DEPARTMENT FORMS THREE NEW COMMITTEES

The Department of Psychiatry formed three new committees to address critical issues in development. First, Royce Lee and Shona Vas co-chaired the Compensation Committee, formed to review the Dean’s guidelines on compensation planning and make recommendations about how to incentivize performance. A preliminary report was delivered at the December Faculty Meeting. Second, the Diversity Committee, chaired by Danielle Anderson and Scott Hunter, met to assess the diversity issues within the Department. They will focus on diversity at multiple levels including faculty, promotion, trainees, staff, and patient-oriented outcomes. Third, the Media Committee, comprised of Sarah Keedy, Joseph Cooper and Deborah Spitz, assumed responsibility for the revitalization of the Department of Psychiatry Newsletter and website. In the coming months, we hope to introduce some new features including in-depth interviews with faculty about career development, perspectives on hot topics in psychiatry, and other goodies. Suggestions welcome! Finally, the Grand Rounds Committee, chaired by Royce Lee, is now taking recommendations for the next academic year. Based on feedback from the department, a “Heinz Kohut” Grand Rounds presentation in the area of humanistic psychiatry has been proposed. Heinz Kohut was a neurology resident here at The University of Chicago, in what was then the Department of Neurology and Psychiatry. He lived at Billings Hospital, and did research work in the area of neuro-op to myelitis, before joining the Institute and changing his faculty appointment to psychiatry.
Karam Radwan, M.D. Director of the Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Training Program, was promoted to Associate Professor, School of Medicine, at the University of Chicago Medicine & Biological Sciences effective August 1, 2014. Dr. Radwan received his MD from the University of Damascus, trained at the University of Missouri in Adult Psychiatry, did his Child Fellowship at Northwestern and the University of Michigan, and has been in our Department since 2008. He worked with faculty at NorthShore to develop the child inpatient rotation at Highland Park Hospital; he runs two general psychiatry clinics, emphasizing diagnosis of complex mood disorders in children; and focuses on psychotherapy of children and families. He has revitalized not only the Child Fellowship but the approach to teaching in his section, developing competitive games to enhance participation and learning in journal club and other areas. Within the Adult section, he co-teaches Family Therapy with Dr. Khalid Afzal to adult residents, and provides supervision to adult residents on their psychotherapy cases.

Stephanie Cacioppo, Ph.D., recently joined the Department as Assistant Professor. She received her Ph.D. in Psychology at the University Medical School of Geneva (Switzerland) and the University of Savoy (France) in 2004. Her research is at the intersection of neuropsychiatry, social neuroscience, and cognitive psychology. Combining different high-resolution brain imaging techniques with psychophysics, her research focuses on elucidating the speed of social cognition in health and disease. Specifically, Dr. Stephanie Cacioppo investigates the spatio-temporal dynamics of the brain (including the mirror neuron system) during social intention understanding and social connections. Integrating phylogenetic analyses, psychological models of self-expansion, and embodied cognition with functional and 4D electrical neuroimaging, she aims to develop predictive models of pre-conscious information processing in mental health and identify biomarkers of neuropsychiatric social disorders. Among the awards she has received are the APS Fellow status for her outstanding contributions to the science of psychology (2014), ESSM Award of Excellence (2011), Tom Slick Award from the Mind Science Foundation (2010), and the University Maurice Chalumeau Award (2007). In 2011, she was also named a “rising star” by the scientific Association for Psychological Science. If you want to read about her “Aha moment” in science, check this out: http://tinyurl.com/p6qenb7

Grand Rounds:
  http://online.wsj.com/articles/new-online-media-old-human-behavior-1413383759
- Dr. Goldschmidt: Television segment on CBS 2 in June, 2014 discussing body image and social media
- Dr. Medalie: Was on WGN morning news in July 2014 answering questions about sleep:
  http://wgntv.com/2014/07/02/sleep-behavioral-specialist-answers-all-questions-on-sleeping/
- Dr. Fridberg: I was also interviewed about the recent American Heart Association statement on e-cigarettes; discussing data from our (Dr. King’s) lab suggesting that exposure to e-cigarettes can elicit cravings to smoke regular cigarettes in current smokers.
  http://www.medpagetoday.com/PrimaryCare/Smoking/47359
Clinical Mission: Adult Psychiatry

Daniel Yohanna, M.D., Vice-Chair and Director of Clinical Affairs & Section Chief of Adult Psychiatry.

