



# ACNP Bulletin

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## Upcoming Deadlines

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



**As we spring into summer, the ACNP is buzzing with activities in preparation for the 60th Annual Meeting!**

Members of the ACNP Executive Committee and of Council have been meeting regularly to discuss issues of import to the College, and many Committees and Task Forces have also been hard at work addressing their charges for 2021. Many of you have submitted proposals for panels, mini-panels, and study groups for the 2021 meeting. If you missed the deadline, please consider submitting a poster abstract.

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## Decision 2021: To Meet In-Person or Virtual

Sarah Timm, CAE, CMP-HC  
Executive Director

As the COVID-19 pandemic begins to lift its grip on our world, many associations are faced with the decision of when to go back to in-person meetings. With so many uncertainties about the future of the virus, it is no wonder this is a tough decision. Will variants of the virus give rise? Will we all need a booster shot? If I am vaccinated, should I still social distance? Is travel safe? So many questions, and very few answers.



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## Dates to Remember

- **June 1, 2021:** Deadline to submit NPP EIC Application
- **June 24, 2021:** Deadline to submit Honoric Awards
- **August 5, 2021:** Deadline to submit Poster Abstracts
- **September 2, 2021:** Deadline to submit new Membership Nominations and Promotions

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## ACNP's First URM Mini Retreat

ACNP's first URM Mini Retreat was held on May 24, 2021. The retreat consisted of members of Council, NIH Institute Directors, chairs of the Diversity and Inclusion Task Force, Membership and Program Committees, and member and non-member URM invitees. The first retreat discussed the challenges in engaging underrepresented minority scientists in the College's activities, including meeting attendance and eventually applying for membership (if not already a member). The Institute Directors provided updates on diversity efforts within their institutes. The retreat also focused on ideas for immediate and long term changes the College can address at a strategic level with thoughtful discussion. The next mini retreat will be scheduled during the summer.

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## Coming out of COVID: The Results of a Follow-up Survey of the Continuing Challenges and Circumstances Related to COVID-19

**Karen K. Szumlinski, Ph.D.**  
Co-Chair of the Career  
Development Committee

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In April 2020, one month following the recognition of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Career Development Committee (formerly the Membership Advisory Task Force) polled its members regarding the professional effects of COVID-19. The results of the 2020 poll were summarized in the May 2020 Bulletin article by David T. Hsu, Ph.D.

The Career Development Committee recently polled members of the current committee, the new Associate Members, and the 2020 Class of Travel Awardees to gain insight into how the professional impact of COVID-19 has changed over the past year.

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## NPP Editor's Corner

**William Carlezon, Ph.D.**  
Editor-In-Chief

**NPP Collection: Highlighting  
Research on Health Disparities**  
This collection brings together articles

published in NPP, from 2020 onward, that focus on research questions which address health disparities related to gender, race, ethnicity, LGBTQ+ individuals, and early life adversity. The journal will continue to add content as it is published.

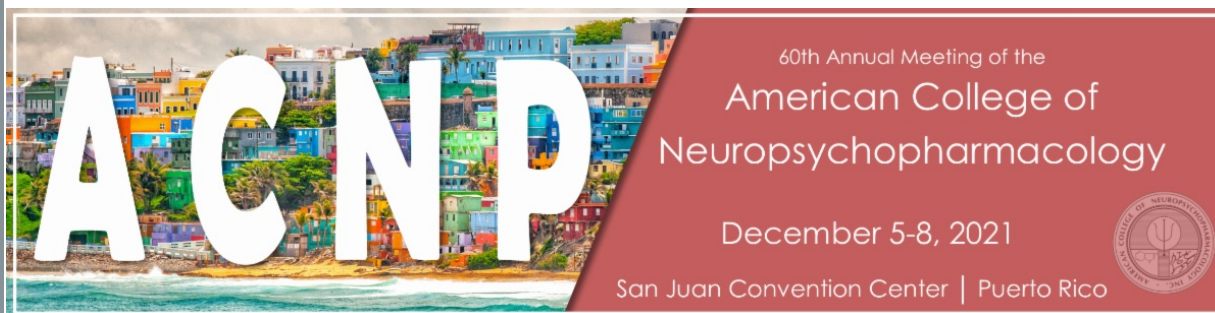
[Click here to view the Collection](#)



### "Meet the Author" Interviews


These interviews feature early-career scientists who discuss their recently published NPP papers as well as challenges they have faced and overcome along the way. The journal will continue to add new interviews at regular intervals.

