

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

- **Training in Addiction Research Program (TARP) Hybrid Annual Symposium (April 17th at 1:00 p.m. EDT):** We invite you to join us for the Rutgers TARP Annual Symposium at the Center for Advanced Biotechnology and Medicine (CABM) or via Zoom. This event will highlight **keynote speaker Rita Goldstein**, Mount Sinai Professor in Neuroimaging and Addiction at Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai. Additionally, the day will include a trainee lunch with Dr. Goldstein and presentations from our TARP graduate and postdoctoral trainees. For more information, [click here](#).
- **RARC Year in Review and Social Event (Friday, May 10th at 4:00 p.m. EDT):** Please save the date for an evening of food and drinks at the Rutgers Addiction Research Center's annual Year in Review and Social Event, held at the Rutgers Club. This gathering presents a wonderful opportunity to connect with fellow colleagues from Rutgers engaged in addiction research, as well as our clinical and community partners. Registration coming soon!
- **BHI and CAHBIR New Pilot Funding:** The Brain Health Institute and Center for Advanced Human Brain Imaging Research are pleased to announce the availability of funds for pilot grants. Separate mechanisms are available for RU-NB and RBHS faculty. The application due date is **April 30th, 2024**. Please see the RFP for details, [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](#)!

RARC DEI Spotlight

- **Sign Up for DEI Campus Climate Survey Webinar:** Discover key findings from the university's first DEI Campus Climate Survey on Monday, April 8 @12pm, via Zoom. The webinar will start with an overview of the significance of assessing DEI campus climate and experiences, what it is and how it

can be used by university leaders. Discussion will delve into the connections between the overall campus climate data, progress underway at the university on DEI issues and the next steps to take toward an inclusive community. For more information, [click here](#).

Rutgers News

- **Dr. Diane Calello, from the New Jersey Poison Information and Education System**, emphasized to *NBC Philadelphia* the alarming rise in poisonings linked to tianeptine, noting her office has seen that people poisoned by the drug exhibit agitation, delirium, seizures and cardiac arrest, and in some cases, fatalities. This surge has spurred calls for regulatory action at both federal and industry levels to address the dangers associated with the supplement. For more information, [click here](#).
- The **Rutgers University Behavioral Health Care (UBHC) Center for Integrated Care (CIC)** has received nearly \$2.6M in federal grants and funding to work with its partners throughout the state to train behavioral health clinicians, nurses and nurse practitioners, and physician assistants in integrated care and integrated substance use disorder treatment. For more information, [click here](#).
- The **Office for Research** announced that they are now accepting applications for the **2024 Busch Biomedical Grants Program**. This program is an internal funding opportunity designed to enhance biomedical research at Rutgers and to strengthen the competitive position of faculty who seek external research funds. Funding is available through two separate award tracks: Early Career Pilot Grants and New Direction Pilot Grants. Both tracks will support research projects up to a total of \$60,000 over two years. For more information, [click here](#).

Opportunities

- **The Rutgers University Molecular Imaging Core (RUMIC) and the Advanced Preclinical Imaging Lab (APIL) offers tours throughout April 2024.** Each tour consists of a brief presentation, providing an overview of the use and capabilities of the Cores, followed by a twitter short demo for each imaging system. Examples of image processing and data analysis will be presented and the application of imaging technology to research will be discussed. For more information, [click here](#).
- **Innovations for Substance Use Disorders: Application for the 2024 cohort is now open!** I4SUD is an executive education certificate program offered to select applicants for free through Johns Hopkins Carey Business School (JHU CBS). The program will enroll 30 researchers who are motivated to solve challenges related to substance use disorders (SUDs). During the program, participants will work individually or with their team to assess if their pharmaceutical, digital health, or medical device-related inventions can be transformed into innovations to address challenges in SUDs. Applications are open now until **June 30, 2024**. For more information, [click here](#).
- **American Board of Professional Psychology (ABPP):** You can now become board certified in Addiction Psychology under the American Board of Professional Psychology (ABPP)! The ABPP certifies that you have the evidence-based psychological knowledge and skills for evaluating and treating addictive disorders (chemical and behavioral). To learn about the application process and

apply, [click here](#).

