



Curriculum Vitae

Jessica Ann Cucinello-Ragland

Department of Physiology
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Education and Training

August 2017- **LSU Health Sciences Center**
PhD Candidate
Department of Physiology
Alcohol and Drug Abuse Center of Excellence

August 2013 - **University of Mississippi**
May 2017 Bachelor of Arts Degree in Psychology
Minors in Neuroscience and Sociology
Provost Scholars Program

Research Experience

2018- **Graduate Research Assistant**
LSUHSC-New Orleans, Department of Physiology
Laboratory of Dr. Scott Edwards

Projects: Neurobiological sex differences in pain and addiction.
Neuroadaptations in endocannabinoid signaling in pain and addiction.
Neurobiological correlates of alcohol-induced pain avoidance.
Techniques utilized include Western blot, gel electrophoresis, BSA protein assay, and animal models of pain, opioid dependence, and alcohol dependence.

2015-2017 **Undergraduate Research Assistant**
University of Mississippi, Department of Psychology
Laboratory of Dr. Kenneth J. Sufka

Project: Evoked vs spontaneous tactile allodynia: enhancing the translational relevance in a murine CIN model
Techniques utilized included animal models of cisplatin-induced neuropathy, acute pain models, depression/anxiety, and episodic migraine, drug efficacy screening, natural products research, and extraction and dissection of brain tissue.

Membership in Professional Organizations

2018- Association for Women in Science-Southern Louisiana Chapter
2018- Society for Neuroscience
2018- American Physiological Society
2018- Research Society on Alcoholism
2018- Society for Experimental Biology and Medicine

Awards and Honors

2020 *Co-Chair, Featured Topic Session: *Estrogen as a Neuromodulator of CNS Structure and Function*
2020 Experimental Biology Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA

2019 Outstanding Young Scientist Travel Award
Association for Women in Science, Southern Louisiana Chapter

2019 Student Merit Travel Award
Research Society on Alcoholism Annual Meeting, Minneapolis, MN

2018 Outstanding Poster Award
Graduate Research Day, LSUHSC, New Orleans, LA

2017 Chancellor's Honor Roll, Spring Semester
University of Mississippi

2017 Outstanding Poster Award
Neuroscience Research Day, University of Mississippi Medical Center, Jackson, MS

2016 Dean's Honor Roll, Fall Semester
University of Mississippi

2013-2016 Academic Excellence Scholarship
University of Mississippi

2013-2016 Holmes Scholarship
University of Mississippi

2013 Dean's Honor Roll, Fall Semester
University of Mississippi

2013 Keith Kelly Memorial Service Award
Kiwanis International

*Canceled due to COVID-19

Research and Scholarship

Funding:

T32AA007577 Molina, P. (PI)

Start Period: 08/20/2018

NIH/NIAAA Institutional Research Training Grant

The Biomedical Alcohol Research Training Program prepares young pre-doctoral PhD and combined MD/PhD students, and postdoctoral fellows for research careers on the biomedical consequences of alcohol consumption and abuse.

Role: Trainee: Pre-doctoral Fellow

NIH/NIAAA NRSA F31

Submitted 08/2019 (Scored: 26), Resubmitted 04/2020

Regulation of Pain by Alcohol and Endocannabinoids in the Basolateral Amygdala

Role: PI

Journal Publications:

Cucinello-Ragland JA and Foret B. An update on the analgesic potential of cannabis: a minireview of clinical and preclinical literature. [The Journal of Neurophysiology](#) (in preparation)

Cucinello JA and Edwards S. Intersection of central pain and reward circuitry in central nervous system disorders. [The Journal of Neurophysiology](#) (in preparation).

Cucinello JA, Warren JD, Oellerich PL, Harris HM, Sufka KJ. Evoked vs spontaneous tactile allodynia: enhancing the translational relevance in a murine CIN model. [University of Mississippi Undergraduate Research Journal](#) 2017.

Abstracts:

Cucinello JA, Trimble WB, Urbina AP, Edwards KN, Molina PE, Simon L, Edwards S. Cingulate cortex neuroadaptations in a female rodent model of combined alcoholic neuropathy and complex regional pain syndrome. Research Society of Alcoholism Meeting 2020.