[Click here to view the interviews](#)



60th Annual Meeting of the  
American College of  
Neuropsychopharmacology

December 5-8, 2021  
San Juan Convention Center | Puerto Rico



The banner features the acronym 'ACNP' in large, white, 3D-style letters on the left, set against a background of a colorful, multi-story building complex built on a hillside overlooking the ocean. On the right, the text is white on a dark red background. The ACNP logo, a circular seal with a caduceus and the text 'AMERICAN COLLEGE OF NEUROPSYCHOPHARMACOLOGY', is located in the bottom right corner of the banner.

## Requesting Guest Invitations - *NEW PROCESS*

ACNP Member requests for guest invitations or bank invitations are now submitted through the online meeting portal in lieu of emailing the Executive Office. **The online portal is now open. Please note that invitations will not be sent until after registration officially opens this summer.** To request your invitation, login to the [Annual Meeting Submission Site](#) and select 'Submit ACNP Invitation Request.'

As a reminder, attendees must be registered for the conference prior to submitting a poster. Invitations are processed manually and can take time so please be sure to request your invitation early to ensure your guest has ample time to register and submit a poster prior to the **August 5th poster deadline**.

Associate Members can only request an invitation from the invitation banks.

Additional information regarding invitations can be found [here](#).

## NEW Animal Research Pages on ACNP Website

Mar Sanchez, Ph.D.  
Animal Research Committee Chair

The Animal Research Committee worked hard in 2020 to revamp the animal research

public page on the ACNP website. This page was originally combined with human research and the links and information were out of date. The committee worked with organizations such as Americans for Medical Progress (AMP), National Association for Biomedical Research (NABR), and Society for Neuroscience (SfN) to provide updated information and links for our web pages that will direct viewers to their websites for additional information.

The Animal Research Committee also included an additional page for ACNP member's only on how to prepare for and respond to opposition from animal rights groups. This page is for proactive steps/materials and additional information should you become a target of animal rights groups. In the event you, your lab, or your research are targeted by animal rights activists, please contact your institutional representatives immediately. These individuals often are in the Office of the Dean or Vice-Chancellor for Research or the Office of Public Relations. If there is any threat, immediately contact campus and local police. There is a link on the Animal Research page that will lead you to this page; however, requires a member's log-in to view. The Animal Research page is located under the Public and Media Resource's tab on the ACNP website.

[Animal Research Public Page](#)

[Animal Research Member's Only Page](#)

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## Virtual Biomedical Research Awareness Day (BRAD) Update

Virtual BRAD 2021 was celebrated on April 15<sup>th</sup> and was a huge success! We collected personal stories about diseases and medical conditions that have directly impacted your life or that of a loved one, human or animal. Stories were shared on social media and highlighted the animal species that helped find the treatment that benefited your friend, family member, pet, or yourself. View all stories [here!](#) In addition, BRAD 2021 will be celebrated in-person on **September 16th, 2021**. 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.



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

## 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.

Additionally, the Support a Scientist program is perfect for early stage investigators, including postdoctoral fellows and new principal investigators who are looking to share their work with a broader audience and build their national and international reputation as a neuropsychopharmacologist.

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.

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.

## Applications closing soon for 2021 BRAD Fellow

The ACNP/AMP Biomedical Research Awareness Day (BRAD) Fellowship offers the opportunity to raise awareness about the essential role of animals in clinical and basic research for brain-behavior-drug interactions, advancements in psychopharmacology, and careers in the field. The deadline to apply is **June 1, 2021** and the fellowship term is August 1, 2021, through July 30, 2022. More information can be found on the [AMP website](#). If you know of a suitable applicant, please encourage them to apply [here](#).

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## COVID-19: PTSD Among Healthcare Workers

The ACNP Liaison Committee, led by Committee Chair, Stephen Strakowski, M.D., presented a briefing to the Congressional Neuroscience Caucus on *COVID-19: PTSD Among Healthcare Workers* on April 28th. Presenters included James Murrough, M.D., Ph.D., Kathleen Merikangas, Ph.D., and W. Michael Brode, M.D. The briefing highlighted the COVID-19 pandemic and the critical need to focus on its impact on the mental health of our nation's healthcare workers involved in the response.