- **Diversity Specialized Predoctoral to Postdoctoral Advancement in Neuroscience Award** - This two-phase award aims to facilitate the completion of the doctoral dissertation and transition of talented graduate students to strong neuroscience research postdoctoral positions by providing 1-2 years of graduate support and up to 4 years of postdoctoral support. The D-SPAN award is intended to support a defined pathway to independent research positions for talented graduate students from diverse backgrounds, including those from groups that are underrepresented in neuroscience research. For more information, [click here](#).

Funding Opportunities

- **PAR-23-244: Population Approaches to Reducing Alcohol-related Cancer Risk:** This Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) aims to support research on interdisciplinary population approaches to increasing awareness of the relationship between alcohol and cancer risk, understanding and changing social norms related to alcohol consumption, and developing and/or evaluating alcohol policy approaches. Further, it calls for the development, testing, and implementation of population-level interventions to reduce alcohol-related cancer risk. For more information, [click here](#).
- **PAR-23-122: Research With Activities Related to Diversity (ReWARD) (R01 Clinical Trial Optional):** This program's overarching goal is to enhance the breadth and geographical location of research and research-related activities supported by NIH. The ReWARD program provides support for the health-related research of scientists who are making a significant contribution to Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility (DEIA) and who have no current NIH research project grant funding. The next application for this program is **June 5, 2024**.
- **RFA-DA-24-038 R41/42 STTR: Developing Regulated Therapeutic and Diagnostic Solutions for Patients Affected by Opioid and/or Stimulants use Disorders (OUD/StUD):** This NOFO encourages Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) applications from small business concerns (SBCs) proposing research projects, directed towards commercialization, for the development of novel, evidence-based, FDA-regulated medical products addressing the needs of patients suffering from opioid use disorders (OUD) and/or stimulant use disorders (StUD). **Due dates: August 13, 2024; February 14, 2025.** For more information, [click here](#).
- **RFA-DA-25-053 R41/42 STTR: Harnessing Artificial Intelligence and Polypharmacology to Discover Pharmacotherapeutics for Substance Use Disorders:** This NOFO encourages Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) applications from small business concerns (SBCs) proposing research projects directed towards commercialization to harness artificial intelligence (AI), including machine learning (ML), tools, and polypharmacology to identify pharmacotherapeutics with lower toxicity and higher efficacy to prevent or treat substance use disorders (SUDs). **Due date: July 25, 2024.** For more information, [click here](#).
- **PAR-20-249: NIDA Mentored Clinical Scientist Development Program Award in Substance Use and Substance Use Disorder Research (K12 Clinical Trial Optional):** This NOFO encourages applications for institutional research career development (K12) programs that propose to support intensive,

supervised research and career development experiences leading to research independence for clinician scientists (Scholars) conducting substance use and substance use disorder (SUD) research. For more information, [click here](#).

- **RFA-DA-25-032: NIH Mechanistic Studies on Social Behavior in Substance Use Disorder (R01 Clinical Trial Optional):** This NOFO is to solicit applications proposing mechanistic, transdisciplinary research on social behavior and its relationships with the onset, trajectory, and impact of Substance Use Disorders (SUDs) and comorbidities. LOI due July 14, 2024. For more information, [click here](#).
- **RARC Funding Opportunities:** The RARC keeps a running list of funding announcements from multiple organizations, including the NIH, that may be of interest to Rutgers addiction researchers. To view this resource, [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 85/2:

- [An Intervention to Reduce Drinking Among Individuals With HIV and Hepatitis C: A Pilot Randomized Controlled Trial](#)
Jennifer C. Elliott, Mahnoor Ali, Olga Radecka, Doukessa Lerias, Noga Shalev, Malka Stohl, Efrat Aharonovich, Deborah S. Hasin
- [Does Reducing the Size of the Tobacco Power Wall Affect Young People's Risk of Future Use of Tobacco Products? An Experimental Investigation](#)
Steven C. Martino, Claude M. Setodji, Michael S. Dunbar, Desmond Jenson, Jody C. S. Wong, Abigail Torbatian, William G. Shadel
- [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 S. Businelle, Michael J. Zvolensky

