

Curriculum vitae

Education

- Ph.D., Integrative Neuroscience** Aug 2017
Integrative Life Sciences Ph.D. Program
Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN
- B.S., Biochemistry & Molecular Biology** May 2011
With Honors (Magna Cum Laude Equivalent)
Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI

Positions

- Postdoctoral Fellow** Aug 2017 –
Supervisor: Nicholas W. Gilpin, Ph.D.
Department of Physiology, LSU Health, New Orleans, LA
- Graduate Student (Research/Teaching Assistant)** Aug 2012 – Aug 2017
Supervisor: Julia A. Chester, Ph.D.
Department of Psychological Sciences, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN
- Research Technologist** May 2011 – Aug 2012
Supervisor: Joseph S. Lonstein, Ph.D.
Department of Psychology, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI
- Undergraduate Research Assistant** Jan 2010 – May 2011
Supervisor: Colleen C. Hegg, Ph.D.
Department of Pharmacology & Toxicology, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI

Research

A. Grants & Fellowships

- K99/R00 Pathway to Independence Award (K99AA029726)** 2022 – 2027
NIH/NIAAA Role: PI
The Role of Lateral Hypothalamus Circuits in Stress-Induced Blunting of Alcohol Aversion & Escalation of Alcohol Self-Administration
- Ruth L. Kirschstein Postdoctoral National Research Service Award (F32AA027145)** 2019 – 2021
NIH/NIAAA Role: PI (Mentor: Nick Gilpin)
The Role of Central Amygdala Outputs in Stress-Induced Escalation of Alcohol Drinking

Biomedical Alcohol Research Training Grant (T32AA007577)

NIH/NIAAA

Role: Trainee (PI: Patricia Molina)

Marcus M. Weera, Ph.D.

2017 – 2019

Purdue Research Foundation Dissertation Fellowship

Purdue Research Foundation

Role: PI (Mentor: Julia Chester)

2016 – 2017

Nicotine-Motivated Behaviors in Mice Selectively-Bred for High or Low Alcohol Preference

B. Publications

In preparation:

1. **Weera MM**, Benvenuti F, Shackett RS, Webster D, Middleton JW, & Gilpin NW (2022). *CRF₁ Receptor-Expressing Central Amygdala Projections to Lateral Hypothalamus Mediate Stress-Induced Escalation of Alcohol Self-Administration and Anxiety-Like Behavior.*

Peer-reviewed articles:

2. **Weera MM**, Agoglia AE, Douglass E, Jiang Z, Rajamanikam S, Shackett RS, Herman MA, Justice NJ, & Gilpin NW (2022). *Generation of a CRF₁-Cre Transgenic Rat and the Role of Central Amygdala CRF₁ Cells in Nociception and Anxiety-Like Behavior.* **eLife**. PMID: 35389341.
3. **Weera MM**, Shackett RS, Kramer HK, Middleton JW, & Gilpin NW (2021). *Central Amygdala Projections to Lateral Hypothalamus Mediate Avoidance Behavior in Rats.* **J Neurosci**. PMID: 33188067. *Note: Selected as Featured Article in the Journal of Neuroscience 40th Anniversary Special Edition*
4. **Weera MM**, Schreiber AL, Avegno EM, & Gilpin NW (2020). *The Role of Central Amygdala Corticotropin-Releasing Factor in Predator Odor Stress-Induced Avoidance Behavior and Escalated Alcohol Drinking in Rats.* **Neuropharmacology**. PMID: 32028150.
5. **Weera MM** & Gilpin NW (2019). *Biobehavioral Interactions between Stress and Alcohol* (Review). **Alcohol Res**. PMID: 31649835.
6. Fernandez RF, Kim SZ, Zhao Y, Foguth RM, **Weera MM**, Counihan JL, Nomura DK, Chester JA, Cannon JR, & Ellis JM (2019). *Acyl-CoA Synthetase 6 Enriches the Neuroprotective Omega-3 Fatty Acid DHA in the Brain.* **Proc Natl Acad Sci U.S.A.** PMID: 30401738.
7. **Weera MM**, Agim S, Cannon JR, & Chester JA (2019). *Genetic Correlations between Nicotine Reinforcement-Related Behaviors and Propensity toward High or Low Alcohol Preference in Two Replicate Mouse Lines.* **Genes Brain Behav**. PMID: 30129253.
8. Avegno EM, Lobell TL, Itoga CA, Baynes BB, Whitaker AM, **Weera MM**, Edwards S, Middleton JW, & Gilpin NW (2018). *Central Amygdala Circuits Mediate Hyperalgesia in Alcohol Dependent Rats.* **J Neurosci**. PMID: 30054393.
9. **Weera MM**, Fields MA, Tapp DN, Grahame NJ, & Chester JA (2018). *Effects of Nicotine on Alcohol Drinking in Female Mice Selectively Bred for High or Low Alcohol Preference.* **Alcohol Clin Exp Res**. PMID: 29144544.
10. Peng C, Engle SE, Yan Y, **Weera MM**, Berry JN, Arvin MC, Zhao, G, McIntosh JM, Chester JA, & Drenan RM (2017). *Altered Nicotine Reward-Associated Behavior Following $\alpha 4$ nAChR Subunit Deletion in Ventral Midbrain.* **PLoS One**. PMID: 28759616.

