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The College on Problems of Drug Dependence

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# 2021 CPDD Virtual Scientific Meeting Awards for Excellence

## Joseph Cochin Young Investigator Award

### Cassandra Gipson-Reichardt, Ph.D.

*University of Kentucky*
*I am so grateful to receive the Cochin award this year. This award is meaningful to me because my colleagues, mentors, family, and friends have contributed so much to my career. To be recognized in this way truly is wonderful, and it is a reflection of the support I have received.*

Dr. Cassandra Gipson is a preclinical addiction neuroscientist, focusing on glutamatergic, cholinergic, ovarian hormone, and neuroimmune mechanisms involved in nicotine use and opioid/stimulant polysubstance use using rodent models. Dr. Gipson earned her Ph.D. in 2010 under the mentorship of Dr. Michael Bardo in the Psychology Department at the University of Kentucky prior to her postdoctoral fellowship with Dr. Peter Kalivas in the Neuroscience Department at the Medical University of South Carolina from 2010-2015. Dr. Gipson opened her independent laboratory as Assistant Professor in 2015 at Arizona State University, and was promoted to Associate Professor in 2020 at the University of Kentucky. Dr. Gipson has received numerous NIH grants as PI including a K99-R00, R01, R21, R03, and a R21-R33 with Dr. Bill Stoops. Further, she has published over 60 empirical and review papers in journals such as Neuron, Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, eNeuro, and Addiction Biology, as well as book chapters. Dr. Gipson has been a member of the CPDD program committee for four years, as well as the program committee for the Society for Research on Nicotine and Tobacco and the Education and Training Committee for the American College of Neuropsychopharmacology.

# Martin & Toby Adler
# Distinguished Service Award

## Charles Gorodetzky, M.D., Ph.D.
*Consultant*

*CPDD has been my scientific home for more than 55 years, through the three phases of my career; first in NIH (NIDA) intramural research, then in clinical development in the pharmaceutical industry, and finally as a consultant in pharmaceutical medicine. I am deeply grateful to the CPDD Board for the honor of this award. The fellowship, collegiality and support of CPDD has provided me more service than I have provided to the College.*

Dr. Gorodetzky obtained a B.S. at M.I.T. in 1958, then earned an M.D. at Boston University School of Medicine (1962) and a Ph.D. in Pharmacology from the University of Kentucky Medical Center (1975). He served for 21-years as a USPHS Officer in the NIH intramural research program at the NIDA (formerly NIMH) Addiction Research Center (ARC) in Lexington, KY; and he was the last Director of that facility (from 1981-84). His major research interests at the ARC were the clinical pharmacology and metabolism of drugs of abuse, with extensive work in the development and clinical application of urine screening methodology. He entered the pharmaceutical industry in 1984, and worked for the next 21 years in Clinical Development primarily of CNS drugs, with a continued interest in substance abuse and the development of drugs for its treatment (e.g. transdermal nicotine). During that period he held positions of increasing responsibility at several companies, with his last positions as Vice President at Hoechst Marion Roussel (and its predecessor, Marion Merrill Dow) and then at Quintiles. Since 2005 he has been actively engaged as a consultant in pharmaceutical medicine. He has served on FDA Advisory Committees as well as NIDA Review Groups and has been a frequent consultant to NIDA. He has attended all annual meetings of the CPDD since 1965, has served two elected terms on the CPDD Board, has headed the Rules Committee since the early 70's (as well as heading or serving on other CPDD committees), and has participated as an organizer and/or participant in most all of CPDD's annual meeting activities and presentation venues.

# TRAVEL AWARDS

## Stephen G. Holtzman Travel Award for Preclinical Investigators

### Fernando de Moura, Ph.D.
*Harvard Medical School/McLean*

Fernando B. de Moura, Ph.D. is an Instructor in the Department of Psychiatry at Harvard Medical School and an Assistant Research Pharmacologist at McLean Hospital. His research focuses on elucidating the neurobiological and behavioral mechanisms of substance abuse disorders, with a specific interest in nicotine, opioids, and psychomotor stimulants. His research utilizes principles of receptor theory and applies them to complex behavioral animal models (e.g., intravenous self-administration, drug discrimination) and advanced neuroimaging techniques (e.g., ultra-high field fMRI, DTI). His main research foci are: (1) examining the impact of nicotine on opioid- and stimulant-induced behaviors; (2) characterizing the neural correlates of opioids and stimulants in awake behaving nonhuman primates at 3T and 9.4T magnets; and (3) using principles of behavioral economics to evaluate the abuse-related effects of drugs. Dr. Moura received his PhD in pharmacology from the University of Texas Health Science Center and was a postdoctoral fellow at McLean Hospital/Harvard Medical School. He has been attending CPDD since 2013 and was a member of the Animals in Research Committee from 2018-2021.

## CPDD International Award

### Anees Bahji, B.Sc., M.D.
*University of Calgary*

Dr. Anees Bahji is a sixth-year addiction psychiatry fellow at the University of Calgary. Raised in British Columbia, he completed his undergraduate degree in molecular biology, biochemistry, and medical school. Currently, his primary research and clinical interests are in addictions and mood disorders. Dr. Bahji is also interested in psychiatric epidemiology and stigma in mental health.

## Gayatri Bhatia, M.D.
*All India Institute of Medical Sciences*

Dr. Gayatri Bhatia completed her MD (Psychiatry) in 2018 and is currently pursuing DM (3 years' super-specialization) in Addiction Psychiatry from the National Drug Dependence Treatment Centre, All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi, India. She has a special interest in understanding and management of mental health issues of women, adolescents, and young adults, especially students, with active involvement in Institutional Student Guidance Cell and Resident Doctors' Association at AIIMS. Her research work includes multiple research projects and publications in the areas of adolescent mental health and addiction psychiatry, behavioral addictions, and family interventions in substance use disorders. She takes keen interest in teaching and exchange of ideas, organizing interactive sessions for students and resident doctors, actively participating in open forums, winning many laurels in debates, creative writing and regional music.

## Afolabi Oyapero, M.P.H.
*Lagos State University College of Medicine*

Dr Oyapero Afolabi is a Dental Public Health Specialist who obtained distinction and credits at every level in his undergraduate preclinical and clinical training. He also obtained a Master of Public Health (MPH) degree and he is a Fellow of the National Postgraduate Medical College of Nigeria. He is also a Mayo Clinic certified Tobacco cessation Treatment Specialist. He has had employment and collaboration experience with Ministries of health, Universities, Teaching Hospitals, Federal government agencies and with international bodies in nations (Nigeria/Japan/Canada/Germany/ United State of America), and establishments (Global bridges Mayo Clinic/ The John Hopkins Bloomberg school of Public Health/ Ontario Tobacco Research unit/ Society for Research on Nicotine and Tobacco/ University of Iowa). He is presently a Senior Lecturer/Honorary in the Faculty of Dentistry at the Lagos State University. Afolabi has published over 50 full-length peer-reviewed scientific journal articles, contributed 2 chapters to textbooks, written 2 published policy documents, 21 conference abstracts and has attended over 50 scientific conferences where he presented papers at over 20 of such conferences.

He is skilled in epidemiology, tobacco control, policy drafting, public health program planning and evaluation. He has held positions in professional organizations and has won many distinctions, scholarships, and awards.

## Suzaily Wahab, M.D., Dr (Psych)
*University Kebangsaan Malaysia Medical Centre*

Associate Professor Dr Suzaily Wahab, MD, Dr(Psych), is a consultant psychiatrist and a senior lecturer at Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia Medical Centre (UKMMC), Malaysia. Apart from being elected as a Council Member of the Malaysian Addiction Medicine Association (AMAM), Dr Suzaily has been involved in a number of researches in the field of addiction medicine. Her most recent work focuses on the prevention and intervention of substance use in youth and young adults, which also covers family roles and risky

behaviours. She has also been studying the complexities of methamphetamine psychosis, specifically on its association with aggression and similarities/differences with schizophrenia.

Being a passionate mental health advocate, Dr Suzaily strives to spread awareness on mental health issues to the community, especially towards youths, through national seminars and mass media. Her deep interest and expertise on mental health issues among the young population have led to numerous researches on high risk behaviours among this particular group which include drug abuse, sexual abuse, teen pregnancy, and cyber health threats.

# CPDD Primm-Singleton Minority Travel Award

### Emmanuel Alvarez, B.S.
*Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School*

Emmanuel "Manny" Alvarez is pursuing his Ph.D. in Neuroscience at the Robert Wood Johnson Medical School at Rutgers University. His path to addiction research began at Rowan University, where he examined EEG correlates of reward sensitivity in a community sample with subclinical psychopathology for his honor's thesis. During his undergraduate studies, he also completed summer research at Rutgers University and the University of Pennsylvania where he conducted visual psychophysics research with human patients with severe psychopathology and preclinical research on biomarkers of opioid withdrawal. Now under the mentorship of Dr. Anna Konova at Rutgers University, Manny is interested in how individual differences, structural and functional brain differences, and real-world experiences together contribute to risk for substance use and reuse. His current research seeks to examine the dynamic interaction between optimistic/pessimistic beliefs, mood, and decision-making in opioid use disorder combining behavioral, neural, and real-time longitudinal task-based approaches. He is excited and honored to attend the 2021 annual meeting of the College on Problems of Drug Dependence as a Primm-Singleton Travel Awardee where he hopes to broaden his knowledge of addiction and foster new collaborations with the CPDD community.

### Mehreen Arif, M.P.H.
*State University of New York at Buffalo*

Mehreen Arif is currently pursuing a PhD in the Community Health and Health Behavior track in the Department of Community Health and Health Behavior at the SUNY University at Buffalo. Her doctoral research interests include understanding disparities in substance use disorders and trauma amongst military service members and veterans. Mehreen seeks to apply a socioecological and epidemiological lens to examining substance use health behaviors and associated traumas amongst at-risk groups within the military and veteran populations. She has experience conducting mental health research with migrants and asylum seekers in Florence, Italy and Tibetan refugees in Kathmandu, Nepal. Before joining the University at Buffalo, Mehreen worked at the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (NYC DOHMH) as a Special Research Assistant and later as a Mental Health and Substance Use Policy Analyst. Prior to beginning her PhD, Mehreen holds a Master of Public Health (MPH) degree

in Global Health and an Advanced Certificate in Health and Human Rights from New York University. She also holds a Bachelor of Science (BS) degree in Biological Sciences and English Literature from The George Washington University.

### Bryan Benitez, M.A.
*Yale University School of Medicine*

Bryan Benitez is currently completing his clinical psychology internship at Yale University's Substance Abuse Treatment Unit, where he is working to help monolingual English-speaking and Spanish-speaking patients recover from substance use disorders. While at Yale University, he has been working with Dr. Brian Kiluk to study how the daily timing of psychosocial treatment delivery for addiction may impact motivation for substance use throughout the course of treatment. He will be starting an NIAAA T32 postdoctoral fellowship at Yale during the summer of 2021, where he will continue working with Dr. Kiluk and other researchers to explore how the motivational dynamics of addiction are related to social processes. His postdoctoral research program will incorporate translational elements related to the overlapping neurobiological substrate of substance use and social processes. Bryan is earning his clinical psychology doctoral degree (PhD) from the University of South Florida, where he has been working with Dr. Mark Goldman to study the temporal and social dynamics of alcohol motivation as expressed through expectancies. Bryan earned his bachelor's degree at Northwestern University, double majoring in Psychology and Religious Studies with a minor in Classics.

