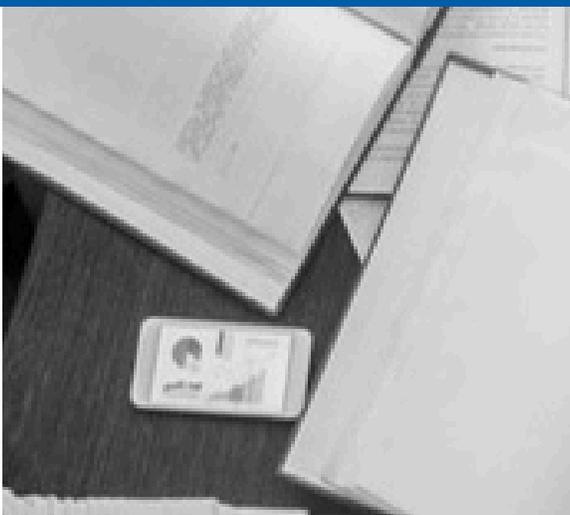




The College on Problems
of Drug Dependence

NEWS LINE

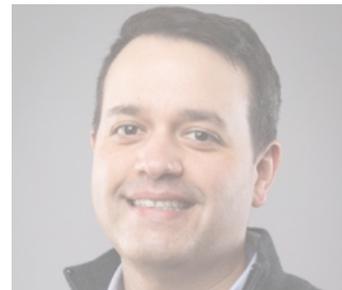
SPRING 2024



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President's Column

Dear friends and colleagues,

The 2024 Annual Meeting is just around the corner, and I am excited for you to find out everything we have in store.

This year marks CPDD's 95th birthday and our 86th CPDD Annual Scientific Meeting. I'd like to express my deepest gratitude to all of our CPDD committee members, the Board of Directors, the Executive Committee and our Parthenon Management Group (PMG) team who have worked tirelessly to make sure our scientific community continues to grow and thrive. CPDD now has over 1,100 members and is still growing.

Another important anniversary is NIDA's. In May, NIDA celebrates advancing addiction research for its 50th year! On May 14, 1974, an act of Congress established the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA), and since then NIDA has led the world in funding and conducting research on drug use and addiction. We look forward to celebrating NIDA's 50th anniversary together in June, 2024 at the CPDD Annual Meeting.

CPDD committees have also been hard at work. The Underrepresented Populations Committee (URPOP) has developed a LGBTQIA+ subcommittee task force lead by Dr. Andy Thompkins with initiatives including plans to query members on their demographics with questions that include sexual and gender minority (SGM) questions in order to provide feedback to membership in multiple forms. The task force also plans to provide LGBTQIA+ persons with a dedicated mixer and networking opportunity at the CPDD June 2024 annual meeting and/or host dedicated monthly videoconferencing networking calls. Discussions have also included mentorship and sponsor funding opportunities for a LGBTQIA+ trainee travel award for the CPDD annual meeting. The International Committee hosted a welcome meeting for international scholars and researchers in mid-February which provided insight and guidance on financial support and discount options for the meeting, information about hotel room sharing options, essential Canadian travel information, instructions on obtaining a visa invitation letter from CPDD, and shared experiences and hurdles in order to make every CPDD meeting feel like coming home, fostering a space to form lasting connections and collaborations.

The annual meeting received 1,130 Symposium, Mini-Symposium, Forum, Workshop, and Poster submissions. I would like to thank Dr. Kevin Freeman and the entire Program Committee for their hard work and tenacity planning this year's meeting. This year, all attendees can look forward to sessions of interest to CPDD's scientifically diverse membership, including medicinal chemists, preclinical researchers, human laboratory researchers, clinicians, epidemiologists, clinical researchers. CPDD continues to partner with ISGIDAR to produce their Annual Meeting on Saturday, June 15. NDEWS, RAMS and the InWomen's conference will also be held in conjunction with CPDD this year. Additionally, this year's meeting will include the NIDA International Forum and the NIDA Early Career (formerly Grant Writing) Workshop.



I also want to highlight this year's Presidential Symposium. This year, the topic will be Cannabis: A Controversial Substance. Talks in the symposium will focus on the genetics of cannabis use disorder, the changing epidemiologic landscape of cannabis use in the U.S. and elsewhere, and on laboratory placebo-controlled studies of cannabis effects.

Don't forget, you can still register for the meeting without having to register onsite. To register, click [here](#). You can also contact the Executive Officer any questions via email at info@cpdd.org or by calling 615.432.0099.

I am also excited to announce six highly deserving recipients of our Award for Excellence this year.

- Nathan B Eddy Memorial Award: Eric Strain, MD
- Mary Jeanne Kreek Underserved Populations Award: Elise Riley, PhD
- CPDD Mentorship Award: Richard De La Garza, PhD
- Joseph Cochin Young Investigator Award: Jibran Khokhar, PhD
- Marian W. Fischman Lectureship Award: Sandy Comer, PhD
- Martin and Toby Adler Distinguished Service Award: Sandy Comer, PhD
- James L. Sorensen Distinguished Treatment and Service Mentor Award, Jeffrey Samet, PhD

Please join us at the Awards Dinner and Dancing (which some fondly refer to as Prom) as we celebrate each of their contributions to substance use disorder research.

CPDD also provided 84 Travel Awards for the 2024 Annual Meeting. Congratulations on to all of our recipients. You can review the entire list on the CPDD website.

Lastly, please don't forget to renew your membership! CPDD membership and conference registrations directly fund our numerous programs, our new early career investigator grant, awards, and numerous opportunities for early career scientists. We are continuing to define ways CPDD can better support all of our members. To ensure that we continue advancing substance use disorder research and support new initiatives such as these, I encourage you to renew your membership if you haven't already.

I look forward to seeing all of you at our upcoming amazing June, 2024 Annual Meeting in Montreal, Canada!

Deborah Hasin, PhD
CPDD President

Debra Hasin, PhD
President, CPDD



CPDD 86th Annual Scientific Meeting

CPDD provides a national and international forum for scientists of diverse backgrounds to advance the understanding of molecular-neurobiological aspects of addictive disorders and, by the application of new scientific knowledge, to improve and develop treatments utilizing novel behavioral and pharmacological therapies.

Since 1938, a major focus of the CPDD's activities has been its sponsorship of an annual scientific meeting. This conference serves as a forum bringing together basic scientists and clinical investigators from industry, academia, and government. Representatives of regulatory agencies, as well as scientists and professionals in a number of diverse disciplines interested in the biochemical, behavioral, and public health aspects of drug dependence, participate. We expect to have more than 1,500 attendees for the 2024 meeting, including many international attendees who come for the CPDD meeting as well as the NIDA International Forum. This year's meeting also boasts the NIDA Early Career Workshop and the SBIR Poster Session.

The meeting will feature more than 600 learning and engagement opportunities, including Symposiums, Mini-Symposiums, Forums, Workshops, Posters, and Oral Presentations. Here is a preview of what you can expect.

The Use of Glucagon-Like peptide-1 Receptor Agonists (GLP-1RAs) for the Treatment of Substance Use Disorder in Rats and Humans

Patricia "Sue" Grigson, PhD, chair
Scott Bunce, PhD, co-chair

This session will examine the mechanism(s) of action, safety, and possible effectiveness of glucagon-like peptide-1 receptor agonists (GLP-1RAs) for the treatment of substance use disorder (SUD) in animal models and in humans. The content will address the safety and efficacy of the GLP-1RA, liraglutide, for the treatment of opioid use disorder (OUD) in rodent models. Data addressing the safety and efficacy of liraglutide in patients in residential treatment for OUD, and a report on a Phase II Random Clinical Trial (RCT) testing the effect of the GLP-1RA, semaglutide, on craving and use in participants with a SUD will be described. Finally, a discussion on repurposing a GLP-1RA for the treatment of nicotine use disorder and for the mitigation of post-cessation weight gain will occur.



