


# THE BRAIN AND BEHAVIOR INNOVATION CENTER (BBICen) NEWSLETTER

## BBICen presents at the CU Innovations Showcase Expo event




### Brain & Behavior Innovation Center (BBICen)


ELEVATING BRAIN HEALTH



The Brain and Behavior Innovation Center's mission is to create, develop, implement, and evaluate novel approaches to mental health treatment in collaboration with partners in academia, government, and industry.


*Executive Director: Jay Shore, MD, MHP/MSPH*  
*Senior Scientific Advisor: C. Neill Epperson, MD*

 Technology	 Novel Therapeutics	 Care Redesign
<p><b>Director: Allison Dempsey, PhD</b></p> <p>Focused on harnessing the power of advanced technologies to enhance the delivery of mental health care. Through telehealth platforms, mobile applications, artificial intelligence (AI), and digital tools, the goal is to make mental health care more accessible, personalized, and efficient.</p> <p><b>Areas of Interest:</b> Digital therapeutics, intelligent care systems, technology-enabled care, measurement assisted care and precision psychiatry</p>	<p><b>Director: Scott Thompson, PhD</b></p> <p>Focused on creating groundbreaking treatments that address complex and treatment-resistant conditions. This includes the exploration of new medications, neuromodulation, and other novel interventions aimed at improving outcomes for mental health disorders.</p> <p><b>Areas of Interest:</b> Psychedelics, small molecule therapeutics, and neuromodulation (deep brain stimulation, transcranial magnetic stimulation)</p>	<p><b>Acting Director: Tiffany Love, PhD</b></p> <p>This pillar emphasizes rethinking and restructuring the way mental health care is delivered. The goal is to create more efficient, effective, and equitable systems of care that address challenges such as fragmentation, inefficiency, and disparities in access.</p> <p><b>Areas of Interest:</b> Integrated care models, telepsychiatry &amp; remote monitoring, digital triage, smart clinical workflows and decision support</p>





**Administrative Team**

Program Manager: Tereza Guedes, PhD  
Program Coordinator: Rosalia Lotspeich, MA




Brain and Behavior Innovation Center  
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO ANSCHUTZ MEDICAL CAMPUS  
**BRAIN HEALTH** for all, for life.



**PSYCHIATRY**      **FAMILY MEDICINE**

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BBICen info showcased at the Expo

On October 4th, 2024, BBICen pillar leaders Allison Dempsey (Technology) and Tiffany Love (Care Re-Design) participated in the CU Innovations Showcase Expo to highlight BBICen's many exciting initiatives. They were joined by Clint Carlson (Director of Educational Technology) to demonstrate his Social-Emotional Avatar Simulations, which aim to promote better public health communication and education.

The showcase was part of the President's Innovation & Entrepreneurship Initiative hosted by the CU Anschutz Medical Campus, aimed at leveraging systemwide innovation and entrepreneurship to generate substantial real-world impact. The showcase featured over 35 CU innovators and their groundbreaking work. The event also included in-depth presentations from each campus, a panel on how innovation is shaping Colorado's future, and breakout discussions on topics like quantum AI, community resilience, aging, health care, workforce development, and higher education.CU

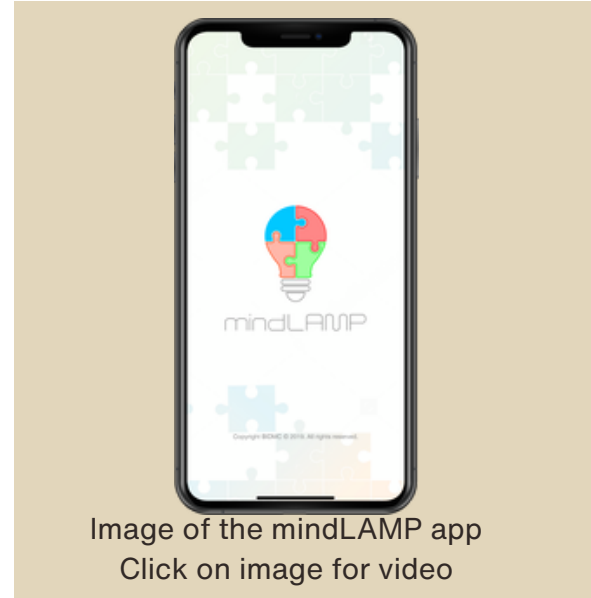
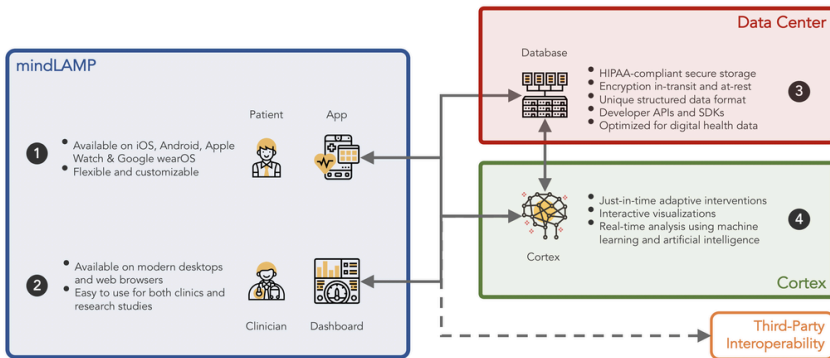


