



**Shelly Flagel, PhD**

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*Exploiting Individual Differences in cue-motivated Behavior  
to Identify the Neural Processes that Underlie Psychiatric  
Symptomatology*

Dr. Flagel earned her undergraduate degree (B.S.) in Biopsychology from the University of Michigan and then her Ph.D. in Neuroscience from the University of Michigan. She remained at the University of Michigan for her postdoctoral work with Dr. Huda Akil and ultimately became a faculty member there in the Department of Psychiatry. She has climbed through the ranks, most recently serving as the Interim Co-Director of the Michigan Neuroscience Institute and is now a Professor within the Institute and in the Department of Psychiatry. She is also an Associate Director of their Neuroscience Graduate Program. Her research focuses on the neural circuitry underlying individual differences in vulnerability to psychiatric disorders, with a focus on addiction and impulse control disorders. While her laboratory centers around a rodent model, she has recently started using a cross-species approach, that includes non-human primates and human children. Her work has been well-funded by NIDA for the past decade and more recently by NINDS the Pritzker Neuropsychiatric Research Consortium.