



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

ACNP President's Letter

Linda S. Brady, Ph.D., ACNP President



It is a great honor and privilege to work with all of you this year in my capacity as President of the ACNP. The ACNP is my scientific home. The annual meeting affords a unique venue for our members and invited speakers to share exciting new advances in science at the intersection of brain, behavior, and therapeutics as well as to deliberate, discuss, and debate issues of importance to the College.

As I briefly discussed at the ACNP Business Meeting in December, I propose three areas of focus for 2021 that build upon the work and achievements of our past ACNP Presidents, our Council, our Committees and Task Forces, and our members.

[Read More](#)

Microaggressions - What They Are and Why They Have No Place at ACNP

Sarah Timm, CAE, CMP-HC
Executive Director

Over the last decade the College has made a concerted effort to improve diversity and create an environment of inclusion. The College, by design, is an honorific organization that creates boundaries for inclusion. However, our Council and Committees are working to develop programs to change the culture of the College.



"Microaggressions are like planting, or watering, seeds of doubt - doubt in abilities, doubt in whether one belongs, doubt in worthiness, doubt in identity,

Diversity of Topics and Representation of Clinical Sciences at the Annual ACNP Meeting

One of this year's challenges will be to follow on the College's tradition of excellence and aim to raise the bar further.

To this end, working with my co-Chair, Rajita Sinha, and the other members of the Program committee, and in consultation with our President, Linda Brady, we continue to discuss ways to enhance the program and address the feedback received from the ACNP membership.

[Read More](#)

Dates to Remember

- **April 22, 2021:** Deadline to submit Travel Award applications
- **May 11, 2021:** Deadline for submission of overall proposals by chairs (Panels, Mini-Panels, & Study Groups)
- **May 25, 2021:** Deadline for submissions of individual presenter abstracts (Panels & Mini-Panels)
- **May 25, 2021:** Deadline for submission of disclosures by Study Group participants
- **May 27, 2021:** Deadline for chairs to review and finalize proposed sessions (Panels, Mini-Panels, & Study Groups)
- **June 24, 2021:** Deadline to submit Honorific Awards
- **August 5, 2021:** Deadline to submit Poster Abstracts
- **September 2, 2021:** Deadline to submit new Membership Nominations and Promotions

2021 New Associate Members, New Members and Members Promoted to Fellow

Please help us welcome the 34 new Associate Members and 37 new Members selected for 2021 membership at the 59th Annual Meeting. We also congratulate the 29 Members who were promoted to Fellow status in the College.

[New Associate Members](#)
[New Members](#)
[Members to Fellow Promotion](#)

Career Development Committee (formerly known as the Membership Advisory Task Force)

The 2021 Career Development Committee (formerly known as the Membership Advisory Task Force) members are listed below. This committee will plan the Career Development Session during the annual meetings, create Bulletin articles with a focus on career needs

during the training and early-career periods, and writing blogs on topics such as work-life balance, grant writing, and lab management. They look forward to your feedback and suggestions.

- Mercedes Perez-Rodriguez, *Chair*: mercedes.perez@mssm.edu
- Karen Szumlinski, *Co-Chair*: szumlinski@psych.ucsb.edu
- Kristina Deligiannidis: kdeligian1@northwell.edu
- Christine Anne Denny: cad2125@cumc.columbia.edu
- Faith Dickerson: fdickerson@sheppardpratt.org
- David Hsu: david.hsu@tonixpharma.com
- Amy Janes: ajanes@mclean.harvard.edu
- Shin-ichi Kano: skano@uab.edu
- Lin Mei: lin.mei@case.edu
- Marta Pecina: pecinam@upmc.edu
- Michael Stevens: michael.stevens@hhchealth.org
- Consuelo Walss-Bass: consuelo.walssbass@uth.tmc.edu
- Natalie Zahr: nzahr@stanford.edu
- Mary Phillips, *Council Liaison*: phillipsml@upmc.edu

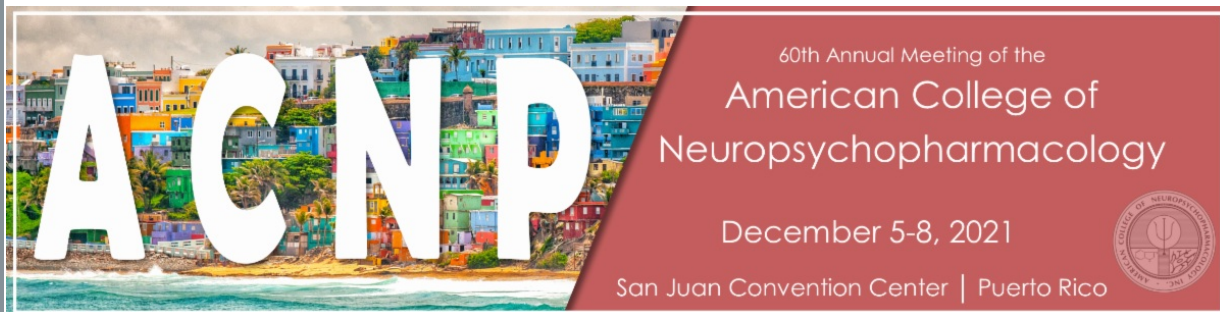
2020 Career Development Session

The committee was pleased to organize its 10th Career Development Session at the virtual ACNP Annual Meeting. The session's topic was *Social Media in Science: Contributing to the Online Social Platforms as a Scientist*.