[Read More](#)

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## SfN Hill Day Event 2021

The Liaison Committee, in conjunction with the Education and Training Committee, provided funds to a select number of past ACNP Travel Awardees to attend SfN Hill Day.

The travel awardees from the 2020 class were asked to submit information on their congressional district and Senate representatives, provide a current curriculum vitae, a statement on interest and experience in public service or advocacy, and to provide a statement on their experience volunteering in government education efforts, advocacy outreach or elections.

[Read More](#)

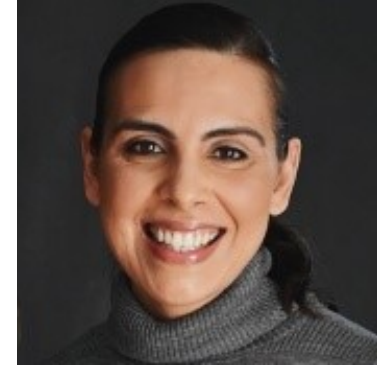
This year, the committee chairs selected the following distinguished young scientists from the 2020 Travel Award class to be part of the virtual event with Hill Day training on March 15th with the Hill Day on March 16-18th.



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

## 2021 Honorific Awards - Call for Nominations

It is 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 Maria A. Oquendo, is requesting nominations for the following Honorific Awards:

Daniel H. Efron Research Award  
Joel Elkes Research Award  
Eva King Killam Research Award  
Barbara Fish Memorial Award  
Julius Axelrod Mentorship Award  
Dolores Shockley Diversity and Inclusion Advancement Award  
Paul Hoch Distinguished Service Award  
Media Award  
Public Service Award

Detailed nomination information is available on the [ACNP website](#) under the Annual Meeting tab. The nomination deadline is **June 24, 2021**. Award recipients will be announced and honored at the annual meeting.

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

[Click here to submit a nomination](#)

## New and Updated 2021 Honorific Awards

### **\*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

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## Membership Nominations and Promotions

Nomination materials for new Member, Associate Member, and Fellow promotion candidates is available under the Membership tab on the [ACNP Website](#). The submission site will open with an announcement via email to membership in late July. The deadline for nominations and applications will be **September 2, 2021**. Should you have questions or need assistance, please contact ACNP at [acnp@acnp.org](mailto:acnp@acnp.org).

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## 2022 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 8, 2021.



**Kerry J. Ressler, M.D., Ph.D., President-elect**  
Professor and Chief Scientific Officer  
Harvard Medical School / McLean Hospital



**William A. Carlezon, Jr., Ph.D., Council (Three-Year Term)**  
Professor of Psychiatry and Neuroscience  
Harvard Medical School



**Marina R. Picciotto, Ph.D., Council (Three-Year Term)**  
Charles B.G. Murphy Professor in Psychiatry  
Yale University

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## Staff Spotlight

**Top Ten Things you likely did not know about  
Evan Dickert, Director of Information Technology**



10) He has a passion for health and fitness, mainly strength and endurance training.

9) He ran a drone in the ACNP poster session at the 2016 Annual Meeting at the Diplomat Hotel in Hollywood, FL. Since then, the hotel has developed a no-drone clause into their meeting contract.

8) On summer weekends you will find him on the lake sailing.

[Read More](#)

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## 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](#)

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**The American College of Psychiatrists** acknowledges outstanding contributions to psychiatry made by mental health professionals by presenting several awards, including the following:

**The Distinguished Service in Psychiatry Award - Deadline for 2022 / June 30, 2021**

This award recognizes significant achievements and leadership in the field of psychiatry.

**The Award for Creativity in Psychiatric Education - Deadline for 2022 / June 30,**



2021

This award recognizes a teaching program that demonstrates innovation in psychiatric education.

### **Honorary Fellows - Deadline for 2023 / June 30, 2021**

The American College of Psychiatrists awards Honorary Fellowships in the College to distinguished professionals who have made significant scientific and clinical contributions to the field of psychiatry but are ineligible for Membership in the College.

[Click here to learn more](#)

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## **Upcoming Meetings**

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

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## **ACNP Staff Contact List**

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

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### **ACNP EXECUTIVE OFFICE**

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