Since our last publication, the Adult Section has added two new faculty members: Daniel Fridberg, Ph.D. and Nancy Beckman, Ph.D. Dr. Fridberg has expertise working with transplant patients and patients with substance use disorders. Dr. Beckman is a health psychologist with interests in working with patients with co-morbid medical illness. Both faculty members will enhance our mission of providing behavioral health care to more patients at UC/DCAM who present with co-existing medical diseases. Changes in healthcare have accelerated since the introduction and implementation of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. It has encouraged an emphasis on population management through incentives (as well as disincentives) to improve outcomes and reduce readmissions to our hospital. For example, in a recent publication by Brian Ahmedani and colleagues, they showed that patients with psychiatric diagnosis of depression, anxiety or dementia in the prior year, are more likely to be readmitted within 30 days after admission for an AMI, CHF or pneumonia.

In this spirit we have co-located several faculty members in clinics at UCAM. Drs. Marie Tobin, Amy Sitton and Nancy Beckman and a PGY3 psychiatry resident have been working with Dr. Chadi Nabhan, Medical Director of the Cancer Clinics, to embed psycho-oncology services at DCAM. Dr. Tina Drossos with her trainees are embedded in the Huron Diabetes Clinic and with the Adolescent and Young Adult (AYA) cancer clinic in Comer 11. We are also exploring the possibility of embedding a weekly general psychiatric clinic into primary care clinics.

Three cheers for Consultative, Co-located and Collaborative models of care!! If you don’t know what these are, just ask me.

Research Mission

Andrea King, Ph.D., Research Section Chief and Mission Director for Research.

The Research Section in the Department of Psychiatry continues with excellent research faculty engaging in high-quality clinically-oriented and basic research in brain-behavior relationships & psychiatric disorders. We have strengths in numerous areas, from brain imaging to genetics to clinical trials & laboratory studies. Our research portfolio in 2014 included 72 grant awards, of which more than half (48) were from the NIH. This is outstanding progress considering the challenges in securing funding in recent years. This year, we also added new faculty, including Stephanie Cacioppo, Assistant Professor, & Jessica Weaver, Research Associate. We did say farewell to two faculty who received excellent opportunities elsewhere, including Daniel LeGrange who accepted an endowed Professorship at the University of California at San Francisco and Emma Childs who accepted a position as Associate Professor at the University of Illinois at Chicago. New initiatives were undertaken this year, with a facilities project planned for 2015 to renovate space to accommodate a Psychiatry faculty state-of-the-art ultra-low freezer storage room for biological samples obtained in research. Many faculty continue with their independent research and collaboration & team science projects. In the last few months of 2014, new awards were received by Drs. Coccaro, de Wit, Dulawa, Gershon, and Grant. Congratulations!

Activities in Child Section

Karam Radwan, M.D., Child Training Director.

Chaired a conference on Strategies for Collaboration in Global Mental Health 2014 in May at the new University of Chicago Center in Delhi, India. Attended by mental health providers and researchers across several disciplines. Speakers included Drs. Khalid Afzal, Seeba Anam and Kate Keenan from our Department, as well as Dr. Vikram Patel, Professor of International Mental Health at the London School of Hygiene and Dr. Salvita Malhotra, Professor of Psychiatry at the Postgraduate Institute of Medical Education and Research in Chandigarh. The presentations included discussions of preventive interventions to reduce prenatal stress and improve mental health outcomes in children (Dr. Keenan), complementary and alternative medicine in mental health (Dr. Radwan), prevention and screening for youth risk behaviors (Dr. Anam), psychosomatic presentations in medical hospitals (Dr. Afzal), and a system of diagnosis and management for primary and secondary care level workers using tele-psychiatry in Chandigarh (Dr. Malhotra). The initiative has established a foundation for future collaboration with distinguished institutions and leaders in India. We have forged an opportunity to exchange trainees and offer an elective in global mental health for our residents and fellows. For more information please visit http://www.globalmentalhealthinitiative.org/

Education Mission

Deborah Spitz, M.D., Director of Education.

