



NHSN 24th Annual International Conference

Vulnerability AND Resilience:
The Interplay of Factors that Shape Health in
Hispanic/Latino Communities

October 3 – 5, 2024

Hosted by: LSU Health Sciences Center
411 South Prieur Street
New Orleans, LA 70112



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Welcome from the Conference Scientific Chairs

On behalf of the Conference Planning Committee and the Steering Committee of the National Hispanic Science Network (NHSN), we welcome you to our 24th Annual International Conference. Our theme this year is “Vulnerability AND Resilience: The Interplay of Factors that Shape Health in Hispanic/Latino Communities.” This year’s conference will explore internal and external factors that drive pathology towards disease development and progression, while also identifying the factors that promote health and the ability to overcome those odds.

We are excited to present five scientific sessions. Each session is chaired by a social scientist and a basic scientist and will have presenters from across the translational spectrum discussing a common topic. The session topic will focus on 1) Sex differences in mental health and substance use, 2) Biopsychosocial factors that affect the health of Hispanic communities, 3) Alcohol and whole-person health throughout the lifespan, 4) Environmental and protective factors, and 5) Community based approaches and engagement strategies. These scientific sessions will feature a diverse, interdisciplinary group of distinguished researchers who have made significant contributions to their respective areas of expertise. We are thankful to have many of our founding members returning this year for a special panel “Vision to Impact: NHSN's Founders' Perspectives on the Future of Latino Addiction Research.” This year we are also honored to be joined by plenary speakers, Dr. Adriana Galvan, Associate Professor of Psychology, Behavioral Neuroscience, Developmental Psychology at the University of California, Los Angeles and Dr. Patricia A. Arean, Director of the Division of Services and Intervention Research at the National Institute of Mental Health.

The Early Career Leadership Committee (ECLC) will be leading a Grant Writing Session that will discuss the role of the Center for Scientific Review, strategies for more effective grant-writing, and common mistakes to avoid. We also continue our commitment to providing a dedicated space for our early career members to share their exciting work at our New Investigator’s Panel, two poster sessions, and Datablitz Breakout Sessions. We were thrilled to see over 120 abstract submissions this year and look forward to learning more about your work. In addition to the rich science being presented, we hope everyone will join us for our annual awards dinner and dance and the ECLC mixer. Please use the opportunities to connect with your colleagues and form new collaborations. To our first-time attendees, we hope you feel welcome to our network and make the NHSN a part of your yearly tradition. To our returning members, it is great to have you here our network would not be the same without you!

The planning committee co-chairs depend on a network of individuals who volunteer their time and energy to the NHSN. We would like to give a special thanks to the conference planning committee: Drs. Angel Algarin, Jim Anthony, Flavia Barbano, Carlos Bolanos, Miguel Cano, Marvin Diaz, Felipe González Castro, Alice Cepeda, Danielle Levitt, Patricia Molina, Laura O’Dell, Gira Ravelo, Eden Robles, Mariana Sanchez, Flavia Souza-Smith, Xenia Tigno, Avelardo Valdez, Bridget Williams-Simmons, and Art Zavala as well as our student members Adelis Cruz and Margarita Monge. Special thanks as well to those members who volunteered their time to assist with abstract reviews and other preparations for the meeting. We want to give special recognition to Melissa Prestwood who provided invaluable, professional, and timely support and guidance to the conference chairs and committee throughout the planning process. Support for this conference is through National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) Grant 5R13DA026647-15 to LSUHSC (PI; Molina). Also, we would like to recognize the NIDA



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funded Enhanced Interdisciplinary Research Training Institute (eIRTI) that is the training component of the NHSN. We are grateful for support from NIDA, National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA), National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD), and Office of Research on Women's Health (ORWH) of the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

We look forward to connecting with you all at this exciting conference,

Sincerely,



Tara Bautista, PhD
Co-Chair 2024 NHSN Conference
Assistant Professor
Department of Psychological Sciences
Northern Arizona University



Luis Natividad, PhD
Co-Chair 2024 NHSN Conference
Assistant Professor
Department of Pharmacology & Toxicology
The University of Texas at Austin



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Thursday, October 3

11:00 AM

Registration begins

Location: HDC Lobby 1st Floor

11:45AM – 12:00PM

Lunch Pickup

Location: HDC Lobby 1st Floor (Those with dietary restrictions, please see Melissa Prestwood at Registration Table)

12:00 PM – 1:30 PM

Welcome &

Career Development Session - Grant Writing Luncheon: Demystifying the NIH Center for Scientific Review