### Whitney Cordoba-Grueso, M.D., M.P.H.
*Indiana University*

Whitney is a trained physician from Colombia and a Ph.D. student in Epidemiology. She joined Indiana University through the Fulbright Program, a flagship international educational exchange program sponsored by the U.S. Government.

Her interest in the mental health field arose from her experiences working with survivors of a civil war in Colombia and individuals with substance use disorders in the United States. She is interested in researching the impact of health behaviors on substance use and mental health disorders.

### Coralee Perez-Pedrogo, Ph.D.
*University of Puerto Rico, Medical*

Dr. Coralee Pérez-Pedrogo is a licensed clinical psychologist and young investigator with a long-standing interest in developing and testing behavioral and integrative treatments for substance use and affective disorders. Dr. Pérez-Pedrogo is interested in examining the drug treatment moderating effect of self-stigma and how to modify it. She has been consistently exploring if self-stigma related to the drug user identity is associated with treatment avoidance or early termination of drug abuse treatment. Dr. Pérez-Pedrogo is currently working with an interdisciplinary team, including co-mentors Drs. Emily Wang, Carmen Albizu-García, David Fiellin, and Hsiu-Ju Lin focus on examining if the Transition Clinic Network intervention, a model of primary care for individuals recently released from correctional facilities in partnership with people with a history of incarceration, has an effect on self-stigma in participants and whether this, in turn, enhances treatment

engagement. Dr. Pérez-Pedrogo is an Assistant Professor at the Center for Evaluation and Socio-medical Research, Graduate School of Public Health, University of Puerto Rico, and Associate Professor at Albizu University.

### Edda Rodriguez, M.P.H.
*Miller School of Medicine, University of Miami*

Edda Rodriguez's work focuses on reducing health disparities in underserved communities. Specifically, she is committed to addressing the syndemic of drug use, human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), and mental health conditions. In 2018, Ms. Rodrigez earned her Master in Public Health from Florida State University and is pursuing her Ph.D. in Prevention Science and Community Health at the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine. Her current doctoral training focuses on drug use, social network analyses, and HIV implementation science.

# F.O.R.C.E. Junior Investigator Travel Award

### Laura Brandt, Ph.D.
*Columbia University Irving Medical Center and New York State Psychiatric Institute*

Laura Brandt's professional training unfolded through theoretical and clinical psychology training, a doctoral degree in Applied Medical Science, and postdoctoral training in transfer and implementation science. Simultaneously, her research has evolved from observational/descriptive accounts of the psychiatric burden as well as gender-specific aspects of addiction to exploring new and improved intervention approaches and simultaneously developing implementation strategies. Dr. Brandt's past work in the field of substance use disorders includes, amongst others, a multi-site project comparing factors facilitating opioid use disorder treatment entry and retention, and reasons for treatment refusal between eight European countries. While applying high-quality state-of-the-art quantitative analysis methods is a consistent focus in her work, she also has experience in conducting qualitative studies (e.g., exploring experiences of violence amongst female problem gamblers). In her position as postdoctoral research fellow at the Division of Substance Use Disorders, Columbia University/New York State Psychiatric Institute, Dr. Brandt successfully completed a project which studied the implementation of Overdose Education and Naloxone Distribution in New York City (supported by the Austrian Science Fund). She is currently supported by a NIDA INVEST/CTN Fellowship and seeks to empirically identify and validate surrogate treatment outcomes for opioid use disorder in a secondary data analysis project.

### Irene Pericot-Valverde, Ph.D.
*Clemson University*

Dr. Pericot-Valverde is an Assistant Professor in the School of Health Research at Clemson University. She is the Principal Investigator of a pilot grant aimed at developing and testing an integrated intervention combining a web-based cognitive behavioral therapy (CBT4CBT) with recovery coaching services for people with opioid use disorder on medications for opioid use disorder; and a pilot study testing a tailored smoking cessation intervention for HCV-infected smokers. She is also the Project Director of the HERO (Hepatitis C Real Options) Study, a multisite clinical trial aimed at determining the best models of care for HCV among people who inject drugs.

Dr. Pericot-Valverde completed her Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology, graduating Suma Cum Laude from the University of Oviedo (Spain; established in 1574). In 2018 she completed her postdoctoral training at the University of Vermont. She is an early-career investigator committed to pursuing research in the field of addiction, with a focus on three relevant areas (a) assessing and developing smoking cessation interventions for vulnerable populations, including people with opioid use disorder, (b) treatment development for opioid addiction, and (c) the intersection of opioid use and HCV epidemics.

# CPDD Travel Award for Early Career Investigators

### Gema Aonso-Diego, M.A.
*University of Oviedo, Addictive Behaviors Group*

Gema is a PhD student in the field of addiction research at the University of Oviedo (Spain). She is a psychologist, and specialist in tobacco use. Currently, she is conducting her doctoral thesis about smoking cessation treatment in individuals with substance use disorders, specifically the objective is to examine the effect of contingency management on treatment outcomes.

### Amelia Bailey, B.A.
*University of Massachusetts*

Amelia earned her Bachelor's in Psychology with honors in 2019. Before beginning her MPH in Community Health Education in the fall of 2020, she gained experience as a drug overdose prevention health educator in her home state of Maine. Currently, she is the lead graduate student intern on the Holyoke Early Access to Recovery and Treatment (HEART) Initiative based out of The District Court in Holyoke, Massachusetts. For HEART, she coordinates meetings among community partners and works in-person to link people involved with the criminal justice system to opioid use disorder treatment. Amelia's passion for public health stems from her desire to see evidence-based programs in practice; particularly programs that have a feature of effective education

dissemination. Broadly, her research interests focus on health among people with opioid use disorder and health as it intersects with childhood trauma, gender, and other biopsychosocial factors.

### Emmanuelle Baillet, M.Sc.
*University of Bordeaux*

Mrs. Emmanuelle Baillet is a doctoral student in the Neuroscience program at the University of Bordeaux, France. She graduated with a double Bachelor's degree in Psychology and Health Sciences with honors (2017) and received a Master's degree in Neuroscience with honors (2020). During her training, she was introduced to research in several laboratories with Professor Mickaël NAASSILA and Doctor Véronique DEROCHE-GAMONET. Today, she is doing a PhD under the supervision of Professor Marc AURIACOMBE (SANPSY CNRS USR 3413). Her thesis examines the precocity of craving in the development of an addiction through a prospective study in general population and on the identification of biomarkers of craving through a coupling of a natural life assessment method (Ecological Momentary Assessment - EMA) and a portable sensor in the form of a bracelet. In a previous study, she examined the trajectory of craving at the onset of addiction treatment and its relationship with long-term (5+ years) relapse. She will present her findings at the CPDD 2021 poster session. Mrs. Baillet is funded by the National Cancer Institute and the Public Health Research Institute.

### Patrick Brown, B.S.
*Oregon Health and Science University*

Patrick Brown first became interested in substance use disorders (SUDs) while volunteering at a syringe exchange, and brought that interest to a post-baccalaureate research fellowship at NIDA, investigating the effects of punished methamphetamine self-administration of pre-limbic cortex activity in rats. As a medical student, he worked with a group of interested peers on developing an SUD lunch lecture series and pre-clinical elective, and organized a multi-institutional collaboration to create better methodologies for evaluating medical school SUD curricula. He is completing a Masters in Clinical Research along with his MD degree, focusing on risk factors for opioid misuse and chronic pain in a cohort of adolescents prescribed opioids. In a second study, he is conducting qualitative analyses of results from a clinical trial in Vietnam examining combined treatment of HIV and opioid use disorder. He has also engaged in various other health services research projects related to the care of patients who use drugs using retrospective electronic health record data. In his future research, he hopes to investigate treatment disparities affecting patients with SUDs in acute care settings, and design innovative systems solutions to address them.

### Katina Calakos, B.A.
*Yale University*

Katina C. Calakos is a Ph.D. Candidate in the Interdepartmental Neuroscience Program (INP) at Yale University. Prior to graduate school, Katina earned a B.A. in Neuroscience & Behavior at Barnard College and worked as a research assistant at The Rockefeller University and the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai. She uses positron emission tomography (PET) imaging to study neural systems involved in substance use. Her research is primarily focused on the dopaminergic mechanisms and clinical correlates of tobacco smoking cessation and cannabis use. She

has presented her research previously at the annual CPDD meeting, is the first author of a review on mechanisms underlying sex differences in cannabis use, and has co-authored several original research articles in neuroscience. Outside of research, Katina serves as director of the INP Peer Mentoring Program, advocates for diversity and inclusion in graduate training, and engages in science education in her local community.

## Sierra Castedo de Martell, M.P.H.
*UTHealth School of Public Health*

Sierra Castedo de Martell, is a doctoral student at the UTHealth School of Public Health advancing the evidence base for recruiting, retaining and supporting the peer workforce, and the economic evaluation of key elements of recovery infrastructure. Ms. Castedo de Martell's past professional experience – first as the Director of the collegiate recovery program (CRP) at the University of Texas at Austin from 2014 to 2019, and as a Board of Directors member for the national professional organization for CRPs from 2016 to 2021 – has aided in the identification of critical gaps in the evidence base and the need for tools to aid in the implementation and evaluation of innovative and promising recovery programs. To that end, her research focuses on addressing key gaps related to workforce development and economic evaluation. Her past research includes conducting a comprehensive cost-effectiveness analysis of CRPs, and the development and dissemination of a cost-effectiveness calculator for CRPs, currently in use by CRP professionals and advocates across the US. Her current work has shifted to the peer workforce more broadly, where she brings both behavioral science and health economic approaches to address critical gaps in the recovery infrastructure evidence base.

## Nina Christie, M.A.
*University of Southern California*

Nina is a current Psychology PhD student at USC, pursuing research in the Brain and Cognitive Sciences program. She is also dually enrolled in a MPH program at the Keck School of Medicine. Her passion for addiction research is evident in her publications ranging on topics related to the role of social isolation in opioid use disorder, to investigations on the moral foundations involved in the public's perception of needle exchanges. She is interested in work on harm reduction, and the intersection of policy and substance use behavior.

Nina is also a highly regarded educator. She has been recognized by both USC and UCLA for her teaching capabilities as a TA. Additionally, Nina has served as the instructor for her own class, My Mind and Me, a summer pre-college course she created to focus on mental health promotion. Nina was also one of the only PhD students to be an instructor of record for an upper-division USC psychology course on motivated behaviors and addiction.
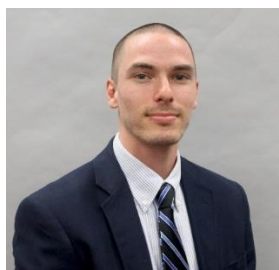
## Sarah Clingan, Ph.D.

*University of California, Los Angeles*

Sarah Clingan received her Ph.D. in Interdisciplinary Research on Substance Use from the University of California, San Diego in 2019. Dr. Clingan has been involved in substance use research and/or substance use treatment for over 15 years. She started as a drug and alcohol counselor, providing behavioral treatment to patients with substance use disorders. In addition to her clinical work, Dr. Clingan has conducted and published research in the areas of sex work, and substance use with a focus on opioid overdose and opioid treatment.

