The Psychiatry Connection is devoted to keeping the Department of Psychiatry and Human Behavior at the University of Mississippi Medical Center (UMMC) connected to our alumni and friends. Many thanks to our newsletter editor, Dr. Philip Merideth, and co-editor, Dr. Sarah Cunningham, for their efforts in putting this together for everyone to enjoy.

If you have not been to the UMMC campus in a few years, you might be surprised by some of the changes to our landscape. First and foremost, we have opened a brand new, state-of-the-art building for our School of Medicine, allowing UMMC to move to the forefront of educational innovation in the country. We have also opened a new Translational Research Center, with space reserved for researchers in the Neuro Institute, of which we are a key member. And there are now plans underway for a rather large expansion of the Batson Children’s Hospital, where our department maintains a presence with our inpatient program and consultation-liaison program within the Division of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry.

The Department of Psychiatry and Human Behavior has been growing and improving alongside the growth of our medical center and medical school. In the past two years, we have hired new faculty, appointed new leaders to four vice chair positions and five division director positions, and begun an expansion of our residency program. We’ve invested considerable time and energy in an overhaul of our curriculum for medical students and residents. Interest in psychiatry among medical students has grown considerably during this time, and our residency program is highly competitive, attracting well over 1000 applications each year for fewer than ten spots annually. We are in the process of building a program in addictions, which will be the only formalized program on the UMMC campus. We are also leading an effort to educate the UMMC healthcare provider workforce in LGBTQ health, through our newly created Center for LGBTQ Health. There are record numbers of trainees participating in research projects in the Department, which is a reflection of the growing interest in the specialty as well as the quality of our faculty as research mentors.

In all of our efforts, we are staying focused on Mississippi and the needs of its citizens. We see ourselves as a key driver in creating a pipeline of talent for the state as it works to improve systems of care for the approximately three million people who call Mississippi home. Our faculty members are talented and extraordinarily devoted to their work, and the results speak for themselves. I am deeply humbled to serve this Department as chair, and I look forward to sharing our good news with you as we go.

Scott Rodgers, M.D.
Professor and Chair
Department of Psychiatry and Human Behavior
University of Mississippi Medical Center
At the University of Mississippi Medical Center, the Department of Psychiatry’s missions are clear:

1. To develop and enhance the clinical skills of our medical students, residents and fellows, encompassing the latest in technological advances across all psychiatry specialties;
2. To strengthen patient-centered care provided by UMMC clinicians and clinicians throughout Mississippi with psychiatrist engagement in a team-coordinated approach for efficient quality and value-based patient-care outcomes;
3. To produce and achieve fundamental research that advances knowledge and the future treatment of disorders

Division of Psychology

The Division of Psychology strives for excellence in research, education, and clinical services.

RESEARCH

This past year has been very productive for psychology grant activity. Dr. Bagge has received 2 grants through the Department of Defense to better identify suicide risk and predict future suicidality. She is also a co-investigator on a multisite R01 study from the National Institute of Mental Health to identify warning signs for suicide amongst adolescents.

Dr. Lim is collaborating on a HRSA grant with the School of Nursing to develop and implement multidisciplinary behavioral health training and treatment. She also is a co-investigator on 2 grants with Pediatrics related to providing behavioral family interventions for children with obesity and neurocognitive mechanisms with childhood ADHD and obesity.

Drs. Schumacher, Williams, Bagge, Houston, and Paul are in the final year of an educational grant to train medical students and residents in Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment – an evidence-based assessment and brief intervention for substance use.

Drs. Williams, Schumacher, and Parker have received a grant, collaborating with Infectious Disease, from the Substance Abuse Mental Health Service Administration to implement Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment in individuals being treated for HIV.

Dr. Williams, through funding from the United States Department of Agriculture, is collaborating with Mississippi State University to address opioid misuse in rural counties throughout the state.

CLINICAL

More than ever, psychologists are providing evidence-based clinical services at UMMC. Dr. Sarah Cunningham is our newest psychologist. She provides outpatient evidence-based psychotherapy for a variety of psychiatric disorders. She also provides psychological testing on the 3 Circle, the child acute inpatient unit.

EDUCATION

The Division of Psychology houses 2 training programs – a pre-doctoral internship (residency) and a post-doctoral fellowship. Dr. Jami Gauthier is completing the first year of her fellowship under Dr. Courtney Bagge. Her research and clinical interests are in suicidality and substance abuse.

