

New Awards!

Since the October 2007 issue of the *RIA Report*, RIA scientists have continued to submit grant applications and receive awards to fund addictions research. There are six new studies in total and they have been funded through NIAAA, NIDA, UB IRDF, the U. of Mississippi, and Buffalo State College.

Affect Regulation Training for Pregnant Smokers

The National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) and the Office of the Director of the National Institutes of Health awarded **Dr. Clara M. Bradizza** \$1.8 million over five years to develop and test an affect regulation smoking cessation intervention for pregnant smokers. To date, the smoking cessation treatment strategies that have demonstrated effectiveness in regular smokers have not translated into effective treatment strategies for pregnant women. Dr. Bradizza and colleagues (**Drs. Rina Eiden** and **Paul Stasiewicz** of RIA, and **Dr. Thomas Brandon** of the H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center and the University of South Florida) will develop an eight-session Affect Regulation Training intervention and, in a randomized clinical trial, will compare the Affect Regulation Training intervention with a control intervention in pregnant women. The goal of this project is to provide long-term health benefits for both the mothers and their children.

Developing MBSR for Application in Alcoholism Treatment

The National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA) awarded **Dr. Gerard J. Connors** \$1.9 million over four years to investigate the efficacy of Mindfulness-Based Stress Reduction (MBSR) in increasing the ability of alcohol dependent patients to cope with stress and in enhancing coping and psychological well-being. A treatment manual will be adapted for use in a 10-session outpatient alcoholism protocol, and a pilot clinical trial will be conducted to examine the effects of adding MBSR to standard treatment for alcohol dependent outpatients. Dr. Connors' co-investigators include **Drs. Kimberly S. Walitzer** of RIA, **Nancy J. Smyth** of UB's School of Social Work, and **Craig R. Colder** of UB's Department of Psychology.

Reducing Violence against Women with Alcoholic Partners

NIAAA awarded **Dr. Robert G. Rychtarik** \$2.6 million over five years to replicate and extend his research team's prior work on interventions for women living with the stress of an alcoholic partner not in treatment. The new grant will focus on studying the relative effects of Coping Skills Training and 12-Step Facilitation treatments on aggression commonly experienced by individuals in relationships affected by an alcohol problem. In addition, the grant will study the interrelationships of outcomes of the treatments, alcoholic partner and spouse negative affect, partner alcohol involvement, aversive relationship behaviors, and spouse self-control (coping) skills. Dr. Rychtarik's co-investigator is **Dr. Neil B. McGillicuddy** of RIA.

Collaborations

RIA's **Dr. Rebecca Houston** is co-investigator on the **Neurophysiological and Behavioral Characteristics of Heavy Drinkers and Aggressive Drivers** study led by Principal Investigator **Changxu Wu**, of UB's Department of Industrial and Engineering Systems. With support from UB's Interdepartmental Research Development Fund (IRDF), these scientists are examining the potentially interactive effects of heavy

Director's Message



RIA scientists have collaborated on several research initiatives funded since our last *RIA Report*. In the first, **Dr. Clara Bradizza** will be developing and testing an affect regulation smoking cessation intervention for pregnant smokers. In the second, **Dr. Robert Rychtarik** will be studying the relative effects of Coping Skills Training and 12-Step Facilitation treatments on aggression commonly experienced by individuals in relationships affected by an alcohol problem. In a third project, several colleagues and I will be studying the efficacy of Mindfulness-Based Stress Reduction in increasing the ability of alcohol dependent patients to cope with stress. In a fourth project, **Dr. Rebecca Houston** is a co-investigator on a study assessing the potentially interactive effects of heavy drinking and aggressive driving behavior on event-related brain potentials and behavior (Principal Investigator: **Dr. Changxu Wu**, UB Department of Industrial and Engineering Systems). In a fifth project, **Dr. John Welte** is collaborating with **Dr. William Wiczorek** (Principal Investigator, Buffalo State College) to assess the initiation and continuation of drinking and driving behavior. Finally, **Dr. Paul Stasiewicz** is collaborating on a project evaluating mechanisms of change, motivation, and treatment outcome in attention deficit/PTSD patients (Principal Investigator: **Dr. Scott Coffey**, University of Mississippi Medical Center).

Our Spring Seminar Series, completed this past May, featured presentations by **Drs. Jeanette Norris, Sara Jo Nixon, and Toni Shippenberg**. We were very pleased to have hosted these distinguished speakers. As a reminder, these seminar presentations are free and open to the public. Information on our upcoming Fall Seminar Series is provided in this report and at our website (www.ria.buffalo.edu)

I N S I D E

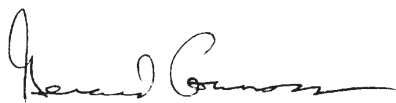
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Director's Message (cont'd from p. 1)

On another front, we held our annual "Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day." We hosted 20 children between the ages of five and 11. As part of their day, the children conducted a study (using RIA employees as subjects) and presented the results of their project to the RIA staff at the end of the day. A number of RIA staff contributed to the planning of the day, and we are indebted to them.

