



VULNERABILITY
ISSUES IN DRUG ABUSE

Vulnerability Issues in Drug Abuse – VIDA Project

and

The University of Texas at El Paso

present

Terry E. Robinson, Ph.D.

Professor, Department of Psychology and Neuroscience Program

The University of Michigan

Thursday, October 25, 2012, 12:00 Noon

Psychology Building, Room 115



INDIVIDUAL VARIATION IN VULNERABILITY TO TEMPTATION: IMPLICATIONS FOR ADDICTION

Cues associated with rewards, such as food or drugs, can acquire considerable control over behavior, for example, instigating actions to obtain the reward. There are, however, large individual differences in the motivational properties of reward cues, and the extent to which they can be resisted. This presentation will address the implications of individual differences in cue-evoked motivational processes and in cognitive control in the development of impulse control disorders, including addiction, and possible neurobiological substrates.

Terry E. Robinson is currently the Elliot S. Valenstein Distinguished University Professor of Psychology and Neuroscience and Director of the NIDA Training Program in Neuroscience at Michigan. He was raised and educated in Canada, in 1978 received his Ph.D. in Psychology (Biopsychology) from the University of Western Ontario in London, Ontario. After postdoctoral training at the University of California at Irvine he assumed a position as Assistant Professor of Psychology in Biopsychology at The University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. Dr. Robinson is known internationally for his research concerning the persistent behavioral and neurobiological consequences of repeated psycho-stimulant drug use, and the implications of these for addiction and relapse. His present research focuses on individual difference in the propensity to attribute incentive motivational properties to cues associated with rewards (such as food or drugs), and how this may predispose some individuals to develop impulse control disorders, such as addiction.