2022 Honorific Award Winners

The 2022 Honorific Awards were presented by Awards Committee chair, Dr. Linda Brady at the 61st ACNP Annual Meeting.

Daniel H. Efron Research Award - recognizing outstanding basic research contributions to neuropsychopharmacology.

Recipients – Kristen J. Brennand, Ph.D.

Yale University School of Medicine

Dr. Brennand is currently the Elizabeth Mears and House Jameson Professor of Psychiatry and Genetics at Yale University School of Medicine. She pioneered a new approach to studying brain diseases, establishing that genetic predisposition to psychiatric disorders ranging from schizophrenia to autism spectrum disorder can be modeled using patient-specific human induced pluripotent stem cells (hiPSCs). Today, her laboratory integrates hiPSC-based approaches with CRISPR-mediated genomic engineering strategies to study the impact of patient-specific DNA sequences across and between the cell types of the brain. Dr. Brennand also made the startling discovery that DNA sequences associated with schizophrenia regulate genes that can be millions of bases away through chromatin looping interactions. Additionally, she is an outstanding mentor to junior scientists with a particular focus on promoting diversity in scientific and medical training. Dr. Brennand has shifted the paradigms for the study of DNA variants associated with human psychiatric disease. She is an innovative and exciting scientist who prioritizes mentoring and training the next generation of diverse neuroscientists.

Please **click here** to watch the acceptance video by Dr. Kristen Brennand for the Daniel H. Efron Research Award.
Please **click here** to watch the nominator video by Guo-Li Ming, M.D., Ph.D. for the Daniel H. Efron Research Award.

Recipients – Michael R. Bruchas, Ph.D.

University of Washington - Seattle

Dr. Bruchas is Professor at the University of Washington in Department of Anesthesiology and Pain Medicine and Department of Pharmacology where his laboratory is part of the Center for the Neurobiology of Addiction, Pain and Emotion (NAPE). Starting from his graduate and postdoctoral training, Dr. Bruchas has pioneered and examined novel mechanisms in GPCR signal transduction, specifically investigating cell, circuits, and GPCR signaling *in vivo*. He has made seminal contributions to our understanding of neural circuits, GPCR receptor systems and neuromodulatory processes for neuropeptides (opioids and others), monoamines (noradrenaline, serotonin, dopamine), cholinergic signaling and cannabinoids in brain. He has received numerous prestigious grants from the NIH including the Director's, EUREKA, and BRAIN Initiative Awards, as well as a NIDA MERIT Award. Furthermore, Dr. Bruchas also has a long track record of developing innovative and cutting-edge tools for neuroscience applications that enable the real time dissection of neural circuits and neuromodulation in behaving, freely moving animals.

Please **click here** to watch the acceptance video by Dr. Michael Bruchas for the Daniel H. Efron Research Award.
Please **click here** to watch the nominator video by Charles Chavkin, Ph.D. for the Daniel H. Efron Research Award.

Joel Elkes Research Award - recognizing outstanding clinical contributions to neuropsychopharmacology.

Recipient – Oliver Howes, M.D., Ph.D.

King's College London, Institute of Psychiatry

Dr. Howes has focused his career on clinical translational research to unravel the dopaminergic and glutamatergic mechanisms underpinning psychosis. This work has elucidated brain-behavior targets to guide the design of novel therapeutic strategies to improve clinical outcomes in patients, notably including those with treatment resistance for whom traditional antipsychotic medications are unsuccessful. His multimodal research approach, which includes positron emission tomography (PET), magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), and other imaging and clinical tools, has resulted in major contributions that have shaped current thinking in the field on dopamine signaling in psychosis. Key contributions include showing that: 1) striatal dopamine abnormalities underlie the development of psychosis in schizophrenia; 2) similar abnormalities emerge in psychotic disorders beyond schizophrenia, establishing a common mechanism for psychosis across these disorders; and 3) genetic and environmental risk factors for schizophrenia lead to dysfunction of the dopamine system. Dr. Howes' work has consistently been published in leading psychiatry and general journals, such as *Nature*, *Lancet*, *American Journal of Psychiatry*, and *Molecular Psychiatry*, among others, including more than 50 papers in such journals as senior author. He is the author of more than 400 publications overall. Other indicators of exceptional impact include: Dr. Howes has been listed by Web of Science as amongst the leading researchers in the world based on the number of high-impact papers every year since 2019, ISI Thompson has identified 30 papers as amongst the top 1% by citations, and Faculty1000 researchers have highlighted 16 papers as outstanding.