We recently held our annual Employee Recognition Gathering, which honors employees who have reached milestone points of service at RIA. Their names are listed elsewhere in the *Report*. Congratulations to them all!

Several personnel transitions are described in this issue of the *RIA Report*. First, **Susan M. Kalisz** retired as RIA's grants and contracts officer. Sue had worked with us at RIA for over 20 years. In conjunction with Sue's retirement, we welcomed **Laurie L. Wikander** as RIA's new grants and contracts officer, and we look forward to working with her. In addition, we bid fond farewell to **Dr. R. Lorraine Collins**, who has assumed the position of associate dean for research and professor of health behavior with the UB School of Public Health and Health Professions. We are very pleased that Lorraine is maintaining her ties with RIA as an associate research scientist and as co-training director of our postdoctoral training program. Further, we also extended retirement best wishes to **Gerry Brennan** and **Paula Richards**. Gerry served as a plant utilities engineer at RIA, and Paula served as our UNIX server administrator and data manager. Finally, all of us at RIA were saddened by the passing last November of **Mark Gentry**, RIA's building manager, who had been at RIA since 1973. Our condolences are with his family.



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We welcome comments from readers.

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Kids Day at RIA, 2008



RIA celebrated Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day on April 24. The national event is held every year on the fourth Thursday in April. Daughters, sons, nieces, nephews, grandchildren, other relatives, and young friends were welcome to participate.

Twenty children between the ages of five and 11 attended. The morning included a welcoming reception hosted by RIA Director **Gerard J. Connors**, a research experiment with RIA staff acting as subjects, and a presentation about the brain with **Dr. Rebecca Houston**. Following



lunch, Computer Services Department Manager **Paul Reinhardt** conducted a computer session, **Dr. Alexis Thompson** offered a lab session, and there was a hands-on opportunity with Graphic Designer **Rob Marczyński** and research staff. At the end of the day, the children presented their research results to an audience comprised of RIA employees and in turn, were awarded Certificates of Attendance, presented by RIA Deputy Director **Kimberly S. Walitzer**. 🌟



Corporate Challenge in Delaware Park

The 28th Annual JP Morgan Chase Corporate Challenge took place June 5 in Buffalo's Delaware Park and surrounding neighborhood and, as usual, there was a RIA contingent within the University at Buffalo team. The 12,388 participants from over 400 companies included RIA's Cathy Lau Barraco, Gerard J. Connors, Lindsey Draper, Gregory Homish, Lynn Homish, Neil B. McGillicuddy, Bonnie Morgante, Kelly O'Hern, MaryAnn Sims, and Pam Smith.

The 3.5 mile race or walk, depending on individual preference, again took place in 80+ degree

summer heat and humidity. The Challenge raises money for both local and national charities. This year's local recipients were the Olmsted Parks Conservancy (Delaware Park is part of the city-wide Frederick Law Olmsted parkways system on the National Register of Historic Places), Buffalo Prep (a non-profit helping low income, inner city youth with educational scholarships and private high schools to recruit more diverse populations), and the JP Morgan Chase Foundation (making grants for economic self-reliance, youth education, and community life). 🌟

A Fond Farewell to Susan M. Kalisz, and A Welcome to Laurie L. Wikander



RIA has bid a fond farewell to **Susan M. Kalisz**, who retired recently from her long-held role as RIA's grants and contracts officer. In that position, Sue supervised both pre-award and post-award activities at RIA. In addition to

overseeing the RIA business office, Sue for many years also supervised RIA's human resources office. Sue has been a friend and colleague to us all, and we will miss her tremendously. We wish her all the best in her retirement.

In conjunction with Sue's retirement, we are delighted to have recruited **Laurie L. Wikander** as RIA's new grants and contracts officer. For the past 12 years, Laurie had been working in the Finance Department at the offices of the Research Foundation of the City University of New York. Welcome, Laurie! 🌟



Celebrating RIA Employees

The Ninth Annual Employee Recognition Gathering was held on October 30, 2007 to honor the skills and commitment of long-time RIA staff members. Those celebrating service anniversaries the past year included:

5 Years of Service	15 Years of Service
Brian Bauer	Thomas Dillman
Ronda Dearing	Larry Jagodzinski
Kelli Heigl	Jennifer Livingston
Janet Rusch	MaryAnn Sims
Pam Smith	Nancy Weisbeck
Yvette Veira	20 Years of Service
10 Years of Service	R. Lorraine Collins
Gerald Brennan	Michael Frone
Stacy Croff	Robert Rychtarik
Nicole Mercer	Ann Sawusch
Carol Nottingham	25 Years of Service
Margalit Post	Paula Richards
Lisa Powell	35 Years of Service
	Grace Barnes

Transitions. . .



