The UIC College of Medicine Graduation Ceremony is on May 9th, 2014. I wish all of our graduates luck in their future endeavors!

Congratulations to two of our senior faculty members, Drs. Henry Dove and Ghanshyam Pandey, who will receive awards at this event (details below).

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**Upcoming Events**

**Grand Rounds** *(SPH/PI, Room 109)*

May 7, 2014: Dr. Julie Schneider, Rush University Medical Center, “Neuropathologic Basis of Cognitive Impairment and Dementia in Older Persons; Insights from Community-Based Studies”

May 14, 2014: Dr. Antoine Bechara, University of Southern California, “The Neurobiology of Decision-Making, Impulse Control, and Loss of Willpower to Resist Drugs”

May 21, 2014: Dr. Mani Pavuluri, UIC, “Mindful Interventions to Multimedia Use In Children and Adolescents”

May 28, 2014: Dr. Ruth Shim, Morehouse School of Medicine, “Health Reform and Mental Health: The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly”

*Please see link of Grand Rounds booklet 2013-2014*

**Behavioral and Cognitive Neuroscience Seminar Series** *(NPI, 7th Floor Auditorium)*

May 2, 2014: Dr. Emily Briceno, University of Michigan, “If It’s Not Age, It’s Sex: Understanding Heterogeneity in Emotion Processing in MDD”

May 16, 2014: Dr. Michael McCrea, Medical College of Wisconsin, “Scientific Update on Mild Traumatic Brain Injury”
**Faculty/Research News**

**Dr. Marc Atkins** has been invited to participate in a workshop sponsored by the NIMH & NICHD titled, “Mental Health in Intellectual Disabilities: Research Challenges and Opportunities” to assess progress and barriers to research on the mental health needs of children with developmental disabilities.

**Dr. Marc Atkins** will be chairing a symposium called, “The Future of Clinical Science: Innovative Early Career Researchers Across the Translational Spectrum” at the annual meeting of the Association for Psychological Science.

**Dr. Henry W. Dove** will receive the Dean’s Outstanding Service Award for his work in the College of Medicine on behalf of Graduate Medical Education. The award will be presented at this year’s graduation on May 9, 2014.

**Dr. Geri Fox** has been named an ELAM Fellow for the academic year 2014-2015. The ELAM award is a nominated fellowship given to selected female faculty nationally to enhance diversity in leadership in our nations medical colleges.

**Dr. Marilyn Griffin** was the recipient of the Helen O. Dickens, MD Alumni Award for Leadership and Service at the UIC College of Medicine Urban Health Program’s 3rd Annual Celebration of Diversity and Leadership in Medicine. This honor is awarded annually to an alumnus in recognition of meritorious and outstanding contributions to helping students and furthers the UHP mission in a meaningful way.

**Drs. Alessandro Guidotti** and **Graziano Pinna** were invited speakers at the “Neurosteroid Congress” at Duke University on April 2-4 (pictured above). Dr. Guidotti was a keynote speaker and Pioneer Award Recipient, and his presentation was titled, “Neurosteroids and Brain Function: A Historical Perspective.” Dr. Pinna presented, “Targeting Neurosteroid Biosynthesis for the treatment of PTSD and depression.”

**Dr. Melissa Lamar** received funding for her proposal entitled, “Bioenergetics and white matter integrity of advanced brain aging in women with HIV” through the HIV/Aging Pilot Program from the Claude D. Pepper Older Americans Independence Centers and NIH-funded Centers for AIDS Research. She is supported by **Dr. Pauline Maki** and collaborators from the Chicago Women’s Interagency HIV Study, as well as the OAIC Pepper Center at Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center.

**Drs. Pauline Maki** and **Scott Langenecker** were featured in an article about Women’s Health Research Day that took place on April 28. Click here to read about their involvement in the day.

