

Fall 2023

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# The DART NEWSLETTER

Updates from the *Diversity in Addiction Research Training* (DART) Program at the  
Medical University of South Carolina

## Newsletter Highlights

*DART Advisory Board*

*New Residents*

*Returning Residents*

*Partner Institutions*

*Summer Research Day*

*Summer Fellows*

*2024 Summer Program*

*FLEX Graduate*

*Announcements and Kudos*



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[www.musc.edu/dart](http://www.musc.edu/dart)



Funded by NIDA grant number R25 DA020537 (PIs: Back & Brady)

# DART ADVISORY BOARD

*The DART Advisory Board is composed of multidisciplinary and highly accomplished researchers, educators, and leaders at MUSC and partnering institutions across the country. Each member brings exceptional talent and diverse experiences, skill sets, and viewpoints to the program. We are honored to work with this outstanding group of scientists, clinicians, and leaders in the field!*



**Nassima Ait-Daoud  
Tiouririne, M.D.**  
University of Virginia



**Kathleen Burlew,  
Ph.D.**  
University of Cincinnati



**Michael de Arellano,  
Ph.D.**  
MUSC



**Deborah Deas,  
M.D., MPH**  
University of California,  
Riverside



**Sherece Fields,  
Ph.D.**  
Texas A&M



**Shelly Greenfield,  
M.D., MPH**  
Harvard Medical School



**Denise Hien,  
Ph.D.**  
Rutgers University



**Edward Kantor,  
M.D.**  
MUSC



**Debra Kaysen,  
Ph.D.**  
Stanford University



**Petros Levounis,  
M.D., M.A.**  
Rutgers Medical School



**Teresa Lopez-  
Castro, Ph.D.**  
City College of New York



**Antonio Morgan-  
Lopez, Ph.D.**  
Research Triangle  
Institute



**Veronica Perez,  
Ph.D.**  
University of California,  
San Diego



**Lesia Ruglass,  
Ph.D.**  
City College of New  
York



**Lissette Saavedra,  
Ph.D.**  
Research Triangle  
Institute



**Richard Schottenfeld,  
M.D.**  
Howard University



**Vanessa Spearman,  
M.D.**  
Medical College of  
Georgia



**Carmen Zorrilla,  
M.D.**  
University of Puerto  
Rico

# DART Residents



## New DART Residents



**Zahraa Atoui, MD**  
MUSC

Mentored by Kathleen Brady, MD, PhD, Karen Hartwell, MD, and Jenna McCauley, PhD



**George Book, MD**  
MUSC

Mentored by Benjamin Kalivas, MD and Meghan Thomas, MD



**Alana Dopp, MD**  
MUSC

Mentored by Constance Guille, MD



**Charlie Palmer, MD**  
MUSC

Mentored by Mark George, MD

## Returning DART Residents



**Emily Amador, DO**  
MUSC

Mentored by Jennifer Jones, MD



**Manish Karamchandani, MD**  
MUSC

Mentored by Jennifer Jones, MD and Robert Malcolm, MD



**Adam Mullet, MD**  
MUSC

Mentored by Benjamin Kalivas, MD



**Kanya Nesbeth, MD**  
Howard University  
Mentored by Richard S. Schottenfeld, MD and Aimee McRae-Clark, PharmD



**Michael Seidman, MD**  
MUSC

Mentored by Mark George, MD, Lisa McTeague, PhD, Frederico Rodrigues-Porcel, MD, and Parneet Grewal, MD



**Yushekia Woodford, MD**  
Howard University

Mentored by Richard S. Schottenfeld, MD and Constance Guille, MD

DART is proud to partner with national residency training programs to grow and enhance research training and networking opportunities. Over the past year, DART welcomed three residents from Howard University and the University of Virginia. Over the next four years, DART will continue to expand its partnerships with other residency programs across the country. We look forward to these new connections!



# DART Summer Research Day 2023

The 2023 Summer Fellows presented at the **DART Summer Research Day** on July 28th at the Institute of Psychiatry on MUSC's campus.



Summer Fellows Amanda De La Cruz, Faith Lockhart, Sydni Anderson and Ebonie White

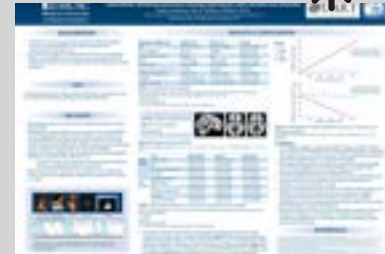
[Click here for full posters!](#)



## Sydni Anderson

### **Unique Associations between Insular Alcohol Cue Reactivity and Naturalistic Drinking Outcomes among Individuals with Alcohol Use Disorder**

Medical student from University of Kentucky College of Medicine mentored by William Mellick, Ph.D.



## Gabriel Comas

### **Impact of ADHD and Internalizing Disorders on Substance Use Initiation Among Adolescents**

Undergraduate student from Amherst College mentored by Alexis Garcia, Ph.D. & ReJoyce Green, Ph.D.



