

Connections

Department Newsletter

March 2013



Greetings from the Chair

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

This issue of the e-newsletter will update you on many exciting "openings" and "new beginnings" that have resulted from lots of behind the scenes activities. In spite of some substantial financial pressures on academic health centers and research

funding, we continue to grow in key areas -- although we also must adapt to the system changes. UMass Memorial Health Care is going through leadership transitions with Eric Dickson, MD, the new CEO, and Charlie Cavagnaro III, MD, FACP, as the new Interim President at UMass Memorial Medical Center. Eric and Charlie are terrific individuals and will lead well and work with us to adapt to anticipated changes, challenges, and opportunities.

A few highlights of some recent activities that reflect lots of work to get there are:

- This month's opening of the beautiful new UMass Memorial inpatient psychiatry unit in Worcester - the Psychiatric Treatment and Recovery Center (PTRC), which replaces the PTC in the Bryan Building of the old Worcester State Hospital (**see photo below**). Many thanks to many individuals.
- The scheduled April 11 start-up of the Child Trauma and Treatment Center ([CTTC](#)).
- The new Psychiatry hi-tech classroom opened on the 4th Floor. The large room's features include automated lecture and video capture, and remote iOS presentation. Dr. Sheldon Benjamin, Vice Chair of education, worked tirelessly with facilities and information services personnel to bring us this exciting new tool, and we owe them a big "thanks" for this.
- A new academic partnership [agreement](#) with Shanghai Mental Health Center in China.
- The Institute of Medicine singled out our residency program for excellence in neuropsychiatry related area of providing exemplary epilepsy education. See the [report](#).
- Be Mentally Well on March 13th was an enormous community engagement success, with more than 200 people attending a wonderful film on living with bipolar disorder -- a record crowd for our program. [See article](#).
- The Residency Training Program on March 15 celebrated an outstanding recruitment year with new residents matching to UMass. Thanks to all who helped in this year's recruitment of medical students to our residency.

Center Spotlight

The UMass Depression Center

Leading - with an enlightened approach to treatment

The nationally recognized Depression Center at the University of Massachusetts Medical School/UMass Memorial Health Care is dedicated to dramatically advancing our understanding and treatment of depression, bipolar disorder and related mood disorders.



Image via Bigstock

As a leader in the field, the Center takes a progressive, recovery-driven approach to depression based on reducing stigma, and promoting and encouraging treatment; recognizing that recovery needs direct participation by the patient and their family members; and accepting that prescription drugs when appropriate are best viewed as one

I am grateful for all of the hard work that our department has put into these and many other projects and programs, and I offer my thanks and congratulations to the many individuals who have helped to make this progress possible and continue to work hard and as a team. Here, below, are just some of the department activities that are coming up. Please mark your calendars, and come and join your friends and colleagues and me.

Best wishes,
Doug Ziedonis



Light it Up Blue

UMass Medical School will use light to promote autism awareness and acceptance.

April 2, 2013

7:30 pm

Light up the UMass Medical School building;
University Campus

[Click](#) for more information.

Psychiatry Research Day 2013

Creating Healthier Communities: Integrative Behavioral Health

Monday

April 29, 2013

[Click](#) for more information

With a keynote address by SAHMSA Administrator Pamela Hyde (right)



NAMI Walk

May 11, 2013

Location: [Artesani Park](#), 1255 Soldiers Field Road, Brighton, MA

Distance: 5K/3 miles

Check-in: 9:00 am

Start Time: 11:00 am

[Fundraising Manual](#)

ingredient of a comprehensive, successful treatment program. [See related article](#).

Joining the best: acceptance into the NNDC

In 2011, the Center was chosen for membership in the elite National Network of Depression Centers (NNDC), a select group of the country's leading depression and academic medical centers of mood disorders that also includes Harvard University (Brigham & Women's Hospital and Massachusetts General Hospital), the Johns Hopkins University, Stanford University, the University of Michigan and the University of Pennsylvania, among others.

Today the UMass Depression Center, based in Worcester, Mass., and anchored in the UMass Department of Psychiatry, is providing excellent teaching, education and clinical care through evidence-based psychiatric treatment and the use of validated, research-based diagnostics and symptom-rating techniques.

[See more.](#)

Quick Links

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A Feb. 11, 2013 ribbon cutting marks the completion of the Psychiatric Treatment and Recovery Center on Queen Street in Worcester. Left to right: Theresa Beauregard, PTRC nurse manager; Jennifer Daley, EVP and COO of UMass Memorial Medical Center; Psychiatry Department Chairman Douglas Ziedonis; Alan Brown, vice chairman, Adult Clinical Services; John O'Brien, outgoing president and CEO of UMass Memorial Health Care; and Ronald Greene, the PTRC's medical director.

Public Sector Psychiatry Conference (29th annual)

Save the Date and stay tuned for more information
June 19, 2013, Medical School building, UMass campus
"Mitigating the Risks of..."



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Connections is published by the Department of Psychiatry (University of Massachusetts Medical School; UMass Memorial Health Care). To submit an item for publication or to be added to the distribution list, e-mail psychiatry.communications

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