2026

Research Society on Alcohol

# Membership Guide



# About RSA





The Research Society on Alcohol (RSA), until 2023, known as the Research Society on Alcoholism, was established in 1976. Today, the goals of RSA are to provide a forum for communication and career development among alcohol researchers, to attract and support the next generation of alcohol researchers and to disseminate scientific knowledge regarding alcohol use and alcohol-related problems.

# Our Mission

RSA is the preeminent scientific research organization devoted to understanding the causes and complications of alcohol use and alcohol-related problems and to promoting effective strategies for prevention, intervention, and sustained behavior change to reduce alcohol-related harm. RSA provides a community for sharing scientific discoveries, attracting and supporting career development of the next generation of alcohol researchers, disseminating scientific knowledge regarding alcohol use to our members and the public, and raising public awareness and understanding of the health implications of alcohol use and alcohol-related harm.

# 1400+ MEMBERS

Over 1,400 members

# Multidisciplinary MEMBERSHIP

Members include students, post-docs, professors, researchers, senior scientists, clinicians, and more

# Cutting Edge RESEARCH

Psychosocial, biomedical, pre-clinical, and translational research

# Members Are Talking:

*"RSA membership is a launching platform for the next generation of leaders in alcohol research."*

*"Membership provides a great opportunity to meet a mentee and exchange knowledge and information."*

*"Mentoring within the RSA community... is my favorite part of my career —supporting future researchers."*

*"A great opportunity to network with other investigators and get advice on career paths."*

*"RSA allows graduate students and postdocs to present... fostering collaborations."*

# Welcome Letter

Thank you for becoming a member of the Research Society on Alcohol (RSA)! We welcome your addition to this Society of scientists dedicated to the study of alcohol with specialists ranging from molecular biology to epidemiology to clinical science. RSA, known until 2023 as the Research Society on Alcoholism, was established in 1976 and today comprises over 1,400 members from over one hundred U.S. universities, governmental entities, and international institutions. The mission of RSA is to provide a forum for communication of scientific discoveries, to attract and support career development for the next generation of alcohol researchers, and to disseminate scientific knowledge regarding alcohol use and alcohol-related health problems.

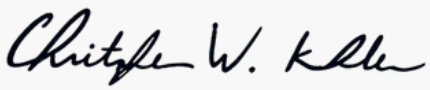
Our Society is strengthened through the broad range of scientific specialties represented and members across career stages and lived experiences. For many of us, RSA is our scientific home where we have met colleagues whose work we have admired, found mentors, and made life-long friends. In addition to attending high-quality scientific Symposia and Workshops at the Annual Meeting, we encourage you to attend Poster Sessions and social events where you can meet and interact with your new colleagues.

Please volunteer for one of RSA's many committees. These are dedicated to furthering our mission, including the support of emerging scientists, advocacy for alcohol science, and dissemination of high-quality scientific information through our public outreach and continuing education programming. There are a wealth of opportunities to become involved with RSA regardless of your career stage; we value the contribution of all our Members.

Again, welcome to RSA from your leadership team. Please do not hesitate to reach out to us at info@researchsocietyonalcohol.org if you have any questions. Keep your eye out for our e-mail communications or follow us on social media (BlueSky, Instagram, Facebook, LinkedIn) for important Society updates.

We look forward to seeing you at the next Annual Meeting!

Best wishes,



Christopher W. Kahler, Ph.D.
President, RSA

# ACER Journal

Alcohol, Clinical and Experimental Research was founded by the National Council on Alcoholism (now the NCADD). Alcohol use disorder cause significant social and medical harm, and research into the etiology and consequences of alcohol use is essential to guide prevention, treatment and policy. Alcohol, Clinical and Experimental Research gives readers direct access to the most significant and current research findings on the nature and management of alcohol use disorder and alcohol-related disorders. Each month this journal brings basic science researchers and health care professionals the latest clinical studies and research findings related to alcohol, alcohol use disorder, as well as alcohol-related disorders and organ damage. The journal includes categories of basic science, clinical research, and treatment methods.