CPDD 86th Annual Scientific Meeting



Sentinel Networks for Early Surveillance and Warning of Substance Use Trends in North America

Linda Cottler, MPH, PhD chair
Erin Parker, PhD co-chair

This session will highlight sentinel surveillance and early warning networks in the US, Canada and Mexico and will showcase unique strategies for collecting, interpreting, and communicating information and outcomes. Presentations will explain project and network features, methodologies, and recent key findings with implications for policy and practice. Presentations will also showcase recent collaborative work between CCENDU, NDEWS and NCEWS on the importance of international sharing of findings and methods. The moderated discussion will highlight similarities and differences between approaches and context, and the added benefits of drawing from each other's experiences.



Safer Supply and the Opioid Crisis in Canada

David Marsh, MD, chair
Mohammad Karamouzian, PhD, co-chair

To address the public health crisis characterized by opioid-related toxicity deaths becoming the leading cause of death for men aged 25-45, innovative approaches to engaging those with opioid use disorder (OUD) who have not substantially benefitted from the existing treatment system are evolving. This symposium will review the evidence for the effectiveness of supervised injectable OAT (siOAT) with diacetylmorphine and hydromorphone, and describe the evolution of siOAT as a component of a comprehensive treatment and harm reduction continuum. We will also explore approaches that build on the siOAT evidence to offer safer supply interventions to reduce the risk of harm such as risks and benefits of the provision of hydromorphone formulations as safer supply to assist patients in avoiding the use of unregulated fentanyl will be discussed.



CPDD 86th Annual Scientific Meeting

Translationally Evaluating Causes and Consequences of Xylazine Adulteration in the Opioid Supply

Cassie Gipson, PhD, chair
Justin Strickland, PhD co-chair

This session will provide translational evidence of the causes and consequences of xylazine adulteration of the opioid drug supply, including epidemiology, laboratory-based clinical data, and preclinical rat models.

Craving a Novel Treatment Endpoint: The Role of Drug Craving in the Treatment of Substance Use Disorders

Ivan Montoya, MD, MPH, chair
Cecilia Bergeria, PhD, co-chair

The purpose of this symposium is to (1) review the advances in the development of the construct of craving and the instruments to evaluate it, (2) to review the results of studies evaluating changes in craving during SUD treatment and its relation to other salutary outcomes, and (3) to learn about the FDA's stand and guidance to advance the evaluation of drug craving to be accepted as a treatment outcome for SUD therapeutics development.

A photograph of laboratory glassware, including a beaker and several flasks, set against a dark background. The glassware is partially filled with a clear liquid.

CPDD 86th Annual Scientific Meeting

A close-up photograph of a medical syringe with a needle, held in a hand. The syringe is blue and white, and the needle is pointing towards the right.

The Healing Communities Study: Disrupting the Status Quo to Address Opioid Overdose Deaths

Sharon Walsh, PhD, chair
Jeffrey Samet, MD, co-chair

The HEALing Communities Study is a multi-site, randomized, parallel-group, cluster wait-list controlled trial of communities in Ohio, Kentucky, New York and Massachusetts (n=67) assessing the efficacy of the Communities that Heal intervention (CTH) to decrease opioid overdose deaths. The CTH consists has: 1) a community coalition engagement strategy that guides the intervention; 2) the evidence-based practices (EBPs) for deployment, and 3) health communication campaigns to increase EBP demand and reduce stigma. Community coalitions selected interventions for investment of study resources to address community needs. Many innovative efforts were attempted to disrupt the status quo of overdose deaths that impacted these urban and rural communities. This symposium will share the major outcomes of this trial reporting primary and secondary outcomes, including opioid overdose deaths, distribution of naloxone into communities, and uptake of and retention on medications for opioid use disorder.

A photograph of a pair of hands holding a pair of scales of justice. The scales are silver and the hands are wearing white gloves.

Bridging the Gap: Practical and Ethical Considerations on the Utility of Artificial Intelligence in Substance Use Disorders

Suky Martinez, PhD, chair
Jermaine Jones, PhD, co-chair

This session will examine the multifaceted dimensions of implementing AI into the field of SUDs and related psychopathologies, prioritizing discussions on ethics and utility. The objective is to rigorously assess the ethical repercussions and practical benefits and challenges of assimilating AI into SUD research and clinical settings, forging a dialogue among esteemed scholars and professionals with varied expertise. This symposium aspires to present an opportunity for a nuanced discussion of AI, ethics, and SUDs with the aim of fostering collaborations and debate.

A black and white photograph of laboratory glassware, including a beaker and several flasks, set against a dark background.

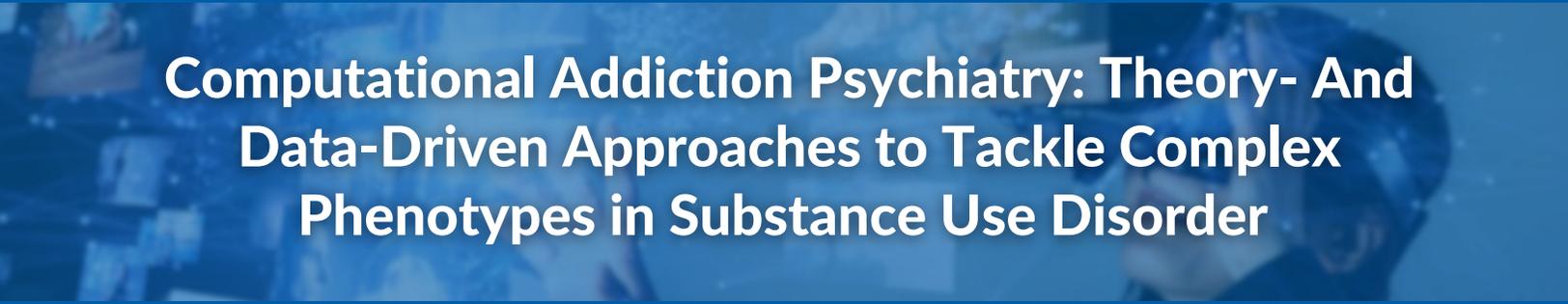
CPDD 86th Annual Scientific Meeting

A close-up photograph of green cannabis leaves, showing their serrated edges and intricate vein patterns.

Computational Neuroscience and Cannabis: Preclinical, Behavioral and Clinical Insights

Sarah Yip, PhD, chair
Iris Balodis, PhD, co-chair

This symposium brings together computational addiction neuroscientists conducting research spanning preclinical, computational behavioral and clinical neuroscience domains—to advance understanding of cannabis neurobiology.

A photograph of a person wearing glasses, looking towards the right side of the frame. The image is partially obscured by a blue overlay.

