

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

- **Registration is now open!** 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 an opening plenary, 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 interest in addiction are encouraged to attend. For more information, [click here](#).
- Save the date for the **Ninth Annual Rutgers Brain Health Institute Symposium** being hosted on **Thursday, November 30th**. This one-day event will feature keynote speaker, Dr. Michael Shadlen, talks by Rutgers faculty, and a student poster presentation. Stay tuned, registration will open in September!
- **Rutgers 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](#).

Rutgers News

- **Dr. Tammy Chung**, director of the **Center for Population Behavioral Health** in the **Institute of Health**, suggests those using medical marijuana face a significant threat of being misdiagnosed with a use disorder due to withdrawal symptoms and an increased THC tolerance. Dr. Chung recommends revamping how the disorder is diagnosed, as the threshold for cannabis-use disorder is relatively low. For more information, [click here](#).
- Congratulations to **Dr. Jessica E. Salvatore**, an associate professor in **Robert Wood Johnson Medical School** and director of the **Genes, Environments, and Neurodevelopment in Addictions (GENA) Program**, on her new R01 award from the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism. The goal of this secondary data analysis project is to use a genetically informative

framework to understand cross-disorder spousal influences on alcohol use disorder (AUD) onset, remission, and relapse. For more information, [click here](#).

- Congratulations to **Dr. Cynthia Santos**, an assistant professor in **New Jersey Medical School** on her new award from the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), through its Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). The award consists of providing person-centered treatment approaches for painful conditions that are frequently treated at the Emergency Department of University Hospital. 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) 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

- **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 **September 30, 2023**. For more information, [click here](#).
- The **International Center for Responsible Gaming (ICRG)** is looking to grow its portfolio of researchers and offers a variety behavioral addictions research opportunities including funding for dissertation grants, seed grants, and large grants. Current funding opportunities are focused on research on lottery gambling and online gambling, with applications due in **September 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](#).
- **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](#).

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:

- [Genetic and Cultural Transmission of Alcohol Use Disorder in Swedish Twin Pedigrees](#)
Hermine H. Maes, Michael C. Neale, Henrik Ohlsson, Jan Sundquist, Kristina Sundquist, Kenneth S. Kendler
- [Testing Phenotypic Models of Posttraumatic Stress Disorder and Alcohol Use Disorder Comorbidity Using Longitudinal Registry Data](#)
Ananda B. Amstadter, Sara L. Lönner, Jan Sundquist, Kenneth S. Kendler, Kristina Sundquist

Just accepted in JSAD:

- [Multilevel Effects of Environment and Neighborhood Factors on Sober Living House Resident 12-Month Outcomes](#)
Meenakshi S. Subbaraman, Elizabeth Mahoney, Jane Witbrodt, Katherine Karriker-Jaffe, Amy Mericle, and Douglas Polcin

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 2nd Annual MRI Methods Workshop**
Tuesday and Wednesday, August 29th –30th 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 7th Annual peer Summit**
Wednesday, September 27th 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](#).
- **15th Annual Pioneers in Endocrinology Workshop**
Tuesday, October 3rd at 10:00 a.m. EDT
The Rutgers Endocrine Program is hosting its 15th 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.
- **Annual NIDA-NIAAA Frontiers in Addiction Research Mini-Convention**
Tuesday and Wednesday, November 7th-8th 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

- [Taking Kratom Claimed Her Son's Life. Now She and Others Are Warning of the Dangers](#) (U.S. News)
- [Remote Urine Drug Screening Feasible for Opioid Use Disorder, Study Shows](#) (Medpage Today)