11. Chester JA & **Weera MM** (2016). *Genetic Correlation between Alcohol Preference and Conditioned Fear: Exploring a Functional Relationship*. **Alcohol**. PMID: 27908524.
12. Smith CD, Piasecki CC, **Weera M**, Olszewicz J, & Lonstein JS (2013). *Noradrenergic Alpha-2 Receptor Modulators in the Ventral Bed Nucleus of the Stria Terminalis: Effects on Anxiety Behavior in Postpartum and Virgin Female Rats*. **Behav Neurosci**. PMID: 23796237.

Commentaries

1. **Weera MM** (2021). Short article published in the **International Society for Biomedical Alcohol Research (ISBRA) 2021 Newsletter**, in collection titled *Landscape for Early Investigators – Perspectives from Five Early Investigators from Around the Globe*.

C. Awards & Honors

1. **Michael J. Kuhar Young Investigator Award**, International Drug Abuse Research Society (2022)
2. **NIH R13 Travel Award**, International Drug Abuse Research Society (2022)
3. **American College of Neuropsychopharmacology Travel Award** (2022)
4. **NIDA-NIAAA Early Career Investigator Showcase Award** (2021)
5. **Enoch Gordis Postdoctoral Research Award Finalist**, Research Society on Alcoholism (2020)
6. **Volterra International Congress on Alcoholism & Stress Travel Award** (2020)
7. **Research Society on Alcoholism Junior Investigator Travel Awards** (2018, 2019, 2021)
8. **Purdue Interdisciplinary Life Sciences 5-Minute Thesis Competition Winner** (2017)
9. **Research Society on Alcoholism Student Merit Travel Awards** (2015, 2016, 2017)
10. **Purdue Interdisciplinary Life Sciences Travel Award** (2014, 2015, 2016)
11. **International Behavioural & Neural Genetics Travel Award** (2013)
12. **Lynn Foundation Fellowship** (2013)
13. **Michigan State University Dean's List** (2009-2011)

D. Invited Conference Symposium Talks

1. *Lateral Hypothalamus Circuits Mediate Stress-Induced Tolerance to Alcohol Aversion*. **Gordon Research Conference on Alcohol & the Nervous System**, Oxnard, CA. March 2022. (Postponed to October 2022 due to COVID). Symposium organizers: Patricia Janak, Ph.D. & Nicholas Gilpin, Ph.D.
2. *Central Amygdala CRF1 Projections to Lateral Hypothalamus Mediate Stress-Induced Escalation of Alcohol Self-Administration*. **International Drug Abuse Research Society**, Nice, France. September 2022. Symposium organizers: Marcus Weera, Ph.D. & Roberto Ciccocioppo, Ph.D.
3. *Neural Circuits of Stress-Induced Alterations in Alcohol-Related Behaviors*. **NIDA-NIAAA Frontiers in Addiction Research 2021 (Virtual)**. November 2021.
4. *Central Amygdala Projections to Lateral Hypothalamus Mediate Stress-Induced Alterations in Alcohol-Related Behaviors*. **Research Society on Alcoholism**, New Orleans, LA. June 2021. Symposium organizers: Marcus Weera, Ph.D. & Melissa Herman, Ph.D.
5. *Central Amygdala Signaling in Stress-Induced Avoidance Behavior and Escalation of Alcohol Drinking*. **International Congress on Alcoholism & Stress**, Volterra, Italy. May 2020 (Postponed to May 2023 due to COVID-19 pandemic). Symposium organizers: Jeff Weiner, Ph.D. & Igor Spigelman Ph.D.

Marcus M. Weera, Ph.D.