Computational Addiction Psychiatry: Theory- And Data-Driven Approaches to Tackle Complex Phenotypes in Substance Use Disorder

Sergej Grunevski, BS, chair
Robert Kohler, PhD, co-chair

This symposium will integrate ecological momentary assessment to investigate the timescale of urges and economic value for food and drugs with a neurocomputational model of craving that can decode self-reported urges from neural data in treatment-engaged individuals and discuss how multivariate pattern learning approaches can be used to identify latent dimensions of reward, impulsivity, and behavior, particularly during development, that relate to future substance use risk. Together, findings from this symposium highlight the powerful utility of computational modeling in probing complexity that undergirds substance use disorder.



CPDD 86th Annual Scientific Meeting



An Inwomen's Gender Symposium on Intersectional Responses to Opioids and Other Substance use: Innovative treatment, Social determinants, and Voices from the Ground

Wendee Wechsberg, PhD, chair
Felicia Browne, ScD, co-chair

This symposium reflects our continued commitment to research that promotes and centers key populations. Opioid and alcohol-related deaths among women have been on a steep rise compared to men, worsened by the nascent contamination of the drug supply with synthetic opioids like fentanyl.



Drug-Drug Interactions Relevant to Substance Abuse and Toxicity

William Fantegrossi, PhD, chair
Jeffrey Moran, MA co-chair

This symposium will explore consequences of drug-drug interactions across several pharmacological classes, including opioids, cannabinoids, psychostimulants, and nicotine. Speakers will discuss preclinical data from their laboratories, focusing on how the presence of one drug may alter the absorption, distribution, metabolism and excretion of another drug, and how these altered pharmacokinetic factors may drive exacerbated abuse liability and toxicity of the combinations. Presenters from industry and academia will discuss the challenges of studying PSU in terms of analytical procedures, experimental design, and data interpretation. Consequences of PSU ranging from abuse-related effects to cardiovascular effects to drug disposition will be presented, and a moderated discussion session will explore clinical relevance and offer next steps to advance the field.

A photograph of laboratory glassware, including a beaker and several flasks, set against a dark background. The glassware is partially filled with a clear liquid.

CPDD 86th Annual Scientific Meeting

A photograph showing several hands of different ages clasped together in a supportive gesture. The hands are set against a soft, out-of-focus background.

The Growing Older Adult Population and Substance Use: Multimorbidity, Healthcare Utilization, and Harm Reduction Considerations

Bethea “Annie” Kleykamp, PhD chair
Margaret Fahey, PhD, co-chair

This symposium aims to educate the audience on trends in substance use among older adults and includes four presentations addressing 1) considerations for research, treatment, and policy efforts focused on aging adults and substance use, 2) sociodemographic characteristics and healthcare utilization rates associated with using tobacco in a nationally representative sample of adults 50+ , 3) screening and discussions with healthcare providers about alcohol, tobacco, and drug use as a way to facilitate care engagement and harm reduction; and 4) descriptive epidemiology for poisoning-related deaths among older adults in the United States, including how deaths have grown substantially in the period 2018 to 2021.

A photograph showing several hands of different ages clasped together in a supportive gesture. The hands are set against a soft, out-of-focus background.

Amplifying Voices of Perinatal Persons with Substance Use Disorders

Sara Witcraft, PhD, chair
Constance Guille, MD, co-chair

This symposium seeks to amplify voices of people with lived experiences of PSUDs by presenting primarily qualitative data and discussing patient-centered approaches to improve access to, and equity and quality of substance use services for birthing people. The first talk will present qualitative data on internal (e.g., stress) and external (e.g., stigma) factors that influence pregnant and postpartum people’s use of buprenorphine and methadone. The second talk will describe a community-based participatory research approach in the creation of a digital tool to improve parenting and recovery outcomes among mothers in early recovery.

CPDD 86th Annual Scientific Meeting

Neuroinflammatory Signaling in Substance Use Disorders? Recent Evidence from Molecular Imaging Studies

Eric Woodcock, PhD
Jacob Dubroff, MD, PhD

Substance use disorders (SUDs) are known to modulate peripheral immune function. Individuals with SUDs recover more slowly from illness, infection, and surgery than non-substance-using individuals. However, relatively little is known about the brain's immune system (or neuroimmune system) among individuals with SUDs. In SUDs, postmortem analyses show upregulated glial markers indicative of neuroinflammation in the brains of deceased substance-using individuals. However, to date, studies investigating in vivo neuroimmune phenotypes among living patients with SUDs have been limited. This session will include novel findings from the 'second wave' of PET imaging studies using 'next generation' neuroimmune radiotracers, including [18F]NOS and [11C]AMT, among individuals with SUDs and show findings from a large, multi-site analysis of TSPO data among tobacco smokers.

Advancing Data Science Ethics in Drug Addiction Epidemiology, Services, and Prevention Research

Janet Kuramoto-Crawford, PhD, chair
Karli Hochstatter, MPH, PhD co-chair

This symposium brings together three investigators to discuss challenges and opportunities in applying data science ethics in the real-world problem of drug addiction. Drug addiction research generates highly sensitive data such as HIV risk behaviors and illicit drug use, which pose particular risk due to the stigmatization of drug misuse and potential other harms if data were to be used inappropriately. Advancing ethical data science and ethical artificial intelligence (AI) can help detect and mitigate bias within data sets and models, ensure respect of privacy, confidentiality, and ownership of data, and further our understanding and prevention of the societal and unintended consequences from data science applied research. Data science projects also leverage linked data, which necessitates additional ethical considerations of record linkage.

A black and white photograph of laboratory glassware, including a round-bottom flask and several test tubes, set against a dark background.

CPDD 86th Annual Scientific Meeting

A blue background with a pattern of white text and symbols, including words like 'Stigmatizing', 'Language', 'Science', and 'Real-world'.

Teresa Franklin, PhD, chair
Steve Shoptaw, PhD, co-chair

If you question the prevailing push to reduce and/or eliminate the use of stigmatizing language or if you are unsure of its meaning, or if you would like to learn strategies to combat stigmatizing language in your own work, this workshop will offer information, clarification, and open discussion. 'Stigmatizing language' refers to words or labels that evoke negative attitudes or beliefs (i.e., stereotypes) about certain individuals.

A blue background with a network of white dots and lines, representing data analytics.

John Mantsch, PhD, chair
Rachel Wightman, MD, co-chair

This symposium pulls together teams from Massachusetts (Tufts), North Carolina (University of North Carolina; UNC), Rhode Island (Brown), and Wisconsin (Medical College of Wisconsin/University Wisconsin Milwaukee; MCW/UWM) that are using big data and advanced analytical approaches in partnership with community agencies/organizations to guide responses to the opioid crisis. The utility of these approaches for optimizing community responses and the associated challenges and opportunities will be discussed.



CPDD 86th Annual Scientific Meeting



Skill-Building Workshop: What is Design-Thinking and How Can It Improve Your SUD Research?

Kelly Dunn, MBA, PhD, chair
Supriya Munshaw, PhD co-chair

This workshop will introduce the established business framework "Design Thinking" and explain how design thinking can be applied to produce novel and innovative preclinical and clinical research hypotheses and methods.



UPDATE ON THE 2024 CPDD CONFERENCE



Greetings CPDD colleagues,

**Kevin Freeman, PhD, Chair, CPDD
Program Committee**

We are thrilled to welcome you to the 2024 meeting in Montreal, Quebec, Canada. We have an exciting program to share with you. First, we will celebrate NIDA's 50th anniversary with two special sessions to be chaired by Nora Volkow. The first will focus on advances in the neurobiology of addiction, and the second on advances in the prevention and treatment of addiction. There is also an array of invited symposia on the slate focused on diagnostic/treatment considerations pertaining to the construct of craving, safe supply as an approach for harm reduction, current science on xylazine as an adulterant, GLP-1 agonists as potential therapeutics for SUDs, and sentinel networks for early surveillance.

