

Fall 2020

The College on Problems of Drug Dependence

# NEWSLINE



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## PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

*Stacey Sigmon, Ph.D.*

*President, CPDD*



Dear Friends and Colleagues,

I am excited to represent you as CPDD's President for 2020-2021, although I deeply missed the opportunity to ring in this new role while surrounded by the colleagues, friends and exciting science that I've enjoyed for the past 23 years. This is a challenging time in so many ways, and my first message to you is that I wish you, your loved ones and colleagues safety and good health.

I want to express my deep appreciation to our outgoing President, Dr. Elise Weerts, for her tireless work guiding CPDD through the uncharted waters associated with the COVID-19 pandemic. Elise's grit and grace have been major factors in our ability to successfully navigate the challenges of this past year. The College is in good hands because of her tireless efforts, as well as those of our larger Executive Committee, which met weekly for months leading up to the 2020 virtual meeting.

I would also like to thank the CPDD Program Committee under the superb leadership of Dr. Kelly Dunn. Pivoting our 82nd Annual Scientific Meeting from an in-person event to our first-ever virtual conference was no small task. The committee rose to the occasion! Our successful conference also could not have been achieved without our fantastic Parthenon Management Group (PMG) team, led by Jesse Howard and Lindsay Snyder! The virtual meeting was attended by over 1,000 people and more than 90% said they would recommend the CPDD virtual meeting to their colleagues.

Additional thanks go to our Executive Committee, Board of Directors, Committee Chairs and members who worked so hard over this past year to ensure that CPDD continues to thrive in this challenging time. And a final farewell and sincere thanks to Dr. Loretta Finnegan and Ellen Geller for their many years of steadfast leadership through CPDD's Executive Office- we will miss you but hope that you will remain a part of our CPDD family and return to our annual meeting for years to come!

As we look forward to the upcoming year, I am excited to congratulate and welcome our new President-Elect, Dr. Bill Stoops! Bill's first task is his role as Chair of the 2020 Nominating Committee. This committee is comprised of two CPDD Regular members (Andy Tompkins and Sherecce Fields), two current members of the Board of Directors (Sudie Back and Dace Svikis), and two Fellows (Andy Coop and Scott Lukas). Nominations for President-Elect and new Board

members will open in early September. Please participate in the nomination process for Board representatives and future officers- this is an important way to serve the College and our field!

Over the upcoming months, CPDD's Executive Committee and PMG will be working hard to begin planning our 83rd Annual Scientific Meeting to be held in June 2021. I welcome your feedback and suggestions. In particular, if you attend in-person meetings before the annual CPDD meeting, please contact our team at [info@cpdd.org](mailto:info@cpdd.org) with ideas or examples of what worked well for other organizations. We won't know what the future holds for a while but will be sending out updates at every opportunity along the way.

I also ask for your input related to CPDD's efforts to actively promote diversity and inclusion within the College and within our field across race, ethnicity, religion, disability, age, sex, gender identity, and sexual orientation. The scientific community strongly benefits from diversity in thought, experience, and background, and our Long Range Planning Committee and Executive Committee are working on a diversity and inclusion action plan to advance our Commitment to Diversity mission. Please reach out to us at [info@cpdd.org](mailto:info@cpdd.org) to share your ideas for action-oriented steps that we can take to broaden the diversity of our membership and develop an inclusive leadership pipeline for our future.

As we continue to adapt to our new normal, also be on the lookout for additional digital learning opportunities that will provide members with opportunities to learn about late-breaking topics or big-picture issues between annual meetings. As one example, CPDD will launch our first non-annual meeting related digital learning event in the fall. Other digital learning events will be added throughout the year, and I encourage everyone to take advantage of this new learning platform.

While 2020 hasn't been the year many of us anticipated, I am very proud of our community and how we came together to continue advancing substance use disorder research. While the world came to a halt, as always, science goes on and is more important than ever. I look forward to seeing each of you at next year's meeting or one of our digital learning events soon.

Warmly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sigmon".

Stacey C. Sigmon, Ph.D., CPDD President

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## STEPPING DOWN BUT NOT AWAY

*A Tale of Two Women's Adventures with CPDD*

*Loretta Finnegan, M.D., Ellen Geller, M.A.*



On June 30, 2020, we retired from The College on Problems of Drug Dependence, Inc. as your Executive Officer and Director of the Executive Office, respectively, to move on to many other activities. It has been our pleasure to serve in these positions, Thanks need to be expressed to all of the Executive Committees with whom we served, particularly the Presidents with whom we worked most closely, and those who served on the Board of Directors over the past years, and so many more.

In reflecting on our long associations with CPDD, we each came up with some memories and thoughts we wanted to share.

**Loretta's Reflections:** I am so pleased to have served as the 9th Executive Officer of The College on Problems of Drug Dependence. In departing from this position, I have many wonderful memories about CPDD, too many to mention, but I would like to share four with you from three decades of my association with the organization. In the 1970's, as an Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, my go-to meeting was the Society for Pediatric Research. However, as I concentrated my clinical and research activities in the area of Substance Use Disorder, a colleague and Professor at the University of Pennsylvania suggested that I attend CPDD. So in 1972, I submitted an abstract for the meeting in Ann Arbor, Michigan, which was accepted for a plenary presentation. All presentations were plenary at this meeting of nearly 300 attendees. The paper was on the treatment of Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome in which we used 3 medications that pediatricians had reported in the literature: paregoric, phenobarbital, and diazepam. The speakers were mostly clinical pharmacologists and chemists except for Drs. O'Brien, McClellan, Woody and me from the University of Pennsylvania who were selected to present our clinical research. When I finished my presentation of a clinical trial looking at the 3 medications, two very tall men approached the microphone for questions. At that time, questions were not posed gently as they are at our current meetings which currently start with, "I really enjoyed your paper" and continuing with, "we have similar data" followed by a description of the questionnaire's recent study. The first to ask a question of me was Dr. William Martin, who, in a stern, loud voice said, "Why in the world would you use phenobarbital to treat opioid abstinence? Shuddering, with knees shaking, I explained that I was trying to show pediatricians that an opioid would be pharmacologically prudent and my data proved that. Next at the microphone was Dr. Avram Goldstein who had similar questions. I hardly heard him in my state of shock but, somehow, like a robot, I answered his questions. Fortunately, I survived that

experience and had a paper accepted the next year. In spite of my traumatic experience during the question period of my first presentation at CPDD, I continued to present my research throughout the 1970's and 1980's until I took a position at NIH in 1990, but I never missed a meeting up to the present.

The second memory also in the 1970's (1974) was when I submitted my first grant application to a new Institute at NIH, the National Institute on Drug Abuse. One of the site visitors was Dr. William Martin. I cite this because what Dr. Martin suggested led me to decades of research that was relevant for CPDD meetings and therefore, I had the data to make many more presentations at our Annual Scientific Meetings. My research evaluated pregnancy and opioid dependence and the effects on the newborn. In this first NIDA grant application, I glibly mentioned the need for a score to assess neonatal abstinence but included no details. Dr. Martin said, "Are you going to use the Himmelsbach Score to assess neonatal abstinence"-- which was a trick question-- because the Himmelsbach Score was for adults with subjective questions for the patient and newborns do not speak! Fortunately, I had read an article about the score the night before. I answered, "No, we would have to develop a score specific for babies." The grant was approved with the condition that I develop a score for newborns. I thank Dr. Martin, a key individual in the operation of CPDD in the early years, the person who questioned me on my first CPDD presentation, which prepared me to expect challenging questions when presenting. He was also the one who urged me to expand my first NIDA grant application to include development of an abstinence score for newborns.

