**Lesley A. Ricci Ph.D.**

Department of Psychology

Northeastern University

125 Nightingale Hall

360 Huntington Avenue

Boston, Massachusetts 02115

Phone: 617-373-4682

Fax: 617-373-8714

Email: l.ricci@northeastern.edu

**Education**

2005 Ph.D., Northeastern University (Psychology)

2002 M.S., Northeastern University (Psychology)

1997 B.S., Temple University (Psychology)

**Employment**

***Academic Appointments***

Northeastern University, Department of Psychology

BNS Faculty Advisor 2021-present

Associate Teaching Professor

Visiting Lecturer

Part-time Lecturer

Visiting Professor

2019- present

2018-2019

2010-2017

2009-2010

Northeastern University, Department of Biology

Part-time Lecturer

2019-present

Northeastern University, College of Professional Studies

Part-time Faculty

2005-2021

Northeastern University, Bouvé College of Health Sciences

Part-time Faculty

2014-2021

***Professional Appointments***

PsyMedEd (*Ricci & Associates* LLC)

Founder/Chief Research Scientist 2018-2023

Northeastern University, Department of Psychology

Senior Research Scientist

Research Scientist

Associate Research Scientist

2011-2017

2007-2010

2005-2006

Shepard Specialty Papers

Statistical Data Analyst 2012

Anjin Group LLC

Science Consultant 2009-2011

Janssen Pharmaceuticals

Science Consultant 2007-2008

***Invited Talks***

BNS1000-*Ethics In Research*

*Professional Pathways*

Psychology Club- *Neuroscience meets Sigmund Freud*

Boston School of Psychoanalysis- *Psychopharmacology in Therapeutic Application*

**Scholarship**

***Publications***

Terrence J. Lee\*, Andreas Zanello\*, ***Lesley, A. Ricci***, and Richard H. Melloni, Jr.

Valproate Suppresses Anabolic Steroid-Induced Aggressive Behavior:Implications for a Role of Hypothalamic GABA Neural Signaling. Behavioral Pharmacology. 2021 June 1;32 (4):295-307

Morrison TR, ***Ricci LA***, Puckett AS, Joyce J, Curran R, Davis C, Melloni RH Jr.

[Serotonin type-3 receptors differentially modulate anxiety and aggression during withdrawal from adolescent anabolic steroid exposure.](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/31805280)

Hormones and Behavior. 2019 Dec 14

Clare Einberger, Amanda Puckett, ***Lesley Ricci***, and Richard Melloni, Jr

Contemporary Pharmacotherapeutics and the Management of Aggressive Behavior in an Adolescent Animal Model of Maladaptive Aggression. Journal of Clinical Psychopharmacology and Neuroscience. 2019 Sep 16

Morrison TR, ***Ricci LA***, Melloni RH Jr. [Vasopressin differentially modulates aggression and anxiety in adolescent hamsters administered anabolic steroids.](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/27149949) Horm Behav. 2016 Nov;86:55-63.

Morrison TR, ***Ricci LA***, Melloni RH Jr. [Aggression and anxiety in adolescent AAS-treated hamsters: A role for 5HT3 receptors.](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/25959831) Pharmacol Biochem Behav. 2015 Jul;134:85-91.

Morrison TR, ***Ricci LA***, Melloni RH. [Dopamine D2 receptors act upstream of AVP in the latero-anterior hypothalamus to modulate adolescent anabolic/androgenic steroid-induced aggression in Syrian hamsters.](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/25798632) Behav Neurosci. 2015 Apr;129(2):197-204.

Morrison TR, ***Ricci LA***, Melloni RH Jr. [Anabolic/androgenic steroid administration during adolescence and adulthood differentially modulates aggression and anxiety.](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/25655668) Horm Behav. 2015 Mar;69:132-8.

