

Darla Bonagura

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EDUCATION

Ph.D. Experimental-Social Psychology

University of Tennessee-Knoxville

Expected 2026

Advisor: Dr. Sarah A. Lamer

B.A. Psychology

May 2018

Rutgers University — New Brunswick, NJ

Major: Psychology

Minor: Critical Sexualities Studies

Honors Thesis: “*He*” can take it: Masculinity bias and perceptions of violence towards transgender women

Thesis supervisor: Dr. Shana Cole

AWARDS, HONORS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Graduate Student Senate Travel Award	2022
Tennessee Fellowship for Graduate Excellence	2021
Rutgers Research Council Grant (\$2,500)	2019
Henry Rutgers Scholar Award (\$1,000)	2018
Aresty Conference Funding Research Grant	2018
Douglass Residential College Continuing Student Scholarship	2017 – 2018
Frances B. and Paige D. L'Hommedieu Scholarship	2016 – 2018
Dean's List, all semesters	2014 – 2017
Highest Academic Achievement in Psychology Award	2016
Middlesex County College Foundation Scholarship	2015 – 2016

PUBLICATIONS

Howansky, K. Wittlin, N. M., Cole, S., **Bonagura, D.** (2021). Him, her, them or none: Misgendering and degendering of transgender individuals. *Psychology & Sexuality*, 1-15.

Alvarez, E. E., Hafezi, S., **Bonagura, D.**, Kleiman, E., Konova, A. B. (Under Review). Which aspects of value-based decision-making are state- vs. trait-like in addiction? A 4-week ecological momentary assessment study of day-level dynamics in risk and time preferences. *Frontiers in Psychiatry*.

Bonagura, D., Kong, J., Mellis, A., Konova, A. B. (In Prep). How optimism bias relates to tolerance of uncertainty in decision making. *Psychological Science*.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

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- Gueguen, M. C. M., Anlló, H., **Bonagura, D.**, Kong, J., Hafezi, S., Palminteri, S., Konova, A. B. (2022) *Active opioid use constrains range adaptation of value during reinforcement learning in human addiction*. Poster submitted to the College on Problems of Drug Dependence conference, Minneapolis, MN, June 11-15.
- Bonagura, D.**, Bluhm, J., Lamer, S. A. (2022) *Survivors as objects: How media coverage of sexual assault impacts perception of sexual assault survivors and perpetrators*. Poster presented to the Society for Personality and Social Psychology conference, San Francisco, CA, February 19-21.
- Luu, C., **Bonagura, D.**, Lamer, S. A. (2022) *Women can be masculine, but men can't be feminine: How androgynous representations shape perceived value of traditionally feminine and masculine traits*. Poster presented to the Society for Personality and Social Psychology conference, San Francisco, CA, February 19-21.
- Kapoor, A., Biernacki, K., **Bonagura, D.**, Xue, J., Raio, C. M., Constantino, S., Wengler, K., Horga, G., Konova, A. B. (2021). *Interindividual variability in foraging behavior relates to drug addiction and midbrain dopamine function*. Poster presented to Rutgers Brain Health Institute Symposium, New Brunswick, NJ, December 3.
- Gueguen, M. C. M., Anlló, H., **Bonagura, D.**, Kong, J., Hafezi, S., Palminteri, S., Konova, A. B. (2021). *Sensitivity to contextual effects during reinforcement learning in human addiction*. Poster presented virtually to the Society for NeuroEconomics conference, Sep 29-Oct 1.
- Bonagura, D.**, Mellis, A., Konova, A. B. (2021). *How optimism bias relates to tolerance of uncertainty in decision making*. Poster presented virtually at the Social & Affective Neuroscience Society conference, Apr 28-May 1.
- Gueguen, M. C. M., **Bonagura, D.**, Ruiz, M., Silguero, G., Konova, A. B. (2021). *Neural computations of risk, ambiguity, and subjective value in human opioid addiction*. Poster presented virtually at the Society of Biological Psychiatry conference, Apr 29-May 1.
- Raio, C. M., Constantino, S., Biernacki, K., **Bonagura, D.**, Xue, J., Wengler, K., Horga, G., Konova, A. B. (2021). *Heterogeneity in Foraging Decisions Relates to Drug Addiction and is a Marker of Midbrain Dopamine Function*. Poster presented virtually at the Society of Biological Psychiatry conference, Apr 29-May 1.
- Alvarez, E. E., **Bonagura, D.**, Gueguen, M. C. M., Zhao, J., Konova, A. B. (2020). *A pilot feasibility study evaluating the day-to-day temporal dynamic of decision-making in opioid use disorder through treatment*. Poster presented virtually at the Rutgers University Center for Alcohol Studies Poster Session, Oct 29.
- Gueguen, M. C. M., **Bonagura, D.**, Ruiz, M., Silguero, G., Konova, A. B. (2020). *Neural*

dissimilarity in subjective value coding of risk vs. ambiguity in vmPFC underlies more extreme ambiguity preferences. Poster presented virtually at the Rutgers University Center for Alcohol Studies Poster Session, Oct 29.

