

3-29-2001

THE BIOLOGY OF DRUG ABUSE AND ADDICTION

The Rockefeller University

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THE ROCKEFELLER UNIVERSITY PRESENTS

CENTENNIAL LECTURE ON SCIENCE AND SOCIETY

The Biology of Drug Abuse and Addiction: More Tangled than “Traffic” Bringing the Power of Science to Bear on Drug Abuse and Addiction

Alan Leshner, Ph.D.

Director, National Institute on Drug Abuse

DATE:	Thursday, March 29, 2001	PLACE:	Caspary Auditorium The Rockefeller University East 66th Street and York Avenue New York City
TIME:	6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Lecture and Discussion		

Why does the use of heroin, cocaine, or alcohol lead to life-threatening dependency in some people, while others never become addicted? And why do some people succeed in treatment, while others continue to relapse? Environmental and social factors certainly have an influence, but it is clear that inherited biological makeup is also key to determining individual differences. According to Dr. Alan Leshner, director of the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA), addiction is “multidimensional”—a disease with biological, behavioral, and social components.

On March 29, in a special Centennial Lecture, Dr. Leshner will present an overview of the latest scientific findings on addiction, exploring how genetic research and new brain-scanning technologies are shedding light on risk factors. He also will discuss the changes that result from short- and long-term drug abuse, and describe how this new understanding will have an impact on the future of treatment and prevention. Please join us for a fascinating discussion of this vital field and its promising future.

The modern field of addiction research was launched at The Rockefeller University in the 1960s, when Dr. Vincent Dole began testing methadone as a treatment for heroin dependency. Today, many of Dr. Dole’s ideas serve as the foundation for research on drug addiction in laboratories around the world. At Rockefeller, cutting-edge research on addiction continues under the leadership of one of Dr. Dole’s former colleagues, Dr. Mary Jeanne Kreek, who heads the Laboratory of the Biology of Addictive Diseases and directs a major interdisciplinary center at Rockefeller funded by NIDA.

**Admission is free. Because seating is limited, tickets will be issued at the door.
Admission will be by ticket only. For additional information, please call (212) 327-7007.**

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