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New Fellowship Winner Announced for Biomedical Research Awareness Day, A Global Effort to Explain the Continued Importance of Animal-Based Research for Improving Human and Animal Health

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Lindsey Galbo-Thomma, Ph.D., a behavioral pharmacologist with more than 10 years of academic and industry experience working with an array of laboratory animal species, has been awarded the [ACNP-AMP BRAD Fellowship](#). The fellowship is a partnership between the [American College of Neuropsychopharmacology](#) and the health research advocacy group [Americans for Medical Progress \(AMP\)](#). It was created to help raise public awareness about the essential role of animals in biomedical research, specifically for the study of brain-behavior-drug interactions and advancements in neuropsychopharmacology – the study of all forms of mental health disorders and their treatments. Fellowship winners also help to promote careers in the field.

The primary goal of Dr. Galbo-Thomma’s fellowship project will be to encourage more scientists to educate the public about the essential role of animals in advancing science and medicine.

“The use of animal models in biomedical research is deeply meaningful to me and I am thrilled to advocate for this critical work by serving as the 2023-2024 ACNP/AMP BRAD Fellow,” said Dr. Galbo-Thomma. “During my Fellowship, my goal will be to expand the [Biomedical Research Awareness Day](#) (BRAD) network by connecting with institutions with smaller animal research programs. By doing so, we will promote awareness of animal studies and provide students opportunities in outreach and advocacy. I feel confident I can achieve this with the help of the ACNP community by together engaging with its expansive network of members.”

BRAD is an AMP-run outreach program that educates the public about why, when and how animals are involved in research. Launched in 2016, BRAD is an international day of events hosted by individual research institutions, staff and volunteers. Together, they collectively honor the important role of animals in improving both human and veterinary medicine. The program also highlights careers in the field. BRAD continues to grow and reach new audiences every year through the imagination and passion of the ACNP-AMP BRAD Fellows, the [BRAD Champions](#) and Ambassadors who lead the effort at their own institutions, and the many other volunteers who come together to provide this unique educational outreach program.

Lindsey Galbo-Thomma recently received her Ph.D. from Wake Forest University Graduate School of Arts and Sciences where she trained in the laboratory of Dr. Paul Czoty. Her research project, funded by the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, utilized highly translational nonhuman primate models to characterize how social factors influence the development of alcohol drinking trajectories and the efficacy of cholinergic drugs for remediating cognitive deficits associated with alcohol use disorder.

Soon, Lindsey will begin a National Institute on Drug Abuse T32 Appointed Post-Doctoral Fellowship in the Department of Pharmacology at University of Texas Health Science Center San Antonio in the laboratory of Dr. Charles France. She will continue to use nonhuman primate models to characterize the effects of drugs on various biobehavioral endpoints and investigate candidate medications for substance use disorders.

Lindsey also has a passion for science and drug policy, service and outreach. She was selected as a 2020 ASPET Washington Fellow. She has held various roles with the non-profit organization Students for Sensible Drug Policy, including Co-Chair of the Federal Science Policy Committee and has been regularly involved in harm reduction-oriented direct service opportunities for several years.

Note to Editors: A high-resolution image of Dr. Galbo-Thomma can be [downloaded at this link](#).

About the American College of Neuropsychopharmacology

The [American College of Neuropsychopharmacology](#), ACNP, founded in 1961, is a professional organization of more than 1,100 leading scientists, including four Nobel Laureates. The mission of ACNP is to further research and education in neuropsychopharmacology and related fields in the following ways: promoting the interaction of a broad range of scientific disciplines of brain and behavior in order to advance the understanding of prevention and treatment of disease of the nervous system including psychiatric, neurological, behavioral and addictive disorders; encouraging scientists to enter research careers in fields related to these disorders and their treatment; and ensuring the dissemination of relevant scientific advances.

About Americans for Medical Progress

[Americans for Medical Progress](#) (AMP) is a nonprofit, health research advocacy group that supports the advancement of human and animal medicine through responsible and highly-regulated research in animals. AMP informs the public about animal-based research through outreach events like [Biomedical Research Awareness Day](#), news and opinion articles, social media interactions and various online and printed publications. AMP is a 501(c)3 nonprofit charity supported by the nation's top universities, private research facilities, research-related businesses, scientific and professional societies, as well as by foundation grants and contributions by individuals. AMP's Board of Directors is composed of physicians, researchers, veterinarians and university officials.

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