Message from the Chair

As we move into summer, we welcome our new trainees to the department and will assist them as they transition into their new roles. We are working closely with UI Health to fully integrate UI Behavioral Health into the overall system. This is an ongoing project that is beginning to crystallize. To close on a celebratory note, Professor Ed Cook was chosen as a recipient of the honorary title of UIC Distinguished Professor for the academic year 2015-2016. Please join me in congratulating Professor Cook. This is a well-deserved honor!

Faculty/Research News

One of our rising M-2s and KTGF fellows, George Gianakakos, M.Ed., has been awarded one of four national AACAP Jeanne Spurlock Summer Research Fellowships. George is working with Dan Martinez, MD, one of our volunteer faculty members, with the Children’s Research Triangle and Pilsen Wellness Center to help collect controls for research pertaining to therapy for families experiencing issues with substance abuse. A description of the award can be found at http://www.aacap.org/aacap/awards/medical_students_awards/Spurlock_Research_Fellowship.aspx.

Congratulations to George, and our gratitude to Dr. Martinez for mentoring him this summer!

The Jesse Brown VA Medical Center Psychiatrist Daolong Zhang, MD and Department of Psychiatry Associate Professor Chunyu Liu, Ph.D. led a DSM-5 Chinese translation task force, translated the DSM-5 into simplified Chinese. The book with over 1.3 million Chinese words is going to be published in China on July 1st, 2015. It will be an important training textbook and practice guide for 22,000 psychiatrists and 600,000 psychologists in China in the coming years before ICD-11 can be released.

Dr. Lisa Sánchez-Johnsen: was recently named a Health Equity Ambassador by the American Psychological Association. Dr. Sánchez-Johnsen is also the Director of Bariatric Surgery Research.

APA Monitor quotes Dr. Judith Cook on co-occurring mental health, substance abuse & criminal justice involvement http://www.apa.org/monitor/2015/06/upfront-journal.aspx

Dr. Judith Cook addresses federal Interagency Committee on Disability Research https://www.icdteam.acl.gov/symposium/

Dr. Amynah Pradhan was recently elected to the executive committee for the International Narcotics Research Conference, the association for scientists dedicated to the study of opioids.
Faculty/Research News (cont.)

Dr. K. Luan Phan, professor of psychiatry and director of the mood and anxiety disorders clinical and research programs at UIC, and chief of neuropsychiatric research at the Jesse Brown VA Medical Center, was interviewed for an ABC 7 news segment on PTSD among veterans. Dr. Phan is leading a clinical trial examining the efficacy of different medications and types of talk therapy for veterans with PTSD, and examining the impact of these treatments on brain function. He says more research is needed to determine the best treatment for PTSD, especially since the medications prescribed for it are designed for other disorders. "Some medications are used for depression, some are for anxiety and there are very few medications that are particularly good for PTSD or are useful for PTSD," said Phan. The segment can be viewed here:  [http://abc7.ws/1Anf7st](http://abc7.ws/1Anf7st)

Dr. David Lott: presented poster in the New Research Poster session at APA in Toronto on May 19, titled "Opioid Overdose Education in a Suburban Community Treatment Program." He also presented at "Family focused substance abuse prevention," A community forum at North Central College in Naperville Illinois on May 12, sponsored by Linden Oak Behavioral Health, the Dupage County Prevention Leadership Team, North Central College, P.A.T.H. parent support group, and KidsMatter/ParentsMatter1oo.

Dr. Graziano Pinna became the Editorial board member for the journal: Neuropharmacology (Elsevier)

Dr. Kathleen Kelley was elected to the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Nominating Committee (October 2015 - 2017)

Dr. Mani Pavuluri presented 2 talks over the past month:
- Differentiating and Treating Bipolar disorder and ADHD Informed by Brain Function, Along with Dr. Amber May at Loyola University, Chicago, June 25, 2015

Dr. Lisa Razzano, Marie Hamilton, and their colleagues presented education research at invited workshops at the Annual Meeting of the Psychiatric Rehabilitation Association (PRA) in Philadelphia, PA.

Dr. Lisa Razzano, Marie Hamilton, and their colleagues at the Department’s Center on Mental Health Services Research and Policy (CMHSRP) presented workshops on cultural diversity, "Using Cultural Mindfulness to Inform Ethical and Universally-Designed Recovery Services," and gender non-conforming populations, "Trans*tioning Toward Cultural Empowerment."

Rachel Jacobs gave an invited talk at the Mind and Life Summer Research Institute entitled: Targeting rumination and changing default mode network connectivity in adolescents at risk for depressive relapse.

Recent Publications


Angel Gray, Thomas Hyde, Amy Deep-Soboslav, Joel Kleinman, Monsheel Sodhi. Sex differences in glutamate receptor gene expression in major depression and suicide. Molecular Psychiatry in press. doi:10.1038/mp.2015.91

Recent Publications (cont.)


UIC Psychiatry Graduation 2015