



Enhanced Interdisciplinary Research Training Institute on Hispanic Substance Abuse



11th Annual Summer Training Program

June 6 – June 11, 2022

Westin Pasadena



USC
**Suzanne
Dworak-Peck**
School of Social Work

Funding provided by NIDA and NIAAA of the National Institutes of Health, Grant R25 DA050687

Day One - Monday June 6

Location—Plaza Room:

9:00 - 10:00 am Registration and Breakfast

10:00 - 11:00 am Welcome and Introduction

*Avelardo Valdez, PhD, eIRTI Director
University of Southern California*

*Alice Cepeda PhD, eIRTI Co-Director
University of Southern California*

*Carolyn C. Meltzer, MD, Dean of Keck School of Medicine
University of Southern California*

*Sarah Gehlert PhD, Dean of the School of Social Work
University of Southern California*

Introduction of 2022 eIRTI Faculty & Fellows

11:00 - 12:00 pm 2022 eIRTI Fellows Brief Research Proposal Pitches

12:00 - 1:00 pm Lunch

1:00 - 3:00 pm Approaches and Tools for Reviewing and Wrangling the Literature
[Workshop]

Danielle C. Ompad, PhD, New York University

3:00 - 3:15 pm Break

3:15 - 5:00 pm NIH Research Funding: A Practical Workshop of Tools and Tips for Success
[Workshop]

Diana Sheehan, PhD, Florida International University

Day Two- Tuesday June 7

Location—Plaza Room:

9:00 - 10:45 am **The Art of Innovation [Critical Dialogue]**

Moderator: John Bryan Page, PhD, University of Miami

William Vega, PhD, Florida International University

Alicia Izquierdo, PhD, University of California Los Angeles

Avelardo Valdez, PhD, University of Southern California

10:45 - 11:00 am **Break**

11:00 - 1:00 pm **New Directions in Harm Reduction Strategies [Panel]**

Moderator: Danielle C. Ompad, PhD, New York University

“A Conversation on the Biden-Harris Administration’s Drug Control Policy” by
Rahul Gupta, MD, MPH, White House Director of National Drug Control Policy
(Pre-recorded presentation for the Institute of Addiction Science at USC)

Thinking About Harm Reduction: Principles, Interpretation and Application
Lindsey Richardson, PhD, University of British Columbia

Evaluating Drug Checking as Harm Reduction
Dina Perrone, PhD, California State University Long Beach

1:00 –2:00 pm **Lunch**

2:00 - 3:00 pm **Navigating a Career and Research: Challenges and Opportunities for
Underrepresented Scientists [Session]**

Debra Furr Holden, PhD, New York University

3:00 - 3:15 pm **Break**

(Continued on next page)

Day Two- Tuesday June 7 (cont.)

Location—Plaza Room:

3:15 - 5:00 pm COVID-19 Behavioral Interventions for Latinos [Panel]

Moderator: Alice Cepeda, PhD, University of Southern California

**Lessons Learned from Project 2VIDA! SARS-CoV-2 Vaccine Intervention
Delivery for Adults in Southern California**

Argentina Servin, MD, MPH, University of California San Diego, 2013 IRTI Cohort

COVID-19 Health Disparities and Lessons Learned

Noé Crespo, PhD, MPH, San Diego State University

5:00 - 5:30 pm Adam Leventhal, PhD, Director of the Institute for Addiction Science
University of Southern California

5:30 - 7:00 pm 2022 eIRTI Networking and Mentoring Reception
Ventanas Restaurant Courtyard

Day Three - Wednesday June 8

Location—Plaza Room:

- 9:00 - 10:30 am NIH Funding Opportunities and Application Strategies [Session]
Albert Avila, PhD, Director, Office of Research Training, Diversity, & Disparities, National Institute on Drug Abuse
- 10:30 - 10:45 am Break
- 10:45 - 12:30 pm Dissecting the Behavioral and Cognitive Components of Addiction with Transdisciplinary Neuroscience Approaches

Moderator: Laura O'Dell, PhD, University of Texas at El Paso
- Uncovering Novel Neurobiological Mechanisms as Targets for Therapeutic Development for Nicotine Dependence
Christie Fowler, PhD, University of California Irvine
- Establishing a Rodent Model of E-cigarette Use: Current Progress and Early Findings
Ian Mendez, PhD, University of Texas El Paso
- Addiction and Waiting for Rewards
John Monterosso, PhD, University of Southern California
- 12:30 - 1:30 pm Lunch
- 1:30 - 2:30 pm Individualized Real-Time Research, Writing, and Mentoring
Session 1 (see pg. 8 for list of mentors)
- 2:30 - 2:45pm Break
- 2:45 - 4:45 pm Research Integrity, Research Ethics, And Collegial Ethics: Some Thoughts on Responsibilities for Scientist-Citizens [Workshop]
James Anthony, PhD, Michigan State University
- 5:00 - 7:00 pm Team Building Activity

Day Four - Thursday June 9

Location—Plaza Room:

9:00 - 10:45 am Understanding the Effects of Alcohol: From Psychosocial Factors to Neurobiological Mechanisms [Panel]

Moderator: Edward Castañeda, PhD, University of Texas at El Paso

A Spectrum of Sex-Dependent Prenatal Alcohol Effects in Emotion Circuits: Insights into Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder
Marvin Diaz, PhD, Binghamton University

Immigration Policies as Political Determinants of Alcohol and Drug Misuse Among US-born Latinos
Miguel Pinedo, PhD, University of Texas Austin, 2016 IRTI Cohort

Alcohol Use among Hispanics: Considering the Roles of Sociocultural Stressors
Miguel Cano, PhD, Florida International University, 2012 IRTI Cohort

10:45 - 11:00 am Break

11:00 - 12:45 pm The Intersection of HIV and Substance Use: Translational and Prevention Research Discoveries [Panel]

Moderator: Avelardo Valdez, PhD, University of Southern California

Translational Studies on the Impact of Alcohol on Comorbidities in Persons Living with HIV
Patricia Molina, PhD, Louisiana State University

Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis for HIV Prevention Among People Who Inject Drugs in the Era of Fentanyl: A Mixed Methods HIV Prevention & Implementation Science Research Agenda
Angela Bazzi, PhD, University of California San Diego, 2010 IRTI Cohort

Using Targeted Messaging and Chatbot to Increase Interest & Engagement with the Louisiana Teleprep Program Among Sexual & Gender Minority Youth
Manuel Ocasio, PhD, Tulane University, 2017 IRTI Cohort

12:45 - 1:45 pm Lunch

(Continued on next page)

Day Four - Thursday June 9 (cont.)

Location—Plaza Room:

1:45 - 2:45 pm Evaluation of Novel Medications for Opioid & Methamphetamine Use Disorders [Session]

Richard De La Garza, PhD, University of California Los Angeles

2:45 - 3:00 pm Break

3:00 - 4:00 pm The Healing Potential of Expanded States: Can Psychedelics Successfully Treat Substance Use Disorders? [Session]

Charlotte Jackson, MA, Multidisciplinary Association for Psychedelic Studies

4:00 - 5:00 pm Individualized Real-Time Research, Writing, and Mentoring
Session 2 (see pg. 8 for list of mentors)

Day Five - Friday June 10

Location—Plaza Room:

9:00 - 10:00 am Grants Management Tips for Early Career Investigators: Got Funded! Now What? [Session]

Rosine Sarafin, CRA, MBA, USC Director of Research Administration

10:00 - 11:15 am Balancing Professional and Personal Development as an NIH Investigator [Critical Dialogue]

Moderator: Felipe Castro, PhD, Arizona State University

Edward Castañeda, University of Texas El Paso

Laura O'Dell, PhD, University of Texas El Paso

Avelardo Valdez, PhD, University of Southern California

11:15 - 11:30 am Break

11:30 - 12:45 am IRTI Alumni Reflections on NIH Grant Funding and Career Trajectories [Critical Dialogue]

Moderators: Alice Cepeda & Avelardo Valdez, University of Southern California

Angela Bazzi, PhD, MPH, University of California San Diego, 2010 IRTI Cohort

Manuel Ocasio, PhD, Tulane University, 2017 IRTI Cohort

Kevin Uribe, PhD, University of Texas at Austin, 2018 IRTI Cohort

12:45 - 1:45 pm Lunch

Reminder: Fellow's Research Prospectus must be submitted to erikague@usc.edu by 5:00pm

Day Six - Saturday June 11

Location—Plaza Room:

Final Research Prospectus Presentations

Reviewers:

Miguel Cano, PhD, Florida International University
Edward Castañeda, PhD, University of Texas at El Paso
Felipe Gonzalez Castro, PhD, Arizona State University
Alice Cepeda, PhD, University of Southern California
Charles Kaplan, PhD, University of Southern California (retired)
Laura O'Dell, PhD, University of Texas at El Paso
J. Bryan Page, PhD, University of Miami
Avelardo Valdez, PhD, University of Southern California

9:00 - 9:30 am	Sarah Chavez, BA, UCSD/SDSU
9:30 - 10:00 am	Melissa Ertl, PhD, Columbia University
10:00 - 10:30 am	Veronika Espinoza, MA, University of Texas, El Paso
10:30 - 10:45 am	Break
10:45 - 11:15 am	Tasha Perdue, PhD, Ohio State University
11:15 - 11:45 am	Robert Rosales, PhD, Brown University
11:45 - 12:15 pm	Anapaula Themann, MA, University of Texas, El Paso
12:15 - 12:45 pm	eIRTI Fellows: Next Steps and Expectations <i>Avelardo Valdez, PhD, University of Southern California</i> <i>Alice Cepeda, PhD, University of Southern California</i> <i>Erika Smith, MBA, MPH, University of Southern California</i>
12:45 - 1:30pm	Farewell Lunch

Session Mentors

Session 1 (Wednesday, June 8th)

James Anthony, PhD, Michigan State University
Miguel Cano, PhD, Florida International University
Edward Castañeda, PhD, University of Texas at El Paso*
Felipe Gonzalez Castro, PhD, Arizona State University*
Alice Cepeda, PhD, University of Southern California*
Christine Fowler, PhD, University of California Irvine
Ian Mendez, PhD, University of Texas at El Paso
John Monterosso, PhD, University of Southern California
Laura O'Dell, PhD, University of Texas at El Paso*
J. Bryan Page, PhD, University of Miami*
Miguel Pinedo, PhD, University of Texas Austin
Avelardo Valdez, PhD, University of Southern California*

Session 2 (Thursday, June 9th)

eIRTI Advisory Board
Angela Bazzi, PhD, University of California, San Diego
Richard De La Garza, PhD, University of California Los Angeles
Marvin Diaz, PhD, Binghamton University
Charlotte Jackson, MA, Multidisciplinary Association for Psychedelic Studies
Ian Mendez, PhD, University of Texas at El Paso
Patricia Molina, PhD, Louisiana State University
Manuel Ocasio, PhD, Tulane University

**Denotes eIRTI Advisory Board Member*

NHSN Mission Statement

The **National Hispanic Science Network on Drug Abuse** is dedicated to improving the health of Hispanics by increasing the amount and quality of interdisciplinary translational research on drug abuse, and fostering the development of Hispanic scientists in drug abuse research.

