**Naomi Gancz**

ngancz@ucla.edu

**EDUCATION**

2021 – Present **University of California, Los Angeles**

*Ph.D. in Developmental Psychology*

*Minor in Quantitative Methods*

Advisor: Bridget Callaghan, Ph.D.

2015 – 2019  **University of Chicago**

*B.A. in Psychology with Honors*

*Minor in Statistics*

Advisor: Greg Norman, Ph.D.

Honors Thesis: *Peer Ratings Predict Behavior Changes in Children Exposed to Early-Life Stress*

**FUNDING, HONORS & AWARDS**

2024 UCLA Summer Mentored Research Fellowship ($6000)

2023 Goodman-Luskin Microbiome Center Seed Fellowship Award ($30,000), Co-Recipient

2023 UCLA Graduate Summer Research Mentorship Fellowship ($6,000)

2023 Wisconsin Symposium on Emotions Travel Award

2023 National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowships Program, Honorable Mention

2022 – 2023 UCLA Graduate Research Mentorship Fellowship ($37,756)

2022 International Society for Developmental Psychobiology Student Abstract Award

2022 UCLA Graduate Summer Research Mentorship Fellowship ($6,000)

2021 National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowships Program, Honorable Mention

2020 International Society for Developmental Psychobiology Student Abstract Award

2019 Liew Family College Research Fellows Grant ($1000)

2018 National Institute of Health Intramural Research Training Grant

2018 Liew Family College Research Fellows Grant ($1000)

2015 – 2019 Dean’s List, University of Chicago

**RESEARCH & TRAINING**

2019 – 2021 **VA Pittsburgh Healthcare System**

*Research Coordinator | PI: Sarah Forster, Ph.D.*

* Coordinated a substance use treatment trial and managed EEG, data analysis, protocol writeup, and administration
* Conducted and presented a coordinate-based meta-analysis of fMRI studies of executive function in early stress-exposed individuals
* Conducted a review of external validity in substance use relapse neuroprediction studies

2018 **National Institute of Health – Emotion & Development Branch**

*Summer Intern | PI: Ellen Leibenluft, M.D.*

* Conducted and presented an independent research project investigating the validity of a multidimensional childhood disruptive behavior scale

2017 – 2019 **Social Psychology & Neuroendocrinology Laboratory**

*Research Assistant | PI: Greg Norman, Ph.D.*

* Conducted an honors thesis project investigating the association between peer relationships and self-regulation in preschool students over multiple time-points
* Analyzed data on the relationship between trait disgust sensitivity and judgements of accented speakers

**PUBLICATIONS & MANUSCRIPTS**

**Gancz, N.N**., Levinson, J.A., Callaghan, B.L. (2023). Sex and gender as critical and distinct contributors to the human brain-gut-microbiome axis. *Brain Research Bulletin*. 199:110665. PMID: 37192716.

**Gancz, N. N.** & Forster, S. E. (2023). Threats to external validity in the neuroprediction of substance use treatment outcomes. *The American Journal of Drug and Alcohol Abuse.* 49(1):5-20. PMID: 36099534*.*

Forster, S.E., Forman, S.D., **Gancz, N.N.**, Siegle, G., Dickey, M.W., Steinhauer, S.R. (2020). *Electrophysiological Predictors and Indicators of Contingency Management Treatment Response: Rationale and Design for the Ways of Rewarding Abstinence Project (WRAP).* Contemporary Clinical Trials Communications. 23: 100796. PMID 234278041.

**Gancz, N.N.**, Smith, K.E., Norman, G.J. (2019). *Peer Ratings Predict Behavioral Changes in Children Exposed to Early Life Stress.* (University of Chicago honors thesis - unpublished)

**PRESENTATIONS**

**Gancz, N.N.**, Silvers, J.A., Choy, T., VanTieghem, M., Tottenham, N., Callaghan, B.L. (2023). Gut microbiome dysregulation as a mechanism of reward circuitry differences in youth exposed toearly adversity. *Poster presented at the Flux Society meeting in Santa Rosa, CA*.

**Gancz, N.N.**, Savoca, P.W., Callaghan, B.L. (2023). A Gut Feeling: Examining Electrogastrography as a Biomarker of Affective Responses. *Poster Presented at the Society for Affective Science Meeting in Long Beach, CA.*

Somers, J., Chu, K., Querdasi, F.R., **Gancz, N.N.,** Towner, E., Callaghan, B.L. (2023). A novel bidirectional test of emotion socialization among high-risk families. *Talk Presented at the Society for Research in Child Development Meeting in Salt Lake City, UT.*

**Gancz, N.N.,** Silvers, J.A., Choy, T., VanTieghem, M., Tottenham, N., Callaghan, B.L. (2022). Oral Microbiome and Cortisol in a Community Sample of Youth. *Poster Presented at International Society for Developmental Psychobiology Meeting in San Diego, CA.*

Querdasi, F.R., Chu, K., Flores, G., **Gancz, N.N.**, Towner, E., Taylor, E., Nussbaum, S., Callaghan, B.L. (2022). Alexithymia Mediates the Relation Between Caregiving Adversity and Health Symptoms in Childhood and Young Adulthood. *Poster Presented at the International Society for Developmental Psychobiology Meeting in San Diego, CA.*

**Gancz, N.N.,** Forster, S.E. (2020). Neurofunctional Consequences of Early-Life Stress on Executive Functioning: A Coordinate-Based Quantitative Meta-Analysis. *Poster Presented at the International Society for Developmental Psychobiology Virtual Meeting.*

**Gancz, N.N.**, Smith, K.E., Norman, G.J. (2019). Peer Ratings Predict Behavior Changes in Children Exposed to Early-Life Stress. *Poster Presented at the University of Chicago Psychology Honors Poster Day in Chicago, Illinois.*

**Gancz, N.N.**, Cardinale, E., Perlstein, S., Wakschlag, L., Briggs-Gowan, M.J., Towbin, K., Pine, D.S., Brotman, M.A., Leibenluft, E. (2018). Exploring the Validity of the MAP-DB Temper Loss Scale through Associations with Irritability in a Clinical Sample of Youth. *Poster Presented at the National Institute of Health Summer Intern Poster Day in Bethesda, Maryland*.

Perlstein, S., Cardinale, E., **Gancz, N.N.**, Wakschlag, L., Briggs-Gowan, M.J., Towbin, K., Pine, D.S., Brotman, M.A., Leibenluft, E. (2018). Exploring Dimensions of Low Concern for Others in a Clinical Sample of Youth with varying levels of Disruptive Behavior and Irritability. *Poster Presented at the National Institute of Health Research Fair in Bethesda, Maryland.*

**SERVICE**

2023 – 2024 Brown Bag Forum Organizer, UCLA Developmental Psychology Area

2023 Affinity Group Leader, International Society for Developmental Psychobiology

2021 – 2022 Volunteer, UCLA Underrepresented Graduate Students in Psychology

2022 Symposium Organizer & Volunteer Coordinator, UCLA Psychology in Action

2022 New Student Recruitment Event Organizer, UCLA Developmental Psychology Area