Location: HDC 335 (HDC 231 additional seating to watch live stream)

Chairs: **Angel B. Algarin, PhD, MPH**, Assistant Professor, Arizona State University Edson College of Nursing and Health Innovation

Margarita Monge, Research & Grant Program Coordinator, UC Riverside School of Medicine

Presenter: **Izabella Zandberg, PhD**, Scientific Review Officer, Clinical Care and Health Interventions Review Branch, Division of AIDS, Behavioral, and Population Sciences, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health

Navigating Peer Review

In this luncheon we will hear from Scientific Review Officer, Dr. Izabella Zandberg as she provides information to help to demystify the NIH Center for Scientific Review and answer member questions. During the second portion, members at each table will engage in discussions surrounding early career grant writing and trajectories to support training and networking.

1:45 PM – 3:15 PM

From Vision to Impact: NHSN's Founders' Perspective on the Future of Latino Addiction Research

Location: HDC 130 (entrance for additional seating on 2nd floor)

Chairs: **Alice Cepeda, PhD**, Associate Professor, Suzanne Dworak-Peck School of Social Work, University of Southern California

Avelardo Valdez, PhD, Professor of Practice, Policy, Research and Advocacy for the Latino Population, Suzanne Dworak-Peck School of Social Work, University of Southern California

Presenters: **Mario De La Rosa, PhD, MSSA**, Distinguished Professor, Endowed University Professor in Health Equity, Director Center for Research on US Latino HIV/AIDS and Drug Abuse, Stempel College of Public Health and Social Work, Florida International University

J. Bryan Page, PhD, Professor, University of Miami

Daniel Santisteban, PhD, Director of Research and EBT Training, TIA International

The panel will discuss the impact the NHSN has had on addiction research among U.S. Latino populations. Panelists will share their views on the past, present, and future of addiction research. The importance of sustaining the research and career pipeline for those conducting research on health disparities will also be addressed.



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3:30 PM – 5:00 PM

Scientific Session: How Sex and Gender Impact Latina Health

Location: HDC 130 (entrance for additional seating on 2nd floor)

Chairs: **Laura O'Dell, PhD**, Professor of Psychology and Associate Vice President for Research, The University of Texas at El Paso

Xenia Tigno, PhD, MS, Associate Director for Careers, Office NIH Office of Research on Women's Health, National Institutes of Health

Presenters: **Patricia Silveyra, MSc, PhD, ATSF**, Professor and Chair of Environmental and Occupational Health, Indiana University Bloomington School of Public Health

Sex, Hormones, and Women's Health: Lessons Learned from Inhalation Toxicology Studies

Kiara Alvarez, PhD, Assistant Professor of American Health, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health

Advancing Mental Health Equity for Latinas: Structural, Social, and Developmental Factors

Heather A. Bimonte-Nelson, PhD, President's Professor, Arizona State University

Overtuning Dogma to Break Barriers in Women's Health Research: The Ovary-Uterus-Brain Connection Impacts Memory Across the Lifespan

This transdisciplinary panel brings together a group of women scientists and leaders who are focused on advancing research that will promote women's health and mitigate health disparities. The continued lack of medical research including women and gender diverse individuals has yielded a marked knowledge gap in health factors, including, but not limited to, disease symptomology, diagnosis, and treatments. Indeed, extraordinary health challenges are faced by women not only because of biological sex, but also due to gender-based environmental, emotional and physical distress. Our panelists will discuss how inherent or acquired factors intersect and impact Latina health. Dr. Patricia Silveyra will discuss the role of gonadal hormones in shaping responses to inhaled environmental toxicants that lead to greater disease susceptibility, inflammatory and immune responses, and worsening of pre-existing conditions in women. Then, Dr. Kiara Alvarez will describe the array of factors that impact mental health equity for women, with a particular focus on Latinx and immigrant youth and their families. Lastly, Dr. Heather Bimonte-Nelson will discuss her pre-clinical work that has led to a deeper understanding of biological factors, from gynecological surgery variants and ovarian hormone shifts that can regulate cognitive processing in females across the lifespan. Indeed, the midlife time period in females is especially sensitive to these transitions, and is a time when women experience marked increases in depression, anxiety, and substance abuse. The co-chairs Drs. Laura O'Dell and Xenia Tigno will summarize how various factors disproportionately impact women, and how this information can be integrated into future research focused on reducing health disparities in women.