Dr. R. Lorraine Collins, a senior research scientist at RIA for 21 years, transitioned this past January from RIA to UB's School of Public Health and Health Professions, where she has assumed the position of associate dean

for research and professor of health behavior.

Although Lorraine has a new "home" affiliation within UB, she is maintaining a close connection with RIA via her continuing role as co-training director of RIA's NIAAA-funded postdoctoral training program on alcohol treatment and etiology. In addition, Lorraine will be maintaining her research collaborations with a number of RIA scientists. We wish her all the best in her new position.

RIA also bid farewell to **Gerry Brennan** and **Paula Richards**, who recently retired. Gerry retired in April after over 11 years of service at RIA. He had served as a plant utilities engineer. Paula retired in May following 26 years at RIA. Paula had served as UNIX server administrator and data manager. We wish them the best in their respective retirement endeavors. 🌟

We Remember



All of us at RIA are saddened by the passing this past November of **Mark Gentry**. Mark served as RIA's building manager, and had worked at RIA since 1973. We miss him very much, and our condolences are with his wife, Karen, and their six children.

New Awards *(cont'd from p. 1)*

drinking and aggressive driving behavior on event-related brain potentials and behavior during a driving simulation task. The ultimate goal is a better understanding of the different attentional demands during driving across these groups which could result in improvements to transportation safety.

Dr. John W. Welte is collaborating on a NIAAA award received by **Dr. William Wieczorek** of Buffalo State College to study the **Initiation and Continuation of Drinking and Driving Behavior**. This project is building a fourth wave of data onto three waves collected by the "Drinking and Delinquency in Young Men Study" led by Dr. Welte from 1991-97.

Dr. Paul R. Stasiewicz is working with **Dr. Scott Coffey** on the University of Mississippi Medical Center's **Mechanism of Change, Motivation, and Treatment Outcome in Alcohol Dependence (AD)-Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)** study. This project is a continuation of their program of research demonstrating the interconnectedness of negative emotions and alcohol dependence which suggests that reducing negative emotions among alcohol dependent men and women with co-occurring PTSD may result in improved alcohol treatment outcomes. 🌟

The *RIA Report* is also available electronically. To add/delete your address from either email or postal delivery, email webmaster@ria.buffalo.edu or call 716-887-2566.

Developing Careers in Addiction Science

RIA's Research Training Program on Alcohol Etiology and Treatment is in its eighth year with support from NIAAA. Sixteen individuals to date have had or are currently gaining specialized postdoctoral training in the field of addictions. A brief overview of some of the activities of our current postdoctoral fellows is provided below.



Dr. Amy Brown is conducting an investigation of drunk driving and alcohol-related violence at student parties. Approximately 80 students are participating in focus groups to discuss their impressions of "what goes on at parties." Dr. Brown's goal is to explore college students' observations and interpretations of negative alcohol-related behaviors at parties and the impact of bystander intervention in preventing negative consequences.

Dr. Cathy Lau-Barraco is studying drinking among non-student young adults. She is exploring social-environmental and cognitive influences of drinking behavior and their associated negative consequences in non-students ages 18-25 years. She hopes to extend this work later on with the development and testing of a brief intervention program specifically



targeted to at-risk drinkers in this age group. In addition, Dr. Lau-Barraco was a recipient of the Research Society on Alcoholism 2008 Junior Investigator Award.



Dr. Brent Finger is collaborating with his mentor, Dr. Rina Das Eiden, on her ongoing project assessing prenatal tobacco exposure. He has worked on a qualitative prenatal interview intended to elicit the mother's evolving representation of her future child and herself as mother. He also is collaborating with Dr. Eiden on her longitudinal study of children of alcoholic fathers.

Dr. Carlos Finlay has been investigating the effect of alcohol on anxiety-related feelings and situations. In August, Dr. Finlay is leaving RIA to work at the National Center for Post Traumatic Stress Disorders in Boston, part of the Boston VA Healthcare System. He will be investigating the relationship between traumatic brain injury and posttraumatic stress symptoms in addition to treating



returning veterans and supervising unlicensed clinicians in their delivery of psychological services. We wish Dr. Finlay all the best in this next step of his career.



Dr. Monica Skewes' research is centered on health literacy and substance abuse treatment outcomes. She hopes to add to the body of knowledge about health literacy (defined as the capacity to obtain, process, understand, and utilize health-related information in order to make appropriate health-related decisions) among substance abusers through work with residents of a local inpatient treatment program.