**Aims**

Alcohol, Clinical and Experimental Research's aims are:

- to provide an effective forum for high quality research in the field of alcohol use disorders by ensuring careful peer review and selection of the highest quality papers.
- to share new findings with others in the alcohol research field and beyond on matters relating to the science or its translation into clinical practice or policy.
- to disseminate high quality research in the field of alcohol research worldwide through its publication.

**Scope**

Alcohol, Clinical and Experimental Research's scope spans animal and human clinical research, epidemiological, experimental, policy, and historical research relating to any aspect of alcohol abuse, dependence, or alcohol use disorder. This journal uses a multi-disciplinary approach in its scope of alcohol use disorder, its causes, clinical and animal effect, consequences, patterns, treatments and recovery, predictors and prevention.

# Membership Benefits

We invite you to join our community of researchers. Within RSA, you can connect with others in the field who are equally as passionate. Below, you will find some of the exciting benefits that RSA Members enjoy most.

- Free and discounted CME/CEU opportunities throughout the year, through the Vumedi and TPN.health platforms.
- Access to Members Directory.
- Posting of Job & Training opportunities.
- Eligible to serve on RSA Committees.
- Opportunities to nominate colleagues or to be nominated for RSA Annual Awards.
- Discount on registration fees to attend the Annual Scientific Meeting.
- Endorsement of abstracts for presentation at the Annual Scientific Meeting.
- Student and Post-Doc Members: Preference for various meeting awards and small grants (upon review of score/ranking).
- Waived ACER Journal page charge fees for members who are first or corresponding author and in good-standing with two (2) consecutive years of paid membership dues.
- Regular/Postdoctoral Members: include a subscription to Alcohol, Clinical and Experimental Research (ACER) Journal and a monthly email highlighting newly submitted articles.
    - All other membership types have the option to add an ACER Journal subscription for a reduced Member Price.

## They Said It Best:

*"High-quality scientific content... valuable and enriching experience."*

*"The conference showcases the latest advancements... offering diverse viewpoints on alcohol addiction."*

*"I am re-applying because RSA is the best organization for research on alcohol disorders."*

# Membership Types & Fees

| MEMBERSHIP TYPE | YEARLY DUES |
|---|---|
| Associate Membership + Journal | 175.00 |
| Associate Membership + Journal + FASD | 200.00 |
| Associate Membership (no Journal) | 65.00 |
| Associate Membership + FASD | 90.00 |
| Dual Membership (no Journal) | 60.00 |
| Dual Membership + Journal + FASD | 205.00 |
| Dual Membership + Journal | 170.00 |
| Dual Membership + FASD | 95.00 |
| Postdoctoral Membership (includes Journal) | 110.00 |
| Postdoctoral Membership + FASD | 145.00 |
| Regular Membership (includes Journal) | 250.00 |
| Regular Membership + FASD | 285.00 |
| Student Membership + Journal | 110.00 |
| Student Membership + Journal + FASD | 135.00 |
| Student Membership (no Journal) | 50.00 |
| Student Membership + FASD | 75.00 |

# Steps to take as a New Member of RSA

## 1 Review RSA Membership Type & Dues Page

Understand your dues category and what benefits are included.

## 2 Complete a New Member Application for Membership Approval

→ https://researchsocietyonalcohol.org/portal/join/

Once you have received your New Member Welcome Letter you may access the Member Portal to manage your membership invoice and connect with other members. Do not pay your membership dues before reveiving approval from the RSA Executive Office.

## 3 Update Your Member Profile

Help colleagues find and connect with you by uploading a photo, opting into the member directory, and updating your research interests.

## 4 Get Involved

There are many ways to participate:

- Submit an abstract to present a poster or give a talk
- Attend the RSA Annual Scientific Meeting
- Join committees
- Submit nominations or awards
- Volunteer for service opportunities
- Follow us on Social Media (BlueSky, LinkedIn, Instagram, Facebook, TPN.health)

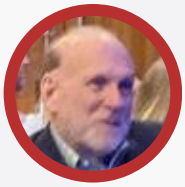
## 5 Stay Informed

Stay engaged with RSA by monitoring email communications, keeping track of key deadlines, reviewing calls for proposals and awards, and supporting our social media initiatives by liking, responding to, and sharing posts.