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5:00 PM – 6:00 PM

Career Development: Poster Session 1 – Sponsored by Texas Tech College of Arts & Sciences

Location: HDC Lobby 1st Floor

Organizers: **Danielle Levitt, PhD**, Assistant Professor, Texas Tech University
Eric Parise, PhD, Instructor, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai
Gira Ravelo, PhD, MSW, MBA, Research Assistant Professor, Florida International University
Cho Hee Shrader, PhD, Postdoctoral Scholar, Arizona State University

7:00 PM – 10:00 PM

Awards Dinner Dance

Location: **Maypop Restaurant**
611 O'Keefe Avenue, New Orleans

Friday, October 4

8:00 AM

Continental Breakfast

Location: HDC 335

8:30 AM – 10:00 AM

Career Development – New Investigators in Drug Use Research

Location: HDC 130 (entrance for additional seating on 2nd floor)

Chairs: **John Salerno, PhD, MPH**, Provost's Postdoctoral Scientist, Columbia University
Alejandro Torres, PhD Candidate, Oklahoma State University Center for Health Sciences

Presenters: **Angel B. Algarin, PhD, MPH**, Assistant Professor, Arizona State University Edson College of Nursing and Health Innovation
Examining Stigma Resistance Among Latino Men Who Have Sex with Men: Psychometric Properties of an Adapted Scale in San Diego, California
Zaidmara Diaz, MD/MPH Candidate, LSU Health Sciences Center, New Orleans
Differential Effect of Chronic Binge Alcohol Administration on Glycolytic Enzymes in Skeletal Muscle, Myoblasts, and Myotubes of SIV-Infect Female Macaques
Zahid Garcia Lopez, PhD Candidate, San Diego State University
Efficacy of a 12-Week Family-Bases Health Lifestyle Program on Food Practices in Latino Families: The Athletes for Life Program
Lyonna Parise, PhD, Instructor, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai
Neutrophil Elastase Modulation of Stress-Reactivity and Its Association with Antidepressant Treatment

10:15 AM – 11:15 AM

Plenary Presentation

Location: HDC 130 (entrance for additional seating on 2nd floor)

Presenter: **Adriana Galván, PhD**, Professor of Psychology, Dean, Division of Undergraduate Education, University of California Los Angeles
Adolescent Brain Development: The Importance of Connections



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11:30 AM – 12:30 PM

Membership Luncheon

Location: HDC 335 (HDC 231 additional seating to watch live stream)

12:40 – 2:10PM

Scientific Session: Advancing Our Understanding of Biopsychosocial Factors that Affect the Health of Hispanic Communities

Location: HDC 130 (entrance for additional seating on 2nd floor)

Chairs: **Flavia Barbano, PhD**, Staff Scientist, National Institute on Drug Abuse
Miguel Cano, PhD, MPH, Associate Professor, School of Public Health, University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center

Presenters: **Jeannie B. Concha, PhD, MPH**, Associate Professor, The University of Texas at El Paso
Leveraging Indigenous Knowledge and Culture to Engage Hispanic/Latino Communities
Eva Moya, PhD, LMSW Chair and Professor, The University of Texas at El Paso
Lessons Learned in Advancing Health Equity on the US-Mexico Border
Erik J. Rodriquez, PhD, MPH, Health Scientist Administrator, Office of Disease Prevention, National Institutes of Health
Using Allostatic Load to Understand the “Chronic Stress-Health Behavior-Mental Health” Relationship

The biopsychosocial model, conceptualized by George Engel in 1977, suggests that to understand a person’s medical condition other factors than just physiology must be considered. Indeed, psychological factors such as emotions or perceptions and social factors such as the environment or the patient’s relationships, along with biological factors such as genetics or nutrition, are determinants of illness and health. This session will highlight research on biopsychosocial factors that have an impact on health and wellness among Hispanics, and how they can help us achieve health equity by understanding their dynamic interplay. Speakers will cover the importance of incorporating indigenous knowledge to the current Western biopsychosocial models, as well as the interplay between education and community engagement to promote and advance health equity in Hispanic communities. In addition, the contribution of chronic stress and unhealthy behaviors to mental health outcomes in Hispanic/Latino populations will also be discussed.