6. *Central Amygdala Signaling in Stress-Induced Avoidance Behavior and Escalation of Alcohol Drinking*. **Gordon Research Seminar on Alcohol & the Nervous System**, Galveston, TX. March 2020. Seminar organizers: Elizabeth Avegno, Ph.D. & Katie Holleran, Ph.D.
7. *The Role of Central Amygdala CRF Signaling in a Rat Model of Traumatic Stress*. **Winter Conference on Brain Research**, Snowmass, CO. January 2019. Symposium organizers: Melissa Herman, Ph.D. & Candice Contet, Ph.D.

E. Conference Symposia Organized

1. *The Role of Stress & Stress Systems in Alcohol Drinking*. **International Drug Abuse Research Society (IDARS)**. September 2022.
Organizers: Marcus Weera, Ph.D. & Roberto Ciccocioppo, Ph.D.
Presenters: Marcus Weera, Ph.D., Howard Becker, Ph.D., Laura Ornelas, Ph.D., Esi Domi, Ph.D.
2. *Amygdala Outputs and Alcohol Consumption-Related Behaviors*. **Research Society on Alcoholism (RSA)**. June 2021.
Organizers: Marcus Weera, Ph.D. & Melissa Herman, Ph.D.
Presenters: Marcus Weera, Ph.D., Jeff Weiner, Ph.D., Zoe McElligott, Ph.D., Kristen Pleil, Ph.D.

F. Invited Department/Program Seminars

1. *Animal Models for Studying Alcohol Use Disorder*. **Perspectives on Alcohol Research**, Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center, New Orleans, LA. February 2022.
2. *Neural Circuits of Stress-Induced Alterations in Alcohol-Related Behaviors*. **NIDA-NIAAA Webinars by Early Career Investigators in Addiction Neuroscience (WECAN)**, February 2021.
3. *Central Amygdala Signaling in Stress-Induced Avoidance Behavior & Escalation of Alcohol Drinking*. **Department of Physiology Seminar**, Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center, New Orleans, LA. April 2020.
4. *Central Amygdala-Mediated Signaling in a Rat Model of Traumatic Stress*. **Neuroscience Center of Excellence Seminar**, Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center, New Orleans, LA. April 2019.
5. *Genetically Encoded Tools for Neuroscience Research*. **Perspectives on Alcohol Research**, Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center, New Orleans, LA. March 2019.
6. *The Role of Central Amygdala Signaling in a Rat Model of Traumatic Stress*. **Alcohol & Drug Abuse Center of Excellence Retreat**, Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center, New Orleans, LA. December 2018.
7. *Understanding Smoking and Alcohol Drinking Using Mouse Models*. **Purdue Interdisciplinary Life Sciences (PULSe) Retreat**, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN. May 2017.

G. Posters

1. **Weera MM**, Middleton JW, & Gilpin NW. *Stress-Enhanced Tolerance to Alcohol Aversion: The Role of Lateral Hypothalamus Projections to the Lateral Habenula*. **Research Society on Alcoholism**, Orlando, FL, June 2022.