We will also celebrate the life and career of our dearly departed member, Roland Griffiths, in a memorial session chaired by his longtime friend and colleague, Jack Henningfield. Another addition for the 2024 meeting will be the introduction of an annual oral session highlighting the fabulous work of our trainees from under-represented populations with a series of talks. Lastly, we had one of the highest abstract-submission numbers on record for CPDD, which will bring a lot of great content to the 2024 meeting.

Some of the features that were introduced in the post-COVID era will continue this year. First, we will continue our collaboration with the NIDA OTIPI office to highlight work from the institute's small-business portfolio with a special poster session showcasing the cutting-edge work supported by NIDA's SBIR/STTR program. We will have over 24 posters for this session, so be sure to attend and learn about the many innovations and technologies emerging in our field. Also, we will offer structured sessions for members to schedule and meet with NIDA program officials who are attending the meeting (stay tuned for an announcement about scheduling and the participating officials).

Long-standing traditions of our meeting will also continue. We will have our customary plenary and presidential sessions, two late-breaking sessions, our standard forums, and our networking sessions including the Brunch with Champions.

For those traveling from outside of Canada, please be sure your passports are up to date. Time is running out, and we would hate to miss out catching up with members because of delays in passport processing.

Lastly, I want to thank the members of the Program Committee for their excellent work and their commitment to CPDD. Each member contributed many hours of effort to review submissions and develop the 2024 program. I am honored to serve with this fantastic group.

See you all in Montreal!

Kevin Freeman, PhD
Chair, Program Committee

[CLICK HERE](#)

**For the Full 2024 CPDD
ANNUAL MEETING SCHEDULE**

CPDD 86TH ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING



JUNE 15 - JUNE 19, 2024

Montreal, Canada

The Fairmont Queen Elizabeth

SCAN TO LEARN MORE!





CPDD 2024 Awards for Excellence

Greetings from the CPDD Awards for Excellence Committee!

Our committee is privileged to administer the Nathan B. Eddy Memorial Award, the Marian W. Fischman Lectureship Award for An Outstanding Woman Scientist, the Robert Balster Mentorship Award, the Joseph Cochin Young Investigator Award, the J. Michael Morrison Award, the Mary Jeanne Kreek Underserved Populations Award and the newly established James L. Sorensen Distinguished Treatment & Service Mentor Award.

We congratulate the 2024 CPDD Awards for Excellence winners and will be diligently working to select the 2025 Awards of Excellence winners in the coming months:

Mary Jeanne Kreek Underserved Populations Award

Elise Riley, PhD, University of California, San Francisco

Nathan B. Eddy Memorial Award

Eric Strain, MD, John Hopkins University

Marian W. Fischman Lectureship Award

Sandra Comer PhD, Columbia University

Martin and Toby Adler Distinguished Service Award

Sandra Comer, PhD
Columbia University

CPDD Mentorship Award

Richard De La Garza, PhD
University of Texas Medical Branch

Joseph Cochin Young Investigator Award

Jibran Khokhar, PhD, Western University

James L. Sorensen Distinguished Treatment & Service Mentor Award - Jeffrey Samet, MD

Our committee would like to again remind the membership that we are committed to a confidential, yet transparent, review process. The committee members are required to disclose actual or perceived conflicts of interest with any of the nominees--those with conflicts do not participate in the review process for a given award. Committee members not in conflict are provided the confidential materials for each nominee, and asked to give preliminary scores, which are then used to guide the review discussion. Merit is the primary criterion, but diversity is encouraged and embraced. We would also like to remind everyone of some important nomination rules: individuals can only nominate one person for an award but are permitted to submit nominations for more than one award; the same person cannot be nominated for more than one award in the same year; and Awards for Excellence Committee members are not allowed to be nominated for an award. Thank you for keeping these restrictions in mind when considering potential nominees.

I am honored to continue to serve as the Chair for the Awards for Excellence Committee and look forward to working with the Committee and the College to recognize the best and brightest of our members in the coming years. Please consider nominating deserving colleagues for one or more of the CPDD Awards for Excellence next year, and/or making award donations.

CPDD Awards for Excellence Committee

- Matt Banks, Chair
- Gill Bedi
- Ellen Geller
- Leslie Lundahl
- Omayma Aishaarawy
- Kevin Xu
- Maria Parker

Mathew Banks, PhD,
Chair, CPDD Awards for Excellence Committee



CPDD Member Spotlight

Cecilia Bergeria, PhD

What issue has been persistent/hard to resolve in your area of expertise?

The ever changing, unregulated drug supply can make it challenging to systematically study and understand the mechanisms of and best ways to treat opioid use disorder- especially for targets like withdrawal and craving. It has been several years since the emergence of fentanyl and there are still gaps and questions about how to best adapt treatment for those who are chronically exposed. The emergence of new analogues and adulterants- like fentanyl analogues and xylazine- underscores the importance of being agile and ready to adapt protocols to fit the shifting landscape.

To what do you attribute your success?

Finding good mentors and collaborators is vital to doing well in research! At the beginning of my career, I was very excited and passionate about addiction research, but I found academia to be a strange culture to navigate at times. This was compounded by the fact that I am not a particularly extroverted person. Having mentors to offer advice, opportunities, and direction and who connect you with other people in the field is incredibly valuable. Also, finding a scientific home – like CPDD- is important for getting involved in committees, collaborating on symposia, and generally building connections. CPDD offers ample programs for finding new mentors for those who are not super comfortable approaching people spontaneously.

Was there a time in your career that you found particularly difficult, and how did you get through it?

Academia can feel quite competitive at times. At the beginning of my career, I found myself comparing my work and C.V. to others. This caused unnecessary stress that did not necessarily translate to more productivity. It became apparent to me that good science that moves the field forward is about collaboration – not competition. To address issues related to addiction, we need all hands on deck and I think it's important to remember we need to work together to ultimately find good solutions.

What advice would you give to a new grad student, a senior grad student, a new postdoc, or a new investigator?

You won't know what you like or what you are good at unless you try out a lot of different things. To that end, pursue opportunities with committees or take classes and workshops on topics that pique your interest. This helps you figure out what you want to do but it can also differentiate your skills and expertise from your colleagues. It's important to carve out your own research area and skill sets that allow you to make unique contributions to a team.



CPDD Member Spotlight

Kevin Freeman, PhD

What issue has been persistent/hard to resolve in your area of expertise?

I study the behavioral pharmacology of mu opioid receptor (MOR) agonists, and all researchers in this area, present and past, have spent their careers wrestling with the intrinsic link between the powerful therapeutic effects of MOR agonists as analgesics and their equally robust addiction potential. For researchers like me who work with chemists to identify novel MOR agonists with less addiction potential, the persistent challenge (and holy grail of the field) is uncoupling the analgesic mechanisms of MOR agonists from their addiction-related effects.

Where/how do you get your inspiration for your next project?

My collaborations with medicinal chemists have been a large driver of ideas. As a behavioral pharmacologist, it is always fascinating to observe the effects of cutting-edge compounds through the lens of whole-organism behavior, and imagining new ways to apply the compounds to new problems grows naturally from that process.

Long-term career

In the short-term, we all want to get grants and publish papers, but what do you/did you consider as your long-term career goals? (e.g., tenure, editor positions, directorship positions?)

