

SRNT

2023

ANNUAL REPORT

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## SRNT 30th Anniversary Timeline: Highlights of Three Decades

- 1994** SRNT is founded as a US-based, 501c3 non-profit membership association
- 1994** Ovide Pomerleau becomes the first President of SRNT
- 1995** Neal Benowitz is the first recipient of the *Ferno Clinical Research Award* under SRNT (John Hughes and Dorothy Hatsukami were the first recipients in 1992, prior to SRNT's founding)
- 1997** Maxine Stitzer becomes SRNT's first female President
- 1998** SRNT changes management companies to what is now The Rees Group
- 1998** Vice President Al Gore is the Keynote Speaker at the Annual Meeting
- 1999** A grant from American Legacy Foundation funds SRNT's new scientific journal, *Nicotine & Tobacco Research*, with Gary Swan its first Editor-in-Chief
- 1999** SRNT Europe becomes a chapter and holds its first conference
- 1999** SRNT secures its first NIH conference grant
- 1999** John Pierce is the first recipient of the *Doll/Wynder Award* recognizing advances in public health
- 1999** Treattobacco.net and the Global Research Network are launched
- 2000** Jean-Pierre Changeau is the first recipient of the *Langley Award* recognizing advances in pre-clinical research
- 2001** Christi Ann Patten is the first recipient of the *Jarvik-Russell Early Career Award*
- 2002** N&TR moves from quarterly to bi-monthly issues
- 2003** US Surgeon General, C. Everett Koop, is the Annual Meeting Keynote Speaker
- 2003** Nancy Kaufman is the first recipient of the *John Slade Award* for policy in action
- 2004** Bruce Wheeler becomes SRNT's Executive Director
- 2005** David Balfour becomes the first non-US member to serve as SRNT President
- 2005** SRNT's Annual Meeting is held in Prague, the first main meeting held outside the US
- 2005** Eric Kandel, Nobel Laureate in Medicine, gives the Annual Meeting Keynote address
- 2007** The first SRNT Latin American conference is held in Rio de Janeiro
- 2008** The first SRNT Asia conference is held in Bangkok
- 2009** The SRNT Annual Meeting is held in Dublin
- 2009** Building on the Basic Science, Treatment, and Policy Committees, SRNT's topical Networks are formed (now 8 in number)
- 2009** Employees of the commercial tobacco industry are banned from membership in SRNT
- 2010** The first of 10 annual, in-person, relationship-building US East Coast Presidential Stakeholder Visits is held
- 2011** SRNT Europe becomes an independent organization chartered in the UK
- 2011** The SRNT Annual Meeting is held in Toronto, Canada
- 2012** SRNT participates in the *World Conference on Tobacco or Health* in Singapore



## SRNT 30th Anniversary Timeline: Highlights of Three Decades

- 2013** The *SRNT President's Award* is created, with Cheryl Heaton the first of only four recipients to date
- 2014** Dedicated staff support propels Network activities, increasing the generation of SRNT-sponsored Webinars and publication of scientific papers
- 2015** SRNT participates in the *World Conference on Tobacco or Health* in Abu Dhabi
- 2015** Marcus Munafo becomes *N&TR* Editor-in-Chief as *N&TR* begins publishing with Oxford University Press
- 2015** SRNT's new logo, a graphic representation of a nicotinic receptor, is rolled out
- 2015** The *Global Nicotine & Tobacco Foundational Research Certificate Program* is created
- 2015** The SRNT Adolescent Network is launched
- 2016** SRNT University is launched
- 2016** The SRNT Fellows category of membership is created, with an inaugural class of 31 SRNT members
- 2017** The SRNT Annual Meeting is held in Florence
- 2018** Natalie Walker is appointed Dean of SRNT University
- 2018** The US Surgeon General, Jerome Adams, is the Annual Meeting Keynote Speaker and plenary lectures are posted on YouTube for the first time
- 2018** The 18-month long initiative, SRNT 2025, is launched, seeking member input on a number of critical issues facing the Society resulting in the development of a series of Guiding Principles and Boundary Statements to guide SRNT operations and activities
- 2019** The SRNT Oceania Chapter is launched with the presentation of its first conference, held in Sydney, Australia
- 2019** SRNT sets a record of 1,345 members from more than 40 countries and an Annual Meeting record attendance of 1,583 at the conference in San Francisco
- 2020** SRNT creates Virtual Events, 3-hour paid educational events intended to generate income necessary to offset Covid-related financial losses.
- 2021** Employees of the commercial tobacco industry and their wholly or partially owned subsidiaries are banned from participating in SRNT conferences
- 2021** The SRNT Indigenous Circle is created and becomes part of the Oceania Chapter
- 2021** Suchitra Krishnan-Sarin becomes SRNT's first South Asian President
- 2021** SRNT presents its first and only entirely virtual Annual Meeting, complete with plenaries, virtual posters, and 10 concurrent breakouts in in each of six virtual podium sessions
- 2021** The Racial Equity Task Force is formed, meeting over the course of 18 months before presenting to the Board a Final Report with more than 60 recommendations for making SRNT a truly anti-racist organization; nearly two thirds of the recommendations have been or are in the process of being implemented
- 2022** The Racial Equity Committee is formed to operationalize and advance the work of the Racial Equity Task Force
- 2022** "Health Equity" becomes the fifth educational track in the SRNT Annual Meeting



## SRNT 30th Anniversary Timeline: Highlights of Three Decades

- 2022** The *Pebbles Fagan Health Equity Research Award* is created, with Kola Okuyemi its first recipient
- 2022** Patricia Nez Henderson becomes SRNT's first Indigenous President
- 2022** The SRNT Tobacco Regulatory Science Workgroup is formed
- 2023** The SRNT LGBTQ+ Workgroup is formed
- 2023** Chris Bullen becomes SRNT's first President from Oceania
- 2023** The *Mira Aghi LMIC Researcher Award* is created, with Lekan Ayo-Yusuf its first recipient
- 2023** New articles in the revised SRNT Bylaws give all SRNT members the right to vote in elections and create a new Student Representative position on the Board of Directors
- 2024** SRNT's 30th Annual Meeting is held in Edinburgh, the fifth Annual Meeting to be held outside the United States
- 2024** Board representation over the previous 30 years includes members from Australia, Brazil, Canada, Finland, France, India, New Zealand, South Africa, Switzerland, Thailand, United Kingdom, and the United States

The history of SRNT Awards can be found [here](#).

More SRNT history can be found [here](#).



## President's Report

Chris Bullen MB ChB, MPH, PhD

Greetings! This 2023 Annual Report marks a watershed moment in the history of the Society for Research on Nicotine & Tobacco (SRNT). Our organisation was incorporated in the United States 30 years ago, in October 1994, by a small group of researchers who saw the need for a scientific society that aimed “to stimulate the generation and dissemination of new knowledge concerning nicotine and tobacco in all its manifestations.” At its first Conference in March 1995, SRNT immediately proved its value by facilitating involvement with key agencies such as NIDA, NCI, the FDA, and the Centers for Disease Control, and the Society has continued to grow in influence over the succeeding years.

I encourage you to read more about those early formative years of SRNT in a fascinating article written by some of our early Presidents and published in SRNT's journal, *Nicotine & Tobacco Research*.<sup>1</sup>

Some of the guiding principles that continue to be part of SRNT's 'DNA' three decades later are highlighted in this reflection by one of those Presidents, Harry Lando: “*Of paramount importance, the first 10 years provided a tradition by which respect for the scientific method was fostered and procedures by which threats to the integrity of the organization were addressed and resolved in a regular and open manner.*”

From these small beginnings, SRNT has become a global organization with around 1080 members from 37 countries and regional chapters in Europe and Oceania. Many of our members have faced obstacles in their work, particularly those members working in low-resource settings, in countries where financial pressures have led to cost-cutting of research and institutional support, where political upheaval or armed conflict has taken place or extreme weather events or other disasters have led to disruptions, both personal and professional. Despite these challenges, you have continued to contribute to and support our mission, and for that, I am deeply grateful.

It has been a great honour to have served as President of SRNT this past year.

SRNT is a small but impressive organisation! I have been well supported by an outstanding Board, a very capable Treasurer and Finance Committee, and other Committees. We now have early career researcher representation ex-officio on the Board, and Raglan Maddox, who chairs the Racial Equity Committee, is also an ex-officio Board member. Our Chapters are in good heart. I attended the 2023 SRNT-E conference in London in September and was impressed by the excellent science on show, the collegiality, and the robust debate. The SRNT-Oceania Chapter is just five years old but active,

enthusiastic, and engaged in fostering excellent research relevant to its unique regional issues. The support of our Executive Director, Bruce Wheeler, and his very capable team at The Rees Group is outstanding. I want to record my sincere thanks to Bruce for deferring his retirement for a few more years while SRNT rebuilds financially ‘post-COVID’ and looks to position itself for the future. We renewed our contract with The Rees Group for the Society's management services for another three years. We can be very grateful for the excellent working relationship we have with Susan Rees, the owner of The Rees Group, and her team.

It has been a year of continued activity, achievement, and progress. I want to highlight just some of the successes.

First, I have sought to bring a focus on nicotine and tobacco research and researchers in low-resource settings. The Presidential Symposium this year spotlighted research by SRNT members from low and middle-income countries (LMICs) around the world. The inaugural Mira Aghi Award for LMIC Researchers recognises such excellent research being done by researchers from LMICs. The first recipient, Prof Lekan Ayo-Yusef from South Africa, is a fitting recipient of this award. And we brought a handful of emerging researchers from LMICs to Edinburgh

<sup>1</sup>Pomerleau O, Benowitz N, Stitzer M, et al Society for Research on Nicotine and Tobacco as an Outgrowth of the 1988 Surgeon General's Report on Nicotine Addiction: Reflections of the Early Presidents. *Nicotine and Tobacco Research*, 2024, 26, 118–125 <https://doi.org/10.1093/ntr/ntad151>



## President's Report

(Continued)

supported by an NCI Conference grant that the Global Network submitted. This is the first NCI conference grant SRNT has received, and I thank the Global Network for their work on writing and submitting the application.

Second, continuing the work begun by my predecessor, Patricia Nez Henderson, the Racial Equity Committee made significant progress in adopting the 43 recommendations of the Racial Equity Task Force to make SRNT an anti-racist organisation. More than half the recommendations were implemented or are in the review process prior to implementation.

Third, minoritized groups must be given recognition and a greater voice in SRNT, and the inauguration of the LGBTQ+ Workgroup in 2023 was, therefore, an important step in this direction.

Fourth, Robin Mermelstein ably led an extended review process, which resulted in a number of changes to the Bylaws, three of which are notable:

- All members now have the right to vote in the election of officers (following through on one of the Racial Equity Task Force's recommendations)
- Student members now have an elected representative on the Board of Directors
- Non-discriminatory language was added, along with SRNT's anti-racism stance.

Fifth, as the premier scientific organisation in our field, we continued our work of making written submissions to influence policies, such as the Tobacco Regulatory Science Working Group's submission on the UK Smokefree Generation legislation. and the Health Equity Network and Policy Network submission to the FDA on banning Menthol in cigarettes. Underpinning these submissions is a huge amount of voluntary work to ensure they are accurate, evidence-based, and credible, and I thank all involved in these efforts to continue our long history of science-based influence on policy.

There have also been a few challenges. One challenge is the Society's finances. While in better shape than they were a few years ago, SRNT's finances are still finely balanced and constrained. We will need to continue being prudent and strategic with the resources we have. I thank Jennifer McClure for her wise and thoughtful oversight of SRNT's finances, which has enabled the Society to survive tough times through the peak COVID-19 period.

Another challenge is navigating the approach SRNT should take in relation to tobacco industry involvement in the Society, our conference, and the journal. We have been progressively restricting the scope for industry influence on our meetings and publications. But it is no longer a clear-cut matter defining what the 'tobacco industry' is. The blurring of the lines between tobacco and nicotine/vaping industries and the emergence of many novel nicotine products, including synthetic nicotine,

raises many questions about where we, as a scientific society, should draw the line. There is a range of views on such questions within the Society. For an organisation of the size and diversity as is ours, that should be no surprise. People may share the same vision but have very different opinions about how to achieve it. This is a complex area to navigate, and there have been a few missteps, but we have sought to be open about these matters. As the Board makes difficult decisions about such matters at times, SRNT's guiding principles and values, especially our anti-racism commitment, are helpful anchor points.

SRNT is an organisation comprised of outstanding people who are passionate about the Society's mission. I believe we should treasure our commitment to working together to achieve our mission, despite sometimes having different perspectives. Our history of influence and impact over the past 30 years shows that we are far stronger when we work together than apart.

Thank you for the privilege of serving as your President. I look forward to continuing to serve on the Board under the leadership of our incoming President, Ben Toll.



