



# ISTSS 2018

## OUR NEWSLETTER

We have very exciting news for our bi-annual newsletter, which is the announcement of our new SIG Co-chair, Dr. Anne Banducci, and Student Chair, Lia Smith! Thank you to everyone who submitted an application and to all members who voted in the SIG elections last month. We are delighted to be able to feature in this issue “spotlights” on our new Co-chairs, as well as a spotlight on a featured member. We have also included details from the ISTSS annual meeting last fall for those who were unable to attend, and a summary of the featured trauma/SUD articles shared via the listserv over the past six months.

We hope you find the newsletters helpful and interesting! We welcome feedback on how we can improve the newsletters to make them more useful to our SIG membership.

Sincerely,

Anka A. Vujanovic (SIG Chair / Newsletter Editor)

Mallory J. E. Loflin (SIG Student Co-Chair / Newsletter Assistant Editor)

## SIG: MISSION STATEMENT

The ISTSS Trauma and Substance Use Disorders (SUD) SIG was founded in 2010. The SIG offers an international multidisciplinary forum for discussion, networking, and collaboration about clinical and research practices relevant to traumatic stress and SUD. The overarching aims of the SIG include:

1. advocating for greater recognition, scholarly attention, and clinical knowledge regarding the highly prevalent and difficult-to-treat occurrence of SUD among trauma-exposed populations with and without PTSD.
2. fostering basic, clinical, translational, and implementation research efforts relevant to traumatic stress and SUD via discussion and collaboration among multidisciplinary members from various regions of the world.
3. advancing evidence-based clinical practices relevant to the assessment and treatment of (1) SUD among trauma-exposed populations; (2) concurrent PTSD and SUD; and (3) PTSD among substance using populations.
4. supporting dissemination and implementation efforts for relevant evidence-based treatments.
5. advancing prevention of SUD in the aftermath of trauma exposure, and prevention of PTSD among individuals with a history of SUD.



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## JOINING THE SIG

1. Log into the ISTSS website as a member
2. Under “For Members,” click on “Special Interest Groups”
3. Under “Get Involved, join a Sig,” click on the form link
4. Scroll through the Listservs/Communities tab
5. Choose #39—“Trauma and Substance Use Disorders”
6. Click “Save”

## SPOTLIGHT ON OUR NEW SIG CO- CHAIRS



### **Anne Banducci, Ph.D.**

Anne Banducci, Ph.D. is a Staff Psychologist/Military Sexual Trauma Care Coordinator at the VA Boston Healthcare System and an Assistant Professor of Psychiatry at the Boston University School of Medicine. Her research examines factors (e.g., low



distress tolerance) impacting the development and treatment of co-occurring SUD and trauma-related disorders, and on leveraging this information within treatment development efforts. As a clinician, she provides evidence-based psychotherapies (e.g., PE, CPT, CBT-SUD, MI, DBT) for Veterans with co-occurring PTSD-SUD. She aims to ensure her research informs her clinical work and vice versa.

### **Lia J. Smith, M.A.**



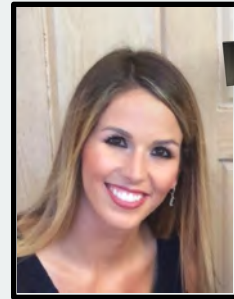
Lia Smith is a second-year clinical psychology doctoral student, working with Dr. Anka Vujanovic at the University of Houston. Under the mentorship of Dr. Vujanovic, she is pursuing her interest in biopsychosocial factors with significant potential to impact treatment outcomes for individuals with co-occurring posttraumatic stress and substance use disorders. As a member of the Trauma and Stress Studies Center at the University of Houston, Lia has

immersed herself in exploring relations between trauma and substance use disorders in firefighters, inner-city substance users, and psychiatric inpatients. In May 2017, Lia was awarded the Clinical First Year Student Research Award by the University of Houston Clinical Psychology Doctoral Program. Recently, she successfully defended her Master's Thesis, entitled Posttraumatic Stress, Alcohol Use, and Alcohol Use Motives in Firefighters: The Role of Sleep Disturbance.

Lia first became interested in trauma-informed research and practice during an intensive seven-month internship with sexual abuse victims in rural Peru, which was a truly paradigm-defying experience. The trauma survivors' narratives of courage and persistence inspired her to dedicate her career to alleviating the burden of psychological trauma. Following this experience, Lia worked for three years as a clinician with low-resource populations in a primary care clinic in Chicago and as a research assistant in the Clinical Addictions Research Laboratory at the University of Chicago. Inspired by these formative relationships and motivating experiences, Lia looks forward to continuing her training during graduate school and beyond. Lia has authored fourteen publications to date in the area of addiction and trauma-substance use comorbidity.

