

Curriculum Vitae
MAKEDA K. AUSTIN

Northwestern University
Department of Psychology
2029 Sheridan Road, Swift Hall 102
Evanston, IL 60208
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EDUCATION

Northwestern University

1st Year PhD Student in Personality and Health Psychology 2016 - Current

Virginia Commonwealth University

Bachelors of Science in Biology, Chemistry/Psychology Minors 2011 - 2015

HONORS AND AWARDS

ASBMB DNA Replication and Repair Best Thematic Poster Award 2015
VCU Biology Outstanding Student Award in Cellular and Molecular Biology 2015
ASBMB UAN Research Conference Best Poster Travel Award 2014
Howard Hughes Medical Institute EXROP Award 2014
VCU Biology Black History in the Making Award 2014
VCU Biology Nyugen-Ninh Scholar Award 2013
Maximizing Access to Research Careers Fellowship 2013-2015
Initiative for Maximizing Student Diversity Fellowship 2013
VCU Honor's College 2012-2015
Dean's List 2011-2015
Restoring Lives Community Development Scholarship 2011

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Foundations of Health Research Center, Northwestern University 2016 - Current
Primary Mentors: Dr. Edith Chen and Dr. Greg Miller

Behavioral Health Research Lab, VCU Department of Psychology 2014 - 2016
Supervisor: Dr. Caroline O. Cobb
Research Assistant

Research Assistant for an NIH funded study investigating toxicant exposure of individuals that use cigarettes and e-cigarettes alone and in combination. Duties included: participant recruitment, advertising, running experimental procedures, data collection of physiological and subjective measurements, data management, and data analysis.

Kliwer Prevention Research Lab, VCU Department of Psychology 2014 - 2016
Mentor: Dr. Wendy Kliwer
Lab Supervisor, Research Assistant

Investigated risk and resilience in low-income, urban youth, using a variety of socio-demographic, psychological, and physiological measures. Responsibilities included participant recruitment, in-person interviews of mother-teen dyads using Computer-Assisted Personal-interview software (CAPI), data analysis and management. Conducted literature reviews, transcription and qualitative coding of the Social Competence Interview. August 2014 promoted to lab supervisor, responsible for supervising 6-12 undergraduate research interns.

Rosbash Lab, Brandeis Department of Biology

Summer 2014

Primary Mentor: Dr. Weifei Luo; Secondary Mentor: Dr. Michael Rosbash
Research Intern

Examined the underlying molecular genetics of circadian rhythms and sleep using the model organism *Drosophila Melanogaster*. Worked on project aimed at understanding the co-occurrence of two circadian transcriptional proteins, CLK and PER, at specific time-points of the fly circadian cycle. Duties include micro-brain dissections, circadian sleep assays and statistical analysis, immunoprecipitation (IP), western blotting.

VCU Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology

2013 - 2015

Primary Mentor: Dr. Jill C. Bettinger
Research Intern

Member of a lab team investigating molecular genetic influences of alcohol dependence. Using knock-out genetics, experimentally tested the influence of SWSN-9 chromatin remodeling complex on Acute Functional Tolerance Development (AFT) in *C. elegans* exposed to ethanol. Used variety of genetic and behavioral tools, to include PCR, PCR purification, locomotion video-analysis, gamma Irradiation, genetic crosses.

PUBLICATIONS

Wright, A., **Austin, M., K.**, Booth, C. and Kliewer, W. (in press). The effects of community violence on physical health in youth: a systematic review. *Journal of Pediatric Psychology*

Mathies, L. D., Blackwell, G., **Austin, M., K.**, Edwards, A., C., Davies, A. G., and Bettinger, J. C. (2015). SWI/SNF chromatin remodeling regulates alcohol response behaviors in *C. elegans* and is associated with alcohol dependence in humans. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, 211, 3032-3037.

MANUSCRIPTS UNDER REVIEW AND IN PREPARATION

Kliewer, W., Borre, A., Wright, A. W., **Austin, M., K.**, Robins, J. L. (under review) Family correlates of cardiometabolic risk in low-income, urban African American youth.

