

RARC DIGEST

Dear RARC Community,

Please see below for our weekly round-up of addiction-related news and events across Rutgers. Have news or events you'd like us to highlight in an upcoming digest? Send the details to RARC Communication Specialist, Ricki Arvesen (ricki.arvesen@rutgers.edu).

RARC News

- **RARC Town Hall Meetings** – We hope you will also consider joining us at one of two Town Hall meetings to get your feedback and ideas for the RARC. Dr. Danielle Dick will also be holding office hours from Wednesday, May 31 – Friday, June 2 and would welcome the opportunity to meet individually with anyone who is interested. For more information, [click here](#).
 - **5/25, 9am** – Zoom Meeting
[https://rutgers.zoom.us/j/95119279484?pwd=cGdvN3RuVFIQVDA1Z0J4anZZNzdpZz09](https://rutgers.zoom.us/j/95119279484?pwd=cGdvN3RuVFIQVDA1Z0J4anZZNzdpZz09;);
Meeting ID: **951 1927 9484**; Password: **rarc**; Phone: +1 646 558 8656 US (New York)
 - **5/31, 12pm** – In-Person & Zoom Meeting
Register to attend this event in person: [click here](#)
Dean's Conference Room #123, RWJMS Research Tower, 675 Hoes Ln. W. Piscataway, NJ
<https://rutgers.zoom.us/j/93551147862?pwd=ZXgwMk5acmsvT3Q1SoNHK3VzQjVSZz09>
Meeting ID: **935 5114 7862**; Password: **rarc**; Phone: +1 646 558 8656 US (New York)
- **Short RARC Feedback Survey** - We want to ensure that we continue working closely with you to build the RARC through a collaborative and inclusive process, toward a shared vision of Rutgers as one of the premier places in the world for addiction research. This **short** survey is intended to gather your input on both the initiatives we launched this past year and plans for the year ahead. We want to know what you like, what you don't like, what we're missing! To provide feedback, [click here](#).
- **2022-2023 RARC Annual Report** - The Rutgers Addiction Research Center launched in Spring 2022, with the goal of bringing together addiction-related researchers, clinical services, and training programs from across the Rutgers system. We invite you to view our 2022-2023 Annual Report for an overview of our accomplishments and activities from our first year. To view the 2022-2023

Annual Report, [click here](#).

Rutgers News

- **Rutgers Research Development** shared their updated self-paced, online course that walks participants through the steps involved in **writing a strong NSF CAREER proposal**. To learn more, [click here](#). In addition, they now provide assistance with developing and refining proposal and publication graphics. To learn more, [click here](#).
- Congratulations to **Dr. Denise Hien**, Vice Provost for Research, Chancellor-Provost's Office, Rutgers-New Brunswick; CAS Center Director and Helen E. Chaney Endowed Chair in Alcohol Studies; Professor, Graduate School of Applied and Professional Psychology, on being awarded the **Mary Jeanne Kreek Underserved Populations Award**. Dr. Hien is the first scientist to receive this prestigious recognition for her outstanding contributions to the evidence base on effective interventions for individuals with PTSD and substance use disorders. To learn more, [click here](#).
- Congratulations to **Andrew Ude**, a Rutgers University PhD student, who was recently awarded a NIAAA F31 grant entitled, *Alcohol use, physical activity, and neurophysiological indicators of behavioral adaptability* (F31AA030715). The aims of the project are to examine co-occurring health behaviors and their effect on cardiovascular and neural pathways central to self-regulation. The goal is to inform addiction vulnerability and identify brain-body mechanisms that may serve as targets for neuroscience-informed treatment interventions. Center of Alcohol and Substance Use Studies (CAS) faculty Brandon Alderman and Marsha Bates are serving as co-sponsors for the research project. To learn more, [click here](#).
- RARC Director, **Dr. Danielle Dick**, was featured on the WHYY Studio 2 podcast to shed light on the adverse effects of cannabis and adolescents. Cannabis legalization and growing popularity is leading to the development of more potent products and new methods of consumption. Early research is showing adverse effects on memory and motivation in kids who use regularly. To learn more, [click here](#).

