I hope everyone had a great Summer. We are busy, as always, with clinical, educational and research activities. Our incoming residents are in place and working hard while at the same time getting used to Chicago and UIC.

Clinically, we have recruited several new faculty - both psychiatrists and psychologists – who are either in place or will be joining us soon.

Niranjan Karnik, MD, PhD has hit the ground running at IJR and in addition to his role within the department, he also serves as the interim Director of the COM’s Artificial Intelligence Institute – a new initiative to build a team of AI related investigators who will apply this technology to work on matters related to health disparities. Dr. Ajilore is now the Co-Director of the COM’s Medical Scientist Training Program (MSTP) and his role will complement his departmental role as head of the research track residency. Our clinicians are busy both in delivering inpatient care and outpatient services.

The 3rd Carl Bell Memorial Lecture will be held on 28th of September and the Keynote Speaker will be Chief Judge Timothy Evans from the Cook County Court System.

Busy, but exciting times!

Warm Regards,

Anand Kumar MD, MHA
Upcoming Events:

Annual Dr. Carl Bell Memorial Lecture

**Wednesday, September 28th 2022**
**1:00pm to 2:00pm**

**Location:** (COMRB)
College of Medicine Research Building
Moss Auditorium

**Keynote Speaker:**

**Chief Judge Timothy C. Evans**
Circuit Court of Cook County
Upcoming Events (cont.):

Coming soon!!

Department of Psychiatry Research Extravaganza

Wednesday, November 2, 2022

David H. Ledbetter, PhD, FACMG
Executive Vice President/Chief Scientific Officer, Geisinger

Faculty Data Blitz and Keynote Speaker
1:00pm to 3:00pm
Location: Moss Auditorium

Poster Presentation
3:00pm to 5:00pm
Location: Faculty Alumni Lounge
Faculty and Staff News

Dr. Dana Rusch was an invited presenter at the June 30th Illinois Mexican and Mexican-American Students Initiative (I-MMÁS) online International Symposium on Latino/Latina Mental Health. Her presentation focused on immigration policy and mental health. The recording of the symposium can be found here: https://www.uillinois.edu/cms/One.aspx?portalId=1324&pageId=1689759

Dr. Mark Rasenick was invited to give the following presentations this summer:

05/22 “Potential Biomarkers for Depression: The Path to Personalized Diagnosis and Treatment for Psychiatry” Neuroscience and Neurotechnology in the 21st century—BioFarmaCuba Havana Keynote presentation.

06/22 “A cellular approach to the mechanism of rapid acting antidepressants:NMDAR Independence and cAMP dependence” in “Rapid Acting Antidepressants—Beyond NMDA” Mediterranean Neuroscience, Dubrovnik

Dr. Patricia Graczyk, Assistant Professor of Clinical Psychology, was invited to livestream a master class titled "Shifting the Paradigm to a Focus on Attendance and Prevention" for the national organization, Steunpunt Passend Onderwijs, in the Netherlands in May 2022.

Dr. Patricia Graczyk, Assistant Professor of Clinical Psychology, presented a workshop in July 2022, titled "Promoting student resilience by promoting school attendance" at the 43rd annual conference of the International School Psychology Association held in Leuven, Belgium.


Dr. Sean Blitzstein is the recipient of the Golden Apple Award for Teaching Excellence During the COM Clinical department heads meeting, it was pointed out the quality of the student clerkship is probably the most important local factor in helping students make career/specialty choices. The facts speak for themselves - 25 students from UIC, in total, matched into psychiatry this year!
Faculty and Staff News (cont.)

**Dr. Geri Fox** received the 2022 UICOM Distinguished Service Award. The award was presented to Dr. Fox by Executive Dean Mark Rosenblatt during the medical school graduation ceremony on May 6, 2022.

**Dr. Geri Fox** received the Fred Sierles Leadership and Excellence in Psychiatric Education Award from the Association of Directors of Medical Student Educators in Psychiatry (ADMSEP) at the ADMSEP annual meeting in Austin, TX on June 17, 2022. This lifetime career award was given “in recognition of significant contributions to shaping the organization, through participation and dedicated service to the organization.”

