

# RESEARCH ROUNDUP

IBR'S QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

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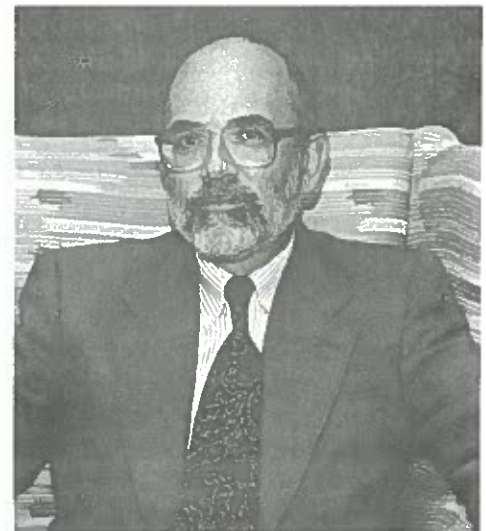
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## Renowned Scientist and Author Barry S. Brown Joins IBR

Dr. Barry S. Brown, known internationally for his expertise in the drug abuse treatment field, will join Texas Christian University (TCU) and IBR as a Visiting Senior Scientist for the Fall '93 semester. Dr. Brown has a 15 year history of service with the National Institute on Drug Abuse, including work with the Division of Epidemiology and Prevention, the Division of Applied Research, the Addiction Research Center, and the Division of Prevention and Communications. In recent years, Dr. Brown has published extensively on such topics as the role of aftercare in drug treatment programs, the treatment challenges of cocaine abuse, the need for evaluation of criminal justice interventions, and the role of drug treatment providers in HIV/AIDS prevention.

During his tenure at IBR, Dr. Brown will give a University lecture on "The Impact of Drug Use in Today's Society," and a departmental lecture for Psychology and Sociology students on "The Role of Social and Behavioral Scientists in the Substance Abuse Field." In addition, Dr. Brown will collaborate with IBR scientists in reviewing drug abuse treatment initiatives developed through the DATAR project. He will also be



**Dr. Barry S. Brown**

involved in the planning and development of new IBR research and funding efforts in the criminal justice area.

IBR Director Dr. Dwayne Simpson, a long time colleague, is looking forward to welcoming Dr. Brown. "Barry has devoted his life to improving the care and treatment of addicted people and their families," notes Dr. Simpson. "IBR and the students at TCU are very fortunate to have the opportunity to collaborate with and learn from one of the top scientists in the field of drug abuse treatment and research." ❁

## IBR Takes Part in Briefing New Drug Czar

Dr. Dwayne Simpson, IBR's Director and Principal Investigator for the DATAR project, was among seven scientists and scholars invited to meet with Dr. Lee P. Brown, the

nation's newly appointed Director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy. Dr. Brown called the meeting to get advice on research and policy issues for possible inclusion in the 1994 *National Drug Control Strategy*.

Among the topics discussed were prevention and education policies for the general population, high risk populations, and nonaddicted users. Treatment policy issues centered on heavy drug users and criminal justice populations. Based in large part on experience and findings from the DATAR project, Dr. Simpson's remarks focused on the importance and effectiveness of community-based treatment approaches for reducing drug use and the risk of HIV infection. He emphasized the need for better understanding of the stages of treatment process and client recovery phases, and recommended that more attention be paid to strategies for removing barriers to treatment and recovery for indigent clients. The need for continued demonstration research, expanded evaluation research that also examines the elements of treatment process, and improved training and dissemination of user-friendly treatment manuals were also cited as important drug treatment policy concerns. ❀

**Dr. Simpson's remarks focused on the importance and effectiveness of community-based treatment approaches for reducing drug use and the risk of HIV infection.**

Participants were asked to make presentations on the most important elements that should be addressed in the nation's next drug strategy.

## Straight Ahead Module Promotes Aftercare Readiness

A new treatment enhancement module, *Straight Ahead: Transition Skills for Recovery*,

will be offered in October to DATAR clients in Corpus Christi. This easy to follow training manual is designed to assist

counselors in conducting group sessions that promote recovery maintenance and aftercare readiness. The ten

session module focuses on building social support, prioritizing goals, improving family

relationships, and enhancing problem-solving, communication, and other life skills.

The module, field tested at DATAR's Houston treatment program this summer, will be offered to methadone clients in Corpus Christi who have completed at least ten months of treatment. The material emphasizes a solution-focused approach to increase

clients' faith in their own ability to solve problems and act in their own best interests. Pre- and posttest evaluations for the module are designed to measure gains in knowledge, self-esteem, and problem-solving confidence (self-efficacy). ❀

**This easy to follow training manual is designed to assist counselors in conducting group sessions that promote recovery maintenance and aftercare readiness.**



## DATAR Broadens Focus in 5th Year

IBR's DATAR project (Improving Drug Abuse Treatment for AIDS Risk Reduction) will begin admitting noninjecting cocaine users to its research population in Corpus Christi. Methadone maintained opiate users were the targeted population during the first phase of DATAR research. Now as the project enters its last year of data collection, researchers plan to study the impact of enhanced interventions on treatment outcomes for nonopiate users addicted to cocaine. Nationally, cocaine users and their sex partners are increasingly identified as a

high risk population for HIV infection. New studies will examine the impact of contingency management approaches on cocaine users, as well as the impact of sexuality and assertiveness training for women, relapse prevention training, and AIDS/HIV prevention education. ❁

**Researchers plan to study the impact of enhanced interventions on treatment outcomes for nonopiate users addicted to cocaine.**

## IBR Scientists Share Findings at APA Conference

Dr. Wayne E.K. Lehman, IBR Research Scientist, presented a paper on "Detection and Impact of Drugs on Behavior" at the 101st Annual Convention of the American Psychological Association in Toronto. The paper was based on Dr. Lehman's studies of alcohol and drug use in two metropolitan cities in the Southwest. His presentation was part of a symposium entitled "Under the Influence? The American Workforce" which provided an overview of a forthcoming report from the National Academy of Sciences on drug and alcohol use in the workplace.

tion Research (NADR) project was presented at APA by Associate Research Scientist Dr. Mabel Camacho. Her paper, "AIDS Risk Reduction for Drug Injectors Through Community Outreach Interventions," was co-authored by Drs. Dwayne Simpson, Kenneth Vogtsberger, Mark Williams, Richard Stephens, Adelbert Jones, and Ms. Deena Watson, all of whom collaborated in the study. The results suggest that drug and sex related AIDS risk behavior may be effectively impacted by brief, targeted interventions. ❁

IBR's analysis of data from five research sites involved in the National AIDS Demonstra-

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# Staff Notes

## Houston

### A FOND FAREWELL TO HOUSTON

As DATAR enters its final year of data collection, changes in the scope of the project are inevitable. Consistent with plans outlined in the original grant proposal, adVance Drug Treatment Services of Houston, which served as a DATAR research site for two years, completed its affiliation on August 31. The staff and management at adVance contributed immeasurably to the project's research and treatment enhancement goals. We are grateful to them for their enthusiasm, tireless

effort, and commitment to improving drug abuse treatment.

## Corpus Christi

Congratulations to Nancy Shepard, who has been promoted to DATAR senior counselor. Vicky Perez, who formerly held the job, was promoted to Deputy Director of CCDAC's newest facility in Laredo, Texas. Welcome to new DATAR counselor Rick Bartlett. Rick replaces Mike Smith, who moved to Ohio. DATAR Counselor Eric Schmidt also left CCDAC this summer to work on his doctorate at the University of North Texas in Denton. 🌟



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