



ACNP Bulletin

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2019 President's Plenary and Distinguished Lecture

Marina E. Wolf, Ph.D., ACNP President

As an addiction researcher, I'm very excited to have the opportunity to highlight timely issues in the drug addiction field at this year's ACNP meeting.



The **President's Plenary** session, titled "*Cannabinoids: Addiction, Mental Health and Therapeutics*", will provide a cutting-edge perspective on the function of the endocannabinoid system in the brain and how our knowledge of this system informs the health risks and therapeutic opportunities presented by increasing recreational and medicinal use of cannabinoids. The President's Plenary will take place on Sunday, December 8th at 8:00 AM in the Bonnet Creek I-VI at the 58th ACNP Annual Meeting in Orlando, Florida.

The **Distinguished Lecture**, presented by Yavin Shaham, Ph.D., is titled "*Reverse-Translational Models of (or for) Drug Relapse: Behavior, Pharmacology, Circuits, and Implications for Treatment*". Based on the very limited success of using classical animal models of drug self-administration and reinstatement/relapse to identify new therapeutic approaches useful in humans, Dr. Shaham proposes a reverse-translational approach.

Please [click here](#) for additional information on both sessions.

2019 Neuropsychopharmacology Reviews Panel Session: Sleep and Neuropsychiatric Illness

Chairs: Luis de Lecea, Ph.D. and John W. Winkelman, M.D., Ph.D.

The ACNP panel session for *Neuropsychopharmacology Reviews* will be held on Monday, December 9th at 8:30 AM.

Sleep research, once regulated to the fringes of scientific inquiry, has found a central position in pathophysiological inquiry as we increasingly recognize that sleep and neuropsychiatric illness are entwined. [More...](#)



PMG Update - An 11 Year Journey

Sarah Timm, CAE, CMP-HC, Executive Director

"The only strategy that is guaranteed to fail is not taking risks." - Mark Zuckerberg

Early in 2008, Ronnie Wilkins and I took the idea of starting an association management company that would be for-profit and wholly owned by the College to the ACNP Council. I clearly remember the looks from Council that we got in that meeting.

Fast forward 11 years and PMG continues to grow. [More...](#)



2020 Nominating Committee

We are pleased to announce the following individuals have been selected to the 2020 Nominating Committee:

- Scott Rauch, M.D., *Chair*
- Deanna Barch, Ph.D.
- Cameron Carter, M.D.
- Suzanne Haber, Ph.D.
- Kathleen Merikangas, Ph.D.
- Lisa Monteggia, Ph.D.

The 2019 committee chair, Raquel Gur, M.D., will serve as ex officio to the committee.

Neuropsychopharmacology (NPP) Updates

William A. Carlezon Jr., Ph.D., Editor-in-Chief

NPP has now published 3 reports that provide insight on gender balance in journal function and how social media affects citation counts. These articles are freely available on the journal website (<https://www.nature.com/npp/>). The authors of these reports - Dr. Chloe Jordan (NPP Intern), Dr. Gretchen Neigh (NPP Social Media Editor), and Dr. Bill Carlezon (NPP Editor-in-Chief) - will present a poster that updates their findings at the annual meeting. Please stop by to learn more, and to bring ideas for new journal-related special projects that you'd like to see us take on.



The articles can be accessed at the following links:

Neuropsychopharmacology (NPP): gender balance in journal function (<https://rdcu.be/bVMuv>)

Neuropsychopharmacology (NPP): relationships between online attention and citation counts (<https://rdcu.be/bVMuH>)

Neuropsychopharmacology (NPP): update on gender balance in journal function (<https://rdcu.be/bVMu3>)

The poster (#286) will be presented on Wednesday, December 11th, from 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM:

Neuropsychopharmacology Editor's Meet and Greet

The NPP senior editor team is delighted to invite ACNP Annual Meeting attendees to our first "Meet the Editors" session, to be held on Monday, December 9th from 2:30 PM - 3:00 PM in the Bonnet Creek foyer (immediately following the Distinguished Lecture). The purpose of this informal meeting is to get to know the editors, learn about the journal's review processes from choosing the initial reviewers to the final decision, and discuss potential submissions.

We can also provide insight on how to become involved in various aspects of journal function, including those that offer opportunities to learn about the business of publishing. All are welcome, but we particularly encourage early-career scientists to take part in this session.

NPP Senior Editor Team:

Bill Carlezon
Tony George
John Neumaier
Anissa Abi-Dargham
Susanne Ahmari
Arthur Brody
Kathryn Cunningham
Markus Heilig
Stan Floresco
Sheena Josselyn
Francis McMahon
Gretchen Neigh
Lisa Monteggia
K. Luan Phan
Yavin Shaham

November BRAINPOD

Intra-individual changes in methylome profiles: an epigenetic 'scar' of early-life adversity?