FACULTY RECOGNITION

Dr. Scott Coffey, Professor Emeritus, was awarded the status of Fellow in the Association of Cognitive and Behavioral Therapies (ABCT).

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Although this is a truly exciting time of year, it also highlights that we will be saying goodbye to residents who have spent 4 years training with us. In June, we will be saying farewell to 4 senior residents and 1 PGY3 resident who will be leaving our program to start a fellowship in Child and Adolescent Psychiatry. We wish the following departing residents the best of luck in their future careers!
Child Psychiatry Fellowship

Welcome to our first Newsletter! Exciting things are happening in Child Psychiatry!

Dr. Shana Mangum-Holloman and Dr. Nisha Withane recently spoke to over 50 children between the ages of 5 and 18, at Mount Olive Baptist Church in Bolton, MS. They were joined by representatives from Region 9 and the Mississippi Health Department. They covered many topics, including bullying, suicide, sleep hygiene and sexual abuse. Many thanks to them for serving as resources for children in our community.

Also, Dr. Bryant, Dr. Houston, Dr. Paul and Donna Guy attended the American Association of Directors of Psychiatric Residency Training (AADPRT) meetings in New Orleans. Dr. Afifa Adiba was the recipient of the TRIPS award which allowed her to attend. The BRAIN institute was quite inspiring and we are going to focus on adding more translational neuroscience to our curriculum in child psychiatry. It is my hope that everyone will get the experience of creating a model of the temporal lobe out of Playdoh. For more information go to the website for the National Neuroscience Curriculum Initiative, www.nncionline.org.

We have also established a trauma taskforce writing group that meets on Friday afternoons at 2 pm. We are very fortunate to have Dr. James Rowlett as a key leader. The group recently completed a submission for a Clinical Case Conference to the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry’s (AACAP) annual meeting in 2018. Anyone interested in the topic of childhood trauma is welcome to attend. We are also working on poster submissions for the AACAP meetings.

In conclusion, I am approaching my one year anniversary as a faculty member at UMMC. I have learned so much and I have been so inspired by the high quality of medical students, residents, fellows, and faculty in psychiatry and psychology. I feel very optimistic about the future of medicine and especially the future of child psychiatry in our state. It is an honor and a privilege to be a part of this team.

Beverly Bryant, M.D.
Associate Professor
Director of Child Consult Liaison
Director of Pediatric Emergency Services
Associate Program Director for Child Psychiatry Fellowship
bjbryant@umc.edu

Division of Neurobiology and Behavior Research (DNBR)

Over the past academic year, the Division of Neurobiology and Behavior Research (DNBR) has been very active in securing extramural grant funding, publishing in major peer-reviewed journals, presenting research findings at national/international conferences, serving on national study sections reviewing grant proposals, and mentoring graduate students toward earning the Ph.D. degree.*

Please see this link for details on DNBR activities.

https://ummc-my.sharepoint.com/:w:/g/personal/blevy_umc_edu/ER7_Odh0kTZAIP1Oko42Vj4BzgSYJc_8hm3kJUDuGncckTSSw?e=R0e56i

*Note: You may have to copy and paste the link into your browser*

Craig A. Stockmeier, Ph.D.
Professor and Director
Division of Neurobiology & Behavior Research
Center for Psychiatric Neuroscience
Department of Psychiatry & Human Behavior
University of Mississippi Medical Center
Student Counseling and Wellness Center

The Student Counseling and Wellness Center (SCWC) was founded in 2016 as the result of a collaboration between the Vice Chancellor’s Office and the Department of Psychiatry and Human Behavior. This is a free, confidential service provided to all current University of Mississippi Medical Center (UMMC) students to promote mental health and wellness. The SCWC supports the mission of UMMC by providing care and support to UMMC students to reduce emotional distress and increase positive and healthy coping behaviors to achieve academic and personal success. The SCWC seeks to enhance the emotional, academic, and interpersonal functioning of UMMC students in order to prepare them for their professional careers in healthcare.

The mission of the SCWC is twofold—(1) offer high quality psychological and psychiatric services for existing conditions and issues that are presently impacting the well-being of the UMMC student and (2) provide wellness education and interventions to empower the UMMC student to engage in healthy self-care behaviors in order to maximize their potential in their personal and professional lives.