Dr. Clingan is currently a postdoctoral research fellow at the University of California, Los Angeles Integrated Substance Abuse Programs and is working on research projects that investigate and develop novel treatment approaches for opioid use disorder. Projects include the NIDA-funded CTN-0102 Rural Expansion of Medication Treatment for Opioid Use Disorder (via NIH HEAL initiative) and Patient Decision Aid for Medication-Assisted Treatment for Opioid Use Disorder.

Dr. Clingan continues to integrate the knowledge gained from her clinical experience and academic education to conduct her research. Specifically, she aims to identify and develop effective harm reduction strategies that can be used by people who use opioids to reduce their mortality risk and increase their quality of life.



## William Craft, B.S.

Fralin Biomedical Research Institute at Virginia Tech Carilion

William is a doctoral student conducting his research at the Addiction Recovery Research Center under Dr. Warren Bickel's mentorship. William's research is focused on using behavioral economic processes to influence decision-making in individuals with substance use disorders and other behavioral maladies. Additionally, William is involved in several projects that seek to understand longer-term processes that may facilitate successful recovery from alcohol and opioid addictions. William studied neuroscience as an undergraduate at Virginia Tech and continues his training as a part of Virginia Tech's Translational Biology, Medicine, and Health graduate program.



## Morgan Crowley, B.S.

*University of Florida*

Morgan began her graduate studies in 2016 in the department of medicinal chemistry, where she began working in the field of pain research. Her research focuses on small-molecule analogues of the major Kratom alkaloid, Mitragynine.

### Ayomide David, B.Sc.

*University of Florida*

Ayomide David is an upcoming undergraduate senior at the University of Florida, majoring in Biology and minoring in Public Health. My anticipated graduation date is May 2022. Ayomide David has an interest in research aiming at reducing health disparities and the burden of drug use in our society. Ayomide David's research at Dr. Catalina Lopez-Quintero's lab focuses on analyzing trends, patterns, and subgroup differences in alcohol use among pregnant women in the US.

### Graham DiGuiseppi, M.Sc.

*University of Southern California*

Graham DiGuiseppi is a PhD Candidate at the University of Southern California Suzanne Dworak-Peck School of Social Work. His work is focused on the prevention and treatment of substance use disorders among vulnerable youth populations (e.g., young adults experiencing homelessness). Graham uses social network analysis, structural equation modeling, and mixed method approaches.

### Julien Dodu, B.Sc.

*Virginia Commonwealth University*

Julien Dodu is a Ph.D. candidate at Virginia Commonwealth University with research experience in designing, executing, and troubleshooting protocols for behavioral assays, live animal surgeries, and ex vivo histological procedures to evaluate the pharmacodynamic (PD) and pharmacokinetic (PK) profiles of small molecules. His Ph.D. project centers around finding alternative medications for treating opioid withdrawal by targeting the endocannabinoid system.

### Dalton Edwards, M.S.

*University of Texas at Dallas*

Dalton is a first-year Cognition and Neuroscience doctoral student at the Center for BrainHealth at the School of Behavioral and Brain Sciences at the University of Texas at Dallas. The Filbey lab is dedicated towards the cognitive neuroscience research of addiction. Since joining in Fall 2020, Dalton has received extensive training on methods critical to this proposal. Specifically, he has been involved in a large NIH-funded project aimed to determine the cultural effects on brain mechanisms that underlie cannabis use. In addition, Dalton has also been involved in developing a study protocol utilizing consumer designed electroencephalography (EEG) devices to remotely record sleep data from participants to evaluate associations between naturalistic sleep and symptoms of cannabis use. His interest in this area resulted in a first-authored review manuscript focused on the chronology of cannabis use and potential

sleep disruptions (Edwards and Filbey, 2021). Dalton completed his Master of Arts in Experimental Psychology at Texas State University. There, his thesis involved using a mobile EEG system to record data from participants in laboratory and outside naturalistic environments.
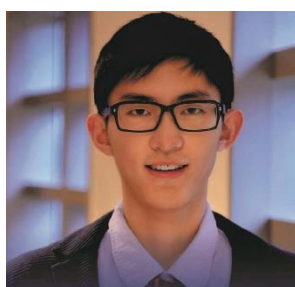
## Andrew Fares, B.Sc.
*Centre for Addiction and Mental Health*

Andrew Fares is a Ph.D. student in the Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology at the University of Toronto, conducting his research at the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health under the supervision of Dr. Bruna Brands. His graduate work focuses on investigating the effects of alcohol and cannabis alone and combined on simulated driving.

## Zhe Fei, Ph.D.
*University of California, Los Angeles*

Dr. Zhe Fei earned both his MS and doctoral degrees in Biostatistics from University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. His research interests include developing novel statistical methods for big data, with applications in genetics, survival analysis, longitudinal analysis, real-world evidence, etc. He has developed novel methods for high dimensional inference, which is an important problem in statistical inference for big data. He is currently involved in a clinical trial study with stepped-wedge design to test expanded treatment access to improve retention on medication treatment for opioid use disorder (MOUD) in highly impacted rural areas under the NIH HEAL Initiative. He looks forward to expanding his expertise in drug abuse and using novel statistical methods in real world applications.

## David Fink, M.P.H., Ph.D.
New York State Psychiatric Institute

David Fink, PhD, MPH applies a multi-level life course perspective, coupled with causal inference methodologies, to understand the causes and consequences of substance use and psychiatric disorders and inform interventions for improving health and well-being. He is the past president of the Society for Epidemiological Research Student Postdoc Committee. David has published over 60 articles, book chapters, and commentaries, half of which were first authored. His work has been covered by the BBC, Reuters, Washington Post, U.S. New and World Reports, TIME magazine, CNN, among others. Dr. Fink completed my PhD at Columbia University's Mailman School of Public Health in 2020, studying the supply- and demand-side drivers of the US drug poisoning crisis. Currently, he is a postdoctoral researcher at the New York State Psychiatric Institute, investigating the effects of recreational and medical cannabis legalization in Veteran Administration (VA) patients, while writing a K-series grant to study the effect of the COVID-19 outbreak on buprenorphine prescribing among VA patients.
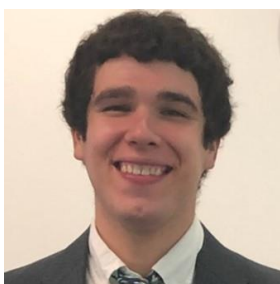
### Ewa Galaj, Ph.D.

*NIDA IRP*

Ewa Galaj is a Postdoctoral Fellow in the Molecular Targets and Medications Discovery Branch at the National Institute on Drug Abuse Intramural Research Program. Ewa received her Ph.D degree from the Graduate Center of City University of New York, where she studied therapeutic potential of D3R antagonists in the treatment of substance use disorders. She then moved to Binghamton University, where she studied the effects of adolescent alcohol exposure on reward-related learning and associated alterations in the forebrain. Ewa is a recipient of NIH Center for Compulsive Behaviors Fellowship and several prestigious awards including NIH Fellows Award for Research Excellence, American College of Neuropsychopharmacology Travel Award, and Winter Conference on Brain Research Travel Award. She has published extensively and is the first author or co-author on almost 40 peer-reviewed publications. As a 2021 CPDD Travel Award Winner, Ewa will present her work examining the function of the substantia nigra pars reticulata in opioid-driven behaviors. This project is part of her overall research interests in neuronal circuitries underlying addiction.

### Erik Garcia, Ph.D.

*University of Texas Medical Branch*

Erik Garcia received his doctoral degree in Experimental Psychology from Kansas State University in 2017 under the supervision of Mary E. Cain. There, he determined that environmental enrichment protects against amphetamine drug-seeking after short and prolonged abstinence when compared to animals reared in isolation. Currently, he is a postdoctoral fellow in the Center for Addiction Research in the lab of Dr. Kathryn A. Cunningham. His research interests remain in characterizing individual differences and translational neuropharmacology within the pathology of substance use disorders. His latest research using the principles of behavioral economics to identify novel therapeutics to aid people in their path toward opioid recovery. I am a firm believer and advocate for diversity, inclusion, and mentoring scientists.

### Grant Glatfelter, Ph.D.

*NIDA Intramural Research Program*

Grant C. Glatfelter Ph.D., received his B.S. in Psychology with a minor in Biology from York College of Pennsylvania in 2013. From 2012 – 2014, Grant worked prior to graduate school as a research assistant primarily under Matthew W. Johnson Ph.D. at the Johns Hopkins Behavioral Pharmacology Research Unit, where he assisted various studies administering alcohol, methamphetamine, cocaine, and psilocybin to human volunteers to examine effects on delay discounting measures, basic physiology, as well as therapeutic efficacy. Grant next completed his Ph.D. in Pharmacology & Toxicology in the lab of Margarita L. Dubocovich Ph.D. at the University of Buffalo Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences (July 2014 - July 2019), where he studied the neuropharmacology and chronobiological effects of environmental chemicals and novel pharmacological tools acting at melatonin receptors. Currently, Dr. Glatfelter is a postdoctoral fellow in the Designer Drug Research Unit of the National Institute on Drug Abuse Intramural Research Program in Baltimore, MD. Dr. Glatfelter joined the DDRU in the Fall of 2019 and primarily studies the neuropharmacology of emerging new psychoactive substances (NPS) and novel

medications of the opioid, cannabinoid, stimulant, and hallucinogen classes under expert mentorship of Michael H. Baumann Ph.D.

## Rachel Hoopsick, Ph.D.

*State University of New York at Buffalo*

Dr. Hoopsick is currently a NRSA Postdoctoral Fellow in the Addiction Management track of the Department of Family Medicine at the University at Buffalo. Her program of research utilizes epidemiologic methods through a socioecological lens to understanding people's risk and resilience for problems with substance use. Dr. Hoopsick has a particular interest in military service members, a population at increased risk. The overwhelming majority of military-focused research and interventions regarding substance use have focused on the context of combat experiences, often excluding service members who have never been deployed. However, many Reserve soldiers are never selected for deployment during their military careers. A central focus of her research has demonstrated that many never-deployed Reserve soldiers experience negative emotions related to never having been deployed that are akin to survivor's guilt or experience reduced social support from military peers. Her research shows that these negative emotions are associated with a range of psychiatric symptomatology and substance use. As a whole, Dr. Hoopsick's program of research can inform more effective substance use prevention and intervention efforts for military populations.

## Jennifer Hoots, M.A.

*University of Illinois At Chicago*

Jennifer K. Hoots, M.A., is a doctoral student in the Clinical Psychology PhD program at the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC). She received her B.A. in Biology with a concentration in Neurobiology and Behavior and a minor in Psychology from Cornell University in 2016. She then completed the post-baccalaureate program at the National Institute on Drug Abuse. Her research focuses on exploring the influence of emotional factors on decision-making processes related to substance use and developing more effective treatments for those who want to quit. In her future work, she plans to investigate the role of stress and temporal perspective in decision-making related to substance use and test strategies for mitigating emotional and decisional biases that keep individuals from quitting.

