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The May 5 Department Meeting is cancelled as we were unable to reserve a meeting room.

Barbara Grimes-Smith, Wellness Initiative Program Director, gave a presentation on the Wellness Initiative and guided us through the new website to illustrate access to all the resources available. The department has committed resources for the organizational change to include staff, trainees and faculty to make the environment more supportive for wellness initiatives. They are now starting to rollout activities. The UMass Department of Psychiatry has made a commitment to integrating wellness into our routine practice and helping increase the lifespan of our patients. We are in a unique position to impact people with mental illness and/or substance use disorders who are disproportionately affected by preventable diseases such as cardiac disease and cancer that are directly influenced by poor nutrition, lack of physical activity, tobacco use, stress and lack of preventive healthcare visits.

Yael Dvir, MD presented the semi-annual Teaching Awards to Lawrence Peters, MD, PhD (Associate Medical Director Providence Behavioral Health Hospital) and Kathryn Sickorez, MD, PGY2.

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<th>Topic</th>
<th>Items for Presentation/Discussion</th>
<th>Reference &amp; Contact Information</th>
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Quotes related to Dr. Sickorez: “a fantastic job at allowing us to independently explore”
“great at teaching practical clinical applications of drugs, and interviewing techniques”
“pleasant to patients and team, liked to integrate students into planning, always respectful, pleasant and patient”
“gave us a great talk… really set us up for comfort and success”
“extremely approachable and compassionate, was willing to speak with me about patients, residency, and medical school. She is truly a great teacher”

Quotes related to Dr. Peters: “Great teacher, kid man, competent psychiatrist. Excellent role-modeling with his patients for students”
“An outstanding mentor. He was very accessible and approachable despite his busy role as medical director. He cared a great deal about one-on-one teaching and was generally fun to work with”

- Heart Walk is scheduled for Saturday, May 1st. You can support this cause by purchasing HEARTS for $5 AND HEART PINS for $10 which are available from Denise in the Chairman’s office. The walk leaves from Shrewsbury Street - Christoforo Columbus (East) Park.
  Time: Registration begins at 8 am; Walk begins at 10:00am
  Contact: Bob Carey & Marie Paquette or visit the Website for more information - http://ournet.ummhc.org/C17/C12/2010%20Start%!Central%20MA%20Heart%20W/default.aspx

- NAMI WALKs - Jennifer Neuwalder, MD and Aaron Moore, DO, PGY-2s have graciously agreed to co-chair this year’s NAMI walk. The fundraising effort will be department wide this year rather than splitting into competitive teams. The walk will be May 15 at Artesani Park, in Brighton with check-in at 9:00am and the start time for the walk at 11:00am. Last year UMass psychiatry had 40-50 walkers and raised $4,725. Please join up for this year’s walk—it’s a great cause.

- The Mindfulness AIG has been holding a 45 min. meditation each week on Monday mornings at 7 am in the Conference Room at the Center (8th floor Worcester State Hospital). Anyone in the department who is interested is invited to join. Extra cushions are available. If anyone has questions they can get in touch with Carl Fulwiler, MD.

- Spring Retreat Announcement ~ Dr. Finberg, Chair, Department of Medicine, and Dr. Ziedonis, Department of Psychiatry, and the Spring Retreat Committee announce the first annual UMass Translational Medicine & Science Retreat will be held on April 30, 2010 at our Hoagland-Pincus Conference Center in Shrewsbury. This conference is a new forum for UMass clinicians and scientists to collaborate on clinical problems sponsored by UMass Center for Clinical and Translational Science and the UMass Memorial Medical Center. The retreat will focus on the collaboration between basic scientists and clinicians in developing new patient care therapies, emphasizing the current work of faculty. For this conference, clinical and basic science faculty are being sought to participate in panel discussions at this time. Please include your interest in serving on panel discussions with your completed registration. In the future, additional conferences will be held. Chairs, Chiefs, and faculty interested in organizing upcoming conferences can contact Dr. Gyongi Szabo. For more information and to register, please go to
INTRODUCTIONS

http://www.umassmed.edu/medicine/research/annualretreat/overview.aspx All UMMS and UMMHC faculty, residents, fellows and post-docs are invited and encouraged to submit posters for the event. Chancellor Collins (UMMS) and John O’Brien (UMMHC) will present awards for top posters. Please include poster submission with your completed registration.

