

# 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

- The **annual RARC Fall Symposium** is scheduled for **Friday, September 8, 2023** in the Busch Student Center in Piscataway. This one-day event will feature keynote speaker, Dr. Rohan Palmer, showcase the breadth of addiction research, and provide opportunities to connect with clinical services across Rutgers. Poster session and reception to follow. All faculty, staff and students with an interest in addiction are encouraged to attend. For full event schedule and registration, [click here](#).
- **Faculty Candidate Virtual Seminar with Dr. Marilyn Piccirillo (August 31, 2023 at 11:00 a.m. EDT)**  
Please join us for Dr. Marilyn Piccirillo's talk, "Integrating person-centered, data-driven approaches to understand mental health and treatment". Dr. Piccirillo is a recruitment candidate for a faculty position in the area of Treatment & Recovery at the RARC. For more information, [click here](#).
- **Training in Addiction Research Program (TARP) Meet and Greet (September 7, 2023 at 4:00 p.m.)** - Please join us for the first Rutgers TARP Monthly Meeting in the Deans Conference Room (first floor of the RWJMS Research Tower). This event is for all TARP and RARC faculty and trainees, as well as collaborators. Food and drinks will be provided!
- **Brain Health Institute Trainee Travel Awards** - The Rutgers Brain Health Institute (BHI) has announced their Fall 2023 trainee travel award for Rutgers neuroscience PhD, MD/PhD students and post-docs. BHI will provide \$500 awards to help offset the cost of attending a national or international conference that will be held during the current fiscal year (i.e., by June 30, 2024). **All materials are due by September 1, 2023**. For more information, [click here](#).
- **Brain Health Institute Postdoc Recruitment Event (November 29, 2023)** - Apply to explore post-doc training opportunities in basic, translational, and clinical neuroscience research at Rutgers University. The BHI will select up to 20 PhD or MD/PhD students and current post-docs to attend the all-expenses-paid event. **The application deadline is September 30th!** For more information, [click here](#).

## Rutgers News

- **Dr. Danielle Dick**, director of **Rutgers Addiction Research Center**, was a guest on the Addiction Research Institute's podcast, discussing the ever-evolving landscape of addiction research including scientific advancements, genetics, and the promising avenues for unraveling the complexities of addiction. For access to the episode, [click here](#).
- **Dr. Lia Nower**, director of **Center for Gambling Studies**, was featured in a special report about sports wagering in *Men's Health*. Dr. Nower recommends the creation of a federal agency for problem gambling that would regulate any aspect of gambling related to the issue. For more information, [click here](#). Additionally, Dr. Nower was a guest on a recent episode of the American Psychological Association's flagship podcast "Speaking of Psychology" addressing whether increased access could lead to an increase in gambling addiction, who is at risk, stigma around gambling, what treatments are available, and the increased exposure kids now have to gambling via ads and video games. For access to the episode, [click here](#).
- A Rutgers study led by **Dr. Grant Victor**, an assistant professor in the **Rutgers School of Social Work**, found that strengthening prison reentry programs for highest-risk users could help flatten the rate of opioid overdose deaths in the United States. For more information, [click here](#).

## Opportunities

- **Center of Alcohol and Substance Use Studies Postdoctoral Fellowship Announcement** - This is a two-year endowed post-doctoral clinical research fellowship available to clinical psychologists and other social scientists (e.g., from health related fields such as sociology, social work, public health, psychiatric rehabilitation) from an accredited institution interested in developing their professional trajectory towards translational research on interventions and treatments for traumatic stress and addictions and wellness promotion. **Applications due by November 15, 2023**. For more information, [click here](#).
- **Post-doctoral Position in Neuroimaging and Stimulation for Addiction Research** - A Postdoctoral Research Associate position is available within the Laboratory of Cognitive Neuroimaging and Stimulation (CNS: [www.neurostimlab.com](http://www.neurostimlab.com)) directed by Travis E. Baker, PhD. The goal of the CNS Lab is to develop new brain-based interventions aimed to correct the aberrant reward processes that sustain substance use disorders. The lab currently seeks a Postdoctoral Research Associate with strong interest and background in addiction neuroscience, neuroimaging, and brain stimulation to contribute to these studies. For more information, [click here](#).
- The **Robert Wood Johnson Medical School Department of Psychiatry** is seeking a part-time research assistant to assist with the implementation of research projects in addictions and mental health, with a focus on recruiting, consenting and interviewing research subjects. To learn more about the role, [click here](#).