A major focus for the Department’s Clinician Educators is to foster scholarship in our trainees, and we are delighted that a number of our residents have presented papers and posters at several national meetings within the past few months. In February 2014, Dr. Joseph Cooper accompanied two residents, PGY-3 Amy Yang and PGY-2 Vijay Gorrepati, to the American Neuropsychiatric Association (ANPA) meeting in Seattle to present on the relationship between Bipolar Disorder and Front temporal Dementia. In the summer, four faculty members and 4 child fellows attended the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry (AACAP) meeting in San Diego. Drs. Radwan and Afzal presented on family assessment and interventions in a variety of psychiatric and medical disorders; fellows monitored many sessions at the meeting; and the faculty hosted a dinner in La Jolla for current and former trainees. In November, the Department was broadly represented at the annual meeting of the Academy of Psychosomatic Medicine with three trainee posters, the award of a coveted travel scholarship to our Chief Resident Dr. Piotrowski, and many faculty activities. Posters were presented by Paige Marnell, PGY-2, on catatonia in liver failure; by Anya Piotrowski, PGY-4, on psychotropic medications in pregnancy, and by 2013/14 CL Fellow David Banayan on a case of catatonia with a neuroendocrine tumor. Drs. Tobin and Marcangelo presented in two workshops, five special interest groups (SIGs) and two important educational committees, addressing issues of LVAD (left ventricular assist device) placement, and a multi-site study on developing measures for consultation.
FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

CLINICAL/ TEACHING

Norman Kohn, M.D., combines a deep interest in the biology of experience with years of experience as a neurologist. He supervises senior residents in psychotherapy. In the psychodynamic psychotherapy curriculum he co-leads the PGY-3 Psychodynamic Case Conference and Formulation Seminar, with Deborah Spitz, and collaborates with Harry Trosman in the Intensive Sequence, a popular and highly valued PGY-4 elective seminar of readings and supervised intensive psychotherapy. Dr. Kohn trained at The University of Chicago, McLean Hospital, and the Chicago Institute for Psychoanalysis. He is on the Institute faculty and has a private practice downtown.

Lindsey Brauer, Ph.D., graduate from the Clinical Psychology program at the University of South Florida, teaches and supervises trainees in the provision of cognitive-behavioral therapy. She leads the Group Therapy Seminar and Group Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy Consultation Group held with the PGY-3 residents, co-leads the Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy Case Conference and Multi-Disciplinary Case Conference with Dr. Tom Kramer, and provides weekly supervision to PGY-3 residents, psychology interns, and psychology externs. She specializes in the treatment of adults with severe mood, anxiety, and psychotic disorders.

RESEARCH PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT

The Addictive, Compulsive, Impulsive Disorders (ACID) lab, directed by Dr. Jon Grant and co-directed by Dr. Andrea King, has several research projects currently underway. Funded in part by a Center of Excellence grant from the National Center for Responsible Gaming (NCRG) the ACID lab’s research involves the longitudinal behavioral, cognitive, and biological assessment of hundreds of young adults to examine predictors of impulsive and addictive behaviors such as gambling and substance abuse. In addition, funding by NIH and the Trichotillomania Learning Center allows the ACID lab to examine candidate endophenotypes using neuroimaging in a range of compulsive behaviors and develop treatment interventions using novel pharmacotherapies, transcranial magnetic stimulation, and deep brain stimulation for compulsive problems such as obsessive compulsive disorder and body focused repetitive behaviors. For more information please visit acid.uchicago.edu.

FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

ON RESEARCH

Sarah Keedy, Ph.D., is an Assistant Professor in our department. A licensed clinical psychologist, she spends most of her time conducting patient-oriented research, supported by a K23 Career Development Award from the National Institute of Mental Health. Her work is aimed at uncovering neural system abnormalities underlying psychotic disorders such as schizophrenia and bipolar disorder, severe mental illnesses usually causing lifelong disability and associated with increased mortality. She combines cutting edge tools of cognitive neuroscience, including functional MRI and high-density EEG, with careful phenomenological assessment in order to link brain activity to psychosis symptoms and to effects of antipsychotic medication. Her work has shown that before treatment, schizophrenia patients show deficient activity in cortical systems supporting attention, and that antipsychotic medication appears to ameliorate such deficits but also may be associated with new deficits in a cortico-subcortical circuit key for cognition and behavior. These are rare insights into psychotic illness and treatment mechanisms in functioning neural systems, which Dr. Keedy’s work continues to build on. She is a member of the BSNIP consortium (Bipolar-Schizophrenia Network on Intermediate Phenotypes), a national multi-site group of investigators working toward a biomarker-based definition of psychotic disorders. In addition, Dr. Keedy serves as a neuroimaging collaborator and consultant for other faculty. Dr. Keedy is proud to have a range of current research trainees, including an undergraduate from the College, 2 Pritzker medical students, a handful of psychology graduate externs, and postdocs.

