

PSYCHIATRY RESEARCH TODAY

DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHIATRY

Your quarterly connection to current research and accolades in the Department of Psychiatry

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NEW GRANT-FUNDED PROJECT

Congratulations to PI Laura Rogers PhD, and Co-Investigators Rita Trammell, PhD, Linda Toth, DVM PhD, K Rao, PhD, Steven Verhulst, PhD, Patricia Hopkins-Price, PhD, and **Sandra Vicari, PhD** for being awarded a \$348,109 grant from the National Cancer Institute. The project is titled: "Physical activity benefits after

breast cancer: Exploring cytokine mechanisms," and is a randomized trial to determine the effect of a physical activity intervention on physical activity, muscle strength, fatigue, and sleep dysfunction. The project started 03/01/2010. Thank you for your hard work. We look forward to reading the results!

TEACHING AND LEARNING

Karen Lee, MA, Rajeev Kandukuri, MD (PGY-IV) and Nancy Graves, MD (PGY-IV) presented their poster "Personal Psychotherapy Training in Residency" at the 1st Annual Symposium on Teaching and Learning on February 1, 2010. The poster was well-received. The authors plan to submit their paper to a peer-review journal shortly.

RECENT FACULTY AND RESIDENT PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS:

Kandula P, **Zupancic M**. 2009. "Cyclosporine Use during Reversible Posterior Leucoencephalopathy Syndrome in Renal Transplant Patients." *Journal of the American Society of Nephrology*, 20:895A.

Dobbins M, Vicari S, Bogdanich R, Roberts N, Seale D, and Record J. Forthcoming. "The Consultation Conference: A New Model of Collaboration for Child Psychiatry and Primary Care." *Academic Psychiatry*.

Noggle C. Forthcoming. "Cortical and Subcortical Sensory-motor Impairment in Patients with Major Depression: A Preliminary Analysis." *International Journal of Neuroscience*.

Soltys S, Pary R, Robinson S, and Markwell S. Forthcoming. "The Challenge of a Smooth Transition between Clerkship Directors." *Academic Psychiatry*.

Soltys S. Forthcoming. "Primer for the Interim Chair." *Academic Psychiatry*.

Bennett JL. "Skin-Picking Behavior in a 36 year old woman with diabetes mellitus and a right medial frontal lesion." Poster presentation at the Anxiety Disorders Association of America Annual Meeting, Baltimore, Maryland, March 2010.

Sinha MS, **Dzara K**, Basanta WE, and Vohra S. "Evaluation of a Professional Ethics and Responsibility Program." Poster presentation at the American College of Legal Medicine Annual Meeting, Orlando, Florida, March 2010.

Noggle CA, Shahani L, and Dean RS. Five posters presented at the 21st Annual Meeting of the American Neuropsychiatric Association, Tampa, FL, March 2010.

PSYCHIATRY RESIDENTS PLACE 4TH NATIONWIDE IN 'MIND' GAMES COMPETITION

Mir Mazhar, MD (PGY-IV), Melanie Zupancic (PGY-III), and Gaurav Jain (PGY-II) competed in the American Association of Directors of Psychiatric Residency Training (AADPRT) Annual 'Mind Games' competition. The competition was comprised of

an online test with 150 questions testing Psychiatric knowledge. The residents had only 60 minutes to answer all questions. The team competed with residents from Psychiatry residency programs throughout the United States and placed 4th among all competing teams.

Congratulations to these residents and thanks to all the faculty, especially **Manisha Punwani, MD**, Assistant Professor and Residency Program Director, for supporting high-quality resident education. Three SIU psychiatry residents will compete again next year.

FOCUS ON THE DIVISION: CHILD PSYCHIATRY

The Division of Child Psychiatry is housed at the Noll Pavilion. Assistant Professor **David Decker, MD** chairs the department, which includes: **Stephen Soltys, MD, Mary Dobbins, MD, Ayame Takahashi, MD, Sandra Vicari, PhD, Manisha Punwani, MD, Pamela Campbell, MD**, and **Rebecca Loschen, MSW**. A

number of research projects are currently being completed. **Mary Dobbins, MD** and **Sandra Vicari, PhD** are heading a Child Telepsychiatric Consultant project, which has been discussed in *Aspects* and has a research article forthcoming in *Academic Psychiatry*. **Sandra Vicari, PhD** and **Manisha Punwani, MD** have recently presented the findings of a

project regarding the grief families experience when dealing with a child's mental illness at the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry conference. **Pamela Campbell, MD, Assistant Professor**, serves as acting medical director at the Lincoln Prairie Behavioral Health Center. Thanks for your excellent work!

