

# RARC DIGEST

Dear RARC Community,

Wishing everyone a wonderful holiday season! Before you go, 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 End-of-Semester Recap:** As we wrap up the semester and step into the holiday season, join us in reflecting on RARC's achievements, collaborations, and exciting plans for the new year! To check out our recap, [click here](#).
- **Two Addictions Post-Doc Positions at the RARC:** Two full-time Postdoctoral Research Associate positions are available in Dr. Kristina Jackson's laboratory at the Rutgers Addiction Research Center (RARC). Candidates will have the opportunity to make contributions to ongoing grant-funded studies at Rutgers and collaborating sites while also developing their own research careers. For more information, [click here](#).

## RARC Resource Spotlight

- **Research With Rutgers University Portal:** Research at Rutgers is at the cutting edge of science and technology. To stimulate new research partnerships that drive the economic engine for progress, this innovative tool allows you to search our expansive research network for available expertise, competencies, and capabilities in STEM-related fields across Rutgers University. To view this resources, [click here](#). To check out our other addiction-related resources, [click here](#)!

## Rutgers News

- Investigators including RARC researcher, **Dr. Anna Konova from Robert Wood Johnson Medical School**, have recently published a study in *Biological Psychiatry*. The study explores a model of context-dependent valuation, shedding light on its implications for understanding addiction and vulnerable addiction states in individuals with human opioid addiction. For more information, [click here](#).
- **Rutgers Project ECHO** announced their new Substance Use Disorder Series. Join the ECHO series led by medical experts and psychiatrists from the **New Jersey Medical School and Rowan Medicine**. Their series offers a safe space for peer-to-peer learning and open dialogue, providing up-to-date

best practices, current research, and new trends in this field. For more information, [click here](#).

- **Andrew Boreland**, a graduate student in the lab of **Arnold B. Rabson, MD**, and RARC Researcher, **Zhiping Pang, MD, PhD**, at the **Child Health Institute of New Jersey** was one of the top poster winners in the 9th Annual Rutgers Brain Health Institute Symposium. To watch the BHI video to learn more about his work, [click here](#).

## Opportunities

- **NIDA Diversity Scholars Network (NDSN) Program** - Calling all early-stage investigators (ESIs) to submit a letter of interest for the 2024 NIDA Diversity Scholars Network (NDSN) Program! The goal of the NIDA Diversity Scholars Network Program is to enhance the funding success of ESIs from diverse backgrounds, including investigators from underrepresented groups. The program provides workshops and supportive coaching as participants prepare a complete research or career development award application for NIDA funding consideration. LOI due **January 12, 2024**. For more information, [click here](#).
- **SGS University & Louis Bevier Dissertation Completion Fellowship Competition** - The School of Graduate Studies University & Louis Bevier Dissertation Completion Fellowship is designed to provide support during a doctoral candidate's final year of dissertation research and writing. They anticipate awarding up to 15 Fellowships for the 2024-2025 academic year. The Fellowship provides a stipend of \$25,000, health insurance, and tuition remission for up to 2 research credits per semester. Application deadline ends **January 22, 2024**. For more information, [click here](#).
- **NIH Grant Writing Mini-Course** - New Jersey Alliance for Clinical and Translational Science (NJ ACTS) is hosting a **NIH Grant Writing Mini-Course** in February 2024. This 5-week mini-course is intended for novice grant writers planning to submit a K or R grant in the next year. Enrollment closes **January 12<sup>th</sup>**. For more information, [click here](#).
- **Application for Postdoctoral Research Associate, Notterman Lab** - A postdoctoral or more senior research position is available in the **Department of Molecular Biology** and the **Office of Population Research** at **Princeton University** to study the social determinants of young adult cardiovascular health as well as genetic, epigenetic and environmental interactions. For more information, [click here](#).

## Funding Opportunities

- **Request for Applications for Research on Gambling Among Under-served Communities:** The International Center for Responsible Gaming (ICRG) invites investigators to apply for a two-year grant in support of research on the impact of gambling on under-served groups in the U.S. or Canada. Applicants may request up to \$75,000 per year for a two-year Large Grant with no more than 15% of direct costs for Facilities and Administration. Total requested may not exceed \$172,500. **Application due Jan 22, 2024**. For more information, [click here](#).