Please **click here** to watch the acceptance video by Dr. Oliver Howes for the Joel Elkes Research Award.
Please **click here** to watch the nominator video by Anissa Abi-Dargham, M.D. for the Joel Elkes Research Award.

Eva King Killam Research Award - recognizing outstanding translational research contributions to neuropsychopharmacology that focus on translating advances from basic science to human investigations.

Recipient – Damien Fair, PA-C, Ph.D.

The University of Minnesota

Dr. Fair is the Redleaf Endowed Director of the Masonic Institute for the Developing Brain and a professor at the University of Minnesota. He pioneered new methodology to mine traditional fMRI scans for resting state information to understand how different regions of the brain interact when a research subject is not engaged in performing a specific task. In his subsequent postdoctoral work with clinical psychologists Drs. Joel Nigg and Bonnie Nagel, he built upon this resting-state fMRI technology to understand network patterns across adolescent brain development and in atypical developmental populations. His analytic expertise has facilitated a number of incredibly important results – including defining reward circuitry in typically developing children and those with ADHD; documenting the development of cortico-striatal circuits as working memory develops; and evaluating the impact of early life stress on brain development. Dr. Fair has worked tirelessly to improve data collection across all ages and minimize costs of fMRI studies, enabling the sharing of data across disciplines and platforms and driving increased impact of translational studies of the brain in his own lab and throughout the field. Dr. Fair has also argued for greater community involvement by neuroscientists, and he has helped build the next generation of diverse, service-minded, and committed neuroscientists directly by mentoring countless outstanding early career scientists.

Please **click here** to watch the acceptance video by Dr. Damien Fair for the Eva King Killam Research Award.
Please **click here** to watch the nominator video by Joshua Gordon, M.D., Ph.D. for the Eva King Killam Research Award.

Barbara Fish Memorial Award - recognizing an ACNP member who has made an outstanding contribution to basic, translational, or clinical neuroscience.

Recipient – Raquel E. Gur, M.D., Ph.D.

University of Pennsylvania

Dr. Gur is the Karl and Linda Rickels Professor of Psychiatry, as well as Professor of Neurology and Radiology, at the University of Pennsylvania Perelman School of Medicine, where she directs the Neurodevelopment and Psychosis Section. She also currently serves as Director of the Lifespan Brain Institute, Vice Chair for Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP)-Penn Research Integration, and Co-Director of the Penn Translational Neuroscience Center. Dr. Gur has been devoted to the study of brain and behavior in psychosis across the lifespan, integrating basic and clinical neuroscience to understand developmental trajectories and risk factors for psychosis. She is internationally known for her large-scale collaborative studies on brain and behavior in psychosis, where phenotypic measures including clinical, neurocognitive, neuroimaging and electrophysiology are integrated with genomics, leading to novel insights about risk factors for illness, familial structure, and transdiagnostic risk. Notably, she established the Philadelphia Neurodevelopmental Cohort (PNC) of ~10,000 genotyped youth with deep phenotyping of clinical and brain-behavior parameters, helping to shape our understanding of genetic and phenotypic markers of risk for psychosis and leading the field in data sharing efforts. Her current efforts focus on obtaining much needed information on early precursors and initial phases of psychosis within a neurodevelopmental genomics framework with longitudinal follow up and treatment studies of youth with psychosis spectrum features. Her work documented genetic effects interfacing with substantial effects of exposure to environmental stress, including poverty and traumatic stressful events, and she is now working on elucidating pathways that incorporate genome and exposome in explanatory models. Her findings have been published in all of the top journals in the field, including *Nature*, *Science*, *JAMA Psychiatry*, *American Journal of Psychiatry*, *Neuropsychopharmacology*, and *Biological Psychiatry*, among many others. She has also won numerous awards for her research discoveries, including the Schizophrenia International Research Society Outstanding Translational Award, the Lieber Prize for Outstanding Research in Schizophrenia, the American College of Psychiatrists Stanley Dean Award in Schizophrenia, and the American College of Physicians William C. Menninger Memorial Award.