- Jean King announced that Randi Segatore has accepted the offer to become the new Faculty Development Administrator for our Department of Psychiatry! In her new role, Randi will be responsible for managing our Career Development and Research Office and developing initiatives and programs to assist our faculty and staff through learning communities, research, professional development and mentoring. Randi comes from the Office of Faculty Affairs and brings invaluable experiences and knowledge of the academic personnel policies, mentoring, faculty development and processes of the School of Medicine. We are thrilled to have her! Please join us in welcoming Randi! Randi’s start date is April 19, 2010.

- In addition, Jean King announced and welcomed Constance Moore, PhD, a physicist from McLean Hospital and an MRS expert. She will be Associate Director of Translational Imaging at the CCNI on the tenure track.

- Schahram Akbarian, MD, PhD announced and introduced Paul Gardner, PhD in his new role as Associate Director of the BNRI. Dr. Gardner has been one of the people who has kept the BNRI running for many years with his expertise and steadfastness in research and, additionally, has provided guidance and mentorship for many faculty.

○ Megan Heffernan, Research Assistant at the CCNI, spoke on the 4 week summer program for high school students interested in learning more about neuroscience and mental health, including how to prepare for a career in neuroscience and mental health research, teaching, counseling, public health and medical school. If anyone has a volunteer opportunity for an interested student in their lab and is willing to take on a high school student for four weeks this summer, contact Jean King, Teo Carlo-Straun or Megan. If you have a son or daughter interested in this program talk to them about the opportunity.

○ Jane Coken-Ryan thanked everyone who has worked tirelessly on the budget this year and recognized Ginger Burke, Entela Baoli and An Dang, present at today’s meeting, who have put in a lot of extra hours and made themselves available throughout the process. Kudos.

○ Tom Grisso announced that the DPAC is modifying departmental policy as relates to the criteria and application process for voluntary faculty going through the bi-annual reappointment process. Contact Dr. Grisso for more information. He also reminded faculty to take a close look at the amount of time individuals have been on the rolls as they may be eligible for or have the potential for promotion.

○ Sheldon Benjamin said the very busy resident interview season is over with over 70 people applying for seven positions. We filled all seven, despite stiff competition from Yale, Dartmouth and Brown, with one from UMass and the rest from all over the country. He is very pleased with the selection and will introduce the new residents in July.
Dr. Ziedonis announced that David Smelson, PsyD has received one of only three Homeless Center grants in the nation (Penn and Tampa received the other two). He is working on a community plan for the Center involving EOHHS and DMH. The materials are expected in the next month and a half. David has dramatically expanded our VA research and other activities (now with all three VA Centers in Mass (Bedford, Boston and North Hampton) - including a brand new Center for Homelessness.

**Awards and Recognition**

Schahram Akbarian, MD, PhD, Director of The BNRI and Director of Translational Research in the Department of Psychiatry has been awarded tenure.

Nancy Byatt received confirmation from the AAMC that she is enrolled in the Early Career Women Faculty Professional Development Seminar to be held July 10-13, 2010 at The Ritz Carlton in Washington DC.

**Faculty and Staff News**

New Faculty:
Constance Moore, PhD 04/01/10 CCNI

**Appointment and Promotion**

Congratulations to the following members of our faculty whose faculty appointments and/or promotions were recently approved by the Dean and Interim Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs

Steven Hodge, MA, Instructor, Psychiatry, UMMS, January 1, 2010
Rubing Zhao-Shea, MD, Research Instructor, Psychiatry, UMMS, October 1, 2009
Nancy Fuller, M.Ed., Affiliate, Psychiatry, UMMS, February 1, 2010
Steven Kessler, MD, Affiliate, Psychiatry, UMMS, January 1, 2010

**Important Dates for your Calendar!**

**Saturday, April 10 – NARSAD** – 12:30-4:30pm Faculty Conference Room

**April 30, 2010** - First annual UMass Translational Medicine & Science Retreat – Hoagland Pincus Center, Shrewsbury, MA

**Saturday, May 1st - Heart Walk** I Shrewsbury Street - Christoforo Columbus (East) Park
Time: Registration begins at 8 am; Walk begins at 10:00am

**May 15, 2010 – NAMI WALK** Artesani Park, Boston (Brighton) 3 miles/5K; 9:00am check-in; 11:00am start time.  [www.nammass.org](http://www.nammass.org)

**June 16, 2010** Public Sector Conference Topic: "YOUNG ADULTS IN THE MENTAL HEALTH, SUBSTANCE ABUSE, CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND SOCIAL WELFARE SYSTEMS IN THE 21ST CENTURY" ~ UMMS/University Campus

LOCATIONS AND DATES FOR NEXT ACADEMIC YEAR’S DEPARTMENT MEETINGS

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>5/5/2010</td>
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<tr>
<td>6/2/2010</td>
<td>12:00-1:00PM</td>
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