Finally, **Dr. Eric Truxell** is exploring the effects of prenatal ethanol and nicotine exposure on reinforcing effects of ethanol in adulthood. He is examining possible synergistic effects of early ethanol (alcohol) and nicotine exposure in animals, as well as life-long voluntary ethanol exposure on ethanol intake and reinforcement during adulthood. 🌟



RIA Newsmakers

"Wired: Energy Drinks, Jock Identity, Masculine Norms, and Risk Taking" was published in the March/April 2008 issue of the *Journal of American College Health* and **Dr. Kathleen E. Miller's** phone started ringing! Beginning with her May 28 interview in the *New York Times* and her appearance the same day on NBC's *Today Show*, her research of youth and energy drink consumption has been covered by television stations including CNN, ABC, CBS, and Fox, local and national radio, international websites and newspapers, including Chile's *La Tercera* and the United Arab Emirates' *The National*.

A press release detailing results from the first national study of gambling by youth ages 14-21 was distributed on May 6. As in the past, gambling experts **Drs. John W. Welte and Grace M. Barnes'** work was picked up by a myriad of media outlets. They included: washingtonpost.com, HealthNewsDigest.com, medicalnewstoday.com, sciencedaily.com, health.msn.com, MedIndia.com, USA Today Better Life Blog, U.S. News & World Report, physorg.com, newKerala.com, in.news.yahoo.com, healthday.com, health.usnews.com, woio.com, salud.latino.msn.com, and news.yahoo.com.

Dr. Michael R. Frone and colleagues **Drs. Alica Grandey** and **Julie Kern** of Penn State received an award for the best paper published in the *Journal of Occupational Health Psychology* during 2006 and 2007 at the Work, Stress, and Health 2008 Conference in Washington, DC on March 7, 2008. The paper was entitled "Verbal Abuse from Outsiders Versus Insiders: Comparing Frequency, Impact on Emotional Exhaustion, and the Role of Emotional Labor." The award was sponsored by the American Psychological Association, the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, and the Society for Occupational Health Psychology. In 2008, Dr. Frone has also been elected a Fellow in the American Psychological Association. 🌟

Research In Review

Unique Aspects of Adolescent Sexual Victimization Experiences

Adolescent females are at disproportionately high risk of experiencing sexual aggression (Bureau of Justice Statistics, 2000), yet little is known about the factors that make adolescence a uniquely vulnerable time. This study compared the characteristics of adolescent and adult sexual victimization experiences using qualitative data analysis to gain insight into factors that contribute to adolescent sexual vulnerability.

Using random-digit dialing, a household sample of 1,014 women (ages 18 to 30) was identified for a study of alcohol use and sexual behavior. On average, participants were 24 years old and unmarried (77 percent). Approximately 76 percent were white; 15 percent were black. Most were employed (78 percent). Three hundred nineteen women (31 percent) indicated that they had experienced sexual victimization since age 14, and gave detailed information about the most recent incident of sexual assault. Incidents occurring when the participant was between 14–17 years of age were classified as adolescent ($n = 112$) and those occurring at age 19 or later ($n = 207$) were classified as adult incidents. [Eighteen year olds were excluded from the analyses because about half described incidents that were similar to adolescent incidents (i.e., occurring during high school) and half were more similar to adult incidents. Eighteen is a transitional year for many young women, one in which they spend time both as a high school student and as a young adult entering college or the workforce.]

Findings

- Adolescents were more likely than adults to be victimized at a party or social gathering by someone they did not know well and with whom they had no prior sexual history. In contrast, adult women were more likely than adolescents to be victimized by intimate partners in their homes.
- Adolescent and adult incidents did not differ in terms of alcohol consumption by the victim or the perpetrator.
- Adolescent girls were most likely to be victimized in one of four contexts: within an intimate relationship, at a party or social gathering, by an authority figure, or while alone with a friend.
- Factors contributing to adolescent vulnerability included: inexperience with sex and

dating, reduced supervision, substance use, social and relationship concerns, and powerlessness.

Developmental, environmental and social factors interact in unique ways to increase adolescents' risk of sexual victimization. For example, as teens become more independent and expand their social lives beyond home and family they are exposed to more potential perpetrators. Reduced supervision at this age also provides opportunities to engage in illicit activities such as drinking, drug use, and sexual behavior. Lack of experience with alcohol may render adolescent girls vulnerable to sexual aggression because they may drink to excess, feel isolated, or are unwilling to seek help because they are engaging in illicit activity. Furthermore, because of their inexperience with sex and dating, adolescent girls may not recognize risk inherent in a situation that may be obvious to an adult woman, or they may not know how to handle unwanted advances when they occur, i.e., a girl may interpret being invited by a boy into a bedroom to talk as a sign that he wants to get to know her better and she may be unaware of the sexual innuendo. Concerns about social norms and acceptance, the boy's feelings, or loss of affiliation with a popular male also may put a girl at risk for unwanted sexual advances. In sum, adolescent females can be targets for sexual aggression because they are relatively naïve, trusting, and subject to social pressure. They are also relatively powerless from physical, legal, and social perspectives.

