

# RETHINKING DRUG POLICY: SEEKING SOLUTIONS BASED ON LAW, SCIENCE AND PUBLIC HEALTH

PRESENTED BY:

*Rethinking Community Program, Office of the Provost, Wake Forest University  
Criminal Justice Program, Wake Forest University School of Law  
Center for Research on Substance Use and Addiction, Wake Forest School of Medicine  
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After four decades, policy analysts across the political spectrum have come to recognize that the War on Drugs is both ineffective and counterproductive. The “tough on crime” policies have led to massive increases in incarceration and have served to nurture, rather than dismantle, drug cartels. The use of mandatory minimums aimed at targeting traffickers, has instead led to essentially criminalizing addiction, throwing low level addicts into prison and only exacerbating mental health conditions.

The utter failure of the War on Drugs is showcased in the current public health epidemic presented by the opioid crisis. Across the country, opioid abuse and overdose related deaths are rapidly rising to unprecedented rates.

This symposium will provide context for the history of what led to this current state, consider solutions that incorporate not only the medical and scientific concerns related to addiction and over prescription, but also the criminal justice responses that have bloated our prisons and devastated families and communities across the country.

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**Location:** Bowman Gray Center for Medical Education, Wake Forest School of Medicine, 475 Vine Street, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor Tiered Classroom, Winston-Salem, NC, 27101

**Time and Date:** 1:00-5:15 p.m., October 2, 2017



## **Program Agenda**

### **Addiction, Epidemiology, and Medical System Response**

- Michael A. Nader, Ph.D.: The Nature and Role of Addiction
- Mark Wolfson, Ph.D.: The Epidemiology of the Opioid Epidemic
- Robert Hurley, M.D., Ph.D.,: The Medical System Response: Prescribing Practices
- Margaret Rukstalis, M.D.: The Medical System Response: Treatment

### **The Criminal Justice Response to the Drug Problem**

- Mark Rabil, J.D., Moderator
- Maddie deLone, J.D., M.S., Executive Director, Innocence Project
- Greg Newburn, J.D., Director of State Policy, Families Against Mandatory Minimums

### **The View from Ground Zero: Wilmington, N.C.**

- Tarrah Callahan, Moderator
- Honorable J.H. Corpening, II, J.D., Chief District Court Judge, New Hanover County, N.C.
- Joseph Pino, MD, MHA FAAP, FACP, Director, UNC School of Medicine Wilmington Campus, New Hanover Regional Medical Center

### **Roundtable Discussion: Rethinking Policy, Treatment, and other Solutions**

- Kami Chavis, J.D., Moderator

To register for this event, [please follow this link](#).