I believe we all hope that we'll stumble upon at least one finding that charts a new course that ends with meaningful reductions in suffering for people with substance use disorders. That remains a primary goal for me, but an equally important goal (and one that is arguably more tangible) is training the next generation of scientists. I have discovered a deep sense of fulfillment from seeing the success of my trainees. The effort we put into training today pays big dividends in career satisfaction later. You may not solve the big problems, but you might play a key role in the training lineage of the people who ultimately do.

To what do you attribute your success?

I would have to say that the chief attribute that has opened doors for me is a love of writing and wordcraft. Good writing reveals science to the world. I often tell students that it's not enough to get all the correct information in there. You have to evoke clear visions of scientific meaning in the reader's mind, which requires a lot of thoughtful arrangement and awareness of your audience. Papers, grants, websites, even emails – good writing elevates it all and will be your tiebreaker more than once. Sitting here writing this, I'm hard pressed to think of a career in science in which subpar or careless writing will not bottleneck progress.

CPDD Member Spotlight Cont.

What trajectory of work can lead towards working in policymaking?

Get involved in advocacy work as a trainee through scientific organizations. It's the problem-based learning version of policymaking, and it will build a network to facilitate entry into that world.

Work/life balance

The work never ends, so what boundaries do you have in place to protect your personal time and your sanity?

Remember these words: "Thank you for considering me for this important task. Unfortunately, I am at quota on my service type commitment at this time." We all learn to say this later than we should, and we become overextended in-service obligations that eat into our nights, weekends, and family time. Be aware of what tasks are directly connected to your salary and protect them. For me, that means prioritizing my research and my trainees, then carefully budgeting what I do for service. If you do good work, trust me, it's normal to say "no" way more than "yes".

In your experience, when is a better time to start a family? Should it be after you graduate, after completion of a post-doctoral fellowship, after completion of few years of first faculty position, or perhaps some other time?

Well, I'm 50 and my children are 12, 10, and 3. I love it, but you should get a second opinion.

Overcoming adversity

Was there a time in your career that you found particularly difficult, and how did you get through it?

When I was a postdoc, I was troubled that I did not have a "this is what I was born to do" feeling as I neared the end of my training. Did I miss the passion train or something by not choosing to remove tumors or play music as a career? I'd like to say I worked this out at the time, but the truth is I just plodded forward and did the work. It wasn't until years later when I was immersed in the life and busy with the research and teaching and traveling and networking that I realized how fortunate I was to be in this position, and the truth is I probably would have felt the same about those other options, too. I had adapted, and I found deep meaning (and wonderful friendships) in the work that made it clear to me that "arriving" was less about landing in the right place and more about a process of allowing yourself to grow happily wherever (and whatever) you are.

Kevin Freeman, PhD

CPDD Member Spotlight Cont.

What do you think are the most common adversities that new and established professionals are facing in workplace? What is your advice/ what are your potential solutions for overcome these adversities?

The same old issue: getting external funding for your research. Your proposals have to get past many people with unique perspectives (i.e., reviewers, council, etc.). Don't be a lone ranger. Give yourself time and leverage the multiple perspectives of your colleagues in the composition of your grant proposals. They will drastically reduce the porousness of your D-line and make your proposal better 100% of the time.

Advice for young investigators

What advice would you give to a new grad student, a senior grad student, a new postdoc, or a new investigator?

When looking for a postdoc, prioritize the diversification of your technique portfolio. A postdoc is not the time to learn how to ride a bike faster. Be sure you are obtaining new expertise in addition to deeper expertise.

What would you recommend to people who have a fear of missing out on all of the great conferences and presentations? How many conferences a year should one strive to attend?

In addition to CPDD, it's reasonable to select one more. Someone will disagree with this, but I believe the networking that leads to collaborations is the biggest gain from conferences and turning that networking into actual collaborative work cannot be done with all of the 50 people you met and sparked creatively with in a given year. Meet a few, then go home and make it happen.

What is your favorite session/workshop/event to attend at CPDD?

I'll lump this all into Saturday. For me that's ISGIDAR, our fabulous workshops, and the opening reception Saturday evening as the cherry on top. It's like the Christmas Eve of CPDD. Don't miss it!

Kevin Freeman

In Memoriam

CPDD celebrated the lives and accomplishments of our distinguished members. Please join us in celebrating the lives of those we lost since your last issue.

Jane Carlisle Maxwell, PhD

Donald Jansinksi, Sr., MD

Dr. Roland Griffiths, PhD

Dr. James L. Sorensen, PhD

Read their memorials by [clicking here](#).



The College on Problems
of Drug Dependence



Drug and Alcohol Dependence Reports (DAD-R) Editor's Picks

Editor-in-Chief
Teri Franklin, PhD, DADR

Receipt and Duration of Buprenorphine Treatment during Pregnancy and Postpartum Periods in a National Privately-Insured Cohort

Wang, Xi, Zachary Meisel, Katherine Kellom, Jennifer Whitaker, Douglas Strane, Anyun Chatterjee, Rebecka Rosenquist, and Meredith Matone. "Receipt and Duration of Buprenorphine Treatment during Pregnancy and Postpartum Periods in a National Privately-Insured Cohort." *Drug and Alcohol Dependence Reports* 9 (December 1, 2023): 100206. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.dadr.2023.100206>.

The cohort of study here is pregnant and postpartum people with opioid use disorder (OUD) who face unique barriers in accessing and sustaining OUD treatment, including criminalization of opioid use during pregnancy and possible loss of child custody. This article brings to light several issues that deserve the attention of our state legislators. Findings include, birthing people living in states with punitive policies regarding OUD had the lowest use of buprenorphine. Non-Hispanic Black and Hispanic people had lower Buprenorphine use than White people. What is your state's policy?

Associate Editor, DADR
Sherry McKee, PhD



Preliminary Evidence of Increased Alcohol Use Associated with Ethinyl Estradiol Levels in Women Using Oral Contraceptives

Strzelecki, Ashley M., Cassandra D. Gipson, Emma Childs, and Jessica Weafer. "Preliminary Evidence of Increased Alcohol Use Associated with Ethinyl Estradiol Levels in Women Using Oral Contraceptives." *Drug and Alcohol Dependence Reports* 9 (December 1, 2023): 100194. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.dadr.2023.100194>.

There is much preclinical literature demonstrating that in females, estradiol increases drug-related motivation, enhances drug cues, increases self-administration, and increases susceptibility of relapse. However, there has been relatively little translation of these findings to humans. In this study the investigators ingeniously, examine females taking cyclic birth control, comparing weeks that women are on and off estradiol on drinking behavior. Findings demonstrate that estradiol is positively correlated with consumption and binge drinking, and have important treatment implications.



Drug and Alcohol Dependence Reports (DAD-R) Editor's Picks (Cont'd.)

Associate Editor, DADR
Sterling McPherson, PhD

Vesicular Glutamate Transporter 2 Expression in the Ventral Tegmental Area of Outbred Male Rats Following Exposure to Nicotine and Alcohol

Vrettou, Maria, Stefan Bernhard Thalhammer, Anne-Lie Svensson, Sylvie Dumas, Kent W. Nilsson, Åsa Wallén-Mackenzie, Robert Fredriksson, Ingrid Nylander, and Erika Comasco. "Vesicular Glutamate Transporter 2 Expression in the Ventral Tegmental Area of Outbred Male Rats Following Exposure to Nicotine and Alcohol." *Drug and Alcohol Dependence Reports* 8 (September 2023): 100180. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.dadr.2023.100180>.

