

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

- **2024 RARC Fall Symposium (Friday, September 6, 2024):** Mark your calendar for the 2024 RARC Fall Symposium, a one-day event showcasing the breadth of addiction research and clinical services across Rutgers. This is a fantastic opportunity to learn about new and ongoing research and to connect with colleagues. The event will conclude with a poster session (with awards!) and a reception. We invite you to get involved by presenting a poster, showcasing your book, or sharing your late-breaking research findings. To register and learn more about the event and the different ways you can participate, [click here](#).
- **Open Postdoctoral Position:** The Rutgers Training in Addiction Research Program (TARP) is pleased to announce the availability of a postdoctoral position. Interested applicants should email their CV to Chris Pierce at chris.pierce@rutgers.edu. If you know a suitable candidate and would like to share the announcement, [click here](#).

RARC Resource Spotlight

- **JSAD Photo Library:** The Journal of Studies on Alcohol and Drugs, a publication of the Center of Alcohol & Substance Use Studies, is the oldest substance-related journal published in the United States. They offer a database for those who need stock photos related to alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs for use on social media, in news articles, and on websites (or for any other purpose). This is an open-access, public-domain collection containing hundreds of images!

RARC DEI Spotlight

- In her OpEd on NJ.com, 3rd-year medical student **Tayra Luisana Keshinover** highlights the critical role of primary care in underserved communities and the pressing need to diversify the physician workforce. She shares her personal journey from a low-income, Spanish-speaking household to medical school and advocates for increased support and pathways for

underrepresented students in medicine (URiM) to address health inequities. Keshinover calls on policymakers and corporations to fund URiM programs and expand medical student-run clinics to bridge the gaps in primary care. For more information, [click here](#).

Rutgers News

- Each summer, the **New Jersey Poison Control Center at Rutgers New Jersey Medical School** sees a rise in calls about seasonal hazards, including the dangers of alcohol exposure. With more people purchasing alcoholic beverages in the summer, there's an increased risk of children accidentally drinking alcohol, which can lead to life-threatening symptoms. To prevent accidental exposures, experts recommend keeping alcoholic drinks separate from nonalcoholic ones and always reading labels carefully to distinguish between them. For more information, [click here](#).

Opportunities

- **Call for Papers for Behavioral Sciences - Special Issue: Stress and Drinking:** Behavioral Sciences is requesting empirical manuscripts to undergo the peer-review process for a Special Issue on Stress and Drinking. They are seeking papers focusing on psychosocial determinants of alcohol-use disorders linked to stress. Topics of interest include stress manipulations, trait predictors, trauma history, and various life stressors. Papers featuring impaired control over alcohol use, heavy episodic drinking, and sufficient gender representation will be prioritized, with a broad age range of participants encouraged. For more information, [click here](#).
- **NJAMHAA Issues Call for Presentations for its Fall Behavioral Health Conference 2024: Innovate, Integrate, and Illuminate:** NJAMHAA is now accepting proposals to present at its Fall Behavioral Health Conference 2024, which will be taking place on October 22, 2024, at the DoubleTree by Hilton in Princeton, NJ. If you have expertise in any area related to mental health and addiction treatment, this is a great opportunity to share your knowledge and experience with other professionals in the field. To access the speaker application and for more information, [click here](#).
- **New Rutgers Center of Alcohol & Substance Use Studies Clinical Research Opportunities in NIDA's Clinical Trials Network:** We are excited to announce that Rutgers [Center of Alcohol & Substance Use Studies](#) hopes to be a formal partner in the prestigious [NIDA Clinical Trials Network \(CTN\)](#), marking a significant milestone in our commitment to advancing addiction research and treatment. As someone deeply involved with the CTN for over two decades ([Denise Hien](#)), particularly in leading a multisite study on trauma and addiction, we are excited about the prospects for the Rutgers Addictions community that this collaboration brings. Rutgers' partnership in the renewal of the [Greater NY Node](#) (at NYU and Columbia University Psychiatry Depts), alongside major partners like Montefiore, promises to open avenues for us to engage with the CTN. This includes opportunities to participate in funded research projects through the CCTN

funding mechanisms, as well as the ability to develop and propose community engaged, unsolicited concepts for consideration. We will be notifying folks over time about these kinds of opportunities. For details about our first opportunity and to view the full announcement [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](#).

Funding Opportunities

- **NOT-DA-24-029: High-Priority Interest to Enhance Data Science Research Training in Addiction Research:** Data science is an important cross-cutting research approach in the 2022 - 2026 NIDA Strategic Plan, and increasing the capacity of experts in data science for biomedical research of drug addiction is critical. The purpose of this Notice is to highlight NIDA's high-priority interest in receiving applications that will support training and career development in Data Science within the overall field of drug addiction research. Grants supported under this Notice can be from individuals at formative career stages or from established investigators proposing training programs that will support early career scientists. This notice applies to due dates on or after **October 12, 2024**. For more information, [click here](#).
- **Call for Applications: \$50,000 Prizes for Immigrant Scientists:** The Vilcek Foundation is accepting applications for the 2025 Vilcek Prizes for Creative Promise in Biomedical Science. In 2025, the Foundation will award three prizes of \$50,000 to immigrant and foreign-born research scientists living and working in the United States. To be eligible candidates must hold a PhD, and be employed full time in a research capacity as a principal investigator. Candidates must have been born outside of the United States to non-American parents, and must have lived in the United States for at least 4 years. Prizewinners are selected for the scientific rigor of their work, and for the impact of their work in their respective field of study. Eligible scientists are encouraged to apply by **June 10, 2024**. For more information, [click here](#).
- **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](#).

