

2026 RARC Fall Symposium

SCHEDULE

Wednesday, September 16

8:30-9:00 AM

Registration and Breakfast

9:00-9:30 AM

Welcome

Danielle Dick, Director, Rutgers Addiction Research Center
Michael E. Zwick, Senior Vice President for Research
Lauren Sisler, ESPN Reporter, Author & Motivational Speaker

9:30-10:30 AM

Opening Plenary

Yasmin Hurd, Director, Addiction Institute, Mount Sinai Icahn School of Medicine

10:30-11:00 AM

Coffee Break

11:00 AM-
12:00 PM

From Research to Real World Impact

Chair: Danielle Dick

Danielle Dick, Director, Rutgers Addiction Research Center – **Overview of RARC Strategic Plan**
Santiago Cuesta, Assistant Professor of Cell Biology & Neuroscience, SAS-NB
Anne Fernandez, RARC Associate Director for Health Services & Policy, Assoc Prof Psychiatry

12:00-1:00 PM

Lunch

1:00-2:00 PM

From Brain Circuits to Therapeutics

Chair: Ethan Cowan

David Zald, Professor of Psychiatry, RWJMS
Bridget Matikainen-Ankney, Assistant Professor of Psychology, SAS-NB
Eileen Carry and **Ariane Vasilatis**, Co-Founders, Zena Therapeutics

2:00-3:00 PM

Bringing Science into Clinical Settings

Chair: Ethan Cowan

Holly Poore, Instructor of Psychiatry, RWJMS
Jill Rabinowitz, Assistant Professor of Psychiatry, RWJMS
Creighton Drury, CEO & President, Partnership to End Addiction

3:00-3:00PM

Coffee Break

3:30-4:30 PM

Trainee Lightning Talks

Co-Chairs: Kristina Jackson and Chris Pierce

4:30-6:00 PM

Wrap-Up, Poster Session & Reception