

Curriculum Vitae

Jessica Ann Cucinello-Ragland, B.A.
(they/them/theirs)

Department of Physiology
1901 Perdido St.
New Orleans, LA 70112
504-284-8351
jcucin@lsuhsc.edu

Education and Training

August 2017- **LSU Health Sciences Center**
PhD Candidate
NIAAA NRSA Predoctoral Fellow
Department of Physiology
Alcohol and Drug Abuse Center of Excellence

**August 2013 -
May 2017** **University of Mississippi**
Bachelor of Arts Degree in Psychology
Minors in Neuroscience and Sociology
Provost Scholars Program

Research Experience

2018- **Graduate Research Assistant**
LSUHSC-New Orleans, Department of Physiology
Laboratory of Dr. Scott Edwards
Projects: Neurobiological sex differences in pain and addiction, neuroadaptations in endocannabinoid signaling in pain and addiction, neurobiological correlates of alcohol-induced pain avoidance, biobehavioral adaptations in a combined model of alcoholic neuropathy and complex regional pain syndrome
Techniques utilized include Western blot, gel electrophoresis, BSA protein assay, and animal models of pain, opioid dependence, and alcohol dependence.

2015-2017 **Undergraduate Research Assistant**
University of Mississippi, Department of Psychology
Laboratory of Dr. Kenneth J. Sufka
Project: Evoked vs. spontaneous tactile allodynia in a murine model of cisplatin-induced neuropathy
Techniques utilized included animal models of cisplatin-induced neuropathy, acute pain, depression/anxiety, and episodic migraine, drug efficacy screening, natural products research, and extraction and dissection of brain tissue.

Membership in Professional Organizations

2020-	LSUHSC Interprofessional Health Equity Alliance
2020-	Out to Innovate (National Organization of Gay and Lesbian Scientists and Technical Professionals)
2019-	LSUHSC Tiger Pride (Interprofessional LGBTQ+ Organization)
2018-2020	Association for Women in Science-Southern Louisiana Chapter
2018-	Society for Neuroscience
2018-	American Physiological Society
2018-	Research Society on Alcoholism
2018-	Society for Experimental Biology and Medicine

Awards and Honors

2021	Student Travel Award Alcohol and Immunology Research Interest Group Meeting
2021	New Trends in Sex and Gender Medicine Diversity Conference Scholarship American Physiological Society
2021	Trainee Professional Development Award Society for Neuroscience
2021	Student Merit Award Research Society on Alcoholism Annual Meeting, Virtual
2021	Research Recognition Award Central Nervous System Section, American Physiological Society
2020	Paul S. Roheim Award of Excellence Department of Physiology, LSUHSC
2020	Teaching Experiences for Bioscience Educators Fellowship American Physiological Society
2019	Outstanding Young Scientist Travel Award Association for Women in Science, Southern Louisiana Chapter
2019	Student Merit Travel Award Research Society on Alcoholism Annual Meeting
2018	Best Poster Award Graduate Research Day, LSUHSC
2017	Best Poster Award Neuroscience Research Day, University of Mississippi Medical Center
2017	Chancellor's Honor Roll, Spring Semester University of Mississippi
2016	Dean's Honor Roll, Fall Semester University of Mississippi

2013-2016	Academic Excellence Scholarship University of Mississippi
2013-2016	Holmes Scholarship University of Mississippi
2013	Dean's Honor Roll, Fall Semester University of Mississippi
2013	Keith Kelly Memorial Service Award Kenner North Kiwanis Club Kiwanis International

Research and Scholarship

Ongoing Research Support:

1F31AA028445

Activation Date: 08/20/2020

NIH/NIAAA National Research Service Award Fellowship

Regulation of Pain by Alcohol and Endocannabinoids in the Basolateral Amygdala

Role: PI

Completed Research Support:

T32AA007577 Molina, P. (PI)

08/20/2018-08/20/2020

NIH/NIAAA Institutional Research Training Grant

The Biomedical Alcohol Research Training Program prepares young pre-doctoral PhD and combined MD/PhD students, and postdoctoral fellows for research careers on the biomedical consequences of alcohol consumption and abuse.

