Center on Alcoholism, Substance Abuse, and Addictions (CASAA)

J. Scott Tonigan, PhD

Interim Director

2019 Annual Review of Category 3 Research Centers/Institutes | February 28, 2019
Mission

• CASAA exists to conduct high quality scientific research to advance knowledge necessary to improve prevention and treatment, and to reduce suffering related to substance use and other addictive behaviors.

• Research at CASAA focuses on problems of social importance.

• CASAA investigators maintain the highest standards of scientific integrity and are committed to integrating issues of human diversity into their research.

• CASAA values transdisciplinary approaches to research problems, and sharing of research products with the larger scientific community.

• CASAA also works to facilitate the translation of empirical knowledge into real world applications that will improve the quality of life, not only in the State of New Mexico, but also in other states and nations.

• CASAA serves as a platform and wheel house for the Substance Use Grand Challenge Initiative at UNM.
CY 2019 Goals and Status

**Goal:** Maintain a high profile as a world-class research center in the national/international scientific communities, in the New Mexico Community, and within UNM.

**Status:** Seven faculty served as members/chairs of NIH grant review committees, CASAA sponsored two national conferences, faculty, staff and students published in high quality scientific journals, faculty served on UNM IRB, COI, and executive search committees.

**Goal:** Serve as a center for scientific and applied training in the addictions field

**Status:** (1) Maintained NIH Institutional Research Training grant supporting 4 pre- and 3 post-doctoral trainees, and training opportunities for ~75 students, (2) Supported 8 of 12 Grand Challenge funded pilot studies, mentoring of main campus faculty in generation of NIH applications, presentations.

**Goal:** Have a cadre of investigators pursuing their own individual lines of research

**Status:** Continued externally funded research in: mutual support, opiate use among incarcerated adults, clinical trials of new interventions, mechanisms of behavior change, and college-based prevention.

**Goal:** Conduct national search for CASAA director hire.

**Status:** Three highly qualified finalists with national reputations recruited and interviewed.

**Goal:** Have at least 10-12 investigators at different career levels

**Status:** Maintained a group of principal investigators that included 11 faculty and one staff member.

**Goal:** Have an effective administrative organization to support the mission and goals of CASAA

**Status:** Maintained fiscal oversight of finances, monitored expenditures, prepared grant proposals for submission, had regular coordination of staff responsibilities.
Membership of Advisory Committee

Mark Peceny, Dean College of Arts and Sciences
Daniel Savage, Regents' Professor, Department of Neurosciences (Chair)
Jane Ellen Smith, Professor Psychology, (Chair)
Michael Dougher, Professor Emeritus, Psychology
Jay Parkes, Professor of Educational Psychology

Date of CY2019 annual review with the Advisory Committee:
April 9th, 2019
CY 2019 Highlights

CASAA Director Hire: Conducted national search for CASAA Director hire; three highly-qualified finalist recruited and interviewed. Hiring process ongoing.

Faculty accolades

• Bennett Lecturer in Prevention Science, Edna Bennett Pierce Prevention Research Center, Penn State (Dr. Witkiewitz)
• Outstanding Field Editor, Alcoholism: Clinical and Experimental Research (Dr. Witkiewitz)
• Collaborative Perspectives on Addiction Postdoctoral Fellow Registration Award (Dr. Hurlocker),
• Acceptance into LEAD Mentoring Program UCSF (Dr. Hirchak)
• Five faculty made 17 invited/plenary addresses: Condon (1), Horn (1), Pearson (1), Tonigan (3), Witkiewitz (11).

Publicity: CASAA-COSAP program recognized by local and national news media (CNN) for innovative strategies to address date rape among college students

Major conferences CASAA Investigators chaired/sponsored two national conferences: Mechanisms of Behavior change (June), and Marijuana use: Research and policy (July)
Proposals & Awards

![Proposals Chart]

![Awards Chart]
Research Expenditures and F&A

Research Expenditures

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>FY17</th>
<th>FY18</th>
<th>FY19</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount</td>
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F&A

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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>FY17</th>
<th>FY18</th>
<th>FY19</th>
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<tr>
<td>Amount</td>
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## FY19 Sources of Revenue

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<th>Source</th>
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<td>F&amp;A Return</td>
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<tr>
<td>VPR Pullback</td>
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<tr>
<td>PI F&amp;A Return</td>
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<tr>
<td>I&amp;G (COSAP)</td>
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<td>Student Fees</td>
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<td>Gifts</td>
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<td>Service Centers</td>
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<td>Other</td>
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<td>Grand Challenge</td>
<td>$70,000</td>
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<td>Support from OVPR</td>
<td>$71,085</td>
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<td>FY19 Reserves</td>
<td>$811,175</td>
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<td><strong>Total Revenue</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,647,010</strong></td>
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## CASAA EXPENDITURE DETAILS

- **Salaries**, $516,916 (47%)
- **Materials & Supplies**, $151,599 (14%)
- **Fringe Benefits**, $126,845 (11%)
- **Rent**, $308,316 (28%)
- **Total Revenue**, $1,647,010
Research Center Impacts

• Resources provided for the campus
  -- CASAA main campus satellite program, Campus of Office Substance abuse Prevention (COSAP), provided campus-wide alcohol, tobacco, and drug prevention programs. was nationally recognized (CNN) for distribution of data rape drug detection coasters to students.
  -- Faculty Service on UNM institutional Review Board and Campus Conflict of Interest Committee
  -- Faculty service on new director search committee, including committee chair
  -- Mentoring, training, and resources to support and add momentum to Grand Challenge Substance Use initiative
  -- Mentoring and training of ~75 students, undergraduate and graduate
  -- Plenary talk for annual UNM Research Administration conference