Morrison TR, ***Ricci LA***, Melloni RH Jr. [γ-Aminobutyric acid neural signaling in the lateroanterior hypothalamus modulates aggressive behavior in adolescent anabolic/androgenic steroid-treated hamsters.](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/25171080) Behav Pharmacol. 2014 Oct;25(7):673-83.

***Ricci LA***, Melloni RH. [Preclinical investigations into the relationship between adolescent SSRI exposure and aggressive behavior: response to commentary by Rubin and Walkup (2012).](http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/23398445) Behav Neurosci. 2013 Feb; 127(1): 130-2.

***Ricci LA***, Morrison TR, Melloni RH Jr. [Adolescent anabolic/androgenic steroids: Aggression and anxiety during exposure predict behavioral responding during withdrawal in Syrian hamsters (Mesocricetus auratus).](http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/24126136) Horm Behav. 2013 Nov;64(5):770-80

***Ricci LA***, Melloni RH Jr. [Repeated fluoxetine administration during adolescence stimulates aggressive behavior and alters serotonin and vasopressin neural development in hamsters.](http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/23025830) Behav Neurosci. 2012 Oct; 126(5): 640-53.

Carrillo M, ***Ricci LA***, Melloni RH. [Glutamate-vasopressin interactions and the neurobiology of anabolic steroid-induced offensive aggression.](http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/21459130) Neuroscience. 2011 Jun 30;185:85-96.

Melloni RH Jr, ***Ricci LA***., [Adolescent exposure to anabolic/androgenic steroids and the neurobiology of offensive aggression: a hypothalamic neural model based on findings in pubertal Syrian hamsters.](http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/19914254) Horm Behav. 2010 Jun;58(1):177-91. Epub, 2009 Nov 12.

Carrillo M, ***Ricci LA***, Schwartzer JJ, Melloni RH. [Immunohistochemical characterization of 5-HT(3A) receptors in the Syrian hamster forebrain.](http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/20211613) Brain Res. 2010 May 6;1329:67-81. Epub 2010 Mar 4.

Carrillo M, ***Ricci LA***, Coppersmith GA, Melloni RH Jr. [The effect of increased serotonergic neurotransmission on aggression: a critical meta-analytical review of preclinical studies.](http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/19404614) Psychopharmacology (Berl). 2009 Aug;205(3):349-68.

Schwartzer JJ, ***Ricci LA***, Melloni RH Jr. [Interactions between the dopaminergic and GABAergic neural systems in the lateral anterior hypothalamus of aggressive AAS-treated hamsters.](http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov.ezp-prod1.hul.harvard.edu/pubmed/19376158?itool=EntrezSystem2.PEntrez.Pubmed.Pubmed_ResultsPanel.Pubmed_RVDocSum&ordinalpos=2) *Behav Brain Res*. 2009 Oct 12;203(1):15-22. Epub 2009 Apr 17

Carrillo M, ***Ricci LA***, Coppersmith GA, Melloni RH Jr. [The effect of increased serotonergic neurotransmission on aggression: a critical meta-analytical review of preclinical studies.](http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov.ezp-prod1.hul.harvard.edu/pubmed/19404614?itool=EntrezSystem2.PEntrez.Pubmed.Pubmed_ResultsPanel.Pubmed_RVDocSum&ordinalpos=1) *Psychopharmacology* (Berl). 2009 Aug;205(3):349-68. Epub 2009 Apr 30.

Carrillo M, ***Ricci LA***, Melloni RH Jr. [Adolescent anabolic androgenic steroids reorganize the glutamatergic neural circuitry in the hypothalamus.](http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov.ezp-prod1.hul.harvard.edu/pubmed/19014917?itool=EntrezSystem2.PEntrez.Pubmed.Pubmed_ResultsPanel.Pubmed_RVDocSum&ordinalpos=6) *Brain Res.* 2009 Jan 16;1249:118-27. Epub 2008 Nov 5.

