



International Drug Abuse Research Society **IDARS NEWS**



Volume 2 Number 2, spring 2022

Dr. George F. Koob



Hello everyone, the COVID-19 pandemic and opioid epidemic have generated catastrophic damage to our lives, affecting our health, including particularly mental health, and contributing to significant increases in mortality. More specifically during COVID-19, there has been increased alcohol and drug misuse, alcohol-linked mortality and opioid overdoses. COVID-19 pandemic disrupted so many lives and livelihoods, and also affected IDARS hence we missed IDARS 2021 post Morocco meeting. As the world moves beyond the acute coronavirus pandemic and move into a post-pandemic stage, challenges in alcohol and drug addiction loom greater than ever as will the need for new solutions and for novel therapeutic approaches. Today, the transition between pandemic and post-pandemic COVID-19 that is evolving reveals the fault lines and gaps in understanding alcohol and drug addiction and reminds us that this effort remains a global challenge for IDARS.

I am proud to announce that IDARS has joined with the International Narcotics Research Conference (INRC) - the foremost society of scientists working on all aspects of opioids—to launch *Advances in Drug and Alcohol Research (ADAR)* as the official journal of IDARS and INRC with Frontier's Publishing Partnership platform (see page 2). We are also pleased to announce that Dr. Emmanuel Onaivi has graciously accepted the position

as Editor in Chief of ADAR that was launched in April of 2021. We would also like to express special thanks to ADAR Associate Editors from both IDARS and INRC that have reviewed publications, and agreed to be Guest Editors for upcoming special issues. We welcome submission of your contributions from members of IDARS and INRC to ADAR journal.

As we plan to be together again for our 8th biennial IDARS 2022 meeting in Nice France from September 26-30 (see page 2), we express our special thanks to Dr. Syed Ali, our tireless Executive Officer who is emerging from retirement with a stellar and outstanding career with NCTR/Food and Drug Administration. Syed has demonstrated that he is the life and breathe of IDARS. We hope that Syed will continue to guide IDARS to new frontiers. We would also like to thank Dr. Nicholas Gilpin, Professor of Physiology, Vice Chair of Research in Physiology, Associate Director, Alcohol and Drug Abuse Center of Excellence at

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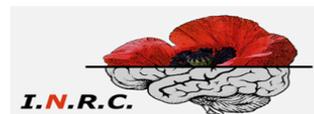
Louisiana State University School of Medicine, and—a recipient of Presidential Early award amongst many other awards and has stepped up together with Syed as IDARS meeting organizers. In this brief issue IDARS newsletter returns with Emmanuel Onaivi as the founding Editor of the newsletter. The IDARS newsletter publication, now in its second volume is the source for reports on member news (see page 2), and announcements of interest to IDARS members. We encourage graduate students, postdoctoral fellows, and junior faculty without access to sufficient funds to apply for NIAAA—sponsored R13 travel grant/travel support to the IDARS meeting. For individuals in the early stages of their careers in addiction research are encouraged to apply to four Young Investigator Awards (Dr. George Koob Travel Award, Dr. Michael Kuhar Travel Award, Dr. Eliot Gardner Travel Award and Institute of NeuroImmune Pharmacology, Seton Hall University Travel Award). The application for these awards are in IDARS website. [IDARS](#). Please note that IDARS is dedicated to advancing diversity, equity and inclusion in our organization and at all our meetings. I look forward to meeting you all in Nice, and seeing everyone again in person.

EDITORIAL CORNER

Advances in Drug and Alcohol Research.

ADAR

The official journal of International Drug Abuse Research Society and the International Narcotics Research Conference was launched in April 2021.



Frontiers' is a global transformative, open access publisher with open science platform.

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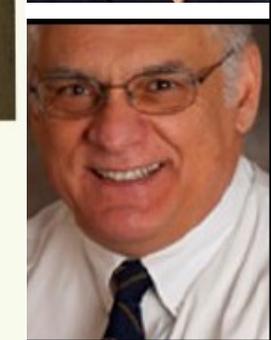


IDARS MEMBERS NEWS

Dr. Syed F. Ali: Our Executive officer has retired from NCTR/FDA, and has continued his research at the Center for Integrative Nanotechnology Science at the University of Arkansas in Little Rock, AR. He started the Neurolab International as Founder/President and CEO.

Dr. Barbara J. Mason: Director of Pearson Center for Alcoholism and Addiction Research, and a Distinguished Researcher at the Scripps Research Institute in La Jolla, CA. She delivered the keynote address on "Current Status and Innovative Strategies for Medications to Treat Alcohol Use Disorders" at the 14th Annual Biological Sciences Symposium at Seton Hall University in New Jersey.

Dr. Michael Kuhar: A distinguished Scientist at Emory University in Atlanta GA, was a major player in the formation of ADAR journal between IDARS and INRC. Dr. Kuhar's book on "Research Ethics in The Life Sciences" is available on Amazon, and a best book on the topic.



8th Biennial International Drug Abuse Research Society (IDARS) 2022 Meeting



September 26-30, 2022

Nice, France

Hyatt Regency Nice Palais de la Méditerranée

<http://www.idars.org>

Send questions to Dr. Syed Ali at idars2022@gmail.com