The Brain Health Institute (BHI) and the Rutgers Addiction Research Center (RARC) are pleased to announce the mock grant review program at Rutgers University. The primary objective of this program is to increase the success of grant proposals submitted to NIH by Rutgers investigators connected to the BHI and/or the RARC.

1. **Step 1:** Send a title plus an abstract or short description to Paul Manowitz, Ph.D., RARC Chair of Special Programs (manowitz@rwjms.rutgers.edu; with CC to rarc@bhi.rutgers.edu) at least eight weeks before the deadline for grant submission to the granting institution/agency. Also include with this material a selection of up to five potential mock grant reviewers of your grant application from the enclosed list of Rutgers senior and/or NIH-funded investigators. Please do not contact these investigators directly. Where possible, the RARC will make an effort to solicit reviewers from those you selected.

2. **Step 2.** Submit your application as a SINGLE PDF file to Paul Manowitz (manowitz@rwjms.rutgers.edu; with CC to rarc@bhi.rutgers.edu) at least six weeks before the grant application is to be submitted to the granting institution/agency.

You should submit Specific Aims and Research Strategy for review, formatted according to NIH style application guidelines and including a cover sheet (see below). The proposal should be single-spaced and use font/size Arial 11 with 0.5 inch page margins, combined into one PDF document (13 pages for R01 and 7 pages for R21). If you are re-submitting a previously submitted grant, please include the NIH summary statement with your proposal submission, as well as your Introduction to the Resubmission. You should not submit applications that have already received NIH summary statements unless accompanied by proposed revisions. You may not make substantive changes once the applications have been circulated to the mock grant reviewers. The RARC and reviewers will observe confidentiality, and only the panel will access your grant information.

3. Mock reviews will be held approximately five weeks before the application is due at the funding institution/agency. This will allow you one month for revision prior to submission. All submissions will be reviewed by 2-3 reviewers who will provide specific comments on 1) Significance, 2) Innovation, and 3) Approach using a standardized set of criteria. After receiving the written comments, each applicant will be invited to attend a live mock review of his/her proposal, typically one hour long. One of the panel members will be able to offer help with the responses and modifications.

Please contact rarc@bhi.rutgers.edu with any questions.

Danielle Dick, Ph.D.
Director, Rutgers Addiction Research Center
Chair, Motivational & Affective Neuroscience Focus Area Working Group
Brain Health Institute

Zhiping Pang, M.D., Ph.D.
Vice Chair, Motivational & Affective Neuroscience Focus Area Working Group
Brain Health Institute
Title of Project

PI/MPI

Department/School Affiliation

Email Address

Telephone Number

Institute or Foundation to which the grant will be submitted including any additional specifics, e.g., RO1, R21, etc.

New, Renewal or Resubmission (If resubmission, include summary statement)

Response to PA/RFA?

Early Career / Early Stage Investigator eligible?

Submission date

Numbers of years of funding requested

Co-investigators and their distinct /non-overlapping expertise (to determine potential conflicts for internal mock reviewers and to evaluate the team since bio-sketches are not included)
Reviewers for the Mock Grant Review 2023-2024

Victoria Abraira  https://grad.rutgers.edu/faculty/victoria-abaira
Assistant Professor of Cell Biology and Neuroscience
School of Arts and Sciences-New Brunswick
Dr. Abraira’s research centers on fundamental principles of sensory neurobiology and spinal cord circuits.

Nicholas Bello  https://animalsciences.rutgers.edu/faculty/bello/
Professor & Chair of Animal Sciences
School of Environmental and Biological Sciences
Dr. Bello’s research includes the validation of dietary supplements for weight loss and attentional and arousal processes of binge-eating.

Kasia Bieszczad  https://cleflab.myportfolio.com/
Associate Professor of Psychology
School of Arts and Science – New Brunswick
Dr. Bieszczad’s research includes the study of neurobiological substrates of learning and memory.

Assistant Professor of Pharmacology, Physiology ad Neuroscience
New Jersey Medical School
Dr. Bocarsly’s research explores neural circuitry underlying rewarding behaviors such as food intake and drug use.

Detlev Boison  https://grad.rutgers.edu/faculty/detlev-boison
Professor of Neurosurgery
Robert Wood Johnson Medical School
Dr. Boison studies the metabolism and disease modification in epilepsy and traumatic brain injury.

Jennifer Buckman  https://alcoholstudies.rutgers.edu/people/faculty/jennifer-buckman/
Associate Professor of Kinesiology and Health
School of Arts and Science - New Brunswick
Dr. Buckman’s research explores the role of body systems and body-brain communication in substance use behavior.
Christoph Buettner  
https://grad.rutgers.edu/https%3A//buettnerlab.org
Professor and Chancellor Scholar of Medicine
Robert Wood Johnson Medical School
Dr. Buettner has a longstanding interest in metabolic regulation and diabetes.