Psychology Residents

Psychology Residency Program Update

Crystal Lim, Ph.D. Training Director

The UMMC Psychology Residency Program has had a great year training wonderful clinical psychology graduate students. We would like to thank all departmental faculty for their involvement in training our current class of residents in clinical, research, and didactic settings.

Our Current Psychology Residents (2017-2018 Class):

**Adult Track**

- Ashley Cole – Oklahoma State University
- Jeffrey Girard - University of Pittsburgh
- Joel Sprunger - Purdue University

**Child Track**

- Sunghye Jen Cho - Pennsylvania State University
- Whitney Fosco - University of Buffalo
- Kaitlin Oswald - Eastern Michigan University

Our current training year ends on June 30th and are proud to announce that to date most of our residents have secured prestigious post-doctoral fellowship positions around the country. We wish them all the best in their future endeavors!
Child Division

Two of our outstanding psychiatry residents pictured below, Dr. Nida Khawaja and Dr. Afifa Adiba, recently took the initiative to develop a talk on suicide risk assessment.

Dr. Khawaja and Dr. Adiba gave their first talk last fall to an audience of their colleagues at the Behavioral Health Specialty Clinic. Dr. Beverly Bryant used this opportunity to christen a new Case Conference series in children’s mental health, which will meet at the BHSC on Tuesday afternoons from 4 to 5 PM when there are topics or cases of interest to present. Anyone interested in presenting at this Children’s Mental Health Case Conference is encouraged to contact Dr. Bryant to schedule a date for their presentation.

(Note the ingenuity of Dr. Khawaja and Dr. Adiba in using toy-boxes and a DSM 5 as props for the projector.)

Center for Advancement of Youth (CAY)

Recently, the Center for Advancement of Youth (CAY) staff and faculty gathered together to re-evaluate our mission and vision statements. CAY has grown a lot since its inception years ago, so we thought it was fitting to come together as a group and put our heads together on this project. As we discussed, the words that kept coming up were family, potential, developmental health, thrive, multidisciplinary, and optimized care. As we crafted the statements, the group’s clear passion for children’s behavioral health was overwhelming.

CAY’s Vision: Creating a pathway to ensure health development for children and families, so they may thrive and reach their full potential.

CAY’s Mission: To enhance the health, social wellbeing, and community participation of children in the region by delivering expert multidisciplinary care, by optimizing developmental and behavioral outcomes, and through advocacy efforts.

To the CAY team, these statements are more than just forgotten words. These statements are what we live and breathe by at CAY. Whether it’s educating the public with our Food For Thought series, working our way through the hundreds of referrals we receive every month, or implementing a cutting edge therapy program like Parent Child Interaction Therapy (PCIT), the CAY team is actively working to help the children of Mississippi reach their full potential. As we look forward to the future, we are planning for more growth and expansion of services, making us more able to meet the needs of the children in our state.

T. David Elkin, Ph.D., ABPP
Professor and Executive Director
Center for Advancement of Youth (CAY)
Department of Psychiatry & Human Behavior and Department of Pediatrics

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Medical Students

Medical Students to Engage in a Summer of Research and Scholarship

The Department's Office of Medical Student and Resident Research will host a record number of medical students for research and scholarship internships in the Summer of 2018. Six current M1s will conduct research with various researchers in the department through UMMC's Medical Student Research Program (MSRP). The students (and mentors) are Rob Barber (Dr. Courtney Bagge), Tilak Patel (Dr. Kevin Freeman), Ghali Haddad and Jon Abigail McDonald (Dr. Donna Platt), John Huffman (Dr. Craig Stockmeier), and Mary Bailey (Dr. Eric Vallender). Research topics will cover a broad range of mental-health pathologies that span the translational spectrum, including the study of the genetics of addiction, neurobehavioral factors contributing to alcohol and prescription drug abuse, and the psychological/genetic underpinnings of suicidal ideation and behavior.

In addition to the MSRP participants, three medical students will engage in mentored scholarship work with physicians in the Division of Child Psychiatry this Summer. Matthew Bear (M3, William Carey) will conduct case reviews with mentor, Dr. Beverly Bryant, to investigate the relation between Disruptive Mood Dysregulation Disorder (DMDD) and psychopharmacological and hospital trends. Also, Hunter McIendon (M3, UMMC) and Margaret Cosnahan (M1, UMMC) will be writing scholarly article reviews under the mentorship of Dr. Philip Merideth.

