I. Greetings from the Chair

Please be on the lookout for a registration form for a very special symposium in October on Adolescent Substance Abuse and Treatment. I highly encourage all of you to attend. Also, there are 2 additional events coming up. There will be a Mental Health Summit on September 10th and then a Suicide Prevention Conference the following Wednesday, on September 17th. Both of the fliers can be found below. Please note that the 2014-2015 Grand Rounds series will be delayed and will not start until Wednesday, September 24th.

News from the Faculty

- **Beth Ann Brooks, MD and James Haveman**, Director of the Michigan Department of Community Health, were selected to receive the SOM Distinguished Service Award. They will be honored at this year’s Gold Gala in October.

- **Alireza Amirsadri, MD**, was interviewed in July by Sean Lee from CBS Radio WWJ 950 am about vitamin d deficiency associated with schizophrenia and other psychiatric disorders. http://beta.criticalmention.com/app/#report/view?750112/token/9d605b5e-d467-47e0-91d0-c155b52839d9

- **Deane Aikins, PhD**, presented his team’s military family-work to the Lieutenant Governor as part of a MPSI engagement with his mental healthcare initiative.

- **Vaibhav Diwadkar, PhD**, has received a $200,000 endowment supporting his research. Mrs. Prechter, the Heritage Foundation and Kosch Foundation are supporting Dr. Diwadkar's research.

- **Jimmie Lelesz, DO**, has been re-appointed as Vice Chair for the AOA Council on Palliative Care Issues.

- **Georgia Michalopoulos, PhD**, and colleagues’ article “Linking Cultural Competence to Functional Outcomes in Mental Health Care Settings” was published in the Journal of the National Medical Association.

- **Shibany Taormina, PhD**, was interviewed again as ABC 20/20 returned to continue filming the progress of a child with OCD at Tolan Park August 18, 2014.
Research Activities

- Sandra Jacobson, Ph.D., has received NIH, National Institute On Alcohol Abuse And Alcoholism funding for her grant, “An ERP Study of Number Processing and Error Detection in FAS and ADHD.” This is a wonderful accomplishment given the economic climate in funding research.

- Jamey Lister, post-doctoral fellow, working with Dr. David Ledgerwood who won the Durand Jacobs Dissertation Award at the National Council on Problem Gambling Conference held recently in Orlando.

II. Other News

We are saddened to announce the passing of Emanuel Tanay, M.D., a long time faculty member in our Department. He made seminal contributions to the Department, was known for being an entrepreneur in our field and was very experienced and helped Holocaust survivors and their families. Our thoughts and prayers go out to his family as we honor his memory and many accomplishments.

"What's right is what's left if you do everything else wrong." - Robin Williams
On behalf of the Detroit VA Healthcare System and the Detroit Wayne Mental Health Authority, we would like to invite you to participate in our upcoming Mental Health Summit.

**Mental Health Summit**

*Making the Connection: A 360° Approach to Veteran Recovery*

McGregor Memorial Conference Center at Wayne State University

495 West Ferry Mall  
Detroit, Michigan 48202  
Wednesday, September 10, 2014  
8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

The purpose of this program is to enhance the mental health and well-being of Wayne County Veterans and their family members through increased collaboration between the Detroit VA and the community. Our goal is to discuss how we as a community can address the mental health care needs of Veterans and their families. We hope to accomplish the following:

- Identify current VA and non-VA resources for addressing the mental health care needs of Veterans and their family members.
- Continue the dialogue that was begun at last year’s Mental Health Summit on strategies for collaboration between the VA and the community in meeting the needs of Veterans in Wayne County.
- Identify gaps and/or challenges in meeting the mental health care needs of Veterans and their family members.
- Develop an initial plan for action and collaboration with the community to address identified needs, with particular emphasis on Veteran employment and connecting the family members of Veterans to needed mental health care and social services.

Please click on the button below to reserve your space and review workshop topics and times. The registration deadline is August 25, 2014.  

**Please register as soon as possible as space is limited.**

If you have questions or need further guidance, please contact our event co-chairs:  
Dr. Eileen Bent (313) 576-1000 ext. 65908 or Eileen.Bent@va.gov  
Dr. Babysarojini Chirumamilla at (313) 576-1000 ext. 64915 or Babysarojini.Chirumamilla@va.gov

Thank you for your interest and for your continued support of our Veterans.

Sincerely,

Bella Schanzer, MD, MPH, ACOS Mental Health, Detroit VA Healthcare System  
Tom Watkins, President and CEO, Detroit Wayne Mental Health Authority

To register, please go the following link:

https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/Mental_Health_Summit_2014Reservation
Mental Health Summit  
Making the Connection: A 360° Approach to Veteran Recovery

8:00-9:00am: Registration and Breakfast

9:00-10:00am: Welcome and Opening Remarks

10:00–10:30am: Plenary Session: Hearing from Our Veterans and Their Families
Veterans and their family members will share their personal stories related to the major topics discussed throughout the day: the needs of Veteran family members, employment, education, and peer support.

10:30-10:45am: Break

10:45-12:00pm: Breakout Sessions (select one session to attend)
   Session 1: Focusing on the Needs of Veterans’ Families
   Discussion of the needs of Veterans’ family members, with a focus on developing and strengthening collaborations between the VA and community agencies and resources.

   Session 2: Employment and Veteran Well Being
   Discussion of both the role that employment can play in Veterans’ mental health recovery and the barriers that Veterans with mental health concerns face in finding and maintaining work. The focus will be on developing and strengthening collaborations between VA and community supported employment programs and community employers.

   Session 3: Peer Support Specialist Training and Placement
   Discussion of the valuable role that peer support specialists can play on a treatment team, as well as barriers and concerns about peer support training and job success with a focus on building collaborations between peer support training programs and potential community placements.

   Session 4: Educating Our Veterans
   Discussion of the unique needs of Veteran students. The focus will be on developing and strengthening collaborations between educational programs and the VA to best support Veterans with mental health concerns in pursuing and successfully completing educational programs.

12:00-1:00pm: Lunch and Keynote Address (Keynote speaker TBA)

1:00-2:00pm: Plenary Session: Military Cultural Competence: The Missing Link in Engaging Veterans and Their Families

2:00-2:15pm: Break

2:15-3:30pm: Repeat of Breakout Sessions (select one session to attend)
   The four breakout sessions described above will be repeated in the afternoon session so that participants have the opportunity to attend a different session.

3:30-4:00pm: Closing Remarks
September is Suicide Prevention Awareness Month:

The Power of One

Retired Sgt. Douglas Szczepanski, speaking on behalf of the Coalition to Salute America’s Heroes and formerly of the Michigan Army National Guard, served in Iraq and was the victim of a suicide bomber attack. He courageously fought for his life and now shares his story.

Date: September 17th, 2014
Time: 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM
Location: Detroit VA Healthcare System (Lower Level Auditorium)

The Wayne State University School of Medicine designates this live activity for a maximum of 1 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

Contact Angela Griffin with any questions: ext. 63345