2:20 PM – 3:50 PM

Scientific Session: Advancing Health Equity: The Science of Environmental and Protective Factors

Location: HDC 130 (entrance for additional seating on 2nd floor)

Chairs: **Marvin Diaz, PhD**, Associate Professor, Binghamton University
Eden Robles, PhD, MSW, Assistant Professor, Our Lady of the Lake University

Presenters: **Mary Kay Lobo, PhD**, Professor, University of Maryland
Impact of Opioids and Stress Across the Lifespan
Lissette Saavedra, PhD, Senior Research Psychologist, RTI International
Telehealth for Reaching Hispanic/Latinos who Experience Mental Health Problems After Exposure to Trauma: Promising Strength Based Options
Lara A. Ray, PhD, Professor of Psychology & Psychiatry, University of California, Los Angeles
Equitable Treatment Development for Addiction via Inclusive Clinical Trials



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This transdisciplinary session will explore the intersection of strength-based approaches with environmental and protective factors. The presenters will focus on empirical evidence, data-driven insights, and evidence-based practices that emphasize strengths and resilience in vulnerable populations. This session will cover research findings that discuss 1) the efficacy of strengths-based interventions; 2) individual and community resilience and the role of social, cultural, and physical environments; 3) protective factors; and 4) implementation strategies in the clinical, educational, and community context.

4:00 PM – 5:30 PM

Scientific Session: Alcohol and Whole-Person Health Throughout the Lifespan

Location: HDC 130 (entrance for additional seating on 2nd floor)

Chairs: **Danielle Levitt, PhD**, Assistant Professor, Texas Tech University

Mariana Sanchez, PhD, Associate Professor, Florida International University

Bridget Williams-Simmons, PhD, Director, Office of Science Policy & Communications/Associate Director for Basic Research, National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism

Presenters: **Berenice Castillo, MSW, PhD**, Assistant Professor, Florida International University

Sociocultural Factors Associated with Pre- to Post-Immigration Alcohol Use Trajectories Among Young Adult Recent Latino Immigrants During Their First Decade in the U.S.

Leon G. Coleman, Jr, MD, PhD, Assistant Professor of Pharmacology, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Alcohol and Alzheimer's Disease: Heavy Use Earlier in Life Promotes Pathology Later in Life

Seth Schwartz, PhD, Professor, University of Texas at Austin

The Protective Role of Personal Identity in Alcohol Use Progression Among Hispanic Adolescents

Alcohol is the most commonly misused substance worldwide. In addition to adverse effects on whole-body physiological health, alcohol misuse imparts adverse effects across multiple domains including interpersonal stress on the families and communities of affected individuals. Moreover, health impacts of alcohol misuse can indirectly or directly affect individuals of any age and may present differently throughout the lifespan. Hispanic/Latinos are also disproportionately impacted by the adverse effects of alcohol misuse. This session will take a lifespan approach to examine whole-person health impacts of alcohol (individual, family, community, population) relevant to Hispanic/Latino communities, and will identify strategies for resiliency from therapeutic, behavioral, and policy perspectives.

7:00 PM – 10:00 PM

ECLC Mixer Sponsored by Dr. Taylor Joo and Enhanced Interdisciplinary Research Training Institute (eIRTI)

Location: **Brewery Saint X**

734 Loyola Avenue, New Orleans



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Saturday, October 5

8:00AM

Continental Breakfast

Location: HDC Lobby 1st Floor

8:30 AM – 9:30 AM

Career Development: Poster Session 2 - Sponsored by Texas Tech College of Arts & Sciences

Location: HDC Lobby 1st Floor

Organizers: **Danielle Levitt, PhD**, Assistant Professor, Texas Tech University
Eric Parise, PhD, Instructor, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai
Gira Ravelo, PhD, MSW, MBA, Research Assistant Professor, Florida International University
Cho Hee Shrader, PhD, Postdoctoral Scholar, Arizona State University

9:40AM – 10:40AM

Plenary Presentation via Zoom

Location: HDC 130 (entrance for additional seating on 2nd floor)

Presenter: **Patricia Arean, PhD**, Director, Division of Services and Intervention Research, National Institute of Mental Health
From CBPR to Human Centered Design in the Development of Interventions and Services in Latino Populations

Career Development Breakout Sessions

10:50AM – 11:50AM

Session 1 – Neuroscience Datablitz

Location: HDC 231

Chairs: **Sergio Iñiguez, PhD**, Professor of Psychology, The University of Texas at El Paso
Arturo Zavala, PhD, Professor of Psychology, California State University, Long Beach

