Happy Holidays and best wishes to you and your families for the New Year!

The NPI painting project is nearing completion. The lobby is the last area to be finished and is being worked on presently. All seven floors have been completed including all stairwells. Staff, faculty and patients have complimented our new look. Thanks to facilities management, hospital administration and our own staff for their efforts.

The Department of Psychiatry has a new website!
Please visit us at: [http://www.psych.uic.edu](http://www.psych.uic.edu)

**Upcoming Events**

**Grand Rounds** *(SPH/PI, Room 109)*
Jan. 8, 2014: **Dr. Tushar Advani**, UIC, “‘Doc, Can you write me a letter?’ Psychiatric Disability Evaluation”
Jan. 15, 2014: **Dr. Michael W. Naylor**, UIC, “Psychotropic Medication Oversight for Children in Foster Care”

Please see link of Grand Rounds booklet 2013-2014

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

**Neuroscience Seminar Series** *(SPH/PI, Room 366)*
**Faculty/Research News**

Dr. **Carl Bell** has a new article published in the *American Medical Association Journal of Ethics* titled, “Dynamic Descriptions of Personality Disorders”. Dr. Bell was also selected to receive the Distinguished Service Award from the *American Psychiatric Association* for 2014.

Dr. **Maria Caserta** has been nominated to the Maintenance of Certification (MOC) Committee, which is part of the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology (ABPN).

Dr. **M. Griffin** was an honoree and award recipient at the EnVest Foundation’s 7th Annual 40under40 Recognition Awards Millennium Ball in Washington, D.C., on November 8, 2013.

Dr. **Rachel Jacobs** has been granted the Mind & Life Institute’s 2013-2014 Francisco J. Varela Research Award.

Adriana **Magan**a is the staff recipient of the UIC Award of Merit. Her service and dedication to patients and their families has been invaluable to the University of Illinois Hospital & Health Sciences System.

Dr. **Pauline Maki** is the President-elect of the North American Menopause Society (NAMS).

Dr. **Graziano Pinna** has his webinar presentation, "Neurosteroid biosynthesis as a target for anxiety disorders and PTSD therapy" for ‘TM’s 3rd World Drug Discovery Online’ featured in Nature Events: Conference” [click here to view the webinar]. Dr. Pinna was also a speaker at the International Society for Traumatic Stress Studies on November 8, 2013. His topic was “Resilience after Trauma: From Surviving to Thriving.”

Dr. **Leah Rubin** received an R21 supported by NIMH to study sex differences in cognitive response to a hydrocortisone challenge in HIV. Drs. **Luan Phan** and **Pauline Maki** are co-investigators on this grant.

Dr. **Leah Rubin** was invited to present her work titled, “Hippocampal dysfunction may explain the negative impact of stress on verbal memory in HIV-infected women” at the Women’s Interagency HIV Study Executive Committee Meeting on October 30, 2013.

**Clinical News**

The UIC Memory and Wellness Clinic had a first successful month, led by Drs. **Melissa Lamar**, **Laura Pedelty**, and **Michael Schrift**. The new clinic represents an integrated venture between clinicians in the Departments of Psychiatry and Neurology and Rehabilitation, and specializes in working with individuals who have memory and other complex neurobehavioral conditions.

**Educational News**

We are in the process of interviewing candidates for the 2014 - 2015 recruitment of Psychiatry trainees which include residents, fellows, Psychology interns and Social Work trainees. We have a strong national pool of applicants for all programs.
UIC welcomes 3 new faculty members to the Department of Psychiatry!

**Dr. Aneet Ahluwalia**  
**Visiting Assistant Professor of Clinical Psychiatry**  
Dr. Ahluwalia recently joined the Department of Psychiatry as an Assistant Professor of Clinical Psychiatry and Internal Medicine in the Department of Psychiatry in the Division of Inpatient Psychiatry. He received his MD and completed his psychiatry residency at the University of Illinois at Chicago. He also completed his residency at the Northshore University Health Systems Hospital in Evanston, IL. Dr. Ahluwalia is board certified in Psychiatry and has 10 years of experience in the field.

**Interests:** Dr. Ahluwalia is serving as the Director of the inpatient psychiatry consult-liaison service. He is also an internist providing primary care and some inpatient care for internal medicine. His hope is to integrate medical and psychiatric care to improve patient outcomes.

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**Email:** aahluw1@uic.edu

**Dr. M. Griffin**  
**Assistant Professor of Clinical Psychiatry**  
Dr. Griffin recently joined the Department of Psychiatry as an Assistant Professor of Clinical Psychiatry in the Division of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry. She received her MD at the University of Illinois College of Medicine at Rockford, followed by her residency at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center.

**Interests:** Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder, Collaborative Healthcare Models

**Office Phone:** 312-996-7723

**Dr. Julie Janecek**  
**Visiting Assistant Professor of Clinical Psychiatry**  
Dr. Janecek is a clinical neuropsychologist who recently joined the Department of Psychiatry as a Visiting Assistant Professor of Clinical Psychiatry in the Neurobehavior Program. She received her PhD in Counseling Psychology from Marquette University. She completed her pre-doctoral internship at the University of Florida Health Science Center and a postdoctoral fellowship in clinical neuropsychology at the Medical College of Wisconsin. She specializes in the neuropsychological evaluation of adults with neurological and psychiatric disorders, with particular interests in epilepsy, head injury, and memory disorders. Her research interests include the use of functional MRI language mapping in the pre-surgical evaluation of epilepsy patients and predictors of cognitive outcome after temporal lobectomy.

**Interests:** Clinical neuropsychology, functional MRI, epilepsy, head injury, memory disorders

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Recent Publications

**Dr. Amynah Pradhan**, M. Smith, B. McGuire, I. Tarash, & C. Evans have a new paper in *Pain* titled “Characterization of a Novel Model of Chronic Migraine.” [click here to read more.](#)

**Drs. Amy Lasek** and **Elisa Hilderbrand** published a paper titled, “Sex differences in cocaine conditioned place preference in C57BL/6J mice” in *NeuroReport*. [click here to read more.](#)