## Amanda De La Cruz

### **Sex Differences in Neural Responding to Alcohol and Conflict Cues Among Individuals with Alcohol Use Disorder and Couples Conflict**

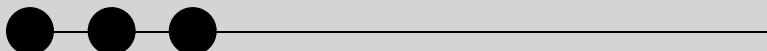
Undergraduate student from Florida State University mentored by Jane Joseph, Ph.D.



## Sandra Mariely Estrada Gonzalez

### **Associations Between Stress, Craving and Alcohol Consumption Among Women: Preliminary Results from an Ecological Momentary Assessment Study**

Doctoral student at University of Texas Rio Grande Valley mentored by Christine Hahn, Ph.D.





**Megan Gray**

**Neural Reactivity in Comorbid PTSD and AUD: An Investigation by Trauma Type**

Undergraduate student from Clemson University, mentored by Amber Jarnecke, Ph.D. & Sudie Back, Ph.D.



**Loren Hardeman**

**Examining Baseline Characteristics and Motivation, Readiness, and Confidence in the Ability to Quit among Youth Enrolled in a Cannabis Use Disorder Treatment Trial**

Medical student from Morehouse School of Medicine mentored by Kevin Gray, M.D.



**Faith Lockhart**

**Exploring Sex Differences in the Daily Associations of Alcohol and Cigarette Use: Insights from a Smoking Cessation Trial**

Undergraduate student from Agnes Scott College mentored by Karen Hartwell M.D. & Erin McClure Ph.D.



**Hetvi Solanki**

**Three-week rTMS Does Not Affect White Matter Integrity in Smokers: A Preliminary Finding with Diffusional Kurtosis Imaging**

Undergraduate student from Clemson University mentored by Xingbao Li, M.D.



**Kimberly Velazquez**

**Testing the Bidirectional Relationship Between Depression and E-cigarette Uptake: A Secondary Data Analysis from a Prospective Nationwide Longitudinal Study of E-cigarette Uptake**

Graduate student from The City College of New York mentored by Tracy Smith, Ph.D.

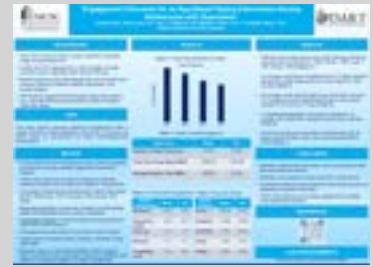




## **Ebonie White**

### **Engagement Outcomes for an App-Based Vaping Intervention Among Adolescents with Depression**

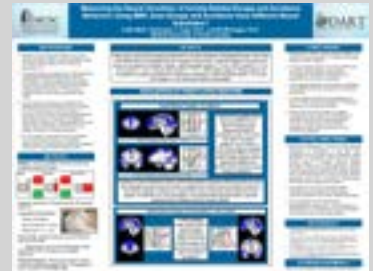
Undergraduate student from Winthrop University mentored by Jennifer Dahne, Ph.D



## **Collin Wolf**

### **Measuring the Neural Circuitries of Anxiety-Related Escape and Avoidance Behaviors Using fMRI: Do Escape and Avoidance Have Different Neural Substrates?**

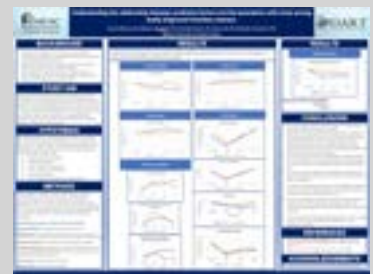
Undergraduate student from College of Charleston mentored by Christopher Sege, Ph.D. & Lisa McTeague, Ph.D.



## **Camara Wooten**

### **Understanding the Relationship between Predictive Factors and the Association with Crime among Dually Diagnosed Homeless Veterans**

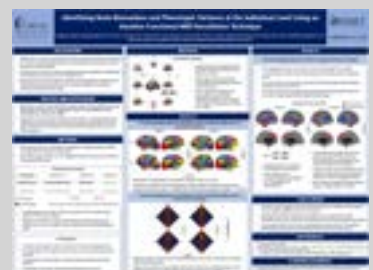
Graduate student from Duke University mentored by Elizabeth Santa Ana, Ph.D.



## **Yongkuan Zhang**

### **Identifying Brain Biomarkers and Phenotypic Variance at the Individual Level Using an Iterative Functional MRI Parcellation Technique**

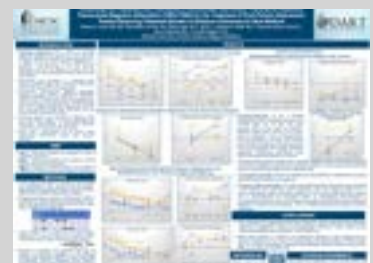
Undergraduate student from Brown University mentored by Bashar Badran, Ph.D.



## **Briana Lewis**

### **Assessing the Feasibility and Tolerability of Accelerated Intermittent Theta Burst Repetitive Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation (iTBS-rTMS) for the Treatment of Post-Partum Depression: Toward Reducing Treatment Burden to Enhance Outcomes for New Mothers**

Medical student at MUSC mentored by Lisa McTeague, Ph.D. & Anna Ehrhardt, M.D.