Jared J. Schwartzer, ***Lesley A. Ricci,*** Richard H. Melloni Jr. Lateral anterior hypothalamic serotonin 2A receptors modulate the aggression stimulating effects of Adolescent Anabolic Androgenic Steroid exposure in hamsters. *Behavioral Brain Research,* 2009 May 16;199(2):257-62. Epub 2008 Dec 6*.*

Jared J. Schwartzer, Daniel F. Connor, Randall L. Morrison, ***Lesley A. Ricci,*** and Richard H. Melloni Jr. Paliperidone suppresses the development of the agressive phenoype in a develomentally sensitive animal mode of escalated aggression. *Psychopharmacology,* 2008 Dec 6. [Epub ahead of print]*.*

***Lesley A. Ricci,*** Jared J. Schwartzer and Richard H. Melloni Jr. Alterations in the anterior hypothalamic dopamine system in aggressive adolescent AAS-treated hamsters. *Hormones and Behavior,* 2009 Feb;55(2):348-55. Epub 2008 Oct 31.

Jared J. Schwartzer, Daniel F Connor, Randall L. Morrison, ***Lesley A. Ricci,*** Richard H. Melloni Jr. Repeated risperidone administration during puberty prevents the generation of the aggressive phenotype in a developmentally immature animal model of escalated aggression. *Physiology and Behavior*. 2008 Jul 8. [Epub ahead of print]

Shannon G. Fischer, ***Lesley A. Ricci***, Richard H. Melloni Jr. Repeated anabolic/androgenic steroid exposure during adolescence alters phosphate-activated glutaminase and glutamate receptor 1 (GluR1) subunit immunoreactivity in Hamster brain: correlation with offensive aggression. *Behav Brain Res*. 2007 Jun 4;180(1):77-85. Epub. 2007 Feb 23.

Jill M. Grimes***, Lesley A. Ricci,*** Richard H. Melloni Jr. Alterations in anterior hypothalamic vasopressin, but not serotonin, correlate with the temporal onset of aggressive behavior during adolescent anabolic-androgenic steroid exposure in hamsters (Mesocricetus auratus). *Behavioral Neuroscience*. 2007 Oct; 121(5):941-8.

Irina Knyshevski, Daniel F. Connor, Robert J. Harrison, ***Lesley A. Ricci***, and Richard H. Melloni, Jr. Persistent activation of select forebrain regions in aggressive, adolescent cocaine-treated hamsters. *Behav Brain Res.* 2007 Jan 25; 176(2): 344-52.

***Lesley A. Ricci,*** Khampaseuth Rasakham,Jill M. Grimes, Richard H. Melloni Jr. Serotonin-1a receptor activity and expression modulate adolescentanabolic/androgenic steroid-induced aggression in hamsters. *Pharmacology Biochemistry and Behavior*, 2006 Sep; 85(1): 1-11.

***Lesley A. Ricci,*** Jill M. Grimes, Richard H. Melloni Jr. Lasting Changes in Neuronal Activation Patterns in Select Forebrain Regions of Aggressive, Adolescent Anabolic/Androgenic Steroid-Treated Hamsters. *Behavioral Brain Research,* Jan 25;176(2):344-52. Epub 2006 Nov 20

***Lesley A. Ricci,*** Daniel F. Connor, Randall Morrison and Richard H. Melloni Jr. Risperidone Exerts Potent Anti-Aggressive Effects in a Developmentally Immature Animal Model of Escalated Aggression. *Biological Psychiatry,* Aug 1;62(3):218-25. Epub 2007 Jan 24.

Jill Grimes, ***Lesley A. Ricci,*** and Richard H. Melloni Jr. Plasticity in Anterior Hypothalamic Vassopressin Correlates With Aggression During Anabolic-Androgenic Steroid Withdrawal in Hamsters. *Behavioral Neuroscience, Vol 120, (1) 115-124 (2006)*.