Presenters: **Daniel Calvo**, Graduate Student, The University of Texas at El Paso
The Role of Aggression in the Acquisition of a 5-Choice Serial Reaction Time (5-CSRT) Task in Retired CD-1 Male Mice
Xavier Chapa-Dubocq, PhD, Postdoctoral Fellow, LSU Health Sciences Center New Orleans
Post Traumatic Brain Injury Alcohol Accentuates Neurobehavioral Outcomes; Potential Role of Altered Bioenergetics in the Prefrontal Cortex
Liliana Maynez-Anchondo, Graduate Student, The University of Texas at El Paso
Effects of Adolescent Nicotine Vapor Exposure on Nicotine Intake and Withdrawal in Adulthood
Pamela Miranda Tapia, PhD, Postdoctoral Fellow, National Institute on Drug Abuse
Bariatric Surgery Restores Changes on LHVGLUT2 Neurons Induced by High Fat Diet
Nathan Vardeleon, BA, PhD Candidate, Texas A&M University
Alprazolam Withdrawal Induces Behavioral Despair and Addiction Related Gene Signaling in the Anti-Reward Pathway of Adult Mice

This breakout session will offer basic scientists the opportunity to share their exciting discoveries in the field of neuroscience that expand our understanding of the brain, and of drug abuse and addiction. The goals of this breakout session are to highlight the latest work of basic scientists



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with the NHSN community; to provide an opportunity for discussion with other scientists with similar interests; and to facilitate the development of collaborations among NHSN members.

Session 2 – Social and Behavioral Science Datablitz

Location: HDC 130 (entrance for additional seating on 2nd floor)

- Chairs: **Tara Bautista, PhD**, Assistant Professor, Northern Arizona University
Nalini Negi, PhD, MSW, Associate Professor, School of Social Work, University of Maryland, Baltimore
- Presenters: **Aldo Barrita, PhD**, Dean's Research Associate, Michigan State University
Internalizing the Hate: Experiences of LatinX College Students Subjected to Immigration Related Oppression
- Melissa Ertl, PhD**, Assistant Professor of Psychology, University of Minnesota – Twin Cities
Intersectional Discrimination, Resistance-Coping, and Drug use Frequency Among Latiné Sexual Minority Adults
- Emily Lemon, PhD, MPH**, Assistant Professor, UT Health Houston School of Public Health
Who is LatinX? The Impact of Misclassification of Racial/Ethnic Identity Among US-Born Youth on Suicidal Ideation Disparity Estimates in a National Sample
- Alyssa Lozano, PhD**, Research Assistant Professor, University of Miami
Intersecting Identities Among Hispanic Sexual Minority Youth and Their Relationship with Drug Use and Depressive Symptoms
- Pablo Montero-Zamora, PhD**, Assistant Professor, The University of Texas at Austin
Pathways to Prevention: Exploring the Cascade Effects of Cultural Stress on Latino Parents' Willingness to Participate in Alcohol-Focused Prevention
- John Salerno, PhD, MPH**, Provost's Postdoctoral Scientist, Columbia University
Alcohol Use and Adverse Childhood Experiences: Effects on PTSD Symptoms Among First-Generation LatinX Immigrant Youth from the Northern Triangle

This breakout session will offer social and behavioral scientists the opportunity to share their exciting and most recent discoveries in social and behavioral science that expand our understanding of Hispanic health disparities.

The goals of this breakout session are

1. To highlight the latest work of social and behavioral scientists with the NHSN community,
2. provide an opportunity for discussion with other scientists with similar interests, and
3. facilitate the development of collaborations among NHSN members.



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12:00PM – 1:00PM

Community Engagement Session: Community Based Approaches and Engagement Strategies for Neuroscience and Social Sciences

Location: HDC 130 (entrance for additional seating on 2nd floor)

Chairs: **Tara Bautista, PhD**, Assistant Professor, Northern Arizona University
Luis Natividad, PhD, Assistant Professor, The University of Texas at Austin

Presenters: **Ian Mendez, PhD**, Assistant Professor, The University of Texas at El Paso
Ulises M. Ricoy, PhD, Associate Research Scientist, University of Arizona
Teresa Ramirez, PhD, Program Manager, ecoLatinos
Emma Torres, MSW, Chief Executive Officer and Founder, Campesinos Sin Fronteras

This session will have experts from neuroscience, social science, and STEAM academic and non-profit organizations present their community engagement strategies for ensuring Hispanic/Latino representation in health sciences and overall in STEAM. They will discuss recruiting, engaging, training, and retaining diverse students (K-college and graduate school), faculty, scientists, and participants in a variety of settings and across scientific disciplines and research foci.

1:00PM

Closing

Location: HDC 130 (entrance for additional seating on 2nd floor)

**Schedule subject to change*



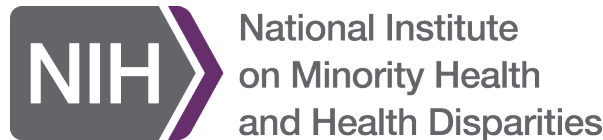
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Additional Sponsors:



Dr. Taylor Joo

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