I. **Greetings from the Chair**

We lost an incredible man on July 23, 2021. Dr. Leonard Lachover has been a valued member of our department for many years and will be greatly missed. Please continue to keep his family in your thoughts and prayers.

A huge kudos and congratulations to **Drs. Leslie Lundahl** – Lead Principal Investigator and **Seth Norrholm** – Co-Principal Investigator, on being awarded a 5 year, $7 million grant from the State of Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Agency (LARA) for their grant Wayne State Warriors Marijuana Clinical Research Program: Investigating the Impact of Cannabinoids on Veterans’ Behavioral Health. The grant will support a large-scale, randomized, controlled clinical trial over five years and within two studies examining the efficacy of cannabinoids to treat PTSD and suicidality in United States armed forces veterans. Research team includes David Ledgerwood, Mark Greenwald, Tanja Jovanovic, Hilary Marusak, Rao Maddipati (Lipidomics Core) and Samiran Ghosh (Biostatistics).
II. News from the Faculty

- **Dr. Eric Woodcock**, whose R00 “Multimodal Investigation of the Neuroimmune System in Opioid Use Disorder” has been awarded funding by the National Institute of Drug Abuse (NIDA). Dr. Woodcock’s project will be conducted in collaboration with Drs. Greenwald, Lundahl, Muzik, and Stanley. Additionally, Dr. Woodcock’s abstract, “Morphine evokes a neuroimmune response in healthy volunteers: Implications for opioid use disorder”, was selected for oral presentation and presented in the Late-Breaking Oral Presentations session at the annual College on Problems of Drug Dependence meeting.

- **Dr. Hilary Marusak** - Co-PI, along with Jeanne Barcelona, assistant professor of community health in the College of Education, on receiving a Social and Behavioral Determinants of Health (SBDH) Research Stimulus Awards for their project, Behind the ‘runner’s high’: endocannabinoid levels as a potential mediator of the beneficial effects of exercise on cognitive performance and mental health in youth. Also, **Dr. Arash Javanbakht** is a co-investigator on the funded project Psychobiological factors affecting mental health among refugee children and their parents, led by PI Dalia Khalil, assistant professor of nursing. The Provost’s Social & Behavioral Determinants of Health (SBDH) Steering Committee selected five research projects to fund from junior faculty and doctoral students targeting the complex interactions among social and behavioral factors and their impact on public health.

- **Dr. Vaibhav Diwadkar** was featured in the Warrior Medicine Newsletter for his role as editor of a newly published book, Brain Network Dysfunction in Neuropsychiatric Illness: Methods, Applications & Implications.

- **Dr. Alana Conti** who was selected as an awardee for Grants Boost Program - Winter Cycle from the Office of the Vice President for Research.

- **Dr. Hilary Marusak** and her student Saurav D. Singh, had their commentary Bridging the gap: preparing the next generation of brain scientists to communicate with the general public and lawmakers, recently published in Neuropsychopharmacology.

- **Drs. Mark Greenwald, Ph.D.,** Timothy Roehrs, Ph.D., director of research for the Henry Ford Health System’s Sleep Disorders Center, and School of Medicine M.D.-Ph.D. student Tabitha Moses on their publication, At the intersection of sleep deficiency and opioid use: mechanisms and therapeutic opportunities, being featured in Today@Wayne. The first publication from a project funded by a $4 million award to Wayne State University to explore the connection between sleep deficiency and opioid use disorder is now available in the August issue of Translational Research, the journal of Laboratory and Clinical Medicine.

- **Dr. Mark Greenwald** and team on receiving a R33 NIDA grant for their study, “Opioid/Benzodiazepine Polydrug Abuse: Integrating Research on Mechanisms, Treatment and Policies”. This new (phase 2) award was issued based on meeting scientific milestones during their thematically-integrated R21 award (which used epidemiological and clinical interview methods in patients with opioid + benzodiazepine use problems).

- **Dr. Sandra Jacobson** who was ranked in the top 5% of all reviewers for Drug and Alcohol Dependence (DAD). DAD received over 1,700 submissions in 2020, and called on over 3700 professionals to help review for the journal this past year.

- **Dr. Mark Greenwald** and colleagues on their paper, A novel online curriculum and coaching strategy to expand the addiction medicine workforce being published in Academic Medicine. This paper is from Dr. Greenwald’s collaboration with MI CARES (Michigan Collaborative Addiction Resources and Education System, based out of MSU), a platform for educating and supporting physicians to sit for board certification in addiction medicine. Additionally, Prevalence and predictors of peripheral neuropathy after breast cancer treatment was published in Cancer Medicine. This second paper is from Dr. Greenwald’s collaboration with KCI on chemotherapy-induced peripheral neuropathy. This paper uses the large epidemiological cohort of breast cancer patients from the Women’s Health Initiative.

- **Dr. Arash Javanbakht’s** article “The aching red: Firefighters often silently suffer from trauma and job-related stress” was featured on the Conversation. This is a continuation of the previous article on police trauma that Dr. Javanbakht published.
III. **Education**

- Remarkable funding accomplishments of the trainees in **Dr. Shane Perrine’s** lab. 7 trainees have secured their own support.
  - Nick Burson - NIH T32 (IMSD) undergraduate
  - Sabrina Khan - Med-Direct & OVPR research award
  - James Matchynski - NIMH F30 (co-sponsor - Alana Conti) grad student in TNP
  - Alixandria Trombley - NIH T32 grad student in TNP
  - Morgan Glover - NIH T32 grad student in Psychology BCN
  - Cameron Davidson - OVPR faculty postdoc award
  - Ali Gheidi - NIDA K01

IV. **Clinic News**

- **Joe Urbiel**, was referred to become a CARF surveyor by our visiting CARF team. As the cornerstone of CARF’s peer review accreditation process, surveyors conduct on-site reviews of health and human service organizations. Mr. Urbiel’s leadership, organization and knowledge was a vital factor during this visit.

Please remember to check the updated Wayne State University and Wayne Health websites regarding covid-19 procedures and requirements.

[https://wayne.edu/coronavirus](https://wayne.edu/coronavirus)

[https://intranet.waynehealthcares.org/](https://intranet.waynehealthcares.org/)