



## Tackling the Opioid Crisis

**BOCA RATON, Fla. (Nov. 8, 2017)** – The energy among faculty and staff discussing the opioid epidemic was palpable at the recent Addiction Research Collaborative kick-off event at the Boca Raton campus. Following opening remarks from Vice President of Research Dan Flynn, Ph.D., attendees exchanged ideas on how to shift the tide of the epidemic nationally and in South Florida in a speed networking format.

A key focus of the collaborative is interdisciplinary research to tackle the opioid addiction epidemic and substance abuse as a whole. Recognizing that addiction is a multi-faceted problem that has equally devastated families across demographic backgrounds, the group identified four broad research themes:

- Clinical and treatment **interventions** for diverse populations, from students to elders;
- Leveraging **datasets** and repositories to yield new answers on addiction;
- **Pain management**, specifically non-opioid alternatives;
- **Policy**, including evidence-based studies to inform reimbursement and social welfare policy.

Future meetings are planned to further refine research ideas and plan events. If you are interested in joining the collaborative's trans-university efforts, contact [Angela Clear](#) in DOR's Office of Research Development at 561-297-1457.