Future prevention efforts might focus on improving parent-teen communication geared toward helping adolescent girls and boys discuss and negotiate sexual expectations and limits. Better communication may also encourage girls to seek parental help when they find themselves in a risky situation, even when they have been engaging in activities not condoned by the parent. On a social level, we must work to change sexual scripts so that both male and female adolescents understand what constitutes acceptable sexual behavior and recognize that forced sex is unacceptable in any circumstances.

For more on this, see: Livingston, J. A., Hequembourg, A., Testa, M., & VanZile-Tamsen, C. (2007). Unique aspects of adolescent sexual victimization experiences. *Psychology of Women Quarterly*, 31, 331-343.

This research was funded by the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA) Grant R01AA12013 awarded to Maria Testa. ❁

RIA Presence Strong in 2007-08

The Institute was well-represented at prominent professional conferences this year, including the **Society for Neuroscience** annual meeting held November 3-7, 2007 in San Diego; the **Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies (ABCT)** annual meeting November 15-18, 2007 in Philadelphia; and most recently, the **College on Problems of Drug Dependence** conference June 14-19 in San Juan, Puerto Rico; and the **Research Society on Alcoholism (RSA)** annual meeting, June 28-July 2, 2008 in Washington, DC. A list of the RIA presentations is provided below with staff names in bold.

RIA at the Society for Neuroscience

Jerry B. Richards, Lisham Ashrafoun, Michele San George, Amy Gancarz, & Kathryn Hausknecht

Effects of Methamphetamine on Responding for Familiar and Novel Visual Stimuli

Effects of Methylphenidate on the Value and Timing of Delayed Rewards in Rats with Nucleus Accumbens Core Lesions

Differential Performance of Vasopressin 1b Receptor Knockout Mice, Wild Type Controls, and Heterozygous Mice on Three Laboratory Models of Impulsive Behavior

Differential Effects of Dopaminergic and Serotonergic Drugs on a Combined Delay Discounting Peak Interval Task in Serotonin Transporter Knockout Mice

Alexis C. Thompson, Jerry B. Richards, Adam Privitera, Julie Grakowsky, Mauricio Suarez, & Alex Caven

Long-term Methamphetamine Self-administration Enhances Behavioral Inhibition in a Stop Signal Reaction Time Task

RIA at ABCT

Barrick, C.

Substance abuse treatment facility administrators assessment of training needs

Bashaw, H. L., Vincent, P. C., Bradizza, C. M., Mercer, N. D., Connors, G. J., Maisto, S. A., & Stasiewicz, P. R.

Strategies for maximizing retention of severely mentally ill substance abusers in longitudinal research

Bradizza, C. M., Stasiewicz, P. R., Vincent, P. C., Maisto, S. A., Connors, G. J., & Mercer, N. D.

Longitudinal prediction of alcohol involvement among severely mentally ill alcohol abusers in treatment

Brown, A. L., & Messman-Moore, T.

Do methods of coercion impact psychological consequences of sexual victimization?

Brown, A. L., & Testa, M.

Consequences of forcible and incapacitated rape in a community sample

Coffey, S. F., Stasiewicz, P. R., Baschnagel, J. S., & Schumacher, J. A.

How can basic research inform clinical perspectives on substance use and anxiety comorbidity?

Dearing, R. L., Walitzer, K. S., & Connors, G. J.

Can guilt (or shame) lead to treatment? Results from a study of at-risk drinkers

Seminar Series Review



Jeanette Norris, Ph.D.



Sara Jo Nixon, Ph.D.



Toni S. Shippenberg, Ph.D.

Every spring and fall, RIA's Seminar Series brings outstanding national experts to Buffalo to meet with RIA scientists and to present cutting-edge reports of current research. Audiences for the presentations include RIA scientists and staff, addiction treatment providers, college students, and interested members of the public.

On April 4, **Jeanette Norris, Ph.D.**, senior research scientist at the University of Washington's Alcohol and Drug Abuse Institute, presented "Thinking About Sex: Cognitive Mediation of Alcohol's Effects on Women's Sexual Decisions." Dr. Norris discussed whether alcohol use influences sexual behavior by way of cognitive appraisal. She described a recent study examining the relationship between sexual decision-making and alcohol use. One hundred seventy-three female participants who described themselves as social drinkers were offered a description of a hypothetical encounter. Alcohol dose administered to the participants was manipulated, and decision-making based on the hypothetical situation was recorded. The results suggested that a cognitive mediation model is useful for understanding women's sexual decision-making.