# Meet Our Leadership



**President**
Christopher Kahler, Ph.D.
Brown University
Providence, RI



**Vice President**
Henry Kranzler, MD
Perelman School of Medicine
Philadelphia, PA



**Secretary**
Angela Ozburn, Ph.D.
Oregon Health & Science University
Portland, OR



**Treasurer**
Rajesh Miranda, Ph.D.
Texas A&M University
College Station, TX



**Immediate Past President**
Kristen Anderson, Ph.D.
Reed College
Portland, OR



**Board Member**
Sarah Pedersen, Ph.D.
University of Pittsburgh
Pittsburgh, PA



**Board Member**
Amy Lasek, Ph.D.
Virginia Commonwealth University
Richmond, VA



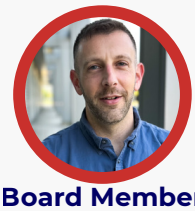
**Board Member**
Graeme Mason, Ph.D.
Yale University School of Medicine
New Haven, CT



**Board Member**
Jeff Weiner, Ph.D.
Wake Forest University School of Medicine
Winton-Salem, NC



**Board Member**
Melissa Herman, Ph.D.
University of North Carolina Chapel Hill
Chapel Hill, NC



**Board Member**
Max Joffe, Ph.D.
University of Pittsburgh
Pittsburgh, PA



**Board Member**
Jen Rinker, Ph.D.
Medical University of South Carolina
Charleston, SC



**Board Member**
Jessica Salvatore, Ph.D.
Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School
Piscataway, NJ



**Board Member**
Elisa Trucco, Ph.D.
Florida International University
Miami, FL

## *Real Voices. Real Experiences.*

*"Content of the symposium/workshops was excellent."*

*"RSA Leadership ensures that a breadth and depth of alcohol research is presented and discussed."*

*"Great opportunity to stay up to date with current research practices and findings."*

# RSA Staff



**Association Manager**

DJ Bradley



**Meetings Manager**

Laura Reynolds



**Content Manager**

Christine Farwell



**Director of Association Management**

Kara Lawrence



**Member Services Manager**

Rachel Retherford



**Association Coordinator**

Jennifer McCluskey

# RSA Social Media: TAG US!

**Instagram:** @ResearchSocietyonAlcohol

**Bluesky:** @rsaofficial.bsky.social

**LinkedIn:** @Research Society on Alcohol (RSA)

**Facebook:** @ResearchSocietyonAlcohol

**X:** @RSAposts

# Committees

**ADVOCACY COMMITTEE**
has the primary responsibility for communicating with the consulting agency hired by RSA (DLA Piper) to promote Congressional support for alcohol research. The committee will be responsible for directing and evaluating the lobbying efforts and reporting to the Society regarding the effectiveness of this effort. In conjunction with lobbying activities, Hill Day, Advocacy Webinars, the committee members may be asked to provide testimony to Congress or other agencies (e.g., Department of Defense); to facilitate meetings of RSA members with their Congressional representatives; to provide appropriate language regarding alcohol research for inclusion in Congressional and other reports; and to inform Society members of opportunities to write to their Congressional representatives in support of funding for alcohol research.

**ANIMAL RESEARCH AND ETHICS COMMITTEE (AREC)**
is charged with reviewing, disseminating and discussing topics related to the ethical use of animals in biomedical research and increasing awareness among the RSA Membership of the growing number of challenges that are being directed at investigators who study alcohol use and other addictive disorders. This committee accepts nominations yearly for the AREC Award. Applications are reviewed and selected by the committee. The awardee is presented with a plaque at the closing ceremony.

**AWARDS COMMITTEE**
is charged with reviewing nominations for and selecting the recipients of the Distinguished Researcher Award; the Early Career Investigator Award; the Lifetime Achievement Award; the Henri Begleiter Excellence in Research Award; the Marlatt Mentorship Award; and the Dora Goldstein Distinguished in the Sciences Award based on a rating system that is designed and agreed upon by the committee. Requests for nominations are sent to membership via email marketing sent out by the Member Services Manager in October. Additionally, the committee is charged with selecting the Memorial Awardees from the oral presentation speakers (1 student and 1 post-doc when applicable), when funds are available; these awards honor recently deceased members. Note: The Board of Directors selects the recipients of the Sexias Award, and the Public Outreach Committee selects the recipient of the Media Award.

