

April, 2009

Greetings from the Chair

I am very grateful to Jennifer Wu for putting together our first UMass Psychiatry Connections monthly e-newsletter. Thanks so much! Also the [new website](#) is up—many thanks to Nicki Fox, our consultant Rosemary Heinold, and the Website Committee—we look forward to your feedback on the website and the newsletter. This has been a busy month with the NIH stimulus grant opportunity—we are sending out about 15 challenge grant applications and numerous grant supplements. Thanks so much to the administrative staff support and faculty who have worked hard on these applications. We have been adjusting well to the budget pressures and continue to grow in the strategic priority areas. Jane Coken-Ryan and I have been doing town meetings to discuss the 3-year strategic priorities and implementation plan with different groups within the Department of Psychiatry. Please let me know if you are interested in our presenting for your team. Best wishes!

Special Request

This first e-newsletter is a **trial** issue. We sincerely encourage you to send advice and recommendations to us at Jennifer.Wu@umassmed.edu and let us know how to improve it. Areas where we need your input include but are not limited to:

1. Branding (names of the newsletter)
2. Banner (color, design, image)
3. Format (color, font, size of texts; paragraph layout; section breaks and layout, ...)
4. Style (use of time, day, month, title, ...)
5. Content (what and how much to include, organization of the content, ...)

We also welcome and will rely on your submission of stories and news items to make our future newsletters informative and up-to-date. Thank you all in advance for your feedback. We look forward to hearing from you and making our newsletter better with your help!

Calendar

Apr. 20: Patriots' Day. Holiday for Medical School employees only.

May 6: Next department meeting. See you there!

Headlines

TOM GRISSO MD AWARDED MacARTHUR FOUNDATION GRANT OF \$1.4 MILLION for the "National Youth Screening Assistance Project." This is an important study for the field and the nation! CONGRATS!!!

GREG SEWARD QUOTED IN THE TELEGRAM & GAZETTE on the effect of raising cigarette prices. Read the story in the [Telegram & Gazette](#).

Recognitions

AMY WACHHOLTZ PhD gave a timely **Stress Management** presentation to **City of Worcester's** Health and Human Services female employees in Feb. She talked about healthy ways to manage stress, especially through this stressful time. Thank you, Amy, for helping out the local community!

FERNANDO de TORRIJOS gave a workshop on **reducing workplace stress at St. Gobain**, Worcester, Mar. 4. Twenty-two women participated in this 60-minute session. Fernando conducted similar workshops in 2001 and 2002 for the Radiology Department, and a two half-day program for the Lamar library staff. His recent **Mindfulness and Wellness** training invitation has received great response. A total of 20 members are going to take the full program (four weekly classes) and engage in daily practice. Thanks, Fernando, for your continuous community outreach!

DOUG ZIEDONIS MD as guest speaker at "**Author in the Room**," Mar. 18. The Institute for Healthcare Improvement and The Journal of the American Medical Association initiated the Author in the Room teleconference series, aiming at closing the gap between knowledge (what is published in an article) and action (how much of this knowledge is put into practice to improve care). The Mar. 18th program focused on smoking cessation in patients with psychiatric illness.

KRISTINA DELIGIANNIDIS MD receives Resident Teacher's Award. This honor came as a surprise because Drs. Caroline Fisher and Sheldon Benjamin managed to keep the nomination a secret. Dr. Deligiannidis is Chief Resident in Psychopharmacology. She was honored in the award ceremony on Apr. 14.

THE PSYCHIATRY TRAINING was featured in *Focus* insert, April issue. Thank you, **Dr. Sheldon Benjamin**, for your excellent work and collaboration with the Office of Public Affairs and Publications! Click [here](#) to view the full insert.

JEAN FRAZIER MD and MARYANN DAVIS PhD awarded Life Sciences Moment Fund. Five grants of \$750,000 were awarded to five teams of intercampus researchers at UMass to support life sciences research with clinical and translational potential. Together with a colleague on the Boston campus, Jean and Maryann's team will establish a program at UMMS to provide pre-employment training for young adults with Asperger's disorder. Congrats, Jean and Maryann! To learn about the other teams, click [here](#) (p. 2).

JEAN KING PhD received 2009 Advocate for Girls Award from the Worcester chapter of Girls Incorporated. "I relish strong, smart and bold women, and want to see these qualities cultivated in all girls," said Jean of her motivation behind her exemplary work. Doesn't it sound just like her? To read the full story, click [here](#) (p. 2).

CMHSR presented at DMH Research Centers of Excellence Annual Presentations. CMHSR is one of two Research Centers of Excellence that the Department of Mental Health supports. The presentations focused on the Center's ongoing research initiative and highlighted efforts to address DMH identified priorities. More information about the Center's collaboration with DMH can be found in the DMH April newsletter. Contact Denise Barrett to receive a copy. To view CMHSR's PowerPoint presentations click [here](#).

Reviews

THE PSYCHIATRY RESIDENCY TRAINING PROGRAM successfully matched all three programs. The seven new residents are: Kathy Becher, Joshua Haugh, Ravi Nahata, Mary Wilber (adult psychiatry); Kerry Wilkins, James Yon (combined adult/child psychiatry); and Adalia Jun (Neuropsychiatry). Please join us in welcoming The UMass Psychiatry PGY-1 Class for 2009-2010!

