The Vermont Center on Behavior and Health (VCBH) is delighted to welcome Richard Rawson, Ph.D., to the UVM Psychiatry Department as well as the VCBH faculty. Rawson, who earned his Ph.D. in experimental psychology from the University of Vermont in 1974, recently concluded a 40-year career with UCLA where he served as co-director of the Integrated Substance Abuse Program and professor-in-residence in the Department of Psychiatry.

“I am very grateful for the opportunity to come home to UVM,” Rawson says of his part-time appointment, effective February 1. “I look forward to contributing to the excellent work already being done by UVM faculty to address the opioid epidemic in Vermont.”

Through the VCBH, Rawson plans to continue his international work in the Middle East and Vietnam with ongoing addiction research and training projects for the United Nations, the World Health Organization, the
Drosos Foundation and the U.S. State Department.

Rawson also has served as principal investigator on many research and service delivery projects for the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). He also has led a Fogarty International Center training grant between UCLA and Cairo University. Rawson is the author of six books, 35 book chapters and more than 200 professional papers.

Rawson is credited with helping to develop substance-use disorder services in Los Angeles County and the State of California. Additionally, he worked to establish the Vietnam HIV-Addiction Technology Transfer Center in partnership with Hanoi Medical University through a SAMHSA grant.

VCBH Director Stephen T. Higgins, Ph.D., says Rawson’s global experience and expertise will make an extraordinary contribution to the Center, the University of Vermont, and the state of Vermont.

“What a privilege to have access to Dr. Rawson’s ideas and research on campus,” Higgins elaborates. “UVM can greatly benefit from his work on national and international addiction issues, as can the leaders and people of Vermont.”

###