CLINICAL PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT

Electroconvulsive Therapy (ECT) Service

In March 2014, the outpatient ECT Service opened in the Center for Care and Discovery at the University of Chicago under the direction of Joseph Cooper, MD. ECT services have been provided at Mercy Hospital and Northshore University, however the new service addresses the growing demand for outpatient ECT. Recent advances in ECT technique have significantly reduced side effects allowing many patients to receive ECT without inpatient admission. Care is delivered in the Post Anesthesia Care Unit (PACU) in collaboration with the Department of Anesthesia and PACU nursing. In addition to the clinical needs, the new ECT service provides education on ECT for PGY-4 residents and 3rd year medical students, and serves for potential research on ECT. Cindy Bogue, RN, manages patient education and coordination of care. Dr. Cooper and Royce Lee, MD, provide the clinical services. Referrals are accepted from psychiatrists within or outside of the Department.
Our Clinical Psychology Interns:

Israel Gross, M.A., is our Pediatric Neuropsychology/Child Psychology intern and is a doctoral candidate in the Department of Psychology at Loyola University Chicago. Israel is originally from Chicago and received his bachelor’s degree from Northwestern University in 2006, and in 2007 he received his Master’s degree in the Social Sciences from the University of Chicago. Israel was awarded a National Research Service Award from the National Institute of Mental Health to support his dissertation work identifying profiles of medication adherence for young African-American males with acquired HIV. Israel is currently completing rotations in the Pediatric Neuropsychology Clinic and the Pediatric Consultation/Liaison Service.

Mandy Fong, M.S., M.Scs, our Adult Neuropsychology Intern, is completing her Ph.D. in clinical psychology with a subspecialty in rehabilitation at the Illinois Institute of Technology. Mandy is originally from Hong Kong. She obtained her bachelor’s degree in psychology at the University of Nottingham in the UK and a master’s degree in marriage and family therapy at the University of Hong Kong. Her dissertation examines the roles of inflammation and depression on cognitive functions in individuals with cancer prior to their stem cell transplant. Mandy is currently completing rotations on the Adult Neuropsychology Service and in the Memory Disorders Clinic.

Examples of recent peer-review publications from our faculty include:


Kirkpatrick, M., R. Lee, M. Wardle, S. Jacob, H. de Wit (2014) Effects of MDMA and intranasal oxytocin on social and emotional processing. Neuropsychopharmacology. 39, 1654-63. PMC4088952 MDMA, or ‘ecstasy’ is thought to produce its prosocial effects by releasing oxytocin. Here, we compared the effects of single doses of MDMA and oxytocin in the same individuals, to investigate commonalities in their effects on emotion.


Clinical Programs

Adult Psychiatry Programs:
- Mood Disorder Program*
- Anxiety Disorder Program*
- Personality Disorder Program*
- Aggression Disorder Program*
- Obesity Program*
- Psychotic Disorder Program*

- Inpatient Psychiatry
- Consultation-Liaison Psychiatry
- Adult Clinical Neuropsychology

Child & Adolescent Programs:
- Mood & Anxiety Disorder Program*
- ADHD and Disruptive Disorder Program*
- Developmental Disorder Program*
- Eating Disorder Program*

- Inpatient Psychiatry
- Consultation-Liaison Psychiatry
- C&A Clinical Neuropsychology

*Call Intake @ (773) 702-3858

Research Programs

- Behavioral and Chemical Addictions (Dr. Grant)
- Behavioral Genetic Studies of Aggression and Antisocial Behavior (Dr. Jacobson)
- Behavioral Neuroscience Research Laboratory (Dr. Vezina)
- Biologic & Pharmacologic Treatment Studies of Impulsive Aggression (Dr. Coccaro)
- Biological and Treatment Studies of Nicotine and Alcohol Addiction (Dr. King)
- Biological Studies of Stress and Personality (Dr. Lee)
- Eating Disorder Treatment Studies (Dr. le Grange)
- Human Neuropsychopharmacology (Dr. de Wit)
- Molecular Genetics of Mood & Psychotic Disorders (Drs. Gershon, Badner, and Liu)
- Molecular Psychopharmacology (Dr. Dulawa)
- Neuroscience of Psychosis (Dr. Keedy)

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