Please **click here** to watch the acceptance video by Dr. Raquel Gur for the Barbara Fish Memorial Award.
Please **click here** to watch the nominator video by Carrie Bearden, Ph.D. for the Barbara Fish Memorial Award.

Julius Axelrod Mentorship Award - recognizes outstanding contributions to neuropsychopharmacology by mentoring and developing young scientists into leaders in the field.

Recipients – Charles F. Reynolds, III, M.D.

Western Psychiatric Institute & Clinic, University of Pittsburgh Medical Center

Dr. Reynolds is a Distinguished Professor of Psychiatry emeritus and a UPMC- Endowed Professor in Geriatric Psychiatry at the University of Pittsburgh. He is also the editor-in-chief of the preeminent American Journal of Geriatric Psychiatry. His prolific research career has resulted in over 500 publications in peer-reviewed journals since 1990. He has been a field-wide leader in the advancement of scientific investigations relevant to geriatric mental health and has been involved in trials of both pharmacological and nonpharmacological treatments for depression, especially in older adults. As a mentor, Dr. Reynolds has served as the program director of two institutional training (T32) grants, and one psychiatric education (R25) grant, at the University of Pittsburgh. Through his role on the T32 grants, he has helped provide resources for summer research training of medical students, 25% of whom later entered graduate medical education. Further, Dr. Reynolds has had 31 mentees who have gone on to receive both K and R awards in geriatric clinical psychopharmacology and related fields and has served as a mentor for several national mentoring networks such as the Summer Research Institute in Geriatric Mental Health, the Advanced Research Institute in Mental Health and Aging, and others, all funded by the NIMH. Many of Dr. Reynolds' former trainees are accomplished leaders in the field of psychiatry, and it is clear that his mentorship encouraged them to start mentoring others early on in their careers as well. One colleague writes of him: *"Dr. Reynolds belongs to the top 1% of mentors…He tends to put a gentle but persistent encouragement on the mentee in pursuing their own talents and passions, and helps them to achieve their career and life goals, a rare quality in the academic system."*

Please **click here** to view the acceptance video by Dr. Charles Reynolds for the Julius Axelrod Mentorship Award.
Please **click here** to view the nominator video by Helen Lavretsky, M.D., M.S., for the Julius Axelrod Mentorship Award.

Recipients – Susan F. Tapert, Ph.D.