Tammy Chung  
https://ifh.rutgers.edu/faculty_staff/tammy-chung-ph-d/
Professor of Psychiatry
Robert Wood Johnson Medical School
Director, Center for Population Behavioral Health
Institute for Health, Health Care Policy, and Aging Research
Dr. Chung does research on adolescent and young adult substance abuse.

Nina Cooperman  
https://addiction.rutgers.edu/researchers/nina-cooperman/
Associate Professor of Psychiatry
Robert Wood Johnson Medical School
Dr. Cooperman conducts clinical research on the development and evaluation of novel behavioral interventions for substance use.

Kristina Jackson  
https://www.addiction.rutgers.edu/researchers/kristina-jackson/
Professor of Psychiatry
Robert Wood Johnson Medical School
Dr. Jackson’s research focuses on the etiology and course of substance use among adolescents and young adults.

Mi-Hyeon Jang  
https://grad.rutgers.edu/faculty/mi-hyeon-jang-phd
Associate Professor of Neurosurgery
Robert Wood Jonson Medical School
Dr. Jang studies adult neurogenesis, oligodendrogenesis, regenerative neurobiology, brain development, brain aging and chemobrain.

Denise Hien  
https://alcoholstudies.rutgers.edu/people/leadership/denise-hien/
Distinguished Professor
Graduate School of Applied and Professional Psychology
Director, Center of Alcohol and Substance Use Studies
Dr. Hien’s research involves clinical trials to treat and prevent traumatic stress and substance addiction.

Yong Kim  
https://sites.rutgers.edu/rbhs-neurological-surgery/people/yong-kim-
Associate Professor of Neurological Surgery
Robert Wood Johnson Medical School
Dr. Kim’s research centers on signal transduction mechanisms in nerve cells.

Steven Levison
https://njmsweb.njms.rutgers.edu/profile/myProfile.php?mbmid=levisosw
Professor of Pharmacology, Physiology, and Neuroscience
New Jersey Medical School
Dr. Levison’s studies involve the deciphering of how brain development is affected by infections during pregnancy contributing to neurological and psychiatric disorders.

Michael Lewis
https://patientcare.rutgershealth.org/provider/michael-lewis
Professor Emeritus
Robert Wood Johnson Medical School
Dr. Lewis studies typical and atypical development involving children and their environment.

Naomi Marmorstein
https://healthsciences.camden.rutgers.edu/advisory-board/
Professor of Psychology
Health Sciences Department, Rutgers University-Camden
Dr. Marmorstein studies the associations between internalizing disorders (depression and anxiety) and externalizing behavior and substance use disorders among youth.

Jennifer Mulle
https://cabm.rutgers.edu/person/jennifer-gladys-mulle
Associate Professor of Psychiatry
Robert Wood Johnson Medical School
Dr. Mulle’s research program employs a variety of modalities, including animal models, human cellular models, and clinical phenotyping studies to understand the etiology of schizophrenia.

Lia Nower
https://socialwork.rutgers.edu/lia-nower
Distinguished Professor
School of Social Work
Director, Center for Gambling Studies
Dr. Nower’s research interests include disordered gambling, substance abuse, and other addictive disorders; forensic issues in mental health; psychometric measurement and research methodology

Pingyue Pan
Ying-Xian Pan
https://njms-web.njms.rutgers.edu/profile/myProfile.php?mbmid=yp338
Professor of Anesthesiology
New Jersey Medical School
Dr. Pan’s research utilizes multidisciplinary in vitro and in vivo approaches to understand opiate effects including addiction.

Zhiping Pang
https://molbiosci.rutgers.edu/faculty-research/faculty/faculty-detail/86-o-p/179-zhiping-pang
Professor of Neuroscience and Cell Biology
Robert Wood Johnson Medical School
Dr. Pang’s laboratory studies the neural basis of the regulation of feeding, satiety, metabolism and obesity.

Christopher Pierce  https://addiction.rutgers.edu/researchers/chris-pierce/
Professor of Psychiatry
Robert Wood Johnson Medical School
Dr. Pierce’s research focuses on the neuroscience of addiction using animal models.

John Pintar
https://molbiosci.rutgers.edu/faculty-research/faculty/faculty-detail/86-o-p/181-john-e-pintar
Professor of Neuroscience and Cell Biology
Robert Wood Johnson Medical School
Dr. Pintar’s research focuses on genetic approaches to endogenous opioid system function.