Role: Trainee: Pre-doctoral Fellow

Journal Publications:

1. **Cucinello JA**, Warren JD, Oellerich PL, Harris HM, Sufka KJ (2017). Evoked vs spontaneous tactile allodynia: enhancing the translational relevance in a murine CIN model. University of Mississippi Undergraduate Research Journal.
2. **Cucinello-Ragland JA** and Edwards S (2020). Motivational aspects of pain in the context of alcohol use disorder. International Review of Neurobiology <https://doi.org/10.1016/bs.irn.2020.09.001>
3. **Cucinello-Ragland JA**, Mitchell-Cleveland R, Trimble WB, Urbina AP, Yeh AY, Edwards KN, Molina PE, Simon Peter L, Edwards S (2021). Alcohol amplifies cingulate cortex signaling and facilitates immobilization-induced hyperalgesia in female rats. Neuroscience Letters <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.neulet.2021.136119>
4. Edwards S, Callicoatte CN, Barattini AE, **Cucinello-Ragland JA**, Melain A, Edwards KN, Gilpin NW, Pahng AR (2022). Pramipexole treatment attenuates mechanical hypersensitivity in male rats experiencing chronic inflammatory pain. Neuropharmacology [10.1016/j.neuropharm.2022.108976](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.neuropharm.2022.108976)

XX. **Cucinello-Ragland JA**, Edwards KN, Edwards S. Sex-specific effects of alcohol on inflammatory pain and associated corticolimbic neuroadaptations. Addiction Biology (in preparation)

XX. Davis EC*, **Cucinello-Ragland JA***, Edwards KN, Edwards S. Agmatine reduces alcohol self-administration and hyperalgesia symptoms in the context of alcohol dependence. Alcoholism: Clinical and Experimental Research (in preparation)

**Davis and Cucinello-Ragland contributed equally to this work*

XX. **Cucinello-Ragland JA**, Mitchell-Cleveland R, Monteagudo-Romero L, Edwards S. The ascendancy of pain in the pathophysiology of affective disorders. The Journal of Neurophysiology (in preparation)

National and International Abstracts, Posters, and Presentations:

1. **Cucinello JA**, Berner ME, Pahng AR, Edwards KN, Edwards S. *Differential effects of opioid versus alcohol dependence on pain avoidance behavior and regional endocannabinoid system deficiency*. Society for Neuroscience. Poster presentation. 2019.
2. **Cucinello JA**, Edwards S, Yeh AY, Molina PE, Simon L. *Sex differences in an animal model of combined alcoholic neuropathy and complex regional pain syndrome*. Research Society on Alcoholism abstract. Alcoholism: Clinical and Experimental Research. Poster presentation. 2019. 43, S1.
3. **Cucinello-Ragland JA**, Berner ME, McQuirter S, Pahng AR, Edwards KN, Edwards S. *Neurobiological correlates of pain avoidance behavior in alcohol- and opioid-withdrawal*. International Behavioral Neuroscience Society. Virtual poster presentation. 2020.
4. **Cucinello JA**, Mitchell-Cleveland R, Trimble WB, Urbina AP, Yeh AY, Edwards KN, Molina PE, Simon Peter L, Edwards S. *Neurobiological adaptations in a female rat model of combined alcoholic neuropathy and complex regional pain syndrome*. The STEM Village Virtual Symposium. Invited oral presentation. 2020.
5. **Cucinello JA**, Berner ME, Pahng AR, Edwards KN, Edwards S. *Differential effects of opioid versus alcohol dependence on pain avoidance behavior and regional endocannabinoid system deficiency*. Experimental Biology abstract. Poster presentation. FASEB J. 2020. 24, S1.
6. **Cucinello-Ragland JA**, Trimble WB, Urbina AP, Edwards KN, Molina PE, Simon L, Edwards S. *Cingulate cortex neuroadaptations in a female rodent model of combined alcoholic neuropathy and complex regional pain syndrome*. Research Society of Alcoholism abstract. Virtual poster presentation. Alcoholism: Clinical and Experimental Research. 2020. 44, S1.
7. **Cucinello-Ragland JA**, Trimble WB, Urbina AP, Edwards KN, Molina PE, Simon L, Edwards S. *Cingulate cortex neuroadaptations in a female rodent model of combined complex regional pain syndrome and alcoholic neuropathy*. Experimental Biology. Virtual poster presentation. FASEB J. 2021. 35, S1.

