

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's Center Spotlight Series: Rutgers Center of Alcohol and Substance Use Studies (CAS)** - Led by Director Dr. Denise Hien, Senior Vice Provost for Research, Chancellor's Office, Rutgers-New Brunswick; Helen E. Chaney Endowed Chair in Alcohol Studies and Distinguished Professor in the Graduate School of Applied and Professional Psychology (GSAPP). CAS is a multidisciplinary institute dedicated to substance use research, education, and training. Their collaborations intersect with key translational health domains, broadening impact in the field of addiction science. To watch the full interview, [click here](#).
- **RARC Recruitment Candidate Virtual Seminar with Dr. Benedikt J. Fischer (December 19, 2023 at 11:00 a.m. EST)**: Please save the date for a virtual research presentation by Benedikt J. Fischer, a recruitment candidate for a faculty position in the area of Public Policy at the RARC, entitled "An overview and select examples of addiction policy issues, research, and evidence-translation." For more information, [click here](#).
- **BHI/CAHBIR Faculty Candidate Virtual Seminar with Rui Zhang, PhD (December 11, 2023 at 12:00 p.m. EST)**: Please save the date for a research presentation by Dr. Rui Zhang, "Towards a neurobiological understanding of how sleep links with drug use". For more information, [click here](#).

RARC Resource Spotlight

- **Working with the Media**: Did you know that R-Comm offers direct support to Rutgers-New Brunswick and RBHS researchers looking to publicize their research using multiple forms of media to bring their research to new audiences, advance their careers, and promote their departments, schools and centers? To view this resource, [click here](#). To check out our other addiction-related resources, [click here](#)!

Rutgers News

- **Dr. Nina Cooperman, RARC Chair of Treatment & Recovery and Associate Professor at Robert Wood Johnson Medical School** has a new study published in *JAMA Psychiatry*. Her study, a randomized clinical trial, found that telehealth Mindfulness-Oriented Recovery Enhancement

(MORE) demonstrated efficacy for decreasing drug use, pain, and depression and increasing methadone treatment retention and adherence. For more information, [click here](#).

- **Dr. Jessica E. Salvatore, Associate Professor at Robert Wood Johnson Medical School** has a new study published in the *Journal of Studies on Alcohol and Drugs*. The findings show that parental divorce is associated with the shape and relative influence of genetic and environmental factors on men's alcohol consumption trajectories from adolescence through adulthood. For more information, [click here](#).
- **The Rutgers Center of Alcohol and Substance Use Studies (CAS)** has shared their Digital Alcohol Studies Archives at Rutgers, an open access collection of searchable full texts and images selected from documents amassed, preserved, and digitized over eighty years at Yale and Rutgers, now freely available for the public. For more information, [click here](#).
- A recent study, published in the *Journal of the American Academy of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry*, led by **Drs. Mehvesh Khan and Emmanuel Sanchez** from **Robert Wood Johnson Medical School**, showed an association between secondhand cannabis smoke exposure and an increase in externalizing symptoms and total psychopathological symptoms. The findings suggest that clinicians working with children should routinely inquire about secondhand cannabis exposure. For more information, [click here](#).

Opportunities

- The **Rutgers New Jersey Medical School Department of Emergency Medicine, BHI, and RARC** are recruiting a tenure track faculty member at the Associate or Assistant Professor level with expertise in addiction, substance use, or overdose. 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 12th. 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:

- [Adolescent Substance Use Patterns and Risk for Suicidal Thoughts and Behaviors in Young Adulthood](#)
Theemeshni Govender, Jing Yu, Pablo Vidal-Ribas, Stephen E. Gilman, Denise L. Haynie
- [Parental Divorce and Trajectories of Alcohol Consumption in Men: A Genetically Informative Perspective](#)
- Jessica E. Salvatore, Steven H. Aggen, Kenneth S. Kendler

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!

- **NIH-NIDAAA Webinar: Harnessing Technology and Social Media to Address Alcohol Misuse in Adolescents and Emerging Adults**
Wednesday, December 13th at 12:00 p.m. EST
Join the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA) for a free, interactive webinar about how to harness technology and social media to prevent and address alcohol misuse in two populations--adolescents and emergent adults. For more information, [click here](#).
- **Rutgers Brown Bag Seminar: Panel Discussion on Digital Mental Health**
Thursday, December 14th at 12:00 p.m. EST
Join IFH's Center for Population Behavioral Health for a panel discussion covering digital mental health with three experts in the field: Drs. Patricia Cavazos-Rehg, Nicholas Jacobson, and Edward Selby. Discussion will include and overview of the digital mental health field, including use of digital health tools for social media recruitment or emergency medical assistance and wearable devices and their application to treatment. For more information, [click here](#).

- **RWJMS & RAND Webinar: Charting Your Course: A Guide to Analyzing State Policy Studies**
Tuesday, January 23rd 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](#).
- **10th Annual New York City Epidemiology Forum**
Thursday, April 4th
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

- [More Older Americans Use Cannabis Now Than Before Pandemic](#) (Futurity)
- [New Research Shows Hard-Hitting Campaigns Can Help Prevent Drinking During Pregnancy](#) (Campaign Brief)
- [Secondhand Cannabis Exposure Increases Pediatric Psychopathology Risk](#) (Neurology Advisor)
- [Overdose Deaths Increased in Pregnant and Postpartum Women From Early 2018 to Late 2021](#) (NIH News Release)
- [49 Million Americans Reported Substance Use Disorder in 2022](#) (Addiction Policy Forum)

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).
- **Text for Adding Translational Components to your Grant:** The RARC has put together text that can be added to both the Research Strategy and Budget Justification sections of your grant application regarding translational services offered by the RARC that you may be interested in taking advantage of for your project.