Mark Rossi
https://molbiosci.rutgers.edu/faculty-research/faculty/faculty-detail/87-q-r/975-rossi-mark
Assistant Professor of Psychiatry
Robert Wood Johnson Medical School
The Rossi laboratory studies how distributed neural circuits control feeding and motivation.

Vanessa Routh
https://njms-web.njms.rutgers.edu/profile/myProfile.php?mbmid=routhvh
Professor of Pharmacology, Physiology, and Neuroscience
New Jersey Medical School
Dr. Routh’s research centers on the role of hypothalamic glucose sensing neurons in glucose and energy homeostasis.

Jessica Salvatore
https://sites.rutgers.edu/jessica-salvatore/
Associate Professor of Psychiatry
Director, Genes, Environment, and Neurodevelopment in Addictions Program
Robert Wood Johnson Medical School
Dr. Salvatore uses biopsychosocial approaches for alcohol and substance use disorders.

Carolyn Sartor
https://ifh.rutgers.edu/faculty_staff/carolyn-e-sartor-ph-d/
Associate Professor of Psychiatry
Center for Population Behavioral Health
Institute for Health, Health Care Policy, and Aging Research
Dr. Sartor studies substance use, social determinants of health, trauma, adolescence and young adulthood, and behavior genetics.

Marc L. Steinberg
https://psych.rutgers.edu/academics/undergraduate/undergraduate-research-labs/998-steinberg-marc
Professor of Psychiatry
Robert Wood Johnson Medical School
Dr. Steinberg’s research focuses on tobacco / e-cigarette use and dependence, including tobacco / e-cigarette dependence treatment development, cigarette and e-cigarette use in those with psychiatric comorbidity, the relationship between tobacco use and task persistence/distress tolerance, and motivational interviewing in the context of tobacco cessation.

Michael Steinberg*
https://globalhealth.rutgers.edu/directory/michael-steinberg/
Professor & Interim Chair of Medicine
Robert Wood Johnson Medical School
Dr. Steinberg’s research focus includes all aspects of comprehensive tobacco treatment from evaluating individual interventions, health system-based changes including EMR protocols, physician and provider attitudes, beliefs, and practices, public health tobacco policy, training and education of providers, novel tobacco products and use behaviors.

*Dr. Steinberg will not be able to review grants applications until after September 2024.*

Yuanxiang Tao
https://njms-web.njms.rutgers.edu/profile/myProfile.php?mbmid=yt211
Professor of Anesthesiology
New Jersey Medical School
Dr. Tao studies the molecular and cellular mechanisms underlying chronic pain and opioid addiction.

Andrew Westbrook
https://sites.rutgers.edu/cahbir/andrew-westbrook-ph-d-to-join-cahbir-faculty/
Assistant Professor of Psychiatry
Robert Wood Johnson Medical School
Dr. Westbrook’s research combines neuroimaging skills with computational modelling, EEG recording, and transcranial magnetic stimulation.

Helene White
https://ifh.rutgers.edu/faculty_staff/helene-white/
Distinguished Professor Emerita of Sociology
Institute for Health, Health Care Policy, and Aging Research
Her research involves studies of the developmental transition in substance use over the life course as well as the relationship of substance use and criminality.

Jill Williams
https://rwjms.rutgers.edu/departments/psychiatry/divisions/division-of-addiction-psychiatry/message-from-the-director
Professor of Psychiatry
Robert Wood Johnson Medical School
Dr. Williams researches ways to improve outcomes in people with mental illness and co-occurring addiction disorders.

Minge Xie
https://statweb.rutgers.edu/mxie/
Distinguished Professor of Statistics
His research centers on statistics., e.g., studies of the foundation of statistical inference and data science
Jiang Ye
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Professor of Anesthesiology
New Jersey Medical School
Dr. Ye’s research focuses on the neurological mechanisms of drug abuse and depression.

Lei Yu
https://alcoholstudies.rutgers.edu/people/faculty/lei-yu/
Distinguished Professor of Genetics
School of Arts and Sciences – New Brunswick
Dr. Yu studies the genetics of substance abuse and compulsivity.

David Zald
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Professor of Psychiatry
Robert Wood Johnson Medical School
Director, Center for Advanced Human Brain Imaging Research
His research uses a combination of MRI and PET imaging to examine the links between individual differences in brain structure and function and the risk for, and expression of, psychopathology.

Huaye Zhang
https://molbiosci.rutgers.edu/faculty-research/faculty/faculty-detail/91-y-z/210-huaye-zhang
Associate Professor of Neuroscience and Cell Biology
Robert Wood Johnson Medical School
The Zhang lab is interested in the molecular mechanisms regulating dendritic spine morphogenesis and synaptic plasticity.