## President's Report

### 2022-2023 Board of Directors



**Chris Bullen, MB, ChB, MPH, PhD**  
President



**Patricia Nez Henderson, MD**  
Past President



**Benjamin Toll, PhD**  
President-Elect



**Jennifer McClure, PhD**  
Secretary-Treasurer



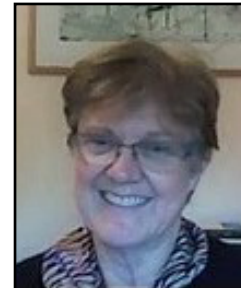
**Lisa Fucito, PhD**  
Member Delegate



**Joanna Cohen, PhD**  
Member Delegate



**Olivia Maynard, PhD**  
Member Delegate  
Europe



**Megan Passey, MPH, MSc, PhD**  
Member Delegate  
AAOLA



**Raglan Maddox, PhD, MPH, BCs**  
Racial Equity Com Chair  
Ex Officio Board Member



**Marcus Munafo, MA, MSc, PhD**  
Journal Editor  
Ex Officio Board Member



**Nancy Jao**  
Student Representative  
Ex Officio Board Member



**Bruce Wheeler**  
Executive Director  
Ex Officio Board Member



# Treasurer's Report

Jennifer McClure, PhD

## Executive Summary

I am pleased to report that once all revenue and expenses are reconciled for 2023 (by the end of Q1 2024), we anticipate we will end the year with a net gain of approximately \$34,000, as opposed to our original Board-approved loss of -\$123,000. In other words, *we are cautiously optimistic that our actual performance for the year will be favorable to our planned annual budget by an estimated \$157,000.*

Additionally, the Board has taken significant measures to position the Society for continued financial security, as detailed below. *As a result of these actions and our stable financial reserves, the Society continues to be fiscally sound as we head into the New Year.*

## 2023 Performance Relative to Budget

Each year we measure the Society's financial performance relative to the annual operating budget. The annual budget reflects our best estimate of revenue and expenses for the coming year.

We started 2023 with a planned year-end deficit of approximately -\$123,000. The Board approved this loss in order to avoid cutting member services or negatively impacting the 2023 annual meeting. This loss also represents an increased investment in 2023 travel scholarships intended to allow more students, members from under-represented communities, and people from low- and middle-income countries to attend the

annual meeting. This is just one example how the Board has been leaning into our values of being an inclusive organization and trying to convene a diverse group of scientists to facilitate open scientific discussion.

As of December 31, 2023, we had a loss of approximately -\$235,000. However, once expected journal royalties from Oxford University Press (OUP) are reconciled at the end of Q1 2024, we expect we will end 2023 with approximately \$34,000 of income!

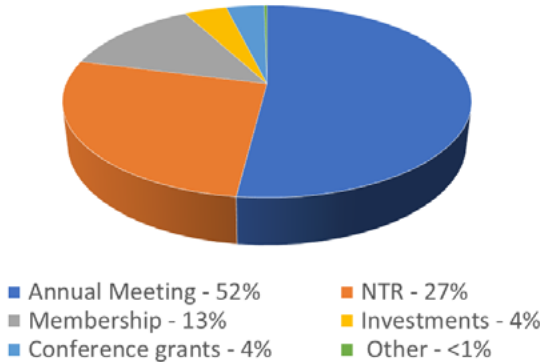
The key drivers of this better-than-expected performance were: (1) higher than projected registration revenue for the 2023 Annual Meeting, (2) modestly lower than expected expenses for the year, and (3) a negotiated reduction in administrative staffing and associated management fees from The Rees Group. We also anticipate OUP royalties may exceed budgeted estimates for the year.

## Drill Down: Projected Year End Revenue and Expenses

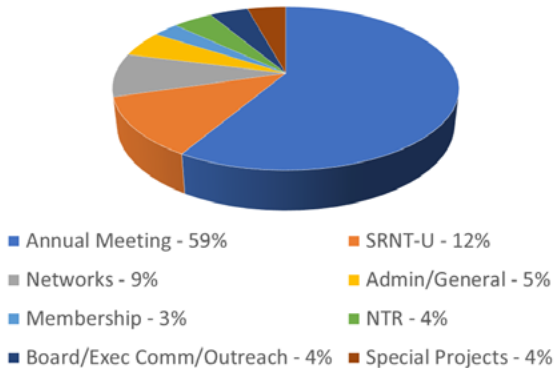
Based on year-end actuals as of December 31, 2023, plus the additional anticipated OUP royalties, we project our total revenue for 2023 will be approximately \$1,393,000.

The Society's main sources of revenue in 2023 were: (a) the Annual Meeting, (b) membership dues, (c) journal (NTR) income, (d) investment gains (e.g., from CD interest and realized and unrealized stock gains), and (e) conference grants.

2023 Projected Revenue



2023 Projected Expenses





## Treasurer's Report

### (Continued)

Total expenses for 2023 are expected to be approximately \$1,359,000.

SRNT's largest expenses for 2023 were: (1) the Annual Meeting, (2) SRNT-U, and (3) support of our eight member-focused networks (Adolescents, Basic Science, Genetics, Global, Health Disparities, Public Policy, Trainees, and Treatment). Additional expenses included: the Society journal, *NTR*; Membership; Executive support of the Board/Communications/Outreach; and General Administrative support.

#### 2024 Budget

Assuming we see similar Annual Meeting participation in 2024 as we did in 2023, projected revenue this coming year is expected to be approximately \$1,409,000. Total projected expenses approved by the Board in January 2024 are approximately \$1,399,000. Consequently, we are again projecting modest income for 2024. This is largely due to the negotiated reduction in our management staffing with The Rees Group.

Our actual year-end financial performance could differ, depending primarily on the success of the 2024 Annual Meeting, income from the society journal (*NTR*), and the performance of our investments.

#### Bottom Line

Final numbers in this report are estimates until all 2023 revenue and expenses have been reconciled. But, based on our year-end financial assets (approximately \$1.2 million) and assuming continued strong attendance of the 2024 Annual Meeting, we believe **SRNT is in a sound fiscal position for the coming year.**

#### A Final Note – Thank You!

I would like to thank our Finance Committee (Megan Piper, Tom Northrup, and Bruce Wheeler), financial advisor (Middleton Advisory), TRG accountants (Vicki Brewer and Iva Pouhaleva), and all the TRG staff for their hard work on behalf of SRNT. And a big thank you to our members for your continued support of SRNT!

I look forward to seeing you in Edinburgh!

Jennifer McClure, PhD  
Treasurer  
SRNT



# Executive Director's Report

Bruce Wheeler

This is a big year for SRNT.

2024 marks the **Society's 30th Anniversary**—we were founded by a dedicated band of nicotine and tobacco researchers in 1994, offspring of the Society of Behavioral Medicine.

2024 marks my **20th anniversary** as SRNT's Executive Director (!!!). Can I just say that until SRNT my longest professional gig was seven years? But SRNT has become my home—not just my job. This is a unique and truly special organization. I'm so grateful the Board hired me back in 2004! And I'm especially grateful to my first SRNT President, **Ken Warner**, who held my hand and helped acclimate me to the wondrous new world of nicotine and tobacco research.

Lastly, 2024 is the **10th anniversary** of leadership providing detailed, written annual reports to the SRNT membership. Ten years ago, when I was drafting my first executive director's report I took a stroll down memory lane, looking back at my first decade—SRNT's second. And here we are again, time to take a look back at another decade, my second and SRNT's third!

And what a decade it has been! Here are just some of the highlights:

- In 2015, a number of SRNT volunteers completed work on the **Global Nicotine & Tobacco Foundational Research Certificate Program**, a 10-course educational program

designed to help non-researchers working in community clinics and LMICs learn the how to conduct and incorporate research into their practices.

- Also in 2015, we rolled out [SRNT's new logo](#). Did you know the “wreath” that is the logo's focal point is a graphic interpretation of a nicotinic receptor? Terrific detail about a beautiful logo.
- **Marcus Munafo** became the third editor of **Nicotine & Tobacco Research** and this year is completing his second five-year term as Editor-in-Chief. We owe him a collective debt of gratitude for all he has done, building on the work of **David Balfour** and founding Editor-in-Chief, **Gary Swan**. Thank you, Marcus. And David and Gary!
- That *Global Certificate Program* was the cornerstone of the new online educational platform, **SRNT University**, originally lead by **Robin Mermelstein** and later by **Natalie Walker**. SRNT-U also included links to a number of external resources and later housed the archive of SRNT Network webinars as well as a tremendous library containing links, documents, videos, and podcasts related to different aspects of nicotine and tobacco research from all parts of the globe.
- In 2016 then-President **Debbie Ossip** oversaw development and implementation of the new **Fellows** category of membership. This had been an idea as old

as SRNT—it was even mentioned in the original Bylaws! But the idea of a Fellows category remained just that until Debbie's presidential term. Thank you, Debbie, for spearheading what has become a terrific way to recognize outstanding leaders in our membership!

- 2018 saw the launch of the 18-month long initiative, **SRNT 2025**. The idea was to take a long, hard look at who we are—and who we are not. Work groups, focus groups, and a member survey provided a ton of great info, including nearly unanimous agreement that **SRNT is, first and foremost, a scientific society**. The main ‘output’ from that internal review was a set of [Guiding Principles and Boundary Statements](#), essentially a list of guardrails to help the Board in decision making as the Society continues its natural growth and evolution.
- Another significant initiative in the past 10 years was the **Racial Equity Task Force**. Put together in the wake of the George Floyd tragedy, the Task Force's charge was to take a look at SRNT's structure, programs and activities, policies and procedures, and Bylaws to see how and where to make changes in support of our goal to become an anti-racist organization; systemic racism, however unintentional, is a problem that needs to be eradicated, and SRNT is an organization that was/is not immune. The Task Force presented



## Executive Director's Report

(Continued)

a [final report](#) containing more than 60 individual recommendations to the Board of Directors. I'm pleased to report that 23 of those recommendations have been implemented (such as adding the Health Equity educational track to the Annual Meeting and revising the Bylaws to give all members the right to vote) and at the time of this report 13 more are in the review process awaiting implementation. *SRNT wants to be part of the solution, not part of the problem.* I am grateful to the members of the Task Force for bringing to light the many things that need to be changed. That group—and so many others working to fight racism—have my undying respect and gratitude. You have educated me, as well as SRNT.

- SRNT has a new Chapter! In 2019 SRNT members Down Under came together to form the **Oceania Chapter**, which includes Australia, New Zealand, and the islands in the South Pacific. One group supported by the Chapter is the **SRNT Indigenous Circle**.
- The past 10 years have seen a number of webinars and papers presented/published by **SRNT Networks**. These groups are astounding in their dedication—and their output! In addition, SRNT came up with **Virtual Events** in 2020 as a way to help close the financial gap, a result of Covid fallout, and to provide more detailed information and discussion on hot topics.
- On the subject of Covid, who can forget SRNT's first (and hopefully last) fully virtual Annual Meeting? SRNT presented the 2021 conference as if we were meeting in person. While other associations dabbled in virtual conferences with one or two concurrent breakouts, **SRNT's 2021 Virtual Annual Meeting** had five plenary lectures; hundreds of virtual posters; and believe it or not, our usual 10 concurrent breakout sessions across four tracks in each of the podium sessions! Oh, and my father became an honest to goodness hashtag thanks to his hysterical conference [promo](#). That conference was so much work for everyone involved, but it was a tremendous success and just goes to show what can be accomplished by a handful of very dedicated volunteers and staff working together!
- We had two firsts in SRNT presidents in the last five years: **Suchitra Krishnan-Sarin** became our first South Asian President and **Patricia Nez Henderson** became our first Indigenous President. Congratulations—and a huge THANK YOU—to both!
- Two more firsts in the last five years were the creation of the **Pebbles Fagan Health Equity Award** and the **Mira Aghi LMIC Researcher Award**. Both are much needed, welcome additions to SRNT's Scientific Awards Program.

- We've had two non-US Annual Meetings in the last 10 years: Florence in 2017 and Edinburgh in 2024.
- Finally, and bringing us up to date, **Chris Bullen** became the first SRNT President to come from the Oceania region. Speaking of SRNT Presidents, I want to give a shoutout to all the presidents of the past 10 years: Thank you **Chris Bullen**, thank you **Patricia Nez Henderson**, thank you **Megan Piper**, thank you **Suchitra Krishnan-Sarin**, thank you **Suzanne Colby**, thank you **Marina Picciotto**, thank you **Jodi Prochaska**, thank you **Debbie Ossip**, thank you **Robin Mermelstien**, and thank you **Tom Gould!!**

In closing, I hope each and every one of you are as blown away by the accomplishments of the past 10 years as I am! People forget what a relatively small association SRNT is. What we've collectively accomplished is nothing short of jaw dropping. None of those accomplishments could have happened without you, the members of SRNT. You are the inspiration and the reason we do what we do. You are the reason I get out of bed and come to work every day.

**Thank YOU.**

If you'd like to read first SRNT President Ovide Pomerleau's review of SRNT's first decade, click [here](#).



## Executive Director's Report

(Continued)

If you'd like to read his more recent commentary, "*Society for Research on Nicotine and Tobacco as an Outgrowth of the 1988 Surgeon General's Report on Nicotine Addiction: Reflections of the Early Presidents*," click [here](#).

