

Tony George, M.D. Professor, University of Toronto ACNP Fellow

An Interview with NPP Co-Principal Editor, Tony George, M.D.

How has being a member of ACNP helped you in your career?

Being an ACNP member has helped me be connected to the top people in the psychiatric neuroscience community. This is an incredibly supportive and generous group of scientists, who promote a better understanding of the neuroscience of psychiatric disorders.

What are you most excited about the upcoming ACNP meeting?

Meeting the young investigators and trainees who will become the future of the ACNP and psychiatric neuroscience.

What are you looking forward to most in your new role as Co-Principal Editor of NPP?

Fostering the great science that we have in our membership and beyond, and being on the cutting edge of neuroscience publishing, with a high functioning team at *NPP*.

Can you speak about one project that are currently working in your lab about which you are excited?

My lab at CAMH in Toronto has been working on neuromodulation for tobacco and cannabis addiction, mostly in psychiatric patients with schizophrenia and mood disorders, who often have the most difficult to treat cases of drug addiction. To see my trainees and junior faculty help develop these approaches and see the fruits of our labor come to fruition is very gratifying!

What is one piece of advice that you would tell your past self?

I would tell myself to be more persistent in pitching ideas, and not hesitating to get advice from experts in the field – who are more than happy to share their advice and observations with young investigators.

What are three things that have improved your career and that you would advise junior ACNP attendees to do?

- 1. Never give up on your dreams and good ideas consult widely, and don't take no for an answer (from granting agencies and journals). If they are sound and move the field forward, they will be recognized!
- 2. Always have a few "high risk" projects and ideas on the go you can't win if you don't play!
- 3. Always take time to smell the roses, take time to reflect, and keep the homes fires burning!

This interview was conducted by Career Development Committee chair Christine Ann Denny, Ph.D.



Christine Ann Denny, Ph.D.
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