The Seminar Series continued April 25 with a presentation by **Sara Jo Nixon, Ph.D.**, professor in the Department of Psychiatry, College of Medicine, and in the Department of Psychology in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at the University of Florida, Gainesville. Dr. Nixon discussed the co-morbidity of nicotine and other substances. Based on her work in both Oklahoma and Florida, she reported that 87 percent of the alcoholics studied were smokers; smoking alcoholics often report greater alcohol dependence severity than non-smoking alcoholics; youth who

smoke are more likely to meet criteria for alcohol use disorder; and smoking alcoholics are more likely to die from the complications of smoking than from complications of alcohol. She went on to describe her research on the acute effects of the co-morbidity, separating nicotine the drug from smoking the behavior. Nixon also described the impact of chronic smoking on the brain, smoking's impact on recovery, and the impact of relapse to alcohol for smokers and non-smokers.

On May 9, **Toni S. Shippenberg, Ph.D.**, chief of the Integrative Neuroscience Section, Behavioral Neuroscience Branch, Intramural Research Program at NIDA, presented her research on the role of the dynorphin/kappa opioid receptor in cocaine addiction. She reported that her research has uncovered a role for dynorphin, a neuropeptide neurotransmitter, in the regulation of dopamine neurotransmission in parts of the brain in which drugs of abuse are thought to work to induce drug dependency and addiction. She reported that dynorphin regulates dopamine by modifying both the rate of release and the rate of clearance (or termination) of dopamine. She described the impact of this control of dopamine by dynorphin on the rewarding effects of cocaine and the behavioral sensitization effects of cocaine that underlie the initiation of drug use and the transition from recreational drug use to compulsive drug use. Dr. Shippenberg described how the activity of the KOPr receptor system in the brain, the receptor system on which dynorphin acts most directly, increases after repeated administration of cocaine as a counter-adaptation that reduces the acute effects of cocaine. Furthermore, behavioral and neurochemical responses to cocaine increase when KOPr is blocked and decrease when KOPr activity increases. She presented data that suggests that this counter-adaptation, endur-

ing activation of the KOPr system that stands "ready" to counteract the effects of cocaine on the brain, may account for some or all of the negative affect associated with early periods of cocaine withdrawal. New drug treatments for cocaine dependency include drugs that block the KOPr system during withdrawal to try and help alleviate negative affect which may drive drug seeking. 🌟

New Seminar Schedule

The fall 2008 RIA Seminar Series schedule has been confirmed. Scientific presentations by national experts from the field of addictions research will be held at RIA on Fridays at 10 a.m. from September through December. Updated information can be found on RIAweb at <http://www.ria.buffalo.edu/events/index.html>

September 19

Jalie Tucker, Ph.D.

Professor and Chair of the Department of Health Behavior in the School of Public Health, University of Alabama, Birmingham

October 3

Barbara S. McCrady, Ph.D.

Professor and Director of the Center of Alcoholism, Substance Abuse, and Addictions (CASAA), University of New Mexico, Albuquerque

November 7

John Curtin, Ph.D.

Associate Professor, Psychology Department, University of Wisconsin-Madison

December 12

John W. Welte, Ph.D.

RIA Senior Research Scientist

Finlay, C. G., Bradizza, C. M., Vincent, P. C., Stasiewicz, P. R., Connors, G. J., Maisto, S. A., & Mercer, N. D. Effects of PTSD symptomatology on ambivalence toward alcohol consumption in a co-morbid severely mentally ill and alcohol dependent sample

Finlay, C. G., Stasiewicz, P. R., Coffey, S. F., & Baschnagel, J. S.

Reduction of alcohol craving following imaginal exposure to trauma cues in three comorbid PTSD-alcohol dependent patients

Lau-Barraco, C., & Read, J. P.

Alcohol expectancies and drinking motives as predictors of alcohol problems in a young adult sample

Lau-Barraco, C., Skewes, M. C., Collins, R. L., & Stasiewicz, P. R.

Gender differences in high-risk situations for drinking: Are they mediated by depressive symptoms?

Leonard, K. E., & Homish, G. G.

Physical and verbal aggression in marriage as predictors of marital satisfaction and divorce

McLeish, A. C., Stasiewicz, P. R., Schumacher, J. A., & Coffey, S. F.

Difficulties among alcoholic males with a history of intimate partner violence

Parks, K. A., & Dearing, R. L.

College women's psychological health: The role of shame and guilt

Rychtarik, R. G., & McGillicuddy, N. B.

Behavioral Couples Therapy for pathological gamblers

Skewes, M. C., Dermen, K. H., & Stasiewicz, P. R.

Factor structure of the SOCRATES in a sample of DWI offenders presenting for treatment

Skewes, M. C., Lau-Barraco, C., Gonzalez, V. M., Dermen, K. H., & Stasiewicz, P. R.