2. **Weera MM** & Gilpin NW. *Lateral Hypothalamus Projections to Lateral Habenula Mediate Stress-Induced Blunting of Alcohol Aversion*. **Research Society on Alcoholism**, Virtual, June 2021.
3. Shackett RS, **Weera MM**, & Gilpin NW. *Central Amygdala Corticotropin-Releasing Factor-1 Receptor-Expressing Neurons Mediate Anxiety-, Nociception-, and Avoidance-Related Behaviors in Rats*. **Research Society on Alcoholism**, Virtual, June 2021.
4. **Weera MM**, Avegno EA, Schreiber AL, Middleton JW, & Gilpin NW. *Central Amygdala Projections to Lateral Hypothalamus Mediate Persistent Avoidance of Stress-Associated Stimuli*. **American College of Neuropsychopharmacology**, Virtual, December 2020.
5. **Weera MM**, Avegno EA, Schreiber AL, Middleton JW, & Gilpin NW. *Central Amygdala CRF Signaling in Stress-Induced Escalation of Alcohol Drinking & Avoidance Behavior in Rats*. **Gordon Research Conference on Alcohol & the Nervous System**, Galveston, TX, March 2020.
6. **Weera MM** & Gilpin NW. *Central Amygdala Signaling in Stress-Induced Escalation of Alcohol Drinking & Avoidance Behavior in Rats*. **Gordon Research Conference on Amygdala Function**, Easton, MA, August 2019.
7. **Weera MM** & Gilpin NW. *Central Amygdala Signaling in Stress-Induced Escalation of Alcohol Drinking & Avoidance Behavior in Rats*. **Research Society on Alcoholism**, Minneapolis, MN, June 2019.
8. **Weera MM**, Middleton JW, & Gilpin NW. *Central Amygdala to Lateral Hypothalamus Projections Mediate Conditioned Place Avoidance*. **Greater New Orleans Society for Neuroscience**. New Orleans, LA, December 2018.
9. Milo M, **Weera MM**, Gilpin NW, & Middleton JW. *Applying Power Spectral Analysis to Genetic Calcium Imaging from Deep Brain Fiber Photometry in Stressed & Naïve Rats*. **LSUHSC Summer Research Symposium**. New Orleans, LA, July 2018.
10. Lloyd C, **Weera MM**, & Gilpin NW. *Effects of Central Amygdala CRFR1 Blockade on Stress-Induced Escalation of Alcohol Drinking in Rats*. **LSUHSC Summer Research Symposium**. New Orleans, LA, July 2018.
11. **Weera MM**, Pahng AR, Whitaker AM, Edwards S, Middleton JW, & Gilpin NW. *Stress-induced Activation of Central Amygdala to Lateral Hypothalamus Circuitry in Avider Rats*. **Research Society on Alcoholism**. San Diego, CA, June 2018.
12. **Weera MM**, Pahng AR, Whitaker AM, Edwards S, & Gilpin NW. *Stress-induced Activation of Central Amygdala to Lateral Hypothalamus Circuitry in Avider Rats*. **Stress Neurobiology**, Banff, Canada, June 2018.
13. Ko MJ, Chiang T, Mukadam AA, Mulia GE, **Weera MM**, Chester JA, & Van Rijn RM. *Contribution of β -Arrestin and ERK Signaling in the Anxiolytic-Like Effects of the δ -Opioid Receptor Agonist SNC80*. **International Narcotics Research Conference**, San Diego, CA, June 2018.
14. Ko MJ, Chiang T, **Weera MM**, Chester JA, & Van Rijn RM. *β -Arrestin-Biased Signaling at δ -Opioid Receptors as a Novel Therapeutic Target for Anxiety Disorders*. **83rd Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Symposium on Quantitative Biology**, Cold Spring Harbor, NY, May 2018.

15. **Weera MM**, Pahng AR, Whitaker AM, Edwards S, & Gilpin NW. *Predator Odor Stress-Induced Activation of the Central Amygdala and Lateral Hypothalamus in Avoider Rats*. **Gordon Research Conference on Alcohol and the Nervous System**, Galveston, TX, March 2018.
16. Ko MJ, Chiang T, **Weera MM**, Chester JA, & Van Rijn RM. *β -Arrestin-Biased Signaling at δ -Opioid Receptors as a Novel Therapeutic Target for Anxiety Disorders*. **Society for Neuroscience**, Washington, DC, November 2017.
17. **Weera MM** & Chester JA. *Nicotine Oral Consumption in High- and Low-Alcohol Preferring Mice*. **Research Society on Alcoholism**, Denver, CO, June 2017.
18. **Weera MM** & Chester JA. *Nicotine-Induced Conditioned Taste Aversion in High- and Low-Alcohol Preferring Mice*. **Research Society on Alcoholism**, Denver, CO, June 2017.
19. Ko MJ, Chiang T, **Weera MM**, Chester JA, & Van Rijn RM. *Anxiolytic-like Effects of Delta Opioid Receptors via β -Arrestin Mediated ERK Activation in Mice*. **Greater Indiana Society for Neuroscience**, Indianapolis, IN, March 2017.
20. **Weera MM** & Chester JA. *High- and Low-Alcohol Preferring Mice Differ in Intake of and Conditioned Taste Aversion to Nicotine*. **Greater Indiana Society for Neuroscience**, Indianapolis, IN, March 2017.
21. **Weera MM**, Fields MA, & Chester JA. *Effects of Repeated Acute Nicotine Injections on Two-Bottle Choice and Binge-Like Alcohol Drinking in High and Low Alcohol Preferring Female Mice*. **Research Society on Alcoholism**, New Orleans, LA, June 2016.
22. Rantz EK, **Weera MM**, & Chester JA. *Effects of Oxytocin and Carbetocin on Fear-Potentiated Startle in High- and Low-Alcohol-Preferring Mice*. **Purdue University Undergraduate Research Symposium**, West Lafayette, IN, April 2016.
23. Vike NL, **Weera MM**, Vega-Alvarez S, Farmer SJ, Shi R, Chester JA. *Effects of Mild Traumatic Brain Injury on Alcohol Drinking and Locomotor Activity in High Alcohol Preferring Mice*. **PULSe Retreat**, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN, April 2016.
24. **Weera MM**, Drenan, RM, & Chester JA. *Nicotine Place Conditioning in Mice Selectively-Bred for High or Low Alcohol Preference*. **Research Society on Alcoholism**, San Antonio, TX, June 2015.
25. **Weera MM**, Shih PY, Drenan RM, & Chester JA. *Reward-related Responses to Nicotine, Alcohol, and Their Co-Administration in Mice Selectively-Bred for High or Low Alcohol Preference*. **Annual Genes, Brain, and Behavior Meeting of the International Behavioural and Neural Genetics Society**, Chicago, IL, May 2014.
26. **Weera MM** & Drenan RM. *β 3-Containing Nicotinic Receptors Mediate Nicotine Activation of the Interpeduncular Nucleus in Mice*. **PULSe Retreat**, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN, April 2013.
27. Hayoz S, **Weera M**, Jia C, & Hegg CC. *NPY Release in Mouse Olfactory Epithelium is Partially Dependent on the Presence of Functional IP3R3 Receptors*. **Association of Chemoreception Sciences**, St. Pete Beach, FL, April 2011.

