

# Psych-e News

DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHIATRY AND BEHAVIORAL NEUROSCIENCES



School of Medicine

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University  
Physician Group

## Upcoming Events

DPBN Chairman's Grand  
Rounds

GRAND ROUNDS  
RETURN WEDNESDAY,  
SEPTEMBER 21, 2016

September 21<sup>st</sup>

**Abdulrahman M. El-Sayed,  
MD, DPhil**  
“Healthier 2020:  
A Vision for a Healthier  
Detroit”

September 28<sup>th</sup>

**Marie A. DeWitt, MD**  
“Best Psychopharmacological  
Practices  
for Older Adults”

## I. Greetings from the Chair

In a time of uncertainty and hardships, it is my pleasure to share some exciting and truly amazing news. As you will see below, in one of the hardest funding times, our department stood strong and received 3 NIH funded grants. This is a huge accomplishment and exemplifies the outstanding faculty we have here. I'd also like to highlight some amazing clinical trainings that have also happened recently; At Raising the Bar Conference (Detroit Wayne Mental Health Authority 2nd Annual Interdisciplinary Conference) held at the Detroit Renaissance Center August 1-2, some of our staff held workshops for community leaders, providers, staff, etc. **Audrey Gilliatt** and **Kelly Powell** presented a workshop on Child Crisis Screening: Assessment and Brief Interventions (Ed Mischel and Cynthia Arfken co-authors), **Al Pizzuti** presented a workshop on Compassionate Care Training: Caregiver Skill Building along with Daicia Smith (DWMHA) and Danielle Duckett (IS-CARE CLS, Inc) (Alireza Amirsadri and Cynthia Arfken co-authors) and **Georgia Michalopoulou** presented the poster Building Better Family-Clinical Partnerships in High-Risk Pediatric Asthma. These presentations were superb and the overflowing feedback from the community continues. Congratulations to everyone!

## II. News from the Faculty

- **David Ledgerwood, PhD** and colleagues were recently awarded funding for their RO1. Dr.



Ledgerwood along with his collaborators in Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC), were recently awarded for their study, “Behavioral Incentives to Increase Caregiver Engagement in Juvenile Drug Courts”. This RO1 Stage II randomized clinical trial will examine the efficacy of a prize-based contingency management (CM) intervention for

increasing caregiver engagement (attendance and participation) in JDC and adolescent drug treatment. This caregiver Contingency Management intervention (CCM) will be compared with drug court treatment as usual (TAU). Increased caregiver participation is predicted to improve adolescent outcomes (decrease drug use, criminal behavior).

- **Leslie Lundhal, PhD** was awarded a NIH R21 Grant. Dr. Lundhal's grant, “Marijuana cue reactivity and seeking behavior in regular cannabis users: Pilot test of glutamergic modulation.”, will focus on establishing a human laboratory model to examine the effect of cue exposure on drug seeking (using marijuana as an exemplar) and the contribution of craving in the cue/seeking connection. Overall, this project will increase mechanistic understanding of cue-induced cannabis use and provide a model for screening therapeutic approaches to reduce health burdens of Cannabis use disorder (CUD).<sup>3</sup>



- **Drs. Vaibhav Diwadkar and Jeffrey Stanley**, received news that their 5 year NIMH R01 grant, "Advancing Innovative Brain Imaging to Detect Altered Glutamate Modulation and Network Dynamics in Schizophrenia" was funded on its very first submission. Drs. Diwadkar and Stanley are co-PIs leading this grant with a total cost of \$3,043,592. What is especially noteworthy is that this grant which will capitalize on our new Integrated Clinical-Research and Education Psychosis Clinic has succeeded in partnering key clinical, educational and research personnel. Particular thanks to Drs. Amirsadri, Balon and colleagues for their vital support of this initiative. In this challenging fiscal climate, this underscores what can be accomplished with integrated teamwork across the clinical-educational-research interface.
- **Cindi Arfken, PhD** served on the joint meeting of the FDA's Anesthetic and Analgesic Drug Products Advisory Committee and Drug Safety Advisory Committee August 2016. This committee discussed a new drug application for morphine sulfate extended-release tablets formulated with the intent to provide abuse-deterrent properties.
- **Arash Javanbakht, MD**, whose chapter "**Behavioral Neuroscience of Circuits involved in Arousal Regulation**" was recently published in Neurobiology of PTSD: From Brain to Mind, Edited by Dr Israel Liberzon and Dr Kerry Ressler – August 2016.
- **David Ledgerwood PhD**, has been invited to serve as an Associate Editor for the journal Psychology of Addictive Behaviors starting in January 2017. Psychology of Addictive Behaviors is a well-regarded academic journal of the American Psychological Association.
- **Richard Balon, MD**, received notification from Pavel Bělobrádek, Deputy Prime Minister for Science, Research and Innovation, that he has been appointed as a member of the Expert Panel for Medical Sciences for the Government of the Czech Republic.

