

## December 2025 Monthly E-Newsletter

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**RUTGERS HEALTH**

**Institute for Nicotine  
and Tobacco Studies**



Dear INTS,

Thank you to all of our faculty and staff for another successful year. Your dedication, teamwork, and resilience allow us to continue our work and broaden our impact. We are grateful for the energy and care you bring to your work every day, and we're proud of what we've accomplished together. Have a happy, healthy, and peaceful holiday season and a wonderful new year with your loved ones!

See you next year! 🧑‍🎄

### Notable Mentions

It's time to bid December adieu and welcome in the new year, too!

# welcome TO THE TEAM

## Internal updates

Join us in welcoming the new INTS members who joined this December, including Financial Analyst **Jared Prosnitz** and Research Teaching Specialist V **Maxine Cox**. We also want to celebrate **Kelly-Lynn Dawson** transitioning to a permanent Financial Analyst!



## Faculty Mentor Recognition Reception

INTS hosted its inaugural Faculty Mentor Recognition Reception on Wednesday, December 3, at Steakhouse 85. The event recognized core and associate senior faculty for their service in mentoring other INTS faculty. In addition, two junior faculty members were honored, including **Julia Chen-Sankey**, who received the *Spark Award for Outstanding Mentee Engagement*, and **Ollie Ganz**, who received the *Torchbearer Award for Rising Mentors*.



## Rutgers 2025 Big Chill 5K

The Rutgers Big Chill 5K event was a success! Some INTS members, including **Heather Jordan** and **Michael Steinberg**, bundled up in the chilly winter weather to participate in the Big Chill for charity. Way to go everyone!

## INTS 2025 Holiday Party

The annual INTS Holiday Party was a hit! This year, we had our classic white elephant game, a winter trivia, and candy counting games, as well as delicious food and desserts, and even a photo booth! A big thank you to **Christina Carroll** and the party planning committee for organizing this event, and **Donna Davis** for providing her amazing photo booth!



## Upcoming Events & Important Reminders



### INTS Office Closed Dec 25 - Jan 2

Just a reminder that this year, INTS will be closed on **December 25, 2025**, through **January 2, 2026**. Our first day back in the office in the New Year will be **Monday, January 5th**. We hope everyone enjoys the holiday season and their time off, and we wish you a happy New Year. See you all in 2026! 🎉



### INTS Monthly Brown Bag Seminar Series

**Featuring:** [Rachel Denlinger-Apte](#) of Wake Forest University

**When:** January 7, 2026, from 10 am - 11 am ET

**Where:** INTS Seminar - Training Room 516 or via [Zoom](#)

## Recent Publications



Below are the most recent publications from INTS faculty and staff:

Tillett, K. K., LoParco, C. R., Rossheim, M. E., **Chen-Sankey, J.**, Trangenstein, P. J., & Berg, C. J. (2025). Brands of Intoxicating Cannabis Products in Vape Shops: United States, 2023. *Substance use & misuse*, 1–4. Advance online publication. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10826084.2025.2592227>.

Drobes DJ, Sutton SK, Conn MR, Brandon TH, **Yang MJ**, Sawyer LE, Hatsukami DK, Donny EC, Simmons VN. Very low nicotine content cigarettes for smoking cessation: Examining a facilitated extinction approach and dosing schedule. *Drug Alcohol Depend*. 2025 Nov 20;278:112971. doi: 10.1016/j.drugalcdep.2025.112971. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 41314054.

**Gratale SK, Mercincavage M, Joy M, Wackowski OA.** Leveraging inoculation theory to combat the spread of health misinformation. *Behav Sci Policy*. 2025;11(2):9-19.

Rubenstein D, **Pacek LR**, Green MJ, Sweitzer MM, Kozink R, Holloway A, Donny EC, Smith TT, McClernon FJ. Restricting choice of e-cigarette flavor and device type increases choices to use combusted cigarettes among adults who dual use both products: Results from a within-subjects randomized trial. *Addict Behav*. 2025 Dec 1;174:108578. doi: 10.1016/j.addbeh.2025.108578. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 41343944.

Hacker K, Hamilton-Moseley KR, Forde AT, **Chen-Sankey J**, Choi K. Vicarious Exposure to Police Discrimination and Brutality, Concern, and Changes in Cigarette Smoking. *J Racial Ethn Health Disparities*. 2025 Dec 3. doi: 10.1007/s40615-025-02649-6. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 41335305.

**Villanti AC, Bover Manderski MT, Tomaino M, Uriarte C, Weiger C, Wackowski OA, Delnevo CD**, Peterson EB. Impact of Survey Item Wording and Response Options on Prevalence of Beliefs About Nicotine Causing Cancer: A Randomized Survey Experiment. *Nicotine Tob Res*. 2025 Dec 17:ntaf215. doi: 10.1093/ntr/ntaf215. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 41405956.

Horta M, Poudel R, Brandon KO, Dougan SO, Yates H, Rivera MS, Martinez U, Sutton SK, Vidrine DJ, Ritterband LM, Wiseman KP, Vickerman KA, Turner K, Byrne MM, **Yang MJ**, Anyanwu OA, Brandon TH, Vinci C. Glitches to growth: Lessons learned from developing and testing an augmented reality smartphone app for substance use treatment. Exp Clin Psychopharmacol. 2025 Dec 18. doi: 10.1037/pha0000815. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 41411021.

## INTS Merchandise



Do you have any upcoming tabling events where you need merchandise to distribute? For any merchandise needs, we have a fresh stockpile of outreach materials in the 4th floor storage room, including: INTS-branded hand sanitizer, lip balm, pens, mints, tablecloths, and Rutgers-branded bucket hats. **Please inform Paige and Mary if you intend to take any supplies, and sign out the amount on the sign-out sheet on the wall of the storage room.** For future merchandise needs for marketing purposes, feel free to reach out to [Paige Gerald](#).

## Communications Strategies



Do you have any ideas or important items to share each month? Reach out to **Paige Gerald**s, the Marketing and Communications Coordinator, to share your items and ideas or if there is anything we want to consider for wider promotion. Additionally, help us grow by following INTS on **LinkedIn**, **Twitter (X)**, and **Bluesky**, and interacting with us on social media!

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Rutgers Institute for Tobacco & Nicotine Studies | 303 George Street, Suite 500 | New Brunswick, NJ 08901  
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