It's widely understood that early life adversity has an impact on mental illness and cognitive problems later in life. There are theories as to the mechanisms of how this works, but it's difficult to test in humans. Tallie Z. Baram, M.D., Ph.D. is a Professor of Neurophysiology and Biophysics at the UC Irvine Department of Pediatrics. And she co-authored a recent study in the journal, *Neuropsychopharmacology*, with Ali Mortazavi, Ph.D., Professor of Developmental and Cell Biology at UC Irvine. Dr. Baram says that imaging studies show changes in brain structure and circuits, and cognitive and emotional tests also demonstrate a change in function. But it's difficult to study the mechanism, to try to understand how this is happening, because scientists can't take samples of brain tissue to determine how and when genes are expressed. Have a listen to learn more! [Related article](#).



Tune in here: [iTunes](#), [Google Podcasts](#), [RSS Feed](#), [SoundCloud](#)

"The Role of Science in Overcoming the Opioid Crisis"

Working in conjunction with the American Brain Coalition (ABC) and in cooperation with the Congressional Neuroscience Caucus, on November 19th the ACNP Liaison Committee chair, Wade Berrettini, M.D., Ph.D., John Mariani, M.D., and Karen Korfmann, RN, BSN, presented to a bipartisan crowd. The goal of this program, as with all ACNP briefings, is to educate policy makers on important scientific issues and stress the importance of continued research funding.

[More...](#)



Latin American Task Force

Alan Frazer, Ph.D., Chair

The Latin American Task Force solicited membership to identify collaborations with scientists from a Latin American country to increase participation in the ACNP Annual Meeting of scientists from Latin American countries.

There are currently 28 collaborations being conducted with Latin American countries. In this Bulletin article, we have featured three collaborations being conducted with a Latin American country. [Click here](#) to read further on the collaborations.

BRAD at ACNP Annual Meeting

Interview with Logan France, D.V.M. and Katherine M. Serafine, Ph.D., 2019/2020 ACNP-AMP BRAD Fellow.

David Jentsch, Ph.D., Animal Research Committee member, interviewed Dr. Logan France and Dr. Katherine Serafine on their plans for bringing Biomedical Research Awareness Day (BRAD) to the ACNP Annual Meeting.

[More...](#)



ACNP/AMP BRAD Fellowship

The deadline to submit an application is March 1, 2020.

ACNP and the Americans for Medical Progress (AMP), a national non-profit that stands in support of biomedical research, are partnering together to accept applications for the ACNP/AMP BRAD Fellowship for 2020. Named for Biomedical Research Awareness Day (BRAD), a celebration of science held annually in April, this fellowship aims to raise awareness for essential animal research in neuropsychopharmacology and other related

careers in the field. For additional information, please see their [flyer](#) or [visit their website](#).

Personal Rewards from receiving an ACNP Travel Award

Each year, the Education and Training Committee selects two to three past travel awardees from the previous Travel Award class to serve as ad hoc members on the committee. This year, two of the ad hoc members have prepared a blog to share with membership on what an ACNP Travel Award has meant to them.

Please [click here](#) to meet Dr. Guusje Collin and Dr. Meaghan Creed from the 2018 Travel Award class.

ACNP 58th Annual Meeting

December 8-11, 2019

We are excited to see you in December at the Hilton Orlando Bonnet Creek and Waldorf Astoria in Orlando, Florida.

For the latest updates and information, [click here](#).



[Click here](#) for the dining options in Orlando, Florida.

Annual Meeting Badges

Annual meeting badges will be mailed to each registered attendee prior to the meeting. Please watch your mailbox and bring your badge to the meeting to reduce your wait time during registration. If you do not have your badge, you will be required to provide identification at registration. Attendees must wear name badges to be admitted into all sessions. People who are not registered or are registered as an Accompanying Person will not be allowed into scientific sessions. The name badge policy will be strictly enforced.

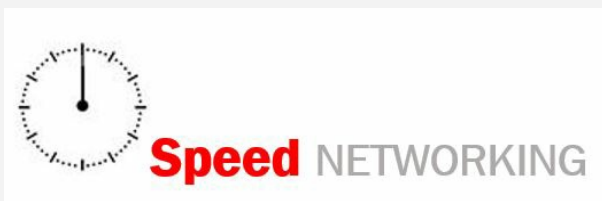
Annual Meeting Schedule

Looking for a certain session/meeting?
Need to know when a speaker is presenting?
Want to make your own customized schedule?