## Erin Horne, Ph.D.

*University of Texas at Dallas*

Erin received her Ph.D. in Cognition and Neuroscience from UT Dallas in 2019. Her doctoral research focused on identifying the neural and electrophysiological correlates of episodic memory retrieval associated with healthy aging and on investigating how increasing attentional demands during a retrieval task modulates brain activity (measured with fMRI). She is currently investigating how addiction affects brain structure and function, with a focus on cannabis use. She is interested in the relationship between cannabis use, sleep, and memory consolidation, and in particular the impact of cannabis use on memory function in older adults.

### Raagini Jawa, Med.D.Sc.
*Boston Medical Center*

Dr. Raagini Jawa is a Clinical Instructor of Medicine at Boston University School of Medicine, board certified in Internal Medicine and Infectious Disease and an addiction expert at Boston Medical Center. Dr. Jawa clinically provides HIV primary care and office based addiction treatment in the Center for Infectious Disease. She is pursuing her post-doctoral research fellowship at Boston University Clinical HIV/AIDS Research Training Program; her research focuses on the intersection of Infectious Disease and addiction, including ways to integrate harm reduction within medical systems for individuals with substance use disorders, studying behavioral interventions to prevent infectious complications of injection drug use.

### Bernard Johnson, M.S.
*Wake Forest School of Medicine, Department of Physiology and Pharmacology*

Bernard Johnson is a PhD candidate at Wake Forest School of Medicine, in Dr. Michael Nader's research lab. His primary research focuses on preclinical animal models of substance use disorders and the neurobiology associated with the vulnerability and maintenance of cocaine abuse, specifically the kappa opioid receptor (KOR) system; implicated in the neurobiological regulation of aversive states, social stress and substance abuse. His work in Dr. Nader's lab, involves conducting research in nonhuman primate models of substance abuse, integrating social behavior, intravenous cocaine self-administration and positron emission tomography (PET) imaging of KOR system, to examine how environmental, social and pharmacological variables, along with sex differences, influence cocaine self-administration.

### Ariana Johnson, M.P.H.
*Student*

Ariana Johnson is a third year doctoral candidate at the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine, Department of Public Health Sciences. Since January 2020, she has received training from Dr. Kanamori in drug use research, social network analyses, Latino health disparities, and HIV implementation science. Since the beginning of her PhD career, she has shown exemplary promise as an independent researcher, maintaining a 3.98 GPA in her doctoral coursework while also executing NIH-level research. She is currently working to expand Dr. Kanamori's work to understand the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on Latino men who have sex with men's (LMSM) egocentric networks, patterns of drug use and sexual behavior, discrimination stress, and mental health factors in South Florida. In addition, she has been involved in the design of an intervention for Florida DOH that uses molecular and social network data to address HIV outbreaks among injection drug users. She is committed to addressing the intersectionality of drug use, human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), and mental health conditions among Latino men who have sex with men (LMSM).

## Luisa Kcomt, Ph.D.
*University of Michigan*

Dr. Luisa Kcomt is a post-doctoral research fellow at the University of Michigan's Center for the Study of Drugs, Alcohol, Smoking and Health. She has served as a social worker for over two decades, in both clinical and leadership capacities. As she embarks on a new career in research, she strives to integrate the social work profession's value of social justice into her research agenda. With the belief that research can be used as an advocacy tool to serve marginalized populations, her research interests include substance use and health disparities among sexual, gender, and racial/ethnic minority populations. Her clinical experience grounds her current work as a researcher by underscoring the clinical relevance of her research activities. Dr. Kcomt holds an active license as a Licensed Master of Social Work in the state of Michigan, where she currently resides with her son.

## Shailesh Khatri, Ph.D.
*University of Kentucky*

Dr. Khatri received his Ph.D. in Pharmacology and Toxicology under Dr. Marvin Schulte from Philadelphia College of Pharmacy. Dr. Khatri's doctoral dissertation examined pharmacology of novel antidepressive drug class, their structure-function activity at the binding site of 5HT3A receptors. In addition, he studied nicotinic acetylcholine receptors (nAChRs) as potential targets for OCD drug candidates using behavioral assays in mouse models of OCD which resulted in a US patent. In his current work he has demonstrated, for the first time, the presence of δ-subunit containing GABAARs in cerebellar Purkinje cells. These signaling pathways overlap with a mechanism by which sleep aids, some antiepileptic drugs, and anesthetics seem to work.

In Dr. Khatri's second Postdoctoral position in Dr. Gipson-Reichardt's lab, is establishing first model polysubstance, e.g. Oxycodone and cocaine, use which can be further used to study underlying neurobiology. Further he will study synaptic/extrasynaptic changes acquired by neurons in Nucleus accumbens (NAc) in such paradigm.

## Emanuel Krebs, M.A.
*Faculty of Health Sciences, Simon Fraser University*

Emanuel Krebs is a Health Economist and a PhD student at the Faculty of Health Sciences at Simon Fraser University. His research has spanned evaluation in HIV/AIDS, substance use disorder and, more recently, opioid use disorder among youth. He completed his MA in Economics at Simon Fraser University and has expertise specializing in applied econometrics using administrative data and model-based health economic evaluation.

## Jessica Kulak, M.P.H., M.S., Ph.D.
*Buffalo State College*

Jessica Kulak is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Health, Nutrition, and Dietetics at Buffalo State College. She has published peer-reviewed journal articles on smoking cessation patterns among African Americans, the emerging use of hookah among young people, tobacco control policies, and research guidelines for monitoring the global tobacco use epidemic. Her current research focuses on at-risk populations and the risk and resiliency factors related to substance use. Jessica holds a Master's degree in School and Community Mental Health Counseling from the University of Rochester and a Master of Public Health from the University at Buffalo (UB). Jessica received her PhD from the School of Public Health and Health Professions at UB in 2017.

## Pooja Lagisetty, M.D.
*University of Michigan*

Dr. Lagisetty is an Assistant Professor at the University of Michigan Medical School and a Research Investigator in the Center for Clinical Management Research at the Ann Arbor VA. She is also the clinical lead for the Addiction Consultation Team at Michigan Medicine and has led the development of an innovative addiction curriculum at the University of Michigan Medical School. Dr. Lagisetty received her MD from the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine and completed her internal medicine/primary care residency at Massachusetts General Hospital. She is board certified in both Internal Medicine and Addiction Medicine. Her research focuses on understanding how stigma and bias affect access to care for patients with chronic pain and substance use disorders, and she has received funded from various agencies, including NIDA, SAMSHA, the Veterans Health Administration, and the Michigan Health Endowment Fund. Her research findings have been published in high-impact journals such as *JAMA Psychiatry, Annals of Internal Medicine,* and *PAIN* and cited by news media sources including *NPR, USA Today,* and *ABC News*. Ultimately, she hopes that her clinical and research work inform the development of policies and interventions that ensure equitable access to addiction and pain related treatment for all individuals.

## Laura Lambert, M.Sc.
*University of Bordeaux*

Mrs. Laura Lambert is a predoctoral PhD student in the neuroscience curriculum at the University of Bordeaux (France). She earned an honors degree in biology (2015) and graduated with a master's degree in neuroscience (2017). Mrs. Lambert's research training curriculum is in human addiction research in the team of Marc Auriacombe at University of Bordeaux (SANPSY CNRS USR 3413) where she acquired expertise in Addiction Severity Index (ASI) and Ecological Momentary Assessment (EMA). Mrs. Lambert's research examines how insight level (understanding and acceptance by the patient of addiction) could interfere with the etiological/prognostic role of craving on use and relapse. She will present her results at the CPDD 2021 poster session. Mrs. Lambert is actively involved in scientific mediation with Bordeaux Neurosciences Association and is event manager for the international festival of Pint of Sciences since 2018. In March 2020, Mrs. Lambert was in
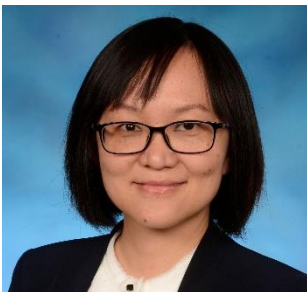
the final selection of the Three Minute Thesis (3MT) competition from 16 PhD student candidates of the University of Bordeaux. Mrs. Lambert is funded by a grant from the Aquitaine Regional Council.

### Juhan Lee, B.A.
*University of Florida*

John Lee recently received Ph.D. degree from the University of Florida and will start a postdoctoral position at Yale School of Medicine, Department of Psychiatry on June 1st, 2021. His research interests are statistical methodology in longitudinal analyses of tobacco and drug use. Twitter: @juhan_john

### Huajun Liang, D.Phil.
*University of Maryland*

Dr. Huajun Liang received medical and PhD degree in China. She started her postdoc training in the Neuroscience and MRI research program led by Dr. Linda Chang in 2016. Her research interests are using various neuroimaging techniques and cognitive / behavioral assessments to understand brain pathophysiology associated with addiction and HIV infection.

### Kelsey Lucerne, B.S.
*Icahn School of Medicine At Mount Sinai*

Kelsey completed her Bachelor's of Science in Neuroscience at Temple University. During her time at Temple, Kelsey worked in Dr. Lisa Briand's laboratory studying the contributions of glutamate receptor dynamics to stress responses and cocaine relapse behaviors. Her research in Dr. Briand's lab culminated in several awards and scholarships, co-authorship on two publications, and her honors thesis entitled "The Role of Glutamate Receptor Trafficking in Vulnerability to a Social Defeat Stress." Kelsey graduated Summa Cum Laude from Temple in 2018 with an honors distinction in neuroscience research. Currently, Kelsey is a 3rd year PhD candidate in the neuroscience graduate program at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai. Kelsey is completing her thesis work in the laboratory of Dr. Drew Kiraly, where she studies the role of the gut microbiome and the neuroimmune system in models of cocaine use disorder. As a graduate student Kelsey has authored two review articles in the field of addiction research and has received an honorable mention from the National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship Program for her research. Outside of the lab, Kelsey dedicates herself to science outreach and advocacy as a co-President of the esteemed group Mentoring in Neuroscience Discovery at Sinai.

## Sarah Lynn, M.S.
*Virginia Tech*

Sarah Lynn has had two distinct careers as a public school teacher and a yoga studio owner. Until recently, her work has been all about teaching wellbeing however Sarah realized you can only teach what is known. Now, as a researcher and PhD student, she seeks more facts to teach. Sarah Lynn has a BS in Education from Virginia Tech and two Master's Degrees from the George Washington University in Educational Technology Leadership and Integrative Medicine. Her current research focuses on Mindfulness.

## Daniel Martins, M.Sc.
*UC Berkeley School of Public Health*

Daniel Martins is a PhD student in chemistry. His research is focused on the synthesis, analysis and pharmacology of phenethylamine-based new psychoactive substances. Daniel has been working in harm reduction for more than 10 years. He is a co-founder of Kosmicare, a Portuguese-based non-profit organization, where he coordinates the drug checking service.

