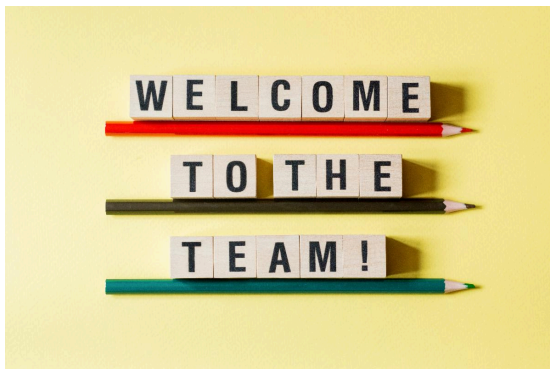


September 2026 E-Newsletter



Notable Mentions

September was a month to remember!



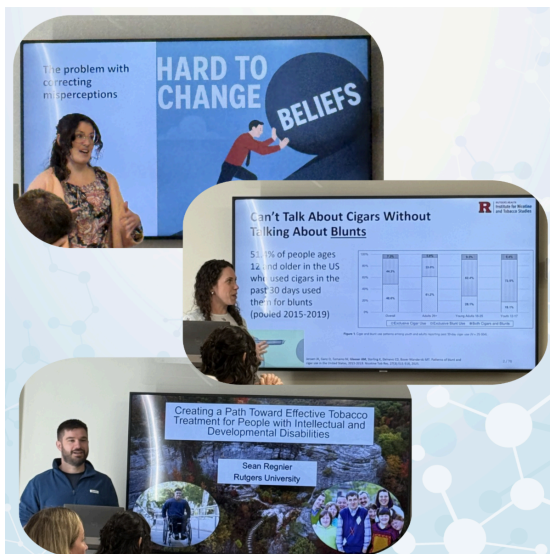
Welcome to the Team

Please join us in welcoming **Phoebe Ruggles**, who has joined INTS as a Post Doc, as well as Student Assistants **Angella Lawino**, **Daria Gordon**, **Eva Lebowitz**, and **Serena Cheenath**, who are all working with Julia Chen-Sankey.



Joy at Work Events

The Joy at Work initiative began hosting events for INTS staff and faculty throughout the past month, including weekly walks, coloring, and stretching exercises. There will be more events coming up in October, including a pumpkin painting event and fall decorating contest. For more information about upcoming events, be sure to access the [Joy at Work Teams channel!](#)



Brown Bag Seminar – Career Development Scholars Showcase
Allison Glasser, Sean Regnier, and Caitlin Weiger recently presented their research at the *Pathways to Independence: Career Development Scholars Showcase Brown Bag Seminar*. Their presentations highlighted a range of tobacco and nicotine research topics, including smoking cessation and treatment for people with developmental disabilities, tobacco marketing, and tobacco and cannabis use among young adults.



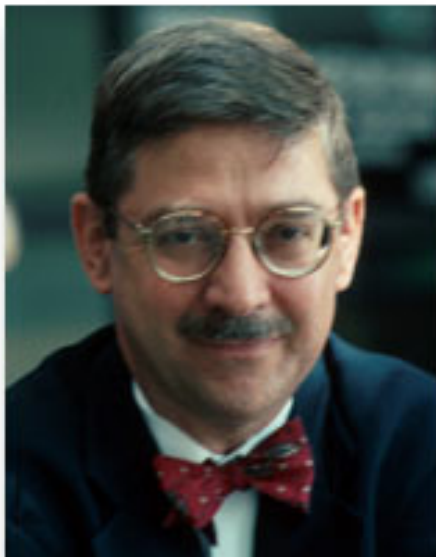
Evelyn Blas Receives Service Award

We want to congratulate **Evelyn Blas** from the INTS Research Office on receiving the 2026 Rutgers Health Chancellor's Excellence in Community Service Award! This award recognizes Evelyn's significant contributions and leadership at Rutgers Health, including her work serving external communities and her commitment to supporting others.



SRNT-E 2026

Several INTS faculty attended the 2026 SRNT-E conference, the European Chapter of the Society for Research on Nicotine and Tobacco, in Paris, France, this past week. Faculty led and coauthored **11 presentations**, sharing their latest research findings, while engaging with other researchers from all over the world.