National Steering Committee

Patricia E. Molina, MD, PhD

NHSN Co-Chair
Richard Ashman Professor & Head
Department of Physiology
Director, Alcohol & Drug Abuse Center
Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center
1901 Perdido Street
New Orleans, LA 70112
pmolin@lsuhsc.edu

Avelardo Valdez, PhD

NHSN Co-Chair
Professor
Suzanne Dworak-Peck School of Social Work
University of Southern California
1150 S. Olive Street, Suite 1400
Los Angeles, CA 90015
avelardv@usc.edu

Margarita Alegría, PhD

Professor
Chief, Disparities Research Unit
Harvard Medical School
120 Beacon Street, 4th Floor
Somerville, MA 02143
malegria@charesearch.org

James Anthony, PhD

Professor
Department of Epidemiology
Michigan State University
B601 West Fee Hall
East Lansing, MI 48824
janthony@msu.edu

Carlos Bolaños-Guzmán, PhD

Associate Professor
Department of Psychology
Texas A&M
Psychology Bldg. Room 286
College Station, TX 77843
bolanos-guzman@tamu.edu

Miguel Ángel Cano, PhD, MPH, MS

Assistant Professor and Director of
Epidemiology Doctoral Program
Department of Epidemiology
Robert Stempel College of
Public Health and Social Work
Florida International University
112000 Southwest 8th St. AHC 5-488
Miami, FL 33199
mcanojr@fiu.edu

Alice Cepeda, PhD

Associate Professor
Suzanne Dworak-Peck School of Social Work
University of Southern California
1150 S. Olive Street, Suite 1400
Los Angeles, CA 90015
alicecep@usc.edu

Felipe Gonzalez-Castro, PhD

Professor
College of Nursing & Health Innovation
Arizona State University
HLTH North Rm 331E
felipe.castro@asu.edu

Flavio Marsiglia, PhD

Distinguished Foundation Professor of Cultural
Diversity and Health
Director
Southwest Interdisciplinary Research Center
School of Social Work
Arizona State University
411 N. Central Ave., Suite 720
Phoenix, AZ 85004
marsiglia@asu.edu

National Steering Committee (cont.)

Laura Elena O'Dell, PhD

Professor
Department of Psychology
University of Texas, El Paso
500 W. University Avenue
El Paso, TX 79968
lodell@utep.edu

Arturo Zavala, PhD

Associate Professor
Department of Psychology, PSY 429
California State University, Long Beach
1250 Bellflower Blvd.
Long Beach, California 90840
arturo.zavala@csulb.edu

EARLY CAREER LEADERSHIP CHAIR

Danielle Levitt, PhD

Postdoctoral Fellow
Department of Physiology
Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center
New Orleans
1901 Perdido Street, MEB 7205
New Orleans, LA 70112
dlevit@lsuhsc.edu

Alejandra Fernandez, PhD

Assistant Professor
UTHealth School of Public Health-Dallas
University of Texas Health Science Center at
Houston
2777 North Stemmons Freeway
Dallas, TX 75207
alejandra.fernandez@uth.tmc.edu

Support for this Training

Funding for this training was made possible through a training grant entitled, "Interdisciplinary Research Training Institute on Hispanic Drug Abuse" (R25 DA050687), PI: Avelardo Valdez) to the University of Southern California from the National Institutes of Health, National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, National Institute on Drug Abuse and the support of the National Hispanic Science Network on Drug Abuse.

USC Suzanne Dworak-Peck School of Social Work

University of Southern California

669 West 34th St.

Los Angeles, CA 90089-0411

Tel: 213.821.7657

www.sowkweb.usc.edu

National Hispanic Science Network on Drug Abuse

www.the-NHSN.org



National Institute
on Drug Abuse





**NATIONAL HISPANIC
SCIENCE NETWORK
ON DRUG ABUSE**

22nd International Conference

*Biological and Social Determinants of Drug
Use: Addressing Hispanic Health Inequities in
the Age of COVID*

September 28-30, 2022
Grand Rapids, MI
www.the-nhsn.org



Enhanced Interdisciplinary Research Training Institute on Hispanic Substance Abuse



Abstracts



USC
Suzanne
Dworak-Peck
School of Social Work

Abstracts

MONDAY, JUNE 6, 2022

1:00pm—3:00pm

APPROACHES AND TOOLS FOR REVIEWING AND WRANGLING THE LITERATURE [WORKSHOP]

Danielle Ompad

This workshop will introduce approaches to systematically searching the peer-reviewed literature using several databases and Boolean operators. Strategies for wrangling the search results will be discussed. Several types of literature reviews will be described including narrative reviews, systematic reviews, and meta analyses. Finally, several tools for conducting literature reviews including the PRISMA statement, PROSPERO, and Covidence will be demonstrated.

3:15pm—5:00pm

NIH RESEARCH FUNDING: A PRACTICAL WORKSHOP OF TOOLS AND TIPS FOR SUCCESS [WORKSHOP]

Diana Sheehan

During this workshop, fellows will first hear from Dr. Diana Sheehan about her path to research funding, including the trials, the errors, and the lessons learned. Through the presentation, fellows will learn the sequence of NIH grant mechanisms available to reach research independence. Following this brief presentation, fellows will be guided through various skill building activities including: (1) identifying an appropriate NIH institute to fund the fellow's work and the institute's funding priorities, (2) identifying the relevant study section for the fellow's proposed work, and (3) identifying previous and current funded studies in the fellow's area of research. Finally, fellows will work in teams to review and critique a funded grant relevant to their career stage (i.e., F31, K01, or R01) and its corresponding summary statements.

TUESDAY, JUNE 7, 2022

9:00am—10:45am

THE ART OF INNOVATION [CRITICAL DIALOGUE]

Moderator: Bryan Page

Alicia Izquierdo, William Vega, Avelardo Valdez

This critical dialogue focuses on the Innovation section of a NIH grant application, with a focus on grant submissions. Building on their own experiences as scientists and grant reviewers, the panel will discuss the need for proposals to address questions that shift current research and clinical paradigms. The central role that systematic literature searches, investigators' prior research projects, and pilot research results play in shaping the content and innovation of a grant application will be discussed. The panelists will discuss how recognizing the gaps in the scientific literature should be translated into innovative grant proposals.

11:00am—1:00pm

NEW DIRECTIONS IN HARM REDUCTION STRATEGIES [PANEL]

Moderator: Danielle Ompad

The panel will provide a brief overview of the important principles and perspectives promoting harm reduction approaches for diverse communities of people who use drugs. Specifically, the panelists will highlight strategies, challenges for implementation and creating solutions for reducing unintended harms. Panelists will discuss their respective harm reduction research approaches that are contributing to the changing narrative regarding people who use drugs.

Abstracts

THINKING ABOUT HARM REDUCTION: PRINCIPLES, INTERPRETATION AND APPLICATION

Lindsey Richarson

Harm reduction has emerged as an important approach to addressing drug-related harm that is in many contexts controversial and highly politicized. In this session, we will review the basic principles of harm reduction, critically assess tensions and ongoing discussions in the area and discuss contemporary approaches and innovations in harm reduction-based approaches. We will specifically explore harm reduction (or a lack thereof) in select environments to examine broader political dynamics surrounding barriers to implementing harm reduction-based interventions.

EVALUATING DRUG CHECKING AS HARM REDUCTION

Dina Perrone

2:00pm—3:00pm

NAVIGATING A CAREER AND RESEARCH: CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR UNDERREPRESENTED SCIENTISTS

Debra Furr Holden [SESSION]

Successfully navigating a career in research can be challenging. For underrepresented scientists the challenges to a strong career trajectory can be further exacerbated by experiences related to their race or ethnicity and the research environments in which they work. The unique challenges that underrepresented scientists face as well as strategies to promote career success will be discussed.

3:15pm—5:00pm

COVID-19 BEHAVIORAL INTERVENTIONS FOR LATINOS [PANEL]

Moderator: Alice Cepeda

Although there has been widespread coverage of the consequences of COVID-19's impact on

the general population, less attention has been given to its impact on socially disadvantaged groups. As data on the pandemic emerges it is becoming clear that a major consequence has been increased social and health disparities among those living on the social margins of our society. The presentations will enhance our understanding of the pandemic's impact on socially disadvantaged groups (comprised largely of Blacks and Latinos) and provide insights into current behavioral interventions being implemented.

LESSONS LEARNED FROM PROJECT 2VIDA! SARS-COV-2 VACCINE INTERVENTION DELIVERY FOR ADULTS IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Argentina Servin

COVID-19 has disproportionately affected racial/ethnic minority and underserved individuals, particularly Latinx and Black communities. Compared to non-Hispanic-White individuals, age-adjusted death rates are 2.8 times higher among Latinx and Black individuals. Acceptance and uptake of the COVID-19 vaccines is instrumental to ending the pandemic, however, public confidence in vaccination is fragile, especially among racial and ethnic minorities. To this end, we formed an intervention working group comprised of representatives from community and academic organizations to address challenges in COVID-19 vaccination uptake among Latinx and Black communities in Southern California by using a community-based participatory research (CBPR) approach. *2VIDA!* is a multilevel intervention to address individual, social, and contextual factors related to access, acceptance, and uptake of the COVID-19 vaccine among Latinx and Black adults in San Diego. In a span of 10 months (July 2021-April 2022), we have conducted multiple community engagement forums and town hall community meetings where we combat COVID-19 health misinformation, enrolled 600 participants in the

Abstracts

study and have vaccinated 1,617 individuals through our pop-up vaccination events at local supermarkets, public parks, and other public spaces in communities that have been severely impacted by the pandemic and are predominately Latinx or Black. *2VIDA!* has successfully used evidenced-based methodologies rooted in CBPR to increase equitable access to COVID-19 information, resources, and vaccination among Latinx and Black communities in Southern California.