## Kristen McLaurin, Ph.D.
*University of South Carolina*

Dr. Kristen A. McLaurin earned her Ph.D. in Experimental Psychology with a concentration in Behavioral Neuroscience in 2020 at the University of South Carolina. Additionally, Dr. McLaurin earned a Certificate of Graduate Study in Applied Statistics. As a doctoral student in a NIH T32 supported program, the Behavioral-Biomedical Interface Program (BBIP), Dr. McLaurin trained under the tutelage of Dr. Charles F. Mactutus, gaining expertise in longitudinal studies of neurocognitive and synaptic function in the context of HIV-1 associated neurocognitive disorders (HAND). As a postdoctoral fellow working with Dr. Rosemarie M. Booze, Dr. McLaurin is committed to expanding her expertise to include substance use disorders, addictive processes, and opioid pharmacology. Long-term, Dr. McLaurin is committed to pursuing a tenure-track faculty position and establishing a research program focused on elucidating the unique neural mechanisms underlying neurocognitive alterations resulting from comorbid opiate abuse and HIV-1.

## Christina Merritt, B.S.
*University of Texas Medical Branch*

Christina Merritt completed her Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology at Virginia Commonwealth University where she graduated magna cum laude. Ms. Merritt was heavily recruited to the Pharmacology and Toxicology graduate program at the University of Texas Medical Branch in 2016, and was offered the highly competitive Presidential Scholars Award. She is currently conducting her dissertation research under the mentorship of Dr. Kathryn A. Cunningham in the Center for Addiction Research. Her dissertation is focused

on elucidating the mechanisms in which striatal serotonin 2C receptors (5-HT2CR) regulate neurocircuitry critical to opioid reinforcement. Ms. Merritt is currently funded under the Jeane B. Kempner Award, has published five peer-reviewed manuscripts, and has attended twelve local, national, and international conferences. Upon completion of her dissertation research, Ms. Merritt will seek a postdoctoral fellowship to continue investigating the neuropharmacology of substance use disorders and their treatment. Ms. Merritt's long-term career goal is to become a tenured Professor at an academic institution, leading a translational research program focused on the prevention and treatment of SUDs

### Barrett Montgomery, B.S.
*Michigan State University*

Barrett Wallace Montgomery is a third-year Ph.D. student in the Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics at Michigan State University. His research portfolio blends creative uses of urban administrative data, substance use epidemiology, health economics, and public policy work based in Boston, New York City, and Flint. He is a 2018 recipient of the Michigan State University Enrichment Fellowship, the 2020 American Psychopathological Association Distinguished Fellow Memorial Awardee, and a 2020 and 2021 CPDD Travel Awardee for Early Career Investigators. His primary interests are the environmental and social influences on drug use, how to measure these effects, and how they affect the most vulnerable populations. He is especially interested in the translation of these findings to policy, and policy itself as a mutable component of environmental influence.

### Catherine Moore, Ph.D.
*Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine*

Dr. Cassie Moore is a postdoctoral fellow at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine in the Division of Behavioral Biology (DBB) where she works with Dr. Elise Weerts. Her research is focused on preclinical behavioral pharmacology and addiction-related behaviors in rodent and nonhuman primate models. Using rodent models, she is evaluating the effects of cannabinoids, including delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) and cannabidiol (CBD), with a focus on sex and route of administration (e.g. vaporized, oral, intraperitoneal injection). She is also part of ongoing research evaluating the potential novel medications for alcohol use disorder and for reduction of concurrent alcohol and nicotine co-use using a nonhuman primate self-administration models.
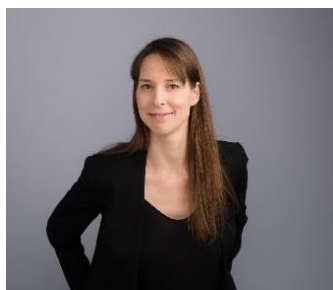
### Lauren Nguyen, B.A.
*University of Washington*

Lauren Nguyen is a rising third-year medical student at the University of Washington School of Medicine. She received her undergraduate degree in Biochemistry and Francophone Studies at Bowdoin College in Brunswick, ME. Since returning to Seattle, she has developed a passion for serving those experiencing homelessness and hopes to use her future career as a physician to provide care quality, equitable care to the most vulnerable. Her current research focuses on the transition of care from the emergency department for

patients with opioid use disorder who received buprenorphine in the ED. This research hopes to illuminate the barriers and facilitators to continued opioid use disorder treatment in order to better understand how we can engage these patients in continued care.

### Stephanie Parent, M.P.H.
*Queen's University Faculty of Medicine*

Stephanie Parent is currently studying medicine at Queen's University, and hold a MPH from the University of Victoria. Her research work has focused on promoting the health and human rights of marginalized populations, both locally and globally. She has been involved in research projects to increase access to treatment for people living with HIV and HCV in Vancouver, and understanding the drivers of the opioid crisis in Canada. She also holds international research experience, working on an intervention study to reduce the risk of occupational TB amongst healthcare workers in Cape Town, South Africa; a large mixed-method study investigating the health impacts of a national program for at-risk youth in Ecuador; and have been deployed to the WHO in Geneva to contribute to addressing the Ebola epidemic.

### Emily Peck, B.S.
*Wake Forest School of Medicine*

Gracie is a doctoral candidate in Sara Jones's laboratory at the Wake Forest School of Medicine in Winston-Salem, NC. Her research interests focus on cocaine-induced dopamine system dysregulation. In particular, she is investigating the role of the synaptic vesicle protein, synaptogyrin-3, in mediating dopamine system function and cocaine self-administration behavior. Gracie previously trained in preclinical substance use disorder research as an undergraduate in Dr. Klaus Miczek's lab at Tufts University, then as a research technician in Dr. Eric Nestler's lab at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai.

### Daria Piacentino, M.D.
*National Institute of Drug Abuse/NIH/DHHS*

Daria Piacentino, M.D., is a junior psychiatrist and post-doctoral visiting fellow in the Translational Addiction Medicine Branch, Clinical Psychoneuroendocrinology and Neuropsychopharmacology Section, a NIDA/NIAAA joint laboratory at the NIH (PI: Lorenzo Leggio, M.D., Ph.D.). Here, Dr. Piacentino is carrying out clinical and translational studies on Alcohol and Substance Use Disorders, focusing on the potential role of the microbiota-gut-brain axis as a novel neuropharmacological target for these disorders. For the latter area of research, Dr. Piacentiono was awarded with a fellowship from the NIH Center on Compulsive Behaviors in both 2019 and 2020.

Dr. Piacentino joined Dr. Leggio's CPN laboratory in February 2018. Dr. Piacentino received both her M.D. and Ph.D. in Clinical Experimental Neurosciences and Psychiatry from Sapienza University of Rome. In 2013-2014, Dr. Piacentino was a Research Fellow at Sapienza University of Rome after being awarded an Italian Ministry of Research grant to investigate the use and misuse of anabolic steroids and new psychoactive drugs in a young

sports population. In 2015 Dr. Piacentino received a Master's in Medical Statistics and Statistical Methods for Epidemiology from the University of Milan. In 2018, Dr. Piacentino completed clinical residency in Psychiatry at Sapienza University of Rome and Sant'Andrea Hospital.

Dr. Piacentino authored more than 45 peer-reviewed papers (with an H-Index of 14) and Dr. Piacentino has been a speaker at more than 30 national and international conferences.

Dr. Piacentino have been the recipient of several awards and honors, including the 2019 American Society of Clinical Psychopharmacology (ASCP) New Investigator Award, the 2020 NIDA IRP Women Scientists Advisors Committee Promising Postdoctoral Fellow Award, the 2020 Society for Neuroscience (SfN) Trainee Professional Development Award, and being selected for the 2020 American Psychiatric Association (APA) Research Colloquium for Junior Psychiatrists. In 2020 Dr. Piacentino was a finalist of the Research Society on Alcoholism (RSA) Enoch Gordis Research Recognition Award and earned the International Society for Biomedical Research on Alcoholism (ISBRA) Early Career Investigator Award. In 2021, Dr. Piacentino was selected for a Research Society on Alcoholism (RSA) Junior Investigator Award and the NIDA Outstanding Poster Award.

### Stephen Robertson, Ph.D.
*University of Michigan*

Stephen Robertson, Ph.D., has a background is in the Experimental Analysis of Behavior, Behavioral Economics, and Behavioral Pharmacology. Currently, Dr. Robertson is completing Post-Doctoral training under the guidance of Dr. Emily Jutkiewicz in the Department of Pharmacology. Generally, Dr. Robertson uses Behavioral Pharmacology approaches to characterize environmental and neural factors that contribute to the conditioned reinforcing properties of drug-associated stimuli. Most recently, Dr. Robertson has begun to examine the extent to which opioids mediate conditioned reinforcement.

### Kelly Sagar, Ph.D.
*McLean Hospital, Harvard Medical School*

Dr. Kelly Sagar began working in research in 2009 after graduating from Boston College, magna cum laude and a member of Phi Beta Kappa. As a research assistant at McLean Hospital's Cognitive and Clinical Neuroimaging Core directed by Dr. Staci Gruber, she gained experience in neuropsychology and neuroimaging, assisting with studies that utilize comprehensive cognitive test batteries and various magnetic resonance (MR) techniques including functional magnetic resonance imaging, diffusion tensor imaging, and magnetic resonance spectroscopy. Dr. Sagar earned an advanced degree in School Psychology in 2015 and recently completed her Ph.D. in Behavioral Neuroscience at Boston University School of Medicine. She has co-authored several original research manuscripts and review papers focused on recreational and medical cannabis use. Dr. Sagar is currently a Postdoctoral Research Fellow in the CCNC and Marijuana Investigations for Neuroscientific Discovery (MIND) program which is designed to examine the unique and synergistic effects of cannabis and its constituents when used to treat various conditions. In particular, she is interested in cognitive outcomes associated with use of cannabinoids, and is the recipient of the 2021 Eleanor and Miles Shore Harvard Medical School Fellowship for a project entitled "Examining the Cognitive Impact of a High-CBD Product in Bipolar Disorder."

## Karl Schmidt, Ph.D.
*Davidson College*

Dr. Karl Schmidt is currently a postdoctoral fellow in the Psychology Department at Davidson College working with Dr. Mark Smith. As an alumnus of Davidson College, Dr. Schmidt feels fortunate to continue his training where he first discovered his research interests in understanding the neurobiological and behavioral mechanisms of drug use. Prior to his current position, Dr. Schmidt worked as a postdoctoral fellow at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in the Bowles Center for Alcohol Studies in the lab of Dr. Zoe McElligott, as a graduate student in the Neuroscience Program at Emory University in the lab of Dr. David Weinshenker, and as a research technician in the Psychology Department in the lab of Dr. Linda Dykstra. In each of these positions, Dr. Schmidt has maintained a research focus on systems that influence drug effects using rodent models.

## Paige Shaffer, M.P.H.
*University of Massachusetts Medical School*

Paige Shaffer a public health researcher/epidemiologist and is an instructor in Psychiatry at the University of Massachusetts Medical School, and Chief Data Analyst for the Division of Addition Psychiatry. Paige is also concurrently a Doctoral Student at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. Paige has over 11 years of experience researching the epidemiology of addiction and other psychiatric disorders, implementing and evaluating Addiction treatment services, and conducting statistical analyses utilizing large administrative datasets. Paige has expertise in the management and use of large administrative databases, such as the VA's Corporate Datawarehouse, and EHR data from The Massachusetts Bureau of Substance Addiction Services. Paige has played a key role as Senior Data Analyst or Database Manager in a number of implementation open pilot studies, and randomized control trials. Much of Paige's recent research has focused on the development and evaluation of treatments for addiction and mental illness for several populations (e.g., veterans, homeless, criminal justice involved individuals). Many of these projects have focused on the implementation and evaluation of the evidence based co-occurring mental health and substance use disorders intervention model, Maintaining Independence and Sobriety through Systems Integration, Outreach, and Networking- MISSION, and MISSION-CJ.

