphitheater that is home to many seasonal festivals and music events. Roanoke also offers great opportunities for an active outdoor lifestyle with 30 miles of greenway connecting charming neighborhoods and beautiful parks along the Roanoke River. Roanoke is one of two cities in the nation to earn the All-American City Award a record seven times.

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**GEISEL SCHOOL OF MEDICINE AT DARTMOUTH**

**ASSISTANT PROFESSOR**

The Department of Biomedical Data Science at the Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth (Geisel) seeks outstanding applicants for a tenure-track Assistant Professor to join our faculty within the Center for Technology and Behavioral Health (CTBH). Exceptional candidates at the rank of Associate Professor may also be considered. Dartmouth is an R1: Doctoral University – Highest Research Activity in the Carnegie Classification, and faculty members benefit from highly collaborative and collegial interactions across campus, inclusive of departments at the Geisel School of Medicine, the College of Arts & Sciences, the Thayer School of Engineering and the Tuck School of Business.

CTBH is an interdisciplinary research group whose mission is to inform the optimal development, systematic evaluation, and sustainable implementation of digital therapeutics for behavioral health and health care delivery transformation. Successful candidates will be pursuing a vigorous research program focused on the use of novel methodologies, intervention development, data analytics and/or biostatistics in digital health. Research focused on patient/consumer engagement, clinical effectiveness, or implementation of digital health behavior-change interventions will also be considered. That may include research in adaptive digital therapeutic interventions for health behavior change; development/refinement of
analytic models for intensive, longitudinal mobile health data; digital phenotyping; or biostatistical analysis of densely sampled longitudinal data. Research designed to understand mechanisms of behavior change with digital health interventions is also of interest, as are interventions focusing on addictive behaviors. The activities of the center are diverse and inter-disciplinary; hence, the call for outstanding candidates from a breadth of different disciplines spanning behavioral medicine to biostatistics.

Applicants should have a PhD, MD, or equivalent degree with relevant post-doctoral training. Formal advanced training in behavioral science, research methods, biostatistics, data science, biomedical informatics, bioinformatics or a related field is preferred. Applicants should also have a successful track record of peer-reviewed publications, and ideally a history of extramural funding. Expectations for teaching and mentoring are a critical part of this role, and individuals will be provided with such opportunities through membership in relevant PhD graduate programs (e.g., Program in Quantitative Biomedical Sciences; Program in Experimental & Molecular Medicine, The Dartmouth Institute). Training grants in relevant areas (e.g., Science of Co-occurring Disorders, BD2K Predoctoral Training in Biomedical Big Data Science, the Burroughs Welcome training fund for Unifying Population and Laboratory-based Sciences) are available to support trainees in areas relevant to successful candidates.

Link to apply: https://apply.interfolio.com/60277

Contact for questions:

Alan J. Budney, Ph.D.
mailto:alan.j.budney@dartmouth.edu
Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth
Center for Technology and Behavioral Health
46 Centerra Pkwy, Suite 315, HB 7255
Lebanon, NH 03766
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Suzette Evans

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- Program Chair (2020): Justin Strickland
- Program Chair (2021): Cecilia Bergeria

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- Early Career Psychologist Representative: Elizabeth Holly, Ryan Lacy
- Archivist: Justin Strickland

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