Cucinello JA, Berner ME, Pahng AR, Edwards KN, Edwards S. Differential effects of opioid versus alcohol dependence on pain avoidance behavior and regional endocannabinoid system deficiency. Experimental Biology Meeting 2020. [FASEB J.](#) 34 (2020) S1.

Cucinello JA, Berner ME, Pahng AR, Edwards KN, Edwards S. Differential effects of opioid versus alcohol dependence on pain avoidance behavior and regional endocannabinoid system deficiency. Society for Neuroscience Meeting 2019.

Cucinello JA, Edwards S, Yeh AY, Molina PE, Simon L. Sex differences in an animal model of combined alcoholic neuropathy and complex region pain syndrome. Research Society on Alcoholism Meeting 2019. [Alcoholism: Clinical and Experimental Research](#) 126 (2019) 502.

Scientific Presentations:

- 2019** **Cucinello JA**, Berner ME, Pahng AR, Edwards KN, Edwards S
Differential effects of opioid versus alcohol dependence on pain avoidance behavior and regional endocannabinoid system deficiency.
Graduate Research Day
Poster Presentation
LSUHSC, New Orleans, LA.
- 2018** **Cucinello JA**, Berner ME, Pahng AR, Edwards S
Endocannabinoid deficiency as a correlate of pain avoidance in the opioid-dependent state.
Graduate Research Day
Poster Presentation and 3 Minute Thesis Presentation
LSUHSC, New Orleans, LA. November 2.
- 2018** Berner ME, **Cucinello JA**, Pahng AR, Edwards S
Neuroadaptations in periaqueductal grey endocannabinoid signaling in pain and addiction.
Summer Research Internship Program Poster Session
LSUHSC, New Orleans, LA. July 26.
- 2017** **Cucinello JA**, Warren JD, Oellerich PL, Harris HM, Sufka KJ
Evoked vs spontaneous tactile allodynia: enhancing the translational relevance of a murine CIN model.
Neuroscience Research Day
University of Mississippi Medical Center, Jackson, MS. April 21.

Teaching Experience

Formal Lectures:

- 2019-2020** HLSC 3410 Pathophysiology—LSUHSC (School of Nursing)
Pain (1h)

Additional Teaching Experience:

- 2020** INTER 131 & 132 Biological Systems A & B—LSUHSC (Schools of Graduate Studies and Allied Health)
Private tutoring
- 2019-2020** HLSC 2410 Human Physiology—LSUHSC (School of Nursing)
Course tutor

Mentoring Experience

- 2018-** Co-Mentoring: Edwards Laboratory
LSUHSC
High School Students: Melissa Berner, Jacob Lincoln
Undergraduate Students: Amy Urbina, Sarah McQuirter
Medical Student: W. Bradley Tremble

Professional Development Courses

- 2020** Facilitator
Writing a Research Proposal Workshop
Postbaccalaureate Research Education Program
LSUHSC (03/20/20)
- 2020** Participant
Creating an Inclusive Environment in the Laboratory Workshop
School of Medicine, Office of Diversity and Community and Engagement
LSUHSC (02/12/20)

Leadership

- 2020-** Louisiana Board of Regents Council of Student Body Presidents
LSUHSC-NO Student Representative
- 2020-** LSUHSC Graduate Student Government Association
President
- 2019-2020** LSUHSC Graduate Student Government Association
Physiology Department Representative

Service Activities

Community Service Activities:

- 2020** Peer Advocate Liaison Resource Fair. Alcohol and Drug Abuse Center of Excellence representative. LSUHSC (02/18/20)
- 2019** Believe in Girls Event. Volunteer with Association for Women in Science-Southern Louisiana Chapter. Louisiana State University (09/28/19).
- 2019** Summer Research Internship Program Poster Session. Volunteer judge. LSUHSC (07/26/19)
- 2018** American Cancer Society's Belles and Beaus Ball event. Volunteer. (09/28/18)
- 2018** Summer Research Internship Program Poster Session. Volunteer judge. LSUHSC (07/27/18)
- 2018** Alcohol and Drug Abuse Center of Excellence retreat. Retreat moderator. LSUHSC (05/22/18)
- 2018** Peer Advocate Liaison Resource Fair. Alcohol and Drug Abuse Center of Excellence representative. LSUHSC (02/20/2018)
- 2018** National Drug and Alcohol Facts Week. Volunteer with Alcohol and Drug Abuse Center of Excellence. LSUHSC (01/26/2018)