H. Research Mentoring

Students mentored/supervised in Gilpin Lab:

1. **Federica Benvenuti**, PhD Student (Dec 2021-Apr 2022)
Senior PhD student in Ciccocioppo Lab, Italy, who did her Study Abroad Program in my research team. Currently postdoctoral fellow at University of Picardy Jules Verne, France.
2. **Daniel Webster**, Undergraduate Student (Aug 2021-)
Current trainee in my research team. Undergraduate neuroscience student at Xavier University.
3. **Veronica Samojedny**, Undergraduate Student (Aug 2020-May 2021)
Currently Research Associate at Yale University.
4. **Madeline Martinez**, Masters Student (Aug 2019-May 2020)
Currently PhD student at Florida Atlantic University.
5. **Rosetta Shackett**, Undergraduate Student (Jan 2019-May 2022)
Currently Medical Track MS student at Tulane University.
6. **Hannah Kramer**, PhD Rotation Student (Aug 2018-Dec 2018)
Currently PhD candidate at LSUHSC.
7. **Carrie Lloyd**, High School Student, LSU Summer Research Program (Jun 2018-Aug 2018)

Students mentored/supervised in Chester Lab:

1. **Molly Fields**, Undergraduate Student (Jan 2015- Aug 2016)
2. **Emily Rantz**, Undergraduate Student (Aug 2014-Aug 2016)
Recently received PhD in Neuroscience from Purdue University
3. **Molly Craig**, Undergraduate Student (Aug 2013-Aug 2014)

I. Society Affiliations:

International Drug Abuse Research Society (IDARS)	<i>Since 2022</i>
International Society for Biomedical Research on Alcoholism (ISBRA)	<i>Since 2021</i>
Society for Neuroscience (SFN)	<i>Since 2019</i>
Research Society on Alcoholism (RSA)	<i>Since 2014</i>
International Behavioural & Neural Genetics Society (IBANGS)	<i>Since 2013</i>

Teaching

1. **Guest Lecturer**, Laboratory Techniques Summer Workshop (Jun 2021-)
Summer Research Program, School of Medicine, LSU Health
Responsibilities: Lead a 1-hour introductory class on immunohistochemistry (once every summer).
2. **Secondary Instructor**, Pathophysiology (HLSC3410RN) (Jan 2020-)
RN to BSN Matriculation Program, School of Nursing, LSU Health
Responsibilities: Prepare and deliver lectures on pathophysiology related to the nervous system (6 lecture hours/semester), and contribute to writing and grading assessments.
3. **Guest Lecturer**, Scientific Writing Workshop (Jan 2020-)
PREP Scholars Program, School of Medicine, LSU Health
Responsibilities: Prepare and deliver a 2-hour workshop on scientific manuscript writing (once per semester).
4. **Guest Lecturer**, Nursing Physiology (HLSC2410) (Jan 2019-)
BSN Program, School of Nursing, LSU Health

Responsibilities: Prepare and deliver lectures on physiology related to the nervous system (3 lecture hours/semester) and write exam questions.