## SPOTLIGHT ON MEMBERS

### **Moira Haller, Ph.D.**



Dr. Moira Haller received her Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology from Arizona State University, and completed a predoctoral internship at the UCSD/VA San Diego Psychology Internship Training program. She also completed a postdoctoral fellowship in Addictions Treatment at VA San Diego/UCSD. Dr. Haller is currently an Assistant Clinical Professor of Psychiatry in the UCSD School of Medicine and a staff psychologist at VA San Diego Healthcare System. She currently directs the PTSD Track at VA San Diego's Substance Abuse Residential Rehabilitation Treatment Program (SARRTP), which provides evidence-based PTSD treatment to veterans currently engaging in residential substance use disorder treatment. Dr. Haller's research and clinical interests both center on better understanding and treating individuals with comorbid PTSD/substance use disorders.

2017 ANNUAL  
MEETING  
SPEAKER

**Sonya Norman, Ph.D.**



Sonya Norman, Ph.D. is Director of the PTSD Consultation Program for The National Center for PTSD and a Professor of Psychiatry at the University of California, San Diego School of Medicine. Dr. Norman earned her doctorate at Stanford University. She formerly directed the San Diego VA's PTSD treatment program for Veterans who served in Iraq and Afghanistan. Her primary areas of research are in psychotherapies that treat co-occurring PTSD and substance use disorders and in treating Veterans with PTSD and post-deployment mental health problems. Dr. Norman has over 80 peer reviewed publications and is the primary investigator of studies funded by the Department of Defense, VA and NIH. In 2016-2017, she served on the committee to update the VA/DoD Clinical Practice Guideline for PTSD.

## 2017 ISTSS SIG ANNUAL MEETING

We enjoyed seeing everyone at our annual meeting during the ISTSS conference last November. We were honored to receive a presentation by prominent trauma/SUD researcher and SIG member, Dr. Sonya Norman of the UC San Diego School of Medicine and San Diego VAMC.



## HIGHLIGHTED RESEARCH

**The below-listed articles were disseminated to members via the ISTSS SIG listserv - monthly research updates since our last newsletter.**

Anderson, R. E., Hruska, B., Boros, A. P., Richardson, C. J., & Delahanty, D. L. (2017). Patterns of co-occurring addictions, posttraumatic stress disorder, and major depressive disorder in detoxification treatment seekers: Implications for improving detoxification treatment outcomes. *Journal of Substance Abuse Treatment*. Epub ahead of print. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jsat.2017.12.009>

Bedard-Gilligan, M., Garcia, N., Zoellner, L. A., & Feeny, N. C. (2018). Alcohol, cannabis, and other drug use: Engagement and outcome in PTSD treatment. *Psychology of addictive behaviors: journal of the Society of Psychologists in Addictive Behaviors*. Epub ahead of print. <https://doi.org/10.1037/adb0000355>

Bishop, L. S., Benz, M. B., & Palm Reed, K. M. (2017). The impact of trauma experiences on posttraumatic stress disorder and substance use disorder symptom severity in a treatment-seeking sample. *Professional Psychology: Research and Practice*, 48(6), 490-498. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1037/pro0000165>

Brunetti, M., Martinotti, G., Sepede, G., Vellante, F., Fiori, F., Sarchione, F., & di Giannantonio, M. (2017). Alcohol abuse in subjects developing or not developing posttraumatic stress disorder after trauma exposure. *Archives of Trauma Research*, 6(3), 8-14. [https://doi.org/10.4103/atr.atr\\_12\\_17](https://doi.org/10.4103/atr.atr_12_17)

Chen, J. A., Owens, M. D., Browne, K. C., & Williams, E. C. (2017). Alcohol-related and mental health care for patients with unhealthy alcohol use and posttraumatic stress disorder in a National Veterans Affairs cohort. *Journal of Substance Abuse Treatment*. Epub ahead of print. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jsat.2017.11.007>

Colvonen, P. J., Ellison, J., Haller, M., & Norman, S. B. (2018). Examining Insomnia and PTSD Over Time in Veterans in Residential Treatment for Substance Use Disorders and PTSD. *Behavioral sleep medicine*. Epub ahead of print. <https://doi.org/10.1080/15402002.2018.1425869>