To learn more about the session, [click here](#).

ACNP Travel Award Program

The 2020 ACNP Annual Meeting brought another outstanding class of 54 Travel Awardees to the virtual meeting. To learn more about the 2020 Travel Awardees, please [click here](#).



2021 Travel Award Program

The Travel Award application supporting letters must be from ACNP member only.

Supporting letters from non-members will not be accepted. All categories of membership to include Associate Members, Members, Member Emeritus, Fellows and Fellow Emeritus will be allowed to nominate **one person** for a travel award with the **exception to allow one additional nomination for a minority applicant**. Members will upload their supporting letter in to the submission system which will be kept confidential from the travel award applicant.

We ask for your assistance in disseminating this information to your colleagues, institution and related organizations in an effort to prepare travel award applicants.

The Travel Award application site will open on March 15, 2021. The deadline to submit an application is April 22, 2021.

Please visit the ACNP website for additional information on the [2021 Travel Award](#)

Seeking Volunteers for 'Support A Scientist'!

Support a Scientist is a newly initiated ACNP/AMP BRAD video series providing a platform for scientists to talk about their research with a wider audience. Each video provides a “face” to science, establishes importance of a specific area of research, highlights the role of animal research in the study, and offers insights on how science is conducted.

These videos will be posted on the [BRAD website](#) and shared on social media. They can also be featured in ACNP member communications, on the ACNP website and social media feeds, and shared with public audiences.

An example of one of these videos can be viewed [here](#). Guidance is provided to scientists on how to shape their message for the general public, and more information about the program is available upon request.

If you are interested in sharing your research with a broader audience and participating in this impactful video series, please fill out this [form](#) or [email](#) us for more information. We look forward to your participation.



**Laura Erwin, Ph.D.,
2020/2021 ACNP-AMP
BRAD Fellow**

Share Your Story for Virtual Biomedical Research Awareness Day (BRAD)

The official 2021 BRAD will be held in the fall due to the current widespread restrictions on in-person events. In the meantime, BRAD is once again hosting a “virtual BRAD” this spring on April 15th. The COVID-19 pandemic has repeatedly highlighted the critical role of animals in public health and vaccine development. Let’s help the world see how animal research benefits each of us every day by sharing our stories of health and survival.

BRAD is collecting personal stories about diseases or medical conditions that have directly impacted your life or that of a loved one, human or animal. On April 15th, watch as BRAD social media posts connect real patient stories with animal research. They will specifically highlight which species helped find the treatment that benefited your friend, family member, pet, or yourself! To participate, simply click [this link](#) and share your story.

We encourage ACNP member participation as we continue to help the public understand the connection between neuroscience research with animals and human health. Individual and institutional prizes are available for participating.

[Read More](#)

SfN Hill Day Event 2021

The College partnered with the Society for Neuroscience to select up to four distinguished young scientists from the 2020 Travel Award class to be part of SfN's Annual Hill Day event. Any interested 2020 Travel Awardees were asked to submit a statement of interest in public service or advocacy, a statement of their experience volunteering in governmental education efforts, advocacy outreach or elections as well as an updated C/V

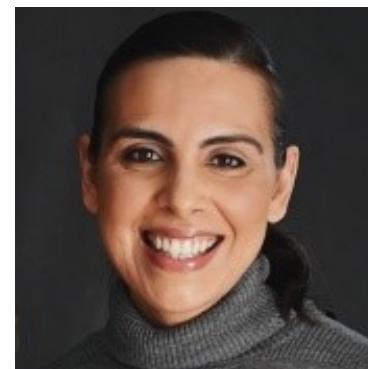
This year, the committee chairs selected the following distinguished young scientists from the 2020 Travel Award class to be part of the virtual event with Hill Day training on March 15th with the Hill Day on March 16-18th.