Irina Knyshevski, ***Lesley A. Ricci***, Thomas E. Mc Cann, and Richard H. Melloni, Jr. Serotonin Type-1A Receptors modulate Adolescent Cocaine-Induced Offensive Aggression in Hamsters. *Physiology and Behavior, Vol.85, 167-176 (2005).*

Irina Knyshevski, Daniel F. Connor, Robert J. Harrison, ***Lesley A. Ricci***, and Richard H. Melloni, Jr. Persistent Activation of Select Forebrain Regions in Aggressive, Adolescent Cocaine-Treated Hamsters. *Behavioral Brain Research, Vol159, 277-286 (2005)*.

***Lesley A. Ricci,***Jill M. Grimes, Irina Knyshevski and Richard H. Melloni Jr. Repeated Cocaine Exposure During Adolescence Alters Glutamic Acid Decarboxylase-65 (GAD65) Immunoreactivity in Hmaster Brain: Correlation with Offensive Aggression. *Brain Research Vol1035, 131-138 (2005).*

***Lesley A. Ricci*,** Jill M.Grimes and Richard H. Melloni Jr. Serotonin Type-3 Receptors Modulate The Aggression-Stimulating Effects Of Adolescent Cocaine Exposure In Syrian Hamsters. *Behavioral Neuroscience 118, 2004 (1097-1110).*

***Lesley A. Ricci*,** Irina Knyshevski and Richard H. Melloni. Serotonin Type-3 Receptors Stimulate Offensive Aggression in Syrian Hamsters. *Behavioral Brain Research*, 156, *2004 (19-29).*

Jill M. Grimes, ***Lesley A. Ricci*,** and Richard H. Melloni Jr. Glutamic acid decarboxylase (GAD65) immunoreactivity in brains of aggressive, adolescent anabolic steroid-treated hamsters. *Pharmacology, Biochemistry and Behavior,* (44) 2003, 271-280.

***Lesley A Ricci*,** James R. Stellar, Mark S. Todtenkopf**.** Subregion–Specific down-regulation of 5-HT3 immunoreactivity in the nucleus accumbens shell during the induction of cocaine sensitization. *Pharmacology Biochemistry and Behavior,* 2004 Mar;77(3):415-22.

***Book Chapters***

Jill M. Grimes, ***Lesley Ricci***, Khampaseuth Rasakham, and Richard H. Melloni, Jr. (2005). (Chapter 16), “Drugs of Abuse and Aggression” Biology of Aggression, New York, Oxford University Press.