Motivation and drinking behavior: Examining the SOCRATES in a sample of DWI offenders

Stuart, G., O'Farrell, T., Leonard, K. E., Brown, R., Stout, R., Moore, T., Temple, J., Recupero, P., Ramsey, S., Kahler, C., Follansbee, K., & Bucossi, M.

Reductions in intimate partner violence following treatment for alcohol problems in men

RIA at CPDD

Barrick, C., & Homish, G. G.

Analytic approach for counselor training project with a successive cohort design

Brown, A. L., Lau-Barraco, C., & Testa, M.

Typical alcohol use and alcohol expectancies predict victim blame in incapacitated rape vignette

Eiden, R. D., Veira, Y., Granger, D. A., & Schuetz, P.

Prenatal cocaine exposure and infant stress reactivity

Grohman, K., & Edwards, E. P.

The Neuropsychological Assessment Battery – Screening Module: Utility at treatment entry

Homish, D. L., Dermen, K. H., Koutsky, J. R., & Augustino, D. K.

Drug problems, sex trading, and sex-related attitudes among women entering substance abuse treatment

Homish, G. G., Leonard, K. E., & Cornelius, J. R.

Predicting changes in smoking: Individual, partner and relationship influences

Homish, G. G., & Leonard, K. E.

Testing methodologies to recruit adult substance-using couples

Lau-Barraco, C., Brown, A. L., & Testa, M.

Perceived stress predicts alcohol-related problems through drinking motives

Schuetz, P., Edwards, E. P., & Eiden, R. D.

An examination of physiological regulation in cocaine-exposed infants across the first 7 months of life

Slawiak, L., & Barrick, C.

The effect of educational background and individual learning styles on substance abuse clinician training

RIA at RSA

Barrick, C., Walitzer, K. S., & Dermen, K. H.

Predicting drinking outcome using self-report physical and mental health measures

Brown, A. L., Lau-Barraco, C., & Testa, M.

Typical alcohol use and alcohol expectancies predict victim blame in an incapacitated rape vignette

Conner, K. R., Houston, R. J., & Swogger, M. T.

A test of the reactive aggression-suicidal ideation hypothesis. A case for proactive aggression?

Dermen, K. H., Homish, D. L., Koutsky, J. R., Augustino, D. K., & Testa, M.

Predictors of condom use intentions among women entering substance abuse treatment

Edwards, E. P., Leonard, K. E., & Homish, G. G.

Marital satisfaction & co-parenting as predictors of behavior problems among children of heavy drinking fathers

Gonzalez, V. M., Bradizza, C. M., & Collins, R. L.

Solitary binge drinking among college drinkers with a history of suicidal ideation

Grohman, K., Edwards, E. P., & Cory, E.

Treatment providers' perception of cognitive impairment in an alcohol dependent population

Houston, R. J.

Impulsivity: A multi-faceted construct

Lau-Barraco, C., Brown, A. L., & Testa, M.

Perceived stress predicts alcohol-related problems through drinking motives

Leonard, K. E., & Homish, G. G.

Differentiating between husbands who seek treatment and those who do not: Individual, partner, and relationship factors

Leonard, K. E., Homish, G. G., & Quigley, B. M.

Alcohol expectancies and alcohol-related aggression: Are they related?

Monahan, C. I., Creager, W. R., Twaragowski, C. L., Houston, R. J., & Ostrov, J. M.

Problem drinking, psychopathic traits, and gender in emerging adulthood

Parks, K. A., Collins, R. L., Levonyan-Radloff, K., & Hsieh, Y.

Preliminary evaluation of a multivariate model of risky sexual behavior among young women bar drinkers

Parks, K. A., Taggart, C. A., Walitzer, K. S., & Hsieh, Y.

College women's drinking and victimization over three years: Are they getting older and wiser?

Schlienz, N. J., Houston, R. J., & Stanford, M. S.

Alcohol dependence, impulsive aggression, and increasing task demand: A P3 study

Testa, M., & Livingston, J. A.

Reducing women's college drinking and sexual risk via parental monitoring following parent-based intervention

Twaragowski, C. L., Creager, W. R., Monahan, C. I., Houston, R. J., & Ostrov, J. M.

Forms and functions of aggression and problem drinking in emerging adults



Name: Kenneth E. Leonard, Ph.D.

Education: Ph.D., Clinical Psychology, Kent State University

Professional Experience and Appointments:

Research Scientist, RIA, University at Buffalo

Research Professor, UB Department of Psychiatry and Vice Chair for Research, Department of Psychiatry

Adjunct Professor, UB Department of Psychology

Fellow, Divisions 50 and 28, American Psychological Association

Editorial Boards: *Aggression and Violent Behavior*, *Journal of Studies on Alcohol and Drugs*, *Alcoholism: Clinical and Experimental Research*

Research Interests: Marital / family processes; parenting and infant development; interpersonal aggression; bar violence; domestic violence.

