

Scientific Program for Thursday 29 October 2009

- 7:30 AM–5:00 PM REGISTRATION
- 8:00 AM–8:30 AM CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST AND NETWORKING
- 8:30 AM–9:00 AM WELCOMING REMARKS (Salon)

Patricia E. Molina, M.D., Ph.D.
Vice-Chair, NHSN
Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center

Antonio Cepeda-Benito, Ph.D.
2009 NHSN Scientific Conference Chair and International Chair
Texas A&M University

- 9:00 AM–10:00 AM PLENARY OPENING SESSION (Salon)

PRESENTERS **Terry Pechacek, Ph.D.**
Office on Smoking and Health
Center for Disease Control and Prevention

PRESENTERS **Lourdes Baezconde-Garbanati, Ph.D., M.P.H.**
University of Southern California
 “The Role of Culture in Tobacco Use and Exposure to Second Hand Smoke Among Hispanics/Latinos”

DESCRIPTION This presentation will highlight the role of Hispanic/Latino culture in tobacco use and exposure to second hand smoke. Latino culture and cultural values in particular, have had a major influence at the individual and community level on smoking rates. Positive experiences within the culture are shown to be protective of high risk behaviors. Our research (Unger et al., 2009) for example, reveals that adherence to cultural values and positive cultural experiences are associated with lower risk of engaging in substance use (including drugs and tobacco). Pro-immigrant attitudes among Hispanic adolescents are associated with a reduced risk of substance use. On the other hand, negative cultural experiences (acculturative stress and perceived discrimination) are associated with an increased risk of substance use (tobacco and other drugs). The erosion of cultural values also helps explain rising smoking rates among Hispanic adolescents and women. At the community level, several intervention programs use cultural factors in successful prevention and treatment efforts to reduce smoking. Cultural values such as “familismo”, “personalismo”, “simpatia”, “interconnectedness” and “collectivism”, are key elements proven successful in community tobacco control interventions. Using this research as a backdrop, we present effective strategies and model intervention programs to help reduce smoking and exposure to second hand smoke in this population.

- 10:00 AM–10:30 AM QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS FOR THIS SESSION
- 10:30 AM–10:45 AM BREAK

10:45 AM–11:45 AM ADOLESCENT VULNERABILITY TO ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUG USE (Salon)

CO-CHAIRS **Laura O’Dell, Ph.D.**
University of Texas El Paso

Judith Arroyo, Ph.D.
*National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism
National Institutes of Health*

PRESENTERS **Duncan Clark, M.D., Ph.D.**
University of Pittsburgh
“Adolescent Brain Development and Vulnerability to Alcohol and Drug Use Disorders”

Cindy Ehlers, Ph.D.
The Scripps Research Institute
“Understanding Vulnerability to and Brain Consequences of Adolescent Alcohol and Nicotine Use: Translational Studies in Animal Models and Young Adult Mexican Americans”

Nancy A. Gonzales, Ph.D.
Arizona State University
“Multiple Pathways Leading to Substance Use Prevention in the Bridges to High School Program”

DESCRIPTION Adolescence is a critical period of development characterized by enhanced vulnerability to drug and alcohol abuse. The fact that underage drug use is more likely to lead to the rapid development of dependence suggests that substances may be “more addicting” to underage drinkers. From a developmental point of view, alcohol and other substance exposure during adolescence may also have more long lasting consequences because rapid changes in neural organization occur during this time period making the brain uniquely vulnerable to insult. Thus, during adolescence, drugs may be both more addicting and more toxic, a combination that makes drug abuse particularly malignant for adolescents. This panel will present the latest scientific findings on mechanisms that mediate enhanced vulnerability to and toxicity of substance abuse during adolescence. Both basic science and clinical studies will be presented with the goal of fostering research interest in adolescent substance abuse with an emphasis on alcohol and nicotine. The relationships among biological and environmental risk and resiliency factors will provide a conceptual framework for considering how early exposure to substances may influence vulnerability to substance abuse both as adolescents and across the lifetime. The studies will also will be considered in light of their implications for prevention strategies for Hispanic adolescent substance use.

11:45 AM–12:15 PM QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS FOR THIS SESSION

12:15 PM–1:45 PM MENTORING LUNCHEON (Salon)



PRESENTERS **Sharon Milgram, Ph.D.**
National Institute on Drug Abuse
National Institutes of Health

DESCRIPTION Being mentored and mentoring others is central to the development of strong scientific communities and is at the heart of our efforts to increase diversity in all areas of science. This session will address mentoring relationships - from the perspective of both the mentors and the mentees. Ways to find mentors, how to maximize mentoring interactions, and share our own perspectives on what makes a good mentor will be highlighted. Discussions will focus on resources to help NHSN students find mentors and mentored lab experiences at the National Institutes of Health and hear from some NHSN students who performed summer research at NIH in 2009. The discussions will be relevant to students and faculty in the social, behavioral, and biomedical sciences.

1:45 PM–2:00 PM BREAK

2:00 PM–3:00 PM MODELING GENES AND THE ENVIRONMENT IN LATINO DRUG ADDICTION RESEARCH (Salon)

CO-CHAIRS **Yonette Thomas, Ph.D.**
Howard University

William A. Vega, Ph.D.
University of California, Los Angeles

PRESENTERS **Richard Cooper, M.D.**
Loyola University, Chicago
 “Gene X Environment Interactions: Are We There Yet?”

Humberto Nicolini, M.D., Ph.D.
Universidad Autónoma de la Ciudad de Mexico
 “Gene-Environment Interaction: The Molecular Perspective (Epigenomics), in Cognition, Addiction and Psychopathology”

Glorisa Canino, Ph.D.
University of Puerto Rico
 “The need for Gene-Environment Interaction Research in the Study of Behavioral /Emotional and Substance Use Disorders Among Latino Populations”

DESCRIPTION This panel reviews the state of knowledge regarding gene environment interaction research, presents current findings about genetic variation as related to behavioral disorders, and examines the content and adequacy of federally supported repositories containing biological samples for potential addiction research on Latinos.

3:00 PM–3:30 PM QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS FOR THIS SESSION

3:30 PM–3:45 PM BREAK

3:45 PM–4:30 PM PLENARY SESSION (Salon)

PRESENTERS

Nora D. Volkow, M.D.

National Institute on Drug Abuse

National Institutes of Health

“Understanding the Etiology of Drug Abuse and Addiction: Implications for Prevention and Treatment”

DESCRIPTION

Drug abuse and addiction involves complex interactions between a wide array of biological, developmental and environmental variables. Identification of individual genetic and contextual factors underlying vulnerability to these disorders is having a profound impact on our ability to not only assess the relative contributions of each but also to design more targeted strategies to mitigate against those factors that increase risk and to strengthen those that increase resilience. This presentation will highlight scientific advances in our knowledge of the etiological factors known to play a role in drug abuse and addiction and describe examples of strategies that can promote positive outcomes.

4:30 PM–5:00 PM QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS FOR THIS SESSION

6:30 PM–9:00 PM AWARDS RECEPTION - HOME OF JOSÉ SZAPOCZNIK, PH.D.