University of California San Diego

Dr. Tapert's research centers on understanding neural sequelae of and risk factors for adolescent substance use and other behaviors, using magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), functional MRI, diffusion tensor imaging, and neuropsychological testing. She has been awarded over 30 research grants, most from NIAAA and NIDA. Dr. Tapert is Co-Director and site PI for the National Consortium on Alcohol and NeuroDevelopment in Adolescence (NCANDA), initiated in 2012 to examine the influence of alcohol use on brain health in over 800 youth, and Associate Director and site MPI for the Adolescent Brain Cognitive Development (ABCD) study, which launched in 2015 to explore the development of nearly 12,000 children nationwide. Her career has focused on mentoring and developing young scientists into leaders in the neuropsychopharmacology field, with unwavering dedication to her trainees, many of whom are emerging as academic leaders. She demonstrates selfless commitment to her mentees with unparalleled positivity. The influence of Dr. Tapert's mentoring is far reaching. She has played an integral role in the academic and personal development of over 50 trainees directly, as well as many more indirectly. Many of Dr. Tapert's mentees are from underrepresented groups and the vast majority are women, many of whom sought her out specifically for mentorship. In her role as Associate Vice Chair and Vice Chair of Academic Affairs in the Department of Psychiatry at the University of California, San Diego, she has greatly expanded the Psychiatry Faculty Mentorship Program, ensuring all assistant professors have two assigned mentors (a career mentor and an academic mentor). She developed a committee that provides quarterly CME training sessions on mentorship and served as the inaugural Department Mentor Director from 2018-2020. Her former mentees are making outstanding contributions in the addiction field including at Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC), Oregon Health and Science University (OHSU), University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Yale, University of Pennsylvania, NASA, and University of California San Diego. Dr. Tapert has also received previous mentoring awards including the American Academy of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry Outstanding Mentor Award in 2016 and 2021, and the Research Society on Alcoholism's Marlatt Mentorship Award in 2019.

Please **click here** to view the acceptance video by Dr. Susan Tapert for the Julius Axelrod Mentorship Award.
Please **click here** to view the nominator video by Zafiris Daskalakis, M.D., Ph.D., for the Julius Axelrod Mentorship Award.

Dolores Shockley Diversity and Inclusion Advancement Award – recognizes an individual and/or program that has had outstanding success promoting Diversity and Inclusion within the fields of basic, clinical, or translational neuroscience.

Individual Recipient – Carolyn Rodriguez, M.D., Ph.D.

Stanford University

Dr. Rodriguez is Associate Dean for Academic Affairs at the Stanford University School of Medicine and a Consultation-Liaison Psychiatrist at the Palo Alto Veterans Affairs. As the Director of the Translational Therapeutics Lab and Professor in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, she leads studies investigating the brain basis of severe mental disorders. In her own lab, Dr. Rodriguez provides trainees outstanding mentorship in experimental design, statistical methodology, and writing and presentation skills, as well as career development activities to hone her trainees' interests and credentials to transition to careers in the biomedical research workforce. Beyond her laboratory, Dr. Rodriguez contributes as a mentor and invited speaker for trainees to encourage their entry into academic careers and boost their leadership and grant writing skills through the following NIH-funded programs: Career Development Research Institute (CDI) for Psychiatry, R25 Pathways to Neuroscience, and T32 programs, as well as through foundation and professional organizations (e.g., serving as a mentor in the American Psychiatric Association [APA] Junior Investigator Research Colloquium). As Chair and Vice-Chair of the Minority Task Force (now known as the Diversity and Inclusion Committee), she founded a URM women networking event within ACNP, based on the recognition of the need for intersectional spaces and peer support. She has also published (e.g., in Harvard Business Review, in American Journal of Psychiatry) on strategies around supporting women of color in science and medicine, and on solutions to mitigate biases that hold women back from leadership positions. Her colleagues state that Dr. Rodriguez embodies Dr. Shockley's advice for mentors: *'Be passionate and stick with it…and help others get prepared and seek opportunities.'*

Please **click here** to view the acceptance video by Dr. Carolyn Rodriguez for the Dolores Shockley Diversity and Inclusion Advancement Award.
Please **click here** to view the nominator video by Debra Bangasser, Ph.D. for the Dolores Shockley Diversity and Inclusion Advancement Award.

Program Recipient – Patrice K. Malone, M.D., Ph.D.