COVID-19 HEALTH DISPARITIES AND LESSONS LEARNED

Noé Crespo

COVID-19 has disproportionately affected racial/ethnic minority populations in the U.S. Existing systemic, socio-economic and behavioral factors have contributed to these disparities. This presentation will highlight the underlying inequities that contribute to COVID-19 disparities and summarize successful strategies and programs that have contributed to reducing risk of COVID-19 and mitigating its negative socio-economic consequences. Priority areas for future work and research will be proposed.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 8, 2022

9:00am—10:30am

NIH FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES & APPLICATION STRATEGIES [SESSION]

Albert Avila

This presentation will discuss various NIH funding mechanisms and programs at the predoctoral students, postdoctoral researchers, and junior faculty level, including the NRSA program, Career Development (K) series awards, and other research grants. It will also cover various approaches to navigating the NIH grant process and grant-writing strategies that may be useful when developing a proposal. The goal of this session is to equip participants with an understanding of the

variety of NIH grant mechanisms, demystify the NIH grant and review process, as well as provide strategies that prospective applicants may want to consider when developing an NIH grant application.

10:45am—12:30pm

DISSECTING THE BEHAVIORAL AND COGNITIVE COMPONENTS OF ADDICTION WITH TRANSDISCIPLINARY NEUROSCIENCE APPROACHES [PANEL]

Moderator: Laura O'Dell

The panel will present and critically review preclinical studies with the rat and their translational relevance to clinical populations and psychopharmacological mechanisms. The discussion will touch on both the potential for the prevention among children of later life cocaine use disorders by prescribed psychiatric medications as well as enduring changes in the neural mechanisms of reward-related decision making caused by self- and experimenter administered methamphetamine.

UNCOVERING NOVEL NEUROBIOLOGICAL MECHANISMS AS TARGETS FOR THERAPEUTIC DEVELOPMENT FOR NICOTINE DEPENDENCE

Christie Fowler

Tobacco dependence remains a leading cause of disease and death worldwide. While there has been a reduction in tobacco use in the United States, this downward trend has been met with a dramatic upward surge in the use of e-cigarettes that deliver aerosolized nicotine, especially among youth. Although many individuals express a desire to quit the tobacco/nicotine habit, current therapeutics are only marginally efficacious. In this talk, I will discuss our preclinical research with animals models that has identified various brain signaling mechanisms that mediate drug taking and relapse behaviors. By defining the

Abstracts

actions of these proteins in specific brain regions, these discoveries have led to our current efforts to develop new therapeutics to treat tobacco and nicotine dependence.

ESTABLISHING A RODENT MODEL OF E-CIGARETTE USE: CURRENT PROGRESS AND EARLY FINDINGS

Ian Mendez

Targeted advertising, addition of palatable flavors, and misconceptions about safety has led to a dramatic increase in the recreational use of e-cigarettes over the last 10 years. Higher concentration of nicotine, increased rate of use, and unique additives and metabolites drive distinct pharmacological properties for nicotine when delivered through e-cigarettes and emphasize a need for research on the effects of nicotine vapor on the brain and behavior. Pre-clinical research investigating the effects of nicotine have primarily used nicotine delivery via injections or subcutaneous pumps; however, more recent rodent studies have begun to investigate the neurochemical and behavioral consequences of nicotine by administering it through vapor inhalation. The goals of our current research is to 1) help validate an emerging model of electronic nicotine vapor inhalation, 2) investigate the effects of nicotine vapor exposure on decision making and reward seeking behavior, and 3) elucidate the cholinergic mechanisms driving the observed effects of nicotine vapor on behavior. Adult male Sprague Dawley rats were repeatedly exposed to either 0, 12, or 24 mg/mL nicotine vapor and assessed in a number biological and behavioral tests, including ELISA for cotinine analysis, PCR for cholinergic subunit expression, intracranial self-stimulation, nicotine vapor self-administration, progressive ratio, delay discounting, probability discounting, and physical withdrawal and anxiety-like behavior following mecamylamine precipitated withdrawal. These findings

expand on existing literature, suggesting that e-cigarette use may lead to nicotine dependence, withdrawal symptoms, and cognitive shifts, similar to that seen with traditional cigarette smokers. The proposed work helps establish a much-needed pre-clinical rodent model of human e-cigarette use and identifies possible long-term effects on cholinergic mechanisms. Additional information on the effects of nicotine vapor exposure on the brain and behavior will be necessary for the development of effective government regulations and educational campaigns dedicated to reducing recreational e-cigarette use.

ADDICTION AND WAITING FOR REWARDS

John Monterosso

For the individual with Substance Use Disorder (SUD) who is struggling with a cessation effort, the short-term favors relapse (immediate reward and relief), while the longer-term favors cessation (e.g., rebuilding relationships, health, etc.). Unfortunately, it is generally true that motivations for rewards decline as a function of their delay (“delay discounting”), though individuals differ considerably in the degree to which this is true. What, if anything, can neuroscience tell us about the causes of delay discounting, as well as about the capacity to overcome temptation towards immediate gratification? I will review findings from this area, and I will highlight work using intertemporal monetary choices in model tasks (“Do you want \$10 now or \$20 in 1 month?”). I will discuss 1) evidence that decision-making results in greater willingness to wait than would be predicted from signaling in the ventral striatum during reward anticipation, but that 2) greater involvement of the anterior insula during intertemporal decision-making is associated with lower delay of gratification.

Abstracts

2:45pm—4:45pm

RESEARCH INTEGRITY, RESEARCH ETHICS, AND COLLEIAL ETHICS: SOME THOUGHTS ON RESPONSIBILITIES FOR SCIENTIST-CITIZENS [WORKSHOP]

James Anthony

This workshop will start by challenging the fellows to think about macro-level issues where 'scientist-citizens of the world' have responsibilities in the domain of public policy. Case studies that involve research integrity and ethics will be examined, as well as protection of human subjects in research. Attention will be given to the topic of collegial ethics, and issues of authorships and co-authorships. Dogma in these matters will not be offered. Instead, the fellows should be able to return to their home institutions and begin to assemble a research integrity and ethics portfolio for them to use in their own research and academic environment.

THURSDAY, JUNE 9, 2022

9:00am—10:45am

UNDERSTANDING THE EFFECTS OF ALCOHOL: FROM PSYCHOSOCIAL FACTORS TO NEUROBIOLOGICAL MECHANISMS [PANEL]

Moderator: Edward Castañeda

This panel will address existing knowledge about the effects of alcohol on health and well-being from a basic science to an epidemiological and prevention perspective. Panelists will highlight their respective NIAAA / NIDA funded research aimed at generating advances in addressing alcohol- and nicotine -related disparities. First, the panel will highlight the underlying factors that promote tobacco use in vulnerable populations focusing on the neurochemical effects of nicotine and withdrawal through the use of animal models. Second, the panel will highlight the critical barriers that are salient among Latinos that

impact treatment seeking behavior for alcohol disorders.

A SPECTRUM OF SEX-DEPENDENT PRENATAL ALCOHOL EFFECTS IN EMOTION CIRCUITS: INSIGHTS INTO FETAL ALCOHOL SPECTRUM DISORDER

Marvin Diaz

Drinking alcohol during pregnancy can produce numerous life-long effects in the offspring termed Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder. Deficits with emotional processing, including anxiety disorders, are among the most common consequences of prenatal alcohol exposure (PAE), suggesting that alcohol may disrupt the developmental trajectories of neural circuits involved in emotion processing. Dr. Diaz will present data from an animal model of PAE highlighting sex-dependent alterations in emotion neural circuits that contribute to anxiety-like behaviors throughout development.

IMMIGRATION POLICIES AS POLITICAL DETERMINANTS OF ALCOHOL AND DRUG MISUSE AMONG US-BORN LATINOS

Miguel Pinedo

The role of immigration policies as political determinants of health among US-born Latinos is significantly understudied. Immigration policies can produce immigration-related stressors that have 'spill over' effects on the health behaviors of US-born Latinos. However, less is known about how immigration-related stressors relate to substance misuse among US-born Latinos. 1,784 US-born Latinos were recruited via web-panels in September 2021 to complete an online questionnaire. Inclusion criteria included: (1) self-identifying as Latino; (2) born in the US; and (3) being 18 years of age or older. Participants were asked 14-items related to immigration-related stressors and past-year substance use behaviors. Dependent

Abstracts

variables included past-year: heavy drinking, high intensity drinking, illicit drug use, and prescription drug misuse, cannabis use, cocaine use, methamphetamine use, sedative misuse, and prescription opioid misuse. Three separate multivariable logistic regression models were conducted for each outcome to investigate associations between (1) specific immigration-related stressors and substance misuse; and (2) experiencing greater (vs. fewer) number of immigration-related stressors and substance misuse. On average, US-born Latinos reported experiencing 3 immigration-related stressors. In multivariable analyses, being fearful or worried about being detained for immigration reasons was associated with increased odds of engaging in heavy drinking, high intensity drinking, and illicit drug use. Having ever feared or worried about being potentially deported for immigration reasons and having ever witnessed or experienced an immigration raid was associated with high intensity drinking. Parental detentions and deportations in childhood were independently associated with high intensity drinking, illicit drug use, and prescription drug misuse. Notably, greater number of immigration-related stressor experiences increased the odds of substance misuse. Punitive immigration and enforcement policies give rise to multiple stressors that may render US-born Latinos vulnerable to misusing substances as a way of coping. Policies and public health interventions aimed at preventing and treating substance misuse should consider how immigration policies impact the behaviors of US-born Latinos.

ALCOHOL USE AMONG HISPANICS: CONSIDERING THE ROLES OF SOCIOCULTURAL STRESSORS

Miguel Cano

The presentation will cover an overview of sociocultural stressors (e.g., ethnic discrimination, immigration stress, intragroup

marginalization) relevant to Hispanics, measurement considerations, and research findings on sociocultural stressors and alcohol use with an emphasis on adolescents and emerging adults. The role of moderators and mediators in relation to sociocultural stressors and alcohol use will also be discussed.

