



NHSN 25TH Annual International Conference

*¡Sí Se Puede! The Power of Community and
Innovation in Health Research*

October 23 – 25, 2025

Hosted by University of Miami

School of Nursing

5030 Brunson Dr.

Coral Gables, FL 33146



Download the program app: Jotform





Welcome to the 25th Annual NHSN Conference

¡Sí Se Puede! The Power of Community and Innovation in Health Research

Bienvenidos.

We are thrilled to welcome you to Miami and to the 25th Annual NHSN Conference: a milestone year, a moment to reflect, and a time to move forward with purpose.

This year's theme, "*The Power of Community and Innovation in Health Research*," is more than a title, it's a call to action. In a world still reeling from public health crises, systemic inequities, and uncertain futures, our strength lies in our ability to adapt, pivot, and uplift one another. And we do that through community, through *us*.

Over the next three days, you'll engage with a dynamic program shaped by both cutting-edge science and lived experience. You'll hear voices that reflect the diversity and complexity of our communities, from sessions on *Population Heterogeneity* to critical conversations around *Alcohol*, *Stress*, and *Resiliency*. We'll bridge generations in the *Adapting to Thrive* session, where speakers will share how they navigated uncertainty and advanced their science and careers through challenging times.

You'll experience science in motion, from *Data Blitzes* to *Innovation and Discovery* panels that spotlight groundbreaking work driven by community needs. And we'll share wisdom across disciplines in the *Grant Writing* and *Advocacy* sessions. Whether you're here to listen, present, network, or brainstorm your next project, there's space for you at this gathering. We're also proud to highlight the voices of our *New Investigators*, future leaders whose work spans from public health to neuroscience, and to showcase emerging research in our *Poster Sessions*.

This meeting isn't just about information, it's about connection. It's a chance to reimagine how we do the work, support each other, and create systems that don't just survive hardship, but grow stronger through it. Through advocacy, mentorship, scholarship, and innovation, we are shaping a future rooted in equity and science that serves the communities we come from.

Thank you for showing up. For bringing your work, your ideas, and your passion. Let's keep building what's next together!

¡Sí Se Puede!



Alyssa Lozano, PhD
Co-Chair
Research Assistant
Professor
School of Nursing and
Health Studies



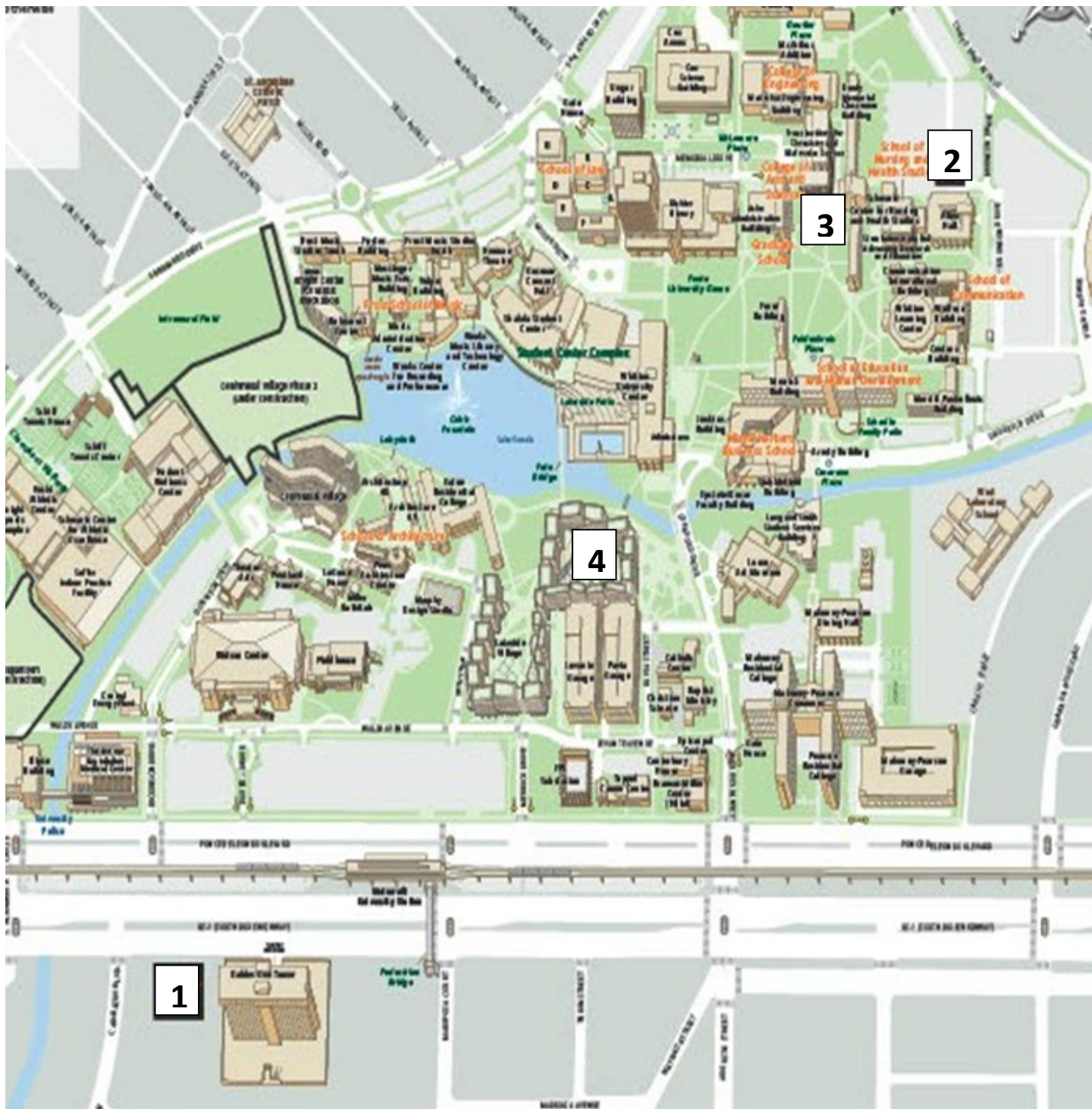
Flavia Barbano, PhD
Co-Chair
Staff Scientist
Neuronal Networks
Section
National Institute on
Drug Abuse