If you'd like to read my retrospective of SRNT's second decade, click [here](#).

And, if you'd like to see a more comprehensive list of highlights from our third decade, click [here](#).

**Here's to SRNT's fourth, fifth, and sixth decades! May they be as productive and impactful as the first, second and third!**



## Journal Editor's Report

Marcus Munafò, PhD

This year presented both opportunities and challenges for the journal.

One challenge is continuing to provide authors with a timely decision on their submissions. Whilst the number of submissions we are receiving has stabilised (after an increase during the pandemic, largely driven by COVID-related articles), finding reviewers for articles and providing a timely review process is becoming more difficult. This is not a unique challenge for *Nicotine & Tobacco Research*. The growth in the number of journals in which to publish, coupled with a global increase in academic output, means that we are having to invite ever larger numbers of reviewers to find the 2-3 we require for each submission.

We do everything we can to provide a timely decision to authors, but unfortunately there is only so much we can do. We wrote about this issue in an [editorial published in the September issue](#) this year, where we called on our community to support the journal if they can (and presented data to illustrate how it is becoming ever more difficult to find reviewers). In particular, we welcome offers to review for the journal, in particular from those who are under-represented in our peer review community (e.g., early career researchers, scholars from the Global South and historically minoritized groups).

Another challenge – but also, more importantly, an opportunity – was responding to the timely and thoughtful [recommendations](#)

[from the SRNT Racial Equity Task](#)

[Force](#). These included a number of specific recommendations to the journal, which we were happy to take on board and implement. This has included introducing a more transparent and equitable process for recruiting Associate and Deputy Editors, and appointing specialist Associate Editors with expertise in global public health in low- and middle-income countries, and in Indigenous populations and populations experiencing health inequities.

This year will be my last as Editor-in-Chief, after reaching the end of my two five-year terms. When I began, the journal received around 500 new submissions every year; we now receive around 1,000. That growth reflects the importance of our work and the prominence of our field, and I feel very honoured to have had the opportunity to contribute to the Journal and the Society over that time. The new Editor-in-Chief – who will take over in 2025 – will bring their own vision and energy to the role, so that the growth and evolution of the journal can continue.

Marcus Munafò  
Editor-in-Chief



## SRNT Europe

Sharon Cox, PhD, President SRNT-E

In September 2023, we held our annual conference in London at the prestigious and historic Bush House. It was great to be back in person with so many delegates from all over the world. We welcomed around 300 people over the two and a half days. For the first time, we kicked off the conference with an exciting debate, for which we requested ideas via social media. These ideas were rated by the SRNT-E board and scientific committee members. This year's topic was "Is nicotine use rational?", chaired by Caitlin Notley, and speakers for the motion were Lynne Dawkins and Wayne Hall, and against the motion, Lion Shahab and Yael Bar-Zeev. These perspective pieces have now been written into commentaries for *Nicotine and Tobacco Research* and will be published later in 2024. We also welcomed four excellent keynote speakers, Jamie Brown, Reinskje Talhout, Nicola Lindson and Karl Lund. To honour our late friend and colleague Mateusz Zatoński, we introduced a new poster prize in his name, awarded to an exceptional researcher working in policy, our first winner was Daniel Jones (University of Stirling, UK).

At our annual general meeting, the presidency changed from Leonie Brose to Sharon Cox, we also welcomed Sarah Jackson as our new president-elect. In January 2024, we said goodbye to Marcus Munafò as honorary secretary and Felix Naughton as Past President, though Felix has now stepped into the honorary secretary role. Olivia Maynard will be leaving us as Member Delegate for Europe, with

Nicola Lindson taking over in March after the conference in Edinburgh. This means the current SRNT-E board consists of Sharon Cox (President), Sarah Jackson (President-Elect), Leonie Brose (Past President), Ute Mons (Secretary), Yael Bar-Zeev (Treasurer), Floor van den Brand (Communications Officer), Olivia Maynard (Member Delegate for Europe/ Nicola Lindson from March 2024) and Felix Naughton (Honorary Secretary). A key aim for us over the next year is to increase participation from members outside of the UK.

In 2024, SRNT-E does not have a standalone conference, instead, we will join our SRNT colleagues in Edinburgh in March, where we will host the conference dinner. We are, however, planning a European conference for September 2025 and we hope to be able to share details with you soon.



## SRNT Oceania

Coral Gartner (President) and Sarah Durkin (President-Elect)

The Oceania chapter (SRNT-O) has had a busy year with major tobacco control policy developments in the region. In December 2022, the Aotearoa/New Zealand Government passed world-leading legislation– the Smokefree Environments and Regulated Products (Smoked Tobacco) Amendment Act, which would implement three key new measures:

- Reducing the number of tobacco retailers by at least 90% of the current number (from around 6000 to 600)
- Limiting the maximum amount of nicotine allowed in smoked tobacco products to 0.8mg nicotine per gram of tobacco
- And ending the sale of tobacco products to everyone born after 2008 (creating a smokefree generation)

SRNT-O members contributed to consultations on the implementation of these measures, such as how retailing licences would be geographically allocated. Members were also involved in planning research and policy evaluation activities to assess the impacts of the policies. Unfortunately, a general election resulted in a change in government from the Labour government that passed the laws to a coalition of three parties that announced an intention to repeal the new laws within the first 100 days of taking office. There has been a strong reaction from public health researchers and policy advocates who have held rallies and publicly renounced the repeal of these measures. SRNT and SRNT-O urged the new government to use an evidence-based approach and to prioritise the

health, economic and equity benefits that would be expected from the three new measures. While, the New Zealand government still appears determined to continue with the repeal, SRNT-O members continue to advance policy-relevant research on these measures and to advocate for evidence-based policy-making with respect to tobacco regulation.

In Australia, new legislation was also passed federally that brought together several tobacco control measures into the one Act and will implement several new tobacco control measures, including banning flavours for smoked tobacco products (including menthol), standardising the pack size to 20 cigarettes, standardising ‘filters’, refreshing pack warning labels, adding pack inserts with health information, and printing health warnings directly on the cigarette sticks. There are also new penalties for supplying illicit tobacco products. SRNT-O members have contributed to government consultations and expert groups on these new measures.

New regulations to address concerns about the growing number of youth using vaping products in both Aotearoa/New Zealand and Australia are being implemented. The Australian reforms will restrict the supply of all vaping products to pharmacies, regardless of nicotine content, and will require pharmaceutical-style packaging for vaping products and medical prescriptions for nicotine-containing products. Meanwhile, Aotearoa/New Zealand have placed more restrictions on vaping product supply but unlike Australia’s pharmaceutical model have retained

a consumer-product supply model. SRNT-O members have also been active in contributing to government consultations and roundtables related to these reforms as well as research to monitor and evaluate the impacts of these regulatory changes.

In the clinical space, the Australian Therapeutic Goods Administration is considering an application for cytisine to be approved as a pharmacy medicine (over the counter) for smoking cessation. Increased access to an alternative to varenicline would be a welcome addition to the tobacco treatment space, since the manufacturing and supply issues associated with varenicline that have limited the range of non-nicotine-based smoking cessation medicines that are available. SRNT-O members who have made major contributions to the clinical trial evidence on the efficacy and safety of cytisine as a smoking cessation medicine are now seeing their research inform clinical and policy decisions related to access to this new “old” treatment option for tobacco dependence. Furthermore, as use of nicotine vaping products has increased in the Oceania region, as in many regions, demand for vaping cessation assistance has grown, with an urgent demand for evidence on effective cessation methods for adults and young people.

In 2023, the SRNT-O board met monthly, maintained a social media presence and produced a regular newsletter to keep our members informed of issues relevant to the membership. Chapter members contributed to the SRNT Board (Chris Bullen, Megan Passey,



## SRNT Oceania

(Continued)

Raglan Maddox), published numerous articles in *Nicotine and Tobacco Research*, contributed to the journal's editorial board and provided peer reviews, participated in the annual scientific meeting in San Antonio, Texas, and other SRNT events (e.g., Tobacco Industry Transformation online symposium and panel). The Oceania Chapter is also expected to be well-represented at the 2024 SRNT annual meeting in Edinburgh, Scotland.

Our second face-to-face conference that will be held in Brisbane, Queensland on 30 May 2024, is in full-preparation mode with abstracts currently being scored. Due to an excellent number of submissions, the conference is looking to be an exciting time with an excellent scientific program and is expected to be even

larger than our 2019 pre-COVID conference. At the conference, the chapter presidency will be passed from Coral to Sarah to lead the chapter into the next year. We would like to acknowledge the contributions of the current SRNT-O board members: Chris Bullen, Nia Luxon, Gade Waqa, Alys Havard, Emily Brennan, Raglan Maddox, El Shadan Tautolo, Michelle Kennedy, Selah Hart, and Megan Passey (SRNT Member Delegate for AAOLA). We also encourage all SRNT members located in the Oceania region to consider nominating to join the SRNT-O board. At this time of rapid change in the policy and clinical space, now, more than ever, the Oceania region needs an active nicotine and tobacco research community to ensure policymakers and clinicians have the evidence needed to inform their public policy and practice.



## Adolescent Network

Network Co-Chairs: Rachel N. Cassidy, Ph.D. and John Lee, Ph.D.

No. of Members: 312

The Adolescent Network was established in 2015. This year, Drs. Anastasiya Ferrell and Lysie Ranker joined as Network Operation Coordinators. Our 13-member AC has been actively engaged over the past year, meeting monthly via videoconference to plan activities and report on progress. In addition to the two Chairs, AC members include: *Drs. Jennifer Cornacchione Ross, Sarah Kowitt, Kathleen Garrison, Lauren Micalizzi, MeLisa Creamer, Mariel Bello, Rachel Grana Mayne, Georges Khalil, and Kate Flint.* We have also added an AC position, Trainee Liaison, whose role is to facilitate contact and collaboration with the Trainee Network and work to ensure trainee representation in the network. The final AC members are our Network Operations Coordinators, *Dr. Lysie Ranker and Dr. Anastasia Ferrell* who facilitate the work of the AC and its subcommittees. Subcommittees meet separately and report progress at each AC meeting. Our six subcommittees currently include:

1. **Communications:** *Lauren Micalizzi (Co-Chair), MeLisa Creamer (Co-Chair)*
2. **Education/Training:** *Georges Khalil (Co-Chair), Kate Flint (Co-Chair)*
3. **Annual Meeting/Program:** *Kathleen Garrison & Rachel Grana Mayne (Co-Chairs), Yvonne Prutzman, Jessica Rath, Suzanne Colby, Dale Mantey, Olatokunbo Osibogun*

4. **Membership:** *Jennifer Cornacchione Ross (Co-Chair), Sarah Kowitt (Co-Chair)*

5. **Trainee Liaison:** *Mariel Bello*

6. **Operations Coordinator:** *Lysie Ranker (Co-Chair), Anastasia Ferrell (Co-Chair)*

**Network Member Meetings:** Since 2016, we have hosted a network member meeting annually at the SRNT meeting. Each year, we report on our past-year activities and get input from our members. This year, the member meeting was held virtually on March 9, 2023 and included over 20 attendees. We provided an overview of the network and activities from the previous year and had small group discussions about ways to engage members, increase membership, and increase diversity and inclusion within the network. Additionally, at the annual SRNT meeting, we also had a coffee hour event where we provided a brief overview of the network and had opportunities for networking and membership recruitment

**Network Membership:** We also successfully recruited 3 new AC members (Drs. MeLisa Creamer, Lysie Ranker, and Anastasia Ferrell) and helped facilitate the transition of the network's leadership.

**Network Spotlight Interviews:** This year, the membership subcommittee conducted four member spotlight interviews in our newsletters, featuring Dr. Tres Hinds, Drs. Sabrina Smiley

and Jasmine Khouja from the 2023 SRNT Annual Meeting Program Committee, and Dr. Sharon Cox from the 2023 SRNT-E Meeting Program Committee

**Network Education:** We have had a workshop webinar on data storytelling, inviting early-stage investigators to learn about the best practices for communicating data through storytelling (i.e., “data blitz”). We have also scheduled a “meet-the-author” event for April 2024, during which a prominent author of an article presents their work on adolescent tobacco control.

**Network Pre-Conference Workshops:** For the 2023 annual meeting, our network sponsored a pre-conference workshop entitled, “Refining tobacco use intervention among sexual and gender minority youth and young adults.” This in-person event took place on Wednesday, March 1, 2023 and there were 53 attendees.

**Network Poster Tour:** For the 2023 annual meeting, our network conducted a virtual poster tour highlighting five outstanding researchers presenting their work on youth and young adult nicotine product use behavior. The poster tour was highlighted by SRNT at the meeting, and a PDF with the five selected posters and brief Q&A with each presenting author was distributed in the network newsletter after the meeting.