11:00am—12:45pm

THE INTERSECTION OF HIV AND SUBSTANCE USE: TRANSLATIONAL & PREVENTION RESEARCH DISCOVERIES [PANEL]

Moderator: Avelardo Valdez

The session focuses on high priority research at the intersection of HIV and substance use. First, the session highlights translational studies on the Impact of alcohol on comorbidities in persons living with HIV. Second, the session will examine existing evidence-based strategies associated with PrEP access and utilization to prevent new infections and transmission of HIV among people who use illicit drugs and their sexual and/or drug use partners. The panel will increase understanding of the pathogenesis, spread and persistence of HIV and existing efforts to improve health disparities.

PRE-EXPOSURE PROPHYLAXIS FOR HIV PREVENTION AMONG PEOPLE WHO INJECT DRUGS IN THE ERA OF FENTANYL: A MIXED METHODS HIV PREVENTION AND IMPLEMENTATION SCIENCE RESEARCH AGENDA

Angela Bazzi

In the evolving context of U.S. opioid epidemic, the increasing prevalence of injection drug use has led to numerous HIV outbreaks among people who inject drugs (PWID) in diverse regions of the United States. Rising quantities of illicitly manufactured fentanyl within opioid and stimulant drug supplies have exacerbated the overlapping sexual and injection-related behaviors that increase HIV transmission

Abstracts

among PWID. Furthermore, access to evidence-based HIV prevention services (including HIV testing, sterile syringes, and medications for opioid use disorder) remains limited and was adversely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic in many geographic areas. Novel HIV prevention strategies are needed for PWID. Unfortunately, nearly a decade after antiretroviral pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) was found to be efficacious for HIV prevention among at-risk PWID, PrEP research and implementation for this socially-marginalized population lag behind those of other at-risk groups. To fill these research and implementation gaps, we have conducted extensive qualitative and quantitative research with PWID in regions historically and currently affected by opioids, polysubstance use, and related health consequences. This presentation will explore how our preliminary data and community partnerships laid the groundwork for a multisite intervention and implementation research with the goal of improving PrEP access and utilization among actively-injecting PWID.

TRANSLATIONAL STUDIES ON THE IMPACT OF ALCOHOL ON COMORBIDITIES IN PERSONS LIVING WITH HIV

Patricia Molina

Alcohol is the most frequently used and abused legal drug can permeate to virtually all tissues in the body, resulting in significant multi-systemic pathophysiological consequences. Alcohol is the third leading lifestyle-related cause of death in the US through its contribution to several comorbidities including diabetes mellitus, hypertension, ischemic heart disease, dysrhythmias, stroke, and pneumonia. However, recognition of alcohol as an underlying causal factor in comorbid conditions remains a challenge in the clinical setting. Persons living with HIV (PLWH) have a 2-3 greater lifetime prevalence of alcohol use

disorders than the general population. With the advent of highly active antiretroviral therapy (ART), HIV infection has become a chronic disease, where extended survival and associated aging is associated with an increase in geriatric syndromes and a greater risk for behaviors that impact on disease progression. Increased longevity of PLWH is complicated with comorbidities that may be exacerbated by at-risk alcohol consumption, unhealthy dietary behaviors, and ART adverse effects. Complex interactions of HIV, ART, and lifestyle behaviors like at-risk alcohol use in the increasingly older PLWH population can increase the risk for geriatric comorbidities, particularly through compromised metabolic health. Our bidirectional translational studies have shown that chronic binge alcohol (CBA) administration markedly impairs metabolic homeostasis in simian immunodeficiency virus (SIV)-infected ART-treated non-human primates (NHP). This presentation will discuss the clinical relevance of the NHP findings and will integrate them with data collected from our longitudinal clinical study. Our data show high exposure to stressors at the community and interpersonal levels that impact an individuals' behavior. Together with disadvantaged demographics of PLWH enrolled in our New Orleans Alcohol Use in HIV (NOAH) longitudinal study we find these chronic stressors affect several biological processes. The immunopathological effects of alcohol at the gut mucosa decrease mucosal barrier function leading to gut leak, resulting in systemic immune activation, inflammation, and subsequent immune senescence. The resulting inflammatory/oxidative stress environment produces tissue injury and dysregulation of homeostatic mechanisms that we hypothesize promotes cellular bioenergetic dysregulation and metabolic dyshomeostasis that increase risk for comorbidities in PLWH. Supported by NIH/NIAAA P60 AA009803, UH2 AA026198, UH2 AA026226.

Abstracts

USING TARGETED MESSAGING AND CHATBOT TO INCREASE INTEREST AND ENGAGEMENT WITH THE LOUISIANA TELEPREP PROGRAM AMONG SEXUAL AND GENDER MINORITY YOUTH

Manuel Ocasio

Pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) is an effective HIV prevention tool (92-99% effective) that has been available for the past 10 years and heavily marketed especially to gay, bisexual and other cisgender men who have sex with men. Although these marketing campaigns have increased PrEP awareness, uptake remains relatively low particularly among sexual diverse youth (SDY) and gender diverse youth (GDY) in the Deep South. To promote PrEP uptake, the Louisiana Health Department initiated the TelePrEP program; however, SGY and GDY are underutilizing the service. To increase interest and engagement with the TelePrEP Program, this collaborative project with the Louisiana Health Department proposes to develop a targeted social media campaign and chatbot service in two phases: formative and implementation. We conducted an online survey of over 100 SMY and GMY across the state to assess for actual and perceived HIV risk and PrEP use, beliefs, and concerns. We are also conducting focus groups to garner feedback on existing social media PrEP promotional materials and recommendations for creating engaging social media content. In tandem, we are programming and testing a chatbot to facilitate logistical aspects of engagement with the service, such as answering frequently asked questions, scheduling appointments and triaging to a TelePrEP navigator. This presentation will describe results from the formative stage of this study and how these data will inform the implementation of the campaign and chatbot.

1:45pm—2:45pm EVALUATION OF NOVEL MEDICATIONS FOR OPIOID & METHAMPHETAMINE USE DISORDERS [SESSION]

Richard de la Garza

Behavioral therapies, such as cognitive-behavioral therapy (CBT), are the mainstay of current treatment approaches for drug use disorders, but CBT alone has limited efficacy. The identification and development of pharmacotherapies that enhance the efficacy of CBT is therefore a high priority. To that end, NIDA supports a dual strategy to accelerate medication development for drug use disorders: (1) translating preclinical knowledge to target novel pathways and circuits and (2) repurposing medications already approved for other indications. This talk will provide an overview of medications testing and development for both opioid use disorder and methamphetamine use disorder.

3:00pm—4:00pm THE HEALING POTENTIAL OF EXPANDED STATES: CAN PSYCHEDELICS SUCCESSFULLY TREAT SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS? [SESSION]

Charlotte Jackson

Psychedelics are emerging as promising adjuncts to treating a variety of mental health issues. Compelling reports are emerging as to the benefit of using psychedelics in both research and community contexts. This presentation will provide a brief overview of the history of psychedelic use in Western medical/psychological settings as well as in Indigenous contexts. I will provide a survey of the historic and current research of psychedelics in treating substance use disorders. I will discuss ethics and access in this rapidly changing field and will consider issues around scalability and the corporatization of these substances. Finally we

Abstracts

will explore how people who use drugs are already using psychedelics for their own healing. Examples from the clinical front line will be shared.

FRIDAY, JUNE 10, 2022

9:00am—10:00am

GRANTS MANAGEMENT TIPS FOR EARLY CAREER INVESTIGATORS: GOT FUNDED! NOW WHAT? [SESSION]

Rosine Sarafin

This session will provide an overview of the grants management process for early career investigators. There is much discussion on the skills and strategies to obtain funding, but rarely do we discuss the grants management and oversight of grants once you become a Principal Investigator. The presenter will highlight practical advice to ensure the proper implementation of grants including reporting, spending and compliance responsibilities. Discussion will also address some of the latest NIH grants policy changes that are important to keep in mind.

10:00am—11:15am

BALANCING PROFESSIONAL AND PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT AS AN NIH INVESTIGATOR [CRITICAL DIALOGUE]

Moderator: Felipe Castro

Edward Castañeda, Laura O'Dell, Avelardo Valdez

This critical dialogue session will provide insights, strategies and perspectives by senior investigators followed by an open dialogue with trainees on professional and personal development. Discussions will focus on how to set priorities, establish timetables of milestones, time management and establishing a professional commitment to Hispanic substance abuse research. Panelist will highlight the challenges of the stringent work requirements of an NIH scientist's career with the demands of family and personal life.

11:30am—12:45pm

IRTI ALUMNI REFLECTIONS ON NIH GRANT FUNDING AND CAREER TRAJECTORIES [CRITICAL DIALOGUE]

Moderators: Alice Cepeda & Avelardo Valdez

Angela Bazzi, Manuel Ocasio, Kevin Uribe

eIRTI fellows have access to an extensive network of peer alumni with the in-sights, experience and research skills that are important in navigating academic careers and the pathways towards becoming an independent NIH investigator. We will hear from a panel of IRTI alumni who will provide guidance associated with content, resources and success strategies with specific NIH grant mechanisms (i.e. R01, K, and F). The critical dialogue will also give the alumni and trainees the opportunity to discuss experiences with managing academic hurdles in career advancement and successful transitions.



Enhanced Interdisciplinary Research Training Institute on Hispanic Substance Abuse



Fellow Biographies



USC
**Suzanne
Dworak-Peck**
School of Social Work

Fellow Biographies

Sarah Chavez, MA



Sarah Chavez is a Ph.D. candidate in the San Diego State University/University of California, San Diego Joint Doctoral Program in Interdisciplinary Research on Substance Abuse. Sarah's program of research involves investigating various risk factors, protective factors, and racial/ethnic differences in alcohol specific outcomes. Currently, she is working on her dissertation which aims to further expand on the relationship between childhood adversity and heavy episodic drinking, among Latinx young adults, by testing multiple moderators and mediators. Sarah aspires to develop culturally based alcohol-specific interventions for Latinx young adults who are at risk for an AUD in her near future.