Currently Funded Research Projects: Principal Investigator, Study of Health and Adult Relationships, funded by NIAAA

Principal Investigator, Alcohol and Early Marriage, funded by NIAAA

Co-Investigator, Alcohol and Couples Communication Study

Co-Investigator, Parenting and Infant / Child Development in Alcoholic Families

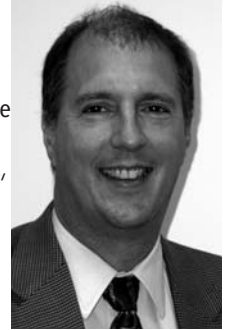
Co-Investigator, Prenatal & ETS Exposure: Effects on Child Regulation

Publications: More than 100 journal articles and book chapters.

Honors and Awards: Past-President, Division 50 of the American Psychological Association; Treasurer, Research Society on Alcoholism; Council Member, International Society for Research on Aggression; MERIT Award, National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism; State University of New York Research Foundation, Research and Scholarship Award; Josie Olympia, M.D. Award, Outstanding Faculty in Psychiatry

Dr. Leonard lives in Williamsville with his wife, Angie, and daughter, Allison. His son, Benjamin, is in law school at Hofstra University, and his daughter, Katie, is a film major at York University in Toronto. He spends his spare time playing guitar and basketball, and attending his daughter's sporting events.

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Select Conference Presentations

July, 2007

International Conference on Social Dilemmas,
Seattle, Washington

Brown, A. L., Abele, S., & Stasser, G. The impact of positive and negative framing and payoff structure on decision making in social dilemmas

International Family Violence and Child
Victimization Research Conference,
Portsmouth, New Hampshire

Leonard, K. E. Excessive drinking and alcoholism: What is their role in domestic violence and parenting behavior?

August, 2007

American Psychological Association,
San Francisco, California

Dearing, R. L., Twaragowski, C. L., Koutsky, J. R., Connors, G. J., & Walitzer, K. S. Super Bowl Sunday: Risky business for at-risk drinkers?

Minority Women's Health Summit,
Washington, District of Columbia

Skewes, M. C., & Morera, O. F. Lessons from a web-based smoking cessation: Intervention target to Hispanic female college students

October, 2007

International Society for Research on Impulsivity,
New York, New York

Godleski, S., Schlienz, N. J., Houston, R. J., & Ostrov, J. M. Forms and functions of aggression and processing of threat cues: An ERP study

International Meeting on Alcohol and Violence,
Washington, District of Columbia

Leonard, K. E. The role of drinking patterns and acute alcohol use in violent interpersonal behaviors

Society for Psychophysiological Research,
Savannah, Georgia

Schlienz, N. J., Houston, R. J., & Ostrov, J. M. Abnormal P3 topography in relation to impulsive antisociality

November, 2007

New York Council on Problem Gambling Annual
Conference, Hauppauge, New York

Rychtarik, R. G. New York Council on Problem Gambling research priority survey findings

February 2008

Society for Research on Nicotine and Tobacco,
Portland, Oregon

Dollar, K. M., Homish, G. G., Kozlowski, L. T., & Leonard, K. E. Longitudinal predictors of smoking cessation in a community sample of married couples

Unrod, M., Drobes, D. J., Stasiewicz, P. R., Ditre, J. W., Armstrong, G., Bouton, M. E., Miller, R. R., Niaura, R. S., & Brandon, T. H. Key decision points in conducting cue-exposure therapy for smoking cessation

March, 2008

American Psychological Association Violence
Summit, Bethesda, Maryland

Leonard, K. E. The role of alcohol and substance abuse in the occurrence of intimate partner violence

Society for Behavioral Medicine,
San Diego, California

Dollar, K. M., Homish, G. G., Kozlowski, L. T., & Leonard, K. E. Longitudinal predictors of heavy drinking in a community sample of married couples

Society for Research on Adolescence,
Chicago, Illinois

Livingston, J. A., & Bay-Cheng, L. Adolescent girls' perceptions of the sexual advantages and dangers of drinking

Houston, R. J., & Ostrov, J. M. Forms and functions of aggression and social-psychological adjustment

Work, Stress, and Health Conference,
Washington, District of Columbia

Frone, M. R. Obesity and absenteeism: Mediating effect of physical and mental health

Schat, A. C. H., & Frone, M. R. Workplace psychological aggression and job performance: A mediational model

Southeastern Conference on the Teaching of
Psychology, Atlanta, Georgia

Lea, M., Bakker, A., Brown, A. L., & Lippa, Y. Using experimental software to develop critical thinking

April, 2008

Society for Research in Human Development,
Little Rock, Arkansas

Finger, B., & Hans, S. Disorganized attachment vs. developmental delay: Correlates of infant distress without approach in the strange situation procedure

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