Laura Ornelas, PhD
Co-Chair
Assistant Professor
Department of
Psychology
The University of New
Mexico



Kathryn Nowotny, PhD
Co-Chair
Associate Professor
Department of
Sociology College of
Arts and Sciences
University of Miami



1. Thesis Hotel
2. School of Nursing
3. Frost Institute
4. Lakeside Expo



CONFERENCE LOCATIONS

Thesis Hotel

1350 S Dixie Hwy

Coral Gables, FL 33146

- Lodging
- ECLC Networking Mixer

School of Nursing Building, 1st Floor

5030 Brunson Drive

Coral Gables, FL 33146

- Registration

School of Nursing, S.H.A.R.E Auditorium, Room 2420

5030 Brunson Drive

Coral Gables, FL 33146

- Scientific Session 1: Adapting to Thrive
- Scientific Session 2: Community Partnerships
- Scientific Session 3: Alcohol
- Plenary Session
- Career Development Session 3: ECLC New Investigator Panel
- Scientific Session 4: Stress
- Scientific Session 5: Uncharted Pathways
- Career Development Breakout Session: Datablitz
- Scientific Session 6: Bridging Disciplines, Building Resilience
- Closing

School of Nursing, Room 328

- Career Development Breakout Session: Datablitz

Frost Institute for Chemistry and Molecular Science, Great Hall 125 & 115

1201 Memorial Drive

Coral Gables, FL 33146

- Lunch
- Welcome
- Career Development Session 1: Grant Writing
- Career Development Session 2: Poster Session
- Advocacy Session
- Career Development Session 4: Poster Session

Lakeside Village Expo

1280 Stanford Drive Room 1078

Coral Gables, FL 33146

- Awards Dinner Dance



Thursday, October 23

10:00 AM – 12:00 PM [MORNING SHUTTLE \(38-riders per trip\)](#)

PICKUP LOCATION: **Thesis Hotel**

DROP-OFF LOCATION: **School of Nursing**

11:00 AM [REGISTRATION OPENS](#)

LOCATION: **School of Nursing, 1st Floor, Executive Boardroom**

TRANSITION TO FROST INSTITUTE FOR CHEMISTRY AND MOLECULAR SCIENCE BUILDING

LOCATION: **Frost Institute for Chemistry and Molecular Science, Great Hall 125 & 115**

11:45 AM – 12:00 PM [BOXED LUNCH PICKUP](#)

12:00 PM – 12:15 PM [LUNCH/WELCOME/INTRODUCTION](#)