Just Accepted in JSAD:

- [A Within-Person Examination of Alcohol Involved and Non-Alcohol Involved Internal and External Sexual Consent Communication](#)
Tiffany L. Marcantonio, Chunhua Cao, Ruschelle M. Leone, and Karen Cropsey
- [Evidence for the Induction of Analgesic Cross-Tolerance Between Opioid and Apelin/APJ Systems in Male Rats](#)
Elham Abbasloo, Saeed Esmaili-Mahani, Firas Kobeissy, and Theresa Carrier Thomas

- [Discrimination, Drinking to Cope, Protective Behavioral Strategies, and Alcohol-Related Consequences Among University Students](#)

Margeaux E. Cannon, Jessica L. Martin, Evan E. Ozmat, Corey M. Monley, Cara L. Fresquez, Junsung Oh, and M. Dolores Cimini

-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!

- **NJ ACTS Special Populations Seminar with Dr. Charles J. Neighbors: “NYU-HEAL: Academic-Public Partnership to Improve Quality of Care for People with Substance Use Disorders”**

Tuesday, April 16th at 12:00 p.m. EDT

The NYU Health Evaluation and Analytics Lab (NYU-HEAL) is an academic-public partnership that employs research to support improvements to the system of care for individuals with substance use disorders in New York. The initiative uses mixed methods that combine analyses of statewide administrative data (e.g., Medicaid) with qualitative interviews of system stakeholders. The seminar will give an overview of NYU-HEAL and examples of how the partnership informs state policy initiatives. For more information, [click here](#).

- **NIH F-Series Fellowship Grant Writing Workshop**

Tuesday, April 16th at 12:00 p.m. EDT

Co-hosted by *Rutgers Health, Rutgers School of Graduate Studies, and NJ ACTS* this workshop will provide an overview of the basic components of a NIH NRSA Fellowship application. All interested students and Postdocs are welcome to attend this in-person session in Piscataway, NJ, at EOHSI (Room C). For more information, [click here](#).

- **I4SUD Webinar – Elements of a Commercialization Plan: A Primer**

Tuesday, April 16th at 12:00 p.m. EDT

Hosted by *Innovations for Substance Use Disorders*, this webinar entrepreneurship expert Dr. Phil Phan as he explores the essential components necessary for a successful commercialization plan. If you are an academic researcher and have thought about making an impact using your innovative solutions, join us to learn how to navigate the complexities of bringing a product to market. From market analysis to distribution channels and funding strategies to marketing tactics, Dr. Phan will provide invaluable insights and practical tips to help you navigate the path to commercial success. For more information, [click here](#).

- **CAS Annual Scholar Virtual Poster Session**

Thursday, May 2nd at 10:00 a.m. EDT

The Center of Alcohol and Substance Use Studies invites you to our 11th Annual Scholar Virtual Poster Session on Thursday, May 2nd, 2024, from 10 am - 12pm. This is a great opportunity for undergraduate and graduate students, post-baccalaureate research staff, and post-doctoral fellows to share their latest work, as well as to interact with students and faculty from multiple disciplines.

Posters will be judged by CAS research team and (\$) awards for outstanding posters will be given. For more information, [click here](#).

Addiction in the News

- [MOUD in the Workplace: It's Your Right!](#) (Legal Action Center)
- [E-Cigarettes Tied to Heart Failure](#) (MedPage Today)
- [CDC Admits Its Opioid Prescribing Guidelines Have Hurt Chronic Pain Patients](#) (The Mighty)
- [The Lows of an Unregulated High: Teens Are Using Marijuana Alternative Delta-8](#) (The Week)

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).
- **Scientific Writing and Communication Resources** - The RARC has curated a list of links designed to support you with both your writing and communicating your research with the public. To view this resource, [click here](#).