## Adolescent Network

(continued)

**Network Sponsored Publications:** A review paper sponsored by our network entitled, “Smartphone Apps Targeting Youth Tobacco Use Prevention and Cessation: An Assessment of Credibility and Quality,” was published in Current Addiction Reports. (Citation: Micalizzi, L., Mattingly, D.T., Hart, J.L. *et al.* Smartphone Apps Targeting Youth Tobacco Use Prevention and Cessation: An Assessment of Credibility and Quality. *Curr Addict Rep* 10, 649–663 (2023). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s40429-023-00524-0>).



## Basic Science Network

Network Co-Chairs: Jibran Khokhar, PhD and Brandon Henderson, PhD

No. of Members: ~200

### Basic Science Network (BSN) Function

1. Meet professional development needs of members
2. Advise Board and members on topical issues, research and training goals
3. Collaborate with and disseminate information to external organizations
4. Undertake projects that contribute to the evidence-based investigation of nicotine and tobacco
5. Promote basic and preclinical science at the annual meeting

### Administrative Structure

In 2023, Drs. Brandon Henderson and Jibran Khokhar continued as co-Chairs of the BSN. Percell Kendrick is the current operation coordinators for the BSN. The members of our Advisory Committee are: Adriaan Bruijnzeel, PhD; Imad Damaj, PhD; Valeria Lallai, PhD; Rick Bevins, PhD; Melissa Herman, PhD; Merideth Addicott, PhD; Sairam Jabba, DVM, PhD.; and Sven-Eric Jordt.

Our newly appointed trainee-liaison is Nathan Olszewski.

Our social media outreach is managed by: Sairam Jabba, DVM, PhD (Twitter @ BasicSRNT).

### BSN-Sponsored Symposia Accepted for the SRNT 2023 Annual Meeting

The BSN network sponsored the submission of three sessions that were accepted for the 2023 annual meeting in San Antonio:

1. Polysubstance use involving nicotine and tobacco (SYM1).
2. Developmental effects of tobacco and nicotine exposure (PPS9).
3. The driving factors: neurobiological mechanisms underlying drug use and novel therapeutic approaches (PPS17).

### Social Media

Our efforts have mainly focus on engagement through Twitter (Now X). Our primary focus is to highlight research published or achievements by members of the preclinical community. We also focus on policy-related issues that are closely related to the preclinical studies that are ongoing within the BSN (for example, the regulation of menthol).

### Mentoring

At the 2023 meeting, the BSN participated in the “Its Coffee” event for the first time. Several of our mentors have remained in contact with their mentees and have continued to meet throughout the year. We intend to continue to do this as we recruit new mentors for the 2024 event.

### Recruitment Hub

The BSN has started to maintain an active list of preclinical laboratories that are actively recruiting students, trainees, or postdoctoral researchers. Thus far, this has been used to connect trainees with principal investigators when necessary. However, through interactions with Mariel Bello and Nancy Jao (TNAC), we will begin coordinating semi-regular advertisements.

### Upcoming Events for 2024

- BSN YouTube Channel
- “It’s Coffee” mentoring event at the 2024 SRNT Annual Meeting
- BSN-sponsored symposia at the 2024 SRNT Annual Meeting
- Plenary lecture by Dr. Henry Lester at the SRNT Annual Meeting
- 2024 proposal for a special issue in *Nicotine and Tobacco Research* focused on synthetic coolants.
  - Plans for a webinar tied to the above-mentioned special issue



## Genetics & Omics Network

Megan Cooke, PhD and Chloe Burke, MRes

No. of Members: 70

The SRNT Genetics and Omics Network aims to capture the increasing activity in 'omics research for nicotine and tobacco (including but not limited to genomics, transcriptomics, epigenomics, metabolomics and proteomics), with particular focus on the clinical and translational relevance of 'omic discoveries.

The leadership of Genetics and Omics Network transitioned in 2023, with Chloe Burke joining Megan Cooke as a new co-chair for the network, under the guidance of the Genetics and Omics Network advisory committee. As new members of the SRNT Network, the transition offers an exciting opportunity for the early career investigators to adopt leadership roles and bring new collaborations and ideas into the network.

### 2023 Highlights and Accomplishments

#### **SRNT 2023 POSTER HIGHLIGHTS**

At the 2023 meeting, we offered an online walking tour which highlighted some relevant research of interest to our network. We're excited that this will be available again at SRNT 2024 Annual Meeting, so keep an eye out for posters highlighted with a Genetics & Omics Network sticker/sign!

#### **RECRUITED AND CONTINUING COORDINATORS**

To continue the support for the goals of the Genetics and Omics Network and increase efficiency, we have recruited a new member into a coordinator position. Somy Hooshmand has joined the network as Communications Coordinator, and will be managing our Twitter account, publicizing events, interviewing members for our Member Spotlights and leading Twitter chats. We extend our gratitude to Vita Mithi, who stepped down as Communications Coordinator in 2023 for their hard work in this role.

We also extend our thanks to our continuing coordinators, Shichen Zheng and Dr. Min-Ae Song. Shichen Zheng, our Operations Coordinator, schedules Advisory Committee and network-wide meetings, attends all meetings, and takes minutes. Dr. Min-Ae Song, our Education Coordinator, supports the organization of webinars and online events.

#### **MEMBER SPOTLIGHTS AND TWITTER CHATS**

As part of our goal to expand the broader visibility of the Genetics and Omics Network we have continued to promote our Twitter account (@GeneticsSRNT). Due to a delay in recruiting a new Communications Coordinator we paused our Member Spotlights but will be restarting these in 2024. Spotlighted members select a published article to be discussed in a live Twitter Chat with our Communications

Coordinator. If you're interested in being considered for a future Member Spotlight, please reach out to our Communications Coordinator or one of our co-chairs.

#### **JOURNAL CLUB**

Based on network member feedback, we are taking steps to initiate a network journal club which aims to serve as an informal opportunity for network members to meet and discuss papers of interest. We anticipate the journal club launching in Spring 2024. If you are interested in joining, please reach out to Dr. Min-Ae Song, our Education Coordinator.

#### **NETWORK PROJECTS**

For the last couple of years, the network has set a goal to foster research projects and grant generation within the network. Previously, this has included grant submissions to Cancer Research UK seeking to identify genetic variants associated with vaping led by former co-chair Dr. Jasmine Khouja and included several network members as co-investigators.

This year, we have been identifying target ideas for perspective pieces (e.g., what has genetically-informative research told us about the link between tobacco smoking and mental illness?), which we hope to pull together over the next year. We welcome any ideas from our network members on pieces they would like to lead on, and collaborations from other networks on such topics.



## Genetics & Omics Network

(continued)

### NEXT STEPS

Over the next year, our network plans to:

- Continue to highlight a Network member each quarter
- Continue to work on an inter-network concept piece discussing the insights from genetically-informative research on smoking and comorbidities (e.g., mental illness)
- Continue to boost our online presence via Twitter
- Build new intra and inter network collaborations
- Set-up a network journal club to build informal meeting opportunities within the network



# Global Research Network

Network Chairs: Ramzi Salloum, PhD and Raúl Mejía, MD

## LEADERSHIP STRUCTURE

### **Co-Chairs**

- Ramzi Salloum, PhD
- Raúl Mejía, MD

### **Network Coordinator**

- Dima Bteddini

### **Subcommittees**

- Education (Co-chairs: Catherine Egbe and Anna Wilkinson)
- Communications (Chair: Mansi Chopra)
- Outreach (Co-chairs: Ebbie Kalan and Rime Jebai)

### **Advisory Committee**

The GRN Advisory Committee consists of 10 members: Mira Aghi, Monika Arora, Carla Berg, Chris Bullen, Joanna Cohen, Geoff Fong, Ryan Kennedy, Donna Shelley, Irina Stepanov, and James Thrasher.

## NETWORK MEETINGS

**Refreshment breakout meeting:** GRN held an informal networking coffee meeting during the SRNT Annual Meeting on March 2, 2023 in San Antonio, Texas. The meeting was a great opportunity for GRN members to meet in person, and discuss GRN initiatives.

**Full-membership meetings:** The GRN full-membership post-conference meeting took place via Zoom on March 7, 2023. A total of 21 participants attended the meeting. Subsequent quarterly meetings were scheduled for GRN full-membership (June 6, September 5, and December 5). For these meetings, the GRN Advisory Committee met for the first 30 minutes, followed by a 30-minute members' meeting.

**Sub-committee chairs meetings:** The GRN co-chairs and sub-committee chairs scheduled monthly meetings for the period April 2023 – February 2024 and communicated frequently throughout the year to discuss specific issues related to the network operations. Ongoing and new initiatives, as per the GRN annual plan, were discussed during these meetings. Corresponding updates are reported below.

## NETWORK COMMUNICATIONS

**Newsletters:** The Communications Subcommittee disseminated quarterly newsletters to SRNT members. During this reporting period, 3 newsletters have been disseminated.

**Website and Twitter account:** The Communications Subcommittee is continuously updating the GRN webpage to present information about change in leadership, subcommittees and advisory committee members and provide relevant links and information for upcoming webinars

and conferences. The Communications Subcommittee is also keeping the GRN twitter account active by posting relevant material including publications' highlights, and events' announcements.

## MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

- GRN started this initiative in 2023. The main objective of this program is to support early-career researchers in the field of tobacco-related global research from low- and middle-income countries (LMICs) through connecting them to mid-career researchers to guide ongoing or new research in areas of mutual interest. Expenses of the program are covered by a grant from the National Cancer Institute (NCI).
- Ms. Amal Khayyat (Palestine) and Ms. Tran Thi Phuong Thao (Vietnam), 2 of the 3 mentees who were selected for the award in its first year, attended the SRNT Annual Meeting in 2023. Drs. Marie Ricciardone and Mark Parascandola from the NCI Center for Global Health presented the 2 GRN Mentoring Program participants with certificates of recognition at the GRN refreshment breakout session at SRNT 2023. Both participants continued to follow-up with their selected mentors throughout the year.



# Global Research Network

Network Chairs: Ramzi Salloum, PhD and Raúl Mejía, MD

- For this year, GRN invited two individuals to participate in the mentoring program: Tran Thi Phuong Thao (Vietnam), and Afolabi Oyapero (Nigeria). They were selected from list of LMICs participants who are presenting at SRNT 2024. This 1-year mentorship program will include travel scholarship to attend and present at SRNT 2024.

## MIRA AGHI AWARD FOR LMIC RESEARCH

- GRN recommended the establishment of a new award by SRNT to recognize the work of LMIC nicotine and tobacco researchers, given that this recommendation supports SRNT's commitment to global research and fills a gap in the awards currently presented. GRN also recommended that the LMIC Research Award be named after LMIC researcher and tobacco control advocate, Dr. Mira Aghi, who is also a longtime SRNT member.
- The SRNT Board approved the new Mira Aghi LMIC Research Award to honor "SRNT members living and working in a low- or middle-income country and have made outstanding contributions to the field of nicotine and tobacco research, cessation, public health or tobacco control".
- In response to the call for Award Nominations, GRN nominated Dr. Lekan Ayo-Yusuf for Mira Aghi Award, who has been selected by the 2024 SRNT

Awards Committee. Dr. Ayo-Yusuf is the first recipient of this new award, which will be presented during SRNT's 2024 Annual Meeting.

## R13 CONFERENCE GRANT

- GRN will be receiving funding for R13 Conference Grant from the National Cancer Institute. The grant, entitled "SRNT 2024 Annual Meeting Global Support", was submitted in April 2023 by 4 MPIs: Dr. Ramzi Salloum, Dr. Jim Thrasher, Dr. Donna Shelley, and Dr. Joanna Cohen. The GRN applied for this conference grant in order to elevate the visibility of global tobacco control research and implementation science at the SRNT 2024 Annual Meeting to be held in Edinburgh, Scotland.
- R13 grant application funding will be used to pursue the following specific aims: i) organize a pre-conference workshop and presidential symposium to promote bidirectional learning in global tobacco control and implementation science; ii) increase abstract submissions in global tobacco control science; iii) offer travel scholarships for LMIC-based researchers; and iv) support post-conference article submissions that focus on implementation science in global tobacco control.
- This will be the first grant of its kind to support the global tobacco control focus within SRNT.

## **Srnt 2024 Pre-Conference Workshop**

- GRN submitted a pre-conference workshop proposal for the SRNT 2024 Annual Meeting in Edinburgh, Scotland, entitled "Dissemination and implementation research in global tobacco control: Bridging the gap between research, practice, and policy".
- The proposal was approved, and the workshop is scheduled on March 20, 2024.
- This pre-conference workshop will begin to build capacity, with a focus on LMIC investigators, to apply implementation research methods to advance implementation of evidence-based tobacco cessation and policy interventions across different health system and policy settings, with a particular focus on low-resource settings. It will feature roundtable discussions, led by LMIC-based researchers, about challenges faced and lessons learned in implementation research projects.

## **Travel Scholarship**

- On December 2023, GRN disseminated a call for travel scholarship to attend the SRNT 2024 Annual Meeting in Edinburgh, Scotland which aims to support investigators in LMICs working in global tobacco control and to build their capacity to conduct dissemination and



# Global Research Network

Network Chairs: Ramzi Salloum, PhD and Raúl Mejía, MD

implementation research that is relevant and impactful in low resource contexts.