Angelica Torres-Berrio,
Ph.D.
Icahn School of Medicine at
Mt. Sinai



Lauren Breithaupt, Ph.D.
Massachusetts General
Hospital



Leslie Nucifora, Ph.D.
John Hopkins University



National Institutes of Health
Turning Discovery Into Health

Dr. Francis Collins has issued a [statement](#) declaring NIH's commitment to [ending structural racism in biomedical research](#). NIH will be instituting new ways to support diversity, equity, and inclusion which will help to identify and dismantle any policies and practices that may harm our workforce and our science. The statement describes a new [NIH initiative called UNITE](#) that will provide the framework for this important effort. UNITE is comprised of five committees with experts across all 27 institutes and centers who are passionate about racial diversity, equity, and inclusion and stands for:

Understanding stakeholder experiences through listening and learning
New research on health disparities, minority health, and health equities
Improving the NIH culture and structure for equity, inclusion, and excellence
Transparency, communication, and accountability with our internal and external stakeholders
Extramural research ecosystem: changing policy, culture, and structure to promote workforce diversity

Through short-term and long-term actions, UNITE goals are centered on ending structural racism and racial inequities across the biomedical research enterprise.

Additionally, NIH is seeking expert guidance from the [Advisory Committee to the Director \(ACD\)](#), which met last Friday during a special meeting on this issue which will be archived on [NIH Videocast](#). In particular, Dr. Collins plans to task the ACD, through its Working Group on Diversity, to play an active role in this effort and encourage additional input from NIH staff, the NIH-supported scientific community, stakeholder organizations, and the public through a [Request for Information](#). **NIH encourages staff to [submit your comments](#) to the RFI, which will remain open through April 9, 2021.** Finally, NIH has launched an [NIH webpage on Ending Structural Racism](#) that describes NIH's efforts, actions, policies, and procedures to increase their transparency on this important issue.

Dr. Collins stresses that this is only the beginning of what he expects to be a long-term effort that will not rest until racial equity in biomedical research has been achieved.

Request for Information (RFI): Inviting Comments and Suggestions to Advance and

Statement on Racial Equity and Inclusion in Biomedical Research - and the NIH UNITE Program

George F. Koob, Ph.D.
NIAAA Director



In Dr. Koob's blog post, he discusses his enthusiastic and full-fledged support of, and commitment to, the NIH UNITE program.

[Read the NIAAA Blog](#)

ACNP Diversity & Inclusion Task Force



The Diversity and Inclusion Task Force has completed its work for 2020! During the past year, the task force focused on critical work to advance its efforts to embrace diversity and promote a culture of inclusion for the ACNP membership and their invited guests that attend the ACNP Annual Meeting. The task force began the year with administrative enhancements to the ACNP profile page which included self-identification of more than one race, addition of gender pronouns, LGBTQ+ and disability questions.

Diversity and Inclusion Task Force members, April Thames, Ph.D. and Sade Spencer, D.Phil., hosted the virtual annual meeting opening session, *Inclusion and Diversity Efforts Within Large Scientific Organizations, Tangible Methods that Work*. The opening session was followed by eight virtual networking sessions hosted by the Diversity and Inclusion Task Force on various topics such as, *The Role of BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and People of Color) Scientists in Neuropsychopharmacology, The Study of Sex Differences, Gender Bias and Trans Inclusive (JEDI), Navigating the ACNP from a Diversity and Inclusion Perspective, Minority Women Networking* and a hosted LGBTQIA2S+ social which was meant to improve the visibility of the LGBTQIA2S+ group to each other and to the College as a whole. These events from the past year have engaged communities through listening and learning. The Diversity and Inclusion Task Force looks forward to another year ahead with optimism and change. ACNP Council is impressed with the initiatives and progress of the Diversity and Inclusion Task Force and the efforts the College has made over the past decade focusing on diversity and inclusion.

The Diversity and Inclusion Task Force is comprised of (23) ACNP members and ad-hoc members. Please see the [Diversity and Inclusion Resources](#) page on the ACNP website for additional information.

[Read More](#)

2020 Annual Meeting

The first ever virtual ACNP Annual Meeting was a success! The ACNP was able to pivot to a virtual meeting as the College's top priority is the safety and well-being of its attendees and their families, colleagues, and members of the global community.

Not only did our members and their invited guest get to attend the virtual meeting, our pets did as well!

Click below for more photos from #petsofACNP!

#petsofACNP



2020 Honorific Award Winners



The 2020 Honorific Award winners were presented virtually prior to the 59th ACNP Annual Meeting by Awards Committee chair, Marina Wolf, Ph.D.

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

[Click here to see the 2020 Award Winners!](#)

New and Updated 2021 Honorific Awards

Please visit the [ACNP website](#) to view the new and updated honorific awards for 2021.

***NEW AWARD* Barbara Fish Memorial Award**

The ACNP presents this award to an ACNP member who has made an outstanding contribution to basic, translational or clinical neuroscience. The selection of the nominee is based on a mature body of work, notable for its impact, innovation, and depth.

Dolores Shockley Diversity and Inclusion Advancement Award

(formerly known as the Dolores Shockley Minority Mentoring Award)

The ACNP presents this award to an individual and/or program (e.g. department, initiative, institute, etc.) that has had outstanding success promoting Diversity and Inclusion within the fields of basic, clinical, or translational neuroscience.

