



ACNP Bulletin

American College of Neuropsychopharmacology 5034A Thoroughbred Lane, Brentwood, TN 37027
Tel: 615-324-2360 • Fax: 615-523-1715 • E-mail: acnp@acnp.org • www.acnp.org

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Spring, a time for Searching and Planting

Anissa Abi-Dargham, M.D., ACNP President

Spring season is when we start planting the seeds for an inclusive and diverse annual meeting where the best science will be disseminated, new talent recruited to our community and achievements are celebrated.

[More...](#)



Change and the ACNP Annual Meeting

Ronnie Wilkins, Ed.D., CAE, ACNP Executive Director



When I first started working for ACNP in 1999 we had a nice, stable pattern for the annual meeting location.

Mostly, we met three years in Puerto Rico and the fourth year in Hawaii, with an occasional variation, as in 1999 when we met in Acapulco. So, why did we change that pattern? [Click here](#) for more.

Interview with Joshua A. Gordon, Director of NIMH

Scott Schobel, M.D., Membership Advisory Task Force Member



Membership Advisory Task Force Member, Scott Schobel, interviewed Joshua A. Gordon, Director of NIMH. [Click here](#) to read this full interview.

Animal Research Committee Blog

J. David Jentsch, Ph.D., Animal Research Committee Co-Chair

In early 2017, the College reactivated the Animal Research Committee, with the charge being to engage, in a supportive way, with other existing scientific societies, advocacy groups and accrediting organizations for which animal research is a central focus, as well as to review and develop ACNP resources that articulate "the positive aspects of the ethical use of animals in research." [Click here](#) to read more.



Liaison Committee Members attend "Hill Day" with SfN

Capitol "Hill Day" is the hallmark advocacy event of the year. SfN members from across the country convene on Capitol Hill to meet with their congressional representatives to discuss advances in the field of neuroscience, share the economic and public health benefits of investments in biomedical research, and make the case for strong national investment in scientific research through NIH and NSF. To read more about "Hill Day," [click here](#).



ACNP 56th Annual Meeting *December 3-7, 2017*

Registration for the 56th Annual Meeting will begin in June. We are looking forward to welcoming members and their guests to the JW Marriott Desert Springs Resort in Palm Springs, California. [Click here](#) for additional information.



2018 Officer and Council Election Results Congratulations to the newly elected leadership.

This election was carried out in accordance with Article VII, Section 3 and Article IX, Section 2 of the ACNP By-Laws, and its results are binding. Terms for the newly-elected officers will begin at the conclusion of the ACNP Annual Business Meeting on Wednesday, December 6, 2017.

Marina E. Wolf, Ph.D.
President-Elect



Victoria Arango, Ph.D.

Council (Three-Year Term)



Judith M. Ford, Ph.D.

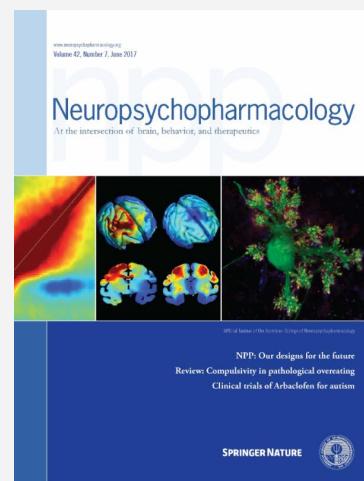
Council (Three-Year Term)



Neuropsychopharmacology is Soliciting High Quality Clinical Papers!

Anissa Abi-Dargham, M.D., ACNP President and Associate Editor for *Neuropsychopharmacology* (NPP)

Being big fans of ACNP means that we are also proud fans of our beloved journal, NPP. I am writing today to reinforce the message that our Editor-in-Chief, Bill Carlezon, has been sharing: NPP is interested in receiving high quality clinical papers. We invite you to submit investigations involving human subjects, including but not restricted to clinical trials, to NPP. Our goal is to achieve a balance across research modalities and topics, so that our journal is representative of our scientific community as a whole, including basic scientists, clinical, and translational researchers. While this has always been true,



we realize that the future of diagnosing and treating neuropsychiatric illness extends well beyond the limits of traditional pharmacology. **This realization is reflected by the tagline on our newly-redesigned cover: "At the intersection of brain, behavior, and therapeutics."** The journal is an essential communication tool for the ACNP and should reflect the work of our membership as a whole. Our ability to promote your research to the communities of clinicians, scientists, and laypersons is stronger than ever, using the resources of our publisher (Springer Nature) and our newly-established presence on social media. I hope you will join me in supporting our journal by submitting your best work, clinical and otherwise, to NPP.

Now Collecting Hot Topics for Neuropsychopharmacology Reviews (NPPR)

Kathryn Cunningham, Ph.D., 2018 Hot Topics Editor

Under the editorial guidance of Drs. Bill Carlezon and John Neumaier, the ACNP will publish its annual compendium *Neuropsychopharmacology Reviews* (NPPR) as the first issue of *Neuropsychopharmacology* in 2018. With Drs. Margaret Haney and Matthew Hill as volume editors, the focus of the January 2018 NPPR volume is *Cannabis and Cannabinoids* (please see [Table of Contents](#)).



Accompanying each volume will be 10-12, 500-word articles that report novel neuropsychopharmacology findings ("Hot Topics"). The NPPR editorial team is now collecting ideas for inclusion in the Hot Topics section of the upcoming volume. These suggestions should represent exciting, "hot" scientific or technological advances in neuropsychopharmacology, and do not need to correspond to the content of the current NPPR volume.

Please send your ideas for Hot Topics articles to Lori Kunath, lkunath@ACNP.org, before May 31, 2017.