**CAREER DEVELOPMENT AND TRAINING COMMITTEE**
is responsible for addressing professional development needs of RSA Members at all stages of their careers, with a particular focus on mentoring, networking, scientific presentation and grantsmanship. The committee members will coordinate professional development activities at the annual meeting, including workshops. Promote networking among junior members with student- and postdoc-specific events and through the meeting mentor program. Facilitate interactions between NIAAA staff with extramural trainees and faculty through events and workshops. Manage the Enoch Gordis Award competition for excellence in scientific presentations by students and postdoctoral fellows.

# Committees

**COMMUNICATION AND PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE**
is responsible for negotiating and overseeing financial arrangements with the official RSA journal, Alcohol, Clinical and Experimental Research (i.e., negotiation of publication contract, annual review of the Editorial Office budget). The committee Chair appoints a Social Media Editor for RSA who works in collaboration with RSA Member Services Manager to create RSA branded content for posting on the Society platforms. The Social Media Editor is the chair of the Social Media Workgroup.

**CONTINUING EDUCATION COMMITTEE (CEC)**
is responsible for the development, implementation, and management of the Research Society on Alcohol (RSA) program in continuing education. Their mission is to provide medical professionals, psychologists, social workers, and other health practitioners with high-quality, evidence-based information on alcohol use and alcohol use disorders. Leveraging the expertise of RSA's scientific community, the CEC provides both in-person and online training opportunities designed to support clinical practice and professional development. The CEC is responsible for evaluating and approving new CEU/CME content proposals, ensuring the currency and accuracy of educational materials, and developing new programs to meet the emerging needs in the field. The CEC will interface with other relevant committees within RSA as part of the Society's broader efforts in education, training, and community outreach.

**LIVING OUR VALUES COMMITTEE (LOV)**
has three primary aims: (1) to expand RSA Membership and create a welcoming environment where every member is valued and supported; (2) to strengthen the scientific program by encouraging research that reflects the full spectrum of human populations and experiences; (3) to champion professional development and opportunity for members across the full range of backgrounds and identities, including sex, age, ethnicity, race, gender identity, sexual orientation, religion, nationality, socioeconomic status, and physical or cognitive ability.

**MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE**
is responsible for attracting and retaining a new generation of scientists to the Research Society on Alcohol, as well as in the field of alcohol research. The primary role of the members is to actively seek to recruit new members into RSA through various outreach activities including providing membership recruitment driven content for mass/listserv email, by word of mouth, sharing flyers, any outside meetings, and through colleague contacts etc. The Membership Committee members shall solicit help from current RSA Members to help attract new members into the RSA.

**PARTNERSHIPS AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**
has three major missions: (1) to formulate new initiatives for RSA involvement that are consistent with the society's mission; (2) to fund and administer the Doctoral Student Small Grants Program (DSSGP) to provide pilot support of novel research by young investigators; and (3) to formulate and pursue strategies to raise funds to support the RSA initiatives.

# Committees

**PUBLIC OUTREACH COMMITTEE**
is responsible for developing and disseminating information for informing health professionals, members of the public, and fellow scientists about the value and impact of alcohol research. The target audience will understand, through our efforts, how our leading-edge research is helping find solutions to the problems raised by alcohol overuse. Types of actions that our members may undertake include (a) designing lectures and other educational activities targeting our constituent groups, (b) meeting with members of local organizations to the current year Annual Meeting to invite them to participate and stress the importance of research to address individual and societal problems associated with alcohol consumption, (c) review the nominations for the RSA Media Award and select the awardee. This award honors journalists and writers who are effective, through their work, in communicating the importance of alcohol use and its disorders and the need to research its causes, prevention, and treatment, and (d) any other activities that foster the primary goals of educating the public.

