FOCUS ON THE DIVISION: DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

The Division of Developmental Disabilities provides education and care in the area of dual diagnoses. Jeffrey Bennett, MD, is Division Chief, which includes faculty members Geunyong Pyo, PhD, Susan Fonfa, PhD, and Amy Boston, MA. The division has a strong emphasis on research, with faculty collaborating on seven IRB approved or pending research projects. In addition to seeing patients at the Jacksonville Developmental Center, Jeffrey Bennett, MD, is working with colleagues there as well as Kristina Dzara, PhD and Amy Boston, MA to facilitate projects with Illinois College Summer Research Interns Kendra George and Kathryn Baughman. Jeffrey Bennett, MD also presented “Psychopharmacology in the Person with Intellectual Developmental Disability,” as part of a DD Topic Telehealth Series. Susan Fonfa, PhD heads a large-scale research project investigating healthcare for individuals with developmental disabilities throughout the State of Illinois. Geunyong Pyo, PhD, and colleagues are continuing prior dementia research and have work forthcoming in Research in Developmental Disabilities. Contributed by Amy Boston, MA.
**HONORS**

Jeffrey Bennett, MD, has been elected to serve on the Faculty Council for a three year term ending in 2013. The Faculty Council creates broad policies that influence the clinical, educational, and research functions of the Southern Illinois University School of Medicine. Dr. Bennett, we appreciate your service!

Amy Boston, MA, has passed the National Counselor Examination for Licensure and Certification (NCE) for the State of Illinois. Congratulations and thank you for your hard work.

Dawn Crowhurst has been “Caught in the Act of Excellence” for helping expedite the Division of Psycho-Oncology’s transition to the Simmons Cancer Center. Congratulations, and thank you!

Susan Fonfa, PhD, has been selected as Director Emeritus to the NISH Board of Directors. NISH is a national organization dedicated to creating employment opportunities for individuals with severe disabilities. Well done!

Vivian Williams, BA, has been elected to the Southern Illinois University School of Medicine Civil Service Council. Her term will expire in June of 2011. Thank you for your service.

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**WELCOME NEW RESIDENTS AND FELLOWS!**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Graduate</th>
<th>Position</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kamna Handa, MD (Psychiatry)</td>
<td>Government Medical College Patiala - 07/05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aman Mahajan, MD (Psychiatry)</td>
<td>Completed Psychiatry Residency in India; Worked as Research Extern; 2 Publications.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Johnathan Yost, MD (Psychiatry)</td>
<td>SIU School of Medicine - 05/2008</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sudantiraraj S. Prabhuram, MD (Medicine-Psychiatry)</td>
<td>Stanley Medical College – 06/05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aghaegbulam Harachi Uga, MD (Medicine-Psychiatry)</td>
<td>University of Maiduguri – 09/98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nasir Ahmad, MD (Child Psychiatry Fellow)</td>
<td>Allama Iqbal Medical College - 2001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Garima Singh, MD (Child Psychiatry Fellow)</td>
<td>Assam Medical College - 2007</td>
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**TRANSITIONS....**

Goodbye to Rhonda Johnson, PhD. Effective September 1st, she will leave her position as Assistant Professor and Chief of the Division of Psycho-Oncology. Dr. Johnson’s new position is at the University of Kansas School of Medicine in Kansas City. Best wishes in your new endeavors!

Congratulations to Jasdeep Sohi, MD, (PGY-III). After spending the past three years in the Department of Psychiatry as a resident, she will move in July to Case Western Reserve University for two years as a Fellow in Child Psychiatry. Congrats!

Best wishes to Sandra Flatt, LPN II and Valerie Rife, BS, Program Services Specialist, Community Support Network as they both recently moved on from their positions. Good luck!

**WELCOME TO OUR NEW EMPLOYEES!**

- Cynthia Dickerson, LPN
  - TMS Nurse, Outpatient Clinic Services
- Shelly Weatherholt, BSW
  - Program Services Specialist, Community Support Network
- Jasdeep Sohi, MD
  - Child Psychiatry Fellow
- Melanie Zupancic (PGY-IV)
  - Med/Psych resident
- Lokesh Shahani, MD (PGY-III)
  - Med/Psych resident
- Kristina Dzara, PhD
  - Newsletter Editor

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**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, PhD 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.

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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