Dean Hudson Santos, Dolores J. Chambreau Endowed Chair in Nursing, Professor, School of Nursing and Health Studies, University of Miami

12:15 – 1:30 PM [Career Development Session 1](#)

[GRANT WRITING – ALTERNATIVES TO NIH FUNDING \(NOT NIH\)](#)

NIH is not the only pathway to support your research. This panel discussion will explore diverse funding sources, including federal agencies beyond NIH, private foundations, industry partnerships, and community-based opportunities. Presenters will share strategies for tailoring proposals to different audiences, highlighting impact, and building collaborations that resonate with funders' missions. Participants will learn practical strategies to tailor proposals for different audiences, build collaborations, and leverage alternative funding sources to advance their research.

CHAIRS: **John P. Salerno, PhD, MPH, Postdoctoral Research Scientist, Milken Institute School of Public Health, George Washington University**

Adelis Cruz, PhD, Postdoctoral Fellow, National Institute of Mental Health

PANELISTS: **Shane Karas, Managing Director of Corporate & Foundation Relations, University of Miami**

Michelle Jones-London, PhD, Former Associate Director at National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke Founder, Open Insight LLC

Tyler Bartholomew, PhD, Associate Professor, Department of Public Health Sciences, University of Miami

1:30 PM – 1:45 PM **BREAK**



TRANSITION TO S.H.A.R.E AUDITORIUM, SCHOOL OF NURSING BUILDING

LOCATION:	S.H.A.R.E Auditorium, Nursing Simulation Hospital, Room 2420
1:45 PM – 3:15 PM	<i>Scientific Session 1</i> ADAPTING TO THRIVE: REFLECTING ON EXPERIENCES FROM THE PAST In an era marked by rapid change and persistent uncertainty, researchers are increasingly called upon to be agile, resilient, and innovative. <i>Adapting to Thrive: Reflecting on Experiences from the Past</i> invites participants to explore how evolving challenges have shaped current approaches to research. This session will feature insights into how scholars have successfully pivoted their research focus, reimagined methodologies, and sustained momentum in the face of disruption. Attendees will leave with practical strategies and renewed inspiration to navigate the evolving research landscape with creativity, confidence, and adaptability.
CHAIR:	Willy Prado, PhD , <i>Distinguished University Professor of Nursing and Health Studies, Associate Dean for Research Affairs, School of Nursing and Health Studies, University of Miami</i>
PANELISTS:	Eliseo J. Pérez-Stable, MD, <i>Former Director, National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities</i> Maria Alcaide, MD, <i>Professor of Medicine, OB/GYN, and Public Health; Vice Provost for Research and Scholarship; Director, Infectious Diseases Research Unit; University of Miami Miller School of Medicine</i> Mariano Kanamori PhD, <i>Professor and Director, Division of Prevention Science and Community Health; Department of Public Health Sciences; University of Miami Miller School of Medicine</i>
3:15 PM – 3:30 PM	BREAK
3:30 PM – 5:00 PM	<i>Scientific Session 2</i> COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS – INNOVATION AND DISCOVERY: SCIENTIFIC ADVANCES AND COMMUNITY-DRIVEN SOLUTIONS
LOCATION:	S.H.A.R.E Auditorium, Nursing Simulation Hospital, Room 2420 This panel will focus on the integration of community partners into the research and dissemination activities of the Center for Latino Health Research Opportunities (CLaRO), an NIH-funded Center of Excellence that is jointly administered by the University of Miami and Florida International University. The inclusion of community partners has been critical in helping advance the community-engaged mission of the Center. Drs. Behar-Zusman, De La Rosa, and Prado will discuss the influence that community partners have had in the development of CLaRO since its inception to the present.



Additionally, the panel will include presentations from Drs. Rojas and Carrasquillo, Ms. Reyes, and community partners on their experiences collaborating on research projects involving Latino communities across South Florida. This discussion will also include discussion of activities that facilitated engagement of community partners, as well as barriers to the development of such relationships at various stages of CLaRO studies and projects. Community partners will also discuss opportunities and challenges in engaging with research partners in studies that can potentially improve health conditions in Latino communities.