8. **Cucinello-Ragland JA** and Edwards S. *Sex differences in the comparative efficacy of alcohol to alleviate the somatic versus negative motivational aspects of chronic pain*. Research Society of Alcoholism. Virtual poster presentation. Alcoholism: Clinical and Experimental Research. 2021. 45, S1.
9. **Cucinello-Ragland JA**, Gold LC, Edwards KN, Edwards S. *Sex-dependent effects of alcohol on inflammatory pain and limbic system neuroadaptations in the context of pain*. American Physiological Society New Trends in Sex and Gender Medicine. Virtual poster presentation. 2021.
10. **Cucinello-Ragland JA**, Gold LC, Edwards KN, Edwards S. *Sex-dependent effects of alcohol on inflammatory pain and limbic system neuroadaptations in the context of pain*. Society for Neuroscience. Virtual poster presentation. 2021.
11. **Cucinello-Ragland JA**, Tran NT, Bajo M, Roberto M, Edwards S. *Alcohol amplifies neuroinflammatory IL-6 pathway signaling in the prefrontal cortex*. Alcohol and Immunology Research Interest Group. Invited oral presentation and poster presentation. Alcohol. 2021. 96.
12. **Cucinello-Ragland JA**, Edwards KN, Edwards S. *Sex-specific effects of alcohol on inflammatory pain and corticolimbic endocannabinoid signaling*. Gordon Research Seminar: Multilevel Neuronal Targets for Alcohol Interventions. Invited oral presentation. 2022.
13. **Cucinello-Ragland JA**, Edwards KN, Edwards S. *Sex-specific effects of alcohol on inflammatory pain and corticolimbic endocannabinoid signaling*. Gordon Research Conference: Neurobiology of Alcohol Use Disorder and CNS Comorbidities. Poster presentation. 2022.

Local and State Abstracts, Posters, and Presentations:

1. **Cucinello JA**, Warren JD, Oellerich PL, Harris HM, Sufka KJ. *Evoked vs spontaneous tactile allodynia: enhancing the translational relevance of a murine CIN model*. University of Mississippi Medical Center Neuroscience Research Day. Poster presentation. 2017.
2. **Cucinello JA**, Berner ME, Pahng AR, Edwards S. *Endocannabinoid deficiency as a correlate of pain avoidance in the opioid-dependent state*. LSUHSC Graduate Research Day. Poster presentation and 3 Minute Thesis presentation. 2018.
3. **Cucinello JA**, Berner ME, Pahng AR, Edwards KN, Edwards S. *Differential effects of opioid versus alcohol dependence on pain avoidance behavior and regional endocannabinoid system deficiency*. LSUHSC Graduate Research Day. Poster presentation. 2019.
4. **Cucinello-Ragland JA**. *Invisibility, Imposter Syndrome, and Identity*. LSUHSC LGBTQ+ STEM Day. Invited oral presentation. 2020.
5. **Cucinello-Ragland JA**. *Queer Imposter Syndrome, Invisibility, and Exclusion in Science and Medicine*. LSUHSC Perspectives on Alcohol Research. Invited oral presentation. 2021.

6. **Cucinello-Ragland JA**, Edwards KN, Edwards S. *Sex-specific effects of alcohol on inflammatory pain and corticolimbic endocannabinoid signaling*. LSUHSC Alcohol and Drug Abuse Center of Excellence Retreat. Invited oral presentation. 2021.
7. **Cucinello-Ragland JA**. *Pain and Alcohol: Clinical and Preclinical Perspectives*. Carol Ashton D'Angelo New Orleans Neuroscience Retreat. Invited oral presentation. 2022.
8. **Cucinello-Ragland JA**. *Pain: A Cause and Consequence of Alcohol Use*. Department of Physiology Seminar Series. Invited oral presentation. 2022.

Teaching Experience

Formal Lectures:

- 2022-** HLSC 3410 Pathophysiology—LSUHSC (School of Nursing)
Opioids & Substance Use Disorder (1h)
- 2021-** HLSC 2410 Human Physiology—LSUHSC (School of Nursing)
Autonomic Nervous System (1h)
Course Evaluation: 3.7-3.8 (Scale 1-4)
- 2021** INTER 200 Professionalism in Science—LSUHSC (School of Graduate Studies)
Student Leadership
Course Evaluation: N/A
- 2021** HLSC 2410 Human Physiology—LSUHSC (School of Nursing)
Endocrine Physiology—Pancreas (1h)
Endocrine Physiology—Growth Hormone, Calcium Homeostasis (1h)
Course Evaluation: 4.0 (Scale 1-4)
- 2019-** HLSC 3410 Pathophysiology—LSUHSC (School of Nursing)
Pain (1h)
Course Evaluation: 3.4-3.9 (Scale 1-4)

Additional Teaching Experience:

- 2020-2022** Instructor
Writing a Research Proposal Workshop
Postbaccalaureate Research Education Program, LSUHSC (03/20/20)
- 2021** Instructor
Understanding Graduate Education
Postbaccalaureate Research Education Program, LSUHSC (06/30/2021)
- 2020** Instructor
Study Skills for Graduate School Workshop
School of Graduate Studies, LSUHSC (08/10/20)
- 2020** Instructor
Do's and Don'ts of Choosing a Scientific Mentor Workshop
School of Graduate Studies, LSUHSC (08/10/20)