**Dr. Ghanshyam Pandey** received the College of Medicine at Chicago Distinguished Faculty Award for 2014. The award will be presented at the University Commencement Ceremony on May 9.
Faculty/Research News (cont.)

Dr. Subhash Pandey received Mario-Toppo Distinguished Scientist Award by the Association of Scientists of Indian Origin in America (ASOIA) on April 28 at the 32nd annual Experimental Biology meeting in San Diego, CA. He delivered his lecture entitled, “Epigenetic and molecular landscape of anxiety and alcoholism.” This award is given every year to an established scientist of Indian origin who has made outstanding contribution to science.

Dr. Sally Weinstein presented at the 34th annual convention for the Anxiety and Depression Association of America (ADAA) as part of the symposium Understanding and Helping Suicidal Children and Teens: Recent Findings. Her presentation was titled, “Identifying Psychosocial Risk Factors and Intervention Methods to Prevent Suicide in Pediatric Bipolar Disorder.” This citation is listed on page 4.

Dr. Adrien Zhubi, in collaboration with Drs. Ying Chen, Erbo Dong, Edwin Cook, Alessandro Guidotti, and Dennis Grayson, will present a poster titled, “Is Increased Binding of MeCP2 to RELN and GAD1 Regions Driven by the Increased 5-HMC in the Promotor Regions of Autism Spectrum Disorder?” at the annual meeting of the American Psychiatric Association in May in New York City.

Clinical News

Thank you to the many eligible Clinicians who participated in the Medicare and Medicaid Attestation for Meaningful Use. Although it was a painstaking process, all identified participants in the Department of Psychiatry attested successfully, and the results of our diligent and collaborative work are already being delivered to the UIC in forms of incentive bonuses. The details about distribution will be forthcoming.

PsychConsult, our current medical billing platform, will be soon be replaced by a new cloud-based medical billing system, Health Fusion. The kick-off date for implementation is being established. A project management roll-out of all details, including training, will be announced in the coming weeks.

Educational News

The adult residency program is transitioning to the ACGME Next Accreditation System (NAS) starting July 2014. This new system for accreditation of medical specialties involves both institutional and program level changes with the benefit of providing better accountability for measurable outcomes. It will involve changes in how residents are evaluated. We are in the process of disseminating education on the changes. More information is at ACGME.
Recent Publications and Presentations

Dr. Marc Atkins and colleagues published a paper in *Clinical Psychological Science* entitled, “Reconceptualizing Internship Training Within the Evolving Clinical Science Training Model.” [Click here to read more.](#)

Drs. Alessandro Guidotti, James Auta, John Davis, Erbo Dong, David Gavin, Dennis Grayson, Rajiv Sharma, Patricia Tueting, Adrien Zhubi, and a colleague at NYU published a paper titled, “Toward the Identification of Peripheral Epigenetic Biomarkers of Schizophrenia” in the *Journal of Neurogenetics*. [Click here to read more.](#)

Drs. Dana Rusch, Marc Atkins, and a colleague from Florida International University (Stacy Frazier) published a Point of View paper in *Administration and Policy in Mental Health and Mental Health Services Research* titled, "Building Capacity within Community-Based Organizations: New Directions for Mental Health Promotion for Latino Immigrant Families in Urban Poverty." [Click here to read more.](#)


Pamela Steigman, Dr. Judith Cook, and colleagues published an article titled, “Psychiatric Symptoms Moderate the Effects of Mental Illness Self-management in a Randomized Controlled Trial” in the *Journal of Nervous and Mental Disease*. [Click here to read more.](#)

Weinstein, S.M., Katz, A., Pavuluri, M., & West, A.E. (2014; March). Identifying Psychosocial Risk Factors and Intervention Methods to Prevent Suicide in Pediatric Bipolar Disorder. In J. Harkavy-Friedman, (Chair), Understanding and Helping Suicidal Children and Teens: Recent Findings. Symposium conducted at the Anxiety and Depression Association of America (ADAA) 34th Annual Conference, Chicago, IL.