Opportunities

- **Applicant Seeking Postdoc Position in RARC** – We have an applicant looking to gain expertise around interventional clinical evidence-based interventions to treat individuals with substance use disorders (SUD). She has a special interest in geriatric populations, and has had strong mentorship and clinical experience with this population. Her current study is exploring the acceptability of utilizing peer recovery specialists and digital peer support for older adults with SUD. Additionally, the applicant has previously worked with RARC Director, Dr. Danielle Dick at VCU. If you would be interested in a copy of the applicants CV, please email Dr. Danielle Dick at

danielle.m.dick@rutgers.edu.

- **Innovations for Substance Use Disorders (I4SUD) Applications Open** - A newly launched Executive Education certificate program for participants to work individually or in teams to assess if their ideas and inventions can be transformed into innovations to address problems in substance use disorders (SUDs). The virtual program features asynchronous and synchronous online activities; a multi-day visit to Carey's Baltimore - Inner Harbor location for workshops, clinical site visits, and community building. All participants will have their airfare, meals, and accommodations covered by the sponsoring grant. **Applications are due by June 30**. To learn more, [click here](#).
- **Dr. Mark Leeds**, the producer of the **Rehab Podcast on the Mental Health News Radio Network** is seeking members who would be interested in speaking in their areas of expertise on his show. To learn more about his podcast, [click here](#). If you would be interested in speaking on his podcast, please email the RARC at rarc@bhi.rutgers.edu.
- **The Hart Laboratory** at the Department of Cell Biology & Neuroscience is seeking a **Postdoctoral Research Associate** with experience in neuroscience, addiction, cell biology, genetics/genomics and/or bioinformatics for an NIH-funded study of alcohol use disorder (AUD) risk-associated genetic variants using human iPSC-derived neurons. To learn more, [click here](#).
- **Enhancing Diversity in Alcohol Research (EDAR) Training Program** – *Information provided from the desk of Dr. Denise Hien*: EDAR is a two-year, fully virtual, NIAAA-sponsored training program, open to psychology doctoral trainees from underrepresented backgrounds (per [NIH NOT-OD-20-031](#)). No prior alcohol research experience is required! More details about eligibility, program structure and content, and available mentors can be found on their [website](#). Please contact Dr. Julianne Flanagan (Director) at hellmuth@musc.edu with questions. **Applications are due July 3, 2023** and include a brief online survey, a 1-2 page statement of interest, and current CV. For more information, [click here](#).

Funding Opportunities

- **National Science Foundation Research Traineeship (NRT)** program is seeking proposals that explore ways for graduate students in research-based master's and doctoral degree programs to develop the skills, knowledge, and competencies needed to pursue a range of STEM careers. Proposals are requested that address any interdisciplinary or convergent research theme of national priority. Proposal submission **deadline is September 6, 2023**. For more information, [click here](#).
- **NIH HEAL Initiative Partnerships to Advance INterdisciplinary (PAIN) Training in Clinical Pain Research: The HEAL PAIN Cohort Program** (RFA-NS-24-015) will support interdisciplinary postdoctoral training to promote the next generation of independent clinical pain researchers. The

HEAL PAIN Cohort Program, will fund up to four T90/R90 institutional postdoctoral training programs in clinical pain research, and foster a cohort experience among programs at different institutions through the HEAL R24 Coordinating Center for National Pain Scientists. Letter of Intent **due August 11, 2023** and Applications due **September 27, 2023**. For more information, [click here](#).