CHAIRS:

Patria Rojas, PhD, MSW, MPH, *Associate Professor, Florida International University*

Yannine Estrada, PhD, *Research Assistant Professor, School of Nursing and Health Studies, University of Miami*

Mario De La Rosa, PhD, MSSA, *Distinguished Professor; Director, CRUSADA; Stempel College of Public Health and Social Work, Florida International University*

PRESENTERS:

3:30 PM – 3:50 PM

[Developing Community Engaged Research with Latino Communities in South Florida through Effective Community Partnerships](#)

Willy Prado, PhD, *Distinguished University Professor of Nursing and Health Studies, Associate Dean for Research Affairs, School of Nursing and Health Studies, University of Miami*

Victoria Behar-Zusman, PhD, *Professor and PhD Program Director, School of Nursing and Health Studies, University of Miami*

Mario De La Rosa, PhD, MSSA, *Distinguished Professor; Director, CRUSADA; Stempel College of Public Health and Social Work, Florida International University*

3:50 PM – 4:10 PM

[Florida Community-Engaged Research Alliance \(FL-CEAL\)](#)

Ashley L. Falcon, PhD, MPH, *Assistant Professor of Clinical, School of Nursing and Health Studies, University of Miami*

Islara Souto, *Program Manager, Healthy Little Havana*

4:10 PM – 4:30 PM

[Effective Collaboration between Researchers and Regulatory Officials to Advance Behavioral and Implementation Research for Latino Health](#)

Nikki Reyes, MPH, *PhD Student, Prevention Science and Community Health Program, University of Miami*

Vivienne Carrasco, MPH, CIP, *Associate Director for Regulatory Affairs, University of Miami*



4:30 PM – 4:50 PM

Testing the effectiveness of an adapted HIV/AIDS online intervention: A community based participatory clinical study targeting adult Latino men in South Florida

Patria Rojas, PhD, MSW, MPH, *Associate Professor, Florida International University*

Alma Pineda, *Principal Manager, Pineda Productions, LLC*

4:50 PM – 5:00 PM

BREAK

TRANSITION TO FROST INSTITUTE FOR CHEMISTRY AND MOLECULAR SCIENCE BUILDING

LOCATION:

Frost Institute for Chemistry and Molecular Science, Great Hall 125 & 115

5:00 PM – 6:30 PM

Career Development Session 2

POSTER SESSION 1

Sponsored by Arizona State University Edson College of Nursing and Health Innovation

ORGANIZERS:

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

Keishla Marie Rodriguez-Graciani, PhD, *Postdoctoral Fellow, LSU Health Sciences Center – New Orleans*

Miracle Macias Burgos, *Doctoral Student, College of Medicine, University of Arizona*

Paulina Vargas, *Predoctoral Candidate, University of Pittsburgh*

6:30 PM – 10:30 PM

EVENING SHUTTLE (Continuous 4-Hour Rounder)

PICKUP / DROP-OFF LOCATIONS: Frost Institute for Chemistry and Molecular Science to Thesis Hotel to Lakeside Expo Center to Thesis Hotel

7:30 PM – 10:00 PM

AWARDS DINNER DANCE

Address by Dr. Edward Castaneda, Recipient 2025 Veterano Award

LOCATION:

Lakeside Expo Center



Friday, October 24

7:30 AM – 9:30 AM

MORNING SHUTTLE (38-riders per trip)

PICKUP LOCATION:

Thesis Hotel

DROP-OFF LOCATION:

School of Nursing

8:00 AM

REGISTRATION OPENS

LOCATION:

School of Nursing, 1st Floor, Executive Boardroom

8:30 AM

LIGHT BREAKFAST

LOCATION:

School of Nursing, 1st Floor, Executive Boardroom

START AT S.H.A.R.E AUDITORIUM, SCHOOL OF NURSING BUILDING

LOCATION:

S.H.A.R.E Auditorium, Nursing Simulation Hospital, Room 2420

9:00 AM – 10:30 AM

Scientific Session 3

ALCOHOL ACTIONS ON THE BODY AND BRAIN

This session brings together cutting-edge research spanning the effects of alcohol from molecules to behavior. Presentations will highlight advances in understanding alcohol's impact on the brain, updates in clinical perspectives from NIAAA, and new insights into how alcohol metabolism across organs influences both drinking behavior and organ damage. Speakers will also explore the molecular mechanisms of alcohol-induced cerebral artery constriction and brain ischemia, with implications for drug discovery. Together, these talks provide a comprehensive view of alcohol's diverse actions on body and brain.