Melissa Ertl, PhD



Melissa M. Ertl Ph.D. is a counseling psychologist engaged in research on health disparities and health risk behaviors among marginalized groups, including Latinx immigrants, college students, LGBTQ individuals, and individuals with disabilities. Melissa earned her Ph.D. in Counseling Psychology with a certificate in Health Disparities in Public Health from University at Albany-State University of New York in August 2021. She is currently completing an NIMH-funded T32 postdoctoral fellowship at Columbia University and the New York State Psychiatric Institute where she is focused on addressing disparities related to sexual health and mental health among substance-using minoritized populations. She has published more than 30 publications in peer-reviewed journals since beginning graduate school in 2015 and is currently developing a K-award application related to developing and implementing an intervention to address substance use and HIV risk prevention among women. Her goals for the eIRTI are to gain further training in grant writing, hone the concept for a K-award application, decide what K mechanism to submit to, and help identify mentors.

Veronika Espinoza, MA



Veronika Espinoza is a Ph.D. candidate in the Behavioral Neuroscience graduate program at the University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP). Veronika obtained her bachelor's degree in Biochemistry and two minors in Psychology and Mathematics from California State University, San Marcos. As an undergraduate, Veronika worked under the mentorship of Dr. Keith A. Trujillo, investigating the locomotor effects of amphetamine-like stimulants in male adolescent and adult rats. She is currently working on her Ph.D. at UTEP under the mentorship of Dr. Laura E. O'Dell, whose research focuses on tobacco use in vulnerable populations such as adolescents, females, and persons with diabetes. In the O'Dell laboratory, she became interested in understanding why females and adolescents are more vulnerable to tobacco use when compared to their male counterparts. As such, her dissertation work has focused on examining age and sex differences in the mechanisms that enhance withdrawal from nicotine vapor exposure in rats. Veronika aspires to become a tenured-track faculty member at a research-oriented institution where she can continue conducting research as well as train, teach, and mentor the next generation of diverse scientists.

Fellow Biographies

Tasha Perdue, PhD



Tasha Perdue is an Assistant Professor in the John Glenn College of Public Affairs at The Ohio State University and an affiliated faculty member with the Moritz College of Law's Drug Enforcement and Policy Center. Perdue earned her PhD from the Suzanne-Dworak Peck School of Social Work at the University of Southern California as well as a Graduate Certificate in Public Policy from USC's Price School of Public Policy. She was one of six students honored with the 2021 USC PhD Achievement Award for her federally funded research on the illicit drug market in Dayton, Ohio. She received her Master of Social Work from the University of Michigan and her BS in criminal justice, with a minor in sociology, from Bowling Green State University. Her research contextualizes drug use and elucidates ways that inequities in criminal justice responses to drug crises perpetuate trajectories of risk and drug use, demonstrating the essential relationship of public health and criminal justice policy.

Robert Rosales, PhD



Robert Rosales is an Assistant Professor in the Department for Behavioral and Social Sciences at Brown University's School of Public Health. He received his PhD and MSW from the Boston College School of Social Work and completed a T32 Postdoctoral Research Fellowship at Brown University's Center for Alcohol and Addiction Studies. Dr. Rosales' work focuses on: 1) the risk and protective factors associated with behavioral health problems, and 2) access to socioculturally appropriate care for intersectional Latinx groups. In 2021, he was awarded a 5-year Mentored Clinical Scientist Research Career Development Award (K08) from the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD) to study the protective and risk factors related to alcohol use among Latinx sexual minority youth. His K08 provides training in the: 1) development and progression of alcohol use in youth; 2) Risk and protective factors of alcohol use in SMY; 3) Ecological Momentary Assessment (EMA); 4) Intensive longitudinal data analysis; and 5) cultural adaptation of measures and interventions for SMY of color.

Anapaula Themann, MA



Anapaula Themann is a second-year PhD student in the Behavioral Neuroscience program at the University of Texas at El Paso. She received her MA in Experimental Psychology, with a thesis concentrating on the long-term neurobiological effects of fluoxetine exposure in adolescent rodent models. Currently, Anapaula is under the mentorship of Dr. Sergio D. Iñiguez investigating brain and behavior relationships, with a focus on maladaptive aggression by using male CD-1 mice as a model system. Thus far she has assessed behavioral responsivity on affect-related behavior (anxiety, despair, motivation) as a function of male-to-male mouse aggression. As part of her dissertation studies, she plans to correlate these behavioral endpoints with molecular changes within specific brain regions of the limbic system, which may underlie both aggressive and mood-related behavior. Anapaula's long-term goal is to obtain a tenure-track faculty position at a R1 institution where she will focus her research program on the neurobiology of affective and substance use disorders. Importantly, as a faculty member, one of her principal goals will be to provide research-intensive training opportunities, as well as collaborative workshops, to students of underrepresented backgrounds.



Enhanced Interdisciplinary Research Training Institute on Hispanic Substance Abuse



Presenter Biographies



USC
Suzanne
Dworak-Peck
School of Social Work

Presenter Biographies

James Anthony, PhD, MSc



Dr. Anthony is a Professor of Epidemiology and Biostatistics in the College of Human Medicine at Michigan State University. He earned his MSc and PhD from the University of Minnesota Graduate School in a degree program that combined pharmacy sciences and epidemiology. In 1977-78, an NIMH postdoctoral research fellowship award allowed him to study biostatistics, psychiatric epidemiology and psychopathology at Johns Hopkins Schools of Hygiene & Public Health and Medicine. His research accomplishments appear in more than 300 published articles and books. He is a NIH Senior Scientist awardee, with a K05 Senior Scientist award to support his research and mentorship activities, as well as continuous NIH R01 award support since the early 1980s, and he has been founding director for two NIH-funded drug dependence epidemiology training programs. He maintains a focused attention on the research career development of new investigators, and more than a dozen of his trainees have become NIH principal investigators.

Albert Avila, PhD



Dr. Albert Avila received a B.S. in Psychobiology and a B.A. in English Literature from the UCLA and a Ph.D. in Pharmacology from Georgetown University. His doctoral research focused on neuropharmacology, studying the effects of cocaine, withdrawal, and stress on the immune response. His postdoctoral research was conducted at the NIH in pain neurotransmission and control at the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research (NIDCR). He then became the Director of the NIDCR Office of Education, and subsequently the Extramural Training Officer for the NIDCR. Dr. Avila began his career at NIDA as a Program Officer in the Division of Basic Neuroscience & Behavioral Research; currently, he is the Director of the NIDA, Office of Diversity and Health Disparities (ODHD) where he leads NIDA's diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility (DEIA) initiatives and serves on trans-NIH DEIA committees. His primary goals for the ODHD are to enhance the pool of funded scientists from diverse backgrounds conducting substance use and addiction research and to provide support, access, and opportunities for scientists from diverse backgrounds to meaningfully participate in and contribute to the scientific enterprise. Dr. Avila is passionate about helping scholars across the career spectrum navigate the NIH grant process and succeed at climbing the scientific career ladder.

Angela Bazzi, PhD



Angela R. Bazzi, PhD, MPH, is an Associate Professor in UC San Diego's Herbert Wertheim School of Public Health and Adjunct Associate Professor in the Boston University School of Public Health. Dr. Bazzi's mixed methods research seeks to identify and intervene upon the social and structural drivers of infectious disease transmission. Her research has explored how HIV, HCV, sexually transmitted infections, COVID-19, and other infectious diseases disproportionately affect people who use and inject drugs in the United States and globally. With funding from the National Institute on Drug Abuse, she is currently leading intervention and implementation research to improve access to HIV prevention, substance use treatment, and healthcare services for people who inject drugs. She is an Associate Editor at *Addiction Science & Clinical Practice* and an Editorial Board Member at *Drug and Alcohol Dependence*. Dr. Bazzi completed an MPH at the Johns Hopkins School of Public Health, a PhD in Global Health at UC San Diego, and a Postdoctoral Fellowship in Infectious Disease Epidemiology at the Harvard School of Public Health and Fenway Health. Prior to her research training, she was a Reproductive Health Fellow at the United States Agency for International Development.

Presenter Biographies

Miguel Ángel Cano, PhD, MPH, MS



Dr. Cano's primary research interests are 1) sociocultural stressors (e.g., ethnic discrimination) and coping resources in relation to substance use behavior and mental health, and 2) evidence-based prevention interventions for Hispanic communities. Dr. Cano currently serves on the editorial board of the following journals: Behavioral Medicine, American Journal of Drug and Alcohol Abuse, Cultural Diversity and Ethnic Minority Psychology, Emerging Adulthood, Journal of Clinical Psychology, Journal of Latinx Psychology, and Journal of Research on Adolescence. Dr. Cano is the 2016 recipient of the National Award of Excellence in Research by a New Investigator from the National Hispanic Science Network on Drug Abuse, the 2020 recipient of the Distinguished Professional Early Career Award from the National Latinx Psychological Association, and a 2021 recipient of the Outstanding Alumni Award from the College of Education and Human Development at Texas A&M University.

Edward Castañeda, PhD



Dr. Castañeda has been interested in mechanisms regulating the augmentation of dopamine release in two research lines about compensation: 1) neuronal compensation in Parkinson's disease appears to trigger enhanced dopamine release to "normalize" dopamine function rescue behavior; and 2) "sensitization" refers to enhanced dopamine release in response to repeated stimulant drug exposure that manifests motor symptomatology and drug craving. He has participated in many programs to foster diversity, inclusion, equity and justice, including Executive Committee member of the Arizona Association of Chicanos for Higher Education, steering committee member for the American Psychological Association Diversity Program in Neuroscience, the Society for Neuroscience Minority Neuroscience Fellowship Program, and more. He has spent 20 years with the Marine Biology Laboratory Summer Program in Neuroscience, Excellence & Success (SPINES) course, including two years as a Co-Director (2015-16) and served as Chair of the UTEP Department of Psychology from 2007-2013 and 2017-2020. He was Co-Director of the NIH/NIMHD P20 UTEP Hispanic Health Disparities Research Center (2011-2016), and PI for the NIH/NIDA R24 UTEP Vulnerability Issues in Drug Abuse (VIDA) research-training program (2008-2013).