***Congratulations DART Summer Fellows!***

## DART Summer Fellowship continued

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Dr. Angela Haeny, Yale University

A special **thank you** to **Dr. Angela Haeny** from Yale University who delivered the Keynote Address at our 2023 DART Summer Research Day! Her talk was entitled “*Considerations for Improving Treatment for Substance Use Disorders among Black Adults.*”



### 2024 DART Summer Program Details

Applications for the 2024 DART Summer Program open **November 1, 2023** and the submission deadline is **Midnight on February 1, 2024.**

[Virtual Program Application Link](#)

[In-Person Program Application Link](#)

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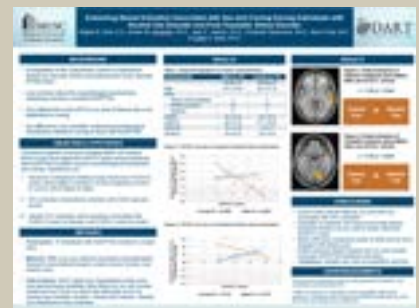
## DART FLEX Graduate



### Bailey Hice

**Examining Neural Activation Associated with Sex and Craving Among Individuals with Alcohol Use Disorders and Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder**

Medical student at MUSC mentored by Amber Jarnecke, Ph.D.



Applications for the 2024 DART FLEX Program are currently open and will close **October 1, 2023**. To apply, submit your CV, Letter of Interest, and 1 Letter of Recommendation. Learn more about application requirements [HERE](#).

[2024 FLEX Application Link](#)

# Announcements and Kudos

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DART Advisory Board member **Dr. Shelly Greenfield** at Harvard Medical School will present to DART residents on November 7th at 9:00am EST. All are welcome to join virtually by registering at the link below:



[Link to Register](#)

Save the Date

March 15th, 2024: Dr. Chyrell Bellamy  
(Yale School of Medicine)  
DART Psychiatry Grand Rounds Speaker



July 26th, 2024: Dr. Niranjan Karnick  
(University of Illinois at Chicago)  
DART Summer Research Day 2024 Keynote Speaker



*\*\*More information provided closer to date\*\**

**Dr. Josh Brown**, a DART alumnus, is making a significant impact in the field of brain stimulation. He attended MUSC for a combined residency in neurology and psychiatry where he worked with his DART mentor, Dr. Mark George in clinical brain stimulation. Dr. Brown was recently elected to the Clinical TMS Society Executive Committee and the Board of Directors. He also serves as Co-Chair of the Research Committee. Dr. Brown received a **NARSAD grant** to fund his work with Dr. Lisa McTeague and other Brain Stimulation Division researchers. Congratulations, Dr. Brown!



*"I'm indebted and grateful to people like my previous mentor, Mark George, and other early pioneers of the field that laid the foundation for us to be able to do this work." - Dr. Brown*



[Read the entire article HERE](#)



# Announcements and Kudos

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Visit the attached article to learn more about the work done by DART Summer alumna **Dr. Erin Martin** looking at the relationship between substance abuse and adverse childhood events (ACEs). Dr. Martin was mentored in DART by Dr. Aimee McRae-Clark.



[Link to Article](#)

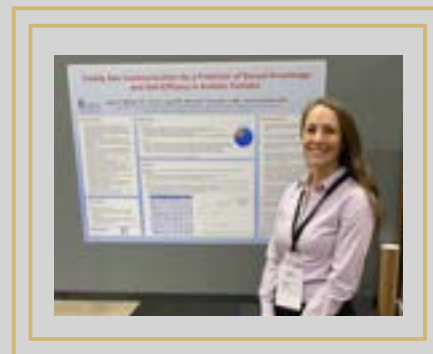


Dr. Thomas Lewis, MUSC

Join us in congratulating DART Residency alumnus **Dr. Thomas Lewis** on his new role as Associate Dean for Student Progress on the College of Medicine Dean's staff here at MUSC!

[Visit Dr. Lewis' Profile HERE](#)

DART Resident alumna **Dr. Emily Whisler** presented her DART research at the International Society of Autism Research (INSAR) meeting in Stockholm, Sweden in May. Her DART research was mentored by Dr. Frampton Gwynette and Dr. Laura Carpenter. Dr. Whisler is currently in the final year of her Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Fellowship at Stanford University.



Dr. Emily Whisler, Stanford University



Dr. Delisa Brown, MUSC

***Congrats to Dr. Delisa Brown on her new K23 Award!***

DART Summer alumna **Dr. Delisa Brown** received a 5-year, NIAAA K23 Career Development Award! Her mentors on the project include Dr. Sudie Back, Dr. Colleen Halliday, and Dr. Kathleen Burlew. Dr. Brown's project is entitled "Identifying the Effects of Race-Related Stressors on Laboratory-Induced Stress and Craving among African Americans with Alcohol Use Disorder."