From the Director's Desk
Denise Hien, Ph.D., ABPP

Welcome to our 10th edition of broadCAST! Exciting new developments include our new faculty member, Dr. Tanya Saraiya and our postdoctoral researcher, Dr. Jordan Gette. I am pleased to share a recently released manuscript by our Project Harmony team from CAS, RTI International, City College of New York, Medical University of South Carolina, University of California San Diego published in the American Journal of Psychiatry. Our center recently expanded to engage community partners, including people with lived experience, in our research and program development initiatives. We are proud to feature the community engaged outreach activities of Barbara Stewart, a Community Advisory Board member. In 2023, we will be offering our ongoing Emerging Addiction Seminar Series and on June 14, 2023 we have scheduled a Summer Symposium "Looking Ahead: Science, Practice and Advocacy to Meet Emerging Addiction Challenges" at the Busch Campus Student Center in Piscataway, New Jersey. Join us for a lively engaged dialogue.
In The News

Dr. Lei Yu, one of our distinguished professors at CAS, was quoted in USA Today on the relationship between alcohol consumption and so-called ‘Asian flush’.
- Some Asians get an allergic reaction to alcohol in a phenomenon called ‘Asian flush.’
- It’s caused by a genetic mutation preventing the breakdown of toxins in alcoholic beverages.
- As a result, the redness, nausea and inflammation can make drinking an isolating experience.

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In The Center

Project Harmony: A Meta-Analysis With Individual Patient Data on Behavioral and Pharmacologic Trials for Comorbid Posttraumatic Stress and Alcohol or Other Drug Use Disorders

CAS Director, Denise Hien, authored a new study published in The American Journal of Psychiatry, that compared the effectiveness of several behavioral and pharmacological therapies for adults with co-occurring PTSD and alcohol or other drug use disorders.

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NEW FACULTY and SCHOLARS

We are pleased to welcome our newest faculty member, Dr. Tanya Saraiya. Her research focuses on development and adaptation of integrated treatments for PTSD and co-occurring substance use disorders to historically marginalized populations, such as women, racial and ethnic minorities, and individuals with complex, clinical presentations.

Dr. Jordan Gette has joined CAS as a postdoctoral fellow through the Rutgers Center of Alcohol and Substance Use Studies Clinical Research Fellowship in Trauma and Addictions. As a researcher, she is primarily interested in social and cognitive factors of substance use, particularly cannabis.
OTHER FACULTY UPDATES

Reach Alliance develops Cultural Humility Toolkit
The Racial Equity, Advocacy, and Community Health (REACH) Alliance group has released a newly developed resource toolkit to help promote cultural humility among mental health service providers. The toolkit can be used by providers across a broad range of disciplines—including psychiatrists, psychologists, counselors, and social workers. READ MORE

OTHER NEWS

Childhood ADHD and Substance Use
CAS is pleased to share the work of one of our (TRACC) alumni, Mariely Hernandez, PhD, and one of our mentors and co-investigators, Frances Levin, MD. Hernandez, and Levin are now at Columbia University, where they have recently published a paper, as described in the September 15 issue of the Department of Psychiatry newsletter: Childhood ADHD is a widely identified risk factor for substance use and its associated problems. READ MORE

OUR JOURNAL

Journal of Studies on Alcohol and Drugs

Now in its 83rd year, the Journal of Studies on Alcohol and Drugs—published by CAS—continues its place as one of the top journals in the substance-abuse field. Read exciting updates, highlights, and additional information about the journal.

The November 2022 issue includes open access article that focus on mortality risk following nonfatal injuries with alcohol use disorder. You can access the article here.

Two CAS faculty have had articles accepted for a future issues of the Journal:

- Angelo DiBello (first author), "Examining Attitude, Norms, and Intentions as Predictors of Prospective Change in Alcohol-Induced Blackouts".
In The Community

The Importance of Community Engagement

In a new report (November, 2022), the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) describes community engagement as an “essential component of an effective and equitable substance use prevention program.” At the Center of Alcohol and Substance Use Studies (CAS) at Rutgers University, we have long recognized the importance of community engagement in research, program design, and product development. READ MORE

Socks for the Soul

Barbara Stewart, a CAS Community Advisory Board member has been collecting socks for 10 years and distributing to individuals who are experiencing homelessness. CAS launched a donation campaign to support Barbara’s mission and collected several bags of socks. We received donations from the greater Rutgers community, affiliates and CAS faculty and staff.

In the Future

Upcoming Events

Our Wellness Training Learning Collaborative is winding down, with one more session scheduled on January 19. This project has been a great success, providing much needed support and information for enhancing personal and workplace wellness. CAS will maintain the online repository of resources after the project ends. READ MORE
The CAS Emerging Addiction Science Seminar Series is starting its next series. Visit our website to register and view other upcoming sessions. READ MORE

We are looking forward to our 2023 Summer Symposium, to be held on June 14, 2023, at Rutgers. To be added to the mailing list for the Symposium and registration, contact CAS Assistant Director, Dr. Peggy Swarbrick via email at: swarbrma@rutgers.edu

In the Arts

“HOOKED: When want becomes need” exhibition is an interactive experience that blends science, art, technology, and design to provide a visually compelling and thought-provoking look at the world of addiction and recovery. READ MORE