Message from our Chair

We are in the throes of the busy season. The Residency recruitment season has begun and we have invited a little over one hundred applicants to interview with us from a pool of over a thousand. All invitees have strong academic records and the future of the specialty looks bright. Internship and Fellowship recruitment is also underway with many talented applicants to interview. Faculty recruitments are active in multiple domains – MD psychiatrists, clinical psychologists, therapists, the Neurobiology of Depression position, and the IJR Director position. We are also conducting searches for Social Workers and an APRN.

Our research extravaganza was a huge success and the keynote speaker Dr. Holly Lisanby from the NIMH gave an excellent presentation. The poster sessions were very active and covered a diverse intellectual portfolio.

Clinical services are very busy and our clinicians are managing complex cases under challenging conditions, as always. Ambulatory clinical services are provided on an approximately 50:50 – tele v face-to-face split. We are planning to transition to more face-to-face care over the next few months.

That’s all for now. Thank you for all of your contributions to the department and those that we serve. Have a great and safe Thanksgiving week.

Warm regards,

Anand Kumar, MD, MHA
No Grand Rounds - Holiday 11/24/2021  Happy Thanksgiving!

**Wednesday December 1, 2021**- Jamie Feusner, MD., Professor, Dept. of Psychiatry, Division of Neuroscience & Clinical Translation, University of Toronto

Title: “Body Dysmorphic and Perceptual Distortions: The Road to Remediation”

No Grand Rounds - ACNP 12/8/2021

December 24th, 2021 through January 3rd 2022
CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to the BBRF Honorary Pardes Prize Recipient: **Dr. John M. Davis** received the 2021 Honorary Pardes Humanitarian Prize in Mental Health! Dr. Davis presented: *Luck, Chance, & Cross-Cultural Exchange between Psychiatry in the US and China*, at the Symposium on October 29th, 2021.

**Dr. Maria Caserta** and **Dr. Tory Eisenlour – Moul** received the Faculty of the Year Award (Psychiatry) and the Departmental Rising Star Award from Dean Rosenblatt.

**Brandon Hage, MD, MA** will be joining our faculty 8/1/23 after the completion of his child and adolescent psychiatry fellowship. He will be joining the Women’s Mental Health Program and working with **Dr. Ashley Mulvihill** and **Dr. Danijela Stojanac** in the Integrated Women’s Mental Health/Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Initiative.
Faculty and Staff News (cont.)

The National Register of Health Service Psychologists is proud to present the 2021 Judy E. Hall Early Career Psychologist Award to J. Konadu Fokuo, PhD, of the University of Illinois at Chicago. This award comes with a $10,000 stipend to fund a project that aims to enhance the contributions of psychology to health care.

The award announcement is available through the following link: 

Our own BiAffect team led by Dr. Alex Leow is mentioned in this WSJ piece. Our own Professor Alex Leow developed BiAffect!

This Guardian piece on digital phenotyping includes a paragraph on Bi Affect, the App that was developed at UIC to track mood changes in patients with mood disorders. Dr. Alex Leow developed the BiAffect!

Dr. Sean Blitzstein is currently President-Elect of the Association for Academic Psychiatry (AAP).

Dr. Judith Cook’s Center and the UIC Center on Excellence in Developmental Disabilities received a 5-year grant in September from the US DHHS Administration for Community Living to train Illinois state agencies and service providers to better meet the needs of people with co-occurring psychiatric and intellectual/developmental disabilities.

NIH recently awarded $470 million to build a national study population to support large-scale research on the lasting effects of COVID-19. Dr. Judith Cook is part of a UIC faculty team led by Dr. Jerry Krishnan that was funded in October to recruit and assess an Illinois study population infected with SARS-CoV-2 (acute and post-acute) and appropriate controls.

Dr. Judith Cook, Jessica Jonikas & Dr. Lisa Razzano were invited to speak at a US DHHS NI-DILRR and SAMHSA-sponsored State of the Science Research Meeting on Improving Outcomes for Adolescents and Young Adults Experiencing Serious Mental Health Problems in September. Dr. Cook spoke about health disparities, Dr. Razzano addressed health literacy, and Ms. Jonikas discussed needs of LGBTQI+ youth.

Dr. Judith Cook, Jessica Jonikas & Dr. Lisa Razzano chaired sessions at the 2021 Illinois Evidence-Based Practices Virtual Conference Series sponsored by the IL DHS Division of Mental Health in August. Sessions focused on innovative models of supported employment, virtual training and education via web portal, and the genesis of EBP in employment services.

Julie Carbray PhD, APRN and Royce Lee MD presented: The Impact of the Pandemic on the Mental Health of Children and Adults at the Brain Research Foundation virtual Discovery Event November 17th.

Julie Carbray PhD, APRN, was interviewed on the Behind our Door podcast, hosted by “moms on a mission” Julie Joyce of the Chicago Police Department and Nancy Sussman of NAMI Northwest Chicagoland
Faculty and Staff News (cont.)

Julie Carbray PhD, APRN presented with Raison, C, Thase, M and Zajecka, J: Adjunctive agents in depressive disorders: focus on L-methylfolate at Psych Congress 10/31 in San Antonio, TX

Dr. Sandro Guidotti will be Chairman for the ACNP in Puerto Rico, for a panel section on Neurosteroids: GABAergic Epigenetic and Immune Regulation in Mood and Alcohol Use Disorders.

Dr. Lisa Razzano was elected chair of the American Psychological Association's Task Force on Serious Mental Illness & Serious Emotional Disturbance. She will lead the group through August 2023.