Professorship Established to Honor Tobacco Control Pioneer John D. Slade

The Rutgers University Board of Governors approved the creation of the **John D. Slade Endowed Legacy Professorship** at INTS. Established through a gift from **Cristine Delnevo** and **Michael Steinberg** and matched through the Rutgers Health Legacy Professorship Match Campaign, the professorship honors Dr. Slade's lasting contributions to tobacco control and will support future leaders in research, education, and public service.

Grants & Awards



Congratulations to the following faculty members on their recent awards!

Andrea Villanti and **Melissa Mercincavage** received a new R01 award from the National Institute on Drug Abuse (R01DA064651) titled "*Differentiating harms from combustion vs. addiction: Effects of low nicotine cigarette education on beliefs and behaviors.*" This project will run from 9/15/26 to 5/31/2031.

Jamie Tam and **Rafael Meza** received a new U01 award from the National Cancer Institute (U01CA319217) titled "*Optimizing lung cancer interventions in a dynamic landscape for tobacco use, early detection, treatment, and survivorship care.*" This project will run from 9/17/26 to 8/31/2031.

INTS in the News



INTS faculty were featured in media outlets this month:

- **Julia Chen-Sankey** was quoted in [*The Doctor Will See You Now*](#) in an article on how cannabinoids are promoted on social media.
- **Cristine Delnevo** was quoted in [*STAT News*](#) in an article discussing concerns about unauthorized flavored e-cigarettes and the FDA's enforcement policy.

Recent Publications



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

Brouwer AF, Roberts OK, Jeon J, Jimenez-Mendoza E, Land SR, Freedman ND, Torres-Alvarez R, Mistry R, Levy DT, **Meza R**. Patterns of Cigarette and Electronic Nicotine Delivery System Transitions in U.S. Adults, 2021-2024. *American Journal of Preventive Medicine*. 2026 Sep 14:108576. doi: 10.1016/j.amepre.2026.108576. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 42735867.

Cao P, Smith L, Tian E, Chichester LA, Schofield E, Williams RM, **Meza R**, Toll BA, Ostroff J, Elkin EB, Fu SS, Land SR, Taylor KL, Jayasekera J. Cost-Effectiveness of Smoking Cessation Interventions Integrated into Lung Cancer Screening. *JAMA Network Open*. 2026 Sep 1;9(9):e2633630. doi: 10.1001/jamanetworkopen.2026.33630. PMID: 42734913; PMCID: PMC13576415.

Carroll DM, Hatsukami DK, **Wackowski OA**, McClernon FJ, Donny E, Zeller M. Implementing a Nicotine Cap to Make America Healthy Again. *Health Affairs Scholars*. 2026 Sep 3;4(9):qxag239. doi: 10.1093/haschl/qxag239. PMID: 42787616; PMCID: PMC13602413.

Ganz O, Gonsalves NJ, Tomaino M, Heckman CJ, **Steinberg MB, Bover-Manderski MT**. Findings from Two Online Experiments to Advance the Science on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Measurement: An Application to Estimating Cigarette Relighting Behaviors. *Psychology of Sexual Orientation and Gender Diversity*. 2026 Sep 3:10.1037/sgd0000963. doi: 10.1037/sgd0000963. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 42699126; PMCID: PMC13543932.

Ganz O, Sterling KL, Ntansah C, Tomaino M, Wackowski OA, Altunbilek A, Garmon J, Johnson A, Fryer CS, **Villanti AC**. Identifying Key Beliefs for Anti-Disinformation Messaging for Black Adults About Proposed US Bans on Menthol Cigarettes and Flavored Cigars. *Nicotine & Tobacco Research*. 2026 Sep 9:ntag185. doi: 10.1093/ntr/ntag185. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 42715155; PMCID: PMC13617659.

Leavens ELS, Pebley K, Smith TT, Ahluwalia JS, Bello MS, Bold KW, Cantrell J, Carpenter MJ, Cioe PA, Felicione NJ, Havard A, Hawk LW Jr, Kaye JT, Klemperer EM, Kleykamp BA, Lindson N, McClure EA, McRobbie H, Murphy CM, Rigotti NA, Walker NK, **Yang MJ**, Rojewski AM, Johnson AL; Members of the Society for Research on Nicotine and Tobacco, Treatment Research Network, Harm Reduction Workgroup. *Nicotine E-Cigarettes for Cigarette*

Smoking Cessation: Recommendations to US-Based Clinicians. JAMA. 2026 Sep 1;336(9):783-790. doi: 10.1001/jama.2026.13087. PMID: 42530900.

