

## **Richard B. Slatcher – Biography**

Richard B. Slatcher received his B.S. in Business Administration from the University of Richmond and his Ph.D. in social and personality psychology from the University of Texas at Austin. After completing an NIMH postdoctoral fellowship in health psychology at the University of California, Los Angeles, he joined the faculty of the Department of Psychology at Wayne State University, where he is currently a Professor of Psychology. Understanding the impact of peoples' social relationships on their well-being and health is the central focus of Slatcher's research and teaching. His work seeks to go beyond studying the simple association between the quality of people's close relationships and their health to trying to understand the underlying biological mechanisms that are responsible for these associations. Findings from his work have identified key hormonal and immunological pathways that are responsible for these health-related associations. This work directly addresses the complex interplay between environmental, social, psychological, biological, and genetic factors as determinants of people's health. At the same, it identifies variables that could be addressed in therapeutic interventions to reduce the health effects of adversity for disadvantaged individuals.

His work has been supported by more than \$10 million in federal and foundation grant support and he has published over 60 articles and book chapters. His work has appeared in many of the top journals in the field, including *Science*, *Psychological Science*, and *Psychological Bulletin*. He serves on several editorial boards and has taken on leadership roles at the Society for Personality and Social Psychology (SPSP) and the International Association for Relationship Research (IARR). Since 2015, he has chaired the Researchers of Biobehavioral health in Urban Settings Today (RoBUST), a transdisciplinary group of more than 50 faculty across 20 departments at Wayne State. He is the recipient of both the Caryl Rusbult Close Relationships Early Career Award from the Relationship Researchers Interest Group of SPSP and the award for Outstanding Contributions to Health Psychology by an Early Career Professional from the Society for Health Psychology (American Psychological Association Division 38).