The third memory, in the 1980's, was when I served on the Board of CPDD from 1985 to 1989. Our fiscal situation was being discussed because we had lost a number of grants from pharmaceutical companies, which provided considerable funding for the then Committee on Problems of Drug Dependence. Our investigators were determining the physical dependence potential and the abuse liability of their compounds. The Board discussed various ways that CPDD could enhance its revenue. Discussions about CPDD becoming a membership organization began in 1984 when Dr. Martin Adler proposed it as a possible solution for increasing revenue for the Committee. The Board would have absolutely nothing to do with becoming a membership organization. However, discussion continued at subsequent meetings from 1985 to 1987. The memory for me was that Dr. Joe Brady and I had a side-bar conversation about strongly pushing the vote for CPDD to become a membership organization in 1987, but it did not pass. However, in 1988, with Dr. Brady's



insistent, loud, booming voice and my relatively loud, persistent voice, we turned the tide and the vote passed. Then, those still not sure said, "Well, we cannot change the initials from CPDD" As Dr. Mary Jeanne Kreek reminded me a few years ago, I shouted out, "so call it The College". Now, that was an exciting Board meeting!

My fourth memory is from the decade of 2000 when, in 2014, a CPDD Board member called me and asked if I had applied for the Executive Officer position that was open since Marty Adler was retiring. I had not. However, remembering a past professor who advised me, "If you have the opportunity to apply for a position that seems interesting, always do so. The experience is good for you and if you are offered the position, and decide against it, you can always say, "no". Well, I did not say "no" to the offer to become the Executive Officer to CPDD and I have spent the past 6 years in a position where I learned a great deal, met numerous wonderful professionals, worked more than my assigned 30% time-effort and loved it and had the sense to work with and not against a wonderful woman, Ellen Geller, who had been involved officially with the leadership of CPDD for 28 years. It has been my extreme pleasure to work with Ellen as a team to accomplish the many aspects so important in supporting an organization that I have respected and loved for nearly five decades.

Being associated with CPDD for 48 years, in addition to the outstanding science that I have enjoyed at the annual meetings, I had the opportunity to meet and interact with many of "the CPDD Greats". Just to mention a few, Drs. Martin, Goldstein, Primm, Robins, Mendelson, Schuster, Cochlin, Mello, Brady, Fischman, Kleber, Himmelsbach, Harris, Holtzman, Dole and Nyswander who sadly are no longer with us. In addition, those "CPDD Greats" from whom we can still learn include those who I can call dear friends: Drs. Dewey, Jaffe, O'Brien, Woody, Schnoll, Henningfield, Madras, Kreek and Adler.

Having retired from the School of Medicine at Thomas Jefferson University as a Professor of Pediatrics, Psychiatry and Human Behavior and then Medical Advisor, Office of Research on Women's Health at the National Institutes of Health, I now retire from The College on Problems of Drug Dependence as the Executive Officer. It has been a wonderful journey for me with a career in drug dependence research and clinical care of pregnant women and their newborns and, then, an opportunity to have a leadership role in an organization with which I have been involved for nearly five decades.

When I began my position as Executive Officer, with Ellen, we had a goal to bring CPDD up to the 21st Century and, although some goals were accomplished, hopefully, with Parthenon Management Group, you may move, even further, into the 21st Century.

Ellen's Reflections: When I started working in Dr. Martin Adler's lab fresh out of grad school in the mid-70s, I had no idea that I would eventually spend most of my career as a

scientific meeting planner. Blending my science background with the skills I acquired from working with Marty as he took on the position of Executive Secretary of The Committee on Problems of Drug Dependence, and then Executive Officer of The College on Problems of Drug Dependence, has turned out to be an unexpected and rewarding experience.

I began assisting him as a volunteer in 1979 when the Annual Meeting was in Philadelphia, then took on the role of Executive Assistant in 1986 when Marty became Executive Secretary upon the passing of Dr. Joe Cochlin. When I began attending the CPDD Annual Meeting in 1976, attendees included a few hundred people. As CPDD became a membership organization, expanding its services with government and industry, the meeting grew in size and scope. As the Annual Meeting blossomed, my position of Executive Assistant took on additional responsibilities and time, so my research activities gradually decreased. Balancing the two jobs was not always easy, particularly when deadlines were in conflict. Eventually, the operations of the Executive Office of CPDD and organization of the Annual Meeting took priority, and the majority of my time was devoted to CPDD matters. In 2013, when Marty was getting ready to step down as Executive Officer, I became the Director of the Executive Office, and Loretta Finnegan became the Executive Officer the following year. Together we worked to continue CPDD operations in the successful model that Dr. Adler established over his nearly 30 years of service.

I have been fortunate to work with many wonderful people in my time at CPDD and I would like to thank them for making my job easier and for contributing to the growth of the organization. Many of our members have had interactions with our Temple Office staff over the years, either in person at our Annual Meeting at the registration desk or in phone or email conversations. I want to personally acknowledge them for their professionalism and dedication, especially Neico Smith, Rochelle Davis, Connie Pollack, Angela Predeoux, Chris Wolf, and Rachna Khanna. I would also like to sincerely thank Xiaohong Chen, a Research Associate in Dr. Adler's Lab, who helped organize the audiovisual services with volunteers at the meeting for many years.

With regard to the audiovisual services at the Annual Meeting, I am indebted to Drs. Richard Eisenberg and Jonathan Kamien, members of the erstwhile CPDD Electronic Communications Committee, who first moved CPDD into the electronic age, setting up a PowerPoint projection system that handled both Macs and PCs, as well as establishing our databases and web presence. As Dr. Eisenberg always likes to remind me, CPDD, if not the first, was definitely one of the earliest organizations to have electronic presentations at its annual meetings. When Rich was ready to step down after many years of voluntary service as our audiovisual coordinator, David Wight of ShowGear took over in a seamless transition. I sincerely thank all of these individuals for their contributions to the organization and their implementation of the presentations at our Annual Meetings for so many years.

To learn the meeting planning business, along with Marty's mentoring, I very much appreciated the expertise of the terrific team at Sailair Travel, including Tina Haslett, LeAnne White, Wendy Vassar, Lee Hulett, Brad Meyer, Ellen Jacobs, and Marty & Shelia Schott. In 2013, Frosch Global Conferences and Events became our new meeting planning company having purchased Sailair Travel. Loretta and I continued to benefit from having experienced, knowledgeable, and amiable partners, particularly Jana Atlas and Julie Barceloux, with whom we did numerous site visits to potential meeting sites and hotels. We worked together as a team to plan and organize all the many facets of the Annual CPDD Meeting even down to the color and design of the name tags. Loretta enjoyed paying particular attention to the design, color and ribbons related to the name tags. We both truly wish to thank all of our excellent meeting planners for their guidance, friendship, and for going above and beyond to ensure the success of our annual meetings.

A key issue in the planning and development of an annual scientific meeting is the solicitation and selection of the research abstracts for presentations. With respect to the scientific programming, I was privileged to work with a series of extremely dedicated and talented Program Chairs from Lou Harris to Mary Jeanne Kreek, to Tom Kosten to Scott Lukas, to Sharon Walsh, to Sari Izenwasser, to Sandy Comer, to Elise Weerts, to Bill Stoops, and to our current Program Chair, Kelly Dunn. Both Loretta and I have enjoyed working with the Program Committees as ex-officio members, and as anyone who has ever served on this committee can attest, it is the hardest-working committee of CPDD, with the chairs bearing the heaviest load. Kudos and thanks to all of you.

I owe a huge debt of gratitude to my mentor and friend, Marty Adler, for giving me the opportunity to work for the College, for his excellent training, encouragement and support. We were a good team, divvying up the responsibilities and complementing each other's strengths, to manage the Executive Office for many years. I also want to thank Loretta Finnegan for her collegial partnership in the running of the Executive Office for the last 6 years. Among other accomplishments, it was Loretta who spearheaded the long overdue updating and redesigning of our website. I have enjoyed working with her while getting to know her better.

