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Neuropsychopharmacology

At the Intersection of Brain, Behavior, and Therapeutics

Position Available: *Neuropsychopharmacology* (NPP) Editorial Intern

Neuropsychopharmacology (NPP), an official journal of the American College of Neuropsychopharmacology (ACNP), is seeking applications for the next NPP Editorial Intern.

The NPP Editorial Internship is intended to offer opportunities for an early-career investigator to gain unique insights and experience in the management of a leading scientific journal. It involves routine interactions with NPP Editors and staff, as well as representatives of the journal's publisher (Springer Nature). The intern assists with NPP activities including social media, and conceptualizes and implements special projects related to analysis of journal function. Past projects include published reports on gender balance in journal function (<https://rdcu.be/cN9wK>), relationships between social media, citations, and open access (<https://rdcu.be/b8FiW>, <https://rdcu.be/dLptt>), the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on manuscript submission patterns (<https://rdcu.be/b8Fj2>, <https://rdcu.be/cPoWx>), and the implementation of guidelines for standardized reporting of clinical research (<https://rdcu.be/dhUMp>).

Expectations include participation in monthly calls at 11:00 am ET on the 3rd Thursday of each month, and attendance at the ACNP annual meeting. If selected, candidates in post-doctoral or other training positions will be asked to confirm support from their supervisor. Necessary qualifications include (1) an MD and/or PhD degree, or one that is incoming within the calendar year, (2) a publication record within the fields covered by NPP, (3) excellent writing and communication skills, and (4) professionalism. Familiarity with NPP and/or ACNP is preferred, but ACNP membership or previous attendance at an ACNP meeting is not required. Postdocs and late-stage graduate students are highly encouraged to apply.

Interested candidates should send an application package to Dr. Lisa Monteggia and Dr. Tony George (NPP Co-Principal Editors) via journal@acnp.org. The package should include a one-page letter of interest that includes a description of the candidate's (1) professional background and experience, (2) interest in neuropsychopharmacology and/or academic publishing, (3) a statement of how the internship will further their career goals, and (4) a link to their social media (e.g., Twitter) account, if applicable. The application package should also include a CV or NIH biosketch that is 5 pages or less.

The deadline for applications is **5:00 PM CST August 30, 2024**; the target start date is January 1, 2025. The successful candidate would receive a modest honorarium, and would be invited by the ACNP to attend the 2024 ACNP Meeting in Phoenix, AZ.



NPP Editorial Internship

Briana K. Chen, 2022 – 2023

The NPP Editorial Internship began in 2018 to give early career scientists hands-on experience with scientific journal management and publishing. The NPP Editorial Intern collaborates with the NPP Principal Editors, Special Projects Manager, Social Media Editor, and Springer Nature staff by participating in monthly journal calls, the ACNP meeting, and leading special projects geared toward improving journal function.

The inaugural Editorial Intern, Dr. Chloe Jordan (2018-2020), spearheaded efforts to characterize gender balance in scientific publishing roles at NPP and examine the relationship between online attention and article citations (read about Chloe's Internship activities [here](#)). The following Editorial Intern, Dr. Sofiya Hupalo (2021-2022), lead projects to investigate the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on submission patterns and implement guidelines for standardized reporting of clinical studies (read about Sofiya's Internship activities [here](#)).

During my tenure as NPP Editorial Intern, I led a project investigating the impact of open access on article metrics (<https://rdcu.be/dM6li>). Open access publishing has transformed the scientific publishing industry and is reported to improve the rigor, reproducibility, and accessibility of scientific studies. However, open access is also associated with higher article processing fees, which may limit access for many scientists and laboratories. Therefore, the aims of this study were to quantify how open access may affect citations or Altmetric score, a measurement of online attention, with the ultimate goal of offering a comprehensive analysis of the effect of open access publishing on article visibility and impact in NPP. We found that articles that were freely available on the NPP website received significantly more citations than articles behind a paywall; however, Altmetric score was comparable between articles in all open access categories. These results suggest that open access is associated with higher citation counts but may not impact the online attention an article may receive. Overall, our findings suggest a positive, if limited, effect of open access on article reach. In sum, we hope that this project offers clarity and guidance for authors as they submit manuscripts to NPP.

In addition to this open access project, I aimed to showcase the scientific research, as well as the authors, published in NPP. These efforts included conducting the [Meet the Author](#) series on the [NPP YouTube channel](#), helping to coordinate the release of the [NPP BrainPod podcast](#), and starting the This Week in NPP release on the [NPP X](#) (formerly Twitter) page, a weekly summary of the most recently released online articles in NPP. These efforts highlight not only the innovative scientific research supported by NPP and ACNP, but also the scientists who conduct and communicate those findings. Additionally, I assisted in the curation of the [Early Career Commentary](#) collection, an NPP article format designed to offer early-stage investigators the opportunity to share their scientific perspectives.

Throughout the course of my internship, in regular meetings with NPP editors and journal staff, I grew and improved as both a scientist and person. The Editorial Internship offered me countless opportunities to improve and practice my leadership, teamwork, and communication skills. I also gained invaluable exposure into the many aspects of scientific publishing, the wide array of scientific research supported by NPP and ACNP, and the countless large and small decisions necessary to run a successful scientific journal. The networking and presentation skills I cultivated from presenting my work at the annual ACNP meeting and numerous editorial board meetings have grown my professional network and enhanced my scientific communication skills. Finally, I gained additional mentors and colleagues who have taught me immeasurably and proved invaluable to my growth as a scientific professional.

In summary, the NPP Editorial Internship is a unique and dynamic opportunity for any scientist to learn about scientific publishing, leverage their creativity, and enhance their professional skills. Most importantly, the opportunity to learn from the accomplished and hardworking editors and staff at NPP and ACNP is an incredibly rewarding and invaluable experience.