



BOSTON  
ATHENÆUM

**OPIOIDS: THE LITERARY, EXPERIENTIAL POINT OF VIEW**  
***Susan L. Mizruchi, Director, BU Center for the Humanities***

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**Tuesday, June 13, 2017 — 12 to 1 p.m.**  
**Free and open to the public**



Addiction is perhaps the most significant, prevalent, and intractable social problem of the decade. While experts from many fields have approached the issue, no field has been more directly engaged with it than literary studies. Some of the greatest Anglo-American literature, with authors ranging from Ernest Hemingway to David Foster Wallace, is fundamentally concerned with addiction and alcoholism. Humanities fields have great potential to provide major insights, both into the social stigma associated with addictive behaviors, and the subjective experience of addiction.

**Susan L. Mizruchi** is a professor of English literature at Boston University and Director of the Boston University Center for the Humanities. She often writes at the intersection of social, religious, and literary studies, specializing in American literature and film, literary and social theory, and history of the social sciences. She is the 2015 recipient of the Arts and Sciences Dean's Award for Excellence in Graduate Education.