In my more than 4 decades of CPDD Annual Meetings, along with acquiring many friends and colleagues, I have collected hundreds of photographs and retain a few vivid memories, like the earthquake in the middle of the Acapulco conference, the delay of our printed meeting programs in customs until the third day of the meeting, and the mysterious disappearance of our pointers and timers that were shipped back to the office from Acapulco. I also recall the missing poster board adventure in Keystone, CO, for which Brad Meyer from Sailair had to pull someone from a Father's Day celebration in Denver to drive the boards to Keystone. When they arrived, they were easels, not poster boards, but everyone managed to make it work. Then there was the midnight move of furniture

from the Breaker's dining room by Tina, LeAnne, Marty and me to clear the space for poster boards. What fun that was! Relatively new to her involvement in conference planning, Loretta was taken aback when about a year before the annual meeting in Montreal, we were told that the hotel renovations at the Fairmont Queen Elizabeth would not be completed in time for our June 2017 meeting, therefore we needed to move the entire conference to another venue. Fortunately, the Bonaventure was available over our contracted dates so we were able to stay in Montreal. That was not the only time that we were forced to scramble to find another hotel at the "eleventh hour". CPDD was scheduled to meet at the Bellevue-Stratford in Philadelphia in June of 1987. However, the hotel closed down for renovations in March of the previous year, so the conference was moved to the Adam's Mark on City Line Avenue, about 20 minutes from the downtown area. CPDD was a much smaller meeting then, but it was still a challenge to find suitable space just a year out. Ah, the memories!

As I move to emeritus status, I plan to continue attending the Annual Meetings as a member, as opposed to an organizer. I look forward to seeing it from a new perspective and being able to focus on the science rather than the room lighting and temperature, sound and projection system, problems at the registration desk, last-minute program changes and all the other minutia. In fact, maybe I'll be the one complaining that the food is terrible and the portions too small.

### **Our Closing Thoughts**

Many members have said that they consider CPDD their scientific home and feel that their colleagues are like family. Both of us felt that way as well and worked to instill a collegial, warm atmosphere in the organization and at our meetings. With our growth in size and scope, it has been more of a challenge to retain the intimate feel of a much smaller conference, but that is the price of success.

Shifting from our small office model to a larger-staffed management company will bring much needed expertise and the ability to accomplish much more for CPDD. We believe that the Parthenon Management Group is up to the task with their many talented staff and the variety of skills represented by them in contrast to the small number of staff that we were able to have in Philadelphia. We wish them all the best. As we have indicated, we are stepping down, but not away, from this organization that has become a family to us. Many thanks for giving us the opportunity to serve CPDD in our respective positions. We look forward to seeing you at future Annual Scientific Meetings.

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## 2020 JOSEPH COCHIN YOUNG INVESTIGATOR AWARD

*Sterling M. McPherson, PhD • Washington State University*



"This is a humbling award to receive as I and others stand on the shoulders of scientific giants who have shaped the field of addiction science long before we began our scientific careers. I hope that my being granted this award is a reminder that sound mentorship, surrounding of dedicated and caring colleagues, hard work, and perseverance are critical ingredients to being able to help shape evidence-based treatments for the some of the most vulnerable individuals in society using rigorous biomedical research. I give my thanks to my mentor, Dr. John M. Roll, and so many junior and senior colleagues and students that I get to work with and collaborate with every day."

Dr. McPherson is an Associate Professor at the Washington State University Elson S. Lloyd College of Medicine and is Executive Faculty at the Program of Excellence in Addictions Research. He completed his PhD in Experimental Psychology in 2010 and a Postdoctoral Fellowship in Psychopharmacology and Substance Abuse while working under the mentorship of Dr. John M. Roll. In 2016, he established and is lead Principal Investigator of the Analytics and PsychoPharmacology Laboratory. He has secured more than \$35 million in grants/contracts as PI or Co-I from NIH and other agencies for research ranging from pharmacokinetics to health economics, including PI of a P20 Center of Excellence focused on substance abuse treatment for American Indians. He has led several treatment investigations focused on co-addiction such as alcohol and smoking, and stimulants and smoking. He currently collaborates with several industry partners on NIH-funded work on technology-enhanced addiction treatment and retention platforms. He has published over 90 peer-reviewed articles and is on the Editorial Boards of five scientific journals in the field of addiction, including Psychology of Addictive Behaviors and Addiction. Lastly, he is dedicated to international research with collaborations across seven countries in an effort to better understand and treat addiction globally.

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## 2020 NATHAN B. EDDY WINNER

*Linda Porrino, PhD • Wake Forest School of Medicine*



"I feel both very honored and humbled. I am truly honored to have my work recognized by my peers and to be counted among the long list of amazing scientists that have won this award in the past is very humbling. I am grateful for this honor."

Linda J. Porrino, Ph.D. is currently Professor in the Department of Physiology and Pharmacology at Wake Forest School of Medicine. She received her Ph.D. in Experimental Psychology from New York University and completed postdoctoral training at the National Institute of Mental Health in the labs of Patricia Goldman-Rakic and Louis Sokoloff. She joined the faculty at Wake Forest in 1990. Her research focuses on the use of brain imaging methods to visualize the effects of chronic drug use on brain structure and function; research that has been supported continuously by NIH grants for the past 29 years. At Wake Forest she served as Chair of the Department of Physiology and Pharmacology from 2008-2019. She is the past President of the College on Problems of Drug Dependence and has served on the Advisory Council of the National Institute on Drug Abuse. She is the author of over 150 peer-reviewed publications and serves as an editor of Drug and Alcohol Dependence. She has participated in numerous study sections and continues to serve as a mentor to graduate students, residents, fellows, and faculty.

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## 2020 CPDD MENTORSHIP AWARD

*Carol J. Boyd, PhD, MSN, FIAAN, FAAN, University of Michigan*



"This is an incredibly special honor. Receiving the CPDD 2020 Mentorship Award from an organization known for its stellar mentors and scientists means the world to me. I am very grateful. I thank CPDD and those that nominated me for this meaningful recognition."

Dr. Carol J Boyd is the current director of the Center for the Study of Drugs, Alcohol, Smoking and Health at the University of Michigan. She was the former Director of the Substance Abuse Research Center (1995-2004) and the Institute for Research on Women & Gender (2005-2011) at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. Dr. Boyd has been the principal investigator on extramural research with racial/ethnic minority heroin users and crack smokers (1989-1995, NIH), women cigarette smokers (1997-2000, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation), prisoners (1999-2004, Michigan Department of Corrections and Robert Wood Johnson Foundation), adolescents and college students (2003-present, NIH), and sexual minorities (2007-present, NIH). In 1999, she was the first researcher as a PI to develop a web-based survey, Student Life Survey (SLS), to be administered to a large sample of undergraduates. Dr. Boyd currently has NIH funding to study e-cigarette use among adolescents using the Population Assessment of Tobacco and Health data and Monitoring the Future data and another NIH funded study to examine the severity of substance use disorders among sexual minorities. Dr. Boyd publishes extensively in health and interdisciplinary journals including in Journal of Adolescent Health, Pediatrics, LGBT Health, and Substance Abuse.