- The GRN Steering Committee selected 6 LMIC-based researchers out of the 15 applications that were received.

## GRN PUBLICATION

The GRN Co-chairs and subcommittee co-chairs published a commentary on E-cigarette use in low-income and middle-income countries, led by Mohammad Ebrahimi Kalan as a first author:

[Kalan ME, Mejia R, Egbe CO, Chopra M, Bteddini D, Jebai R, Osibogun O, Wilkinson AV, Salloum RG; Global Tobacco Research Network at Society for Research on Nicotine and Tobacco. E-cigarette use in low-income and middle-income countries: opportunity or challenge for global tobacco control. Lancet Glob Health. 2023 Dec;11\(12\):e1855-e1856. doi: 10.1016/S2214-109X\(23\)00450-3. Epub 2023 Oct 18. PMID: 37865111.](#)

## WEBINARS AND WORKSHOPS

### 1. SRNT 2023 Pre-Conference Workshop

- GRN organized a Pre-conference Workshop on March 1st, 2023 during the SRNT 2023 Annual Meeting in San Antonio, Texas, entitled “*Implementation science in global tobacco control: A primer*”. A total of 55 attended the workshop.
- The pre-conference workshop was facilitated by Dr. Salloum, the GRN co-chair and included presentations by 6 experts who shared their research experience on the role and impact of implementation science on global tobacco control. It also included two break-out sessions for group discussions.

### 2. GRN collaborated with SRNT on a virtual event on ‘Tobacco industry transformation - what is the current state of play?’ (December 12, 2023). The event included brief presentations of several papers from the corresponding themed section of the same name in the December issue of *Nicotine & Tobacco Research* as well as discussion with panel of experts. GRN nominated Dr. Lekan Ayo-Yusuf (University of Pretoria) to participate in this discussion.

### 3. Webinar: “Promotion of Nicotine Products Use in Latin America: Lessons from the REMAP Project”, on September 27, 2023

- Speakers: Raúl Mejía, Joaquin Barnoya, and Inti Barrientos.
- Participants: 44 registered, 25 attended
- Summary: This webinar focused on how diverse nicotine products are promoted in Latin America. The Removing the Marketing Power of cigarettes: A multi- method study aimed at protecting the health of adolescents in Latin America (REMAP) project, led by Dr. C. Moodie at the University of Stirling, Scotland, brings together researchers from different Latin American countries with the aim of studying the strategies for the promotion of tobacco products, directed to adolescents, that the TI has implemented. This webinar hosted researchers of the project who shared their corresponding experiences and preliminary results.



# Health Equity Network

Network Chairs: Andy Tan, PhD and Shyanika Rose, PhD, MA

No. of Members: 484

The vision of the Health Equity Network is to stimulate the generation and dissemination of scientific knowledge concerning tobacco-related disparities across the translational spectrum – from molecular to societal. The mission of the Network is to serve as the infrastructure to bring the state of the health disparities science to the SRNT community, and to build capacity among investigators and trainees to understand and eliminate these disparities.

## ADVISORY COMMITTEE STRUCTURE

### **Co-chairs:**

- Andy Tan, PhD, University of Pennsylvania
- Shyanika Rose, PhD, MA, University of Kentucky

### **Operations coordinator:**

- Erin Mead-Morse, PhD, University of Connecticut Health Center

## PROGRAM SUBCOMMITTEE

### **Co-chairs:**

- LaTrice Montgomery, PhD, University of Cincinnati
- Jaimee Heffner, PhD, Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center
- Danielle Davis, PhD, Yale University
- Melissa Little, PhD, University of Virginia

### **Operations coordinator:**

- Margaret Fahey, PhD, Medical University of South Carolina

### **Volunteers:**

- Erika Trapl, PhD, Case Western Reserve University

## SCHOLARSHIP & DEVELOPMENT SUBCOMMITTEE

### **Co-chairs:**

- \*Minal Patel, PhD, American Cancer Society (\*stepped down mid-2023)
- \*Kelvin Choi, PhD, MPH, National Institute of Minority Health & Health Disparities (\*stepped down mid-2023)
- Dana Carroll, PhD, MPH, University of Minnesota, School of Public Health
- Sam Cwalina, PhD, National Cancer Institute
- Jin Kim-Mozeleski, PhD, Case Western Reserve University
- Babalola Faseru, MD, MPH, University of Kansas (joined mid-2023)

### **Operations coordinator:**

- Afsheen Hasan, PhD, MPH, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences

### **Volunteers:**

- None

## EVALUATION SUBCOMMITTEE

### **Co-chairs:**

- Sydney Martinez, PhD, University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center
- Merideth Addicott, PhD, Wake Forest University
- Rachel Denlinger-Apte, PhD, Wake Forest University

### **Operations coordinator:**

- Lauren Czaplicki, PhD, Johns Hopkins University

### **Volunteers:**

- Vita Mithi, American College of Medical Toxicology
- George Kypriotakis PhD, MD Anderson Cancer Center
- Wura Jacobs, PhD, Indiana University
- Olatokunbo Osibogun PhD, Florida International University
- Tres Hinds PhD, The University of Texas at Austin
- Kavita Mosalpuria PhD, University of Utah



# Health Equity Network

(Continued)

- Lilian Phan PhD, Drexel University
- Doug Levy PhD, Harvard University
- Danusha Selva Kumar MA PhD(c), Fordham University

**COMMUNICATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE**

**Co-chairs:**

- Priti Bandi, PhD, American Cancer Society
- Justin Byron, PhD, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- Sarah Cha, MSPH, Truth Initiative

**Operations Coordinators:**

- Julia Chen-Sankey, PhD, Rutgers University
- Irene Peridot-Valverde, PhD, Clemson University

**Social Media Operations Coordinator:**

- Ingrid Zeledon, PhD, University of Southern California

**Volunteers:**

- Andrea Weinberger, PhD, Yeshiva University
- Wura Jacobs, PhD, Indiana University
- Brenda Dimaya, MPH, Truth Initiative
- Joshua Sinamo, University of Michigan

**Working Groups:**

- Racial Equity Work Group chair: Kelvin Choi, PhD, National Institute of Minority Health & Health Disparities
- LGBTQ Work Group co-chairs: Juhan (John) Lee, PhD, Yale University and Tres Hinds, PhD, University of Texas at Austin

**2023 NETWORK GOALS**

1. Advisory Committee
  - a. Advocate for health equity.
2. Program subcommittee
  - a. Organize webinars on health equity research aiming for 2-3 in the next calendar year
  - b. Facilitate SRNT symposium and pre-conference workshop submissions.
3. Scholarship & Development subcommittee
  - a. Facilitate the *It's Just Coffee* mentoring program
  - b. Restart and develop a more secure funding stream for our HEN travel scholarship program
4. Evaluation subcommittee
  - a. Conduct evaluation of SRNT Pre Conference workshops

- b. Describing collaborations among HDN pre-conference workshops attendees
  - c. Evaluate the *It's Just Coffee* mentoring program
5. Communications subcommittee
  - a. Expand social media presence and re-evaluate our choice of platforms as needed
  - b. Circulate a monthly/quarterly newsletter for our members to include publications and other content
  - c. Develop and field member survey to direct communication efforts

**ORGANIZATIONAL ADVOCACY AND SUPPORT**

This year we focused on bringing activities back to pre-pandemic levels. In addition, we focused on soliciting and making nominations for the Pebbles Fagan Health Equity Award, Jarvik-Russell Award and SRNT Fellows and will focus more on the New Mira Aghi LMIC award in the future.

Our network also started/continued several special projects this year including starting a HEN Racial Equity Workgroup to align our network practices and processes with the recommendations laid out by the SRNT Racial Equity Taskforce. Implementing the workgroup's recommendations will be an ongoing effort into 2024 and beyond. We also



## Health Equity Network (Continued)

launched the LGBTQ+ work group last year and this group has been active throughout the year (please see below for specific activities). Finally, we began a work group to develop an editorial regarding industry influence in Nicotine and Tobacco Research and the recent publication of JUUL-authored and supported research in the journal.

### SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

#### **Program Subcommittee Report**

- Goal #1: Conduct at least 2 webinars aimed at enhancing health equity.
  - Webinar #1: Health-Equity Trainee Showcase
  - Date: 11/7/23
  - Moderated by Melissa A. Little, PhD., Associate Professor, University of Virginia
  - Presenters:
    - o Margaret C. Fahey, PhD, Postdoctoral Fellow, Medical University of South Carolina
    - o Delvon T. Mattingly, PhD, Assistant Professor, University of Kentucky College of Medicine
    - o Alison Brecher, PhD, MPH, Fox Chase Cancer Center
    - o Olanrewaju Onigbogi, MD, MPH,

Postdoctoral Research, University of Utah

- Outcomes:
  - o Co-sponsored with the Treatment Network
  - o 47 registered, 31 attended
- Webinar #2: “Does my intervention need an intervention? Taking stock of culturally tailored approaches to preventing and reducing commercial tobacco use among sexual and gender minoritized populations”
- Date: 1/12/24
- Moderated by Dr. Ollie Ganz, Assistant Professor, Rutgers University
- Presenters:
  - o Dr. Julia McQuoid, Assistant Professor, University of Oklahoma
  - o Dr. Jaimee Heffner, Associate Professor, Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center
  - o Dr. Joanne Patterson, Assistant Professor, The Ohio State University
  - o Dr. Andy Tan, Associate Professor, University of Pennsylvania

- Outcomes:
  - o Co-sponsored with the Treatment Network
  - o 100 registered, 61 attended
  - o Presenters are developing a Commentary based on talk (led by Dr. Andy Tan)
- Goal #2: Facilitate SRNT 2024 symposium and pre-conference workshop submissions.
  - The Program Subcommittee co-chairs hosted a program call in June 2023 to coordinate submissions. Several ideas were proposed and discussed and multiple groups were connected for symposiums. Additionally, a pre-conference workshop is being sponsored by the Health Equity Network “Conducting Research on LGBTQ+ Tobacco Use in High Stigma Environments”.
  - Accepted symposia from this program:
    - o Symposia Title: Assessing The Impact Of Retailer Environment Policies On Health Equity: Approaches And Outcomes Across Four Countries. Symposium Number/ID: SYM16
    - o Symposia Title: Tobacco Use Characteristics And Morbidity Among Older Adults: Health



## Health Equity Network (Continued)

Equity, Harm Perceptions, And  
Polysubstance Use. Symposium  
Number/ID: SYM09

- o Symposia Title: Reducing Tobacco-Related Disparities Through Community-Engaged Intervention Research Methods In Priority Populations. Symposium Number/ID: SYM05
- The Network is also participating in the poster tour this year to help recognize HEN posters at the annual meeting.

### Scholarship & Development Subcommittee Report

- Goal #1: Facilitate the *It's Just Coffee* mentoring program.
  - This professional development program facilitates meetings between mentors and mentees during the SRNT annual meetings. The committee recruited mentors and paired them with early-career researchers within the Network to meet in person during the 2023 SRNT Annual Meeting. We successfully held an in-person mentoring program at SRNT 2023. We had 25 mentees matched with 17 mentors that met during the conference.
  - At the time of this report, the co-chairs and operations coordinators of the subcommittee are organizing the

program for the 2024 SRNT annual meeting. The subcommittee is currently gathering offers of mentorship from senior SRNT members and plans to match as many as possible with mentees. Each matched pair will schedule an in-person or virtual meeting on their own, and mentors will have a maximum of two mentees during the 2024 SRNT Annual Meeting.

- The subcommittee worked with the Evaluation subcommittee on an evaluation plan to assess the perceived impact of the program over time among mentees and mentors.
- The subcommittee continues to assist the other SRNT networks to hold their own respective *It's Just Coffee* mentoring program. As a result of these efforts, which included meetings with other networks and development of a detailed standard operating procedure for the other networks to coordinate their own program, and facilitating the main emails to SRNT to recruit individuals as mentor or mentees to each network's own program, there were three tracks offered for the program for the 2023 SRNT annual meeting: a health equity track hosted by our Network, a basic science track hosted by the SRNT Basic Science Network and a policy track hosted by

the SRNT Policy Network. This year, we are working with the SRNT Policy Network and Treatment Research Network.

- Goal #2: Develop a more secure funding stream for our travel scholarship and fund scholars
  - This program provides funding for early-career investigators working in health disparities research or from an underrepresented population to travel to the SRNT annual meetings. For the 2023 SRNT annual meeting, we secured funding to support 15 travel scholars, of which two were international members of SRNT. We are thrilled to have been able to support the development of this many junior scholars. The subcommittee is now coordinating supporting two members of a LMIC to attend the 2024 SRNT annual meeting. As we have typically not been able to fund scholars for international meetings, we are thrilled to be able to identify funding for scholars for this meeting.

### Evaluation Subcommittee Report

- Goal #1: Evaluate HEN pre-conference workshops.
  - The subcommittee conducted a Pre-Conference Workshop Attendee Survey between March-May 2021.