We thank the students for their scholarly enthusiasm and our mentoring faculty for providing key growth opportunities for a talented group of future providers. The Summer of 2018 is sure to be a memorable period of research and scholarship for the Department of Psychiatry and Human Behavior.

Kevin Freeman, Ph.D.
Director
Office of Medical Student and Resident Research
University of Mississippi Medical Center
Nurse Practitioner Updates

Over the last year, four Psychiatric Nurse Practitioners have joined the department. Pictured are (back row, L to R), Hart Wylie and Jessica Collins and (front row, L to R), Rosanna Lea and Stacey Kitchens. Rosanna and Hart are with the Child Division and devote their time to the child psychiatric outpatient clinics and the child consult service. Both Stacey and Jessica work in the adult outpatient clinics, with Jessica serving as the NP in the Addiction Clinic, and Stacey as the NP in the Integrative Health Clinic. These four additional NPs join Katherine Raines, PMHNP, FNP and Sophia Kang, PMHNP, who see patients in the Sleep Disorders clinic, adult outpatient clinic, and consult service.

3 Circle Roundup

3 Circle, our 12 bed inpatient child psychiatry unit, continues to be a leader in acute care for Mississippi’s children with emotional and behavioral issues. Here is a brief update on recent news from 3 Circle.

1. We saw the reduction of our rates of seclusion decrease to 3% after the implementation of a Recreational Mental Health Tech. The R-MHT coordinates off-unit activities and takes the children to one of two outdoor playgrounds and/or an indoor Gym with the partnership of the Addie McBryde center. The rate reduction is reflective of us being able to utilize staffing in a dynamic way that allows the R-MHT to take care of patients when needed as well as coordinate unit activities.

2. In addition we have begun implementation of music therapy with soft instrumentals and classical music in the morning.

3. The staff have been fortunate to be included in the CARES Training sponsored by the CAY Center. We have been able to allow a majority of the staff to attend this key training workshop.
Match Day

Drs. Bui, Walker, Ellis, and Houston, and Donna Guy attended Match Day to welcome UMMC fourth year medical student Lakeshia Gibson (holding balloon), who matched in psychiatry.

Also matching in psychiatry on Match Day were Lauren Deaver (at the Massachusetts General Hospital) and Brent Necaise (at Vanderbilt). Not pictured is Matthew Boyte, who matched at UAB.

Congratulations
In The News

Featured in Northside Sun

In recent months, the Northside has experienced several tragedies involving youth suicides. To help fellow students, friends, family, school teachers and faculty, Sun Staff Writer Megan Phillips spoke with Dr. Courtney Bagge. Please click the link below to access the full article.

https://northsidesun.com/front-page-slideshow-news-breaking-news/dr-courtney-bagge-teenage-suicides#sthash.qYvUXU1J.dpbs

Dr. Jeff Parker, our Vice Chair of Clinical Care, was recently featured in an article in UMMC's news about photographs' intrinsic powers to heal. Please click the link below to access the full article.

https://www.umc.edu/news/Miscellaneous/2018/03/March%20CONSULT/healthful-images.html

Featured in Journal of the Mississippi State Medical Association

Physician Leadership Academy

MSMA Spotlight

For Dr. Tamara Glenn, pursuing a career in medicine came after a loved one was diagnosed with a chronic disease. Having recently completed her undergraduate degree at the time, Dr. Glenn was in the field of research, but helping her close relative navigate the illness brought her a new awareness.

"The journey opened my eyes to the limited access many have to health care," Dr. Glenn said. "As a result, I decided to pursue a career in medicine to become an advocate for others in a similar quandary."

A native of Carthage, Dr. Glenn went to the Mississippi University for Women for undergraduate school and currently is in her residency at the University of Mississippi Medical Center, where she also attended medical school. Along the way, a couple of key mentors influenced her world view.

"Rolanda Johnson, Ph.D. and Pastor Carl Johnson are close family friends and long term mentors," Dr. Glenn said. "I have watched them balance educational pursuits, service to others, and raising a family all while serving an at times thankless community. They have taught me a great deal about life that has helped me to grow as a person and many of these lessons are applicable to my growth as a physician as well."