- **RFA-DA-25-058: Psychedelics Treatment Research in Substance Use Disorder (UG3/UH3 Clinical Trials Optional)** The purpose of this notice of funding opportunity (NOFO) is to support the development of classic psychedelics (e.g., psilocybin, LSD), empathogens (e.g., MDMA), dissociatives (e.g., ketamine and related compounds), and other hallucinogens (e.g., ibogaine and its analogues) (henceforth “psychedelics”) as new treatment options for Substance Use Disorder (SUD). There is an urgent need to develop novel treatments for SUD in light of the escalating rates of substance use, addiction, and overdose. Lett of Intent due **Jan 28, 2024**. 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 84/6:

- [Examining the Moderating Role of Heavy Drinking Behaviors and Precarious Masculinity on Sexual Aggression Among Young Adult Men](#)  
Tiffany L. Marcantonio, Kristen N. Jozkowski, Dominic J. Parrott, Lindsay S. Ham
- [Distressed Drinking: The Moderating Impact of Distress Tolerance on the Relation Between Anxiety Sensitivity, Panic Symptoms, and Alcohol Use and Problems](#)  
Rachel B. Geyer, Sarah E. Dreyer-Oren, Akanksha Das, Elise M. Clerkin

Just Accepted:

- [Anxiety Sensitivity and Distress Tolerance in Relation to Smoking Abstinence Expectancies among Black Individuals Who Smoke](#)  
Lorra Garey, Tanya Smit, Bryce K. Clausen, Brooke Y. Redmond, Ezemenari M. Obasi, Michael Businelle, and Michael J. Zvolensky
- [Serving alcohol to an “obviously intoxicated” patron](#)  
Robert Saltz, Mallie J. Paschall, Sharon O’Hara, David B. Buller, W. Gill Woodall, and Lila Martinez
- [Causation and Common Liability in the Progression of the US Opioid Crisis](#)  
Genevieve F. Dash, William E. Conlin, Rachel P. Winograd

Follow JSAD on Threads/Instagram/Twitter/Facebook: **@JSADjournal**

**For JSAD's free photo database of alcohol, tobacco, and other drug images, visit:**

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

## Save the Dates!

- **RWJMS & RAND Webinar - Charting Your Course: A Guide to Analyzing State Policy Studies**  
**Tuesday, January 23<sup>rd</sup> at 12:00 p.m. EST**  
*This workshop will provide an overview of the myriad of analytic methods available for state policy evaluation studies, including details on key decision points for an analysis that helps identify which methods are most appropriate for different analytic contexts. For more information, [click here](#).*

- NASEM Health and Medicine Workshop - Harm Reduction Services for People Who Use Drugs: Exploring Data Collection, Evidence Gaps, and Research Needs**  
**Tuesday, January 30<sup>th</sup> to Wednesday, January 31<sup>st</sup> at 10:00 a.m. EST**  
*The National Academies is hosting a 2-day virtual public workshop to explore data collection efforts, evidence gaps, and research needs on harm reduction services for people who use drugs (PWUD). Discussions will cover services that prevent overdose & infectious disease transmission and assist PWUD's access to social services. For more information, [click here](#).*
- CAS Emerging Addiction Seminar Series - Investigating the Current Ketamine Landscape in the United States**  
**Thursday, February 7<sup>th</sup> at 12:30 p.m. EST**  
*The Center of Alcohol and Substance Studies invites you to join their in-person seminar with Dr. Joseph Palamar, an associate professor of Population Health at the NYU Grossman School of Medicine, and Deputy Director of the National Drug Early Warning System. Dr. Palamar focuses on the epidemiology of use of new psychoactive substances and party drugs both in the general population and in high-risk scenes. This important work helps inform prevention and harm reduction efforts. For more information, [click here](#).*
- 10<sup>th</sup> Annual New York City Epidemiology Forum**  
**Thursday, April 4<sup>th</sup>**  
**Co-hosted by NYU Grossman School of Medicine and NYU School of Global Public Health, this conference will include oral presentations, posters, and discussion sessions and is expected to lead to new collaborative activities, such as networks with shared resources and joint educational programs. Please register before **Monday, March 25, 2024**. Attendance is free and includes lunch. For more information, [click here](#).**

## Addiction in the News

- [People Experiencing Financial Hardship During the COVID-19 Pandemic Report Receiving More Commercial Tobacco Discount Coupons](#) (NIMHD Research Spotlight)
- [America's School Counselors Say Vaping, Gaming Are Tough Issues for Kids](#) (U.S. News)
- [US FDA approves first test to identify opioid use addiction risk](#) (Reuters)

**RARC Resources** - Don't forget the RARC has collated addiction-related resources for Rutgers addiction researchers.

- Do you need administrative support?** – The RARC would be happy to work with you to budget part of the RARC Program Assistant, Priscille Myrthil-Harder's efforts into your grants as a project coordinator. If you are interested in exploring this option, please reach out to RARC Program Manager, Emily Balcke ([emily.balcke@rutgers.edu](mailto:emily.balcke@rutgers.edu)).
- Appointments with Health Sciences Librarians:** Did you know that if you have research inquiries or require in-depth assistance from the library, you have the option to [Ask a Librarian](#) through chat or email. Additionally, you can request a [Systematic Review Consultation](#) and/or schedule an online meeting with a Health Sciences librarian at a time that suits your schedule!