Felipe González Castro, PhD, MSW



Dr. Felipe González Castro is Professor and Southwest Borderlands Scholar in the College of Nursing and Health Innovation at Arizona State University. He received his PhD in clinical psychology from the University of Washington. He is a Latino health psychologist, who conducts multivariate model analyses of health behaviors and healthful behavior change. He utilizes a stress-coping-resilience paradigm to understand how cognitive, affective, and behavioral factors affect health and well-being, and expression of resilience. These analyses also examine the influences of Latinx cultural factors, such as acculturation stress, traditionalism, familismo, ethnic pride, and gender roles, as risk or protective factors in the prevention of drug, alcohol, and tobacco use, and in the prevention of type 2 diabetes. Dr. Castro is the originator of the Integrative Mixed Methods (IMM) methodology, a rigorous QUAL and QUAN methodology for conducting culturally-rich health research. He has received research support from NIDA, NCI, and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. Dr. Castro is a Fellow of Division 45 of the American Psychological Association. He has also been awarded the Community, Culture and Prevention Science Award, and the Service to SPR Award from the Society for Prevention Research.

Presenter Biographies (cont.)

Alice Cepeda, PhD



Dr. Alice Cepeda is currently an Associate Professor in the Suzanne Dworak-Peck School of Social Work at the University of Southern California. She received her PhD in Sociology from the City University of New York Graduate Center. Her work has focused on the social epidemiology of drug use and the related health risk behaviors that disproportionately affect urban Mexican-origin minority populations, including violence, HIV/STI infection risks, and mental health conditions. Dr. Cepeda's research has also highlighted the unique gendered experiences encountered by females within this cultural context. She is currently the principal investigator of a NIH/NIDA supported study examining the long-term health consequences of drug use and intimate partner violence on Mexican American females who were associated with male gang members as adolescents. Additionally, she (and Dr. Valdez) recently were awarded a NIMHD R01 to identify mechanisms by which immigration processes expose "floating populations" (those who move back and forth between the U.S. and Mexico either voluntarily or forced) to distinct environments, increases their susceptibility to risk behaviors and contributes to mental and physical health disparities.

Noé C. Crespo, PhD



Dr. Noé C. Crespo is a profesor and division head in the Health Promotion & Behavioral Science division of the School of Public Health at San Diego State University. Dr. Crespo's research focuses on reducing health disparities and conducting multi-level community- and family-based interventions to prevent chronic disease among Latinos and underserved populations. He has experience conducting multi-level and large-scale interventions to promote physical activity and healthy eating in schools, clinics and recreation centers. Dr. Crespo also studies the health consequences of sedentary behavior and conducts behavioral interventions to reduce sedentary behavior in worksites. More recently, he has conducted research to develop and test effective strategies to prevent COVID-19, increase testing for COVID-19 and increase COVID-19 vaccine uptake among underserved communities.

Richard De La Garza, PhD



Richard (Rich) De La Garza completed his Ph.D in neuroscience at the University of Texas Medical Branch followed by postdocs at Harvard Medical School and Yale University School of Medicine. He has held faculty positions at Albert Einstein College of Medicine, Baylor College of Medicine, and University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center. Currently, Dr. De La Garza is currently Professor in the Department of Psychiatry and Biobehavioral Sciences at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA. Dr. De La Garza is an addiction neuropharmacologist and conducts laboratory studies in humans to investigate the safety and efficacy of novel medications for methamphetamine, cocaine, and opioid use disorders. He is also interested in cancer prevention as it relates to smoking cessation research including research on e-cigarettes. Dr. De La Garza has published more than 120 peer-reviewed scientific articles and he has been funded for more than 25 years by the National Institute on Drug Abuse and the National Cancer Institute. He has received numerous honors including being named a Distinguished Alumnus of his alma mater and being appointed a Kavli Fellow of the National Academy of Sciences. Dr. De La Garza was a member of the Board of Directors and past President of the College on the Problems of Drug Dependence – the oldest and largest scientific society dedicated to addiction research in the country.

Presenter Biographies

Marvyn Diaz, PhD



Dr. Marvin R. Diaz is an Associate Professor within the Behavioral Neuroscience area in the Psychology Department at Binghamton University. He received his PhD at Wake Forest University School of Medicine (2009) and completed a postdoctoral fellowship at the University of New Mexico Health Science Center (2014). Since starting his independent lab in 2014, his research has focused on determining neuroadaptations resulting from alcohol, drug, and stress exposures during critical development periods (prenatal through adolescence). He utilizes an integrative approach, including neurophysiological, cellular/molecular, and behavioral techniques to study alterations in neurodevelopmental mechanisms.

Christie Fowler, PhD



Dr. Christie Fowler is an Associate Professor and Chancellor's Fellow in the Department of Neurobiology and Behavior at the University of California, Irvine (UCI). She is also Director of the Interdepartmental Neuroscience Program at UCI. She earned her PhD at Florida State University and conducted postdoctoral training at the Scripps Research Institute. Her research aims to elucidate the function of circuits, molecular factors, and extracellular signaling mechanisms underlying substance use, with a focus on nicotine/tobacco, THC/cannabis, and opioids. Dr. Fowler serves on the editorial board for *eNeuro* and *Neuropsychopharmacology*, as the basic science Program Chair for the Society for Research on Nicotine and Tobacco, and on the executive committee for the Irvine Center for Addiction Neuroscience. More information can be found at <https://faculty.sites.uci.edu/fowlerlab/>.

Deborah Furr Holden, PhD



Dr. Deborah Furr-Holden is an epidemiologist and a nationally recognized community-engaged health equity, substance abuse, and alcohol researcher. She has expertise in community-based participatory research, action-oriented policy research, behavioral health, including addictions, alcohol problems, community mental health, and community violence prevention; and large-scale research program implementation and evaluation and early career training/mentoring. She has led multiple training programs designed to increase capacity and representation in the health sciences and has more than a 15-year history of successfully mentoring early stage investigators. Among her many awards, she was the recipient of the 2006 Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers (Office of the White House) and the 2021 Service Award from the Society for Prevention Research. Dr. Furr-Holden attended the Johns Hopkins University Krieger School of Arts and Sciences (BA Natural Sciences and Public Health, 1996) and Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health (PhD, 1999). She is the Dean Designate of the NYU School of Global Public Health.

Presenter Biographies (cont.)

Alicia Izquierdo, PhD



Dr. Izquierdo received a B.S. in Biology and Psychology from Emory University, and a Ph.D. in Cognitive Neuroscience through the Graduate Partnership Program between the National Institutes of Health and The George Washington University. After completing her doctoral work at the National Institute of Mental Health, she spent two years as a postdoctoral fellow at the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism. Dr. Izquierdo is active in a number of national and international organizations and initiatives that promote diversity and inclusion in STEM. She also devotes significant energy to mentoring, recognized by the Department's J. Arthur Woodward Graduate Mentor Award for 2018.

Charlotte Jackson, MA



Charlotte Jackson is a Registered Clinical Counselor who has worked in the field of Mental Health and Substance Use in Vancouver, BC, since 2001. Charlotte held the position of Team Lead with Vancouver Coastal Health for many years, providing clinical supervision to both mental health and outpatient substance use teams. She is a Multidisciplinary Association for Psychedelic Studies (MAPS) trained therapist and was a sub-investigator in the Phase III clinical trials using MDMA assisted therapy for individuals with severe PTSD. Charlotte is currently an Associate Supervisor with MAPS, supporting therapists-in-training in the European MAPS sponsored MDMA clinical trials. She is interested in the intersection of the psychological and the transpersonal, and in pursuit of this, she completed her undergraduate studies in classical mythology at UBC, was a long time student of A. H. Almaas and the Ridhwan School, and has studied with Taoist Master, Mantak Chia. She is currently working with Dr. Ingrid Pacey, providing theoretical and experiential training to therapists pursuing competency in working with non-ordinary states of consciousness for TheraPsil, a non profit coalition seeking to make psilocybin assisted therapy available to Canadians in need. Charlotte works from a harm reduction, strengths based, trauma-informed perspective, as well as from an anti-oppression framework. She works with individuals seeking support with trauma, anxiety and depression as well as with those wishing to integrate psychedelic experiences and other expanded states.

Adam Leventhal, PhD



Adam Leventhal, Ph.D., Professor of Preventive Medicine and Psychology at the University of Southern California Keck School of Medicine and USC Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center, is an addiction psychologist and public health scientist. Dr. Leventhal is the Founding Director of the USC Health, Emotion, & Addiction Laboratory (USC-HEAL; heal.usc.edu), a group of six faculty investigators and 30 staff and trainees who study the causes, consequences, treatment, and prevention of addiction and mental illness across the lifespan; the organization has been awarded more than \$40M in grant funding from the NIH and other agencies. Dr. Leventhal is also the Founding Director of the USC Institute for Addiction Science (USC-IAS; ias.usc.edu), a university-wide initiative that supports transdisciplinary science and education for a network of 40+ faculty addiction experts across 5 schools and colleges at USC. Dr. Leventhal has authored over 200 peer-reviewed scientific articles, including publications in JAMA, New England Journal of Medicine, and other journals. He is an elected fellow of the American Academy of Health Behavior and American Psychological Association and recipient of awards for early and mid-career contributions to science and mentoring.

Presenter Biographies (cont.)

Ian Mendez, PhD



Dr. Mendez is an Assistant Professor at The University of Texas at El Paso School of Pharmacy, with over 20 year of experience working in neuroscience. He received his B.A. at CSU San Marcos and his Ph.D. at Texas A&M University, both in experimental psychology. He then went on to receive postdoctoral training in neuroscience at UCLA. The primary aim of his research is to elucidate the neurobiological mechanisms of the brain reward system and how drug-induced changes in these mechanisms can contribute to changes in motivational, hedonic, and cognitive processes. The Mendez Lab investigates these processes by utilizing experimental methods in biology, pharmacology, behavior, genetics, and neurochemistry. Current experiments in the lab are focused on establishing a rodent model of e-cigarette use and identifying the unique effects of nicotine vapor on reward seeking behavior, cost-benefit decision making, and cholinergic mechanisms in the brain. In addition to his research interests, Dr. Mendez also strives to establish excellence in research training and teaching for students. His long-term goal is to develop his laboratory into a highly productive and collaborative neuroscience center, with a particular focus on enhancing student-training opportunities.