Bonagura, D., Mellis, A., Konova, A. B. (2020). *How optimism bias relates to tolerance of uncertainty in decision making.* Poster presented virtually at the Rutgers University Center for Alcohol Studies Poster Session, Oct 29.

Bonagura, D., Maimon, M., Cole, S. (2020). *Seeing and believing: Visual, attitudinal, and conceptual perceptions of bisexuality.* Poster presented virtually at the Society for the Scientific Study of Sexuality conference, Nov 19-20.

Gueguen, M. C. M., **Bonagura, D.,** Ruiz, M., Silguero, G., Konova, A. B. (2020). *Neural dissimilarity in subjective value coding of risk vs. ambiguity in vmPFC underlies more extreme ambiguity preferences.* Poster presented virtually at the Society for NeuroEconomics conference, Oct 7-9.

Raio, C. M., Constantino, S., Biernacki, K., **Bonagura, D.,** Xue, J., Wengler, K., Horga, G, Konova, A. B. (2020). *Interindividual heterogeneity in foraging behavior relates to drug addiction and a marker of midbrain dopamine function.* Poster presented virtually at the Society for NeuroEconomics conference, Oct 7-9.

Biernacki, K., **Bonagura, D.,** Wengler, K., Cassidy, C., Horga, G., Konova, A. (2020). *How do stress and craving lead to relapse in opioid use disorder? Determining sensitization effects in the locus coeruleus norepinephrine system in humans.* Talk presented virtually at the College on Problems of Drug Dependence conference, June 22-24.

Biernacki, K., **Bonagura, D.,** Wengler, K., Cassidy, C., Horga, G., Konova, A. (2020). *How do stress and craving lead to relapse in opioid use disorder? Determining sensitization effects in the locus coeruleus norepinephrine system in humans.* Poster presented virtually at the Society for Biological Psychiatry conference, April 30-May 2.

Bonagura, D., Howansky, K., Cole, S. (2020). *“He” can take it: Masculinity bias and perceptions of violence towards transgender women.* Poster presented at the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, New Orleans, LA, February 27-29.

Bonagura, D. Konova, A. B. (2019). *How optimism relates to risk taking and maladaptive health behavior.* Poster presented at the 20th Annual Rutgers University Psychiatry Poster Session, Piscataway, NJ, April 11.

Chikezie, A., **Bonagura, D.,** Konova, A. B. (2019). *Childhood adversity and opioid use risks: What are the mediating factors?* Poster presented at the 20th Annual Rutgers University Psychiatry Poster Session, Piscataway, NJ, April 11.

Bonagura, D., Fehling, K., Coniglio, K., & Selby, E. (2018). *How social aspects of sexual orientation and discrimination impact self-injurious behaviors in LGBTQ adults.* Poster

presented at the 52nd Annual Conference of the Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies, Washington, DC, November 15-18.

Bonagura, D., Howansky, K., & Cole, S. (2018). *“He” can take it: Masculinity bias and perceptions of violence towards transgender women.* Poster presented at the Rutgers University Honors Thesis Symposium, New Brunswick, NJ, April 16.

Bonagura, D., Howansky, K., Albuja, A., & Cole, S. (2017) *Is “she” the right person for the job? The use of pronouns when considering transgender job applicants.* Poster presented at the 52nd Annual Conference of the Eastern Psychological Association, Philadelphia, PA, March 1-3.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Research Study Coordinator/Lab Manager

Addiction & Decision Neuroscience Lab Dr. Anna B. Konova Rutgers-UBHC
September 2018 – August 2021

- Conducted an independent project to assess whether optimistic thinking relates to tolerance of unknown risks in health decision making on mTurk.
- Wrote a literature review, designed the methodology, analyzed the results, and wrote a manuscript to be published for an independent project.
- Coordinated study sessions with participants and Research Assistants across four different sites.
- Ran study procedures with opioid users and healthy controls in behavioral and fMRI sessions.
- Contributed to the development and analyses of projects.
- Managed the lab budget and work with the finance department to make purchases, reimbursements, and budget reports.
- Assisted in writing and submitting grants.
- Wrote, submitted, and modified IRB protocols.
- Hired, interviewed, and on-boarded new Research Assistants and then trained them in lab procedures.
- Assisted Research Assistants in poster presentations and honors theses.