**PROGRAM COMMITTEE**
consists of at least 20 RSA Members that review submission content alongside the Program Committee co-chairs, Vice President, Content Manager. The RSA President and Association Manager must work very closely with all parties and communicate on all aspects of the meeting. It is important that the Program Committee Co-Chairs have a good working relationship and are in frequent contact concerning the scientific quality and scheduling of the program. The Program Committee Co-Chairs will submit to the President for approval a list of at least 20 members to serve on the Program Committee. Past chairs of the Program Committee may serve as members of the current committee to provide further continuity. The Program Committee shall meet and/or communicate by e-mail and/or virtual meetings throughout the year preceding the Annual Meeting to formulate general policy.

**COMMITTEE WORKGROUPS**

**SOCIAL MEDIA WORKGROUP (COMMUNICATIONS & PUBLICATIONS)**
is made up of one liaison from each of the committees listed above. The members of this workgroup will meet as needed (after the first introductory meeting each year) to discuss any important issues pertaining to the content creation for posts on social media platforms. All content that is to be posted is done so in collaboration with the Social Media Editor. The RSA Member Services Manager will then post the content using Marketing images that follow RSA branding.

**LOCAL ORGANIZING WORKGROUP (PUBLIC OUTREACH)**
consists of RSA Members that are local to or live around the meeting venue; these members help suggest local establishments for the meeting to highlight such as: information on local volunteering, tourist activities, restaurants, and shopping areas.

**ALCOHOL GUIDELINES STUDY GROUP**
RSA is establishing an Alcohol Guidelines Study Group to foster scientific discussion and inform evidence-based perspectives on alcohol consumption guidelines. Additional details will be announced soon.

# RSA Advocacy

The mission of the Advocacy Committee is to advance, through public policy, federal agency action, and Congressional outreach, the interests of the Research Society on Alcohol (RSA) and its members in promoting the acquisition, dissemination, and application of scientific knowledge on alcohol's effects on physical and mental health across the lifespan and their impact on public health and safety. The Committee has primary responsibility for coordinating with RSA's consulting agency, DLA Piper, to promote Congressional support for alcohol research, as well as directing and evaluating lobbying efforts and reporting to the Society on their effectiveness. In conjunction with these activities, including Hill Day and Advocacy Webinars, the Committee may provide testimony to Congress and federal agencies, facilitate meetings between RSA members and Congressional representatives, contribute language for legislative and agency reports, and inform and engage Society members in advocacy opportunities. The Committee also educates RSA Members on public policy issues and legislative and regulatory initiatives that affect their work, encouraging active participation in advancing these shared interests.




I STAND FOR ALCOHOL SCIENCE

# Alcohol Insights from Research to Practice

**RSA Distinguished Scholars Lecture Series**

# CEU/CME Available

Watch at your pace

Learn from distinguished scholars

Earn professional credit

**View the Lectures >**

Research Society on Alcohol

Your participation supports RSA's mission and the future of alcohol research.

## RSA CERTIFICATE IN ALCOHOL EDUCATION, RESEARCH & PRACTICE

# 11 HOURS FULLY ON-DEMAND

One comprehensive certificate for education, research, and practice.

FREE for RSA Trainee and Student Members in good standing.

Available through TPN.Health

**EXPLORE THE CERTIFICATE >**



Research Society on Alcohol

researchsocietyonalcohol.org

# Annual Scientific Meeting

The Annual Meeting serves as a dynamic gathering place for scientists and clinicians from across the country and around the world. It offers a unique opportunity to connect on a personal level with others engaged in alcohol research, fostering collaboration and meaningful professional relationships. The meeting also provides both members and non-members the opportunity to share their latest findings through abstract and symposia submissions.

The Annual Meeting features a wide-ranging and engaging format, including plenary presentations, symposia, roundtables, workshops, and poster sessions. Poster sessions are structured to allow ample time each day for attendees to walk through and fully engage with the research being presented—making them an especially valuable and accessible entry point for new members and trainees. These sessions provide a welcoming environment to present research, exchange ideas, receive feedback, and become actively involved in the RSA community.