CHAIR:

David Lovinger, PhD, Scientific Director, Chief, Laboratory for Integrative Neuroscience (LIN), Division of Intramural Clinical and Biological Research (DICBR), National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA), National Institutes of Health (NIH)

PRESENTERS:

9:00 AM – 9:22 AM

Alcohol Effects on the Brain

David Lovinger, PhD, Scientific Director, Chief, Laboratory for Integrative Neuroscience (LIN), Division of Intramural Clinical and Biological Research (DICBR), National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA), National Institutes of Health (NIH)

9:22 AM – 9:44 AM

Updates in Alcohol Use Disorder Research at NIAAA: A Clinical Perspective

Nancy Diazgranados, MD, MS, DFAPA, Deputy Clinical Director, NIAAA, NIH



9:44 AM – 10:06 AM [Alcohol Metabolism Across Organs Controls Drinking Behavior and Organ Damage](#)

Bin Gao, MD, PhD, *Deputy Scientific Director, Chief, Laboratory of Liver Diseases, NIAAA, NIH*

10:06 AM – 10:28 AM [Molecular Basis of Alcohol-Induced Cerebral Artery Constriction and Brain Ischemia; Drug Discovery](#)

Alejandro (Alex) Dopico, MD, PhD, *Van Vleet Endowed Chair of Excellence and Professor, Department of Pharmacology, Addiction Science, and Toxicology, College of Medicine, University of Tennessee Health Science Center*

10:30 AM – 10:45 AM **BREAK**

LOCATION: **S.H.A.R.E Auditorium, Nursing Simulation Hospital, Room 2420**

10:45 AM – 11:45 AM [PLENARY SESSION](#)

While Latino/a/x communities continue to experience health inequities, they also embody traditions of resilience, cultural continuity, and collective healing. Drawing from community-based participatory research (CBPR), translational team science, and intervention studies, this plenary illustrates how culturally centered innovation advances Latino health research for practice and policy. This plenary underscores how “Science in Solidarity” embodies “Sí Se Puede” —an expression of unity, hope, and shared possibility that bridges scholarship and community action during today's challenging social climate.

PRESENTER: [Science in Solidarity: Advancing Latino Health Equity Research through the Spirit of ¡Sí Se Puede!](#)

Lisa Cacari-Stone, PhD, MA, MS, *Executive Director; Transdisciplinary Research, Equity and Engagement Center for Advancing Behavioral Health; Professor Emeritus; University of New Mexico Health Sciences Center*

11:45 AM – 12:00 PM **BREAK**

TRANSITION TO FROST INSTITUTE FOR CHEMISTRY AND MOLECULAR SCIENCE BUILDING

12:00 PM – 12:35 PM [MEMBERSHIP LUNCH \(UPDATES ON STATUS OF NHSN\)](#)

LOCATION: **Frost Institute for Chemistry and Molecular Science, Great Hall 125 & 115**

12:35 PM – 1:00 PM [ADVOCACY SESSION](#)

Early-career scientists help bridge research and policy, creating opportunities for trainees to engage in science communication and



advocacy during their training. This session highlights ways for trainees to become involved, including advocacy days, participation in professional societies, and engagement with community and university initiatives. These experiences strengthen communication skills, broaden career perspectives, and provide a platform to communicate their research and impact issues such as research funding, science education, and public health. Attendees will gain strategies for identifying entry points into policy work, balancing advocacy with research responsibilities, and building networks that support both scientific and policy-focused careers. By sharing examples of trainee involvement, this session will introduce opportunities to integrate science communication and advocacy into professional development while showing how trainees can use their research to make an impact on policy and public engagement.

PRESENTER:

[Getting Involved in Science Policy and Advocacy as a Trainee](#)

Montserrat Orozco, PhD Candidate, Biomedical Sciences Graduate Program, The University of New Mexico

1:00 PM – 1:10 PM

BREAK

TRANSITION TO S.H.A.R.E AUDITORIUM, SCHOOL OF NURSING BUILDING

LOCATION:

S.H.A.R.E Auditorium, Nursing Simulation Hospital, Room 2420

1:10 PM – 2:40 PM

[Career Development Session 3](#)

ECLC NEW INVESTIGATOR PANEL

CHAIRS:

Miracle Macias Burgos, Doctoral Student, College of Medicine, University of Arizona

Alejandro Guadalupe Torres, BS, PhD Candidate, Biomedical Sciences, Oklahoma State University – Center for Health Sciences

PRESENTERS:

1:10 PM – 1:32 PM

[Social Connectedness May Protect Older Marginalized Adults in a Precarious Employment Context from HIV: A Cross-Sectional Pilot Study](#)

Jeffersson Santos, PhD, BSN, RN, PhD Candidate, College of Nursing, Northern Arizona University

1:32 PM – 1:54 PM

[The Impacts of Parental Deportations on Family Dynamics Among US-Born Latinos: Substance Use Implications](#)

Christian E. Escobar, M.Ed, ATC, Doctoral Student, University of Texas at Austin

1:54 PM – 2:16 PM

[Alprazolam Exposure During Adolescence Dysregulates Drug Reward and Stress Response in Female Mice](#)

Teresa Ara Cho, Undergraduate Research Assistant, Texas A&M University



2:16 PM – 2:38 PM

[Alcohol Use Impairs Mitochondrial Function and Increases Frailty Risk in Older Adults: Findings from the epiMAP Study](#)

Keishla Marie Rodriguez-Graciani, PhD, *Postdoctoral Fellow, LSU Health Sciences Center – New Orleans*

2:40 PM – 2:50 PM

BREAK

LOCATION:

S.H.A.R.E Auditorium, Nursing Simulation Hospital, Room 2420

2:50 PM – 4:20 PM

[Scientific Session 4](#)

[STRESS ACROSS THE TRANSLATIONAL CONTINUUM – STRESS, COPING AND THE ENVIRONMENT](#)

The session will bridge clinical, laboratory, and community perspectives to advance our understanding of stress and coping by exploring how trauma, pain, and systemic inequities intersect with mental health and substance use. Dr. Colin Mahoney will highlight disparities in trauma exposure, PTSD, and substance use disorders among racial and ethnic minority populations, emphasizing the protective role of social support and the need for culturally relevant clinical care. Dr. Robert L. Peralta will share findings on policing's impact in African American communities, showing how individuals use coping strategies, artistic expression, and resilience to navigate trauma and foster healing. Dr. Anel Jaramillo will present research on how stress increases anxiety, focusing on alcohol abstinence. Together, these talks illustrate the diverse ways that stress manifests across biological, psychological, and social contexts, while also emphasizing the importance of protective factors, community resilience, and culturally grounded approaches to care.

CHAIR:

Anel Jaramillo, PhD, *Assistant Professor, University of Kentucky*

PRESENTERS:

2:50 PM – 3:20 PM

[The Impact of Traumatic Stress on Vulnerable and Marginalized Populations: Protective Effects of Social Support on Co-Occurring PTSD and Substance Use Disorders](#)

Colin T. Mahoney, PhD, *Assistant Professor of Clinical Psychology, The University of New Mexico*

3:20 PM – 3:50 PM

[Resilience and coping behavior among a minoritized community Facing police brutality: Findings from a mixed method community engage study on the effects of policing on mental health and well-being](#)

Robert L. Peralta, PhD, *Professor, Director of the Center for Conflict Management, The University of Akron, Ohio*

3:50 PM – 4:20 PM

[Dissecting Neuronal Pathways Driving Negative Affective Disturbances in Alcohol Abstinence](#)

Anel Jaramillo, PhD, *Assistant Professor, University of Kentucky*



4:20 PM – 4:30 PM

BREAK

TRANSITION TO FROST INSTITUTE FOR CHEMISTRY AND MOLECULAR SCIENCE BUILDING

LOCATION:

Frost Institute for Chemistry and Molecular Science, Great Hall 125 & 115

4:30 PM – 6:00 PM

Career Development Session 4

POSTER SESSION 2

Sponsored by Arizona State University Edson College of Nursing and Health Innovation

ORGANIZERS:

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

Keishla Marie Rodriguez-Graciani, PhD, *Postdoctoral Fellow, LSU Health Sciences Center – New Orleans*

Miracle Macias Burgos, *Doctoral Student, College of Medicine, University of Arizona*

Paulina Vargas, *Predoctoral Candidate, University of Pittsburgh*

6:00 PM – 8:00 PM

EVENING SHUTTLE (38-riders per trip)

PICKUP LOCATION:

Frost Institute for Chemistry and Molecular Science

DROP-OFF LOCATION:

Thesis Hotel

7:00 PM – 9:00 PM

ECLC NETWORKING MIXER

Sponsored by:

Dr. Ruben Parra-Cardona and the College of Social Work, University of Tennessee, Knoxville

Dr. Miguel Cano and the O'Donnell School of Public Health, University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center