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## 2020 MARTIN AND TOBY ADLER DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

*Edward G. Singleton, MA, PhD • MayaTech Corporation (Retired)*



"At my first CPDD meeting 27 years ago, there weren't many people around like me. I felt lonely, stressed out, and overwhelmed. I didn't feel like I belonged. What I remember most is being welcomed to the "family"—this vast network of scientists and trainees, their friends, their significant others, their daughters, and their sons. Nevertheless, it remains essential for the health of our College to encourage as many people from diverse backgrounds as possible to participate in the scientific meeting, to welcome them, and help them feel they belong. I am humbled, deeply moved, and extremely excited that the Executive Committee has honored me with this award, but when you walk among giants, you're bound to get taller yourself."

Edward (Ed) G. Singleton, PhD (retired) was senior clinical associate and research scientist for the MayaTech Corporation. He also had multiple appointments with NIDA's Addiction Research Center and Intramural Research Program, including guest worker/expert consultant, staff fellow, senior fellow, visiting scientist, head of Instrumentation and Interdisciplinary Initiatives, and director of the Minority Recruitment and Training Program. Ed served in diversity initiatives for other prominent organizations such as SAMHSA's National Historically Black College and University (HBCU) Substance Abuse and Mental Health Consortium, the U.S. Surgeon General's Effort for Increasing Public Health Infrastructure at HBCUs, and he was appointed member of the American Psychological Association (APA) Presidential Commission on Ethnic Minority Recruitment, Retention and Training that developed APA's initial strategic plan to diversify psychology in academe. He co-founded the Special Populations Committee of the Society for Research on Nicotine and Tobacco (SRNT) and the Underrepresented Populations Committee of CPDD. Additionally, the CPDD Primm-Singleton Minority Travel Awards Program is co-named (with Beny J. Primm, MD) in honor of service and dedication to increasing the participation of underrepresented populations in the College and accelerating the progress of racial and ethnic minorities in addiction research. Ed is an elected fellow and emeritus member of CPDD.



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## 2020 J. MICHAEL MORRISON AWARD

*Will M. Aklin, PhD • National Institute of Health*



“My career has been devoted to treatment of individuals who suffer with substance use disorders and related problems. Whether that is through direct patient care or research administration, I have always strived to advance the understanding of new scientific knowledge to improve and develop novel behavioral treatments. I am truly honored to receive this award from an organization that upholds these same values and mission.”

Will M. Aklin, Ph.D. is director of the Behavioral Therapy Development Program within the Division of Therapeutics and Medical Consequences at the National Institute on Drug Abuse. He received his Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology from the University of Maryland. Dr. Aklin's areas of research include development of treatments targeting neurobehavioral processes (impulsivity, risk propensity); theory-derived treatments (mechanisms of behavior change); studies that integrate behavioral/pharmacological treatment, and treatment optimization through digital therapeutics (mobile, web, and other platforms). Dr. Aklin has extensive clinical research experience in behavioral and cognitive-behavioral treatment for substance use disorders (SUDs); adaptive brief interventions and adherence trials. Dr. Aklin coordinates several NIDA flagship initiatives and established collaborative partnerships with NIAAA and NCI through the Collaborative Research on Addiction at NIH (CRAN) on the development and testing of behavioral therapies for drug and alcohol use disorders. Dr. Aklin is a sought-after leader across NIH, and co-leads several NIH Common Fund initiatives, including Science of Behavior Change: Use-Inspired Research to Optimize Behavior Change Interventions and Outcomes, as well as partnerships with the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) on digital therapeutics and device-based treatments for substance use disorders.

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## 2020 MARIAN W. FISCHMAN AWARD

*Frances R. Levin, MD • Columbia University and NYSPI*



“I am honored to receive the 2020 Marian W. Fischman Lectureship Award. I was fortunate to be mentored by Marian early in my career. She also was a role model to many others. The addiction field is indebted to her, for her work and her support of young investigators.”

Frances Rudnick Levin, MD is the Kennedy-Leavy Professor of Psychiatry at Columbia University and the Chief of the Division on Substance Use Disorders at NYSPI/CUIMC. Dr. Levin, working with Columbia University faculty, inaugurated the university-wide Center for Healing of Opioid and Other Substance Use Disorders: Enhancing Intervention Development and Implementation (CHOSEN) in 2020 and serves as one of the senior Directors. She is the Principal Investigator of a NIDA-funded T32, a K24 Mid-Career Investigator Award and several NIH grants. She is the Medical Director of two SAMHSA-supported grants, the Providers Clinical Support System and the STR-TA Opioid Response Network. Her current research interests include pharmacologic interventions for opioid, cocaine and marijuana use disorders, and treatments targeting adults with substance use disorders and attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD). She was a long-standing member of the NIDA – Initial Review Group: Training and Career Development Subcommittee and the NIDA Interventions to Prevent and Treat Addiction (IPTA). She serves on the Board of Directors for the American Academy of Addiction Psychiatry (AAAP), CPDD, and the American Society of ADHD and Related Disorders (APSARD). She is a past President of the American Academy of Addiction Psychiatry and past Chair of the APA Council on Addiction Psychiatry.

## CPDD 82ND ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING TRAVEL AWARD RECIPIENTS

2020 Travel Award recipients received complimentary registration to the 2020 Virtual Meeting and are eligible to apply for the same award in the future (excludes Holtzman and Primm-Singleton).

### **6th Annual Steve G. Holtzman Travel Award for Preclinical Investigators**

- Drew Townsend, Ph.D., Virginia Commonwealth University

### **CPDD International Award**

- Joao Mauricio Castaldelli-Maia, M.D., Ph.D., University of Sao Paulo Medical School
- Mawos Soboka Daba, M.Sc, Assistant Professor, Jimma University
- Oyapero Afolabi, BDS, MPH., FMCDS, Lagos State University College of Medicine
- Vitor Soares Tardelli, M.D., M.S., Universidade Federal de Sao Paulo
- Suzaily Wahab, M.D., DR(PSYCH), University Kebangsaan Malaysia Medical Centre

### **FORCE Award**

- Kathryn Hawk, M.D., M.H.S, Yale University Department of Emergency Medicine
- Ashly E Jordan, Ph.D., M.P.H, New York University
- Noa Krawczyk, Ph.D., NYU School of Medicine

### **Primm-Singleton Minority Travel Award**

- Naomi Dambreville, Ph.D., The Graduate Center & The City College of New York, CUNY
- Fernando B. de Moura, Ph.D., Harvard Medical School/McLean Hospital
- Mariely Hernandez, M.A., The City University of New York
- Danielle S. Jackson M.D., M.P.H, McGaw Medical Center at Northwestern University
- Luisa Kcomt, Ph.D., M.SW, B.S.W, University of Michigan
- Natasha Ludwig-Barron, Ph.D. (c), M.P.H, University of Washington
- Maylen Perez Diaz, Ph.D., University of California Los Angeles
- Simon Sandh, M.P.H, New York University College of Global Public Health
- Trey B. Warren, M.P.H Candidate, University of Florida
- Sitara Weerakoon, B.A., M.P.H, UHealth SPH

### **NIDA Women & Sex/Gender Junior Investigator Travel Awards**

- Shalini Arunogiri, M.B.B.S (Hons), Ph.D, MPsychiatry M.Sc., FRANZCP Cert Addiction Psychiatry, Monash University
- Tara Bautista, Ph.D., Arizona State University
- Emilie Bruzelius, M.P.H, Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health
- Julien Dodu, B.Sc., Virginia Commonwealth University
- Michelle Doyle, B.S., University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio
- Daniel Farkas, B.S., Temple University School of Medicine
- Jessica M. Illenberger, M.A., University of South Carolina
- Natalie Levy, M.P.H., Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health
- Huajun Liang, M.B.B.S, Ph.D., University of Maryland School of Medicine
- Elisa Pabon, B.S., The University of Chicago, Department of Psychiatry
- Maria A. Parker, Ph.D, M.S., M.P.H., Indiana University
- Anna Beth Parlier-Ahmad, M.S., Virginia Commonwealth University
- Shannique Richards, M.A., The City College of New York
- Abigail Richison, M.D., University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences
- Gabriella G. N. Robinson, M.A., City University of New York
- Karl T Schmidt, Ph.D., Davidson College
- Luis E Segura, M.D., M.P.H, Dr.PH. Candidate in Epidemiology, Columbia University
- Paige M. Shaffer, M.P.H., Division of Addiction Psychiatry, Dept. of Psychiatry, University of Massachusetts Medical School
- Jessica L. Sharp, D.Phil., Davidson College
- Sara Weidberg, Ph.D., University of Oviedo