I chose this article as it highlights an increasingly recognized public health threat; cigarette smoking among people who also drink alcohol heavily. Preclinical investigations such as what is reported here represents a major gap in need of filling to identify a diverse array of promising therapeutic targets for this type of co-addiction.

Social Media Editor, DADR
Kalina Fahey, PhD



Structural Stigma and Alcohol Use among Sexual and Gender Minority Adults: A Systematic Review

Zollweg, Sarah S., Joseph A. Belloir, Laurie A. Drabble, Bethany Everett, Jacquelyn Y. Taylor, and Tonda L. Hughes. "Structural Stigma and Alcohol Use among Sexual and Gender Minority Adults: A Systematic Review." *Drug and Alcohol Dependence Reports* 8 (September 1, 2023): 100185. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.dadr.2023.100185>.

I chose this article because it fills a necessary gap in the literature by summarizing the evidence that structural stigma contributes to alcohol-related outcomes in sexual and gender minority adults. Furthermore, the paper clearly outlines important future directions for this work, including using longitudinal and more complex designs as well as exploring subgroup differences.



Drug and Alcohol Dependence (DAD) Editor's Picks

Editor-in-Chief
Steve Shoptaw, PhD, DAD

Intergenerational transmission of tobacco smoking: The role of the child's behavioral difficulties. Data from the Danish National Birth cohort (DNBC)

Mathilde Fekom, TriLong Nguyen, Johanna Lepeule, Aurélie Nakamura, Katherine Keyes, Silvia Martins, Katrine Strandberg-Larsen, Maria Melchior

This paper provides compelling evidence of intergenerational transmission of cigarette smoking for offspring with mothers who smoked during pregnancy, even after controlling for offspring behavioral difficulties. These findings may underscore epigenetic, as well as learned mechanisms in explaining influences on adolescents who smoke cigarettes.

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.drugalcdep.2023.111056>

Does sleep relate to next-day cannabis use during treatment? Findings from an adolescent and young adult motivational enhancement and cognitive behavioral therapy plus topiramate intervention

Jamie E. Parnes, Benjamin L. Bery, Melissa Pielech, Samuel N. Meisel, Hayley Treloar Padovano, Robert Miranda Jr.

This paper provide evidence pointing to the importance of sleep as a foundation for adolescents seeking treatment for cannabis use disorder. The evidence supporting addressing sleep in comprehensive treatment strategies when working with adolescents seeking to reduce or to stop use of cannabis is important for clinicians to consider.

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.drugalcdep.2023.111006>

Effects of restricting alcohol sales on fatal violence: Evidence from Sunday sales bans

Nancy Nicosia, Rosanna Smart, Terry L. Schell

These analyses find statistical links between increases in gun-related homicides following relaxation of Sunday alcohol sales bans. The compelling nature of these findings may point to prospective policy experiments testing whether implementing Sunday alcohol sales bans correspond in parallel fashion with decreases in gun-related homicides.

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.drugalcdep.2023.110982>



Drug and Alcohol Dependence (DAD) Editor's Picks (Cont'd.)

Editor-In-Chief, DAD
Steve Shoptaw, PhD

Loci on Chromosome 20 Interact with rs16969968 to Influence Cigarettes per Day in European Ancestry Individuals

Pamela N. Romero Villela, Luke M. Evans, Teemu Palviainen, Richard Border, Jaakko Kaprio, Rohan H.C. Palmer, Matthew C. Keller, Marissa A. Ehringer

This study provides the first reliable epistatic association between genetic markers of cigarette smoking behaviors. Findings could point clinical science toward development of novel and highly efficacious treatments that increase desired outcomes for people seeking to stop cigarette smoking.

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.drugalcdep.2024.111126>

A systematic review of task-sharing interventions for substance use and substance use disorders in low- and middle-income countries.

Asma'u Abba Hassan, Abba M. Ibrahim, Abhijit Nadkarni

Due to constrained healthcare resources in many low and middle income (LMIC) countries, "task-shifting" i.e., using community health workers and others to deliver interventions for substance use disorder, is common. Findings from this systematic review provide evidence-based direction when delivering interventions to individuals who use or are dependent on substances when task-shifting in LMICs.

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.drugalcdep.2024.111093>



CPDD Communications Committee Report

Chair: Annie Kleykamp, PhD

The Communications Committee continues to build CPDD’s science dissemination efforts at the annual conference, through social media (X and LinkedIn), and in two upcoming Webinars.

For the third year, the Committee will host an updated Media Forum at the 2024 annual conference in collaboration with CPDD member Dr. Jonathan Stoltman of the Opioid Policy Institute and Reporting on Addiction. This year, Committee members Dr. [redacted] titled, “Harnessing Your Expertise: How to Improve Your Interactions with the Press”. The forum will take place on June 16th at 3:30pm EST in Montreal. This year, committee members Drs. Rachel Gicquelais and Jodi Gilman, will join the panel and share their experiences working with science journalists to disseminate their research.

The Communications Committee also continues to support the production of bi-annual CPDD Newslines and CPDD member submissions to the News and Views section of Drug and Alcohol Dependence. Drs. Barret Montgomery, Frank Schwebel, and Daniel Fuster have also continued to lead efforts to engage the public through research posts on the CPDD X handle. Members are encouraged to submit cutting-edge, recent research on substance use and addiction through the following link to our Committee: <https://t.co/5wHAGCWYUo>.

The committee also has two new webinars taking place before the annual meeting. One will be a collaborative effort with the Opioid Policy Institute and Reporting on Addiction by working with the Media and science journalists. The other will profile CPDD researchers with lived/living experiences involving substance use and addiction.

If members are interested in learning more about these new initiatives and/or contributing, please get in touch with Committee Chair Dr. Annie Kleykamp (bkleykamp@som.umaryland.edu).

CPDD Long-Range Planning Committee Report

Chair: Amy Janes, PhD

The Long-Range Planning Committee (LRPC) meets virtually approximately once per month. There have been two primary areas of focus for the LRPC this year: 1. Evaluating CPDD’s overall growth goals and 2. Interfacing with the Finance Committee to determine key next steps of focus to grow and solidify CPDD’s financial stability by considering novel income streams and their implementation. To address how to enhance CPDD growth we discussed, and Parthenon implemented a mixer event at the American College of Neuropsychopharmacology (ACNP). This event was well attended with ~100 attendees vs. the ~35 projected attendees. Attendees did show interest in joining CPDD. Thanks to the efforts of the LRPC in prior years many of CPDD’s outlined strategic goals are being implemented.





CPDD Finance Committee Report

Treasurer: Bill Stoops, PhD, CPDD

I am happy to report that CPDD's finances remain in excellent health. I meet regularly with our investment advisors at Evermay and have been pleased to see our portfolio steadily growing. We recently opened two accounts at Evermay for our newly endowed Balster Mentorship Award and

Sorensen Memorial Fund to ensure that those generous gifts are protected and invested in a conservative way that promotes long term support of each award.