Please visit the [Annual Meeting Schedule](#) for the most up to date schedule.

Speed Networking Session

Saturday, December 7th from
5:30 PM - 6:30 PM



Take advantage of this effective and fun event to meet your colleagues, talk about your research and learn about topics of interest and potential collaboration with your industry peers! This structured event will enable you to enjoy 60 minutes of round-table discussions along with a reception led by senior members of the College. Be sure to take part!

Networking topics to include: *Establishing a career as faculty in academia and future administrator roles, transitioning into an industry career and climbing the career ladder, establishing a career in the VA, membership in ACNP, taking your idea into a startup company, editorial roles at journals, and strategies for success in a medical school setting.*

***Open to all registered scientific attendees. ACNP Associate Members and Trainees are encouraged to attend.**

Meet The Expert

Monday, December 9th at 3:00 PM in Bonnet Creek X.

"Application of Polygenic Risk Scores in Psychiatric Research - Effective Uses, Limitations, and Promise"

Alicia Martin, Ph.D.

Genetics provides two major opportunities for understanding human disease—as a transformative line of etiological inquiry and as a biomarker for heritable diseases. Polygenic risk scores hold special promise as biomarkers for psychiatric disorders due to their high heritability, the inaccessibility of the brain and lack of existing biomarkers, and the heterogeneous patient populations identified by current phenomenologically-based diagnostic systems. In this session, we will discuss the fundamental concepts for calculating and interpreting these scores. In addition, we will examine current limitations and common misunderstandings, examples of existing research applications in psychiatry, major obstacles to clinical applications, and potential future directions, with special attention to the impact of vast Eurocentric genetic study biases on the utility of these scores. Lastly, we will provide guidelines for evaluating the utility and rigor of genetic prediction studies.

Underrepresented Minority Women's Networking Session

Monday, December 9th from 7:30 AM - 8:30 AM in the Flager/Gilchrist meeting room.

The focus will be challenges and opportunities in navigating a career in academic medicine and how a strong underrepresented minority network can help you achieve your goals.

Underrepresented Minority Networking Reception

Monday, December 9th from 7:30 PM - 8:30 PM in the Taylor Meeting Room

This year's reception will include engaging, round-table discussions on the following topics: NIH/Grantsmanship, ACNP Membership, Work/Life Balance, Navigating the Job Market, and Career Development (discussions include the topics of transitioning from early-mid career, establishing independence as a post-doc, and navigating the career track).

*These events are open to all registered scientific attendees.

Women's Luncheon

Sponsored by the Women's Task Force

"Confronting Workplace Incivility and Sexual Harassment in Academic Science and Medicine"

Presented by Imogen Coe and Elizabeth Conklin

The Women's Luncheon will be held on Tuesday, December 10th from 11:00 AM until 1:00 PM in the Bonnet Creek I-VI. This session is open to all scientific attendees.

[Other Women's Networking Events during the Annual Meeting](#)

Career Development Session

Striving for Success As Faculty in Academia

The career development session, sponsored by the Membership Advisory Task Force, will focus on strategies, principles, and practical tips for scientists seeking to navigate a career as faculty in academia. The panelists include junior and senior scientists in academia, all of whom together will be able to offer a wealth of expertise on various topics such as starting a lab, transitioning your lab, advice for switching to a university mid-career, when and when not to collaborate as well as discuss the demands to achieve tenure.

Session Panelists:

Erin Calipari, Ph.D. (Vanderbilt University)

Paul Holtzheimer, M.D. (VA and Dartmouth)

Roselinde Kaiser, Ph.D. (University of Colorado Boulder)

Paul Kenny, Ph.D. (Icahn School of Medicine at Mt Sinai)

Bitia Moghaddam, Ph.D. (Oregon Health & Science University)

[More...](#)

Teaching Day - "Neural-Immune Interactions"

Teaching Day is scheduled for Wednesday, December 11th from 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM in Bonnet Creek I-VI.

The session is chaired by Trevor Robbins, C.B.E., FRS, Ph.D., with featured speakers:

- Beth Stevens, Ph.D.
- Scott Russo, Ph.D.
- Andrew Miller, M.D.

Increasing evidence implicates immune related cells and molecules in normal brain function and psychiatric disorders. This Teaching Day session will provide an introduction to this fast-moving research area. Dr. Beth Stevens will discuss the role of microglia and complement in normal developmental synaptic pruning, together with evidence that aberrant regulation of this pruning pathway contributes to schizophrenia. Dr. Scott Russo will discuss the interplay between pro-inflammatory cytokines, stress, and major depressive disorder, including data suggesting immune modulatory drugs as potential antidepressant therapeutics. Finally, Dr. Andrew Miller will discuss the development of therapeutic strategies for psychiatric disorders based on targeting inflammation's effects

and the use of inflammatory biomarkers to identify patients with psychiatric disorders associated with increased inflammation.

