

Christopher T. Smith, Ph.D.

Communicative, Collaborative, & Committed to Improving the Postdoc Experience

PHONE NUMBER

ADDRESS

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[LinkedIn](#)

[Website](#)

I have 10+ years' experience working to extract meaning from complex biological and behavior data and communicating results across a variety of platforms to diverse audiences.

- 1) **Academic Written Communication:** 15 peer-reviewed [publications](#) (9 first-author, 140+ [citations](#))
- 2) **Oral Communication:** Powerpoint presentations at leading scientific conferences (n=3), academic institutions (n=5), local [Science Clubs](#), and Vanderbilt IP commercialization plan pitch ([TVC](#), see below), Guest Lectures in 3 different Vanderbilt Courses (200 total enrolled students)
- 3) **Website design and implementation skills:** [Personal](#) & [Vanderbilt Postdoctoral Association](#) Websites

Over the past few years, I have become heavily involved in improving the postdoctoral experience at Vanderbilt as a member of the Executive Board of the Vanderbilt Postdoctoral Association.

Education

2014 Doctor of Philosophy, Neurobiology
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

2008 Bachelor of Science, Neuroscience
magna cum laude, Furman University, Greenville, SC

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Contributing Writer, [The POSTDOcket](#)

Written 7 profile pieces for this online newsletter of the National Postdoctoral Association. **Examples [1](#), [2](#), [3](#), [4](#)**

Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Psychology

Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN, **August 2014 - Present**

Responsible for data management, analysis of d-amphetamine research projects involving PET imaging. Worked with a computer programmer to create automated processes for data processing and analysis.

Management & Business Principles for Scientists Course Participant

Runner-up team, 2017 [Vanderbilt Tech Venture Challenge \(TVC\)](#)

Intellectual property pitch event (PathEx blood purification device)

Graduate Research Assistant, Neurobiology Curriculum

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, **August 2008 - May 2014**

Dissertation focused on delay discounting behavioral as a potential intermediate phenotype for alcohol use disorders. Behavioral genetic and fMRI imaging studies.

4 student mentoring awards at UNC & 2014 UNC Psychology Department Graduate Student Mentor Award

LEADERSHIP, TEAMWORK, & SERVICE

Junior Co-Chair/Vice President (2017-18) & Treasurer (2016-17) [Vanderbilt Postdoctoral Association \(VPA\)](#)

Oversaw \$20,000 budget for organization serving 550+ postdocs

Assisted in implementation of new programming to reach postdocs: over 500 attended 15+ events most recently in 2017-18

Collaborated with 12 distinct research groups (PhDs, MDs) from UC Berkley, Yale, U of Chicago, U of Colorado, UNC, and Vanderbilt to pursue work relevant to aging, drug addiction, & Parkinson's Disease

2017 & 2018 VPA Symposium Planning Committee: recruited 40+ faculty poster judges and programming for 150+ postdoctoral attendees & constructed/managed post-symposium/bi-annual VPA survey to improve programming

Mentoring: overseen 20+ students conducting independent research at Vanderbilt & UNC

Other volunteer service: 2018 Vanderbilt [3-Minute Thesis Competition](#) Judge coordination, [Fisk-Vanderbilt Bridge](#) Mentor

First-Author Publications (see all publications at [NCBI Bibliography](#)):

9. Smith CT, Crawford JL, Dang LC, Seaman KL, San Juan D, Katz DT, Matuskey D, Cowan RL, Morris ED, Zald DH, Samanez-Larkin GR (2017). Partial-volume correction increases estimated dopamine D2-like receptor binding potential and reduces adult age differences. *Journal of Cerebral Blood Flow and Metabolism*. DOI: 10.1177/0271678X17737693

8. Smith CT, Dang LC, Buckholtz JW, Tetreault AM, Cowan RL, Kessler RM, Zald DH (2017). The impact of common dopamine D2 receptor gene polymorphisms on D2/3 receptor availability: C957T as a key determinant in putamen and ventral striatum. *Translational Psychiatry*, 7 (4), e1091, DOI: 10.1038/tp.2017.45. PMCID: PMC5416688

7. Smith CT, Dang LC, Cowan RL, Kessler RM, Zald DH (2016). Variability in paralimbic dopamine signaling correlates with subjective responses to d-amphetamine*. *Neuropharmacology*, 108, 394-402. PMCID: PMC4912942

*Faculty of 1000 Recommended Article by Kent Berridge

6. Smith CT, Weafer J, Cowan RL, Kessler RM, Palmer AA, de Wit H, Zald DH (2016). Individual differences in timing of peak positive subjective responses to d-amphetamine: Relationship to pharmacokinetics and physiology. *Journal of Psychopharmacology*, 30 (4), 330-343. PMCID: PMC5049703

5. Smith CT, Wallace DL, Dang LC, Aarts E, Jagust WJ, D'Esposito M, Boettiger CA (2016). Modulation of impulsivity and reward sensitivity in intertemporal choice by striatal and midbrain dopamine in healthy adults. *Journal of Neurophysiology*, 115 (3), 1146-1156. PMCID: PMC4808128

4. Smith CT, Steel EA, Parrish MH, Kelm MK, Boettiger CA (2015). Intertemporal Choice Behavior in Late Adolescents and Adults: Effects of Age Interact with Alcohol Use and Family History Status. *Frontiers in Human Neuroscience*, Nov 23; 9:627. PMCID: PMC4655234

3. Smith CT, Sierra Y, Oppler SH, Boettiger CA (2014). Ovarian Cycle Effects on Immediate Reward Bias in humans: a role for estradiol*. *Journal of Neuroscience*, 34 (16): 5468-5476. PMCID: PMC3988406

*Featured in Journal of Neuroscience Journal Club Article: Dimitroff SJ (2014). Phasic estradiol levels and bias for immediate rewards. *Journal of Neuroscience*, 34 (37): 12239-12240.

2. Smith CT, Swift-Scanlan T, Boettiger CA (2014). Genetic polymorphisms regulating dopamine signaling in the frontal cortex interact to affect target detection under high working memory load. *Journal of Cognitive Neuroscience*, 26 (2), 395-407. PMCID: PMC3877727

1. Smith CT, Boettiger CA (2012). Age modulates the effect of COMT genotype on delay discounting behavior. *Psychopharmacology*, 222 (4), 609-617. PMCID: PMC340127

Vanderbilt Postdoctoral Association Presentations

Sanders A, **Smith C**, Trogden K, Ridgeway M, McKirgan I, McCabe C, Chalkley R, Wallace M. [The Vanderbilt Postdoctoral Association](#). Poster presented at the National Postdoctoral Association Annual Meeting, 2018.

Sanders A, **Smith C**, Trogden K, Ridgeway M. [2017 Vanderbilt Postdoc Survey Results](#). Presentation to postdocs at a VPA seminar to start the 2017-18 Academic Year.