

Nicholas Goeders, Ph.D. Professor and Head Department of Pharmacology,
Toxicology & Neuroscience
LSU Health Sciences Center – Shreveport

Dr. Nick Goeders was born and raised in Louisiana. He attended LSU in Baton Rouge and graduated with a BS in Psychology, with a minor in Chemistry, from LSU-Shreveport in 1978. Dr. Goeders received his Ph.D. in Pharmacology from the School of Graduate Studies at the LSU Medical Center in Shreveport in 1984. He was awarded the Chancellor's Award for his dissertation research on the role for the prefrontal cortex in cocaine reward. His first scientific publication, in 1983, was in the premiere scientific publication in the world, *Science*, and was titled "Cortical dopaminergic involvement in cocaine reinforcement." This publication also focused on his dissertation research.

Dr. Goeders left Louisiana for a postdoctoral fellowship in the Department of Neuroscience at The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine in Baltimore in 1984 in the laboratories of Dr. Michael Kuhar. This was one of the top neuroscience departments in the country and was under the leadership of Dr. Solomon Snyder. Dr. Goeders was also a staff fellow at the Addiction Research Center at the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) of the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

Dr. Goeders returned to the LSU Health Sciences Center in Shreveport (LSUHSC-S) in the fall of 1985 as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Pharmacology & Therapeutics. Dr. Goeders has been very successful over the past 20 years, and he was named Head of the Department of Pharmacology, Toxicology & Neuroscience at LSUHSC-S in 2005.

Dr. Goeders has led a very successful research program, and he is considered one of the world's leaders on the role for stress in drug addiction. While anecdotal reports have suggested that stress influences relapse to drug use for many years, Dr. Goeders' research has helped to determine the mechanisms responsible for this phenomenon. Dr. Goeders has been invited to speak on his research at Universities and Scientific Societies across the United States as well as in Europe, Asia and South America.

Dr. Goeders received research funding from the Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Association and the National Institute on Drug Abuse for his doctoral research and an individual NRSA grant from the National Institute of Mental Health to support his postdoctoral research. He received his first R01 grant from NIH in 1986, and his research has been continually funded by NIH ever since. He was also the Director of an Institutional Training Grant for predoctoral students and postdoctoral fellows from the National Institute on Drug Abuse, and this was the only grant of its kind in the state of Louisiana. His publications have appeared in major pharmacological and neurobiological journals.

Dr. Goeders was on the Board of Directors of the College on Problems of Drug Dependence, and was also the Chair of the Publications Committee.

During his tenure, he successfully negotiated the current contract between CPDD and Elsevier, the publisher of *Drug and Alcohol Dependence*, the societal journal for CPDD. He also helped develop the "Voices of Experience" section in the society newsletter *Newsline*. "Voices of Experience" uses an interview format to highlight the past CPDD Eddy Award winners. Dr. Goeders is also a fellow in the American Psychological Association and is also a member of several other scientific societies, including the American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics, the American College of Neuropsychopharmacology and the Society for Neuroscience. He was a charter member of the Integrative, Functional, Cognitive and Neuroscience (IFCN-1) study section at NIH and has been an *ad hoc* member of many other NIH study sections, center reviews, concept reviews and other panel reviews. He has also served on study sections for the Veterans Administration, the Department of Defense and various Primate Research Centers. He is on the Editorial Board of *Synapse* and the *Journal of Applied Pharmacology* and is an *ad hoc* reviewer of manuscripts for several other journals.

Dr. Goeders served on the LSUHSC-S Institutional Review Board for human research for 12 years and spent 4 years as Chair. He is a past President of the General Faculty and was the Senate Representative to the LSU Board of Supervisors. He has also served on the Promotion & Tenure Committee, the Scientific Misconduct Review Board, the Scientific Advisory Review for Technology Transfer, the Graduate Advisory Council, the Institutional Research Advisory Committee and a number of other Institutional Committees at LSUHSC-S.

Dr. Goeders has been the major advisor for 7 Ph.D. and 3 MS students and has served on the graduate advisory committees for 32 students. He has also trained 7 postdoctoral fellows and hosted 2 sabbaticals. He has taught autonomic pharmacology and psychopharmacology to medical students and graduate students for over 20 years, and his lectures are always well received by the students. He was twice nominated for the Allan A. Copping award for excellence in teaching.

Dr. Goeders holds 2 patents based on his research. Although the majority of his research has been preclinical, Dr. Goeders has started translating his basic research findings. He recently formed a venture capital-funded company to conduct clinical trials on the treatment of addiction based on the results from his research on stress and addiction. Embera NeuroTherapeutics, Inc. was formed to test a novel combinational drug treatment in cocaine addicts and cigarette smokers, and this pharmacotherapy may also prove to be effective in the treatment of drug and other addictions, including gambling. Embera is currently running a clinical trial on the effectiveness of this pharmacotherapy on cocaine relapse in association with the Psychopharmacology Research Clinic through the Department of Psychiatry at LSUHSC-S.