

Jonathan R. Young, MD
PGY-4, Resident Physician
Department of Psychiatry, Duke University School of Medicine
110 Ellsworth Manor Drive, Hillsborough, NC 27278 | 315-246-1652 | jonathan.young@duke.edu

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Sara McEwen, MD, MPH Executive Director Governor's Institute
1121 Situs Court – Suite 320, Raleigh, NC 27606

Dear Dr. McEwen and Scholarship Selection Committee:

I'm writing to express my interest in the scholarship available for the upcoming Addiction Medicine conference being held in Durham, NC from October 4-5, 2019. I am a current PGY- 4 resident in adult psychiatry at Duke and was referred to your program by Dr. Ashwin Patkar.

I believe that I am a strong candidate for the scholarship due to my academic background in psychology and medicine, current residency training in adult psychiatry, and intent to pursue an academic career conducting research on neuromodulation for the treatment of substance use disorders. My main research focus has been on developing novel brain stimulation modalities and their applications for the treatment of neuropsychiatric disorders. Most recently I have become interested in studying how non-invasive neuromodulation technologies can help alleviate the country's opioid epidemic. Attending the upcoming conference will help me further understand how brain stimulation modalities can contribute to the psychiatric subspecialty of addiction medicine.

To provide some background about my academic work, I attended New York University College of Arts & Science where I majored in psychology and dual-minored in chemistry and physics. During my undergraduate years at NYU I worked at the HIV/AIDS clinic of Paul Bellman, MD and conducted fMRI research on epilepsy at the Cognitive Neurophysiology Lab of Thomas Thesen, MD. I attended Stony Brook University School of Medicine where I was mentored by Laura Fochtmann, MD and graduated with honors in research. During a year-long position as a Visiting Graduate Student at Duke University Department of Psychiatry, I conducted clinical trials using non-invasive brain stimulation modalities under Sarah Lisanby, MD and others. Please see my attached CV for more details. More recently, as a resident at Duke, I have been working under Greg Appelbaum, PhD to study transcranial direct current stimulation (tDCS) for neurocognitive enhancement and serving as editor of the section on non-invasive brain stimulation for WikiSTIM.org, a free and accessible directory of research on neuromodulation.

Thank you very much for the opportunity to apply for this scholarship. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions. Thanks again for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Young

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