Patricia Molina, MD, PhD, FAPS



Patricia Molina, MD, PhD, FAPS, tenured professor at Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center New Orleans (LSUHSC). Molina completed her medical training at the Universidad Francisco Marroquin in Guatemala, Central America and her doctorate in physiology at LSUHSC. Following a post-doctoral fellowship at Vanderbilt University, she was recruited to be an assistant professor of surgery and physiology at the State University of New York, Stony Brook. Subsequently she became the Director of Surgical Research at North Shore University Hospital, while holding a guest appointment at Brookhaven National Laboratory. She then joined the department of physiology at LSUHSC as an associate professor and has obtained tenured and promotion to professor prior to being appointed as Chair of Physiology in 2008. Her research focuses on the biomedical consequences of unhealthy alcohol use, particularly as they impact HIV disease pathogenesis. Molina is the Director of the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Center of Excellence at LSUHSC, and currently serves as the Co-chair for the National Hispanic Science Network on Drug Abuse. Molina was the first Hispanic female and the 88th president to the American Physiological Society and served as President of the Research Society on Alcoholism (2020-2021).

John Monterosso, PhD



Dr. John Monterosso is an Associate Professor of Psychology at the University of Southern California, where he studies mechanisms underlying human self-control from the combined perspectives of behavioral economics and cognitive neuroscience (sometimes collectively referred to as “neuroeconomics”). He has co-authored 40 journal articles and book chapters and his research is currently supported through two R01 grants from the National Institute on Drug Addiction. He received a PhD in experimental psychology in 1998, followed by an NIH supported post-doc in Addiction Science, both at the University of Pennsylvania. In 2008 he joined USC’s faculty department, and over the past two decades, his research focus has been in the area of motivation and addiction, primarily combining the perspectives of behavioral economics and neuroscience. He has served as PI on six NIH funded grants, including two R01 projects related to nicotine dependence. He is currently a PI on a recently awarded R21 examining connections between flavored vape and appetite.

Presenter Biographies (cont.)

Manuel Ocasio, PhD



Dr. Manuel Ocasio (he/him) is an Assistant Professor of Pediatrics and Director of Community Engagement and Behavioral Research in the Section of Adolescent Medicine. He received his MS in public health (2013) and PhD in epidemiology (2018) from the University of Miami. Dr. Ocasio's research focuses on sexual health inequities among sexual and gender diverse young (SGDY) people in the South, particularly those who identify as Black and/or Latinx. He is actively involved with the Adolescent Medicine Trials Network (ATN), the only domestic network dedicated to addressing the HIV epidemic among adolescents. Dr. Ocasio is the New Orleans site project director for ATN CARES, a large, multi-site HIV prevention and treatment study with over 1,700 adolescents at risk and with HIV. He has served as an advisor to the ATN's National Community Advisory Board and its Scientific Committee. He is PI/MPI of multiple HIV prevention-focused and community-engaged research projects in collaboration with the Louisiana Department of Health and TIDAL, a local trans-led organization in New Orleans. In 2021, Dr. Ocasio was also awarded a K01 from NIMHD to obtain training in community-engaged research and social media health communication strategies and to develop an Instagram-based HIV testing intervention with Black SGDY influencers.

Danielle Ompad, PhD



Danielle C. Ompad, Ph.D. is a Professor of Epidemiology, Deputy Director of the Center for Drug Use and HIV Research (CDHUR, a NIDA-funded P30 center), and the Associate Dean for Education at the New York University School of Global Public Health. She is an infectious disease epidemiologist whose work is focused in the areas of urban health, HIV, illicit drug use, and adult access to vaccines. With respect to drug use, her work has spanned the entire natural history of drug use – from initiation to cessation, with particular attention paid to risk for infectious diseases such as HIV, hepatitis B and C, and STIs. She has primarily worked with people who use heroin, crack, cocaine, and/or club drugs. Most recently, she has been studying use of new marijuana products as well as drug use among construction workers.

Laura O'Dell, PhD



Dr. Laura O'Dell is a Professor and Associate Vice President for Research at the University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP). She received her PhD in Behavioral Neuroscience from Arizona State University, and then conducted her post-doctoral training at The Scripps Research Institute where she also served as a Staff Scientist. Dr. O'Dell's research program uses rodent models to study the underlying neural mechanisms that promote substance use in vulnerable populations, including females, adolescents, and persons with diabetes. Her laboratory combines neurochemical and molecular approaches with behavioral models to provide a better understanding of the mechanisms that promote drug abuse, with a particular focus on nicotine. For the past 15 years, her research program has been independently funded by the National Institute on Drug Abuse and organizations, such as the American Diabetes Association. Dr. O'Dell has a deep interest in promoting young faculty and trainees who want to pursue a career in neuroscience, particularly those from diverse backgrounds.

Presenter Biographies (cont.)

J. Bryan Page, PhD



Dr. J. Bryan Page's research has focused on people who engage in socially disapproved behaviors. He has studied patterns of marijuana smoking, poly-drug consumption, self-injection, crack use, and the sex trade. . Dr. Page co-authored the books *Comprehending Drug Use: Ethnographic Research at the Social Margins* (2010) and *The Social Value of Drug Addicts: Uses of the Useless* (2014). He has conducted studies funded by the NIDA and NIMH. Dr. Page's publications emphasize the importance of community setting and keys to finding specific populations in those settings. His recent work has emphasized the value of on-the-scene perspectives in the study of human behaviors such as formation of couples, seeking of health care, the treatment of depression, the consequences of illegal drug use, and the onset of tobacco use.

Dina Perrone, PhD



Dina Perrone, PhD is an Associate Dean of Graduate Studies and an Associate Professor of Criminology and Criminal Justice at California State University–Long Beach and board member of DanceSafe, Inc. She has two B.A.s from the State University of New York at Geneseo and both her M.A. and Ph.D. in Criminal Justice from Rutgers University–Newark. Dr. Perrone is a qualitative researcher who studies people who use drugs and the policies that affect them. Her work specifically explores patterns of use and methods of risk/harm reduction and benefit maximization. She also conducts process evaluations of various programs, including LEAD (Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion) and police use of naloxone. She has published reports, studies, and one book, *The High Life: Club Kids, Harm, and Drug Policy*, about her work.

Miguel Pinedo, PhD



The goal of Dr. Pinedo's research to inform new paradigms for health policies and programs aimed at reducing health disparities among Latino populations. To meet this goal, he has developed two highly focused lines of research that examine critical social determinants of health that are salient among Latino populations (e.g., immigration-related stressors) that may help explain and address existing health disparities related to substance misuse and use of treatment services. His first line of research examines how stressors stemming from immigration enforcement policies (e.g., deportations, fear of deportation) shape vulnerability to substance misuse among Latinos. His second line of work investigates factors that discourage Latinos in need from using substance use treatment services. Using both quantitative and qualitative methods, his research underscores the importance of structural (e.g., immigration policies, deportations), social (e.g., anti-immigration discrimination), and cultural (e.g., cultural perceptions surrounding substance use) factors in influencing the health behaviors, risk practices, and health outcomes of Latinos. Prior to joining UT, Dr. Pinedo received his PhD in Public Health (Global Health) from UC San Diego and completed his postdoctoral training at UC Berkeley. He also previously earned his Master in Public Health from UC Berkeley.

Presenter Biographies (cont.)

Lindsey Richardson, PhD



Dr. Lindsey Richardson is an Associate Professor of Sociology at the University of British Columbia, a Research Scientist at the BC Centre on Substance Use, and holds the Canada Research Chair in Social Inclusion and Health Equity. As a medical sociologist she examines the dynamics and health consequences of poverty among people who use illicit drugs, with a focus on public policy, community economic development and critical approaches to research. She has authored over 50 academic articles in journals such as *The Lancet Public Health*, *Addiction*, *Drug and Alcohol Dependence* and *Social Science & Medicine*, and her work has been featured in outlets such as the *New York Times*, the *Globe and Mail*, *CBC*, the *Canadian Press*, and *The Conversation*.

Argentina Servin, MD, MPH



Argentina E. Servin, MD, MPH is an Assistant Professor in the Division of Infectious Diseases and Global Public Health, Department of Medicine at the University of California, San Diego (UCSD) and the Director of the Bachelor of Science in Public Health Program at the Herbert Wertheim School of Public Health and Longevity Science. Dr. Servin is a bilingual and bicultural clinician-researcher with training in preventive medicine, infectious disease, and clinical epidemiology. Her work has included assessing sexual and reproductive health (SRH) education, gender-based violence (GBV) and intersections with HIV/STI risk and prevention, and health service utilization among vulnerable underserved populations including female sex workers, adolescents and at-risk-youth, migrants and refugees in both domestic and international settings. Based on this research and her years of clinical experience serving vulnerable populations, she has developed a strong interest in improving the health of medically underserved communities by developing, implementing, and evaluating clinic and community based behavioral interventions centered on linkage into care and reducing barriers to healthcare utilization in under-resourced settings.

Rosine Sarafian, CRA, MBA



Rosine Sarafian is the Director of Research Administration in the Office of Research Administration at the University of Southern California's (USC) Suzanne Dworak-Peck School of Social Work. Rosine is an experienced administrator with an extensive background in research, financial and academic administration. She started at USC in 2003 and has held leadership positions at the Viterbi School of Engineering and Keck School of Medicine before joining the Suzanne Dworak-Peck School of Social Work in 2017, where she currently leads a team of research administrators and oversees the management and compliance of all sponsored research. Rosine is a Certified Research Administrator (CRA) and a member of the National Council of University Research Administrators (NCURA) and the Society of Research Administrators International (SRA).

Presenter Biographies (cont.)

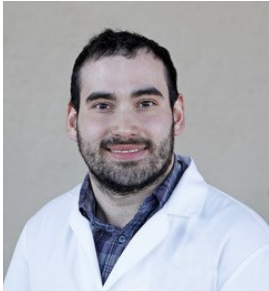
Diana Sheehan, PhD



Diana Sheehan is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Epidemiology at the Robert Stempel College of Public Health and Social Work at Florida International University (FIU). Her program of research is focused on the prevention and reduction of HIV health disparities affecting Latino communities and other underserved populations. She contributes to this area of health disparities via epidemiological studies to identify disparities along the HIV continuum of care and identify multilevel predictors, and via the design and testing of evidence-based interventions to support groups vulnerable to HIV disparities. Currently, Dr. Sheehan is leading an ecological momentary assessment (EMA) study that examines antiretroviral therapy adherence and the feasibility of a related Just-In-

Time Adaptive Intervention (JITAI) among Latino men who have sex with men. She holds a PhD in Epidemiology from FIU, and a Bachelor of Science and Master of Public Health degrees from Boston University.