As a participant in organized medicine and in the Physician Leadership Academy, Dr. Glenn sees many opportunities for personal growth and professional development. Still in the early stages of her career, she wants to make a difference in any way she can.

"Organized medicine is a way for doctors to collaborate with and engage non-treating stake holder involved in healthcare to discuss the most efficient means of providing medical care to patients," she said. "Organized medicine is vital in today’s complex health care environment. If physicians are going to do what’s best for their patients and their profession, they have to band together and speak up for what’s right for medicine and for their fellow citizen’s."

Continued on next page...
During each session of the legislature, the Mississippi State Medical Association sponsors programs called "Doctor of the Day" and "Medical Student of the Day" to provide medical services at the capitol. Pictured here serving as the Doctor of the Day are two of our psychiatry residents, Dr. Afifa Adiba and Dr. Finn Perkins, with the senator who introduced them on the floor of the Senate.

Pictured: Dr. Finn Perkins served as Legislative Doctor of the Day at the Capitol on February 5th. Dr. Perkins is standing with Senator Buck Clarke, who introduced him.

Pictured: Dr. Afifa Adiba served as Doctor of the Day on February 5th.

Two of our psychiatry residents, Dr. Afifa Adiba and Dr. Prathyusha Vangala, recently spoke at a health care symposium for teenagers about dispelling myths in mental health.
Announcements

As many of you know, our department is part of the Neuro Institute (NI), which also includes the Department of Neurobiology and Anatomical Sciences, the Department of Neurology, and the Department of Neurosurgery. Each department is contributing in multiple ways to the NI, and our primary contribution involves the creation of an Addictions Program. This program will feature a tripartite mission, including clinical care, education, and research, and it will be the first of its kind in the history of our medical center. Developing a high quality program requires outstanding leadership, and we have now completed our year-long search.

I am very pleased to announce the appointment of Drs. Jeff Parker and James Rowlett as Co-Directors of the new Addictions Program within the Department of Psychiatry and Human Behavior at UMMC. Following a long and successful career at the VA as a clinician and administrator, with special emphasis on overseeing the VA’s addictions program, Dr. Parker, professor of psychiatry, joined our faculty almost three years ago and became the Vice Chair for Clinical Affairs. He has worked with me on countless occasions to build and improve many of our clinical programs across the entire department, and his skills as a leader are extraordinary. Dr. Rowlett, professor of psychiatry, joined our faculty several years ago, having relocated here from Massachusetts where he was a member of the faculty at Harvard Medical School. He is a scientist with impeccable credentials and significant expertise in the area of addictions, specifically benzodiazepine abuse. Dr. Rowlett has three RO1 grants currently and serves as our department’s Vice Chair for Research. The combination of two such outstanding individuals with complementary skill sets represents a huge win for our department and the Addictions Program, and I am delighted that they have accepted our offer to serve as founding Co-Directors. Under their capable and watchful eye, I am certain that the Addictions Program will become a source of pride for our department and for UMMC.

Congratulations to Drs. Parker and Rowlett!

Scott M. Rodgers, MD
Professor and Chair
Department of Psychiatry and Human Behavior
University of Mississippi Medical Center

Upcoming Events

MARCH 23, 2018
Department of Psychiatry Faculty Meeting # 2 of 2018
11:00 a.m.
SOM Conference Room 323-02 & 323-03
Group Faculty Photo
11:45 a.m.
New Hospital Atrium (Foyer)

Adult Resident Group Photo
12:00 p.m.
New Hospital Atrium (Foyer)

Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Fellowship Photo
12:15 p.m.
New Hospital Atrium (Foyer)

APRIL 20, 2018
Resident Spring Retreat
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Note: Residents and fellows will be unavailable and are excused from their services on this day.
From the editors

The editorial staff would like to begin this first edition of the newsletter by thanking our department chair, Dr. Rodgers, for the idea and the support to make this project happen. We hope that this initial effort will grow into a publication that will embrace all aspects of the life and work of the department. This will be your newsletter, so its success will depend on your submission of information from all areas of the department, including pictures, announcements, upcoming events, promotions, awards, happy personal information, quotes, trivia, and anything else of general interest to the department. Please join us in the effort to bring all members of the Department of Psychiatry and Human Behavior in closer communication with each other. The next edition of the newsletter is planned for July, so please keep in mind items that you want to submit at that time.

Happy First Day of Spring,

Philip, Sarah, and Bianca

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