## Health Equity Network (Continued)

This survey aimed to evaluate the perceived impact of attendance at one or more pre-conference workshops (between 2015-2019) sponsored by HEN on fostering health-disparities-related collaborations and research among workshop attendees. Questions included which specific workshop(s) they attended and whether they made new collaborative partnerships, co-authored manuscripts, participated in grant applications jointly with others in part, or resulted from, their attendance of the workshops. We also collected demographic information of respondents (type of institution, professional role, career state, gender identity, sexual orientation, race, and ethnicity). We received responses from 33 individuals and presented the findings from the survey at the September HEN Advisory Committee meeting. In 2023, the commentary was finalized and submitted to NTR, recommended for publication with revisions, resubmitted, and has been accepted for publication.

- Goal #2: Survey on Perceptions of Authentic Health Equity Research.
  - In 2022 following the SRNT Annual Meeting, the Evaluation Subcommittee discussed the definition of authentic health equity research and what that might mean to the network. An

open-ended survey was drafted and submitted to IRB, and after approval the survey was distributed to the HEN members. The survey received 15 responses and the subcommittee used qualitative methods to analyze the open-ended survey responses. A powerpoint outlining the survey methods, analysis, and results was created. A manuscript was drafted and submitted to NTR in 2023 in the form of a brief report, but later revised and resubmitted as a commentary after feedback from the editor. This commentary is currently under review.

- Goal #3: Evaluate the *It's Just Coffee* program.
  - The Evaluation committee has been working in collaboration with the Scholarship & Development subcommittee to conduct a long-term evaluation of the *It's Just Coffee* (IJC) Program. Discussions have focused around the overall goals and purpose of the evaluation, which has been determined to focus on factors influencing participation in the program, ways participants utilized the IJC mentor time, satisfaction with the program, and any long-term follow up with mentors or outcomes from the meeting. After much discussion of how to approach the evaluation, a survey was drafted and an IRB application

was submitted and approved; however, there are still ongoing discussions as to the overall purpose and goals of the survey and evaluation. The survey was developed in Qualtrics and pilot tested and revised. The survey will be distributed in early 2024 prior to the annual meeting.

- Goal #4 Pre-Conference Workshop Evaluation.
  - An evaluation was conducted for the Pre-Conference Workshop titled “Centering Health Equity in our Science around Local Laws and U.S. Federal Regulations Regarding the Availability and Sale of Flavored Tobacco Products: Developing Recommendations for Advancing Evidence-based Policies” was conducted at the SRNT Annual Meeting. An infographic was created to display results of the evaluation. We received 20 responses, and on average, participants rated the quality of the workshop a 4.16 out of 5. Participants reported learning new research approaches and ways of identifying strategies of including communities in research for more equitable practices. Results of the evaluation were presented at the May 2023 AC meeting. Separate from this evaluation or the work of the Network, workshop organizers also prepared a



# Health Equity Network

(Continued)

commentary based on the results of this pre-conference which was submitted to NTR and received a revise and resubmit and is now awaiting a final publication decision.

## Communications Subcommittee Report

- Overview:
  - The Communications subcommittee has expanded in 2024 adding Brenda Dimaya and Joshua Sinamo as new volunteers, and planning for the future with Julia Chen-Sankey to become a co-chair in 2024. In 2023, we conducted bi-monthly planning meetings. The team regularly disseminates products that facilitate information sharing and collaboration among the Network members. To this effect we have expanded our communication efforts considerably including:
    - o Completed member survey of communication preferences and shared findings with the SRNT Board, HEN Advisory Committee, and other HEN subcommittees.
    - o Based on communication preferences survey results, launched a new social media channel [SRNT HEN LinkedIn Page](#) (and ending our Twitter postings on 12/31/23)
    - o Expanding our member Spotlight series
    - o Producing a monthly newsletter (“SRNT Equity Publications & More Newsletter”)
    - o Integrating communications by promoting our internal products (member Spotlights, It’s Just Coffee Spotlights, the newsletter) on our social media channels and promoting our social media channel on all internal communications.
- Goal #1: Expand social media presence and re-evaluate our choice of platforms as needed.
  - Twitter. The Communications Subcommittee launched @DisparitiesSRNT (renamed @EquitySRNT with the renaming of the network to HEN, (<https://twitter.com/EquitySRNT>), the official Twitter channel for our network in May 2021. Posting were managed by Julia Chen-Sankey and Andrea Weinberger. Over the course of 2023, we discussed and evaluated whether to remain on Twitter (now called X) or to shift to a different platform. After looking at the results of the HEN Communication Preferences Survey (see below), the Communications Subcommittee unanimously decided

to end our Twitter/X account on 12/31/23 and move to LinkedIn. We followed these plans and began 2024 announcing our new LinkedIn account ([SRNT HEN LinkedIn Page](#)), which currently has 43 followers. We plan to use this page to regularly provide original content related to health disparities that may be of interest to our membership. We will also use LinkedIn to announce upcoming webinars, meetings, deadlines, and other relevant information. This initiative aims to increase member engagement and information dissemination.

- Goal # 2: Circulate a monthly/quarterly newsletter for our members to include publications and other content.
  - We continue to publish our monthly newsletter entitled “SRNT Equity Publications & More Newsletter.” The newsletter primarily highlights new health equity journal publications, categorized by populations of interest. It also includes information on webinars, funding announcements, or events that may interest members. The newsletter is shared on the Network listserv and LinkedIn. The newsletter continues to receive positive feedback from members and SRNT leadership.



## Health Equity Network (Continued)

- Goal # 3: Develop and field member survey to direct communication efforts

- One of our goals was to field a brief Network-wide member survey to understand how HEN members use different communication channels for professional purposes and to obtain information about health equity issues. This was designed to help ensure we are sending communications to the platform(s) that our members prefer. In July 2023 we emailed the Qualtrics survey to members through the SRNT HEN listserv list, with reminders at days 3 and 6, and the survey was closed after one week. There was a \$25 Amazon gift card raffle for responses received in the first 24 hours as incentive. We received 130 responses (of ~500 on the email list, response rate ~26%). Of the participants, 60% were female, 80% were from the US. Key findings included:

1. Respondents mostly wanted to hear from HEN via email (92%), Twitter (20%) and LinkedIn (16%). When asked their one top choice, most people (84%) said email.
2. Participants were most interested in content on professional or academic events (84%), health equity related news (82%), journal articles (79%), and research

resources (71%), followed by member spotlights (62%) and job opportunities (53%).

3. About 30% of respondents followed the HEN Twitter account and another 22% were on Twitter but didn't follow HEN.

- The findings suggested high interest in communications via email, some interest via Twitter or LinkedIn, limited interest in Threads, and no interest in Mastodon. Therefore, the HEN Communications Team plans to continue primarily using the e-mail listserv and has also shifted from Twitter/X to LinkedIn to better serve our members.

- Other activities:

- Spotlight series. Spotlights are profiles and Q&As of a Network member highlighting their work advancing the field of tobacco-related health disparities. The Spotlights are shared through the email listserv, Twitter, and the network webpage. In 2023, we focused our spotlight efforts on recipients of the HEN Travel Scholarships to highlight work by early career investigators. This year, we featured the following travel scholarship recipients in our Spotlights: Drs. E. Gleneara Bates-Pappas, Mansi Chopra, Ruthmarie Hernandez-Torres,

Chukwudi Keke, Shaoying Ma, Nathalia Machado, Olanrewaju Onigbogi, Rachel Rosen, and Dana Rubenstein (scheduled). We also plan to encourage recruitment for the It's Just Coffee mentorship program by spotlighting Drs. Omar El Shahawy and Shadi Nahvi, a mentee-mentor pair from the program.

- The Communications Subcommittee also works with SRNT leadership, the Advisory Committee, and other subcommittees in maintaining the public-facing and members-only sections of the SRNT website.

### WORKING GROUP REPORTS

#### **Racial Equity Work Group**

The goal of this work group is to make recommendations on how to implement the SRNT Racial Equity Task Force (RETF) recommendations within the Health Equity Network and support the implementation of these recommendations society-wide. A group of HEN members with diverse backgrounds have been seated on the committee by the HEN Advisory Committee. These individuals included:

Chair:

- Dr. Kelvin Choi, National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities



# Health Equity Network

(Continued)

Operations Coordinator:

- Dr. Margarita Santiago-Torres, Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center

Members: (in alphabetical order of last names)

- Dr. Pete Driezen, University of Waterloo
- Dr. Amy Ferketich, The Ohio State University
- Dr. Jessica King, University of Utah
- Dr. Erik Rodriquez, National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute
- Dr. Marcia Tan, The University of Chicago
- Dr. Joshua Yang, California State University, Fullerton

The work group met on a monthly basis to review the RETF recommendations, examine their relevance at the network level, and discuss how they can be implemented within the Network. The work group also examined the role of the HEN in assisting SRNT in implementing these recommendations. A report summarizing these recommendations was finalized in December 2023 and presented to the AC at the meeting on December 15, 2023. We thank the members of the Racial Equity Work Group for their remarkable service. The next step in this process is for each HEN subcommittee to review and discuss how to implement these recommendations relevant to the corresponding subcommittee.

This implementation plan is scheduled for a discussion at the AC meeting in February 2024.

**LGBTQ+ Workgroup**

The goal of this workgroup is to promote health equity in LGBTQ+ populations while reducing tobacco-related health disparities. The mission of LGBTQ+ workgroup is to foster collaboration and promote tobacco research related to LGBTQ+ populations while creating a research and professional hub for tobacco researchers and health professionals who conduct LGBTQ related research and who identify themselves as LGBTQ+ individuals.

The following individuals have been seated on the committee:

Co-Chairs:

- Dr. Juhan Lee (Yale University School of Medicine)
- Dr. Tres Hinds (University of Texas Austin)

Operations Coordinator:

- Mona Malone (Brown University)

Members:

- Amal Khayat
- Afsheen Hasan
- Onyinye Omega-Njemnobi
- M. Justin Byron

- Tres Hinds
- Bonnie Halpern-Felsher
- Jessica Barrington-Trimis
- ANGELA BRUMLEY-SHELTON
- Nathan Harrison
- Christina Sun
- Mariel Bello
- Daimarelys
- Heather Kimmel
- Jaimee Heffner
- Francisco Cartujano
- Shadi Nahvi
- Daniel Giovenco
- Joseph Lee
- Willa Dong
- Nathalie Gutierrez
- Andrea Weinberger
- Alyssa Harlow
- Maria Anwar
- Evan Krueger
- Luisa Kcomt



# Health Equity Network

(Continued)

- Rebecca Evans-Folce
- Erin Vogel
- Julia McQuoid
- Francsico Gartujano
- Alexandria Andrayas
- James Croker
- Bryan McColgan
- Meghan Morean
- Murat Hosgor

The workgroup has ongoing projects including: initiating a review paper on tobacco use and cessation by theory among studies focused on LGBTQ+ individuals, and drafting a preliminary SRNT position statement regarding anti-LGBTQ legislation and its impact on tobacco use among LGBTQ+ individuals. We are also planning an informal gathering of the working group (and interested members) at SRNT 2024 in order to attract more international members and re-energize ongoing efforts. The efforts will continue through the 2024-2025 calendar year.

## Tobacco Industry Interference Workgroup

We developed a workgroup emerging from the Health Equity Network Advisory Committee's concerns about the publication of JUUL-authored and funded articles in Nicotine and Tobacco Research contrary to journal and SRNT policies. As invited by Editor-in-Chief Marcus Munafo, we are developing an editorial regarding these issues for publication in the July issue of NTR.

## ADDITIONAL INTEGRATION/ COLLABORATION ACROSS SRNT

- We worked with the Global Health Network to ensure that travel scholars were not duplicated across the HEN and Global Health travel award programs for LMIC scholars.
- We worked with the Treatment Network to co-sponsor two webinars in November 2023 and January 2024.
- We coordinated with other SRNT networks (Basic Science, Policy, and Treatment) and provided assistance to hold their own respective It's Just Coffee mentoring programs in the 2023 and upcoming 2024 meetings.
- We shared the member survey findings and the survey instrument from the Communications Subcommittee to other networks for their own respective member surveys.

## ONWARDS...

We are very thankful for all the advisory committee members, operations coordinators, other volunteers, speakers, and network members who volunteered their time and effort to make 2023 a meaningful and successful year for the SRNT Health Equity Network. We will match these efforts as we move onward, facilitating innovative science and disseminating findings to reduce and eliminate tobacco use disparities globally. We look forward to meeting with our members during the Edinburgh meeting. We plan to release a report on the activities of the HEN Racial Equity workgroup in 2024 on how to align our activities with the recommendations of the SRNT Racial Equity Taskforce. We also wish that all of you stay well and safe, and we will continue to strive for health equity, together.