5. Instructor of Record, Behavioral Neuroscience (PSY222) (May-Aug 2016)

Department of Psychology, Purdue University

Responsibilities: Designed and prepared lectures and assessments, taught the entirety of the course, held weekly office hours, and graded all assessments (40 contact hours/semester).

6. Teaching Assistant, Research Methods Lab (PSY203) (Aug 2014-Dec 2016)

Department of Psychology, Purdue University

Supervisors: Dr. Peter Urcuioli & Dr. Thomas Redick

Responsibilities: Prepared lectures, lab activities, and assessments, trained students in scientific writing, held weekly office hours, and graded assignments (40 contact hours/semester).

7. Teaching Assistant, Alcohol Use & Disorders (PSY421) (Jan-May 2014)

Department of Psychology, Purdue University

Supervisor: Dr. Julia Chester

Responsibilities: Assisted in preparation and grading of assessments and held weekly office hours (28 office hours/semester).

8. Teaching Assistant, Research Ethics in Psychology (PSY464) (Jan-May 2014)

Department of Psychology, Purdue University

Supervisor: Dr. Julia Chester

Responsibilities: Delivered lectures on select topics (3 lectures); assisted in preparation and grading of assessments and held weekly office hours (28 office hours/semester).

9. Teaching Assistant, Neuroscience of Motivated Behaviors (PSY322) (Aug-Dec 2013)

Department of Psychology, Purdue University

Supervisor: Dr. Kimberly Kinzig

Responsibilities: Lectured on select topics (2 lectures); assisted in preparation and grading of assessments and held weekly office hours (28 office hours/semester)

Service

A. Editorial/Peer Review

Review Editor, Editorial Board of Toxicogenomics (special section of Frontiers in Genetics, Frontiers in Toxicology, and Frontiers in Environmental Science), Frontiers Journals.

Appointment period: 2021 – 2023

Invited Manuscript Reviewer: Addiction Biology (2), Neuropharmacology (1), Neuroscience (1), Frontiers in Endocrinology (1), Frontiers in Toxicology (1), Neuroscience Letters (1), Physiology & Behavior (1), Psychiatry Research (1), American Journal of Drug & Alcohol Abuse (1)

Contributor Manuscript Reviewer (with Supervisor): Molecular Psychiatry (1), Biological Psychiatry (2), eLife (1), Neuropsychopharmacology (3), Translational Psychiatry (3), Neuropharmacology (2), Alcohol Research Current Reviews (1), Alcohol (3), Psychopharmacology (1), Pain (1), Neurobiology of Stress (1)

B. Institution/Society

1. **Member of Program Committee** for the 2023 Research Society on Alcoholism conference.

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2. **Member of Animal Research & Ethics Committee**, Research Society on Alcoholism (Jan 2023-)
3. **Member of Organizing Committee**, Greater New Orleans Society for Neuroscience Seminar Series (Dec 2021-)
4. **Co-Chair**, D'Angelo New Orleans Neuroscience Journal Clubs & Retreats (Jan 2021-)
5. **Member of Organizing Committee**, D'Angelo Workshop on Mental Health Neuroscience (Oct 2021)
6. **Member of Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Committee**, Department of Physiology, LSU Health (Jul 2021-)
7. **Co-Chair**, Alcohol & Drug Abuse Center of Excellence (ADACE) Scientific Retreat, LSU Health (Dec 2020)
8. **Founding member (and former Chair) of Organizing Committee**, ADACE Postdoctoral Seminar Series, LSU Health (Jan 2019-Dec 2022)
9. **Poster Abstract Reviewer** for the 2019 Society for Research on Nicotine & Tobacco conference.
10. **Moderator**, ADACE Scientific Retreat, LSU Health (Dec 2018)
11. **Poster Judge**, Graduate Research Day, LSU Health (Dec 2017-)
12. **Poster Judge**, Purdue Interdisciplinary Life Sciences Graduate Program Retreat (May 2017)
13. **Co-Chair**, Purdue Interdisciplinary Life Sciences Graduate Program Peer Mentoring Committee (Aug 2013-May 2014)

C. Community Outreach

1. **Scientific Mentoring to Increase Diversity in STEM**, Collegiate Academy, New Orleans, LA (Aug-Dec 2020)
2. **Co-Organizer**, ADACE Educational Symposium on Stimulants Misuse, New Orleans, LA (Dec 2020)
3. **Panelist**, Careers in Life Sciences Research, St. Scholastica Academy, Covington, LA (Oct 2017)