The Dr. June Jackson Christmas Medical Student Program

Department of Psychiatry, Columbia University Irving Medical Center

The Dr. June Jackson Christmas (JJC) Medical Student Program provides medical students who are from historically underrepresented groups with an opportunity to explore psychiatry at Columbia University through a variety of training opportunities. The program is named to honor the pioneering work of Dr. June Jackson Christmas, an African American psychiatrist who dedicated her life to the field of mental health. The goal of the program is to enhance the probability that medical students from underrepresented groups will pursue careers in psychiatry and in psychiatric research. The JJC program was initiated in 2016 by Dr. Patrice Malone, a third-year psychiatry resident at the time, to provide medical students with training opportunities in psychiatry beyond what they would receive during a psychiatric clerkship rotation. Medical students in the JJC program are exposed to the breadth of psychiatry with rotations though an inpatient psychiatry unit, a community outpatient clinic, the mobile crisis team, the Comprehensive Psychiatric Emergency Program, and the consultative-liaison service. In addition, students attend didactic sessions in psychiatry and visit community mental health sites. Many of the didactics are taught by current psychiatry residents, and students are paired with a mentor who is a current psychiatry resident or fellow. There is also a JJC grand rounds open to all faculty and trainees in the Columbia University Psychiatry Department. These presentations are typically centered on topics such as disparities in mental health care, social determinants of care, and how to target the stigma of psychiatric illness in communities of color. The JJC Medical Student Program has been highly successful: of the 21 participants so far who have gone on to apply to residency, 80% have chosen and matched to psychiatry. The program has received high praise and appreciation from persons who have participated.

Please **click here** to view the acceptance video by Dr. Patrice Malone for the Dolores Shockley Diversity and Inclusion Advancement Award.

Please **click here** to view the nominator video by Marisa Spann, M.P.H., Ph.D. for the Dolores Shockley Diversity and Inclusion Advancement Award.

Please **click here** to view the mentee video by Tofunmi Oshodi, M.D. for the Dolores Shockley Diversity and Inclusion Advancement Award.

Paul Hoch Distinguished Service Award - presented to a member who has made unusually significant contributions to the College. The emphasis of this award is on service to the College - not for teaching, clinical, or research accomplishment.

Recipient – William A. Carlezon, Jr., Ph.D.

Harvard Medical School

Dr. Carlezon is Professor of Psychiatry and Neuroscience at Harvard Medical School and the Phyllis and Jerome Lyle Rappaport Chief of the Basic Neuroscience Division at McLean Hospital. Scientifically, Dr. Carlezon is well-known for his seminal contributions focusing on the neural basis of depression, and its comorbidity with other conditions including addiction, anxiety, and PTSD. Of note, he is Co-Director of the NIMH Silvio O. Conte Center for Stress Peptide Advanced Research, Education, & Dissemination (SPARED) at McLean Hospital, as well as McLean's NIMH T32 Training Grant. Dr. Carlezon has published >200 peer reviewed articles, with an h-index of 76 and >24,000 citations. Dr. Carlezon has a long history of distinguished and continuous service to the ACNP. Since 2005, he has served as a member or Chair on 30 ACNP committees, and he is currently a Council member and the Council Liaison to the Animal Research Committee. During his term as Chairperson of the Program Committee, he launched some now-familiar features of the ACNP Annual Meeting, including the Data Blitz and Mini-Panel format. He is also well-known for is his role as Editor of *Neuropsychopharmacology* (NPP), the College's flagship journal. He served as Associate Editor from 2007-2012 and Principal Editor from 2013-2022. During Dr. Carlezon's tenure as Principal Editor, he led efforts to transform NPP into a comprehensive resource for the ACNP community: notable accomplishments include broadening its reach and impact, adding new article formats, commissioning articles on topics such as gender, social media, race, and environmental impact, launching the "Research on Health Disparities Collection" on the journal website, and promoting diversity in all aspects of journal function. In addition, he established the Top-10 Reviewer Appreciation and Journal Award (NEATOR, NEAR, NEECA) programs as well as the Social Media Editor and Editorial Internship roles. Dr. Carlezon has been a fierce advocate of equity, diversity, and inclusiveness and has taken a leadership role in devising ACNP efforts to reduce the use of stigmatizing language and terminology in journal articles and at scientific meetings.

Please **click here** to view the acceptance video by Dr. Bill Carlezon for the Paul Hoch Award.
Please **click here** to view the nominator video by Carlos Zarate, M.D. for the Paul Hoch Award.
Please **click here** to view the nominator video by Linda Brady, Ph.D. for the Paul Hoch Award.