Lab Manager

Emotion and Psychopathology Lab Dr. Edward A. Selby Rutgers University
May 2017 – August 2018

- Worked on a project assessing the impacts of minority stress and social support on non-suicidal self-injury in LGBTQ adults.
- Conducted clinical interviews with self-injurious LGBTQ participants about stress, self-injury, and suicidal ideation.
- Coordinated Research Assistants’ and graduate students’ schedules, handled scheduling of all lab study visits, and supervised work of Research Assistants.
- Ensured study materials (including participant monetary compensation) were prepared for all study visits.

- Interviewed, hired, and trained new Research Assistants in order to create a dynamic team.
- Consulted with graduate students and PI in order to complete suicide risk assessments for LGBTQ participants.
- Maintained lab databases by entering, coding, and cleaning data in an organized manner.

Research Assistant

Regulated Action and Motivated Perception Lab Dr. Shana L. Cole Rutgers University
May 2017 – August 2018

- Conducted an independent honors thesis to understand if perceptual masculinity biases lead to greater tolerance of aggression towards transgender women.
- Wrote a literature review, selected stimuli for the methodology, analyzed the results, and wrote an honors thesis.
- Coded qualitative participant response data for research projects.
- Ran subjects through technical experimental procedures using an eye-tracker, face-morphing software, and an avatar generation task.
- Participated in lab meetings, providing and receiving critiques on research design.
- Created study scripts for fellow Research Assistant to follow when running participants.
- Conducted literature reviews in order to create and develop research projects.
- Recruited participants through giving short talks in psychology courses and canvassing on campus.

Research Assistant

Social Cognition Lab Dr. Laurie A. Rudman Rutgers University
January 2017 – May 2018

- Worked on a project assessing gender bias and discrimination in job hiring and implicit dehumanization of racial minorities using the Implicit Association Test.
- Administered and explained research study materials to participants in the lab.
- Provided professional, ethical, and confidential treatment to participants.
- Designed and created research paradigms for Lab Manager's doctoral projects.
- Attended bi-weekly meetings with Lab Managers and associates to discuss research progress and design.
- Attended social psychology colloquia to learn about current research in the field.
- Recruited participants through communicating to various LGBTQ+ groups on campus.

OTHER RELEVANT SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- Panelist for Middlesex College and the Pride Center of New Jersey's event for Transgender Day of Visibility 2021.
- Co-Guest Lecture for Dr. Sarah Lamer's Social Psychology class on LGBTQIA+ Romantic Relationships

MEMBERSHIPS

The Center for the Integration of Research, Teaching, and Learning	2022
The Society for Social and Personality Psychology	2022
The Society for the Scientific Study of Sexuality	2021
The Social and Affective Neuroscience Society	2021
Eastern Psychological Association	2017
Psi Chi Honors Society	2017
Psi Beta Honor Society	2015 – 2017
Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society	2014 – 2016

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Psychology of Gender, <i>Teaching Assistant</i> – University of Tennessee-Knoxville	2022
Introduction to Psychology, <i>Teaching Assistant</i> – University of Tennessee-Knoxville	2021

RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

Volunteer Coordinator/Youth Adult Advisor

The Pride Center of New Jersey

Highland Park, NJ

July 2019 – August 2021

- Answering emails and phone calls to connect the central NJ LGBTQ+ community with health and social resources at their request.
- Maintaining a positive and clean environment at the center for the members and group attendees.
- Supervising other front desk hosts and disseminating information to them.
- Facilitating the LGBTQ+ inmate letter writing program within the center.
- Attending bi-monthly Youth Drop-In events to provide advisement, compassion, and entertainment for LGBTQ+ youth ages 7-17.
- Helping set up, maintain, and clean up any events that the center hosts.

Mental Health Technician

Carrier Clinic

Belle Mead, NJ

May-September 2015

- Provided one-to-one support for patients with compassion.
- Facilitated general adult psychiatry groups with patients in order to foster a support system.
- Recorded patients' vitals to secure their health and safety on the unit.
- Maintained comfort on the unit by enforcing policies that ensured everyone's safety.
- Collaborated with nurses to ensure that the needs of all patients were met effectively.

CONTINUING EDUCATION

UCL Summer Course in Computational Psychiatry	2019
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SKILLS

- Microsoft Office
- Qualtrics
- REDCap
- Inquisit Software
- R
- MATLAB
- SPSS
- SAS
- Biopac/Acqknowledge
- Mindware Technologies Software (Blood Pressure Variability Analysis, Heart Rate Variability Analysis)
- iMotions and Tobii Eye tracker devices
- Photoshop
- Fantamorph
- Prolific
- mTurk
- Gorilla
- MetricWire
- 3T Siemens TRIO