Phellan Aro R, Lam S, Warkentin MT, Liu G, Diergaarde B, Wilson DO, Yuan JM, Al-Sawaihey H, Murison KR, Khodayari-Moez E, Brhane Y, **Meza R**, Myers R, Hung RJ. Integrating Deep Learning of Low-Dose CT Imaging With Clinical Data for Lung Cancer Risk Prediction. Chest. 2026 Sep;170(3):962-974. doi: 10.1016/j.chest.2026.02.022. Epub 2026 Mar 13. PMID: 41833807; PMCID: PMC13470853.

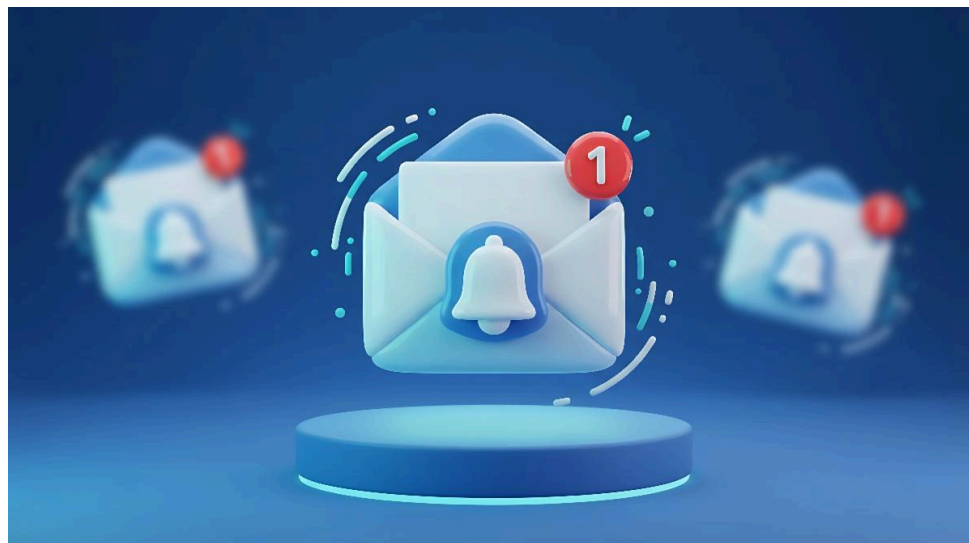
Regnier S, McManus HS, Tillson M, Surratt HL, Knudsen HK, Tidey JW, Stoops WW. Factors influencing engagement in smoking cessation for adults with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities. Nicotine & Tobacco Research. 2026 Sep 11:ntag198. doi: 10.1093/ntr/ntag198. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 42725715.

Salgado MV, Jeon J, Cao P, Boyeras I, Mejia R, **Meza R**. Lung Cancer Screening-Eligible Population From 2000 to 2050 in Argentina: A Simulation Study Brief Report. JTO Clinical and Research Reports. 2026 Apr 27; 7(9):101006. doi: 10.1016/j.jtocrr.2026.101006. PMID: 42703497; PMCID: PMC13546832.

Travis N, Warner KE, Hartmann-Boyce J, Goniewicz ML, Ma C, **Meza R**, Levy DT. Oral Nicotine Pouches and Public Health: Evidence from an Updated Scoping Review. Nicotine & Tobacco Research. 2026 Sep 6:ntag203. doi: 10.1093/ntr/ntag203. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 42702065.

Weiger C, Gratale S, Wackowski O, Jeong M. Effective Messaging Against Youth E-Cigarette Use: Does Humor Make a Difference? Health Communication. 2026 Sep 8:1-13. doi: 10.1080/10410236.2026.2726483. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 42707051.

Marketing and Communication Update



Important Update: All Marketing & Communications materials are now being housed in the Box folder titled "**Marketing & Communications Materials & Resources**." To ensure consistency and version control, please use this folder as the primary source for all marketing and communications assets. If you have marketing materials stored in other Box folders or are using materials located elsewhere, please contact the Marketing & Communications team so we can

review and relocate any relevant resources to the centralized folder. This will help ensure that all users have access to the most up-to-date materials.

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!

Follow us on social media!



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

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email marketing for free today!