

# 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](mailto:ricki.arvesen@rutgers.edu)).

## RARC News

- **RARC Faculty Candidate Chalk Talk with Dr. Hedy Kober (April 10, 2023 at 12:00 p.m. EDT)** - Please join us for Dr. Hedy Kober's Chalk Talk. Dr. Kober is a recruitment candidate for a senior faculty position in the Rutgers Addiction Research Center domain of Basic Science and the Robert Wood Johnson Medical School Department of Psychiatry. During her presentation, she will provide her ideas for growing the Rutgers Addiction Research Center. All are welcome to attend this hybrid seminar. **Lunch will be provided to those who registered for in-person by 4/7.** For more information and registration, [click here](#).
- **RARC Faculty Candidate Chalk Talks** – More information on upcoming hybrid recruitment candidate “Chalk Talks” coming soon. Mark your calendars!
  - 4/24, 12pm – Anjali Rajadhyaksha – E-545, Medical Science Building, Newark
  - 4/26, 12pm – Kristina Jackson – D201, UBHC Building
  - 4/28, 12pm – Jill Rabinowitz – D201, UBHC Building
  - 5/4, 12pm – Alfred (AJ) Robison – Dean’s Conference Room, RWJMS Research Tower
- **You’re Invited to the Rutgers Addiction Research Center One Year Anniversary Event - Friday, May 5th at 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. EDT**  
In honor of our one-year anniversary, the RARC will be hosting an event at The Rutgers Club to share what we’ve accomplished this past year and our plans for what is to come. Food and beverage will be provided. Registration coming soon!

## Rutgers News

- Congratulations to **Dr. Mateo Leganes-Fonteneau**, an assistant research professor at the Center of Alcohol and Substance Use Studies, on receiving grant funding to work with the University of Amsterdam and UCLouvain in Belgium! Dr. Leganes-Fonteneau will hold a four-year dual appointment at both universities. To learn about the projects, [click here](#).
- Director of the Center for Youth Social Emotional Wellness, **Dr. Joshua Langberg**, explains that a possible reason for the spike in prescriptions for ADHD drugs during the pandemic was due to

people's tendency “to seek out diagnoses during times of stress and crises.” For access to the article, [click here](#).

- The Center for Gambling Studies Scientific Director for Video Gaming and Esports, **Dr. Vivien Wen Li Anthony**, discusses why we are so drawn to smartphones, social media and video games – and the effect they have on our mental health and well-being. For access to the article, [click here](#).
- Rutgers Biomedical and Health Sciences Chancellor, **Brian Strom**, is leading a committee of experts in the evaluation of the effects of opioid and benzodiazepine use on all-cause mortality of U.S. veterans, including suicide. Learn more, [click here](#).
- RARC Researchers, **Drs. Tammy Chung, Marc Steinberg, and Mary Bridgeman**, were featured in Benzinga Pro discussing the challenges with medical marijuana being recommended rather than prescribed for therapeutic purposes including dosing, consumption methods, and lack of dosing guidelines, among others. For access to the article, [click here](#).

### Training Opportunities

- **Certified Tobacco Treatment Specialist Training** – The Rutgers Tobacco Dependence Program is offering a Virtual Certified Tobacco Treatment Specialist training in May for social workers, nurses, psychologists, physicians, pharmacists, certified alcohol and drug counselors, marriage and family therapists, certified recovery support practitioners, health educators, and any other professionals who treat individuals who use tobacco products. **Registration closes April 24**. For more information, [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](mailto: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

- **Busch Biomedical Grant Program** is sponsored by the Office for Research and is designed to enhance biomedical research at the university and to strengthen the competitive position of faculty members who seek external research funds. The Busch Biomedical Grants program supports two funding mechanisms: Early Career Pilot Grants and New Direction Pilot Grants. Notice of Intent to Submit **due May 1, 2023**. Full proposals **due June 1, 2023** by 5pm EDT. 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 84/1:

- [Prolonged Benzodiazepine Levels Following Withdrawal in Alcohol Dependence](#)  
Hilary J. Little, Kim Donoghue, Colin Drummond
- [Sustainability of Adolescent Screening and Brief Intervention Services in Primary Care After Removal of Implementation Supports](#)  
Jan Gryczynski, Laura B. Monico, Kaitlyn Garrison, Kristi Dusek, Marla Oros, Colleen Hosler, Barry S. Brown, Robert P. Schwartz, Kevin E. O'Grady, Arethusa Kirk, and Shannon Gwin Mitchell

Just accepted in JSAD:

- [The Impact of Minimum Unit Price on Police-Recorded Alcohol-Related Assault Rates in the Northern Territory, Australia](#)  
Peter Miller, Kerri Coomber, Tayla Lowen, Nicholas Taylor, Michael Livingston, Debbie Scott, Penny Buykx, Richelle Mayshak, Ashlee Curtis, Ryan Baldwin, James A. Smith, Sarah Clifford, and Tanya Chikritzhs
- [The Clinical Relevance of Impulsivity in Substance Use Disorder Treatment: Examining Within-treatment Changes and Relationship to Psychiatric Symptoms and Cravings in a Large Inpatient Sample](#)  
Emily E. Levitt, Sarah Sousa, Mary Jean Costello, Onawa P. LaBelle, Brian Rush, and James MacKillop

**Save the Dates!**

- **SSW Webinar – What's Eating You? The Psychology of Eating**  
**Tuesday, April 11<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. EDT**  
*The School of Social Work* is hosting Katherine Glick to present on understanding the psychological processes underlying humans development of eating behaviors and the adoption of both healthy and maladaptive cognitions and behaviors concerning food, eating, and our bodies. For more information, [click here](#).
- **BHI Hybrid Plenary Seminar – Efficiently Irrational**  
**Thursday, April 20<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 p.m. EDT**  
*The BHI Cognitive & Sensory Neuroscience FAWG* is hosting Dr. Paul Glimcher to present an interdisciplinary synthesis arguing for a novel interpretation: choice is efficiently irrational. This approach rationalizes many of the puzzling inconsistencies of human choice behavior, explaining why these inconsistencies arise as an optimizing solution in biological choosers. For more information, [click here](#).
- **EASS Webinar – Data Blitz**  
**Thursday, April 20<sup>th</sup> at 12:30 p.m. EDT**  
*The Center of Alcohol & Substance Use Studies* is hosting Dr. Brianna Altman, who will discuss her research Examining the Influence of a Negative Affect Induction of Self-Reported Cannabis Use Variables and Dr. Nina Cooperman, who will discuss her research on Mindfulness Oriented Recovery

Enhancement as an Adjunct to Methadone Treatment for Opioid Use. For more information, [click here](#).

- **BHI-sponsored Graduate Student Symposium – Neuron RECEPTR**

**Thursday and Friday, April 27-28<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. EDT**

The Neuro RECEPTR (Rutgers External Convention for Exceptionally Promising Trainee Research) is a two-day symposium at Rutgers University, featuring graduate students and faculty talks. This symposium is designed to connect graduate students with faculty looking for postdocs. For more information, [click here](#).

- **Addictions Division Conference - Coming Together: Courage and Collaboration in Substance Use Psychotherapy**

**Friday, April 28<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. EDT**

Join *The Division on Addictions of the New York State Psychological Association (NYSPA)* and the *Concentration in Mental Health and Substance Abuse Counseling at The New School for Social Research* for their first in-person conference in 4 years! For more information, [click here](#).

- **Rutgers Center of Alcohol and Substance Use Studies - 2023 Summer Symposium**

**Wednesday, June 14<sup>th</sup> 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

- [Breaking News: FDA Approves First Over-the-Counter Naloxone Nasal Spray](#) (FDA News Release)
- [Mothers Face Broken Addiction Treatment System](#) (MedPage Today)