**Dr. Judith Cook**, Director of the Center for Mental Health Services Research and Policy (MHSRP), received a University Scholar award from the University of Illinois Office of the President. The award, including a 3-year stipend, is given to faculty members who have demonstrated superior performance in scholarly activities in both research and teaching and who show great promise for future achievements [https://faculty.uic.edu/awards/recognition/university-scholars/](https://faculty.uic.edu/awards/recognition/university-scholars/). Dr. Cook will receive the award at a ceremony in the Fall.

**Dr. Brittany Rudd’s** work to improve the implementation of suicide prevention was recognized in Science Mag. Read the article here: [https://scienmag.com/implementation-strategies-underreported-in-studies-of-suicide-prevention-interventions/](https://scienmag.com/implementation-strategies-underreported-in-studies-of-suicide-prevention-interventions/)

**Dr. Kalman Kaplan** has been named a semi-finalist for the 2022 Bernard Lewis Award given by ASMEA (Association of Scholars of the Middle East and Africa)

Congratulations to **Dr. Brittany Rudd** who was awarded a two-year Implementation Research Institute (IRI) fellowship. IRI is an exciting learning collaborative of implementation researchers funded by the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) and the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). IRI was established to advance the field of implementation science in mental health by enhancing the career development of promising early career investigators.

Graduate student **Catalina Ordorica** defended her Masters Thesis Proposal.


**Dr. Geri Fox** presented Grand Rounds on: Preadolescent Teasing at Medical College of Wisconsin: “Not ‘In with the In Crowd’: Coping with Preadolescent Teasing and Relational Aggression.” Department of Psychiatry Grand Rounds, Medical College of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, WI, June 1, 2022.

**Dr. Judith Cook, Jessica Jonikas, & Sean Johnson** presented at a national conference on adapting an evidence-based illness self-management intervention (WRAP) for older adults, and trained 8 new facilitators in IL & MO to teach it.

**Dr. Judith Cook** presented at the 2022 NARRTC Conference and Annual Meeting on Employment during the COVID-19 pandemic among workers with pre-existing behavioral health conditions.

**Sean Johnson**, MA, of the CMHSRP was invited to present on illness self-management for older adults at the 5th Annual Older Adult Mental Health Awareness Day symposium, sponsored by the National Council on Aging.
Publications

Altered Expression and in vivo Activity of mGlu5 variant a Receptors in the striatum of BTBR mice: Novel insights into the pathophysiology of adult idiopathic forms of autism spectrum disorders. *Francesco Matrisciano, Valentina Locci, Erbo Donga,b Ferdinando Nicoletti, Alessandro Guidotti and Dennis R Grayson. The Psychiatric Institute, Department of Psychiatry, College of Medicine, University of Illinois Chicago, Chicago, IL 60612, USA. Center for Alcohol Research in Epigenetics Department of Psychiatry College of Medicine University of Illinois Chicago, Chicago, IL 60612, USA. Department of Physiology and Pharmacology, Sapienza University of Rome, Rome, Italy; dIRCCS Neuromed, Pozzilli, Italy.

Promoting Healthy Development and Preventing Suicide Across the Life Span: Individuation and Attachment in Matched Biblical and Graeco-Roman Narratives by Professor Kal Kaplan. This chapter applies a two-axis model (individuation-deindividuation and attachment-detachment) of human development to recognizing and preventing suicide across the life span. Typical interpretations of Erikson suggest that healthy development is achieved by resolving the life crisis at each stage "horizontally" (e.g. trust rather than mistrust). Our approach in comparison proposes that one enters a stage at dystonic level (distrust) and moves ahead to a syntonic level (trust) necessary to move ahead to the next life stage. (temporarily regressing in level to advancing in stage). Pressuring an individual to proceed to the next life stage before he is psychologically ready to can be a major risk factor for suicide. In this regard 7 biblical narratives of suicide prevention are matched with 7 Graeco-Roman narratives of suicide on corresponding risk factors.

