The Stephen G. Holtzman Travel Award for Preclinical Investigators was established by family & friends of Dr. Holtzman to honor his memory in tribute to his long-time service and dedication to The College on Problems of Drug Dependence. The award will be given annually or biannually to either a pre-doctoral student or postdoctoral trainee involved in preclinical research related to drug abuse and dependence.

4th Annual
Stephen G. Holtzman
Travel Award
for Preclinical Investigators

Award Presented to
Lais F. Berro
by Alan J. Budney

Sunday, June 10, 2018
Indigo BCFG
Hiltin San Diego
Bayfront Hotel
San Diego, CA
Dr. Lais F. Berro is a Postdoctoral Research Fellow in the Department of Psychiatry and Human Behavior at the University of Mississippi Medical Center. Dr. Berro attended the Universidade Federal de Sao Paulo (UNIFESP), Brazil, where she earned an Honors degree in Biomedical Sciences in 2011. As an undergraduate, Dr. Berro conducted research on the influence of different environmental stimuli on behavior in animal models of drug abuse. Dr. Berro also received her Master's Degree (2014) and Ph.D. degree (2017) from UNIFESP with Dr. Monica L. Andersen, in collaboration with Dr. Leonard L. Howell at the Yerkes National Primate Research Center, Emory University. Since her Master's Degree studies, Dr. Berro's preclinical research has focused on the investigation of the mechanisms underlying the relationship between sleep and drug abuse. Dr. Berro has a strong record of scholarly activity, having published over 30 research papers, 3 book chapters, as well as multiple abstracts at national and international scientific meetings. Dr. Berro has also received several honors and academic awards, including 2 undergraduate research Scholarships and a Master’s Degree and a Ph.D. Fellowship. During her Postdoctoral studies with Dr. James K. Rowlett, Dr. Berro has continued her research investigating the relationship between the reinforcing effects of drugs, including psychostimulants and benzodiazepines, and their effects on sleep-wake cycles and sleep architecture. By understanding the mechanisms underlying the therapeutic vs abuse-related properties of those drugs, she hopes to provide important insights into clinical practice and drug discovery.