

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

- **Join us on March 20th and 21st for Rutgers Giving Days!** It's a chance to embark on a journey filled with hope and innovation as we rally behind RARC, the world's largest comprehensive addiction research center. Your support for RARC isn't just a donation—it's an integral step in our shared commitment to combatting addiction through pioneering science. Be part of our community dedicated to making a difference, learn more [here](#).
- **SciComm x Community Engagement: Exploring Principles and Practices (March 27th at 12:00 p.m. ET):** Join us for an upcoming workshop led by the RARC Science Communication Workgroup, featuring presenters Alexandria Bauer and Devon Ziminski. Together, they will explore interdisciplinary training and fundamental skills in community-engaged science communication and research. Participants can expect to gain practical insights, tips, and additional resources to enhance their involvement in community engagement, both within and beyond the Rutgers community. For more information, [click here](#).
- **RARC Recruitment Candidate Virtual Seminar with Dr. Christopher Verrico, (March 29th at 11:00 a.m. ET):** Please save the date for a virtual research presentation by Christopher Verrico, a recruitment candidate for a faculty position in the area of Treatment & Recovery at the RARC, entitled "25 Years of Pharmacology with a Focus on Substance Use Disorders". For more information, [click here](#).
- **The Brain Health Institute (BHI) Spring Trainee Travel Awards:** The BHI has announced their Spring 2024 trainee travel awards 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. Submit all materials by **today, March 15, 2024**. For more information, [click here](#).

RARC Resource Spotlight

- **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).

Rutgers News

- A study conducted by **Rutgers Nursing doctoral program project** found that replacing long-acting opioids with immediate-release opioids after total knee replacement surgery yielded comparable pain management but reduced nausea-medication usage and need for residential rehabilitation post-discharge. The findings, published in *Pain Management Nursing*, highlight the potential benefits of transitioning to immediate-release opioids post-surgery, with implications for enhancing patient experience and rehabilitation outcomes. For more information, [click here](#).
- In her latest **Medium** blog, **Dr. Danielle Dick, director of RARC**, highlights the persistent prevalence of recreational substance use despite increasing evidence of its harmful effects. Exploring genetic factors linked to addiction risk through externalizing and internalizing pathways, she emphasizes the importance of understanding these influences to make informed decisions and mitigate risks. DNA is not destiny in determining one's relationship with substances. For more information, [click here](#).
- A study published in the **Journal of Studies on Alcohol and Drugs** reveals alarming trends in compliance with laws prohibiting the service of alcohol to visibly intoxicated patrons in the San Francisco Bay area. Despite legal mandates, only 21% of establishments refused service to obviously intoxicated individuals, as demonstrated by "pseudo-patrons" working with researchers. The findings underscore the need for more rigorous enforcement and comprehensive approaches, including improved training for servers and heightened community awareness, to mitigate alcohol-related harm and promote public safety. For more information, [click here](#).

Opportunities

- **Learning Mentoring Virtual Training Series beginning March 19th at 10a ET** - Are you a STEM grad student or postdoc, and committed to becoming an effective mentor? All interested are invited to join a virtual cohort of like-minded peers! A major component of many careers -- both within and beyond the academy -- is mentoring trainees, yet graduate students and postdocs often don't have formal opportunities to develop mentoring expertise. Since mentoring profoundly affects the well-being of individuals and teams, and consequently, scientific productivity and success, Princeton's McGraw Center for Teaching and Learning is offering a course on mentoring at Princeton this Spring, 2024. For more information, [click here](#).
- **Study opportunity announcement:** Seeking participants for a paid research study looking at differences in learning between adults who do and do not smoke cigarettes! If interested, you can check out [this survey](#) to see if you might be eligible to participate. This study opportunity announcement is sent on behalf of Drs. Teresa Leyro and Samantha Farris. To speak with someone from their team directly call 732-570-0905 or email abusa@psych.rutgers.edu. For more information, [click here](#).

- **The New Jersey State Policy Lab 2024 Summer Internship** - NJSPL is now seeking undergraduate and master's level students for their Summer 2024 Internship Program. This paid, 10-week internship will take place three days a week (Tuesdays-Thursdays) in-person from June 4th to August 8th at 33 Livingston Avenue in New Brunswick. Students who are selected for this opportunity will research a public policy topic of their choosing. No prior experience in public policy research is required, but applicants must be passionate about a particular public policy topic and eager to conduct research. All applications must be submitted by **Friday, March 22, 2024**. For more information, [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

- **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 :

- [Press release: Restaurants, bars still serving alcohol to intoxicated patrons: Study](#)
- [Serving Alcohol to an “Obviously Intoxicated” Patron](#)
Robert Saltz, Mallie J. Paschall, Sharon O'Hara, David B. Buller, W. Gill Woodall, Lila Martinez
- [Are Health Levies From Unhealthy Commodities a Good Way to Fund Harm-Reduction Initiatives?](#)
Peter J. Adams
- [Applications of Immersive Virtual Reality for Illicit Substance Use: A Systematic Review](#)
Jake Samora, Haelim Jeong, Fiona N. Conway, Kasey R. Claborn
85(2), pp. 158–167

Just Accepted in JSAD:

- [Historical Trends in Cannabis Use among U.S. Adults Aged 19-55, 2013-2021](#)
Megan E. Patrick, Yuk C. Pang, Yvonne M. Terry-McElrath, and Brooke J. Arterberry
- [Preliminary Efficacy of Mindfulness and Cognitive Restructuring Interventions to Reduce Nonconsensual Sex Intentions](#)
Weiqi Chen, Julia F. Hammett, and Kelly Cue Davis
- [Latent trajectories of persistence of cannabis use across 4 decades in 329 men from the San Diego Prospective Study](#)
Marc A. Schuckit, Tom L. Smith, George Danko, Lee Anne Mendoza, and Hannah N. Fisher

-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. Daniel Myran: “Changes in Healthcare Visits Due to Cannabis Use Following Legalization of Non-medical Cannabis in Canada”**
Wednesday, March 27th at 12:00 p.m. EST

NJ ACTS Special Populations Core 2024 Seminar Series is hosting Dr. Daniel Myran to review studies tracking changes in healthcare visits due to cannabis in children and adults following non-medical cannabis legalization in Canada. 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](#).

- **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. EST

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. EST

Co-hosted by Rutgers Health, Rutgers School of Graduate Studies, and NJ ACTS this workshop will provide 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](#).

Addiction in the News

- [Biden-Harris Administration Launches the White House Challenge to Save Lives from Overdose](#) (The White House)
- [Rigid Rules at Methadone Clinics Are Jeopardizing Patients’ Path to Recovery From Opioid Addiction](#) (STAT)

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

- **Are you a student seeking training opportunities and research experiences?** The RARC has compiled a list of labs seeking students and may have opportunities at the undergraduate, medical, or graduate level. To view student research opportunities, [click here](#).
- **Rutgers University Libraries Announce Open Access Agreement with Elsevier** – Rutgers announced a historic, transformative open-access partnership with Elsevier, a global leader in information, scientific research, and analytics. The five-year arrangement managed by the Rutgers

University Libraries (RUL) will provide the Rutgers community with read access to over 4,600 journals, and enabling Rutgers researchers to publish in 1,700 hybrid journals without incurring Article Processing Charges (APCs). For more information, [click here](#).