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 R01. 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 R01 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 glutamtergic 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).
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: PIs 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.)

Congratulations to The DPBN New Investigator Grant Awardees, Mariana Angoa-Perez and Michael Lisieksi. 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 Lisieksi, "Normalizing a high-risk cocaine-induced phenotype via locus coeruleus modulation". Mr. Lisieksi 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 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:

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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

![PGY-1 Residents](http://www.med.wayne.edu/psychiatry/)

Child/Adolescent Psychiatry

![Child/Adolescent Psychiatry](http://www.med.wayne.edu/psychiatry/)

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