

January, 2010

In this issue:

[Greetings from the Chair](#)

[Calendar](#)

[Headlines](#)

[Recognitions](#)

[Announcements](#)

Greetings from the Chair

Happy New Year to faculty, staff, residents and friends of the Department of Psychiatry.

The new year signals a time of both reflection and inspiration. As I reflect on 2009, I am struck by the tremendous growth in the Department in all areas. New clinical specialty programs, cross divisional efforts, unprecedented research funding and the addition of new fellowships all reflect the hard work and dedication of all members of the department. The year was a resounding success.

As I look toward the future in 2010, I am inspired by the promise of even more new partnerships. We continue to create new and innovative clinical programs and initiatives, work to promote stellar faculty and staff and train the best and the brightest trainees. The new year holds many promises.

Thank you for your individual contributions and team collaborations.

Best,

Doug

Calendar

Jan 18: Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Holiday for Medical School and Hospital employees.

Feb 3: Next department meeting. Noon-1 p.m., Amphitheater 1, University campus. See you there!

Feb 19: Chinese New Year Celebration, Faculty Conference Room, beginning at 5 p.m.

Mar 1: DMH Centers for Excellence Research Conference – UMMS Campus

Headlines

DOUG ZIEDONIS MD MPH and his team credited for training DMH in its Tobacco Free Campus Initiative. [Read more...](#)



Best Doctors®: Congratulations to 12 of our own doctors who were named to the 2009 list of **Best Doctors!** Best Doctors®, Inc. continuously surveys specialists worldwide to ask which doctors they would choose for treatment in their own specialty. Nationally, less than five percent of U.S. doctors are named to the list. UMass Memorial Health Care is proud that more than ten percent of our doctors at our Medical Center and four community hospitals were named to this prestigious list. From our department are:


Kenneth L. Appelbaum MD
Sheldon Benjamin MD
Alan P. Brown MD
Deborah C. Field MD

Jean A. Frazier MD
Jeffrey L. Geller MD
Marie H. Hobart MD
W. Peter Metz MD

Jayendra K. Patel MD
Nancy E. Pratt MD
Anthony J. Rothschild MD
Douglas M. Ziedonis MD
MPH

Recognitions

SCHAHRAM AKBARIAN MD PhD recently elected as a member of The American College of Neuropsychopharmacology. The ACNP, founded in 1961, is the nation's premier professional society in brain, behavior, and psychopharmacology research. The ACNP grants membership to established investigators in the fields of neuropsychopharmacology and biological psychiatry. Drs. Jean Frazier and Anthony Rothschild are also members.

 **UMASS MEMORIAL MEDICAL CENTER** honored by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health with QuitWorks recognition award. Only two healthcare institutions received the award. UMMHC has referred more than 1,618 patients to QuitWorks since 2003. On a related note, our campuses have been tobacco-free for 19 months. **FERNANDO deTORRIJOS** and **GREG SEWARD** were recognized as Tobacco Consultation Services staff in *News and Views: 2009–The Year in Review*.

Announcements

We would like you to be aware of a great movie rental, “**THE SOLOIST**,” starring Jamie Foxx and Robert Downey, Jr. It is a true story about a street musician who is befriended by a newspaper columnist who takes an interest in his life. The story is poignant, gripping, and not at all unfamiliar to anyone acquainted with an individual or loved one coping with mental illness. This movie is recommended to us by [Tunefoolery Concert Ensembles](#) from Boston, a unique and courageous group of over 50 musicians with psychiatric disabilities who play and perform music as a way towards healing and recovery. The musicians are auditioned and Tunefoolery offers its members opportunities to play and perform over 75 gigs annually as a way towards healing and recovery. Click [here](#) to find out more about Tunefoolery.

January

The **adolescent treatment programs** would like to invite you to participate in a **coat drive**. We are looking for gently used or new coats in all sizes for boys and girls. If you are interested, please call Caroline McGrath at 774-364-4078 or Kathy Blanchette at 508-616-3550.

Registration is now open for APA Members for the 2010 **American Psychiatric Association** Annual Meeting being held May 22–26, 2010, in New Orleans, LA. Speaking on *Advances in the Use of Antipsychotic Medications* will be Co-Chairpersons **Anthony Rothschild MD**, and **Kristina Deligiannidis MD**. **Jayendra Patel MD** will be speaking on *Advances in the Use of Antipsychotic Medications in Schizophrenia and Schizoaffective Disorder*. Follow this [link](#) for more information and to register.

February

LASKER AWARD NOMINATIONS are currently being sought by the Dean's Office. Please notify [Denise Barrett](#) if you would like to suggest a nominee for this award. Completed nominations are due from the Dean's Office **Feb.1**. More information on the award can be found [here](#).

A **CHINESE NEW YEAR CELEBRATION** will be held on **Feb. 19**, in the **Faculty Conference Room**, beginning at 5 p.m. There will be dinner, performances, and dancing. More details to follow.

March

The **LATIN AMERICAN HEALTH ALLIANCE** will host a fundraiser to mark the one-year anniversary of the opening of the **Hector Reyes House** (the first Latino substance abuse treatment facility in Central Massachusetts) on **Mar. 26**, 7:30-10 a.m., at Assumption College. They will be honoring **John O'Brien**, CEO of UMass Memorial Health Care, for the outstanding work that he has done to support the Hector Reyes House during the past year.

***Department of Psychiatry
University of Massachusetts Medical School
55 Lake Avenue North***

UMass Psychiatry Connections is published by the Department of Psychiatry at the University of Massachusetts Medical School.

To submit an item for publication or to be added to the distribution list, e-mail Jennifer.Wu@umassmed.edu.