# Policy Research Network

Network Co-chairs: Shannon Gravely, PhD; Allison Glasser, PhD (until Dec 2023); Katherine East, PhD (Jan 2024 onwards)  
No. of Members: 435

## ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE

**The Policy Research Network's (PRN) mission is to:**

- Provide networking, educational and professional development opportunities for SRNT members working in the area of policy research.
- Provide guidance to the SRNT Board and committees as necessary to better inform programs and/or discussions that address policy research.
- Undertake projects that contribute to the evidence base on policy research.

*Racial equity statement: It is the mission of Policy Research Network (PRN) to provide a platform for racial justice, intersectionality, and empowerment of marginalized communities, all of which promote an anti-racist environment. In addition to striving for racial equity and inclusion in our work, we have a commitment to challenging persistent inequities in nicotine and tobacco use around the world.*

## Leadership:

- **Co-Chairs:** Shannon Gravely (Jan 2023-present), PhD; Allison Glasser, PhD (Jan 2021-Dec 2023); Katherine East, PhD (Jan 2024 onwards)
- **Advisory Committee (AC):** Andrew Barnes, Martin Dockrell, Andrew Seidenberg, Christina Kyriakos, Olufemi Erinoso, Geoffrey Fong, Doug Levy, Susan Kaai, Scott Leischow, Jessica Barrington-Trimis, Shaoying Ma

- **Education Subcommittee:** Alex Liber (co-chair), Christina Kyriakos (co-chair), Loren Kock (interim co-chair), Melissa Mercincavage (TRS), Juhan Lee (TRS), Elise DeVito (PRN), Caroline Fuss (PRN)
- **Communications Subcommittee:** Andrew Seidenberg (chair, Monthly Bulletin, spotlight Writer); Michelle Goulette (Social media manager)
- **Tobacco Regulatory Science Working Group (TRSWG):** Scott Leischow (co-chair), Jessica Barrington-Trimis (co-chair); Nicolle Krebs (Operations Coordinator), Roberta Lemos (Operations Coordinator); Lion Shahab (TRSWG AC), Natalie Walker (TRSWG AC); Sharon Cox (Ontology team co-lead), Melissa Blank (Ontology team co-lead); Robert West (Ontology team co-lead), David Ashley (Products Standards team co-lead), Lekan Ayo-Yusuf (Products Standards team co-lead), Mitch Zeller (Products Standards team); Megan Roberts (Writing team co-lead), Geoff Fong (Writing team co-lead)
- **SRNT-U Liaison:** Christina Kyriakos
- **Trainee Network liaison:** Nicolle Krebs
- **Operations Coordinator:** Gus White (PRN AC), Loren Kock (PRN Education Subcommittee)

## NETWORK ACTIVITIES

With support and guidance from our Network Advisory Committee, our subcommittees, and our Operations Coordinators, our activities for the year (2023) have included:

## Network Management

- Bi-monthly meetings with our Network Advisory Committee to discuss emerging issues or opportunities, provide input into subcommittee activities, monitor progress and discuss ideas for the upcoming year.
- Regular subcommittee meetings.
- Provided feedback on the various proposed activities by the subcommittees.
- One full network virtual meeting on March 13, 2023, where we reported on our activities for the previous year, requested and received input from network members on their ideas for network activities.
- Recruited for multiple volunteer positions on our leadership team.
- Added the Tobacco Regulatory Science Working Group to Network (TRSWG), managed by Scott Leischow and Jessica Barrington-Tremis. PRN co-chairs worked with the TRSWG to help establish the working group and provided guidance on merging the two groups.
- Created a PRN organization chart of the current PRN members scheme. We also began planning
- a reorganization to harmonize the PRN with the TRSWG.

## Communication Subcommittee Activities

- Continued to disseminate the policy-relevant news, events, and resources through the Network's monthly policy bulletin and the Network's X/Twitter



# Policy Research Network

(Continued)

- account (@PolicySRNT). Management of the PRN Bulletin remained under Andrew Seidenberg throughout 2023. Management of the PRN X/Twitter account was managed by Michelle Goulette and Andrew Seidenberg.
- Andrew Seidenberg is rotating off, but will remain on the PRN Advisory Committee. We are in the process of recruiting a new Communications Subcommittee chair.
  - Michelle Goulette has rotated off from social media management.
  - Recruited Stephanie Fincham-Campbell to manage the member spotlights (beginning in 2024).
  - Recruited Nicole (Donghee) Lee to manage the PRN's social media (@PolicySRNT on X/Twitter) and the network's website (beginning in 2024).

## Tobacco Regulatory Science Working Group (TRSWG)

- The TRSWG was established in 2023 and is part of the PRN.
- The TRSWG has four teams: Product Standards, Education, Writing, and Ontology.
- Webinar led by both the TRSWG and the PRN Education Sub-committee on Sept 18, 2023: *FDA Regulation of Pulmonary Nicotine Delivery Systems: Drug Product, Tobacco Product, or Reduced Harm Tobacco Product?* The panelists included Scott Leischow, Mitch Zeller, Heather Dorsey (FDA), and Priscilla Callahan-Lyon (FDA).

## Education Subcommittee Activities

- During the Network's annual meeting (online, March 2023), we collected feedback on priority educational topics.
- PRN PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOP 2023 (organized by Shannon Gravely and Alex Liber, PRN): *"Translating Scientific Research into Policy: Tobacco Regulatory Science Workshop."* The panelists included: Sonia Johnson (Director General of the Tobacco Control Directorate at Health Canada), Benjamin Apelberg (Deputy Director for Regulatory Science in the Office of Science at FDA's Center for Tobacco Products), David Ashley (Research Professor in the School of Public Health at Georgia State University), Michael Tynan (Policy team lead with the Office on Smoking and Health (OSH) at CDC), Martin Dockrell (Tobacco Control Lead at at England's Office of Health Improvement and Disparities), Reinskje Talhout (Senior scientific expert in tobacco product regulatory science at the National Institute for Public Health and the Environment (RIVM) in the Netherlands), Natalie Walker (Clinical trialist and epidemiologist and Associate Director of the Centre for Addiction Research, Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences in New Zealand), and Geoffrey Fong (Professor of Psychology and Public Health Sciences at the University of Waterloo Canada).

- Prepared and submitted a pre-conference workshop for the 2024 SRNT annual meeting (organized by the PRN Education subcommittee and the TRSWG): The following will be presented at the 2024 SRNT meeting: *"Diverse Experiences Developing Tobacco Product Standards Around the World: Case Studies and Lessons for Tobacco Regulatory Science"*. Panelists include: Andre Luiz Oliveira da Silva (Agencia Nacional de Vigilancia Sanitaria - ANVISA, Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brazil), Chris Bullen (University of Auckland, Aotearoa, New Zealand, and Ghazi Zaatari (American University of Beirut, Lebanon). Lekan Ayo-Yusuf (University of Pretoria, South Africa) and David L. Ashley (Georgia State University, USA) will chair the workshop.
- Began to organize two webinars to be held in 2024 (one on policy implementation in LMICs and a second one on Difference in Difference analyses) that were originally to take place in 2023, but were postponed until 2024. Proposals have been developed and speakers on board.

## Trainee Activities

- Held "It's Just Coffee" mentoring program at annual SRNT meeting in San Antonio with 8 mentees that were paired with 11 mentors.

## Public Comment

- Submitted a public comment to the the US Department of Health and Human Services, *Request for Information: Draft HHS 2023*



## Policy Research Network

(Continued)

*Framework to Support and Accelerate Smoking Cessation.*

- Submitted a Comment to the UK's Consultation for '*Creating a smokefree generation and tackling youth vaping: your views*' led by the TRSWG, with support from the PRN.

### Publication

- Drafted and submitted a Commentary to *Nicotine & Tobacco Research* in December 2023 ('*Evidence-based research to guide effective menthol cigarette bans in the United States and other jurisdictions*'). This initiative was led by Olufemi Erinoso (PRN AC) & Jenny Brown (SRNT Global Health Research Network). Co-chairs (Gravely & Glasser) were also involved in drafting the manuscript. The manuscript is currently under review (as of February 2024).

### PLANNED 2024 ACTIVITIES

- We will be re-organizing the PRN to accommodate the newly formed (and growing) TRSWG.
- We will have an informal in-person network meeting at SRNT.
- The annual PRN meeting will be held online in April 2024.
- Planning for the 2025 SRNT pre-conference workshop.
- Plan the poster tour to highlight tobacco regulatory science/policy relevant posters at the 2024 SRNT annual meeting.

- Manage "It's Just Coffee" mentoring event at 2024 SRNT annual conference (of note, 23 mentors have signed up to participate!).
- Plan and host webinars. Some webinars that are being planned are:
  - April/May: Policy implementation in low- and middle-income countries.
  - The difference-in-differences method (date TBA).
  - Policy Evaluation Methods webinar (possible).
  - Ontology webinar (May).
  - Propose and plan a Policy Research Network symposium and/or pre-conference workshop for the 2025 annual meeting.
- Complete 2024 activity planning process with Advisory Committee in February. Preliminary ideas include revisiting the structure of the Network, which has evolved since the introduction of the TRSWG, and adapting accordingly, improving and fostering diversity and inclusivity in Committee leadership, membership and activities, communication to engage more members (e.g., Twitter, Bulletin), and pursuing mentorship opportunities for our early-career researcher members. Collaborate with other networks as plans are made.



# Trainee Network

Co-chairs: Nancy Jao and Mariel Bello

The Trainee Network Advisory Committee (TNAC) has been actively working from 2023-2024 to develop and plan resources and programs offered to trainees throughout the year and during the in-person 2024 SRNT Conference in Edinburgh, Scotland. Our programs focus on increasing trainee-related resources and opportunities for professional development, collaboration, networking, as well as acquisition and dissemination of scientific knowledge related to the field of nicotine/tobacco research. In particular, as many other SRNT Networks provide mentorship opportunities between senior investigators and trainees, we have chosen to focus on establishing networking opportunities for trainees to build relationships with their peers (i.e., trainee-to-trainee). To facilitate these tasks, TNAC meets monthly via Zoom to discuss projects as needed. Our projects reflect our mission to support an emerging generation of nicotine/tobacco researchers and scientists, especially those from underrepresented backgrounds. We have also focused on cross-network collaborations and increasing access to leaders in the field who provide mentoring on research, authorship, and grantsmanship.

## ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE

This year Nancy Jao and Mariel Bello served as Trainee Network Co-Chairs, who were supported by Alison Brecher and Anise Johnson-Rasheed serving as Operation Coordinators and Suchitra Krishnan-Sarin serving as the Senior Investigator/Scientific

Advisor on an ad hoc basis. TNAC is organized into three subcommittees (Communication, Education, and Networking Subcommittees) to lead specific areas of programing and facilitate additional leadership opportunities for TNAC members. The Communication Subcommittee is led by Emily Hackworth and Lindsey Sparrock as Subcommittee Co-chairs, with Alison Brecher, Rime Jebai, Shaoying Ma, Andrea Milstred, and Jenny Wilkerson as Subcommittee Members. The Education Subcommittee is led by Emma Brett and Nick Felicione as Subcommittee Co-chairs, with Robert Fairman, Nathan Harrison, Nathan Olszewski, and Jessica Powers as Subcommittee Members. The Networking Subcommittee is led by Rachel Rosen and Dana Rubenstein as Subcommittee Co-chairs, with Anise Johnson-Rasheed, Olanrewaju Onigbogi, Marcia Tan, Karen Ra, and Samuel Tetteh-Quarshie as Subcommittee Members.

## TNAC ACTIVITY OVERVIEW

### Communications Subcommittee:

- We have continued our email communications with trainees throughout the year via the SRNT trainee listserv and social media platforms (i.e., Twitter [ @TraineeSRNT ], LinkedIn [ <https://www.linkedin.com/in/srnt-trainee-network/> ]). We utilized these platforms to share career development opportunities (e.g., faculty job postings, postdoctoral fellowship positions) as well as promote SRNT trainee-related achievements that may include

original articles or essays on topics relevant to career development, trainee awards, accomplishments, and research findings.

- We created a new LinkedIn account for the Trainee Network to increase engagement with members of the Trainee Network. We plan to continue to use the Trainee Network LinkedIn account to spotlight members of TNAC, research conducted by trainees in tobacco research, and conduct polls.
- We have continued to create and share “Trainee Spotlights” every week to highlight current members and increase engagement within the Trainee Network. Our Trainee Spotlights aim to provide members with an opportunity to share their research interests, valuable advice for career development, and interests outside of research with other members of the Network.
- We created and distributed a Trainee Newsletter in the Fall to highlight some of our trainee members, share job postings and career development opportunities, and disseminate recent publications by trainee members. We will create and distribute another edition in the Spring.
- We also developed and distributed a Trainee’s Guide to the Annual Meeting for the 2024 Annual Meeting, which will include details regarding the trainee network conference events (e.g., refreshment break, network lunch, mixer),



# Trainee Network

(Continued)

COVID-19 guidance, travel tips (e.g., safety, lodging, budgeting), as well as general information regarding Edinburgh. This guide will aid students and early career investigators in preparing for their travels to the 2024 Annual Meeting and making the most out of their time in Edinburgh.