## Funding Opportunities

- **National Institutes of Health (NIH): Alcohol and Other Substance Use Research Education Programs for Health Professionals (R25 Clinical Trial Not Allowed) (PAR-23-240)** - The NIH

Research Education Program (R25) program is to support educational activities that foster a better understanding of biomedical, behavioral, and clinical research and its implications. To accomplish the stated over-arching goal, this NOFO will support educational activities with a primary focus on Outreach. For more information, [click here](#).

- **National Institutes of Health (NIH): Opportunity to Advance Medications for Alcohol Use Disorder: NIAAA Alcohol Pharmacotherapy Evaluation Program (NOT-AA-23-016)** is seeking letters of interest (LOIs) for promising medications (both novel compounds and repurposed medications) to evaluate their efficacy and safety in Phase 1 and 2 clinical trials for the treatment of alcohol use disorder (AUD). **LOI due by Sept 15, 2023**. For more information, [click here](#).
- **The Developmental/Pilot Projects Program** of the **Rutgers Center of Alcohol and Substance Use Studies (CAS)** started in 2019. The Program aims to support new and innovative interdisciplinary research relevant to the advancement of treatments for individuals with traumatic stress and addictions of all kinds. Letter of intent due **Sept 30, 2023**. For more information, [click here](#).
- **RFA-DA-24-028: Advancing Psychedelics Research for Treating Addiction (R01 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)** - The purpose of this project is to support research to improve our understanding of psychedelic drug mechanisms in the context of substance use disorders (SUDs). This NOFO will also support the design and synthesis of chemical biology tools and probes to aid basic research on psychedelics and their translational pharmacology. Letter of Intent due **Oct 2, 2023**. For more information, [click here](#).
- **PAR-23-157: Exploratory Clinical Neuroscience Research on Substance Use Disorders (R61/R33 Clinical Trial Optional)** - The purpose of this award is to support clinical research applications that are exploratory and developmental in nature and focus on understanding the neurobiological mechanisms underlying substance use disorders (SUD), including fundamental circuitry and behavior relevant to substance use. Applications due **Oct 9, 2023**. For more information, [click here](#).
- **RFA-DA-24-021: Mechanistic Studies to Investigate the Interrelationship Between Sleep and/or Circadian Rhythms and Substance Use Disorders (R01 Basic Experimental Studies with Humans Required)** - The purpose of this project is to support basic science experimental studies involving humans to expand our knowledge of the interrelationships between sleep/circadian rhythms and substance use disorders (SUDs). These mechanistic studies will offer insights into the fundamental processes that link SUDs to sleep/circadian rhythms and vice-versa, and may also have implications for managing risks associated with developing SUDs and/or identifying new targets for prevention and therapeutics. Letter of Intent due **Oct 13, 2023**. For more information, [click here](#).
- **HEAL Initiative: Native Collective Research Effort to Enhance Wellness (N CREW): Addressing Overdose, Substance Use, Mental Health, and Pain Program (ROA OTA-23-007)** solicits applications from Tribes and Native American Serving Organizations (T/NASOs) for the planning, development, piloting, and/or implementation of research and/or data improvement projects. Projects must explicitly include a focus on overdose, substance use (including opioids or stimulants), or pain management. Applications are due **Nov 1, 2023**. For more information, [click here](#).