An Example of Clint Carlson's Ai avatar Simulation module

President Todd Saliman highlighted CU's role in Colorado's innovation and entrepreneurship ecosystem during his keynote address, emphasizing the university's unique position to connect with labs, startups, and industries across the state. The event attracted hundreds of attendees from the CU and broader communities, including U.S. Rep. Greg Lopez and Colorado state Rep. Eliza Hamrick.

## FEATURED INITIATIVE

# mindLAMP



The BBICen team has launched and is recruiting an amazing trial with an app that focuses on mental health, they took a trip out to Harvard for specialized training and collaboration with the developers. The team recently visited Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center (BIDMC), a Harvard-affiliated hospital, to launch a project centered on utilizing a specialized mobile application called mindLAMP to enhance digital mental health care.

mindLAMP is an app designed to capture digital phenotyping information about patients, offer therapy modules, deliver psychoeducation, and provide interactive reports that can be used in conjunction with regular therapy sessions to facilitate discussions on the relationship between symptoms and behavioral activity. This collaboration reflects BBICEN's commitment to advancing digital health solutions and reimagining mental health care and marks a meaningful step forward in leveraging cutting-edge tools to enhance patient outcomes.



Pictured left to right: Dr. Tiffany Love, Dr. Dana Steidtmann, Desiree Starzyk, and Dr. Allison Dempsey.

## **BBICen NEWS**

### **AWARDS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Tracy Bale is funded under BBICen's Avielle Initiative for her Brain Camp project/work. We are delighted to announce that Tracy L. Bale, PhD, has been elected to the National Academy of Medicine (NAM). Dr. Bale, who serves as Anschutz Foundation Endowed Chair in Women's Integrated Mental and Physical Health, Department of Psychiatry Professor, and Director of InterGenerational Stress and Health and Department of Psychiatry sex differences research, was among 100 individuals elected to the academy this year. The newly elected members bring NAM's total membership to more than 2,400, which includes nearly 200 international members.

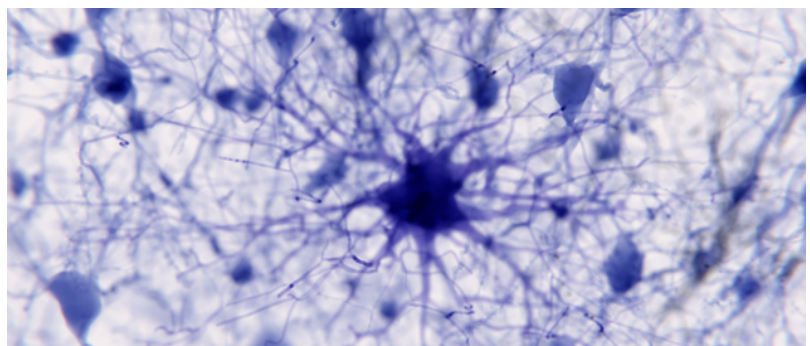
Dr. Bale was elected to NAM for her groundbreaking identification of novel biological mechanisms by which stress across the lifespan increases neuropsychiatric disease risk, pioneering work translating cellular processes into biomarkers in human disease, including the biological effects at the germ cell level involved in offspring neurodevelopment, and for her transformative engagement and inclusion of vulnerable populations.

Election to the Academy is considered one of the highest honors in the fields of health and medicine and recognizes individuals who have made major contributions to the advancement of the medical sciences, health care, and public health, and who have demonstrated outstanding professional achievement and commitment to service.

### **MEDIA FEATURES**

These once-ignored brain cells are now thought to impact mental disorders CU researchers are looking further into how "nerve glue" may play important roles other than supporting neurons in the brain. Sukumar Vijayaraghavan, PhD and Andrew Novick, MD, PhD, write in a recent commentary that this is just one example of how glia cells "seem to play a critical role in psychiatric illness."

Read article video by scanning the QR code below or click on [link](#).



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