- 2020** Seminar Speaker
Graduate School Application Workshop
Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU), Enhancing Neuroscience Diversity through Undergraduate Education Experiences (ENDURE), and Summer Research Programs, LSUHSC (06/22/20)
- 2020** Private tutor
INTER 131 & 132 Biological Systems A & B—LSUHSC (Schools of Graduate Studies and Allied Health)
- 2019-2020** Official course tutor
HLSC 2410 Human Physiology—LSUHSC (School of Nursing)
Course Evaluation: 3.6-3.7 (Scale 1-4)

Mentoring Experience

- 2018-** Co-Mentoring: Edwards Laboratory, LSUHSC
High School Students: Melissa Berner[^], Jacob Lincoln
Undergraduate Students: Amy Urbina Lopez^{*^}, Sarah McQuirter[^]
Medical Students: W. Bradley Trimble, Logan Gold[^]
Postbaccalaureate Scholar: Roshawn Mitchell-Cleveland^{*^}
ENDURE Scholars: Ngan Tran^{*^}, Elge Stevens^{*}

[^]Female trainee

^{*}Historically excluded/underrepresented trainee

Professional Development

- 2020** Attendee
Sexual & Gender Minority Research Office Scientific Webinar Series
National Institute of Health
- 2020** Organizer, Panelist
Being LGBTQ+ in STEM: A Panel Discussion Featuring LGBTQ+ Scientists
Department of Physiology, LSUHSC
- 2020** Participant
Creating an Inclusive Environment in the Laboratory Workshop
School of Medicine, Office of Diversity and Community and Engagement, LSUHSC

Service Activities

Professional Service:

- 2021-** LSUHSC Student Council for Equity-Focused Leaders
School of Graduate Studies Representative
- 2021-** LSUHSC Tiger Pride (Interprofessional LGBTQ+ Organization)
President
- 2021** Department of Physiology Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Committee
Student Member

- 2021** Campus Partners Interview Committee for Director of Diversity and Inclusion Education
- 2021** Alcohol and Drug Addiction Center of Excellence Retreat Organizing Committee Co-Chair
- 2020** *Causes and Consequences of Drug & Alcohol Abuse* Xavier University Wellness Wednesday Series November 18
- 2020** Queer in Science & Medicine Panel Discussion Moderator
- 2020, 2021** LSUHSC LGBTQ+ STEM Day Organizing Committee
- 2020** *Co-Chair, Featured Topic Session: *Estrogen as a Neuromodulator of CNS Structure and Function* 2020 Experimental Biology Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA
*Canceled due to COVID-19
- 2020-2021** Louisiana Board of Regents Council of Student Body Presidents LSUHSC-NO Student Representative
- 2020-2021** LSUHSC Graduate Student Government Association President
- 2019-2021** Association for Women in Science, Southern Louisiana Chapter Social Committee Member
- 2019-2020** LSUHSC Graduate Student Government Association Physiology Department Representative
- 2018-2019** LSUHSC Graduate Student Government Association Graduate Student Ambassador

Community Service & Outreach:

- 2022** Wellness Awareness Day Fair. Alcohol and Drug Abuse Center of Excellence representative. Xavier University of Louisiana (03/31/2022)
- 2021** Recovery Day Fair. Alcohol and Drug Abuse Center of Excellence representative. Xavier University of Louisiana (09/21/2021)
- 2021** *Biopsychology and Drug Research: Careers in Science for “Non-Science” People*. AP Psychology Class Guest Lecture, Patrick F. Taylor Science and Technologies Academy (03/19/21)
- 2020** Greater New Orleans Science and Engineering Fair. Research mentor. Livingston Collegiate Academy (Fall 2020 Semester)
- 2020** Peer Advocate Liaison Resource Fair. Alcohol and Drug Abuse Center of Excellence representative. LSUHSC (02/18/20)
- 2019, 2020** Summer Research Internship Program Poster Session. Volunteer judge. LSUHSC (07/26/19; 07/20/21)

- 2019** Believe in Girls Event. Volunteer with Association for Women in Science-Southern Louisiana Chapter. Louisiana State University (09/28/19)
- 2018** American Cancer Society's Belles and Beaus Ball event. Volunteer. (09/28/18)
- 2018** Summer Research Internship Program Poster Session. Volunteer judge. LSUHSC (07/27/18)
- 2018** Alcohol and Drug Abuse Center of Excellence retreat. Retreat moderator. LSUHSC (05/22/18)
- 2018** Peer Advocate Liaison Resource Fair. Alcohol and Drug Abuse Center of Excellence representative. LSUHSC (02/20/2018)
- 2018** National Drug and Alcohol Facts Week. Volunteer with Alcohol and Drug Abuse Center of Excellence. LSUHSC (01/26/2018)

Updated May 2022.