Contractor, A. A., Roley-Roberts, M. E., Lagdon, S., & Armour, C. (2017). Heterogeneity in patterns of DSM-5 posttraumatic stress disorder and depression symptoms: Latent profile analyses. *Journal of Affective Disorders*. Epub ahead of print. doi: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.jad.2017.01.029>

Dworkin, E. R., Ojalehto, H., Bedard-Gilligan, M., Cadigan, J. M., & Kaysen, D. (2017). Social support predicts reductions in PTSD symptoms when substances are not used to cope: A longitudinal study of sexual assault survivors. *Journal of Affective Disorders*. Epub ahead of print. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jad.2017.12.042>

Dworkin, E. R., Wanklyn, S., Stasiewicz, P. R., & Coffey, S. F. (2018). PTSD symptom presentation among people with alcohol and drug use disorders: Comparisons by substance of abuse. *Addictive behaviors*, 76, 188-194. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.addbeh.2017.08.019>

Evren, C., Umut, G., Bozkurt, M., & Evren, B. (2017). Relationship of PTSD with impulsivity dimensions while controlling the effect of anxiety and depression in a sample of inpatients with alcohol use disorder. *Journal of Dual Diagnosis*. Epub ahead of print. <https://doi.org/10.1080/15504263.2017.1404665>

Fattore, L., Piva, A., Zanda, M. T., Fumagalli, G., & Chiamulera, C. (2017). Psychedelics and reconsolidation of traumatic and appetitive maladaptive memories: focus on cannabinoids and ketamine. *Psychopharmacology*. Epub ahead of print. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00213-017-4793-4>

Garcia-Guix, A., Mestre-Pinto, J. I., Tirado-Muñoz, J., Domingo-Salvany, A., & Torrens-Melich, M. (2017). Psychiatric co-morbidity among women with substance use disorders. *Advances in Dual Diagnosis*. Epub ahead of print. <https://doi.org/10.1108/ADD-11-2017-0024>

Kemmis, L. K., Wanigaratne, S., & Ehntholt, K. A. (2017). Emotional Processing in Individuals with Substance Use Disorder and Posttraumatic Stress Disorder. *International Journal of Mental Health and Addiction*, Epub ahead of print. doi:10.1007/s11469-016-9727-6

Kim, J. I., Park, H., & Kim, J. H. (2017). The mediation effect of PTSD, perceived job stress and resilience on the relationship between trauma exposure and the development of depression and alcohol use problems in 7151 Korean firefighters: A cross-sectional study. *Journal of Affective Disorders*. Epub ahead of print. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jad.2017.12.055>

Klaric, M., Lovric, S., Coric, M. K., Galic, K., Coric, S., & Franciskovic, T. (2017). Psychiatric comorbidity and PTSD-related health problems in war veterans: Cross-sectional study. *The European Journal of Psychiatry*, 34, 151-157. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ejpsy.2017.09.005>

Loflin, M., Earleywine, M., & Bonn-Miller, M. (2017). Medicinal versus recreational cannabis use: Patterns of cannabis use, alcohol use, and cued-arousal among veterans who screen positive for PTSD. Epub ahead of print. doi: 10.1016/j.addbeh.2017.01.008

Martin, C., Vujanovic, A. A., Paulus, D. J., Bartlett, B., Gallagher, M. W., & Tran, J. K. (in press). Alcohol use and suicidality in firefighters: Associations with depressive symptoms and posttraumatic stress. *Comprehensive Psychiatry*.

Norman, S. B., Haller, M., Hamblen, J. L., Southwick, S. M., & Pietrzak, R. H. (2018). The burden of co-occurring alcohol use disorder and PTSD in US Military veterans: Comorbidities, functioning, and suicidality. *Psychology of addictive behaviors*, 32(2), 224-229. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1037/adb0000348>

O'Toole, B. I., Kirk, R., Bittoun, R., & Catts, S. V. (2017). Combat, PTSD and Smoking Trajectory in a Cohort of Male Australian Army Vietnam Veterans. *Nicotine & Tobacco Research*. Epub ahead of print. <https://doi.org/10.1093/ntr/ntx257>

Paulus, D. J., Vujanovic, A. A., Schuhmann, B., Smith, L. J., & Tran, J. K. (in press). Examining main and interactive effects of depression and posttraumatic stress in relation to alcohol dependence among firefighters. *Psychiatry Research*.