### **NIDA Directors Travel Awards**

- Samantha Auty, M.S., Boston University School of Public Health
- Sugy Choi, M.S., Boston University School of Public Health
- Danielle R. Davis, Ph.D., Yale University School of Medicine



### **NIDA Directors Travel Awards (Continued)**

- José E. Diaz, Ph.D., Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health
- David Goodman-Meza, M.D., M.A.S, University of California Los Angeles
- Sarah Gutkind, M.S.P.H., Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health
- Scott E. Hadland, M.D., M.P.H, M.S., Boston University School of Medicine
- Lindsey R Hammerslag, Ph.D., University of Kentucky
- Asti Jackson, Ph.D., Yale School of Medicine
- Natrina "Trina" Johnson, M.S., Ph.D. Candidate, Boston University
- Shea M. Lemley, Ph.D., Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth
- Megan McClintick, Ph.D., University of California Los Angeles
- Tatum Oleskowicz, M.A., B.A., University of Vermont
- Morgan Philbin, Ph.D., M.H.S, Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health
- Jillian M. Rung, Ph.D., University of Florida
- Gregory L. Sahlem, M.D., Stanford University
- Kristin E. Schneider, Ph.D., Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health
- Chelsea L. Shover, Ph.D., Stanford University
- Nathan D. L. Smith, ALM, University of Florida
- Tory Spindle, Ph.D., Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine
- Joanna M. Streck, Ph.D. Candidate, Massachusetts General Hospital/Harvard Medical School
- Justin Strickland, Ph.D., Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine
- Joji Suzuki, M.D., Brigham and Women's Hospital
- Eric A. Thraikill, Ph.D., University of Vermont
- Andre B. Toussaint, M.A., Temple University
- Noel A. Vest, Ph.D., Stanford University School of Medicine

### **Early Career Investigator Travel Awards**

- Olufemi Ajumobi, M.D., M.P.H, University of Nevada Reno
- Rachel Altshuler, Ph.D., University of Maryland - College Park
- Erin M. Anderson Goodell, Ph.D., Sc.M, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health
- Anahita Bassir Nia, M.D., Yale University School of Medicine
- Gayatri Bhatia, M.D., All India Institute of Medical Sciences
- Kathryn Biernacki, Ph.D., Department of Psychiatry, UBHC, and Brain Health Institute, Rutgers University – New Brunswick

- Stevie C. Britch, Ph.D., University of Kentucky
- Amanda Bunting, Ph.D., New York University School of Medicine
- Ginny Carter, Ph.D., RN, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- Felipe Castillo, M.D., Columbia University & New York State Psychiatric Institute
- Sarah Cercone Heavey, Ph.D., M.P.H, School of Public Health and Health Professions, State University of New York at Buffalo
- Thomas Chao, M.A., New York State Psychiatric Institute
- Tianzhen Chen, M.D., Shanghai Mental Health Center
- Vivian Chiu, Ph.D. candidate, University of Queensland
- William H. Craft, B.S., Fralin Biomedical Research Institute at Virginia Tech Carilion
- Kathleen Isabel Crum, Ph.D., Medical University of South Carolina
- Megan E. Curtis, Ph.D., University of California, Los Angeles
- Mary Kathryn (Kate) Dahlgren, Ph.D., McLean Hospital, Harvard Medical School
- Zheng Dai, Ph.D., West Virginia University Health Sciences Center
- Amelia Dunn, Ph.D., The Rockefeller University
- Jonathan Feelemyer, M.S., New York University
- Alan N. Francis, Ph.D., Harvard Medical School
- Erik J. Garcia, Ph.D., University of Texas Medical Branch
- Stephanie Glegg, OT, Ph.D., The University of British Columbia
- Leah Hamilton, Ph.D., NYU School of Medicine
- Penelope L. Hill, BHS, MSc, GD Dev Stud, Ph.D. candidate, Burnet Institute
- Laura Hughes, BBiomedSc(Hons) GDipPsych, School of Psychology, Deakin University
- Charlotte Kervran, Ph.D., Université de Bordeaux
- Simeon D. Kimmel, M.D., M.A., Boston University School of Medicine
- Elizabeth N. Kinnard, M.S., UC Berkeley School of Public Health
- Sukhpreet Klaire, M.D., CCFP, British Columbia Centre on Substance Use
- Elias Klemperer, Ph.D., Vermont Center on Behavior and Health
- Emanuel Krebs, M.A., Health Economic Research Unit at the BC Centre for Excellence in HIV/AIDS
- Soeren Kuitunen-Paul, Dipl.-Psych., Department of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, Faculty of Medicine, TU Dresden, Dresden, Germany

### **Early Career Investigator Travel Awards (Continued)**

- Jessica A. Kulak, Ph.D., M.P.H, Buffalo State College
- Laura Lambert, Ph.D. student, University of Bordeaux
- Danni Lanaway, Ph.D., Atlanta VAMC/Emory University School of Medicine
- Antoine Lebeaut, M.A., University of Houston
- Juhan Lee (John), B.A., University of Florida
- Anna Liley, M.S., The University of Memphis
- Lewei (Allison) Lin, M.D., M.S., University of Michigan
- Jingxin Liu, M.P.H, Miller School of Medicine, University of Miami
- Shawnta L. Lloyd, M.P.H, University of Florida
- Laura MacKinnon, M.D., University of British Columbia
- Caitlin E. Martin, M.D., M.P.H, Virginia Commonwealth University
- Caravella McCuistian, Ph.D., University of California, San Francisco
- Alexandra Mellis, Ph.D., New York University School of Medicine
- Christina R. Merritt, B.S., University of Texas Medical Branch
- Barrett Wallace Montgomery, B.S., Michigan State University
- Benjamin J. Oldfield, M.D., M.H.S., Yale School of Medicine
- Alexandra N. Palmisano, Ph.D., Yale University
- Kelly Peck, Ph.D., University of Vermont
- Rajiv Radhakrishnan, M.B.B.S, M.D., Department of Psychiatry, Yale School of Medicine
- Claudia Rafful, Ph.D., Faculty of Psychology, Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico
- Timothy Regan, M.A., Texas A&M University
- Jennie Ryan, Ph.D., CPNP-AC, University of Michigan
- Stephen Scroggins, M.Sc., Saint Louis University
- Kristin Serowik, Ph.D., Yale University, Department of Psychiatry
- Justin M. Shepherd, M.A., University of Houston
- Dennis Sholler, Ph.D., Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine
- Cho-Hee Shrader, M.P.H., Miller School of Medicine, University of Miami
- Chang (April) Shu, Ph.D., Yale Department of Psychiatry
- Kelsey A. Simpson, M.A., Keck School of Medicine, University of Southern California
- Lia J. Smith, M.A., L.P.A., University of Houston
- Aaron P. Smith, Ph.D., University of Kentucky
- Michael J. Sofis, Ph.D., Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth

- Philip Spechler, Ph.D., Laureate Institute for Brain Research
- Nichole E. Stetten, Ph.D, M.P.H, C.P.H, University of Florida
- D.W. Svenson, B.A., Wayne State University
- Devin C. Tomlinson, B.S., Fralin Biomedical Research Institute at VTC
- Aaron Tryhus, B.S., Wake Forest School of Medicine
- Alyssa Vanderziel, M.S., Michigan State University Department of Family Medicine
- Adam Viera, M.P.H., Yale School of Public Health
- An Ye, Ph.D., Baylor College of Medicine

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**MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: DR. MICHAEL TAFTE***Development of an e-Cigarette Model for the Study of Cannabinoid Vaping in Rats**Lais F. Berro, Animals in Research Committee*

Vaping devices, also known as e-cigarettes, have become increasingly popular, particularly among teenagers. Although initially promoted for cigarette smokers, the e-cigarette technology has also markedly changed marijuana use. Millions of people now vape cannabis and cannabis extracts, with epidemiological studies showing that nearly 10% of teenagers report having vaped cannabis in the past year. Many cannabis e-cigarette users report vaping  $\Delta^9$ -tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), the ingredient in marijuana that makes people feel “high”. However, the vaping of cannabidiol (CBD), another ingredient of marijuana, has also increased in recent years due to the claimed health benefits of this compound. Anecdotal and empirical evidence suggests that CBD use can improve mood, sleep, anxiety, pain, and even acne.

Despite the recent and growing trends in THC and CBD vaping, not enough research has been done to understand the benefits and risks of this form of cannabis use. This gap in scientific knowledge exists not only because the vaping technology is still relatively new, but also due to federal rules that limit research into the effects of cannabis in humans. Therefore, this knowledge gap can only be filled by the employment of animal models. But how to model vaping in animal subjects?

Dr. Michael Taffe and his research team at The Scripps Research Institute (the Taffe Laboratory is now at the University of California-San Diego) were up to the task. In the last 5 years, the Taffe laboratory has developed and validated a method for delivering THC and CBD (among other drugs of abuse) to rats using commercial e-cigarette technology. Using this model, which consists of placing the rats in a sealed chamber that regulates airflow and the delivery of vaporized drug using e-cigarette technology. Using this model, which consists of placing the rats in a sealed chamber that regulates airflow and the delivery of vaporized drug using e-cigarette devices, Dr. Taffe and his group have investigated many health and behavioral effects of CBD and THC vaping.

Among these findings, studies from Dr. Taffe’s laboratory have shown that THC, but not CBD, inhalation decreased pain sensitivity in rats. These studies point to THC as the main cannabis constituent responsible for its pain-

decreasing effects and show that CBD may not be effective for some kinds of pain. Importantly, they also showed that the effects of THC vaping on pain sensitivity were reduced with repeated daily THC inhalation, an effect called “tolerance”. Female rats were more likely to develop tolerance than males. Therefore, repeated THC vaping could make its beneficial effects on pain less robust over time, especially in women.

Given the increasing popularity of cannabis extract vaping among teenagers, Dr. Taffe and his team have also set out to investigate the consequences of adolescent THC vaping using their new rat e-cigarette model. They have shown that repeated THC vaping in adolescent rats has lasting consequences into adulthood. After repeated THC vaping as adolescents, adult male rats consume more food, and adult female rats have reduced pain-decreasing effects in response to THC. A particularly alarming finding from this research was that adolescent THC vaping increased the abuse potential of the opioid drug fentanyl in adult female rats.

Opioid drugs are potent pain relievers, but because they also produce euphoria, opioid misuse and abuse has increased dramatically in the United States. The US opioid crisis has led to increased restrictions on prescription opioids, with a consequence being the urgent need for alternative pain killers. As an increasing numbers of patients turn to medicinal cannabis to fight pain, they also have used it to enhance the effects of opioid analgesics. Unfortunately, little is known about the safety of this combination. Using their rat “vaping chambers”, Dr. Taffe’s group has looked at whether THC vaping can alter how much adult male rats take of the prescription opioid oxycodone (OxyContin®) in a rat abuse model. Their results were very encouraging:

THC vaping not only decreased the intake of oxycodone, but it also potentiated its pain-decreasing effects. Together, these data supported the potential use of THC to enhance the therapeutic efficacy, and to reduce the abuse, of prescription opioids. Going back to their study in adolescent rats, however, the same effects were not observed when THC vaping happened during adolescence. Instead, adolescent THC vaping only increased the intake of the opioid fentanyl in female rats when studied as adults.

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## MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: DR. MICHAEL TAFTE

*Development of an e-Cigarette Model for the Study of Cannabinoid Vaping in Rats*  
*Continued*



Therefore, THC vaping during adolescence seems to be particularly dangerous, a critical finding in light of the large number of teenagers who now vape cannabis and cannabis extracts.

The work of Dr. Michael Taffe has shed light into many health effects of THC and CBD, both positive and negative. His work in adolescent rats has also highlighted the importance of raising awareness about the potentially dangerous and long-lasting consequences of cannabis extract vaping among teenagers. The establishment of a highly translational rodent e-cigarette model represents a major advancement in cannabinoid science. As recent reports of problems associated with THC vaping increase among human users, Dr. Taffe's research is at the forefront of investigating the therapeutic and deleterious effects of cannabinoid vaping. We look forward to learning about his future contributions to the field.

Michael A. Taffe, Ph.D., has been a member of CPDD since 1998 and has served on the Publications and Media committees. Lais F. Berro, Ph.D., has been a member of CPDD since 2018 and currently serves on the Animals in Research committee.

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## DRUG AND ALCOHOL DEPENDENCE JOURNAL CORNER

*Editor's Choice - July/August 2020*

*Eric Strain, M.D.*



### ***The growing transition from lifetime marijuana use to frequent use among 12th grade students: U.S. National data from 1976 to 2019***

Yvonne M Terry-McElrath, Patrick M O'Malley, Lloyd D Johnston

Drug Alcohol Depend. 2020 Jul 1;212:108064. doi: 10.1016/j.drugalcdep.2020.108064. Epub 2020 May 18.

U.S. adolescents who experiment with marijuana use are increasingly at greater risk of progressing to frequent use. The U.S. national Monitoring the Future study surveyed 647,505 12th grade students from 1976 to 2019 and found that the proportion of adolescents who ever experiment with marijuana use and go on to report frequent use (use on 20+ occasions in the past 30 days) has increased in recent years, and is now at near-record levels. Among lifetime marijuana users, male students and minority students have shown the greatest increases in frequent use; frequent use among Black students is at historically high levels.

### ***Alcohol expectancies mediate the association between the neural response to emotional words and alcohol consumption***

Sarah J Brislin, Jillian E Hardee, Meghan E Martz, Lora M Cope, Alexander Weigard, Robert A Zucker, Mary M Heitzeg

Drug Alcohol Depend. 2020 Apr 1;209:107882. doi: 10.1016/j.drugalcdep.2020.107882. Epub 2020, Feb 5.

Both expectancies regarding the positive effects of alcohol and difficulty regulating negative emotions are risk factors for alcohol use problems. In a sample of emerging adults, the current study found that decreased activation of a brain region implicated in emotion regulation (the inferior frontal gyrus) to negative words was associated with increased drinking in the subsequent years. Beliefs that drinking alcohol would bring about positive changes mediated this association between brain response and future drinking. These findings point to positive alcohol expectancies as a treatment target that, if modified, may decrease the link between negative emotion states and drinking behavior.

### Animals in Research Committee

The Committee would like to thank outgoing members Mark Smith and Justin Strickland for their service. Mark also was Chair of the Committee, and oversaw excellent Animal Forums as well as the launch of the Member Spotlight series, which highlights the work of CPDD members in Newsline as well as on the CPDD.org website (<https://cpdd.org/resources/member-spotlight-in-the-news/>). We wish Mark and Justin well and promise not to pester them too much on future initiatives (well, maybe a little).