## Vinita Sharma, M.P.H., Ph.D.
*University of Florida*

Dr. Sharma is a public-health researcher interested in the intersections of substance use, mental health and HIV/AIDS. She is a NIDA-T32 Postdoctoral Fellow (PI: Cottler) at the Department of Epidemiology, University of Florida.

## Jessica Sharp, D.Phil.
*Davidson College*

Dr. Sharp is a postdoctoral fellow at Davidson College under the mentorship of Dr. Smith. Her current work focuses on how social access and drugs interact as reinforcers. More specifically, she examines how access to a social partner and cocaine maintain operant responding using behavioral economic analyses.

## Justin Shepherd, M.A.
*University of Houston*

Justin Shepherd is a third-year doctoral student in the Clinical Psychology program at the University of Houston and a Graduate Research Assistant in the Anxiety and Health Research Laboratory/Substance Use Treatment Clinic. He has published over 35 peer-reviewed articles and book chapters on risk and protective factors of addictive behavior (including tobacco, electronic cigarette, opioid, alcohol, cocaine, and cannabis use) in relation to clinically relevant treatment and negative health-related outcomes. Mr. Shepherd's long-term professional scholarly interests include elucidating mechanisms of action (e.g., pain-related anxiety, anxiety sensitivity) for substance use problems among underserved and vulnerable populations with co-occurring conditions (e.g., chronic pain, anxiety-related disorders).

## Kelsey Simpson, M.A.
*University of Southern California*

Kelsey Simpson is a 4th year doctoral student in the Health Behavior Research PhD program at the Keck School of Medicine at the University of Southern California. Prior to entering her PhD program, she received an MA in Clinical Psychology from California State University Northridge with honors in May of 2016, and a BA in Psychology from the University of California, Santa Cruz in June 2012. Kelsey has conducted health disparities and addiction-related research in varied contexts with diverse populations. As a master's student, she conducted laboratory-based neurocognitive research examining neuropsychological functioning and health disparities in HIV positive individuals. As a doctoral student, she has conducted qualitative and quantitative research with young adult cannabis and tobacco users, people who inject drugs, and gay and bisexual Latinx emerging adults. Kelsey's primary research interests are grounded in investigating addictive processes, and the role of socioeconomic, psychological, social, and environmental conditions implicated across the substance use trajectory. She is also interested in topics such as psychiatric comorbidities, access to treatment, HIV and HCV related health risk, polysubstance use, injection risk behaviors, and harm reduction interventions.

## Ashley Smith, Ph.D.
*University of Texas Medical Branch*

Dr. Smith received her Ph.D. in 2019 from the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston, TX. Her dissertation was focused on characterizing how homeostatic and hedonic brain nodes interface to regulate feeding behaviors. She is presently a postdoctoral fellow in the UTMB Center for Addiction Research under the mentorship of Noelle Anastasio, Ph.D., where she is studying impulsivity as behavioral endophenotype that contributes to relapse vulnerability in substance use disorders.

## Kyle Snyder, B.S.
*New York University School of Global Public Health*

Kyle received his Bachelor of Science degree in Public Health from the University of Arizona in 2018. He recently received his Master's of Public Health from New York University School of Global Public Health. At NYU, he had the opportunity to participate in NYU's Substance Abuse Research Education and Training program. Kyle was mentored by faculty who were conducting research projects that aimed to examine trends in cannabis legalization and health outcomes. Kyle has also worked with researchers and faculty at NYU's Urban Epidemiology Lab working on research projects related to harm reduction and substance use stigma.

## Ryan Sullivan, M.S.
*University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee*

Ryan Sullivan is a Clinical Psychology doctoral student at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, working under the mentorship of Dr. Krista Lisdahl. His current research interests include adolescent and young adult substance use, affective processing, and the underlying neuropsychological outcomes that occur at the intersection of substance use and neurodevelopment. These research interests have led to several publications including the impact of cannabis use on brain structure in adolescents and young adults after monitored abstinence. Ryan's goal is to pursue a career as a clinical scientist specializing in developmental substance use neuroscience while continuing to balance the responsibilities of being a cat dad. @RMSullivanNeuro

## Forrest Toegel, Ph.D.
*Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine*

Forrest Toegel has been a Postdoctoral Fellow at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine since January 2019. Before joining the Behavioral Pharmacology Research Unit, he earned a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from the University of Wisconsin - Eau Claire in 2014, a Master of Science in Psychology from West Virginia University in 2017, and a Doctor of Philosophy in Psychology from West Virginia University in 2018. His current research applies principles of operant conditioning to combat drug addiction and poverty, and promote medication adherence and employment among adults in high-risk populations. He is also interested in preclinical and clinical research to understand and address behavior that is characterized as

problematic, and the development and evaluation of technology for the animal laboratory, the classroom, and clinical practice.



### Devin Tomlinson, B.S.
*Fralin Biomedical Research Institute at VTC*

Ms. Tomlinson is a third-year graduate student in Virginia Tech's interdisciplinary Translational Biology, Medicine, and Health program in the lab of Dr. Warren K. Bickel. Ms. Tomlinson's work with Dr. Bickel primarily focuses on Alcohol Use Disorder and the recovery process of Substance Use Disorders. She is involved with many projects examining the substance use disorders and recovery, including the International Quit and Recovery Registry and alcohol self-administration. While at Virginia Tech, she also completed research rotations with the departments of neurosurgery and psychiatry and behavioral medicine at Carilion Clinic. Her research interests include Addiction, Psychiatric Disorders, Behavioral Economics, and Science Policy.

Ms. Tomlinson comes to Virginia Tech from Oakland University, where she graduated Magna Cum Laude as a Presidential Scholar from the Honors College. At Oakland University, she worked in an exercise physiology lab and completed an Honors Thesis titled "Depression and Vitamin D Levels in Student Athletes."



### Richa Tripathi, Dr. Med. Sc., M.D.
*All India Institute of Medical Sciences*

Dr. Richa Tripathi has done her M.D. in Psychiatry and has been extensively involved in the field for last nine years. She holds additional training of three years in Addiction Psychiatry from NDDTC, All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi. Presently she is working as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Psychiatry at AIIMS, Gorakhpur, India and is the appointed nodal officer for the Addiction Treatment Facility there. She is a review editor for Frontiers' public health section and has also been a guest reviewer for the journal SLEEP. Her areas of interest are sleep physiology in various addictive disorders, childhood substance use and substance use in women. She has also published an extensive review on opioids and sleep. She was awarded for her research on neurological soft signs at the state conference and also a travel grant from Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, India for her research on opioids and sleep. She has also been involved in development of online training program on addiction for medical officers. She was instrumental in the Hindi translation of ASI-Lite. To contact her via e-mail: drricha12@gmail.com.



### Helena Valente, B.Sc.
*Porto University*

Helena Valente began working with people that use drugs in 2004. Helena worked for over 10 years coordinating national and European research and intervention projects in the drugs field. At the moment she is a researcher and Ph.D. Candidate at the Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences of the Porto University in Portugal and a founding member of Kosmicare association.

## Alyssa Vanderziel, M.S.
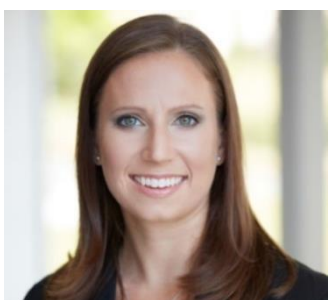*Michigan State University College of Human Medicine*

Alyssa Vanderziel is currently a PhD candidate in the Department of Epidemiology & Biostatistics, as well as a graduate research assistant in the Department of Family Medicine at Michigan State University. She is pursing her degree in epidemiology, with a dissertation focus on the health effects of prenatal cannabis use.

## Kainan Wang, Ph.D.
*McLean Hospital, Harvard Medical School*

Dr. Kainan (Sally) Wang is a junior faculty member in the Functional Integration of Addiction Research Laboratory at McLean Hospital/Harvard Medical School, directed by Dr. Amy Janes. She is interested in how the corticostriatal circuit is altered in patients afflicted with addictive and affective disorders and its impact on adaptive behavior. She uses behavioral tasks and physiological measures, in conjunction with neuroimaging tools such as fMRI, to probe the brain-behavior relationships, with the ultimate goal of translating these findings into successful behavioral interventions. Prior to coming to McLean Hospital, she worked under the direction of Dr. Mauricio Delgado at Rutgers University to study how our perception of control and agency influences decision-making and the underlying neural mechanism subserving perceived control.

## Heather Ward, M.D.
*Brigham & Women's Hospital*

Heather Burrell Ward, MD uses neuromodulation and functional neuroimaging to understand the circuit basis of substance use in individuals with psychotic disorders. Dr. Ward completed her Psychiatry residency at Brigham & Women's Hospital and Harvard Medical School. Starting in July 2021, she will be a Sidney Baer Foundation Fellow in the Clinical Neurosciences at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center. Dr. Ward's research career began as a clinical research coordinator at the Harvard/MGH Center for Addiction Medicine, where she conducted smoking cessation clinical research studies for individuals with schizophrenia, including the landmark EAGLES trial. She attended Duke University School of Medicine, where she studied the role of tobacco use in the development of first episode psychosis. Throughout residency, she has continued to study tobacco use and psychosis under the mentorship of Roscoe Brady, MD, PhD, Mark Halko, PhD, Amy Janes, PhD, and Lauren Moran, MD. She has developed an expertise in TMS for substance use and designed her own independent research study of TMS for opioid use disorder. Dr. Ward is a 2021 CPDD Early Career Investigator Awardee.

### Rhiannon Wiley, B.A.
*University of Vermont*

Rhiannon Wiley is a second-year clinical psychology predoctoral trainee at the University of Vermont. She works with Dr. Stacey Sigmon as part of the FDA-funded UVM Tobacco Center of Regulatory Science (TCORS), investigating the impact of very low nicotine content cigarettes and e-cigarettes on vulnerable smoker populations. Rhiannon is interested in the impact of e-cigarette flavors on tobacco product use patterns, smoking harm reduction among underserved populations, and the intersection of nicotine and opioid dependence.

# NIDA Women & Sex/Gender
# Junior Investigator Travel Award



### Janna Ataiants, Dr.P.H.
*Drexel University Dornsife School of Public Health*

Janna Ataiants is a Senior Research Scientist at the Department of Community Health and Prevention of Drexel University's Dornsife School of Public Health. She has over 15 years of professional experience in the field of substance use and misuse, including research, consultancy, and grantmaking experience. In the past years, her research has focused on health and living conditions of people who misuse opioids, with particular focus on women. Her dissertation research is one of few studies that examined personal and witnessed overdose among street-involved women, highlighting the role of violence and adverse social contexts in contributing to women's overdose. Janna's current research looks at neglected health consequences of repeated overdose among women with the goal of developing new interventions for female overdose survivors. Janna is also engaged with two NIDA-supported projects, including piloting a smartphone app-based overdose intervention in Philadelphia and a prospective study of young adult cannabis users in Los Angeles.



