

## Connections

Department Newsletter

December 2012



### Holiday Greetings from the Chair

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

Best wishes to you and your families for a joyous and wonderful holiday season and also a new year filled with peace and happiness.

I appreciated the many stories and anecdotes of gratitude that many of you shared at our Dec. 5 Department Holiday Meeting. I am very grateful for all of your hard work, support, and commitment to our patients, training, research, and community work.

This has been an extremely productive year because of our teamwork. This issue of Connections includes wonderful examples of our work on a range of subjects.

Thanks to Dennis Nealon and his team for putting the newsletter stories together.

Our work continues to have a major impact on many fronts in the mental health arena.

Happy holidays and best wishes,

Doug

### Department plays key role in suicide prevention agreement with the Massachusetts National Guard

A historic suicide prevention agreement signed Nov. 8, 2012 by the University of Massachusetts Medical School (UMMS) and the Massachusetts National Guard is deeply rooted in the work and collective vision of the UMMS Department of Psychiatry and its faculty members. Led by Barry N. Feldman, PhD, assistant professor of psychiatry and director of Psychiatry Programs in Public Safety at

### Leadership

#### Psychiatry team launches child trauma training center

By Dennis Nealon

Children can keep secrets.

And the emotional chaos that alters their lives can stay locked away from the teachers, doctors, police officers and court officials who routinely have to make fateful decisions for them.

To lift that curtain, to recognize, address and alleviate child trauma where it exists, the Department of Psychiatry at the University of Massachusetts Medical School (UMMS), UMass Memorial Health Care, will use a \$1.6 million federal grant from the SAMHSA National Child Traumatic Stress Network to provide specialized training to some 1,800 professionals working in Central and Western Massachusetts.

[Read more...](#)

UMMS, the collaboration involves the leadership and teamwork of physicians and academics, generals and other military personnel.

Said Feldman, "This partnership is about helping our military personnel get the care and services they need and deserve so we can help prevent such tragedies."

[Read the story](#) from the signing.



At the signing, from back row, left to right: Rep. Harold P. Naughton Jr., major, U.S. Army Reserve; Lt. Gov. Timothy P. Murray; Barry N. Feldman, PhD, director, Psychiatric Programs in Public Safety, UMMS; Gen. L. Scott Rice, Massachusetts National Guard adjutant; Senior Vice President for the Health Sciences and UMMS Chancellor Michael F. Collins, MD; and Coleman Nee, secretary, Massachusetts Veterans Services.

Other Psychiatry Department faculty members involved in the effort include: David Smelson, PsyD, vice chair of clinical research; Alan Brown, MD, vice chair, adult clinical services; William O'Brien, MSW, executive director, UMass Memorial Behavioral Health System; and Albert Grudzinskas, clinical associate professor. The effort has had the ongoing support of Department Chairman Douglas Ziedonis, MD, MPH, and the participation of Ralph J. Seymour, MD, assistant professor and staff psychiatrist - Consultation & Liaison Service; Gerardo Gonzalez, MD, director, Addiction Pharmacotherapy Research; and Monika Kolodziej, PhD, assistant professor and co-chair of the Central Massachusetts Addiction Consortium.

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## Faculty Members Welcomed

### Quick Links

[Web site home page](#)

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[Wanted](#)

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### Yoga class openings

Kundalini Chair Yoga is appropriate for all abilities

#### WHO:

This class is open to clients, faculty, staff, and students.

People on oxygen (or not) or in wheelchairs (or not) can do it.

#### WHAT:

It's done in a chair-stretching and breathing. It's an age old, valued and effective practice.

#### WHEN:

Thursdays 11 a.m. - 12 p.m.

#### WHERE:

Ambulatory Psychiatry (Farmhouse)  
361 Plantation Street,  
Worcester  
Conference Room A,  
lower level.

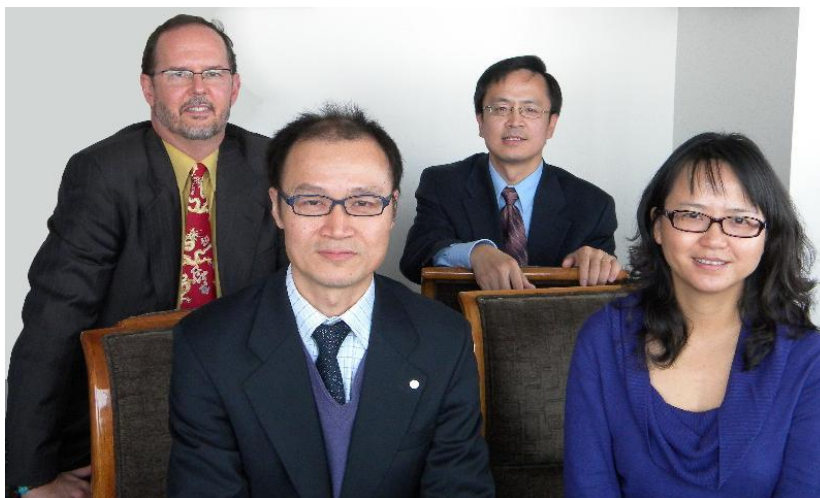
#### WHY:

Participants say they feel very good at the end of the visit. The goal is to decrease inner stress; achieve inner



Aaron Frenz, MD, left, and Kathryn Fleming-Ives, MD, assistant professor and associate training director, Adult Psychiatry Residency Program, right, with Jean King, PhD, professor and vice chair of research at a Nov. 28, 2012 welcome reception for the newest members to the department. A dozen new members attended.

## Global Visit



On the University of Massachusetts Medical School campus Nov. 15, 2012 are, left to right from back row: Douglas Ziedonis, MD, MPH, chairman of the Department of Psychiatry, University of Massachusetts Medical School, UMass Memorial Health Care; Xiaoduo Fan, MD, MPH, director of the UMMS Department of Psychiatry's Psychotic Disorders Clinic & Research Program; Jijun Wang, MD, director of neurophysiology and neuroimaging at Shanghai Mental Health Center, Shanghai Jiaotong University; and Shun-Ying Yu, MD, PhD, director of psychiatric genetics at Shanghai Mental Health Center, Shanghai Jiaotong University.

The visit was part of an ongoing effort to help improve mental health on a global scale and increase international cooperation in the field by sharing the newest educational tools and programs, research and clinical care expertise.

peace.

### HOW:

Try it one time.

If you like it, return and become a regular.

Please bring a donation from the heart as a way of honoring the teachers' time and lesson. No donation is too small. 100 percent of donations will be forwarded to the Worcester County Food Bank.

Before you begin, please sign a release form, which the teachers have.

If you have any questions, contact Barb at (508) 856-8786 or [Barbara.Grimes-Smith@umassmed.edu](mailto:Barbara.Grimes-Smith@umassmed.edu).

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