The Committee also welcomes two new members, Rachel Altshuler (University of Maryland-College Park) and Matt Banks (Virginia Commonwealth University). Our efforts will continue to focus on the Member Spotlight series and the Animal Forum at the annual meeting. In addition, we will continue to work with the CPDD Executive Committee on advocacy efforts with Congress to address issues pertaining to animal research. A new initiative is a collaboration with the Program Committee and Parthenon Management Group to explore strategies to enhance basic and preclinical research at the annual meeting and in CPDD generally.

Finally, I would like to highlight a success story, courtesy of my predecessor, Mark Smith: The 2020 Animal Forum, "Gaining Perspective on Nonhuman Animal Models and Substance Use Disorder: Insights from NIDA's Recent RFI". Mark Chaired this Forum, along with Holly Moore and Jen Wenzel, both Program Officers at NIDA. The Request for Information (RFI) was for a deep dive into the animal models of substance use disorders currently in use, or that should (or should not) be in use.

Discussants included Mark, Matt Banks, Shannon Gourley (Emory University), and Michael Taffe (UC-San Diego). Several topics were covered, such as modeling vulnerabilities, preclinical treatment discovery, species differences. I do not have space to summarize the many excellent, thoughtful, and scholarly discussions, but I will say that the Forum proved both lively and, more importantly, well attended! Many thanks to all who participated, and hopefully we can provide equally outstanding Forums in the years to come.

### Code of Conduct Committee

The Code of Conduct Committee became a standing committee in July, 2019. This committee is responsible for receiving, reviewing, and processing reports of possible conduct violations

that occur during the CPDD annual meetings. We recently had our first "in person" meeting via Zoom. Over the past year we drafted and finalized the CPDD Code of Conduct Policy and Standard Operating Procedure. Both of these documents, along with instructions on how to report possible conduct violations, are available on the CPDD website. Starting with the 2020 Annual Meeting, attendees were asked during the registration process to read and agree to abide by the Code of Conduct. Currently we are working on language to extend the Code of Conduct beyond the annual meeting to the membership as a whole.

### Communications Committee

The Communications Committee is a newly formed committee, which combines the Publications and Media Committees. The responsibilities of the former committees will be subsumed under the Communications Committee. These responsibilities include the following:

- 1) Production of Newsline as an electronic newsletter
- 2) Increasing public awareness of research on substance use, misuse and substance use disorders
- 3) Promoting College activities to the scientific community
- 4) Using social media to promote addiction science, reduce stigma around addiction and to promote the College's achievements
- 5) Honoring members of the media and others who raise public awareness of addiction science through writing, films, and other artistic mediums
  - a. The 2019 Media Award winner was Elaine McMillon Sheldon, who directed the Netflix documentary 'Heroin(e)' about the impact of the opioid epidemic in Huntington, West Virginia.
  - b. Any CPDD member can nominate an artist for the Media-Arts Award and the nominations are usually due in mid-December. Please be sure to contact the Communications Committee Chairs for more details about the nomination process.
- 6) Helping to facilitate the CPDD's annual Media Forum.
  - a. The Communications Committee members review all of the abstracts accepted for an oral presentation and then vote on those of the highest interest ("What's Hot") to the public. Authors of abstracts selected to be part of the Media Forum are allotted 5 minutes to present summaries of their research at the annual CPDD meeting.



b. The Media forum Chair and Co-Chair work with the selected presenters to ensure that their slides are concise and easily understood by the public.

c. Media Forum presentations may be video recorded and shared on CPDD's website, as well as on CPDD's social media accounts.

7) Social Media: In winter 2019, the CPDD Board dissolved the ad hoc Social Media Committee and those responsibilities were integrated into the Media Committee and now are absorbed by the Communications Committee. The Committee would like to acknowledge and thank all of our CPDD Super Tweeters (you know who you are!). CPDD is on Twitter at @CPDDorg and on Facebook at CPDD (The College on Problems of Drug Dependence). You can tag @CPDDorg in Twitter posts and use #CPDD on any social media platform for posts relevant to our members. If you are sharing results from NIDA-funded research, you can use #NIDAscience – which is used on NIDA's social media accounts.

### Human Research Committee

First, the committee would like to highlight the CPDD 2020 Human Research Forum, led by Tori Votaw, M.S. and Michelle Staton, Ph.D. The forum focused on ethical considerations for engaging vulnerable populations in drug use research including youth and their caregivers (Dr. Ryan-Pettes), prisoners (Dr. Staton), native communities (Dr. Venner) and sexual minorities (Dr. Philbin). The forum was attended by more than 150 people and feedback indicated the value and helpfulness of the forum to CPDD members engaged in human subject research. The forum recording is available to all members through December 31, 2020. The process of organizing the CPDD 2021 Human Research Forum has already started, so stay tuned for an awesome forum!

Additionally, the committee has launched a survey on the adoption of integrated electronic health records in drug use research. This effort is led by Alison Oliveto, Ph.D. and Omayma Alshaarawy, Ph.D. We encourage researchers to take the survey and share their feedback. Results are planned to be shared with CPDD members in 2021 meeting.

In 2020, the committee welcomed new members Shanna Babalonis, Ph.D. and Ajna Hamidovic, Pharm.D. Finally, the committee would like to thank outgoing members for their tremendous efforts (Drs Le Foll, Roehrs, Schlienz, and Uhl).

A special thanks goes to Dr. Michelle Staton, Past Chair. Over the last years, Michelle's leadership has been characterized by competence, collaborations, and commitment to CPDD mission. Thank you Dr. Staton!

### International Committee

The International Committee (IC) is charged with promoting the scientific study of drug dependence worldwide by facilitating the engagement of addiction researchers from low-to-middle income countries (LMIC) with CPDD. In June, we welcomed incoming IC members Bernard LeFoll and Huajun Liang and thanked Chuan-Yu Chen and Yang Yang for their service to the IC.

In terms of activities, the IC received funding to award five (5) travel awards with complimentary registration to the CPDD 2020 Virtual Scientific Meeting. The IC awarded the following 2020 CPDD International Travel Awards:

- Joao Mauricio Castaldelli-Maia, M.D., Ph.D., University of Sao Paulo Medical School, Brazil
- Matiws Daba, M.Sc., Jimma University, Ethiopia
- Afolabi Oyapero, M.P.H., Lagos State University College of Medicine, Nigeria
- Vitor Tardelli, M.D., Universidade Federal de Sao Paulo, Brazil
- Suzaily Wahab, University Kebangsaan Malaysia Medical Centre, Malaysia

The virtual NIDA International Forum was held on Tuesday, June 23, 2020 with 153 participants from 41 countries (Figure 1). The IC awarded the best poster award to Dr. Preethy Kathiresan (India) for her presentation entitled, "Role of Cerebellum in Cue-Induced Craving For Nicotine: A Functional MRI Study". Dr. Diep Bich Nguyen (Vietnam) was selected as semi-finalist for her work entitled, "Vietnamese Community Health Workers' Confidence in Providing Methadone Maintenance Treatment Services".

This forum continues to grow as an important opportunity for addiction scientists from LMIC to present their work. Of 93 participants from LMIC who attended the NIDA International Forum, only 31 registered for the CPDD meeting (out of 1,025 total CPDD meeting participants). This highlights the cost-limiting factor for researchers from LMIC to participate in CPDD (the NIDA International Poster Session was free to attend).



- With the loss of financial support from WHO and decreased level of funding from NIDA, IC's ability to continue promoting LMIC engagement with CPDD is uncertain. The CPDD IC is seeking continued support to increase CPDD inclusivity through sponsorships of scientists from LMIC.