Media Award - recognizes major contributions to the education of the public about mental illness and substance abuse research and the positive impact of research on treatment.

Recipient – Carmine M. Pariante, M.D., Ph.D.

"Inspire the Mind"

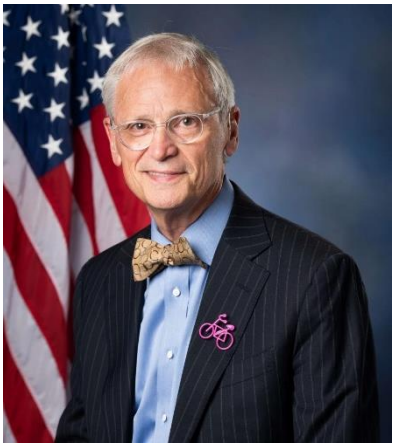
Professor Pariante is the editor-in-chief of *"Inspire the Mind"*, a digital publication produced by neuroscientists, psychiatrists, and psychologists at King's College London in London, England. The site brings together viewpoints of clinicians, researchers, and others working within mental health, with people's accounts of their own lived experience. They do so by discussing the scientific evidence underpinning these personal experiences, while also sharing with the readers ongoing research and clinical work, discussion pieces, and the various links between society, science, culture, and mental health. *Inspire the Mind* stands out among educational mental health websites in its broad attention to everyday mental health issues, including timely topics like parenting, career burnout, and representation of mental illness in the media. The content is presented in a variety of approachable formats, such as articles, video interviews and podcasts, and featured series on, for example, fatherhood and stress. Despite launching less than four years ago, *Inspire the Mind* has rapidly risen in popularity and prestige, hosting more than 300 writers, logging over 200,000 views, and being awarded the "Project of the Year" Mental Health Blog Award in 2022. They continue to broaden their audience and are very active on Twitter and Instagram, to make the information more accessible to various age groups. They also have ongoing collaborations with documentarians and international art exhibits. Their work has been supported in part by the Wellcome Trust (Institutional Translational Partnership Award).

Please **click here** to view the acceptance video by Dr. Carmine Pariante for the Media Award.
Please **click here** to view the nominator video by Andrew Miller, M.D., for the Media Award.

Public Service Award - recognizes substantial contributions to affect public policies or other activities related to improving the health of the public with an emphasis on patients with brain diseases.

Recipients – Congressman Earl Blumenauer and Congresswoman Cathy McMorris Rodgers

Congressional Neuroscience Caucus Co-Chairs




Representatives Blumenauer and McMorris Rodgers are recognized for establishing the Congressional Neuroscience Caucus (CNC), which for the last decade has worked to build awareness of the intrinsic role brain research plays in understanding ourselves and our society, to help communicate the progress and the benefits of this research and promote changes in federal policies to support neuroscience research. Their activities have included hosting dozens of briefings and information sessions to advocate for neuroscience research and mental health awareness. Recently, they held a webinar focused on understanding the neurological effects of Long COVID, featuring both personal accounts of Long COVID patients, as well as physician-led discussions of the psychological impact of the pandemic on society as a whole. They have also been vocal advocates for funding for neuroscience research, by educating their colleagues on the purpose and importance of specialized funding mechanisms like the BRAIN initiative. The impact of this work can be seen in the continued growth of CNC membership, which now stands at 35 Representatives. Through their leadership and sustained efforts, Reps. Blumenauer and McMorris Rodgers have promoted not just awareness of neuroscience, but also the prioritization of research into brain health and disease in Congressional spending.

Please **click here** to view the acceptance video by Congressman Earl Blumenauer for the Public Service Award.
Please **click here** to view the acceptance video by Congresswoman Cathy McMorris Rodgers for the Public Service Award.
Please **click here** to view the nominator video by Kathleen Sale, American Brain Coalition, for the Public Service Award.