Beyond reviewing our investments, the Finance Committee has been busy since our last Newsline report. First and perhaps most exciting is the awarding of our first three Early Career Research Grants to Dr. Caitlyn Hood, Dr. Justin Matheson and Dr. Sean Regnier. We are thrilled by the success of this program and look forward to it flourishing in coming years. Second, the Finance Committee reviewed and approved the 2024 budget, which was then submitted to and approved by the Board in the late fall. Although our 2024 budget proposed a small deficit, signs point to record attendance at our Montreal meeting, which means we will likely end 2024 with a surplus. Third, we continue to identify novel income streams for the college. In this vein, you may have noticed that CPDD now has merch! Please take a look at our shop (<https://cpdd.org/cpdd-store/>) and pick up something for yourself, friends or family. We have also made steps to attract donors by working with Parthenon's Director of Fundraising and are reaching out to corporate sponsors to explore new partnership possibilities. Lastly, the Finance Committee has proposed the establishment of the 1929 Sustaining Society Fund, which will offer members the opportunity to make small monthly gifts to the College, akin to what other charitable organizations do. This item is currently under Board consideration, so stay tuned and please sign up to give when the fund is announced!

CPDD Education Committee Report

Chair: Suky Martinez, PhD

The Education Committee (EC) is pleased to announce that our symposium proposal entitled "Bridging the Gap: Practical and Ethical Considerations on the Utility of Artificial Intelligence in Substance Use Disorders" has been accepted for the 86th CPDD Annual Scientific Meeting. The symposium will focus on the ethics and practicality of emerging artificial intelligence technologies in the field of substance use disorders from clinical, research, industry, and philosophical perspectives.

Additionally, the EC has developed presentation guidelines for the Annual Scientific Meeting of the CPDD. These guidelines will provide CPDD conference presenters with concise and practical tips for developing a successful presentation. The guidelines will be readily available on the CPDD website and emailed to CPDD conference presenters and members.

The EC is actively developing a new initiative aimed at recognizing and honoring CPDD members who are deeply involved in community and volunteer service within their respective areas. This initiative, set to be highlighted at the CPDD Annual Scientific Meeting, seeks to acknowledge those members who stand out as champions of community service, contributing significantly to the betterment of their communities. To facilitate this, the EC is currently calling for nominations of such exemplary individuals. Members are encouraged to submit nominations, accompanied by a brief description of the nominee's community and volunteer service activities, to info@cpdd.org. This effort underscores our commitment to celebrating the invaluable service our members provide to their communities.

Lastly, the EC is continuing with its development of the CPDD curriculum and CPDD podcast. We are currently finalizing our proposals to move to the next steps of the process with these two exciting initiatives!





CPDD International Committee Report

Chair: Laura Brandt, PhD

The International Committee (IC) is excited to announce that our workshop proposal entitled, “Trailblazing Innovations and Lessons Learned in Substance Use Disorder Treatment: An International Perspective” was accepted for the 86th Annual Scientific Meeting of the CPDD. We are looking forward to welcoming you to this exciting forum, with presentations from Kathryn Biernacki,

Thiago Fidalgo, Silvia Cruz, and Lalchhanhima Ralte on trailblazing strategies from their respective countries while also sharing insights gained from overcoming unique challenges, including financial constraints.

In addition to the workshop, the IC will host a networking zone at the 2024 CPDD meeting for international participants and US-based researchers who are interested in international exchange and collaboration. This networking zone is meant to provide opportunities for “match making” (i.e., finding collaborators for international research projects) and exchanging experiences with international research, as well as providing information and guidance for early career researchers on fellowship opportunities (i.e., NIDA INVEST and Humphrey fellowships). During this networking event, we will also hold a drawing for a complimentary 2025 CPDD meeting registration!

The NIDA International Forum will be held in-person on June 14-15, 2024. The IC will participate in the NIDA International Forum/CPDD Workshop International Research Poster Session and select the “Best Poster” recipient. To provide additional opportunities for international networking, NIDA International participants will be able to attend all Saturday and Sunday CPDD meeting sessions at no additional cost!

Finally, the IC just held the first International Welcome Meeting on February 19 in preparation for CPDD 2024. Around 40 international researchers attended the event which was aimed at providing information about expanded financial support options for researchers from low- and middle-income countries (e.g., waived or heavily discounted membership fees and meeting registration), hotel room sharing options, and Canadian travel incl. visa requirements. If you would like to receive the link to the recording of the Welcome Meeting, please do not hesitate to reach out to the IC chair at lbrandt@ccny.cuny.edu. We hope to make this an annual event to foster international networking and attendance at CPDD.



CPDD Code of Conduct Committee Report

Chair: Pia M. Mauro, PhD

The Code of Conduct Committee is responsible for receiving, reviewing, and processing reports of possible conduct violations that occur during the CPDD annual meetings. After reviewing a complaint, the committee discusses possible actions to be taken in response and provides a recommendation to the CPDD president, who then brings the issue to the EC. The committee chair is responsible for

keeping complainants apprised of actions being taken. The committee includes Drs. Pia Mauro (chair), Catherine Stanger, Sudie Back, Leslie Lundahl, and Jacques Nguyen. A committee meeting will be convened as needed to discuss reports of any misconduct, should any new reports be received.

The Committee worked together with Parthenon Management Group (PMG) representatives to discuss updates to the current protocol to ensure a streamlined process that maximizes protocol adherence. The Committee shared the recommended protocol updates in its 2024 Interim Board Meeting report and included recommendations to increase awareness of the Code of Conduct and reporting mechanisms. We welcome comments and input from members as we work on these updates.

CPDD Early Career Member Committee Report

Chair: Danielle Davis, PhD

The Early Career Member Committee (ECMC) is dedicated to serving the needs of early career investigators involved with CPDD> We are looking forward to our upcoming conference programming.

Our annual workshop “Navigating a Career in Addiction Science” will be at 2pm – 3:30pm on Saturday June 15th. We are excited to welcome speakers Dr. Ryan Lacy, Dr. Ryan Lanier,

Dr. Dominic Chiapperino, Dr. Alex Duncan, and Dr. Denis Antoine as they describe their various career paths and how to navigate different addiction science related careers in academia, industry, and government. Drs. Denise Vidot and Danielle Davis will be chairing this exciting workshop!

Additionally, ECMC will be conducting their Annual Mentorship Program which pairs early career scientists with mentors at the annual conference. Mentors and mentees are encouraged to meet at the conference. We will also be awarding four \$250 cash prizes for our Annual Poster Competition at this year’s conference. This is the 4th year of this program and the first which will be judged in person. Be on the lookout for these incredible poster competitors!

Finally, we are still conducting our quarterly Member Spotlights, in which CPDD members are interviewed by our committee. This is a terrific opportunity for ECMC to learn about other scientists in our field.





CPDD Human Research Committee Report

Chair: Rachel Luba, PhD

The Human Research Committee is pleased to share that our forum titled “Navigating the Legislative and Ethical Complexities of Cannabinoids and Psychedelics” was accepted for the 2024 Annual meeting of CPDD. The forum will be held on Monday, June 17, 2024, at 2:15 PM and will be co-chaired by newly appointed committee members Dr. Justin Strickland and Dr. Joao De Aquino.

The forum will address the evolving regulatory landscape surrounding cannabinoids and psychedelics and offer unique perspectives and expertise from a diverse panel of speakers including Dr. Albert Garcia Romeu, Dr. Susan Weiss, Dr. Staci Gruber, and Dr. Marcel Bonn-Miller.

