

September, 2009

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Greetings from the Chair

September marks the kick-off of the 2009-2010 grand rounds season. I encourage everybody to attend the grand rounds as we have lined up some outstanding expert speakers. Schedule can be found online: http://www.umassmed.edu/psychiatry/continuinged/grand_rounds.aspx. Also welcome new students and hope you will enjoy the beautiful fall here!

Doug

Calendar

September is Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder and National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month

Oct 7: Next department meeting (Faculty CR). See you there!

Oct 12: Columbus Day. Holiday for Medical School and Hospital employees.

Oct 21: Psychiatry Research Day

Nov 5: Psychology Day

Mar 1, 2010: DMH Centers for Excellence Research Conference—UMMS Campus

Headlines

JEAN FRAZIER MD will formally receive the Robert M. and Shirley S. Siff Chair in Autism at the **Sep. 17** investiture ceremony. Ceremony to be held at 4 p.m. on the Campus Green.

TATYANA SHTEINLUKHT MD PhD interviewed for the Aug. 10 *News & Views Extra* and talks about her work with ECT. [Read the interview](#).

THOMAS GRISSE PhD assisted the American Psychological Association and American Psychiatric Association in writing an "amicus brief" to the U.S. Supreme Court. The case is *Graham v. Florida* and *Sullivan v. Florida*, in which the Court will decide whether it is unconstitutional to give life-without-parole sentences to people found guilty of crimes that they committed when they were juveniles. [Read the brief.](#)

UMass Transitions IRTP to begin initial step for accepting older adolescents (19-20) who are not ready for the developmental leap into adult services or would be better served in an older adolescent environment. [Read the draft document](#) that outlines rough parameters for youth being considered for this adapted service.

Recognitions

GILLES MARTIN, assistant professor in BNRI, awarded R21 grant for research in the area of alcohol and its long-lasting deleterious effects on behavior. The study focuses on the hypothesis that long term depression (LTD) results from the interactions between synaptic potentials and backpropagating (b-APs), and that b-APs mediate EtOH effects on LTD. It is believed that the attempt to bring together various fields of neurosciences (neuronal information processing and synaptic plasticity) will further the understanding of the cellular mechanisms employed by drugs of abuse to sustain their effects over long periods of time.

GINA VINCENT PhD awarded CDRO Fellowship for fMRI Study of Adolescents with CU-CD and Co-Morbid Substance Abuse. Gina is assistant professor and co-director of National Youth Screening & Assessment Project Center for Mental Health Services Research.

CHARLENE PARADISE, administrative assistant for Student Counseling Service, awarded August 2009 Employee of Distinction. The Employee of Distinction program recognizes individual employees with a minimum of two years of service for outstanding achievements, innovation and exemplary performance. Charlene said, "I have truly found my niche in the Student Counseling Service (SCS)." The satisfaction is mutual: "We were looking for someone who could not only handle a one-person administrative service, but who would also be innovative and creative. We found that person in Charlene," wrote nominator Ruthann Rizzi MD, director of SCS. Read more about Charlene in the September online issue of Focus (not yet available).

Announcements

September

GREG SEWARD to speak on "Addressing Tobacco in Addictions Treatment" at the [22nd Annual Cape Cod Symposium on Addictive Disorders, Sep. 10-13](#).

TERENCE R. FLOTTE MD to speak on "Clinical Research in the Coming Years at UMMS" at Interspecialty Grand Rounds **Sep. 11**, 8-9 a.m., Knowles Hall, Memorial Campus. Dr. Flotte is dean of School of Medicine and provost and executive deputy chancellor, UMMS.

11th Annual Walk to Cure Cancer, Sep. 13. Registration 10 a.m.-noon. For more information on how to make a donation or to get involved, please click [here](#).

Suicide Intervention/Prevention (SIP) as a new Academic Interest Group (AIG). The first meeting will be held **Sep. 16**, 3:30-5 p.m., Biotech I Conference Room. For more information and to RSVP, please contact Paula Nims at paula.nims@umassmed.edu.

PEDRO RUIZ MD to speak on **Mental Health in Latin America: Ethical & Clinical Considerations** at Grand Rounds, **Sep. 17**, 9-10:30 a.m., Amphitheater I. Dr. Ruiz is professor and vice chair of Department of Psychiatry & Behavioral Sciences, University of Texas Medical School at Houston.

REBECCA LUNDQUIST MD and **GREG SEWARD** to speak on "Tobacco and Nicotine Dependence: A Recovery and Wellness Issue for Women" at the 2nd Annual Women's Treatment Conference, **Sep. 18**, Westborough, MA. For more information, click [here](#).

Convocation will be held on **Sep. 18**, a special celebration to mark the beginning of the new academic year. Program begins at 10 a.m. on the Campus Green, followed by a campus-wide barbecue.

DAVID KALMAN PhD and **GREG SEWARD** to co-chair and present at the Advanced Tobacco and Nicotine Dependence training for members of the NYC VA system, **Sep. 21-22**, on campus. **David Smelson PsyD, Sun Kim PhD RN, Fernando deTorrijos TTS MBSRS**, and **Colleen McKay MA, CAGS** will also present. Topics include mindfulness, motivational interviewing, and cultural considerations in tobacco treatment.