Have you listened to the latest Brainpod?



"Arbaclofen in Children and Adolescents with Autism Spectrum Disorder:" Autism Spectrum Disorder has been defined by the medical community, but so far, none of the medications available for ASD treat the core symptoms of the disease. Because ASD is genetically linked to Fragile X syndrome, researchers noticed that in a mouse model, the drug arbaclofen reduced what would be core symptoms of autism, such as combatting social avoidance and improving social function. A randomized placebo-controlled trial was conducted to test this idea and the results were recently published in *Neuropsychopharmacology*.

[Read the article](#) | [Listen to the podcast](#)

New 2017 ACNP Website Editor

Todd Lencz, Ph.D.

Please join us in congratulating Todd Lencz, Ph.D., as the new 2017 ACNP Website Editor. He will take position on July 1, 2017. One of the first tasks Dr. Lencz will be taking

on is the ACNP website rebuild. Please look for a new ACNP website before the annual meeting. The College is grateful to Dave Sibley, Ph.D., for his years of service as our website editor from 2007 to 2017.



ACNP Honorific Awards - Call for Nominations

It's time to honor the scientific and mentorship accomplishments of a select few from a very long list of our distinguished members and colleagues. The Honorific Awards Committee, chaired by Dr. Alan Frazer, is requesting nominations for the following ACNP honorific awards:

- Julius Axelrod Mentorship Award
- Daniel H. Efron Research Award
- Joel Elkes Research Award
- Paul Hoch Distinguished Service Award
- Eva King Killam Research Award
- ACNP Media Award
- Dolores Shockley Minority Mentoring Award - NEW AWARD

Detailed nomination information is available on the [ACNP website](#) under the Programs & Initiative tab. The nomination deadline is Wednesday, June 28, 2017. Award recipients will be announced and honored at the Annual Meeting during the President's Plenary on December 4, 2017.

The committee urges you to nominate a deserving colleague and encourages the nomination of women and minorities.

Dolores Shockley Minority Mentoring Award

New ACNP Honorific Award starting in 2017

The Dolores Shockley Minority Mentoring Award is a new award for the College this year. This award will be presented to an ACNP member who has been particularly successful in mentoring young scientists from underrepresented minorities in the field of neuropsychopharmacology and related disciplines. Any scientist may nominate an ACNP member in good standing for this award by submitting to the Honorific Awards Committee.



Dr. Dolores C. Shockley is a professor emeritus at Meharry Medical College. She is the first African American woman to receive a Ph.D. in Pharmacology, and the first to Chair a Department of Pharmacology at an accredited medical school. After receiving her Ph.D. from the School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences at Purdue University she received a Fulbright Fellowship to the Pharmacology Institute in Copenhagen. Her research focused on non-narcotic analgesics, effects of drugs on stress conditions, stimulant dependency and overdose, and how the brain responds to cocaine. The deadline to submit an Honorific Award is June 28, 2017.

Membership Nominations and Promotions

Nomination materials for new Member, Associate Member, and Fellow promotion candidates will be available under the Membership tab on the ACNP website at www.acnp.org by the end of May. The submission site will open with an announcement via email to membership in early August. The deadline for nominations and applications will be September 12, 2017. Should you have questions or need assistance, please contact Erin Shaw at eshaw@acnp.org.

Support of the NNCI Synapse

The ACNP Executive Committee (EC) has expressed its support for the Center for Social Innovation's proposal for Fast-Track Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) funding through the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) to develop and evaluate NNCI Synapse: Where Learning Takes Place under Co-Principal Investigators, Dr. Kathleen Ferreira and Dr. Melissa Arbuckle.

NNCI Synapse is a mobile application that builds upon the initial work of the National Neuroscience Curriculum Initiative (NNCI) to improve neuroscience teaching in psychiatry and will include a database of multimedia content that promotes self-study of neuroscience. A primary goal of NNCI Synapse is to expand the knowledge, skills, and attitudes of allied health professionals, including psychiatrists, psychiatry residents, psychologists, primary care physicians, nurses, and therapists towards clinical neuroscience. The EC believes this new facet of the NNCI will take cutting edge neuroscience to an even broader clinical audience. This mobile app is being commercially developed and there may be a charge for it, but we believe the charge will be modest and the app will potentially have significant value to the field.

Dates to Remember

- **May 23, 2017:** Deadline for submissions of individual presenter abstracts (Panels & Mini-Panels)
 - **May 23, 2017:** Deadline for submission of disclosures by Study Group participants
 - **May 26, 2017:** Deadline for chairs to review and finalize proposed sessions (Panels, Mini-Panels, & Study Groups)
 - **June 28, 2017:** Deadline to submit ACNP Honorific Awards
 - **August 10, 2017:** Deadline to submit Poster Abstracts (*Poster submissions will open in early June with registration for the annual meeting*)
 - **September 12, 2017:** Deadline to submit new Membership Nominations and Promotions (*Membership nominations and promotions will open in early August*)
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Upcoming Meetings

To see a list of upcoming meetings in the field of neuropsychopharmacology, [click here](#).

Staff Spotlight

Meet the Director of Meetings, Heather McCroskey, CMP

Heather McCroskey has been a part of ACNP since August 2013. She was hired as the ACNP Meetings Manager and in January 2016 was promoted to the Director of Meetings. [More...](#)



ACNP Staff Contact List

For a full listing of the ACNP Staff in the Executive Office, [click here](#).

To submit items to the Bulletin, please email:



Erin Shaw, Project Manager
eshaw@acnp.org

www.acnp.org

American College of Neuropsychopharmacology,
5034A Thoroughbred Lane, Brentwood, TN 37027

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