LOCATION:

Paseo Courtyard at Thesis Hotel Miami



Saturday, October 25

7:00 AM – 8:30 AM	MORNING SHUTTLE (38-riders per trip)
PICKUP LOCATION:	Thesis Hotel
DROP-OFF LOCATION:	School of Nursing
8:00 AM	REGISTRATION/LIGHT BREAKFAST
LOCATION:	S.H.A.R.E Lobby, 2nd Floor/S.H.A.R.E Terrace

START AT S.H.A.R.E AUDITORIUM, SCHOOL OF NURSING BUILDING

LOCATION: **S.H.A.R.E Auditorium, Nursing Simulation Hospital Room 2420**

8:30 AM – 10:00 AM *Scientific Session 5*
UNCHARTED PATHWAYS: HETEROGENEITY WITHIN HISPANIC POPULATIONS

This session's goal is to highlight and interrogate the genetic, social, cultural, and structural diversity within Hispanic and Latinx populations—and to explore how this complexity must inform the research we conduct, the data we generate, the interventions we design, and the policies we support.

CHAIR: **Felicia Casanova, PhD**, *Assistant Professor, School of Nursing and Health Studies, University of Miami*

PRESENTERS:
8:30 AM – 8:48 AM *Examples of Strategies for Addressing Latino Heterogeneity in Intervention Research*
Olveen Carrasquillo, MD, MPH, *Professor, Associate Dean for Clinical and Translational Research, Co-Director of the Clinical and Translational Institute, Director of Behavioral and Community Based Research, University of Miami Miller School of Medicine*

8:48 AM – 9:06 AM *Perceived Discrimination & Intra-ethnic Racial Variation among U.S. Latinos*
Kasim Ortiz, PhD, MS, *Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology & Criminology, University of Miami*

9:06 AM – 9:24 AM *Beyond Categories: Epigenetics and Community Voices at the Heart of Biological Insight*
Jovanka Ravix, MD/PhD Student, *Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center, University of Miami Miller School of Medicine*

9:24 AM – 9:42 AM *Exploring Paths to Improving Care for Hispanic Communities through Education and Research*
Victor Cueto, MD, MS, *Associate Professor – Internal Medicine & Pediatrics, University of Miami Miller School of Medicine*



9:42 AM – 10:00 AM

What's Your Street Race? Why we need multiple measure of race for advancing health equity Among Latinos through Intersectionality as Inquiry & Praxis

Nancy Lopez, PhD, Professor, Department of Sociology & Criminology, University of New Mexico (ZOOM)

10:00 AM – 10:10 AM

BREAK

LOCATIONS:

S.H.A.R.E Auditorium, Nursing Simulation Hospital Room 2420

10:10 AM – 11:10 AM

Career Development Breakout Sessions

Neurosciences Datablitz

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 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.

CHAIRS:

Arturo Zavala, PhD, Professor, University of California

Sergio Iñiguez, PhD, Professor, University of Texas at El Paso

PRESENTERS:

10:10 AM – 10:17 AM

Chronic Social Defeat Stress Induces an Anxiety-Like Outcome in Male Prairie Voles (*Microtus Ochrogaster*)

Jessica Garcia, Undergraduate Student, The University of Texas at El Paso

10:17 AM – 10:24 AM

Disrupted Steroid Hormone Profiles in C57BL/6J Mice Following Acute Binge Ethanol Withdrawal: An Examination Across Age and Sex

Tatyanna Montgomery, Graduate Student Researcher, North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University

10:24 AM – 10:31 AM

Impact of E-Liquid Vehicle Composition on Nicotine Vapor Self-Administration in Adolescent Rats

Tiffany Gonzalez-Gutierrez, Graduate Student, University of Texas at El Paso

10:31 AM – 10:38 AM

Sex Differences in Withdrawal Symptoms and NMDA Receptor Expression After Chronic Morphine Treatment

Tiffany Aguirre, Graduate Student, University of Texas at Arlington

10:38 AM – 10:45 AM

Neuropeptidergic Transmission Shapes Emergent Properties of Prefrontal Cortical Circuits Underlying Learning

Miguel A. Arenivar, PhD Candidate, Brown University – Graduate Partnership Program, National Institute of Mental Health



10:45 AM – 10:52 AM

[Assessing Activity of Striatal Cholinergic Interneurons via p-S6rp After Punishment of Cocaine Seeking in Rats](#)

Adelis Cruz, PhD, *Postdoctoral Fellow, National Institute of Mental Health*

10:52 AM – 10:59 AM

[Post-TBI Alcohol Exposure Impairs Mitochondrial Bioenergetics in the Retrosplenial Cortex of Female Rats](#)

Xavier Chapa, PhD, *Postdoctoral Fellow, LSU Health Sciences Center – New Orleans*

LOCATION:

School of Nursing and Health Studies, Room 328

10:10 AM – 11:10 AM

[Social Sciences Datablitz](#)

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.