- **Notice of Special Interest (NOSI): Supporting Recovery-Oriented, Family-Centered Care for Pregnant, Postpartum, and Parenting Women with Opioid Use Disorder (NOT-DA -24-008)** This NOSI seeks applications that test innovative models of service delivery to address maternal and family needs for mothers experiencing OUD during pregnancy and in the post-partum period, with an emphasis on reducing mortality and providing recovery-oriented, family-centered care. Applications are due **Nov 15, 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* 84/3:

- [Associations Between COVID-19 Alcohol Policy Restrictions and Alcohol Sales in British Columbia: Variation by Area-Based Deprivation Level](#)  
James M. Clay, Fariha Alam, Jinhui Zhao, Sam Churchill, Timothy Naimi, Tim Stockwell
- [Have Restrictions on Alcohol Advertising in Ireland Affected Awareness Among Adults? A Comparative Observational Study Using Nonprobability Repeat Cross-Sectional Surveys](#)  
Nathan Critchlow, Crawford Moodie, Anne Marie MacKintosh, Karine Gallopel-Morvan, Martine Stead, Niamh Fitzgerald

Just accepted in *JSAD*:

- [Ayahuasca Treatment Outcome Project \(ATOP\): One Year Results from Takiwasi Center and Implications for Psychedelic Science](#)  
Brian Rush, Olivia Marcus, Sara García, Anja Loizaga-Velder, Ariane Spitalier, and Fernando Mendive

New *JSAD* FastTakes:

- [Using alcohol and marijuana at the same time can increase risk, but with whom, where, and when matter](#)  
Brooke J. Arterberry, Brian H. Calhoun, Christine M. Lee, & Megan E. Patrick

Follow *JSAD* on Threads/Instagram/Twitter/Facebook: [@JSADjournal](#)

For *JSAD*'s free photo database of alcohol, tobacco, and other drug images: <https://www.jsad.com/photos>

**Save the Dates!**

- **CAHBIR 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual MRI Methods Workshop**  
**Tuesday and Wednesday, August 29<sup>th</sup> –30<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m. EDT**  
*The Center for Advanced Human Brain Imaging Research* is pleased to announce its 2nd Annual MRI Methods Workshop. This workshop provides an introduction to MRI methods in neuroscience research. The 10-hour workshop will include the following topics: basic principles of MRI scan acquisition, MRI safety, data quality control, data handling/preprocessing, and experimental design. For more information, [click here](#).

- New Jersey Prevention Network 7<sup>th</sup> Annual peer Summit**  
**Wednesday, September 27<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. EDT**  
 This exciting one-day LIVE & FREE event will include keynote speakers, interactive workshops, and recovery-oriented activity events brought together exclusively for everyone working in the peer recovery support services field. For more information, [click here](#).
- 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Pioneers in Endocrinology Workshop**  
**Tuesday, October 3<sup>rd</sup> at 10:00 a.m. EDT**  
 The Rutgers Endocrine Program is hosting its 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Pioneers in Endocrinology workshop. This year's theme is Early-Life Stress and the Endocrine System. Featuring scientific presentations, a luncheon, and a poster presentation, this is an event you will not want to miss. To register for the event and/or to submit an abstract for the poster presentation, [click here](#). The registration deadline is Monday, September 18, 2023.
- Emerging Addiction Seminar Series: Dr. Renee Goodwin**  
**Thursday, October 12<sup>th</sup> at 12:30 p.m. EDT**  
 The Center of Alcohol and Substance Use Studies is hosting Dr. Renee Goodwin as she presents her work "Implementing a human ecology and equity framework to develop multi-level interventions for cannabis, alcohol and tobacco use".
- Annual NIDA-NIAAA Frontiers in Addiction Research Mini-Convention**  
**Tuesday and Wednesday, November 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m. EDT**  
 This FREE Mini-Convention will be held as a 2-day virtual meeting and will provide a forum for presentations and discussions of current topics in neuroscience and addiction research. For more information, [click here](#).

### Addiction in the News

- [The Face Of Rural Addiction Is Not What You Think](#) (TIME)
- [Two-Thirds of Americans Say Their Lives Have Been Affected by Addiction](#) (U.S. News)