Kevin Uribe, PhD



Dr. Kevin Uribe is a post-doctoral fellow at the University of Texas at Austin. His long-term goal is to establish an independent research program focused on how ovarian and stress hormone systems interact to enhance the rewarding and aversive effects of drugs in female and to use his scientific skills as a platform to promote diversity in science by serving as a role model and mentor to the next generation of neuroscientists. Dr. Uribe's post-doctoral career is focused on investigating brain structures that mediate motivated behavior. Dr. Uribe's research focuses on the mechanisms through which activation of the LPO reinstates cocaine-seeking behavior, sex differences in the resurgence of cocaine

-seeking behavior following activation of the LPO, and the characterization of the transcriptome of the LPO and whether there are age- and sex-differences in naïve and cocaine-dependent animals.

Avelardo Valdez, PhD



Dr. Avelardo Valdez is currently the Cleofas and Victor Ramirez Professor of Practice, Policy, Research & Advocacy for the Latino Population in Social Work and Sociology Professor at the University of Southern California. A major focus of his research has been on the relationship between substance abuse and violence, crime, and health consequences among high-risk groups. His research projects have been among "hidden populations" such as youth and prison gang members, injecting and non-injecting heroin users, sex workers on the U.S./ Mexico border and crack users. Dr. Valdez is a recipient of numerous federal grants from the National Institutes of Health, National Institute on Drug Abuse, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and Substance Abuse and Mental

Health Services Administration. Additionally, he (and Dr. Cepeda) recently were awarded a NIMHD R01 to identify mechanisms by which immigration processes expose "floating populations" (those who move back and forth between the U.S. and Mexico either voluntarily or forced) to distinct environments, increases their susceptibility to risk behaviors and contributes to mental and physical health disparities. Dr. Valdez is the principal investigator and Director of the Enhanced Interdisciplinary Research Training Institute on Hispanic Substance Abuse (eIRTI) and co-chair of the National Hispanic Science Network, and a standing committee member of NIH's Community Influences on Health Behavior Study Section (CIHB).

Presenter Biographies (cont.)

William Vega, PhD



Dr. William Vega is a Distinguished Professor and Senior Scholar for Community Health at Florida International University. Dr. Vega was formerly executive director of the USC Roybal Institute and a Provost Professor at the University of Southern California (USC) with appointments in social work, preventive medicine, psychiatry, family medicine, psychology and gerontology. An elected member of the National Academy of Medicine, Dr. Vega has conducted community and clinical research projects on health, mental health and substance abuse in the United States and Latin America. He specializes in multi-cultural epidemiologic and services research with adolescents and adults, and he has published more than 190 articles and chapters, in addition to several books. Dr. Vega is currently ranked by Research Gate in the top 2 percent of authors in overall research impact. Prior to joining USC, Dr. Vega was director of the Luskin Center for Innovation and an associate provost at UCLA. He received the Society for Prevention Research's Community, Culture and Prevention Science Award in 2002 and the National Hispanic Science Network on Drug Abuse's National Award of Excellence in Research by a Senior Scientist in 2004. In 2013, he was honored with the Rema Lapouse Award from the Mental Health, Epidemiology, and Statistics Sections of the American Public Health Association.



Enhanced Interdisciplinary Research Training Institute on Hispanic Substance Abuse



Contact Information



USC
Suzanne
Dworak-Peck
School of Social Work

Fellows' Contact Information

Sarah Chavez, MA

Doctoral Student
SDSU-UCSD Joint Doctoral
Program Interdisciplinary Research on
Substance Use
San Diego State University
sjchavez@sdsu.edu

Melissa Ertl, PhD

Postdoctoral Fellow
HIV Center for Clinical & Behavioral
Studies
Division of Gender, Sexuality, & Health
Columbia University and New York
State Psychiatric Institute
mme2148@cumc.columbia.edu

Veronika Ezpinoza, MA

Doctoral Student
Behavioral Neuroscience
University of Texas, El Paso
vespinoza12@miners.utep.edu

Tasha Perdue, PhD

Assistant Professor
John Glenn College of Public Affairs
The Ohio State University
perdue.112@osu.edu

Robert Rosales, PhD

Assistant Professor
Center for Alcohol and Addiction Studies,
Department of Behavioral & Social Sciences
Brown University School of Public Health
robert_rosales@brown.edu

Anapaula Themann, MA

Doctoral Student
Behavioral Neuroscience
University of Texas, El Paso
athemann@miners.utep.edu

Presenter's Contact Information

James Anthony, PhD, MSc

Professor
Department of Human Medicine
Michigan State University
janthony@msu.edu

Albert Avila, PhD

Deputy Director, ORTDD
Director, ODHD
National Institute on Drug Use
aavila@nida.nih.gov

Angela Bazzi, PhD, MPH

Associate Professor
Herbert Wertheim School of Public
Health
University of California, San Diego
abazzi@bu.edu

Miguel Ángel Cano, PhD, MPH, MS

Assistant Professor & Director of
Epidemiology Doctoral Program
Department of Epidemiology
Robert Stempel College of Public Health
and Social Work
mcanojr@fiu.edu

Edward Castañeda, PhD

Professor
Department of Psychology
University of Texas at El Paso
ecastaneda9@utep.edu

Felipe González Castro, PhD, MSW

Professor
College of Nursing and Health
Innovation
Arizona State University
felipe.castro@asu.edu

Alice Cepeda, PhD

Associate Professor
Suzanne Dworak-Peck School of
Social Work
University of Southern California
alicecep@usc.edu

Noé C. Crespo, PhD

Professor
Health Promotion & Behavioral Science
School of Public Health
San Diego State University
ncrespo@sdsu.edu

Richard De La Garza, PhD

Professor
Jane and Terry Semel Institute
David Geffen School of Medicine
University of California at Los Angeles
rdelagarza@mednet.ucla.edu

Marvin Diaz, PhD

Associate Professor
Department of Psychology
Center for Development & Behavioral
Neuroscience
Binghamton University - SUNY
mdiaz@binghamton.edu

Christie Fowler, PhD

Associate Professor & Director of the
Fowler Lab
Department of Neurobiology & Behavior
cdfowler@uci.edu

Deborah Furr Holden, PhD

C.S. Mott Endowed Professor of Public
Health, Associate Dean for Public Health
Integration, & Director of the Flint Center
for Health Equity Solutions
College of Human Medicine
Michigan State University
holdenc3@msu.edu

Presenter's Contact Information

Alicia Izquierdo, PhD

Associate Professor & Director of the
Izquierdo Lab
Department of Psychology, Behavioral
Neuroscience
University of California, Los Angeles
aizquie@psych.ucla.edu

Charlotte Jackson, BA

Charlotte Jackson, MA
Registered Clinical Counsellor
Multidisciplinary Association for
Psychedelic Studies (MAPS) Associate
Supervisor
mail@charlottejackson.ca

Adam Leventhal, PhD

Professor & Director of the Institute for
Addiction Science
Keck School of Medicine
University of Southern California
adam.leventhal@usc.edu

Ian Mendez, PhD

Assistant Professor & Director of the
Mendez Lab
School of Pharmacy
University of Texas at El Paso
iamendez2@utep.edu

Patricia Molina, MD, PhD

Richard Ashman, PhD Professor & Chair
Department of Physiology
Director Alcohol and Drug Abuse
Center of Excellence
Louisiana State University Health
Science Center
pmolin@lsuhsc.edu

John Monterosso, PhD

Associate Professor & Director of Addic-
tion & Self Control Lab
Department of Psychology
Dana and David Dornsife College of
Letters, Arts, and Science
University of Southern California
johnrmon@usc.edu

Manuel Ocasio, PhD

Assistant Professor & Director of Behav-
ioral Research & Community Engage-
ment
School of Medicine
Tulane University
mocasio@tulane.edu

Danielle C. Ompad, PhD, MHS

Professor of Epidemiology, Deputy Di-
rector of the Center for Drug Use and
HIV Research & Associate Dean for Edu-
cation
School of Global Public Health
New York University
danielle.ompad@nyu.edu

Laura O'Dell, PhD

Professor & Director of the Neural Basis
of Addiction Lab
Department of Psychology
University of Texas at El Paso
lodell@utep.edu

J. Bryan Page, PhD

Professor
Department of Anthropology
University of Miami
bryan.page@miami.edu

Presenter's Contact Information

Dina Perrone, PhD

Associate Professor & Associate Dean of
Graduate Studies
School of Criminology, Criminal Justice,
& Emergency Management
California State University, Long Beach
Dina.Perrone@csulb.edu

Miguel Pinedo, PhD, MPH

Assistant Professor
Department of Kinesiology & Health
Education
University of Texas at Austin
mpinedo@austin.utexas.edu

Lindsey Richardson, PhD

Associate Professor
Department of Sociology
University of British Columbia
lindsey.richardson@ubc.ca

Rosine Sarafian, CRA, MBA

Director of Research Administration
Suzanne Dworak-Peck School of Social Work
University of Southern California
sarafian@usc.edu

Argentina Servin, MD, MPH

Assistant Professor & Director of Bachelor
in Science in Public Health Program
School of Medicine
Herbert Wertheim School of Public
Health and Human Longevity Science
University of California, San Diego
arservin@health.ucsd.edu

Diana Sheehan, PhD

Assistant Professor
Department of Epidemiology
Robert Stempel College of Public Health
& Social Work
Florida International University
dsheehan@fiu.edu

Kevin Uribe, PhD

Postdoctoral Research Fellow
Department of Epidemiology
University of Texas at Austin
kevinuribe21@gmail.com

Avelardo Valdez, PhD

Cleofas & Victor Ramirez Professor of
Practice, Policy, Research & Advocacy
for the Latino Population
Director of the eIRTI
Suzanne Dworak-Peck School of
Social Work
University of Southern California
avelardv@usc.edu

William Vega, PhD

Distinguished Professor & Senior Schol-
ar for Community Health
Florida International University
wvega@fiu.edu