### Elizabeth Charron, M.P.H., M.S., Ph.D.
*University of Utah*

Dr. Charron is a health services researcher and postdoctoral fellow in the Program of Addiction Research, Clinical Care, Knowledge and Advocacy (PARCKA) at the University of Utah. She conducts research to improve health and health care delivery for persons experiencing addiction, socioeconomic disadvantage, and other vulnerabilities. Dr. Charron's primary research interests are related to women's health-addiction. Her current work is focused on examining sex/gender differences in pain and substance use, evaluating contraceptive provision for women with and without substance use disorders, and analyzing trajectories of pre-pregnancy opioid use.

## Alba Gonzalez-Roz, Ph.D.
*Department of Psychology/IUNICS/University of the Balearic Islands*

Alba González-Roz is an Assistant Professor at the University of the Balearic Island (Spain). She has been trained as a Psychologist at the University of Santiago de Compostela (BA, MA) and the University of Oviedo (Spain) (PhD). She completed her PhD in July 2019. Her research focuses on gender differences and combines methods from Clinical Psychology and Behavioral Economics to examine the efficacy of substance use treatments and the determinants of addictive behaviors in emerging adults.

## Erin Maher, Ph.D.
*University of Kentucky*

Dr. Maher earned her B.S. in Biology from Elon University and her MA in Psychology and Ph.D. in Psychology (with a Neuroscience concentration) from the University of Virginia. Dr. Maher's main research interests are to study how circuits in the brain are wired and how these neural connections change as a result of environmental factors using neuroanatomical and immunohistochemical techniques. She is currently studying how ovarian hormones affect drug consumption in females and how these drugs affect reward circuitry in the brain.

## Erin Martin, B.A.
*Medical University of South Carolina*

Ms. Martin is a second-year predoctoral student in neuroscience at the Medical University of South Carolina, where she is supported by a NIDA T32 training award. Advised by Dr. Aimee McRae-Clark, her work is focused on uncovering the biological bases of addictive disorders in both men and women to better inform novel pharmacotherapeutic interventions.

## Víctor Martínez-Loredo, Ph.D.
*University of Zaragoza*

Víctor Martínez-Loredo is PhD in psychology (2018) and former CPDD Early Career Travel Awardee (2019). He is currently working as assistant professor at the University of Zaragoza (Spain). His main area of research focuses on the assessment, prevention and treatment of substance use, with a special interest on the role of impulsivity and behavioral economic measures on substance use and treatment outcomes.

### Hannah Mayberry, B.S.
*Temple University*

Substance use disorder is a chronic, relapsing disorder, with relapse rates that are on par with other diseases such as hypertension and asthma. Although there are available treatments, many are not highly effective at combatting the intense cravings that precipitate relapse. This represents a major barrier to long-term recovery. Hannah is interested in identifying transcriptomic changes that occur in response to opioid exposure and prime the system for increased craving, as well as behavioral changes that accompany increased craving. A better understanding of these mechanisms can help improve treatments for craving, reduce relapse rates, and abate the harm and stigma associated with opioid use disorder.

Hannah graduated from Virginia Commonwealth University with a B.S. in Biology in 2015. Prior to graduate school, she worked as a research technician in Dr. Thomas Eissenberg's lab at the Center for the Study of Tobacco Products. She is now entering her fifth year as a Ph.D. student in Temple University's Cognition and Neuroscience program. Under the mentorship of Dr. Mathieu Wimmer, her thesis focuses on the neural and epigenetic mechanisms contributing to maintenance of opioid addiction and propensity for relapse, with an emphasis on identifying underlying sex differences.

### Elisa Pabon, B.S.
*The University of Chicago*

Elisa Pabon received a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences and Psychology at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh. She is now a fourth year doctoral candidate on the Committee of Neurobiology at the University of Chicago. Elisa is completing her PhD training in Dr. Harriet de Wit's human behavioral pharmacology laboratory. Her research focuses on the physiological, subjective, and behavioral effects of delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), the main psychoactive constituent of cannabis. She is primarily interested in the neurobiological interactions between estrogen and exogenous cannabinoids. Her dissertation work aims to provide critical information regarding hormonal mechanisms underlying female-specific individual differences in physiological and subjective response to acute THC.

### Jobe Ritchie, B.S.
*Washington State University*

Jobe Ritchie received his undergraduate degree in Psychology with summa cum laude from Portland State University. He is currently a third-year Ph.D. student in the Neuroscience Program at Washington State University. His research interests are centered on the neurobiological underpinnings of processes that perpetuate substance abuse with a focus on drug memory maintenance in Dr. Rita Fuchs' laboratory in the Department of Integrative Physiology and Neuroscience. After postdoctoral training, Jobe plans to continue academic research and one day head his own independent research program investigating the diverse mechanisms underlying substance use disorders.

## Pedro Rodriguez Rivera, M.P.H.

*University of Maryland School of Medicine*

After completing his B.S. in General Sciences at the Unveristy of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras Campus, Pedro J. Rodriguez Rivera obtained his masters in Public Health from Morgan State University. While studying Epidemiology and Human Genetics at the University of Maryland, Mr. Rodriguez Rivera began working on the Adolescent Brain and Cognitive Development (ABCD) study under Dr. Linda Chang M.D. M.S. and was awarded a diversity supplement from the National Institute of Drug Abuse (NIDA) to examine the sex-specific effects of prenatal tobacco exposure on brain and cognitive measures in the ABCD cohort. In 2019, he began his PhD in the Program of Neuroscience (PIN) at the University of Maryland, Baltimore, where he continues to work with Dr. Chang on the ABCD study. Also in 2019, he was invited to NIDA to present some of his preliminary findings at their diversity workshop. Most recently, Mr. Rodriguez Rivera completed the requirements to advance to his PhD candidacy in neuroscience and is now working on an F31 application for the Ruth L. Kirschstein Predoctoral Individual National Research Service Award later this year.

## Joy Scheidell, M.P.H., Ph.D.

New York University Grossman School of Medicine

Joy Scheidell is an epidemiologist and Assistant Professor in the Department of Population Health at NYU Grossman School of Medicine. She received her PhD in Epidemiology from NYU and an MPH in Epidemiology from the University of Florida. She is a former predoctoral fellow of the NIDA-funded Behavioral Sciences Training in Drug Abuse Research Program (T32 DA7233). Dr. Scheidell's research seeks to understand the intersections of mental health, substance use, and sexual and reproductive health, with a specific focus on vulnerable and marginalized populations. In addition to conducting her research, Dr. Scheidell is a devoted instructor of epidemiologic and population health research methods.

## Drew Townsend, Ph.D.

*Virginia Commonwealth University*

Postdoctoral fellow within the laboratory of Dr. Matthew Banks at Virginia Commonwealth University. Drew's research interests are related to the determinants of the choice of drugs of abuse over non-drug alternatives.

# NIDA Director's Travel Award

### Angel Algarin, M.P.H., Ph.D.
*University of California San Diego*

As a gay, Latino scholar, Dr. Algarin is committed to addressing health disparities that uniquely affect his community, particularly HIV and non-injection drug use. Dr. Algarin received his BA at The Ohio State University, his MPH at the University of Kentucky, and his PhD in Public Health at Florida International University. Currently, Dr. Algarin is a T32 postdoctoral fellow in substance use, HIV, and related infections at the University of California San Diego Division of Infectious Diseases and Global Public Health.

### Trent Bullock, M.A.
*Lewis Katz School of Medicine at Temple University*

Trent is a 3rd year graduate student at Lewis Katz School of Medicine at Temple University under the mentorship of Dr. Servio Ramirez. Starting in the lab in June of 2019, Trent's research focuses on characterizing the endocannabinoid system in brain microvascular endothelial cells under healthy and pathological conditions with a special focus on Traumatic Brain Injury and the dynamics of the cannabinoid 2 receptor. Long term, Trent hopes to complete his PhD at Temple and then move on to pursue a career in academia.

### Danielle R. Davis, Ph.D
*Yale University School of Medicine*

Dr. Davis is a postdoctoral fellow in the Yale's School of Medicine's Department of Psychiatry under Dr. Suchitra Krishnan-Sarin. Her research is broadly focused on tobacco product use. Her current research comprises two areas of tobacco research; (1) human laboratory work informing tobacco regulatory science and (2) regulatory and intervention research aimed at reducing tobacco use among youth.

### Teresa DeAtley, M.P.H.
*Brown University School of Public Health*

Teresa DeAtley is a fourth-year PhD Candidate at Brown University in the Department of Behavioral and Social Sciences. Prior to Brown, she earned an MPH and a certificate in Global Tobacco Control from the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health,

and worked in the international research unit at the Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids, and the Schroeder Institute for Tobacco Studies at the Truth Initiative. Her research interests center broadly around nicotine reduction policy, combustible tobacco use among vulnerable populations, and substance use. She is specifically interested in understanding how biological and psychosocial mechanisms drive nicotine addiction as well as understanding how to reduce tobacco-related health risks through the lens of tobacco regulatory science. Her dissertation research, which is supported by a NIDA F31 predoctoral grant, is examining factors contributing to use of very low nicotine cigarettes, e-cigarettes and usual-brand cigarette use among individuals with depression and anxiety disorders enrolled in a randomized clinical trial, which may help regulators maximize the effectiveness of a reduced-nicotine standard for cigarettes.

## Michelle Doyle, B.S.
*University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio*

Michelle Doyle is a graduate student in the Department of Pharmacology at UT Health San Antonio. In Dr. Greg Collins' lab at UT Health, Michelle is interested in understanding factors contributing to individual differences in vulnerability to developing a substance use disorder, or SUD-like phenotype. Her research examines the role of sex, access condition, dopamine D3 receptors, and serotonin 2C receptors in aberrant drug-taking behavior in rats. Her research is currently funded by a NIDA R36 Dissertation Award grant.
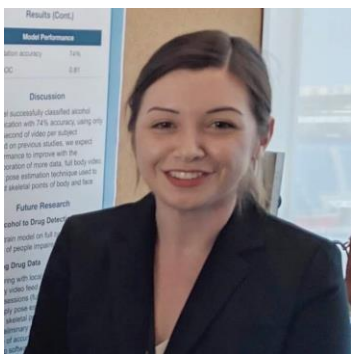
## Alice Ely, Ph.D.
*Perelman School of Medicine University of Pennsylvania*

Dr. Alice V. Ely is currently a postdoctoral fellow in the Center for the Studies of Addiction in the Department of Psychiatry at UPenn. She received her PhD in Clinical Psychology from Drexel University in 2014, where she focused on in reward and inhibition in obesity and eating disorders. Following her clinical internship at the University of California San Diego/VA San Diego, she became a postdoctoral fellow in the NIMH T32 in Biological Psychiatry. Returning to the East Coast to be closer to family, she served as a Psychologist at Christiana Hospital in the Heart and Vascular department in both a clinical and research capacity before joining the NIDA T32 Translational Addictions Research fellowship at UPenn. Dr. Ely's work during her fellowship has focused on the influence of obesity on neurobehavioral function in smokers. The long-term goal of her research is to apply neurobiological research to identify treatment targets and improve interventions for smoking cessation comorbid with weight and eating pathology.