***Presentations***

* ***L.A. Ricci,*** S.G. Fischer and R.H. Melloni Jr. Low-Dose Fluoxetine Exposure During Adolescence Produces Escalated Offensive Aggression in Male Syrian Hamsters. Presented at the Society For Neuroscience conference 2006.
* J.J. Schwartzer, ***L.A. Ricci,*** D.F. Connor, R. Morrison and R. H. Melloni Jr. Risperidone Exerts Potent Anti-Aggressive Effects in a Developmentally Immature Animal Model of Escalated Aggression.Presented at the Society For Neuroscience conference 2006.
* ***Lesley A. Ricci***, K.S. Rasakham and Richard Melloni Jr. Serotonin Type-1A Receptors and Adolescent Anabolic Steroids in Hamsters. *Society for Behavioral Neuroendocrinology 2005.*
* ***Lesley A. Ricci,*** Daniel F. Connor, Randall Morrison and Richard H. Melloni Jr. Risperidone Exerts Potent Anti-Aggressive Effects in a Developmentally Immature Animal Model of Escalated Aggression. Society for Neuroscience 2005
* ***Lesley Ricci***, Irina Knyshevski and Richard Melloni Jr. Serotonin Type-3 Receptors Stimulate Offensive Aggression In Syrian Hamsters. Society For Neuroscience conference 2004.
* Richard H. Melloni Jr., ***Lesley A. Ricci***, Irina Knyshevski. Neural Plasticity In Aggressive Trained Fighters. Presented at the Society For Neuroscience conference 2004.
* Irina Knyshevski, ***Lesley A. Ricci***, Jill M. Grimes and Richard H. Melloni, Jr. Glutamic Acid Decarboxylase (Gad65) Immunoreactivity In Brains Of Aggressive, Adolescent Cocaine Treated Hamsters. Presented at the Society For Neuroscience conference 2004.
* Khampaseuth Rasakham, ***Lesley A. Ricci***, Irina Knyshevski, and Richard H. Melloni, Jr. 5-Ht3 Receptor Localization In Syrian Hamster Brain: Comparative Analysis With Rat Reconciling Functional And Anatomical Inconsistencies. Presented at the Society For Neuroscience conference 2004
* **Ricci, L. A.** and Melloni, R.H. 5-HT3 Antagonism Attenuates Adolescent Cocaine-Facilitated Aggression in Syrian Hamsters. Presented at the Society For Neuroscience conference 2003.
* Melloni, R.H., Connor, D.F., Grimes, J.M., Karper, P., ***Ricci, L.A***. Repeated Adolescent Cocaine Treatment Activates Primary Aggression Areas in Hamster Brain. Presented at the Society For Neuroscience conference 2002.
* ***Potter, L.A***., Melloni R.H. Serotonin Type-3 Receptors Modulate Adolescent Cocaine-Facilitated Aggression in Syrian Hamsters. Presented at the Society for Neuroscience conference 2002.
* ***Potter, L.A****.*, Melloni R.H. Adolescent Cocaine Exposure, Serotonin/Vasopressin And Aggression in Hamsters. Presented at the International Society for Research on Aggression conference 2002.
* ***Potter, L.A*.**, Stellar, J.R., Todtenkopf, M.S. 5-HT3 Immunoreactivity in the Five Subregions of the Nucleus Accumbens Shell: An Examination of Changes Induced by Cocaine Sensitization.

Presented at the Society For Neuroscience conference (pp.229) 2001.

* ***Potter, L.A****.*, Dobrovitsky, V., Stellar, J.R. A 5-HT3 Receptor Antagonist Reestablishes Time Dependent Loss of Conditioned Place Preference. Presented at the Society For Neuroscience conference (pp229) 2001.

**Teaching Experience**

***Teaching at Northeastern University College of Science, Psychology Department***

Foundations of Psychology

Drugs and Behavior

Statistics in Psychological Research

Biological Psychology

Behavioral Endocrinology

Psychopharmacology

Learning and Motivation

Laboratory in Biological Psychology

Laboratory in Research Design

Biological Psychology Seminar

Animal Ethics in Psychological Research

***Teaching at Northeastern University College of Science, Biology Department***

Neurobiology

Current Topics in Neuroscience: Neuroplasticity and Technology

Animal Behavior

Original Course Design:

Clinical Neuroscience

Current Topics in Neuroscience: Neuroplasticity and Technology

Animal Ethics in Psychological Research

Intersession Course: “The COVID Consequence: State Dependent Learning, The Brain, and Adolescence.”

***Teaching at Northeastern University, College of Professional Studies***

Foundations of Psychology

Physiological Psychology

***Teaching at Northeastern University, Bouvé College of Health Sciences***

Biological Basis of Behavior

**Advising**

Behavioral Neuroscience Faculty Advisor (2021-present)

Advisory speaker for freshman and transfer student orientation (2021-present)

Advisory speaker for BNS 1000

**Awards**

NRSA Funded by National Institute of Drug Abuse. (2004)

F31 DA15927-01-02

**Professional Membership**

Society For Neuroscience

International Behavioral Neuroscience Society

Society For Behavioral Endocrinology

Faculty For Undergraduate Neuroscience

**Invited Peer Review**

***Journals***

Hormones and Behavior (*Elsevier*) 2011-2019

Pharmacology, Biochemistry and Behavior (*Elsevier*) 2014-2019

***Books***

Luke, Chad. *Neuroscience for Counselors and Therapists: Integrating the Sciences of Mind and Brain*, Cognella, Academic Publishing (2017)