Research group targets addiction

The metropollian Detroit area has more than its share of problems related to drug and alcohol abuse.

The founders of the newly formed Addiction Research Institute of Michigan, the only one of its kind in the state, hope to bring that number down to size.

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"There's nothing else like this in the state," said institute director Dr. Eugene P. Scheener of Southfield. He is associate professor of pharmacology in family and community medicine at Wayne State University.

"Over the next five years, we hope to build this into a nationally recognized, multidisciplinary center for addiction studies," he said.

WITH THE COOPERATION of the WSU faculty and administration, the Michigan Office of Substance Abuse Services and the Detroit Health Department, the Addiction Research Institute formed at the university in April. Now, with its research program well under way, the Institute is moving into its new headquarters on Wayne State's medical campus.

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Joanne Sobeck of Farmington Hills is coordinate of the institute and Dr. Antonia Abbey of Ann Arbor, an assistant professor of community medicine at Wayne, is assistant director.

Schoener, said the institute will study policy, prevention and treatment.

"Policy deals with environmental factors that control use of mood- and mind-altering substances," he explained. "For example, we have a natural experiment going on right now with the increased costs because of the recent liquor tax Increase. We want to know if such an increase has a measurable effect on the use and therefore the detrimental consequences of drinking—cirrhosis, highway deaths, drownings, and so on."

THE INSTITUTE is studying policy with the help of a contract from the Mitchigan Office of Sub-stance Abuse Services. On the prevention side, Abbey is heading a pilot study focusing on early elementary school educa-tion.

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"The program we are evaluating builds kids' selfesteem and their resistance to peer pressure. These
skills should help them to resist the abuse of alcohol
or drugs as they get older," she said.

"Attitudes about alcohol and chemical abuse are
developed by the age of 6, suggesting that we really
have to bring prevention programs into the lower
grades," Dr. Schoener added, "It la ur to pot to follow kids who have gone through this program to see
if it really affects their behavior as adolescents."

WITH THE BUREAU of Substance Abuse Services of the Detroit Health Department, the Institute will provide a service and research program in the city.

"This is a community-based prevention project."
Dr. Schoener said. "Public health consultants will work with community groups to foster their own initiatives and develop community strength to resist substance abuse problems."
Institute organizers have already contacted researchers at the University of Michigan and Michigan State University to collaborate on future institute studies. They especially encourage Wayne State faculty to become involved in the program, adding that funding may be available to help with the research.

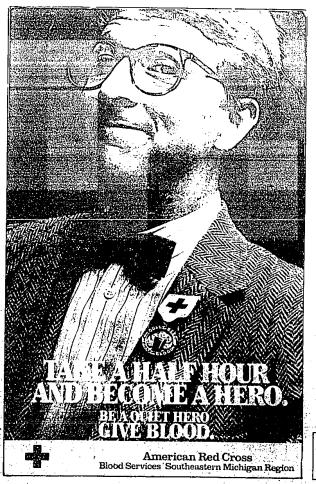
Further information about the Addiction Research Institute should be directed to the institute's new address, 1368 Scott Hall, 540 E. Canfield Ave., Detroit 48201, or phone them at 577-1388.

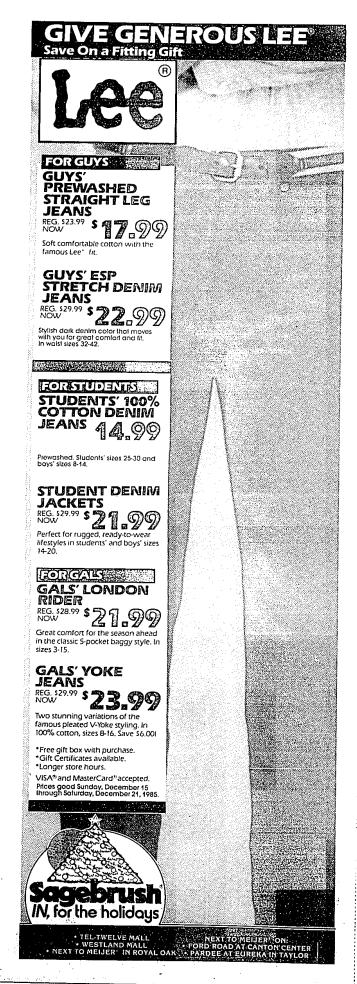
Competition still open

Michigan teachers interested in involving their students in the state of their students in the state with their students of the Department of Natural Resources (DNR).

DNR Public Affairs Offices, which administers the program, has extended in the program themselves and implement projects can range from cleaning area lakes and signed DNR arm patches: regional finalists will problem strough the level commendated problems through the level commendated problems through the level commendated waw of the program strough the program state of the

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CHIPPED porcelain can be made to look like the original with a commercial glaze. Apply several thin coats. Allow to dry between applications. Wipe off excess with denatured alcohol. Like to see results. Try an Observer, & Eccentric Classified Ad to buy, sell or rent.



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