• Outreach efforts supporting the Grand Challenge
  -- Collaborate and support community groups to enhance resources for pregnant addicted women
  -- Collaborate and support development of manual guided interventions for American Indian adults with opiate disorders
  -- Plenary talks at the National Gaming Resource Conference
  -- Acquire funding to support Albuquerque Police officers use of mindfulness intervention to cope with stress
  -- Funded initiatives to facilitate transition from incarceration to community for opiate use disordered adults

• Contributions to education and intellectual environment: Courses and seminars supporting the Grand Challenge
  -- 10-week NIH grant writing seminar offered free of charge to university faculty and students
  -- Fall and spring Addiction seminar open to psychology pre-doctoral students and post-doctoral fellows
  -- Faculty labs included mentoring/support of undergraduate research
  -- In partnership with the OVPR, CASAA hosted a guest lecture series that was open to the university community

• Center serves as a resource for the state/region in supporting the Grand Challenge
  -- Direct funded work with community treatment providers to develop better ways to treat substance use disorders
  -- CASAA website with freely available assessment tools used for substance use prevention and treatment
  -- Coding and training tapes available to improve evidence-based provider interventions
Return on Investment

Grants and Contracts
• CASAA had 38 active awards this year with about $4M in research expenditures.
• CASAA investigators tripled the number of applications to NIH normally submitted in one year (3 NIH cycles).
• This year CASAA acquired six new large NIH awards totaling $1,463,696 M.
• An additional R01 was funded 1/1/20 (not included in total above for 6 awards), and two NIH applications submitted in 2019 (R34 & R21) are now awaiting notification of award.

Publications
• CASAA investigators published 77 peer-reviewed scientific papers.
• Top journals: Addiction; Alcoholism: Clinical and Experimental Research; Clinical Psychology Review; Drug and Alcohol Dependence; Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology.

Students
~75 undergraduate, graduate, and post doctoral fellows received training by CASAA faculty.
  -- Six post-doctoral fellows conducted research with CASAA investigators
  -- 19 graduate students conducted research, provided clinical work, or did trainings with CASAA investigators.
~50 undergraduate students were supervised in CASAA investigator labs and research activities.
### Strengths

- Nationally and internationally recognized Center for dissemination, training, and research on addiction prevention and treatment
- Outstanding platform and resource for UNM Grand Challenge initiative
- Broad network of collaborations within UNM, nationally, and internationally
- Outstanding faculty and highly experienced staff
- Excellent training program with graduate students and post-doctoral fellows who are successful in addiction research and dissemination
- Provides resources for the broader addiction community via free measures and tools on our website
- Dissemination and promotion of evidence-based prevention and treatment via research, trainings, and conferences

### Weaknesses

- Lack of funding for long-term career paths for research faculty
- Burden of having to pay full costs for building, security, and telephones
- Limited funds for pilot studies
- Insufficient reputation as the resource for addictions information within New Mexico
- Lack of clear succession plan for key CASAA staff (retirement)
- Lack of incentive plan to support NIH submissions

### Opportunities

- Serve as a primary platform for the substance use disorders grand challenge
- Significantly increased rate of NIH grant submissions
- Successfully execute search for new CASAA director
- Develop revenue-generating training opportunities
- Enhance collaborations with Health Sciences to advance common research interests separate from grand challenge, e.g., CTN
- Expand collaborations with the Mind Research Network
- Apply expertise to emerging health and social problems within the addictions field via mobile technology

### Threats

- Potential loss of research faculty if they cannot obtain sufficient grant funding to support their salaries
- Continued loss of key senior staff members
- Inability to attract main campus and HSC investigators to support Grand Challenge
- High fixed expenses (e.g., lease) pose serious threat to fiscal stability
Looking Ahead to 2020

Further enhance our high profile as a world-class research center in the national/international scientific community, in the greater NM community, and within UNM
Continue to support Grand Challenge Substance Use Disorders Initiative through CASAA on-going and planned programs, e.g., grant writing trainings, pre-award services to GC investigators, sponsor two scientific meetings, faculty continue to serve as members of grant review committees, continue CASAA lecture series, faculty continue to publish in high quality scientific journals

Address recruitment and retention of CASAA principal investigators to have a full cadre of investigators pursuing their own individual lines of research, with an emphasis on increasing our rate of NIH submissions.

Develop clear and objective criteria supporting research faculty promotions and continue to provide administrative and logistical support for on-going projects, develop incentive system for NIH submissions, provide seed money for pilot projects resulting in NIH applications, recruit and support non-CASAA faculty NIH submissions through CASAA.

Have an effective administrative organization to support the mission and goals of CASAA

Hire new CASAA director; facilitate orientation of new Director, evaluate and restructure CASAA organization and consider means to enhance efficiency and effectiveness; develop succession plan for key staff, maintain fiscal solvency, continue to monitor budget and expenditures, prepare accurate grant proposals for submission through pre-award, evaluate other means to support PI grant writing efforts, continue to pursue alternative space.

Address the persistent challenge of covering CASAA lease expense

Continue to coordinate with UNM units responsible for leasing, developing and acquiring property to define options for securing a facility that supports the CASAA mission.
Summary

• CASAA has been highly successful this year in increasing both the number and quality of NIH submissions.

• CASAA is a critical resource for UNM, NM, and the nation, given the harm that alcohol and drug use can create for individuals, their families, and the community.

• CASAA accomplished its mission to conduct meaningful research, disseminate findings, and educate students