Persson, A., Back, S. E., Killeen, T. K., Brady, K. T., Schwandt, M. L., Heilig, M., & Magnusson, Å. (2017). Concurrent Treatment of PTSD and Substance Use Disorders Using Prolonged Exposure (COPE): A Pilot Study in Alcohol-dependent Women. *Journal of Addiction Medicine*. Epub ahead of print. doi: 10.1097/ADM.0000000000000286

Petrakis, I. L., & Simpson, T. L. (2017). Posttraumatic stress disorder and alcohol use disorder: a critical review of pharmacologic treatments. *Alcoholism: clinical and experimental research*. Epub ahead of print. doi: 10.1111/acer.13297

Porter, B., Hoge, C. W., Tobin, L. E., Donoho, C. J., Castro, C. A., Luxton, D. D., & Faix, D. (2018). Measuring Aggregated and Specific Combat Exposures: Associations Between Combat Exposure Measures and Posttraumatic Stress Disorder, Depression, and Alcohol-Related Problems. *Journal of traumatic stress*. <https://doi.org/10.1002/jts.22273>

Sessa, B. (2017). Why MDMA therapy for alcohol use disorder? And why now?. *Neuropharmacology*. Epub ahead of print. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.neuropharm.2017.11.004>

Shorter, D., Hsieh, J., & Kosten, T. R. (2017). Pharmacologic Management of Comorbid Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder and Addictions. *Focus*, 15(4), 454-461. <https://doi.org/10.1176/appi.focus.150405>

Thal, S. B., & Lommen, M. J. (2018). Current Perspective on MDMA-Assisted Psychotherapy for Posttraumatic Stress Disorder. *Journal of Contemporary Psychotherapy*. Epub ahead of print. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10879-017-9379-2>

Vujanovic, A. A., Smith, L. J., Green, C. E., Lane, S. D., & Schmitz, J. M. (2017). Development of a novel, integrated cognitive-behavioral therapy for co-occurring posttraumatic stress and substance use disorders: A pilot randomized clinical trial. *Contemporary Clinical Trials*. Epub ahead of print. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cct.2017.12.013>

Walker, J., Bountress, K. E., Calhoun, C. D., Metzger, I. W., Adams, Z., Amstadter, A., ... & Danielson, C. K. (2018). Impulsivity and comorbid PTSD-binge drinking. *Journal of dual diagnosis*. Epub ahead of print. <https://doi.org/10.1080/>

Yalch, M. M., Hebenstreit, C., & Maguen, S. (2017). Influence of military sexual assault and other military stressors on substance use disorder and PTS symptomology in female military veterans. *Addictive Behaviors*. Epub ahead of print. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.addbeh.2017.12.026>

Zoladz, P. R., Eisenmann, E. D., Rose, R. M., Kohls, B. A., Johnson, B. L., Robinson, K. L., ... & Huntley, M. R. (2018). Predator-based psychosocial stress model of PTSD differentially influences voluntary ethanol consumption depending on methodology. *Alcohol*. Epub ahead of print. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.alcohol.2018.01.004>

## ARTICLE SUBMISSIONS

The Trauma and Substance Use Disorders SIG welcomes submissions to the bi-annual newsletter. The purpose of the newsletter is to communicate SIG-related news and disseminate information regarding research, clinical practice, and training in trauma and substance use. Article submissions can include commentaries on research, clinical practice, or training. Submissions from students are welcome! Sample topics include research participant recruitment and retention, optimal training in PTSD/SUD comorbidity, book reviews, clinical dialogues, student issues, and dissemination and implementation discourse.

Questions regarding article submissions should be addressed to the SIG Chairs. Articles should be submitted via e-mail to:

Dr. Anka Vujanovic  
(aavujano@central.uh.edu)

&

Dr. Anne Banducci  
(Anne.Banducci@va.gov)

**Articles should be no longer than approximately 3 double-spaced pages. Brief articles are preferred!**

## NOMINATIONS FOR SPOTLIGHTS

The Trauma and Substance Use Disorders SIG welcomes nominations for students, researchers, and clinicians to be "spotlighted" in an upcoming newsletter. Self-nominations are accepted! Nominations should include a brief, one paragraph nominating statement and CV of the nominee.

Nomination materials should be addressed to the SIG Chairs via email:

Dr. Anka Vujanovic  
(aavujano@central.uh.edu)

&

Dr. Anne Banducci  
(Anne.Banducci@va.gov)