

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

Please pay special
attention to the Grand
Round notices as they
will contain location
information

September 7, 2022

NO GRAND ROUNDS

September 14, 2022

**Christopher W. Cowan,
PhD**

*"Molecular Mechanisms
Regulating Relapse
Vulnerability in Substance
Use Disorder"*

September 21, 2022

NO GRAND ROUNDS

September 28, 2022

**Rebecca Klisz-Hulbert,
M.D., DFAPA, DFAACAP**

*"Violence in Our Schools: The
Role of Psychiatry in
Preventing the Next School
Shooting"*

I. Greetings from the Chair



Congratulations to **Drs. Leslie Lundahl**, Principal Investigator and **Christine Rabinak**, Co-PI (Pharmacy) on being awarded a \$9 million grant from the State of Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Agency (LARA) for their grant *Wayne State Warriors Marijuana Clinical Research Program: Cannabinoid Adjunct to Prolonged Exposure & Recovery (CAPER)*. Research Team includes co-investigators **Drs. David Ledgerwood, Mark Greenwald and Hilary Marusak**. Not only does this grant follow Dr. Lundahl's \$7 million grant in 2021 by LARA for her Marijuana research, but this is the largest grant in the Department's history!

Congratulations to our numerous faculty who were selected for the 2022 School of Medicine Awards!

Sandra Jacobson, Ph.D. – Research Excellence Award - Clinical Scientist

Mariana Angoa-Perez, Ph.D. – Research Excellence Award - Basic Science

Leslie Lundahl, Ph.D. – Research Excellence Award - Clinical Scientist

Eric Woodcock, Ph.D. – Research Excellence Award - Clinical Scientist

Donald Kuhn, Ph.D. – Research Excellence Award - Basic Science

Hilary Marusak, Ph.D. - College Teaching Award and Research Excellence Award - Clinical Scientist

David Ledgerwood, Ph.D. - College Teaching Award

ii. News from the Faculty

- **Dr. Hilary Marusak and Eric Woodcock**'s project, *Investigating the Therapeutic Impact of Cannabinoids on Neuroinflammation and Neurobiological Underpinnings of Suicide Ideation in Veterans with PTSD* received 3.54 million in funding from LARA. This is a supplement to the currently funded 2021 Veteran Marijuana Research (VMR) Grant, *Wayne State Warriors Marijuana Clinical Research Program: Investigating the Impact of Cannabinoids on Veterans' Behavioral Health* (PIs: Lundahl and Ledgerwood). This supplement project will be the first-ever neuroimaging study of cannabis treatment in US armed forces veterans with PTSD, or in any population.
- **Dr. Leslie Lundahl** and team were featured by both the Detroit News and Channel 7 WXYZ on WSU's cannabis research grants.
- **Dr. David Ledgerwood**, a Regional Assistant Editor and author for International Gambling Studies, featured papers authored by many past and present students as well as faculty members in the special issue *20 years of the Pathways Model: Understanding disordered gambling and other behavioural addictions*. Contributors were **Dr. Leslie Lundahl, ShayLin Excell, Ciara Cannoy, Danishi Bedi, Mannat Bedi, Yasir Mehmood, Jamey Lister and Jennifer Ellis**.
- **Dr. Arash Javanbakht**, lead PI on the project *Conflict Trauma Technical Assistance for School Districts and School Impact Providers*, received 2-year funding by the State of Michigan. This is a project focusing on training and technical assistance on trauma to Newcomer Consultants for schools accepting refugee children across the state.
- **Dr. Tanja Jovanovic**, along with her collaborators, received notice of awards on two RO1's! *Extracellular vesicles as biomarkers of trauma exposure and PTSD risk* and *Cannabis use following trauma exposure: An observational study of the impact of acute stress and fear response on cannabis outcomes*, both received 5-year funding from NIH.
- **Dr. Cynthia Arfken** was selected to serve on the University's Faculty Promotion & Tenure Committee for the 2022-2023 academic year.
- **Drs. Hilary Marusak** and Co-PI Hannah Schacter (Psychology), received a R21 NICHD/NIH grant for their study, *Effects of peer victimization on physiological markers of threat sensitivity in adolescents*. Team members include Drs. Tanja Jovanovic and Chris Trentacosta (Psychology).

iii. Education

Tabitha Moses, MD/PhD student, received a Corrine F. Resta Endowed Student Award. The Corrine F. Resta Endowed Student Support Fund was established to provide program and educational support for PhD or M.D./PhD Program students in the School of Medicine who are pursuing doctoral studies in the area of neurology and neuroscience.

Olma Tadesse, an undergraduate student in the Med-Direct Program at Wayne State and trainee in the lab of Dr. Eric Woodcock, presented some of his work from Dr. Woodcock's lab examining the influence of acute stress on cigarette cue reactivity among smokers.

"The only source of knowledge is experience." - Albert Einstein