- **Prevention Services Evaluation Partnerships: Building Evidence for Mental Health, Substance Use, In-home Parent Skill-based, and Kinship Navigator Programs and Services** - These three-year grants aim to support summative (i.e., impact) randomized control trial or quasi-experimental evaluations of a mental health, substance abuse prevention and/or treatment, in-home parent skill-based, or kinship navigator program or service. The grants will support collaborations among evaluators and partnering Title IV-E agencies, community entities, and/or other researchers to conduct well-designed and rigorous summative evaluations of programs and services intended to provide enhanced support to children and families, including pregnant and parenting youth in foster care, as well as prevent child abuse and neglect and foster care placements. Applications due **July 11, 2023**. For more information, [click here](#).
- **PAR-23-158: Exploratory Clinical Neuroscience Research on Substance Use Disorders** (R61/R33 Basic Experimental Studies with Humans (BESH) Required) - This NOFO invites clinical research applications that are exploratory and developmental in nature and focus on understanding the neurobiological mechanisms underlying SUD. For the first cycle, the Letter of Intent **due May 21, 2023** and Applications **due June 21, 2023**. Future cycles to follow. For more information, [click here](#).
- **RBHS-IDEA: Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Advocacy Innovation Grants** program is designed to support action-oriented projects that promote an inclusive, diverse, and cohesive culture at RBHS and that show meaningful and measurable results. Faculty, students, trainees, and staff across RBHS are eligible to apply. Proposal submission **deadline is May 31, 2023**. For more information, [click here](#).

News from the Journal of Studies on Alcohol and Drugs (a publication of the Center of Alcohol & Substance Use Studies):

New in JSAD 84/2:

- [A Comparison of Parents' and Students' Reports of General and Alcohol-Specific Parenting Behaviors Across the Four Years of College](#)
Bradley M. Trager, Nichole M. Sell, Brittney A. Hultgren, Rob Turrisi, Reed M. Morgan, Joseph W. LaBrie
- [Trait- and State-Fear of Missing Out: Influences on Alcohol Craving and Drinking Likelihood](#)
Noah R. Wolkowicz, Lindsay S. Ham, Maureen Carrigan, Adam D. Pazda g

- [Adolescent Substance Use Is Associated With Altered Brain Response During Processing of Negative Emotional Stimuli](#)

Scott A. Jones, Amanda C. Del Giacco, Samantha J. Barnes, Bonnie J. Nagel

Check out JSAD's free photo database with alcohol-, tobacco-, and other drug-related images:

<https://www.jsad.com/photos>

Save the Dates!

- **BHI Addiction Neuroscience Seminar with Dr. Doo-Sup Choi**
Friday May 26th at 12:00 p.m. EDT
*Dr. Mi-Hyeon Jang, the Brain Health Institute, and RWJMS-Neurosurgery are hosting Dr. Doo-Sup Choi to share his talk, *Breaking the Addictive Habits: Molecular and Computational Approaches Focusing on Striatum-Pallidal Circuits*. For more information, [click here](#).*
- **RSA National Advocacy and Public Education Committee Webinar: Maximizing Online Recruitment for Substance Use Research**
Friday May 26th at 12:00 p.m. EDT
Led by NAPE committee member, Kalina Fahey, this webinar will focus on utilizing social media platforms for participant recruitment, particularly with difficult-to-reach populations. For more information, [click here](#).
- **Mental Health America Conference: Next Gen Prevention**
June 6-10th at 9:30 a.m. EDT
This conference offers free virtual attendance options and will cover topics from youth mental health and technology to substance use and prevention. For more information, [click here](#).
- **Rutgers Center of Alcohol and Substance Use Studies - 2023 Summer Symposium**
Wednesday, June 14th at 9:00 a.m. EDT
The symposium will be held at Rutgers Busch Campus Center and will address inequities and social determinants of addiction through creative and collaborative efforts in science practice, community engagement and advocacy. For more information, [click here](#).

Addiction in the News

- [Recreational Cannabis Use a Negative for Adolescent Mental Health](#) (*MedPage Today*)
- [Inside the Emerging Xylazine Addiction Crisis in the U.S.](#) (*TIME*)