I. Greetings from the Chair

I want to thank everyone who was able to attend Dean Parisi’s Town Hall Meeting. I also want to remind everyone of Dean Frank’s State of the Practice address scheduled on Monday, March 24th @ 5pm. The event itself will take place in Margherio Conference room, but you can view the address from multiple locations. Please see go to http://events.wayne.edu/2014/03/24/wsupg-annual-state-of-the-practice-51420/ for details and to register. I sincerely hope to see you all there.

Lastly, please remember that the New Investigator Grant Award applications are due Monday, March 31st. I strongly encourage all of those that are eligible to apply for this.

II. News from the Faculty

- Alireza Amirsadri, M.D. – has been appointed the Associate Chair for Clinical Affairs.

- Vaibhav Diwadkar, Ph.D and Otto Muzik, Ph.D – were selected as recipient of the Jack Ryan Award for their project "The neural correlates of thermal regulation and their relationship to metabolism: Integrating fMRI and physiology to identify novel biomarkers in health and disease". This award will be presented to them at the Medical School Alumni Reunion Saturday May 10, 2014

Congratulations to the faculty that were featured in the Best Doctors in America®! Ninety-nine specialists from the Wayne State University School of Medicine and the Wayne State University Physician Group appear on the this list for 2014. Determined by impartial peer review, this prestigious honor is awarded to only 5 percent of doctors in America.

- Alireza Amirsadri, MD, Psychiatry and Behavioral Neurosciences, General Psychiatry

- J.P. Leleszi, DO, Psychiatry and Behavioral Neurosciences, Pediatric Specialist, Child and Adolescent Psychiatry

- David Rosenberg, MD, Psychiatry and Behavioral Neurosciences, Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, Affective Disorders

- Manuel Tancer MD, Psychiatry and Behavioral Neurosciences, General Psychiatry, Psychopharmacology
III. Research Activities

- Attached you will find the application for the 2014 New Investigator Grant Program that will fund up to 4 grant applications for the period of one year, each in an amount up to $25,000. The deadline for applications is Monday, March 31st. Potential applicants with questions concerning acceptability of their proposed work may contact Drs. Mark Greenwald (mgreen@med.wayne.edu) or Donald Kuhn (donald.kuhn@wayne.edu).

IV. Office of Education and Training

Congratulations to all the faculty and mentors involved, as the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Neurosciences received superior ratings in the student evaluations of year 3 clerkships in Overall, Organization, Teaching Faculty and Teaching Residents.

Congratulations to Dr. Arthur Robin as they have received the results of the Psychology Internship Match for the next group of interns, who start in September, 2014. We welcome the following to our department!

- Emily Olsen from the University of Illinois, Chicago
- Justin Lee from Fuller Theological Seminary, CA
- Danielle Mizell from Spaulding University, Kentucky
- Kimberly Painte from Pacific University, Oregon

*In the Spring, I have counted 136 different kinds of weather inside of 24 hours.*

-Mark Twain
The DPBN announces a New Investigator Grant Program that will fund up to 4 grant applications for the period of one year, each in an amount up to $25,000. The purpose of the program is to provide funding for meritorious projects that will generate compelling preliminary or pilot data to support innovative and significant scholarly contributions and to strongly encourage, whenever possible, a larger application to an extramural funding agency (e.g., NIH, DoD, foundation).

Eligibility

- The grant program is directed at junior investigators in the department and includes assistant professors (primary appointment must be in DPBN), postdoctoral fellows, residents, and graduate students in the Translational Neuroscience Program.
- If the PI is a trainee (i.e., fellow, resident, or graduate student), a faculty member with an appointment in the DPBN (any academic rank) must sponsor the proposal.
- A Principal Investigator (PI) may submit only one proposal.
- Racial/ethnic minority individuals, women, and persons with disabilities are encouraged to apply as Principal Investigators.

Program Overview

- This grant program will provide limited and relatively rapid financial support for research within the program interests of the DPBN. While applications may involve a wide variety of biomedical, behavioral, neuroscience, or clinical disciplines, there must be clear relevance to the DPBN mission which is: “to study and find solutions for the etiology and treatment of serious and chronic mental disorders”.
- Grant support may not be used to supplement research projects already being supported by the Public Health Service, NIH, Department of Veterans Affairs, NSF, private or public foundations, or from other sources. Other support must be listed on the biosketch and any potential scientific overlap(s) must be identified and explained.
- Allowable expenses include direct support for salary (or in the case of graduate student awardees, support for stipend/tuition) and supplies. Travel, equipment and computers are not eligible for support.
- Funding decisions will be based on scientific merit as determined by a peer review committee of senior faculty in the DPBN.
- All research applications involving human subjects or laboratory animals must comply with all rules, regulations and certifications for Wayne State University (HIC, IACUC) and other potential oversight agencies (e.g., FDA, DEA).
- Potential applicants with questions concerning acceptability of their proposed work may contact Drs. Mark Greenwald (mgreen@med.wayne.edu) or Donald Kuhn (donald.kuhn@wayne.edu).
Application procedures

- All applications are to be submitted to Michelle Caton as one (1) paper copy and one (1) electronic copy as email attachment according to the instructions below.