RESIDENT RESEARCH ACCOLADES

Congratulations to **Melanie Zupancic, MD (PGY-III)** for being selected as Chief Psychiatry Resident. Her one-year term started on March 1st, 2010. Dr. Zupancic is in the combined Medicine/ Psychiatry residency and has published numerous articles while at SIU. Congrats!

Lokesh Shahani, MD (PGY-II), Chad Noggle, PhD and Raymond S. Dean, PhD co-authored five posters at the 2010 Annual Conference of the American Neuropsychiatric Association in March. The posters were

titled: "Diminished proprioception as a manifestation of Autism," "Neurocognitive residuals in post-chemotherapy, non-depressed patients with Leukemia that is in remission," "Designation of primary and secondary depression and anxiety based on emerging neurocognitive profiles," "Discrepant impact on cognition in the presence of Somatization disorder in comparison to depressive-based presentations," and "Increased neurocognitive dysregulation secondary to the affective disturbances in

Schizoaffective disorder in comparison to Psychotic Disorder NOS." Dr. Noggle serves as Dr. Shahani's research mentor. Congrats to all authors for this outstanding achievement!

Melanie Zupancic, MD (PGY-III) and Praveen Kandula, MD had their abstract "Cyclosporine Use during Reversible Posterior Leucoencephalopathy Syndrome in Renal Transplant Patients" published in the *Journal of the American Society of Nephrology*. Excellent work!

Gaurav Jain, MD (PGY-II) and colleagues from Internal Medicine - Edgard Cumpa, MD, Solomon Chewaka, MD, Usman Cheema, MD, Mutaz Elmahi, and Jacob Thomas, MD - recently had their project "Assessing the Effect of a Targeted Intervention for Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm Screening" approved by the Springfield Committee for Research Involving Human Subjects (SCRIHS). The team hopes to present their work at the SIU SOM 20th Annual Research Symposium in May 2010.

'CHALLENGING' PAPER TO BE PUBLISHED IN ACADEMIC PSYCHIATRY

Stephen Soltys, MD (Professor and Chairman of the Department of Psychiatry), **Robert Pary, MD** (Emeritis Psychiatry Faculty), **Stephen Robinson, MD** (Psychiatry Clerkship Director), and Stephen Markwell, MA have had an article accepted in *Academic Psychiatry*. The article, titled "The Challenge of a Smooth Transition between Clerkship Directors," addresses the process of succession planning. The paper details how a gradual transition was received positively by the department chair, outgoing clerkship director, incoming clerkship director, and other psychiatry faculty. The authors indicate that having a strategic plan implemented over the course of a year allowed a successful transition between clerkship directors. In addition to this paper, **Stephen Soltys, MD** will also have a sole authored publication "Primer for the Interim Chair" in *Academic Psychiatry*.

HONORS

Philip Pan, MD, has been elected President of the American Academy of Psychiatry and the Law, Midwest Chapter! He will take office in March 2011.

TRANSITIONS....

Congratulations to **Anjuli Amin, MA**, SIU Carbondale Doctoral Student in Counseling Psychology. After spending this year in the Division of Psycho-Oncology, she will move in July to the Milwaukee VA Medical Center to complete her doctoral internship and graduate in August of 2011.

Best wishes to **James Black, MD PhD**, Assistant Professor and Medical Director of the Community Support Network, who will be leaving SIU SOM. Dr. Black authored numerous publications during his time at SIU. Best of luck as you transition to your new position.

Congratulations to **Mir Mazhar, MD (PGY-IV)**, who has accepted a position starting July 2010 as Assistant Professor of Psychiatry at Queens University in Kingston, Ontario.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW EMPLOYEE!

Michelle Davidson, BA, Program Services Specialist, Community Support Network

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

Newsletter Editor:

Kristina Dzara, PhD

Newsletter Associate

Editor: **Anna Wiggins, MS**

Let us know about your scholarly achievements! Please submit any suggestions for research or accolades to be included in Psychiatry Research Today to Kristina Dzara, Ph.D. at kdzara@siumed.edu.

We are also seeking guest contributors who are willing to write a short (100-200) word article about their current research projects.

The mission of the SIU School of Medicine, Department of Psychiatry, is to engage in excellence in psychiatric education and research while providing high quality, effective, state-of-the-art clinical care.

Department Chair: Stephen M. Soltys, MD