CHAIRS:

Tara Bautista, PhD, *Associate Professor, University of New Mexico*

Nalini Negi, PhD, *Professor, University of Maryland, Baltimore*

PRESENTERS:

10:10 AM – 10:17 AM

[Marianismo Beliefs Predict Resilience Above and Beyond Acculturation Processes Among Latina Immigrant Women](#)

Juan Sebastian Castillo Perez, *Doctoral Student, Department of Psychology, Florida International University*

10:17 AM – 10:24 AM

[Youth Participatory Action Research \(YPAR\) Guided Analysis of Associations that Contribute to Latinx Youth Mental Health](#)

Ramiro D. Garza, *Graduate Research Assistant – Masters, UTHealth Houston School of Public Health*

10:24 AM – 10:31 AM

[Resilience Amidst Uncertainty: Latino Adolescents' Emotional Stability Across a Polarized Policy Era](#)

Mariana Mendoza Ruiz, *PhD Student, Oklahoma State University*

10:31 AM – 10:38 AM

[Mental Health of U.S. Return Migrants to Mexico City](#)

Esmeralda (Esme) Ramirez, *PhD Student, University of Texas at Austin*



10:38 AM – 10:42 AM	Exploring Demographics and Sociocultural Factors Associated with Health Literacy Among Hispanic/Latino Adults Through the All of Us Study Barrett Wallace Montgomery, PhD, <i>Assistant Professor, Michigan State University</i>
11:10 AM – 11:20 AM	BREAK
LOCATION:	S.H.A.R.E Auditorium, Nursing Simulation Hospital, Room 2420
11:20 AM – 12:50 PM	<i>Scientific Session 6</i> BRIDGING DISCIPLINES, BUILDING RESILIENCE (IN THE CONTEXT OF ADDICTION, COMPULSIVE BEHAVIORS, AND VULNERABLE POPULATIONS) This session highlights innovative, interdisciplinary approaches to understanding resilience in the context of addiction, compulsive behaviors, and vulnerable populations. Talks will explore how family values shape resilience pathways in Hispanic youths, how decision-making phenotypes can reveal neurodevelopmental mechanisms of addiction, and how stress and protective factors influence the adolescent brain. By integrating perspectives from developmental science, neuroscience, and public health, this session will shed light on the complex pathways that foster resilience and reduce risk. Participants will gain fresh insights into how cross-cutting research can inform prevention and intervention strategies.
CHAIR:	Assaf Oshri, PhD, <i>Director, The Georgia Center for Developmental Science, Professor, Department of Human Development and Family Science</i>
PRESENTERS:	
11:20 AM – 11:50 AM	Bridging Family and Brain: Neurobiological Sensitivity to Familism and Substance Use Expectancies in Latinx Youth Assaf Oshri, PhD, <i>Director, The Georgia Center for Developmental Science, Professor, Department of Human Development and Family Science</i>
11:50 AM – 12:20 PM	Decision-making phenotypes for elucidating the neurodevelopmental mechanisms of addiction Stephanie M. Groman, PhD, <i>Assistant Professor, Department of Anesthesia and Critical Care, University of Chicago</i>
12:20 PM – 12:50 PM	Stress, Buffers, Resilience, and the Adolescent Brain Luke W. Hyde, PhD, <i>Professor, Department of Psychology, Michigan Neuroscience Institute Affiliate, University of Michigan</i>
12:50 PM – 1:00 PM	BREAK



LOCATION:	S.H.A.R.E Auditorium, Nursing Simulation Hospital Room 2420
1:00 PM	CLOSING
1:00 PM – 2:30 PM	AFTERNOON SHUTTLE
PICKUP LOCATION:	Frost Institute for Chemistry and Molecular Science
DROP-OFF LOCATION:	Thesis Hotel

**Schedule subject to change*



SPONSORS



National Institute
on Drug Abuse



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THE UNIVERSITY OF
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