- Applications must be submitted by 4:00 pm on March 31, 2014. There will be no exceptions.

- Applications should be completed according to standard instructions for a PHS/NIH R21 grant application (http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/pa-10-069.html - SectionIV). Applications include a cover page (see below) followed by the Research Plan.

- The page limits for the Research Plan are specified below. The Research Strategy component may not exceed 6 pages of text including tables, graphs, figures, diagrams, and charts.
  
  ▪ Specific Aims: 1 page maximum
  ▪ Research Strategy: 6 pages maximum, including (a) Significance, (b) Innovation, and (c) Approach
  ▪ Bibliography and References cited: 1 page maximum
  ▪ Justification/Protection of Human or Animal Subjects: 3 pages maximum
  ▪ NIH format biographical sketch (all key personnel): 4 pages maximum

- Appendices may not be used to exceed the page limitation.

- Preliminary data are not required but may be included if available and relevant.

Review Criteria

Applications will be scored using the following scale:

1 = Exceptional
2 = Outstanding
3 = Excellent
4 = Very Good
5 = Good
6 = Satisfactory
7 = Fair
8 = Marginal
9 = Poor

Scores will be based on criteria that are currently used to review NIH grant applications. This process is intended to help the investigator translate his/her application to the next stage.

Overall Impact. Reviewers will provide an overall impact/priority score to reflect their assessment of the likelihood for the project to exert a sustained, powerful influence on the research field(s) involved, in consideration of the following five core review criteria, and additional review criteria (as applicable for the project proposed including human subjects or laboratory animal concerns). The applicant will receive a brief summary statement that reflects the evaluation of the proposal’s overall impact.

Scoring Criteria. Reviewers will consider each of the five review criteria below to determine scientific and technical merit, and will give a separate score for each criterion. An application does not need to be strong in all categories to be judged likely to have major scientific impact. For example, a project that by its nature is not innovative may be essential to advance a field.
**Significance.** Does the project address an important problem or a critical barrier to progress in the field? If the aims of the project are achieved, how will scientific knowledge, technical capability, and/or clinical practice be improved? How will successful completion of the aims change the concepts, methods, technologies, treatments, services, or preventative interventions that drive this field?

**Investigator(s).** Are the PI, collaborators, and other co-investigators well suited to the project? Do the Early Stage Investigators or New Investigators have appropriate experience and training? Has the PI exhibited scholarly productivity, especially as it relates to the topic of the proposal?

**Innovation.** Does the application challenge and seek to shift current research or clinical practice paradigms by utilizing novel theoretical concepts, approaches or methodologies, instrumentation, or interventions? Are the concepts, approaches or methodologies, instrumentation, or interventions novel to one field of research or novel in a broad sense? Is a refinement, improvement, or new application of theoretical concepts, approaches or methodologies, instrumentation, or interventions proposed?

**Approach.** Are the overall research strategy, methodology, and analyses well reasoned and appropriate to accomplish the specific aims of the project? Are potential problems, alternative strategies, and benchmarks for success presented? Will the strategy establish feasibility and will particularly risky aspects be managed? If the project involves clinical research, does the application present a plan and provide scientific justification for 1) protecting human subjects from research risks, and 2) including minorities, members of both sexes/genders, and inclusion of children? Likewise, if the project involves animal research, does the application present a plan and provide scientific justification for 1) protecting animals from research risks, and (2) justify the number of animals to be tested?

**Environment.** Will the scientific environment in which the proposed work will be done contribute to a high probability of success? Are the institutional support, equipment and other physical resources available to the investigators adequate for the project proposed? Will the project benefit from unique features of the scientific environment, subject populations, or collaborative arrangements?

**Award Notice.** Awards will be announced by May 1, 2014, and funds will be available for use starting July 1, 2014.
Department of Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurosciences  
New Investigator Grant Program  
Cover Sheet

1. Principal Investigator (PI):

2. PI signature:

3. PI position/title:

4. PI telephone number:

5. PI email address:

6. Project Title:

7. One year budget ($25,000 maximum, direct costs only):

8. Budget justification (must fit on this cover page):

All text below the dashed line can be deleted for completion of the cover sheet

Application components (see below) should be assembled into a single merged pdf behind this cover sheet for printing and submission:

- Specific Aims: 1 page maximum
- Research Strategy: 6 pages maximum, including (a) Significance, (b) Innovation, and (c) Approach
- Bibliography and References cited: 1 page maximum
- Justification/Protection of Human or Animal Subjects: 3 pages maximum
- NIH format biographical sketch (all key personnel): 4 pages maximum


Submit 1 hard copy to Michelle Caton, Department of Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurosciences, Tolan Park, Ste. 5A and 1 electronic copy to Michelle Caton, mcaton@med.wayne.edu.