Rudy, A., Sutter, M., Miadich S., **Austin, M. K.**, Everhart, R., and Cobb, C. O. (in preparation) Adolescent cigarette smoking and asthma: Influence of bullying, psychological, and health related factors.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Austin, M., Scott, M., Cobb, C., Graham, A., and Eissenberg, T. Subjective effects of dual use of cigarettes and e-cigarettes of among current dual users. Poster accepted to be presented at the Society for Research on Nicotine and Tobacco Annual Meeting. Chicago, IL March 2016.

Scott, M., **Austin, M.**, Graham, A., Eissenberg T., Lipato, T., Montpetit A., and Cobb, C. O. Toxicant exposure and physiological effects of dual cigarette and electronic cigarette use. Poster accepted to be presented at the Society for Research on Nicotine and Tobacco Annual Meeting. Chicago, IL March 2016.

Rudy, A., Sutter, M., Miadich S., **Austin, M. K.**, Everhart, R., and Cobb, C. O. Adolescent cigarette smoking and asthma: Influence of bullying, psychological, and health related factors. Poster accepted to be presented at the Society for Research on Nicotine and Tobacco Annual Meeting. Chicago, IL March 2016.

- Cobb, C., Scott, M., **Austin, M.**, Graham, A., and Eissenberg, T. Behavior and toxicant exposure associated with dual use of cigarettes and electronic cigarettes. Poster presented at the Tobacco Centers of Regulatory Science Annual Meeting, Bethesda, MD October 2015.
- Austin, M.**, Sutter, M., and Cobb, C. Differences in tobacco use behaviors and beliefs in asthmatic and non-asthmatic adolescent cigarette smokers. Poster presented at the VCU Undergraduate Symposium on Research and Creativity, Richmond, VA March 2015.
- Austin, M.**, Mathies, L., Blackwell, G., & Bettinger, J. Investigating the Molecular Genetics of Alcoholism: *swn-9* influences acute functional tolerance in *C. elegans*. Poster presented at the American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (ASBMB) Annual Meeting, Boston MA, March 2015.
- Austin, M.**, Mathies, L., Blackwell, G., Riley, B., Davies, A. & Bettinger, J. Investigating the Molecular Genetics of Alcoholism: *swn-9* influences acute functional tolerance in *C. elegans*. Oral presentation at the Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students, San Antonio TX, November 2014.
- Austin, M.**, Mathies, L., Blackwell, G., & Bettinger, J. Investigating the Molecular Genetics of Alcoholism: *swn-9* influences acute functional tolerance in *C. elegans*. Poster presented at the ASBMB Virginia—Undergraduate Affiliate Network Research Conference, Richmond VA, October 2014.
- Austin, M.**, Luo, W., & Rosbash, M. Investigating the Circadian ON-DNA Transcriptional Repression of CLK by PER/TIM in *Drosophila melanogaster*. Poster presented at the Brandeis Division of Science Undergraduate Research Symposium, Boston MA, August 2014.
- Austin, M.**, Mathies, L., Blackwell, G., & Bettinger, J. Investigating the Molecular Genetics of Alcohol Dependence: *swn-9* influences acute functional tolerance in *C. elegans*. Poster presented at the Mid-Atlantic PREP/IMSD Research Symposium May 2014.
- Austin, M.**, Mathies, L., Blackwell, G., & Bettinger, J. Investigating the Molecular Genetics of Alcoholism: *swn-9* influences acute functional tolerance in *C. elegans*. Poster presented at the VCU Poster Symposium for Undergraduate Research and Creativity. Richmond VA, April 2014.
- Austin, M.**, Mathies, L., Blackwell, G., & Bettinger, J. *SWSN-9* influences acute functional tolerance in *C. elegans*. Poster presented at the VCU Center on Health Disparities Summer Research Symposium August 2013.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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| VCU Campus Learning Center
<i>Supplemental Instruction Leader for General Chemistry (CHEM 101, 102)</i> | 2013 - 2014 |
| VCU Health Sciences Academy
<i>Service Learning Mentor to High School Students</i> | 2014 |

SKILLS/TRAINING

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| CITI Certification in Social and Behavioral Responsible Conduct of Research | 5/4/2015 |
| CITI Certification in Social and Behavioral Sciences | 1/17/2014 |
| NIH Protecting Human Research Participants Training | 3/15/2015 |
| CPR Certified (Adult/Child) | 1/15/2015 |
| VCU School of Nursing Phlebotomy Training | 8/10/2015 |