Dr. Lisa Razzano led the invited webinar, "Inclusive Evidence-Based Practices in Gender Non-Binary Mental Health Services" as part of an ongoing series for SMI Advisor, a partnership between the American Psychiatric Association and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). The session had more than 1,200 registrants.

Dr. Tara Mehta & Urban Initiatives: A partnership to promote children’s mental health. Dr. Tara Mehta and her partners at Urban Initiatives talk about their efforts to improve children’s mental health by teaching recreational staff how to promote social-emotional learning during recess.

Listen to the episode


Dr. Dana Rusch, was the invited presenter at Navigating Higher Education in Illinois - Undocumented Immigrants & Mixed Status Households. (2021, October). Virtual workshop organized by UIC Office of Diversity, Undocuwiki, Illinois Student Assistance Commission, IL Dream Fund, The 2% Fund, and the Coalition for Immigrant Mental Health.

Dr. Dana Rusch. (2021, October). The Intersection of Research, Practice and Policy Advocacy in Immigrant Mental Health Justice (2-day seminar). Pre-Doctoral Psychology Internship Program Diversity Seminar, University of Chicago.

Dr. Dana Rusch is the Invited Panelist, Disparities in Research and Practice Special Plenary. (2021, November) at the North American Society for Psychotherapy Research 2021 Virtual Conference.
Dr. Jason Soble has been elected a Fellow of the American Psychological Association. APA Fellow status is an honor that recognizes individuals who have made unusual and outstanding contributions in the field of psychology. Fellow status requires that the individual's work has had a national impact on the field of psychology beyond a local, state, or regional level.

The 2nd edition of the book “Epigenetics in Psychiatry, 2nd Edition” by Jacob Peedicayil (Editor), Dr. Dennis R. Grayson (Editor), and Dimitri Avramopoulos (Editor) was recently published: ISBN-13: 978-0128235775. It is largely rewritten with both new and updated chapters by leading scholars in the fields. The new edition is available through Amazon.

Dr. Tory Eisenlohr-Moul was featured on The Lisa Show. Dr. Eisenlohr-Moul discussed the often misunderstood disorder of Premenstrual Dysphoric Disorder (PMDD), and how to support those with it. The interview is here: https://www.byuradio.org/d58e3961-26eb-47cc-b089-3997ede30a69

As we entered Alzheimer’s Awareness Month, a timely op-ed from Dr. Anand Kumar addresses the need for disruptive innovation as the new plan of attack to combat Alzheimer’s Disease.

https://www.orlandosentinel.com/opinion/guest-commentary/os-op-alzheimers-research-innovation-20211105-4sosmwyvyhbfzhbzb42o5s5e3e-story.html


Dr. Amy Lasek was appointed as Chair of the Neuroscience and Behavior Study Section (AA-4) of NIAAA.
Faculty and Staff News (cont.)

Announcing: The start of a new Advance Directives Clinic for patients in Outpatient Psychiatry, created by former Employee of the Year and star Inpatient Social Worker, Jamie Haley, LCSW. The Anchor Point Clinic will be starting a monthly clinic for Psychiatric Advance Directives! The goal of this clinic is to offer a supportive and informative space for current Anchor Point Clinic consumers to complete advance directives. If you have current Anchor Point consumers who are interested in learning more about, and possibly completing, a psychiatric advance directive…Jamie will now be taking referrals! The clinic will be the first Monday of every month, starting December 6th, during regular Anchor Point Clinic hours (1pm-4pm).

Huber, H.M., Potter, E.N., Or dorica, C.M., Witzig, J., Liu, L., Dr. Brittany Rudd. (2021, October 13). Defining and distinguishing high conflict and intimate partner violence in family law cases [Poster presentation]. 12th Annual Department of Psychiatry Research Forum at the University of Illinois at Chicago (Virtual).

Dr. Brittany Rudd. (2021, October 13). Harnessing the tools of implementation science to improve suicide prevention in juvenile detention [Meeting presentation]. 12th Annual Department of Psychiatry Research Forum at the University of Illinois at Chicago (Virtual).


Dr. Olu Ajilore was invited to give the Inaugural Harding Endowed Lecture at Ohio State University on October 27th.

Dr. Eleonora Gatta - K99/R00 Awardee from the NIAAA: K99AA028817- Glucocorticoid receptor epigenetic programming in alcohol-induced neuropathology. Primary mentor: Dr. Subhash Pandey.

Dr. Sally Weinstein was interviewed on The 21st Show (National Public Radio), to discuss the mental health impact of seasonal affective disorder. https://will.illinois.edu/21stshow/story/enduring-seasonal-depression

Notice of new award of funding from the Office of Refugee Resettlement to develop Family-based mental health prevention services for incoming Afghan evacuees. This project is being conducted in collaboration with the U.S Committee for Immigrants and Refugees and collaborators at Boston College.

The Global Mental Health Program Co-Directors Drs. Mary Bunn and Stevan Weine would like to share a Call for Abstracts for an international workshop on mental health and psychosocial support interventions for refugees in the Middle East region. Please link to the website for more details and we encourage you to circulate to your networks and submit proposals for related work.

www.iwom21.com
**Publications**


Publications (cont.)


Publications (cont.)


**Rudd, B.N.,** & Beidas, R.S. (2021). Reducing the scientific bench to judicial bench research-to-practice gap: Applications of implementation science to family law research and practice. *Family Court Review*. Advance online publication. https://doi.org/10.1111/fcre.12606