## Education Subcommittee:

- This year we launched an initiative to increase opportunities for trainees to showcase and present their research in a data blitz format called the “SRNT Health Equity Trainee Showcase”. Our first Data Blitz webinar was conducted in collaboration with the Health Equity Network on Tuesday, November 7th, 2023 and included a panel of 4 trainees who presented on their research relevant to a range of health equity topics. This webinar was successful for its first launch as indicated by ~50 number of attendees. Thus, we plan to continue to collaborate with other SRNT Networks to showcase trainee research across a variety of topics.
- We also plan to launch a new “Meet the Faculty” series. Similar to “Ask Me Anything” sessions, we plan to invite a faculty member from different Networks to do drop-in sessions. The Meet the Faculty sessions would provide an opportunity for trainees who cannot attend the conference in-person to informally meet mentors and other trainees virtually. At each session, trainees are welcomed to ask questions

- about the faculty member’s experiences and research. Faculty members are also welcome to discuss opportunities they have for trainees to work with them (e.g., available data for publications). We hope these sessions will also help to connect trainees who are looking for potential graduate or post-doc positions.
- We plan to continue organizing webinars based on results from the recent Trainee Survey, including webinars in collaboration with other Networks. We plan to organize 1-2 webinars in the next calendar year in addition to another trainee showcase given the success of our first data blitz. We will also continue to support the other subcommittees on tasks relevant to the annual meeting, such as organizing a list of TNAC member presentations so that advisory committee members can support one another’s work at the meeting.

## Networking Subcommittee:

- This year, we conducted a Trainee Survey (n=32) to learn about trainee interests and needs, similar to the survey conducted 10 years prior. Most survey respondents lived in the United States. Nearly 80% were early career investigators, graduate students, or postdoctoral fellows. Few were mid-career or senior investigators. Two-thirds identified as a “trainee”; 10% were unsure if they were considered a “trainee.” In general, most agreed that undergrads, post-bacs, graduate students, and postdocs

- should be considered “trainees,” one-third agreed that early career researchers should be considered “trainees,” and few believed that mid-career were also considered “trainees.” Most respondents joined TNAC for networking opportunities, to hone professional skills, or to support early career members. Most respondents would be interested in virtual networking events, and most indicated that they hear about our network events and opportunities via email. Overall, we identified that trainees are less interested in paid workshops and would prefer shorter free webinar-style workshops on topics such as: career trajectories, grant writing and peer review, presentation tips, understanding NIH organization, and stats/ methods presentations
- We have continued to conduct our Trainee Liaison Initiative to build close working relationships between the Trainee Network and other Networks, as well as to increase engagement, support, and collaborations for trainees and early career professionals at SRNT. The ultimate goal of this initiative is to hopefully establish ways in which the Trainee Network can provide support to other Networks for trainee-related activities, connect trainees and early career professionals with Networks that they may be interested in, and/or disseminate information regarding Network-sponsored trainee-related events to members of the Trainee Network. Liaisons are asked to check-in briefly with the TNAC Trainee



## Trainee Network

(Continued)

- Liaison Coordinator, Rachel Rosen, to provide feedback regarding their Network's trainee needs.
- During the 2023 SRNT conference in San Antonio, TX, we had 84 attendees across the formal and informal trainee events and engaged 11 new TNAC members. We also piloted a new drop-in social hour during lunch poster sessions to allow trainees to meet TNAC members, increase community building among trainees, and attend poster sessions with other trainees. We also identified that members value informal peer networking opportunities, which has led to continued development of the network conference events to meet the needs of our members. For the 2024 SRNT Annual Conference, we plan to continue hosting multiple trainee events, including our evening Trainee Mixer for trainees to gather and network as well as drop-in social hours during poster sessions and breaks on each conference day.
  - Though still in development, the networking subcommittee has been brainstorming ways to increase opportunities for manuscript writing within and across networks. We sought information about network-specific writing opportunities and will continue to identify ways to support our members' needs related to increasing opportunities for manuscript writing.

### **Virtual Trainee Network Members Meeting:**

- Following the SRNT annual meeting, we plan to host a formal Trainee Network Members Meeting to connect with new and current Trainee Network members, share our activities, obtain feedback, offer opportunities for volunteering, and build collaborations within our community.



# Treatment Research Network

Network Co-Chairs: Krysten Bold, PhD & Alana Rojewski, PhD

No. of Members: 313

## ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE

### **Advisory Committee**

Treatment Research Network Advisory Committee Members for 2023-2024 were Krysten Bold (Co-Chair), Alana Rojewski (Co-Chair), Erika Bloom, Virmarie Correa-Fernández (Trainee Liaison), Adam Alexander, Adrienne Johnson, Jennifer Cantrell, Felix Naughton, Diane Beneventi (ATTUD Liaison) and Jesse Kaye (Operations Coordinator). The Treatment Research Network Advisory Committee continued to meet monthly to provide high-level guidance for all Treatment Research Network activities.

- Erika Bloom will end their term on the Advisory Committee in March 2024.
- Krysten Bold will end their term as the Co-Chair for the Advisory Committee in March 2024. They will remain on the Advisory Committee.
- Cara Murphy will start their term on the Advisory Committee in March 2024.
- Alana Rojewski and Adrienne Johnson will be Co-Chairs for 2024-2025.

### **Subcommittees**

- **Communications Subcommittee:** Eli Klemperer (Chair), Sarah Tonkin (Coordinator), Alina Shevorykin, Loren Kock, Chris Sheffer, and Bingjing

Mao. Michael Celestin joined the Communications Subcommittee in 2023. Chris Sheffer ended their term on the Communications Subcommittee in 2023.

- **Education Subcommittee:** Cara Murphy (Co-Chair), Christine Vinci (Co-Chair), Haruka Minami, Patricia Cioe, and Eleanor Leavens. Cara Murphy will end their term on the Education Subcommittee in March 2023 and join the Advisory Committee.

## WORKING GROUPS

Treatment Research Network working groups worked on the following projects:

- **Strategies for analyzing longitudinal data in clinical trials of tobacco dependence treatment.** Paper in press: Kypriotakis, G., Bernstein, S.L., Bold, K.W., Dziura, J.D., Hedeker, D., Mermelstein, R.J., Weinberger, A.H. (in press). An introduction and practical guide to strategies for analyzing longitudinal data in clinical trials of smoking cessation treatment: Beyond dichotomous point-prevalence outcomes. *Nicotine and Tobacco Research*
- **Engaging populations with tobacco-related health disparities in treatment research.** Authors: Adrienne Johnson, Michael Businelle, Dana Carroll, Virmarie Correa-Fernandez, Wyatt Pickner, Claire Spears, Damon Vidrine, Katrina Vickerman, and Monica Webb-Hooper, Krysten Bold Status: paper draft in progress

- **Biochemical Verification of Smoking Abstinence paper.** Authors: Brandon Sanford, Krysten Bold, Michael Businelle, Stephanie Land, Nancy Rigotti, Andrea Weinberger, and Benjamin Toll. Status: paper draft in progress
- **Smoking cessation treatment process/mechanisms in older adults who smoke.** Authors: Adrienne Johnson, Betha Kleykamp, Margaret Fahey, Dana Rubenstein, Alana Rojewski, Jeein Jang, Leslie Christenson, Jaqueline Avila Status: paper draft in progress

## SRNT PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOP

The Treatment Research Network Advisory Committee sponsored the following pre-conference workshop submission, which was accepted for presentation, for the 2024 SRNT Annual Meeting.

**Title:** Tobacco Treatment Across the Ages

**Chairs:** Krysten Bold, PhD; Alana Rojewski, PhD

**Presenters:** Betha Kleykamp, PhD; Andrea Villanti, PhD; Brian Williams, MD; Adrienne Johnson, PhD; Hasmeena Kathuria, MD; Nancy Rigotti, MD



# Treatment Research Network

(continued)

## COMMUNICATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

The Communications Subcommittee focuses on building membership within the Treatment Research Network (TRN) and using the Network Listserv and social media to share tobacco treatment-related content to members. Key 2023 activities included:

- **Listsrv communication:** Listsrv communication is used for posting treatment-related papers, sharing job postings and opportunities for collaboration, and engaging in discussion with others conducting treatment-related research. See instructions below for how to sign up for the Network or the Listsrv!
- **Poster tours:** We will host two poster tours for the upcoming 2024 SRNT conference.
- **Facebook Special Interest Pages:** Two special interest groups were active and had Facebook pages in 2023: 1. SRNT mHealth Interest Group: Michael Businelle (chair), 2. SRNT Financial Incentives Interest Group: Darla Kendzor and Allison Kurti (chairs).
- **X (formerly Twitter):** SRNT Treatment Network twitter handle: @TreatmentSRNT, used for sharing posts related to tobacco treatment and new research. We are in the process of developing a survey to identify the optimal platform for posting treatment related research in the future.

- **Treatment Research Network Member Spotlights:** In 2023, three Treatment Research Network spotlights were completed (Jonathan Foulds, Taneisha Scheuermann, and Jamie Hartmann-Boyce) to introduce and spotlight treatment researchers. Spotlights are sent out in the listsrv and are posted on the Treatment Research Network webpage here: [https://www.srnt.org/members/group\\_content/view.asp?group=156397&id=540515](https://www.srnt.org/members/group_content/view.asp?group=156397&id=540515). TRN Member Spotlights are coordinated by Eli Klemperer.
- **It's Just Coffee:** Michael Celestin, our newest communications subcommittee member, is working with Eli Klemperer and the Health Equity Network to connect colleagues interested in tobacco treatment research for a brief networking meeting. You can sign up as a mentee or mentor!

## EDUCATION SUBCOMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

The Education Subcommittee worked to provide educational activities of interest to the Treatment Research Network and broader SRNT membership. Key educational activities in 2023 included the following webinars:

- **08/21/23** – Dr. Erin McClure & Dr. Neal Benowitz – The intersection of cannabis and combustible cigarettes: implications for treatment and research. (Dr. Elly Leavens moderated).

- **11/08/23** – Dr. Krysten Bold, Dr. Rebecca Schnall – Developing Just-in-time interventions: using sensor-based technologies to improve smoking cessation outcomes in people who smoke. (Dr. Patricia Cioe moderated)
- **01/12/24** – Dr. Ollie Ganz, Dr. Julia McQuoid, Dr. Jaimee Heffner, Dr. Joanne Patterson, and Dr. Andy Tan – Does my intervention need an intervention? Taking stock of culturally tailored approaches to preventing and reducing commercial tobacco use among sexual and gender minoritized populations. (Co-sponsored with the Health Equity Network).

## OTHER NETWORK ACTIVITIES

Following the SRNT 2023 conference, two virtual Treatment Research Network member meetings were held. The leadership and volunteers for the Treatment Research Network for the 2022-2023 year were recognized and a number of new paper and webinar ideas were suggested.

The Advisory Committee developed and approved a new Network Equity Statement:

**“The network is committed to anti-racism and health equity within all network activities. We are committed to creating an environment for the members that values and takes action to support diversity, inclusion, and belonging. The network supports and values research to improve treatment for**



# Treatment Research Network

(continued)

**commercial tobacco use among all people, including those from minoritized and historically marginalized communities.”**

## PLANS FOR 2024

For the upcoming year, the Treatment Research Network will continue to provide educational webinars, communicate treatment research news to the membership, offer pre-conference workshops at the annual conference, and run the two special interest groups. Webinar presenters will be leaders in the field that focus on tobacco treatment topics and our goal will be to make these presentations available on SRNT-U. The Treatment Research Network is always interested in hearing from members about new webinar ideas or papers to sponsor relevant to treatment research. The network plans to host two virtual members meetings again after the 2024 annual meeting (March/April 2024) and invites any and all interested individuals to join and help us brainstorm opportunities for the network in the new year.

**Virtual Network member meetings will be held on Wednesday March 27th 4-5pm (Eastern), and Monday April 8th 10-11am (Eastern). The agenda is the same at each, so feel free to join whichever meeting is most convenient for you!**

## JOIN US!

**How to sign up for the SRNT Treatment Research Network:**

1. Log in to your SRNT profile (<https://www.srnt.org/>)
2. In the “members only” drop down, click “networks”
3. Click your network of interest, and under the network name, click “join group”

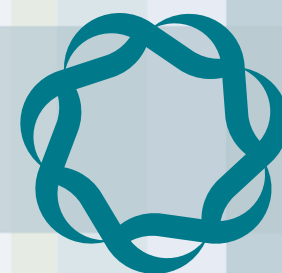
**How to join the SRNT Treatment Research Listserv:**

Adding yourself to the network does not automatically sign you up for the listserv. Follow these steps:

1. Log in to your SRNT profile (<https://www.srnt.org/>)
2. In the “members only” drop down, select “listservs”
3. Fill out the listserv subscription form under “new listserv subscribers”

**How to post to the listserv:**

Do you have a question? Looking for a collaborator? Email the network listserv at [srnt-treatment@mail-list.com](mailto:srnt-treatment@mail-list.com)



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ANNUAL REPORT