## Nicole Fitzgerald, B.A.
*University of Florida*

Nicole Fitzgerald is a second-year PhD student in the Department of Epidemiology at the University of Florida. She is supported by a National Institute on Drug Abuse T32 Predoctoral Fellowship (PI: Cottler) through the University of Florida Substance Abuse Training Center in Public Health, under the mentorship of Dr. Linda B. Cottler. Her primary interests are the etiology and measurement of substance use disorders. She currently works on the National Drug Early Warning System (NDEWS) project, which uses population-based approaches to detect new and emerging drug trends.



## Brianna George, B.A.
*Wake Forest School of Medicine*

Brianna George is a Ph.D. candidate beginning her 5th year in the Neuroscience Program at Wake Forest School of Medicine. She earned her Bachelor's degree in Psychology from Texas Tech University. As an undergraduate, she worked with Dr. Paul Soto to investigate the long-term effects of exposure to psychiatric medications. Since joining Dr. Sara Jones's lab at Wake Forest, her work has focused on unraveling dopaminergic alterations underlying vulnerability to opioid abuse. Brianna's work is currently supported by a NIDA-funded predoctoral F31.



## Priscila Gonçalves, Ph.D.
*Columbia University*

Priscila Dib Gonçalves, PhD, is a Substance Abuse Epidemiology Training Program (SAETP) affiliated post-doctoral research fellow in the Mailman School of Public Health, Department of Epidemiology at Columbia University. She is interested in examining correlates, neurocognition, and risk behaviors associated with simultaneous use of alcohol and cannabis.

Prior to joining the SAETP, she worked as a clinical and research psychologist at the Institute of Psychiatry, Medical School, University of Sao Paulo (Brazil). Dr. Goncalves earned her Ph.D. from the Department of Psychiatry, School of Medicine, University of Sao Paulo (Brazil) with support from Brazilian state and federal financial agencies. Her dissertation focused on a novel cognitive intervention combining chess game and motivational interview in individuals with cocaine dependence. After completing her Ph.D. she was a visiting scholar at University of California, San Diego (UCSD) supported by the Brazilian government investigating alcohol use disorder (AUD) course and alcohol-related problems, particularly alcohol-related blackouts.

### Sarah Gutkind, M.S.
*Columbia University*

Sarah Gutkind is a second-year Pre-doctoral fellow in the Substance Abuse Epidemiology T32 Training Program in the Department of Epidemiology at Columbia University. She received her Masters of Science in Public Health at Johns Hopkins University where her research focused on disparities in substance use outcomes, and naloxone distribution. Prior to beginning her doctoral studies, she worked as a Research Coordinator at the Center for Health Economics of Treatment Interventions in Substance Use Disorder, Hepatitis C, and HIV (CHERISH), a NIDA-funded P30 Center of Excellence at Weill Cornell Medical College. There she conducted cost and cost-effectiveness analyses alongside clinical trials for hepatitis C screening, care facilitation, and treatment interventions among people who use drugs and people living with HIV. Building on her experience at CHERISH, her research interests are at the intersection of health economics and substance use epidemiology. Her current research examines the health consequences of alcohol, cannabis, and opioid use and the effects of COVID-19 on substance use outcomes.

### Zachary Mannes, M.P.H., Ph.D.
*Columbia University, Mailman School of Public Health*

Dr. Zachary Mannes is a clinical psychologist with research interests at the intersection of health psychology and substance use epidemiology. Specifically, he examines the relationship between pain, psychiatric well-being, and substance use disorder symptoms among underrepresented populations. Dr. Mannes has a BS in Psychology and Human Development from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University where his undergraduate research examined correlates of risky alcohol consumption among college students. Dr. Mannes holds a MPH and PhD from the University of Florida College of Public Health and Health Professions and he completed a predoctoral clinical fellowship at the Yale School of Medicine. He is currently a Postdoctoral Fellow in the Substance Abuse Epidemiology Training Program in the Department of Epidemiology at Columbia University.

### Nathaniel Moxley-Kelly, M.Sc.
*University of Vermont*

Nathan Moxley-Kelly is currently pursuing his doctoral degree in clinical psychology through the University of Vermont's Department of Psychological Science and is supported by a NIDA-sponsored T32 training grant at the Vermont Center on Behavioral Health. His training has thus far included a BA in psychology from Concordia University and an MSc in psychiatry from McGill University. For his MSc, with the mentorship of Dr. Thomas Brown, he identified two phenotypes of DWI offenders with differential rates of recidivism and selective responsivity to motivational interviewing. Currently, his research interests include the development and evaluation of treatments for substance use disorders and co-occurring disorders. Nathan is working with Dr. Kelly

Peck to investigate the effects of monetary incentives to increase attendance to prolonged exposure therapy in individuals with cooccurring opioid use disorder and post-traumatic stress disorder. In the future, Nathan plans to use his training in clinical research to develop novel interventions for substance use disorders as an independent investigator.

### Alexandra Palmisano, Ph.D.
*Yale University School of Medicine*

Alexandra N. Palmisano, PhD is a postdoctoral fellow completing training at Yale University supported by a National Institute on Drug Abuse T32 Fellowship. She completed a bachelor's degree in Behavioral Neuroscience from St. Lawrence University and received her PhD in Behavioral Neuroscience from the University of Connecticut in 2019. Dr. Palmisano's research uses translational virtual reality (VR) models to understand factors important to substance use and psychiatric disorders. She is interested in examining the biobehavioral mechanisms that underlie alcohol use disorder (AUD) and posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD), and investigating the efficacy of interventions designed to treat individuals with these comorbid disorders. Her specific areas of research include (1) developing a novel VR conditioned avoidance task to investigate the role of avoidance behavior in the relationship between AUD and PTSD, (2) evaluating the efficacy and physiological effects of sublingual buprenorphine combined with extended-release naltrexone in the treatment of comorbid AUD and PTSD, and (3) examining the epidemiology of AUD and PTSD among a large, nationally representative U.S. veteran sample.

### Justin Strickland, Ph.D.
*Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine*

Dr. Justin Strickland is a postdoctoral fellow in the Behavioral Pharmacology Research Unit at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. He earned his doctorate in Experimental Psychology from the University of Kentucky in 2019. A major theme of Dr. Strickland's research is basic and applied behavioral economic theory in addiction science. This work includes the development/refinement, validation, and clinical application of behavioral economic measures. His work has also evaluated how behavioral economics can provide a valuable tool to facilitate communication and correspondence in research findings across animal, human laboratory, and public health researchers in addiction science as well as in other issues of public health significance.
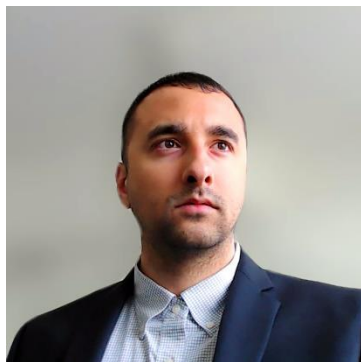
### Andre B. Toussaint, M.A.
*Temple University*

Andre Toussaint is a Ph.D. candidate completing his 4th year in the Cognition and Neuroscience program at Temple University. He earned a bachelor's degree in Psychology and a Master's degree in Biopsychology at Hunter College. As an undergraduate, Andre investigated sex-differences in the molecular adaptations elicited by psychostimulant drugs such as cocaine and methamphetamine. As a Master's student and a National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIGMS) research trainee, Andre's work

centered on identifying sex-differences in the rewarding effects of methamphetamine between two strains of adolescent mice. Currently, under the mentorship of Dr. Mathieu Wimmer, Andre investigates the molecular mechanisms underlying opioid addiction susceptibility using multigenerational rodent models. His thesis focuses on addiction vulnerability, pain sensitivity, and antinociception in male and female offspring of morphine-treated male rats (sires). Andre's career goal is to become an independent neuroscientist where he can leverage his predoctoral training towards a focus on testing the abuse liability of prescription analgesics in preclinical models to ultimately help improve clinical care for chronic pain patients who also abuse opioids. To help facilitate his postdoctoral transition, Andre recently applied for the F99/K00 award in Spring 2021.

### Neil Varshneya, B.S., M.S., Ph.D.
*Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine*

Neil is a pharmacologist with experience in human behavioral pharmacology of substance abuse and preclinical models of abuse liability. He is employed as a Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the Johns Hopkins University (JHU) School of Medicine, Behavioral Pharmacology Research Unit (BPRU) and is a part-time MBA student at the JHU Carey Business School. Neil is knowledgeable in research on fentanyl analogs and other putative opioid-receptor ligands, also known as novel synthetic opioids. He completed his PhD degree in the Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology at the Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) School of Medicine, where he investigated the pharmacological effects and mechanisms of action of 38 unique fentanyl analogs on nociception, locomotion, and respiration in mice. Neil drafted approximately 80 scientific technical reports on the in vivo pharmacological effects of fentanyl analogs which were reviewed and cited by the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) in eight-factor analyses as well as by the World Health Organization (WHO) in critical review reports. Neil's research facilitated the placement of fentanyl analogs into a permanent Schedule I status in the United States and amendments to the Single Convention on Narcotics of 1961 to bring fentanyl analogs under Schedule I control at the international level.

### Noel Vest, Ph.D.
*Stanford University School of Medicine*

Dr. Noel Vest is a postdoctoral research fellow in the Systems Neuroscience and Pain Lab at the Stanford University School of Medicine. Dr. Vest works alongside Keith Humphreys to address problems related to substance use disorder across a variety of populations. As a formerly incarcerated scholar, Dr. Vest is a strong advocate for social justice issues and public policy concerning substance use disorder recovery and prison reentry. His research interests include mental health, substance use disorders, poverty, social justice, pain, collegiate recovery, and prison reentry. His work has been published in journals across disciplines and his unique journey been featured in Nature and Stanford Magazine. He is heavily involved in public policy work to restore Pell grants to incarcerated students and fair chances (Ban the Box) legislation as it relates to institutions of higher education. He received his Ph.D. and Masters in Experimental Psychology from Washington State University.

## Heather Webber, Ph.D.
*University of Texas Health Science Center*

Dr. Heather E. Webber, earned her PhD in psychology with a concentration in cognitive neuroscience at the University of South Florida in 2017. Currently, Dr. Webber is a postdoctoral research fellow at the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston in the Center for Neurobehavioral Research on Addiction. Dr. Webber primarily employs human electrophysiological methods to study the underlying neural mechanisms of motivation, reward and punishment sensitivity, and emotional functioning and how these processes contribute to addiction. Dr. Webber has demonstrated notable productivity, with 20 peer-reviewed publications and multiple awards at local entities and national conferences. In 2020, Dr. Webber was awarded an F32 from the National Institute on Drug Abuse, where she is investigating event-related potential predictors of treatment outcomes in individuals with cocaine use disorder. This work will provide important information on why some individuals respond to treatment while others do not, contributing to the efforts on improving individualized treatments.

## Alison Wakeford, Ph.D.
*Harvard Medical School McLean Hospital*