### III. Research Activities

- Congratulations to The DPBN New Investigator Grant Awardees, **Mariana Angoa-Perez and Michael Lisieski**. Both will be awarded \$25,000 for their proposed studies (details below).
- **Mariana Angoa-Perez**, "Role of proteolipid protein (PLP) in the progression of white matter pathology, myelin damage and behavioral alterations induced by repetitive mild traumatic brain injury (rmTBI)". Dr. Angoa-Perez is a Research Associate in the laboratory of Dr. Donald Kuhn. This series of experimental studies will use a battery of tests to determine the role of PLP in rmTBI-induced brain (cellular & molecular) and behavioral (sensorimotor & neuropsychiatric-like) changes over time in wild-type and PLP knockout mice. This research could prove important for understanding the impact of repeated mild head injuries on pathophysiological mechanisms and clinical outcomes.
- **Michael Lisieski**, "Normalizing a high-risk cocaine-induced phenotype via locus coeruleus modulation". Mr. Lisieski is a TNP 3rd year MD/PhD student in Dr. Shane Perrine's laboratory; this award will contribute to Michael's dissertation project. This study will determine whether pretreatment with an alpha-2 adrenergic receptor agonist can attenuate binge cocaine-induced hyperactivity to novelty conditions – a phenotype related to future drug self-administration/relapse and externalizing disorders. This research could prove important for understanding mechanisms underlying the role of initial psychostimulant exposure to risk of drug-use progression and its comorbidity with psychiatric conditions..
- **A reminder from the Associate Chair of Research, Mark Greenwald, PhD:**

*Dear DPBN faculty,*

*Effectively immediately, we will enforce an existing policy that requires all DPBN investigators to obtain Departmental Review Board (DRB) approval prior to submitting grant applications for external funding. There are no exceptions, i.e. This applies whether you are PI on a human and animal subjects proposals, or a mentor on a training proposal for a student.*

*I've attached instructions for submitting DRB proposals to the co-chairs, Drs. Jacobson and Diwadkar. Please note: Pls should email a short summary of the proposal (≈ 2 pages), not the whole grant proposal. To allow enough time for review (and I commend the DRB on their excellent service and turnaround time), please submit your proposal to the DRB 1-2 weeks before your deadline for submission to the external agency.*

*As Dr. Rosenberg has stated to our faculty, we're now operating in a brave new era of austerity/accountability. SOM Vice Dean for Research (Dr. Linda Hazlett) has indicated the need for investigators to start grant applications earlier (she begins hers up to 6 months in advance of the deadline), and submit through SPA earlier, so as to produce better-quality applications. This will reflect well on our department and institution.*

*We need to increase the proportion of grant applications that are funded (I provided some statistics at last week's faculty meeting). Obtaining collegial input (not only from your co-investigators) earlier in the process is a sound idea, and is routinely done at other successful institutions (e.g. University of Michigan Dept. of Psychiatry). Ensuring advance review by the DRB (in addition to project co-investigators) is the best way to do this. This process will also help if we are audited by SOM/WSU to show that we're doing everything possible to improve our success rates.*

*I also encourage you to take advantage of University-level programs that offer external review of proposals before submission to agencies. This further assists you in obtaining high-quality scientific feedback. (Furthermore: Dr. Israel Goldberg, president of Health Research Associates, will speak at the SOM on Aug. 30 at 12 noon in 8366 Scott Hall. He will present a seminar about grant-writing services that his organization provides upon contractual agreement. Dr. Hazlett is coordinating this activity.)*

Along with Cordell Crutchfield, I will enforce this departmental rule. Let me be clear: Yes, this means we would stop a proposal from being submitted to an agency if the DRB has not yet approved it.

Thank you very much for your full cooperation on this important issue. Dr. Rosenberg and I sincerely believe that enforcing this policy will improve the competitiveness of your scientific proposals.

Thanks, Mark

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#### IV. Office of Education and Training

- Congratulations to **Robert Loman, MD, PG-2**, whose article, *Improving Communication Between Patients and Providers Surrounding the Legal Basis for Admission*, was accepted for publication in The American Journal of Psychiatry – Resident Journal.

## Welcome

### PGY – 1 Residents



Sunbal Ashraf



Ashika Bains



Jorge Castillo



Alexandru Cojanu



Ishan Gupta



Kara Hunter



Francesco Iacobelli



Karen Oteyza



Hannah Reynard

### Child/Adolescent Psychiatry

CAP I



Megan Fojtik



Arielle Stone



Mahtab Yousefi

CAP II



Roba Elkhali



Andrew Silva



Sumi Cyriac

"Coming together is a beginning; keeping together is progress; working together is success." - Henry Ford