Poster Presentation

REMINDER, the maximum area per poster is 45 inches by 45 inches.

Remember to take your poster down after the session. Posters will be disposed of after each poster session ends each night.



Please view the [poster presentation and mounting requirements](#) for additional information.

Important College Policy Reminders

As you are making plans to attend the 58th Annual Meeting, we ask you remember these important College policies:

- 1. Photos and Recording During the Annual Meeting** - Photographing or recording material presented in a panel, mini-panel, study group or poster session is not allowed unless explicitly given permission by the presenter. Photographing a speaker before, during or after a session is not allowed without the explicit permission from the speaker. Unauthorized photography or recording is unfair to the presenters and will have the effect of discouraging our members from presenting their most recent unpublished work.
- 2. Organizing Small Meetings** - Please do not organize any activities that conflict with scientific sessions of the Annual Meeting. If you are invited to attend any such meetings, please inform the meeting organizer that this is in violation of ACNP policy.
- 3. Use of ACNP Name/Logo** - The ACNP name, logo, or the name of the annual meeting may not be used in association with any CME activity without the approval of the College. To obtain permission to use the College name for such purposes, please contact the Executive Office (acnp@acnp.org) who will have your request reviewed by the appropriate committee and/or Council.
- 4. Acceptable Use of Social Media** - ACNP encourages the use of social media such as Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, Google+ and blogging sites to engage our community in the Annual Meeting. We encourage you to post or tweet highlights about the meeting, discuss your favorite speakers, panels and posters and offer recommendations on which panels and posters to attend.

When sharing information, we request you refrain from:

- Photographing or recording the material presented in panel, mini-panel, study group or poster sessions. This is unfair to the presenter and will have the effect of discouraging our members from presenting their most recent unpublished work.
 - Using social media to share detailed content of lectures, posters, etc., especially when the organizer or speaker has explicitly requested that some or all of the information presented is not to be captured or shared.
 - Photographing speakers before or after a session without their permission.
- 5. Name Badge Policy** - Everyone who attends the Annual Meeting must be registered and will need to check-in at the registration desk to receive meeting materials. People who are not registered or are registered as an Accompanying Person will not be allowed into scientific sessions. Attendees must wear name badges to be admitted into all

sessions. The name badge policy will be strictly enforced.

6. Code of Conduct - The American College of Neuropsychopharmacology is dedicated to providing a safe and productive experience for all participants and attendees at all official ACNP events regardless of sex, race, color, national origin, religion, age, physical or mental disability, perceived disability, ancestry, marital status, sexual orientation, or any other basis protected by federal or pertinent state laws. ACNP does not tolerate discrimination or any form of prohibited harassment and is committed to enforcing this Code of Conduct (the "Code") at its Annual Meeting or at any other ACNP event. Please [click here](#) for the full Code of Conduct.

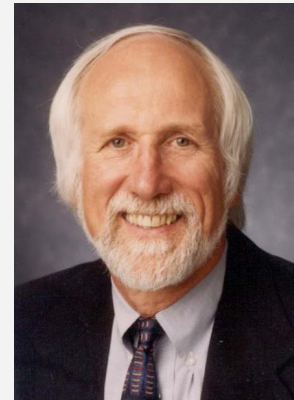
Dates to Remember

- **December 8-11, 2019:** ACNP 58th Annual Meeting, Orlando, Florida
 - **Early May 2020:** Submissions of Overall Proposals by Chairs (Panels, Mini-Panels, and Study Groups) Deadline.
 - **December 6-9, 2020:** ACNP 59th Annual Meeting, Phoenix, Arizona
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Member Spotlight

Dr. William T. Carpenter, ACNP Fellow Emeritus, is the recipient of the 2019 Pardes Humanitarian Prize in Mental Health.

[Click here](#) to read more.



Staff Spotlight

Top Ten Things you likely did not know about Jill Bracey, Project Coordinator

10. She was in the hand bell choir as a teen.
9. Her family currently has a dog, 2 cats, a rabbit and a hamster.
8. She is a Certified Life Coach.
7. She once swam with giant sea turtles in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines.

[More...](#)



ACNP Staff Contact List

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

Upcoming Meetings

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

Employment Opportunities

To see a list of new employment opportunities in the field of neuropsychopharmacology, [click here](#).

To submit items to the Bulletin, please email:



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