The Human Research Committee will also be supporting an accepted workshop titled “Practical Aspects of Working with Vulnerable Populations and Practicing Community Engaged Research” which will be held on Saturday, June 15, 2024, at 12:00 PM. This workshop will provide opportunities to learn from leaders in community-based participatory research on building and sustaining respectful community partnerships. Speakers include Dr. Alexandria Bauer, Dr. Alicia Allen, Dr. Kasey Claborn, and Dr. Chyrell Bellamy with time for discussion and dynamic learning.

CPDD Underrepresented Populations (URPOP) Committee Report

Chair: Angela Heads, PhD



The URPOP Committee continues to support the career development of underrepresented racial/ethnic minority graduate students and early career scientists by offering the Primm-Singleton Award. This URPOP Travel Award program was publicized through a number of vehicles including personalized letters and e-mail correspondence, listservs of professional organizations and research groups, minority student associations, newsletters, and web solicitation (including the CPDD website). We received a total of 39 complete applications from members of diverse backgrounds this year.

NEW session for CPDD 2024! URPOP has received approval to sponsor a session highlighting the Primm Singleton awardees, who will present research results based on their award-winning abstracts. This is an excellent opportunity to highlight the accomplishments of these talented students and early career investigators.

The LGBTQIA+ Subcommittee was formed after a CPDD Presidential Task Force Report was released which included recommendations on improving ways in which CPDD can be more welcoming to members who identify as sexual and gender minorities. The LGBTQIA+ Subcommittee, chaired by Dr. D. Andrew Tompkins is now an active subcommittee within URPOP.



CPDD Human Research Committee Report

Chair: Erin McClure, PhD

The Membership Committee continues to work to promote membership in the College and to improve processes for interested individuals to obtain membership. Below is a summary of the main activities and decisions the committee has made over the past year.

- **Review of applications:** The committee now completes monthly reviews of membership applications. Applications are assigned to 3 members of the committee each month, who review the applications, provide their vote, which is then sent to the BOD for voting and a final decision. This system allows for distribution of application review responsibilities among the committee members and provides consensus on suitability of applications. This system has worked well and allows for faster review and decisions to potential members.
- **Initiatives to promote and encourage membership:** The committee has discussed several strategies to promote membership (incentives, recognition, pairing non-members with members, membership presence at the annual meeting, table at poster sessions, etc.). We have discussed formalizing our membership drives and forge new connections with organizations and groups that can spread the word about CPDD.
- **CPDD website:** We are working to update and streamline content on the CPDD website to more easily describe the benefits of membership, criteria and application materials needed.
- **Annual meeting activities:** We have discussed activities and/or presence at the annual meeting to discuss membership with non-members and offer incentives to join CPDD and to recognize continuous members of the College.
- **Retaining junior members and MITs:** We continue to work with the early career committee on initiatives to retain junior members of the College and retain them during the transition away from trainee status.

We continue to focus our efforts on: 1) the recruitment of new members into the College, and 2) retention of current members, particularly MITs.

CPDD Travel Awards Committee Report

Chair: Stephen Kohut, PhD

The CPDD Travel Awards Committee received a total of 350 submissions for travel awards to attend the 2023 meeting - 109 more applications than last year. We received 132 applications for 30 CPDD Early Career Investigator Travel Awards, 54 applications for 3 FORCE Travel Awards, 37 applications for 20 NIDA Director's Travel Awards, 50 applications for 20 NIDA Women and Sex/Gender Travel Awards, and 23 applications for 1 Holtzman Travel Award for Preclinical Investigators. It's great to see so much growing interest from young i

Investigators in the field of drug abuse. Award notifications are expected to go out in early March.

We are putting together another great line-up for the always popular Brunch with Champions this year. The Brunch, which is typically held on the last day of the annual meeting, is a great opportunity for pre-docs, post-docs, and junior faculty to chat informally with senior investigators in the field of drug abuse research. Attendance is limited to people who have received their terminal degree within the last 10 years and are at or below the rank of Assistant Professor (or equivalent). Seating is limited so be on the lookout for registration details later this Spring.





CPDD Public Policy Committee Report

Chair: Sandra Comer, PhD

The Public Policy Committee meets monthly to address issues important to CPDD and its mission. On behalf of CPDD, in January 2024 the committee signed on to a formal letter to Chairwoman Baldwin and Ranking Member Capito opposing language that would prohibit NIDA from funding harm reduction research in the Fiscal 2024 Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies Appropriations bill. The committee also submitted feedback to the FDA on their draft guidance for industry on medication development for stimulant use disorders to consider craving as a relevant primary treatment endpoint.

Given the widespread interest in psychedelics as potential therapies for a variety of medical conditions, including substance use disorders, the Public Policy Committee drafted a statement on behalf of CPDD to highlight the therapeutic potential of these substances but to caution against overinterpretation of the existing science, and instead urge more research on the clinical benefits and potential adverse effects of psychedelics. The statement was reviewed and approved by the CPDD Board of Directors and is now being widely distributed on Capitol Hill and elsewhere.

Each year the Public Policy Committee plans and sponsors Advocacy Day in Washington, DC. This year's Advocacy Day on February 27, 2024, had 20 attendees, which was up from last year, covering 34 meetings across 12 states. During the meetings on the hill, CPDD members advocated for increased substance use disorder research funding and current legislation relevant to CPDD's mission. The committee is currently developing a flyer with tips for anyone interested in sharing scientific findings and advocating at the state level.

The Public Policy Committee also presents a Forum each year at the CPDD Annual Meeting, which continues to be one of the best attended sessions at the meeting. This year the forum topic will focus on global approaches to harm reduction, specifically regarding safe-injecting facilities or overdose prevention centers. Experts from Australia, France, Canada, and the U.S. will speak on policy and experiences on this timely topic.

We would like to acknowledge all the members of the Public Policy Committee and their continuous efforts to advocate for improvements in substance use and addiction research and clinical practice: Drs. Sandra Comer (Chair), Ziva Cooper, Bill Dewey, Kathryn Gex, Sergej Grunevski, Suky Martinez, Beatriz Rocha, Haily Traxler, Erin Winstanley; CPDD Staff Jesse Howard, Erin Colladay, and Julie Hiscock; and partners at Van Scoyoc Associates, Dr. Ed Long, Geoffrey Laredo, and Katie Vanlandingham.

CPDD (LGBTQIA+ Sub Committee Report



Chair: *D. Andrew Tompkins, MD*

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer/Questioning, Intersex, Asexual (LGBTQIA+) Subcommittee

The Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer/Questioning, Intersex, Asexual (LGBTQIA+) Subcommittee was formed in 2023 after a CPDD Presidential Task Force Report made short and long-term recommendations on how the College can be a more inclusive body regarding its members identifying as sexual and gender minorities (SGM) and how LGBTQIA+ allyship can be strengthened. In the First half of 2023, Dr. Tompkins recommended 4 additional members and himself to be the inaugural members of the LGBTQIA+ subcommittee, Drs. Mikhail Koffarnus, Juhan Lee, Jermaine Jones, and T. John Winhusen. These appointments were finalized following established CPDD procedures. The Subcommittee has had two organizational meetings in which we began developing subcommittee norms and procedures for monthly meetings and developing group identity. Dr. Tompkins has also met with URPOP Chair, Dr. Angela Heads, on how the LGBTQIA+ Subcommittee will function and support the mission of the larger URPOP Committee. Lastly, we plan on having monthly meetings going forward. We plan on discussing mentorship for LGBTQIA+ CPDD members and conference attendees and fundraising for possible travel awards for these same populations in our future meetings.

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CPDD Committee's
Operating Procedures



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