HISPANIC HERITAGE presentation "Addiction in the Latino Community: A New Approach" **Sep. 22**, 12-1 p.m., Knowles Hall, Memorial Campus. [See the flyer](#).

SHEILA NOONE PhD to present on Initiating and Conducting Successful Clinical Trials Part I, **Sep. 23**, 1:30-3 p.m., S6-310. Sheila is assistant vice provost for Clinical Research at UMass Worcester. This workshop is being presented by the Career Development and Research Office. Registration deadline is **Sep. 16**. Email Paula Nims at paula.nims@umassmed.edu for more info.

HUMANITIES IN MEDICINE to host a speaking event **Sep. 23**, 5-7 p.m. in the library's rare book room. Guest speaker from Harvard, **Jeremy Greene MD PhD**, is a historian and pediatrician who will be speaking about the history of the allure of new drugs to physicians and the encroachments of the pharmaceutical industry starting around the 1950s. [Read more](#).

RICHARD M. BERLIN MD to speak on **What a Psychiatrist Remembers: One Doctor's Journey** at Grand Rounds, **Sep. 24**, 9-10:30 a.m., Amphitheater I. Dr. Berlin is associate professor of psychiatry at UMMS.

Psychiatry Research Day 2009 registration open and calling for poster abstracts. Deadline to submit is **Sep. 25**; Deadline to register is **5 p.m. on Oct. 5.** Please click [here](#) to view the tentative agenda for the day and to access the on-line registration form.

October

ENOCH CALLAWAY AB MD to speak on **Asylum, Circa 1950: The Life of a Psychiatric Resident at Worcester State Hospital** at Grand Rounds, **Oct. 1**, 9-10:30 a.m., Amphitheater 1. Dr. Callaway is Professor Emeritus, University of California at San Francisco.

PUBLIC SERVICE AND HEALEY ENDOWMENT GRANT AWARDS seeking proposal. Applications must be submitted by 4 p.m., **Oct. 2**. The Endowment is intended to enhance the public service of the University through grants for specific service projects. The Joseph P. Healey

Endowment is intended to enhance the academic quality of the University, primarily through subventions to faculty to increase research and scholarship potential. [Learn more here](#).

Parents Apart two-day, five-hour seminars to be held **Oct. 5-6** and **Oct. 26-27**, 5:30-8 p.m. Each two-day seminar is specifically designed to assist parents in understanding the impact of divorce on children and provide them with the skills and tools necessary to lessen this impact. For more information, please click [here](#).

Content Manager/Design Forum Discussion Group meeting to be held **Oct. 7**, 3-4 p.m., Location is TBD. Special guest speaker, Armando Rotondi, will speak on designing websites for persons with mental health issues. Please RSVP to Sharon Kershaw for this special event if you are interested in attending.

Global

2010-2011 HARKNESS FELLOWSHIPS open to applicants. The Harkness Fellowships in Health Care Policy and Practice provide a unique opportunity for mid-career professionals to spend up to 12 months in the U.S. conducting a policy-oriented research study, working with leading U.S. health policy experts, and gaining in-depth knowledge of not only the U.S. health care system, but also the health care systems in the fellows' home countries. **Each fellowship provides up to US \$107,000 in support.** If you know someone from Australia, Germany, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Switzerland, or the United Kingdom who might be interested, please send them to this [link](#) for more information. Deadline: **Sep. 15**.

Do you or your organization have a quality improvement, or new patient initiative to share? If so, you are invited to submit an abstract to be considered for presentation as a poster or oral session at the **International Forum on Quality and Safety in Health Care** in Nice, France, from Apr. 20-23, 2010. For more information, click [here](#). Deadline for submission is **Sep. 21**, 9 a.m. GMT.

INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL PREPARATION. To ensure preparedness for your travels abroad, the Office of Global Health has created a Pre-Travel Checklist. In compliance with UMMS travel policies and guidelines, all UMMS students, residents, post-doctoral fellows, faculty and staff must consult OGH's travel protocols and register online prior to departure. Please go to the [OGH](#) website for important information.

People

New Docs

Yael DVIR MD earned her medical degree from Hadassah Medical School Hebrew University (Israel). She completed her psychiatry residency and a fellowship in child and adolescent psychiatry at UMass Memorial/UMass Medical School. Her clinical interests include neurodevelopmental disabilities, parenting, and care of preschool-aged children. She serves as assistant professor of psychiatry and was appointed assistant director of the Psychiatry Clerkship Program.

Jacob Kagan MD, an assistant professor of psychiatry, received his medical degree from Weill Cornell Medical College. He completed his psychiatry residency at Cambridge Health Alliance Hospital. His clinical interests include addiction psychiatry.

NAWRAS SHUKAIR MD, assistant professor of psychiatry, received his medical degree from Damascus University (Syria). He completed a radiology residency at Damascus University and a psychiatry residency at Dallas Psychoanalytic Center/University of Texas Southwestern. He completed a fellowship in child and adolescent psychiatry at Harvard University/Children's Hospital Boston. His clinical interests include childhood trauma, learning and memory.

Did U Know?

An **[In the News](#)** page has been created on the department's website: <http://www.umassmed.edu/Psychiatry/InTheNews.aspx>. Visit often to see who's under the spotlight these days.

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