CMHSR presented at 3rd Commonwealth Medicine Academic Conference, Apr. 16. The forum focused on how the driving forces of research, economics, policy and practice influence health care in the Commonwealth. Presenters include: **Carl Fulwiler MD/PhD, Kathleen Biebel PhD, Sue Phillips, Lisa Smith, Kim Smith, and Doug Ziedonis MD** (on mental health agency research networks); **Joanne Nicholson PhD, Jodi Adams, Susan Maciolek, and Kathleen Biebel** (on knowledge exchange as program evaluation); **Kim Larson JD/PhD and Tom Grisso PhD** (on the MacArthur Juvenile Competence project); **Jacob Holzer MD, Philip Candilis MD and Neil Glickman PhD** (on CST Evaluations in the Deaf Psychiatric Population). Great representation!

RUSSELL BARKLEY PhD gave a special lecture at **Psychiatry Grand Rounds**, Apr. 16. This is the annual "Barkley Lecture," graciously endowed by Dr. Barkley several years ago when he moved from Massachusetts to South Carolina. Dr. Barkley is internationally recognized as a leader in research, education and treatment for persons with ADHD. While here at UMass, he was Director of Psychology and directed a research clinic for youth and adults with ADHD.

JEFF LONG spoke at a **NAMI Central MA Speaker Meeting**, Apr. 16. A UMMS librarian, Jeff is also the author of the textbook and reading guide *Remembered Childhoods: A Guide to Autobiography and Memoirs of Childhood and Youth*. He spoke on bibliotherapeutic uses of memoirs in dealing with mental illness issues.

Announcements

April

DAN SCHNEIDER MD to present at **Neurology Grand Round, Apr. 21**. His topic is: The Biology of the Mind: Phrenology in Medicine in Antebellum America. Time: **12:15-1:15 p.m.** It will be in one of the amphitheatres. Further notification will be sent later. Dan is a last year neuropsych resident.

FOURTH ANNUAL UMMS EARTH DAY will be held on **Apr. 22**, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., in the Medical School lobbies. Vendors, organizations, and Medical School departments will be on hand to talk about green initiatives. A Brown Bag lunch featuring John Odell, Program Manager for Energy Efficiency and Conservation for the City of Worcester, will be held in the Faculty Conference Room at noon. Have household batteries to get rid of? [See whether they can be recycled.](#)

EARLY MORNING MEDITATION to start on **Apr. 21**, 7:30-8:15 a.m., Psychiatry Library, S7-810. The practice is designed for a period of three weeks, four days a week. Open to everyone. This wonderful opportunity is presented by **Fernando de Torrijos**. Thanks, Fernando!

WOMEN AUTHOR'S EVENT to be held Monday, **Apr. 27, 5:30-9 p.m., Alden Hall, WPI** (corner of Institute Rd. and West St.). This event benefits the YWCA's Daybreak program serving victims of domestic violence in Central Massachusetts. Featuring authors **Suzanne Strempek Shea** and **Kate Jacobs**. For more information contact Jean King or Elaine Martin via global e-mail. Reservations required: events@ywcaworcester.org. Cost: \$25 per guest, \$15 for seniors and \$15 for students with ID. **Gentlemen will be enthusiastically welcomed.**

May

BOB CAREY PhD and **MARIE PAQUETTE** are co-captains of the **OPD Heart Walkers** team. The walk is scheduled on **May 2** and will start from the East Park, Shrewsbury Street, Worcester. They are looking for your participation and/or support. Please join them or consider sponsoring someone on the team by making a donation. It's a fun time with lots of people, music, free food and refreshments. Plus, you will get a free t-shirt to wear the day of the walk.

LISA SMITH and **CARL FULWILER MD** organized a team for the **NAMI Walk** on **Sunday, May 31**. Please contact them if you would like to join them on the walk to raise money for NAMI or become a sponsor!

June

THE 25th ANNUAL PUBLIC SECTOR PSYCHIATRY CONFERENCE to be held **Jun. 17**. This year's theme is **Health & Wellness for Persons with Serious Mental Illness: Challenges & Opportunities**. As always, **Jeffrey Geller MD** is the key organizer. To register or get more information, click [here](#).

ELLEN MORE PhD to speak at **Pioneering Women Physicians** conference, **Jun. 24**. This conference is sponsored by the Massachusetts Medical Society and its Committee on Women in Medicine. Ellen will speak on the *Struggles for Equality and Professional Development of Women over the Past 150 Years*. For more information, click [here](#).

Staff Updates

There will be two administrative changes within the **Division of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry** effective Apr. 21.

ANDREA GLASSMAN will assume the position and responsibilities of **Program Coordinator** for the Child & Adolescent Psychiatry Residency Training Program. Working with our Child Fellows and the Office of Graduate Medical Education, she will provide administrative support for the new Child Residency Training Director, Mary Ahn, MD. Andrea's new phone number: **508-856-1256**.

MARY-JUNE COURTOIS will assume the position and responsibilities of **Administrative Assistant** to the Vice Chair and Director for the Division of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry. She will provide administrative support for Jean Frazier and will continue to support Peter Metz. She will also serve as a resource to divisional faculty. Mary-June's new phone number: **508-856-5080**.

Resource

PSYCHIATRY CAREER DEVELOPMENT AND RESEARCH OFFICE assists all faculty and staff in achieving excellence in their chosen careers through learning communities, research, professional development and mentoring. Contact [Paula Nims](#) for more information.

Did U Know?

19 Academic Interest Groups have been established in the Department. They are: addiction, aggression & violence, autism/autism spectrum, campus mental health, diabetes & obesity, geriatric interest group, homelessness, imaging, international psychiatry, juvenile justice, multicultural psychiatry, pain, psychiatry & ObGyn, psychosocial rehab, spirituality, transition age youth, tobacco, trauma, and wellness.

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