### **Public Policy Committee**

The Public Policy Committee's mission is to focus on the scientific interface between CPDD and policymakers, local communities, treatment providers, governmental agencies, and other professional organizations. The Public Policy Committee works closely with the Public Policy Officer to develop a unified message about policy-related matters and seeks opportunities to maximize the visibility and influence of CPDD in relevant and important community-based initiatives, policy-related discussions and other appropriate forums. The Public Policy Committee keeps the CPDD membership informed about important policy-related issues that pertain to research funding and opportunities for action and helps organize the CPDD Policy Forum at the CPDD Annual Meeting. The Public Policy Committee works in close collaboration with multiple CPDD committees in fulfilling its mission, most importantly, the Media Relations and Program Committees. The Public Policy Committee also supports our Advocacy Day activities by helping provide educational materials distributed during our visits to congressional offices.

The Public Policy Officer and President of Friends of NIDA serve as Ex-Officio members of the Committee and the cohosts of the Policy Forum. The CPDD immediate past-president also serves on the Committee. Current Committee Members are Sandra Comer, PhD, Professor of Neurobiology, Columbia University and NYSPI Andrew Coop, PhD, Professor, University of Maryland, School of Pharmacy, Christopher Cunningham, PhD, Associate Professor, Concordia University Wisconsin, Geoffrey Mumford, PhD, Senior Director of Science Policy, American Psychological Association, Jonathan Stoltman, Research Program Manager, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, Jessica Weafer, PhD, Assistant Professor, University of Kentucky, and Beatriz Rocha, PhD, MD, Vice President, Head of Global Regulatory Affairs and Product Development Consulting, Covance.

The Committee first met on July 23rd to discuss potential authoring of a paper on Fentanyl Scheduling, the process for providing feedback on NIDA's 2021-2025 Strategic Plan and the response CPDD assisted in developing last year to the

House LHHS Report that included language about the use of animals in research, including a section on primates.

Throughout the year, the Committee will meet monthly and will start preparing for the 2021 Public Policy Forum and the 2021 Advocacy Day that will be held on Wednesday, February 24th.

### **Program Committee**

The College on Problems of Drug Dependence (CPDD) transitioned its annual in-person conference to a virtual format for the 2020 year. The meeting was a combination of live workshops, forums, and symposia presentations (held over 3 days), on-demand oral communications that were released 1 week prior to the live sessions, and posters were hosted in an e-poster gallery and included an audio description from the presenter. The meeting opened with plenary talks from the Directors of NIAAA (George Koob, Ph.D.) and NIDA (Nora Volkow, M.D.), and included two late-breaking sessions and the membership business meeting. CME/CE opportunities were available throughout the meeting.

CPDD members really value networking opportunities, so all poster and oral communication presenters were assigned to a networking period wherein meeting attendees could virtually meet with presenters. Individual members hosted additional topical networking periods as well. The virtual CPDD meeting also included many extras, such as a daily scavenger hunt, an open session on NIH reviewing, a membership networking period, and symposia "teaser" videos that were released prior to the meeting.

The membership embraced the shift to a virtual format. The vast majority (>80%) of presenters converted their content to virtual presentations and by the end of day 3 more than 1000 people had registered for the meeting, representing 98% of persons who registered for the 2019 in-person meeting. Attendance at individual live sessions ranged from 100 to >800 attendees. All content, including live sessions, remains available to view on the CPDD website until December 31, 2020. Virtual meetings provide a unique opportunity to view all meeting content, as many times as desired, which adds additional value to presenters and attendees, and we encourage everyone to take advantage of this opportunity. By all accounts, the 2020 virtual CPDD meeting was a big success. The Program Committee appreciates the work put forth by all presenters to accommodate this abrupt change and acknowledges the large contribution they had on making this meeting a success. We

look forward to what surprises future CPDD meetings have in store.

### Rules Committee

Rules, Bylaws, legalistic details – sounds pretty boring, huh? Actually, it is anything but. The major responsibility of the Rules Committee is the care and feeding of the CPDD Bylaws. That document describes the nuts and bolts of the organization and, broadly, how it operates to carry out its mission. The Bylaws was adopted in 1980, shortly after CPDD was off-loaded as a committee from the National Academy of Sciences-National Research Council and became an independent organization. However, the Bylaws was meant to be, and has been, a living document, evolving as the needs and goals of the organization have changed. There have been 34 amendments to the Bylaws to date. Most of these have been relatively minor changes, like adding a new Standing Committee. However, some have been much more extensive, such as when CPDD became a credentialed membership organization. One such major revision came this past year as CPDD changed its organizational management model. The Rules Committee has traditionally been very small, often just the chair and perhaps one or two additional members. This has maintained easy continuity and most of the adopted amendments do not require extensive committee deliberations. When major changes are needed, the committee becomes functionally a lot larger by involvement of other groups in the organization. For organizational changes this last year the Rules Committee worked closely with the Executive Committee, the Long-Range Planning Committee, the Parthenon Management Group, the then current Executive Officer, and the Director of the Executive Office. The Chair of the Rules Committee usually sits with Board at its regular meetings to monitor the need for potential Bylaws changes, interpret the Bylaws as needed and to serve informally as the Parliamentarian. A further explanation of the committee's SOPs can be found on the CPDD Website.

### Travel Awards Committee Report

The CPDD Travel Committee had a roller coaster of a year! 2019-2020 saw Yasmine Mashoon step down as Chair of the committee after 7 years of service... Thank you Yasmine! We also absorbed oversight of the NIDA Director Travel Awards and the NIDA Women, Sex and Gender Travel Awards and welcomed the services of Parthenon Management Group, which greatly streamlined the process for receiving and scoring travel award applications. Given all the transitions happening, Leslie Lundahl agreed to co-Chair the committee with me for a year

and was a huge part of our success this year. Leslie is now chairing the Code of Conduct Committee. Thank you for your service Leslie!

This year we received applications for travel awards from 92 junior investigators, a big increase from the 64 received last year. We were then challenged with how to allocate "travel" awards to a virtual meeting. President Elise Weerts stepped in and dedicated a lot of time in helping us determine the best path forward. After extensive discussion, CPDD was able to provide a travel award, good for free meeting registration, to all travel award applicants. Moreover, the committee and Board of Directors has agreed to grant an exception for next year so that individuals who received a CPDD travel award this year and remain eligible next year can re-apply and will be considered for a second CPDD travel award. Many thanks to Elise, the Board of Directors, and to NIDA for the financial support! Thanks also to the committee members for reviewing this large batch of applications, especially Micky Koffarnus, Alison Looby, and Yasmin Zakiniaiez who are rotating off the committee.

Last, I welcome new members of the CPDD Travel Awards Committee: Stephen Kohut, Joseph Palamar, and Amanda Quisenberry. Hoping for a return to a face-to-face meeting, the brunch with champions, and other networking events related to our travel awardees next year!

### Underrepresented Populations Committee

We have updates on the diversity and inclusion efforts that we have initiated within the past year. In collaboration with individuals at NIH, we have developed and launched a diversity and inclusion survey. This survey is being conducted to better gauge the demographic composition of our society and ensure all communities are well represented. These data will be used to better assess which of CPDD's efforts appear to be inclusivity enhancing, what may be counterproductive, and what might be tried in the future. We are grateful to everyone who has completed the survey (we have gotten over 650 responses so far!), and we urge everyone who has not completed the survey to take it and give us your feedback ([Insert link here](#)). We are also working on several efforts to increase representation at CPDD including starting special interest group and twitter account to highlight research related to health disparities in substance use and abuse. If you have any questions, ideas, or would like to contribute to this effort, please contact Sherecce Fields, Chair of our Underrepresented Populations Committee, [safields@tamu.edu](mailto:safields@tamu.edu)!



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