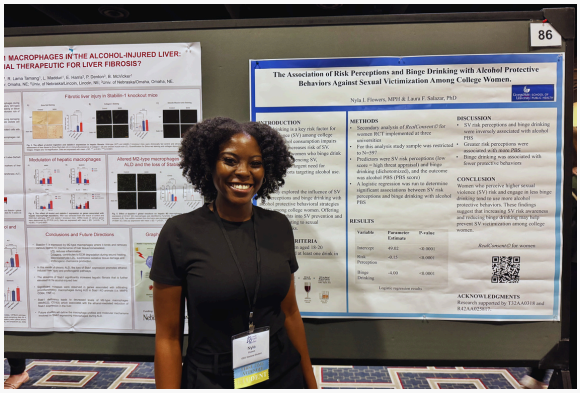
In addition, RSA's Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Study Group (FASD-SG) hosts a meeting and luncheon the day prior to the official opening. A longstanding tradition of the Annual Meeting includes an Opening Reception/Social the evening before the meeting begins, held concurrently with the Emerging Scholars Outreach Program Networking Event for RSA trainees, followed by the Closing Ceremony on the final night, which includes awards presentations recognizing the achievements of the community.

## Hear it from Our Members:

***"It's a small enough conference to really get to know people and network."***

***"The people really make the experience worthwhile... a great time to connect and re-connect."***

***"The RSA Annual Meeting is a premier platform for alcohol researchers to share cutting-edge findings and foster global collaborations."***



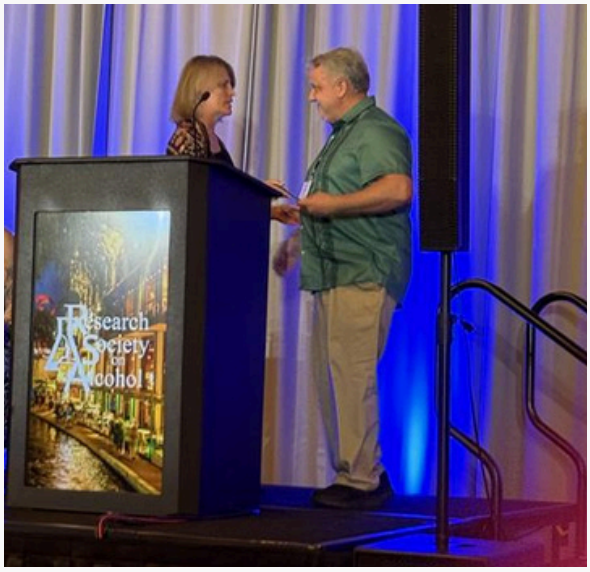



# Annual Awards

Each year, at the Annual Meeting, the Research Society on Alcohol (RSA) honors distinguished RSA Members whose contributions have made a lasting impact on the field of alcohol research.

The RSA Awards and Closing Ceremony provides an opportunity to formally recognize colleagues whose achievements exemplify excellence in alcohol research. Submitting a nomination is one of the most meaningful ways to acknowledge professional distinction and service within our field. (Nominations open in October.)

- DSSGP
- RSA Annual Awards:
  - Distinguished Researcher
  - Dora Goldstein Distinguished in the Sciences
  - Early Career Investigator
  - Henri Begleiter Excellence in Research
  - Lifetime Achievement
  - Marlatt Mentorship
- ACER Journal Award for Early Career Investigator
- Animal Research and Ethics Committee (AREC) Annual Award
- Enoch Gordis Research Recognition Award
- Media Award
- Undergraduate Distinguished Travel Award
- Nadia Chaudhri Rising Scholar Award
- Sexias Award
- Student Merit & Junior Investigator Awards









# Contact Us



**Need Assistance?**
**Our Members Are Our Highest Priority!**

**RSA Executive Office:**
5034-A Thoroughbred Lane
Brentwood, TN 37027
**Telephone:** +1 615.314.5917
**Society e-mail:** info@researchsocietyonalcohol.org
**Website:** researchsocietyonalcohol.org

***"I appreciate the hard work the RSA Staff put into this conference."***

***"Great to interact in person... really appreciate the effort the RSA Staff put in."***

# RSA Staff

**Director of Association Management**
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Research Society on Alcohol