- **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 85/3:

- [Measuring Exposure to the Hazardous Drinking of Others and Perceived Opportunity to Intervene as a Bystander](#)

Nancy P. Barnett, Michelle Haikalis, Matthew K. Meisel, Jennifer E. Merrill, Richard N. Jones, Rochelle K. Rosen, Kate B. Carey, Lindsay M. Orchowski, Kelli Bradley

- [How Do Bystanders Help in Drinking Situations: The Bystanders to Alcohol Risk Scale—Strategies](#)

Matthew K. Meisel, Jennifer E. Merrill, Rochelle K. Rosen, Richard N. Jones, Michelle Haikalis, Kate B. Carey, Lindsay M. Orchowski, Kelli Bradley, Hannah Doucette, Nancy P. Barnett

Just Accepted in JSAD:

- [Solitary Drinkers in Great Britain: How Do Their Sociodemographic Characteristics, Consumption Patterns, and Drinking Occasions Differ From Those Who Drink With Others?](#)
Luke B. Wilson, Matthew Bain, Mónica Hernández-Alava, John Holmes, Rob Pryce, Alessandro Sasso, Abigail K. Stevely, Alan Warde, and Petra S. Meier
- [Prevalence and Correlates of Alcohol and Drug Harms to Others: Findings From the 2020 U.S. National Alcohol Survey](#)
EM Rosen, WC Kerr, D Patterson, TK Greenfield, S Ramos, and KJ Karriker-Jaffe
- [Efficiently Quantifying Egocentric Social Network Cannabis Use: Initial Psychometric Validation of the Brief Cannabis Social Density Assessment](#)
Samuel F. Acuff, J. Austin Varner, Justin C. Strickland, Kathryn S. Gex, Elizabeth R. Aston, James MacKillop, and James G. Murphy

JSAD FastTakes:

- [Hair Testing to Detect Long-Term Methamphetamine Use in People Living With or at Risk of HIV](#)
Ayesha Appa, Marjan Javanbakht, Gabriela Steiner, Rachel Bolanos, Hideaki Okochi, Matthew Spinelli, Pamina Gorbach, & Monica Gandhi

-Follow JSAD on [LinkedIn](#) and on Twitter/Facebook/Threads/Instagram: **@JSADjournal**

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

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

Save the Dates!

- **NAADAC Zoom Training – Romancing the Brain: Conflict Resolution for Recovery (CRR) Thursday and Friday, June 13-14th at 12:00 p.m. ET**

Join NAADAC Executive Consultant Cynthia Moreno Tuohy, for a two-day virtual Zoom training from 12:00pm ET to 7:00pm ET on June 13 – 14, 2024. The virtual CRR training is a two-day therapeutic training that is skill-based and focused on the brain, including how the brain works in conflict and strategies to affect the quality of recovery in relationships. For more information, [click here](#).

- **NeC-ROTAC Webinar – The Caring Connection: Trauma-Informed Care and Recovery Planning (in Rural Communities)**

Monday, June 17th at 1:00 p.m. ET

Hosted by the Northeast and Caribbean Rural Opioid Technical Assistance Center this webinar will lean into providers and caregivers identifying and recognizing the role and impact of trauma on recovery planning and how to work with clients to identify when trauma activation may impact their recovery plan This workshop will review the core components of trauma-informed care and lean into how to work with clients to identify how and when trauma impacts during their recovery journey. For more information, [click here](#).

- **NeC-ROTAC Webinar – Person Centered Care: Applications in Methadone Maintenance Treatment and Outpatient Program Settings**

Tuesday, June 18th at 1:00 p.m. ET

Hosted by the Northeast and Caribbean Rural Opioid Technical Assistance Center this webinar will define person-centered care and the application of this approach from the beginning of treatment to the end stage in outpatient settings. Participants will also learn the key components of OASAS standards of documentation of person-centered care in the treatment record of clients under their care. For more information, [click here](#).

- **Addiction Policy Forum Webinar - Food, Sex and Pornography: Addressing Process Addictions in Treatment and Recovery**

Wednesday, June 26th at 1:00 p.m. ET

Join this webinar to learn about process addictions with Dr. Nicole Avena, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Neuroscience at Mount Sinai School of Medicine, and Dr. Marc Potenza, Professor of Psychiatry, Child Study and Neuroscience at the Yale University School of Medicine. Presenters will cover the prevalence of process, or behavioral addictions, and discuss food, sex, and pornography process addictions and how these intersect with substance use disorders during treatment and recovery. For more information, [click here](#).

Addiction in the News

- [Food Addiction Should Be Included in the DSM-6](#) (MedPage Today)
- [Meth-Addict Fish, Aggro Starlings, Caffeinated Minnows: Animals Radically Changed by Human Drugs – Study](#) (The Gaurdian)

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).
- **Office of Statistical Consulting:** The Office of Statistical Consulting provides researchers, faculty, students, and administrators throughout the university support with collecting and interpreting data. Researchers from a broad range of disciplines, such as the biological sciences, computer science, education, library science, and the social sciences, can receive expert assistance from the consulting office either on an hourly basis or through long term, collaborative projects.