'Time Limited' Awards (Daniel H. Efron, Joel Elkes, and Eva King Killam Research Awards)

These awards are now modified to be fifteen years past the terminal training position with the opportunity for the nominators to include "interruptions from the nominee's career" to the award nomination.

2020 NPP Award Winners

The eighth annual *Neuropsychopharmacology* Editors' Award for a Transformative Original Report (NEATOR), fourth annual *Neuropsychopharmacology* Editors' Award for a Review (NEAR), and second annual *Neuropsychopharmacology* Editors' Early Career Award (NEECA) were presented virtually prior to the 59th ACNP Annual Meeting by Editor-in-Chief, William Carlezon, Ph.D.



Click here to see the 2020 NPP Award Winners!

NPP (*Neuropsychopharmacology*) Reviewers

New Members and Associate Members who would like to be added to the reviewer pool for NPP should create a profile on the Springer Nature site at www.nature.com/npp. On your personal profile check yes to the query, "Do we have the permission to contact you by email regarding editorial matters (such as peerreviewing) or to help improve our services to authors and referees?" and your name will be added to the reviewer pool.

Please contact the Journal, journal@acnp.org, with questions.

New 2021 Officers and Council Members

The reins of leadership were passed to 2021 President, Linda S. Brady, Ph.D. by outgoing President, Maria A. Oquendo, M.D., Ph.D.



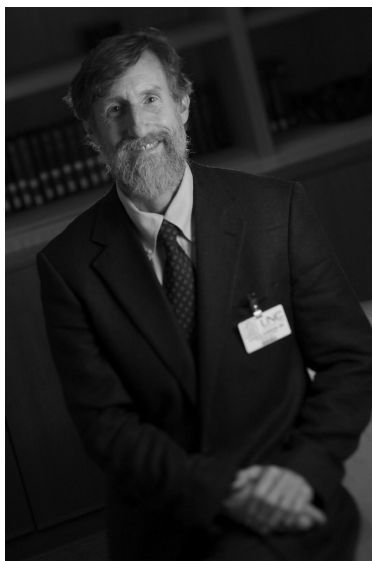
Linda S. Brady, Ph.D., President
Director, Division of Neuroscience and Basic Behavioral Science
National Institute of Mental Health



Carlos A. Zarate, Jr., M.D., President-Elect
Chief, Experimental Therapeutics and Pathophysiology Branch
National Institute of Mental Health



Rita J. Valentino, Ph.D., Secretary
Director, Division of Neuroscience and Behavior
National Institute on Drug Abuse



David R. Rubinow, M.D., Treasurer
Distinguished Professor



Diego A. Pizzagalli, Ph.D., Council Member (*Replacing Carlos Zarate*)
Professor of Psychiatry
McLean Hospital / Harvard Medical School



Carrie E. Bearden, Ph.D., Council Member
Professor
University of California at Los Angeles



2021 ACNP Council

Please [click here](#) to see the complete list of our Council Members.

NPP BRAINPOD

BrainPod is the podcast from the official publication of the ACNP, **Neuropsychopharmacology (NPP)**, produced in association with Springer Nature Publishing Group.

Join us as we delve into the latest basic and clinical research that advance our understanding of the brain and behavior, featuring highlighted content from a top journal in fields of neuroscience, psychiatry, and pharmacology.



[Listen to the latest BRAINPODS](#)

Staff Spotlight

Top Ten Things you likely did not know about

Estelle Bah, Parthenon Management Group Intern

10) She has been to 32 countries, and hopes to make it to 50 by 30!

9) Her birthday is 02/02/2002 so 2 is her favorite number.

8) She speaks three languages fluently and another dialect semi-fluently: French (which was her first language), English, Spanish (which she has studied for 11 years), and Bambara which is a dialect from Mali!



[Read More](#)

Did you know that Parthenon Management Group has an internship program?

PMG offers a robust internship program for anyone interested in building their knowledge in association management or meeting management. Our interns are respected members of our team who are given the tools and guidance to contribute valued work for our clients.

[Learn More](#)

Employment and Grant Opportunities

To see a list of new employment opportunities and grant opportunities in the field of neuropsychopharmacology, please click below:

Employment Opportunities

Grant Opportunities

The [Foundation for OCD Research](#) (FFOR) is pleased to announce a [new grants program](#) to support innovative research that will advance the understanding and/or treatment of obsessive compulsive disorder. Letters of intent are due June 15, 2021.

Upcoming Meetings

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

ACNP Staff Contact List

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



ACNP EXECUTIVE OFFICE

5034A Thoroughbred Lane
Brentwood, TN 37027

Main Phone: 615-324-2360

Fax: 615-523-1715

E-mail: acnp@acnp.org