

## A Message From the Chair

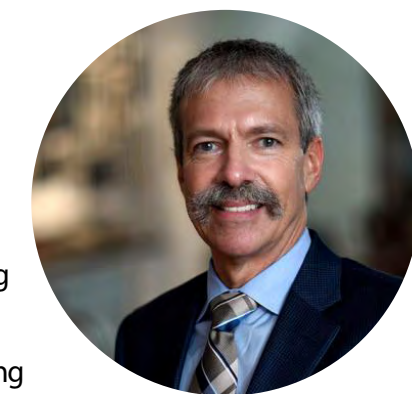
Welcome to the 2023 fall edition of the Newsletter for the Menninger Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences.

We skipped a quarter to allow for a smooth transition to our new Lead Communications Coordinator, Bobbie Byrd. As you can see, we have lots of good news to share about the accomplishments of our faculty and learners. For example, our departmental faculty were well represented at BCM Faculty Awards Day with honors for patient care and teaching excellence. One of the spotlights in this issue is our department's multifaceted efforts to address the mental health needs of children and adolescents. A new joint initiative between Texas Children's Hospital (TCH) and The Menninger Clinic is providing inpatient crisis stabilization for adolescents on the Menninger campus under the leadership of Dr. Kirti Saxena. BCM continues to play an important role in the Texas Child Mental Health Care Consortium (TCMHCC), with Dr. Laurel Williams serving as Medical Director for the Operational Hub of this pioneering statewide program. You will also see that our faculty and learners are recipients of awards for research and education at the national level.

A generous donation of \$5M from the Valour Foundation to Dr. Asim Shah will greatly enhance the clinical care of substance users presenting to Ben Taub. The funds will be used to build a new unit and provide additional services

for these patients. Drs. Beth and Stuart Yudofsky, Directors of the Foundation, were instrumental in making this gift possible.

At every faculty meeting in September, I devote part of the time to presenting on the financial performance of the department for the prior academic year. The primary metric used by the College to determine financial performance is referred to as the Contribution Margin (CM), a formula that includes revenues minus expenses, taxes on clinical earnings (for Jamail clinic only), and indirect costs recovered from spending of grants and contracts. For FY23, we budgeted to have a CM of \$2,090,263. Our actual CM was \$2,541,873, for a positive variance equal to \$451,610. Our increased productivity in the research mission (as demonstrated by our indirects) and less spending on unrestricted accounts were the primary drivers of our successful financial performance. I wish to take this opportunity to thank my department administrator, Hafeez Ullah, and his administrative team for their outstanding management of our finances.



- Wayne K. Goodman, M.D.

## Resident Led Community Outreach Gives Back

Started in the mid-1980s, Psychiatry Outreach to the Public Sector (PROPS) was created by a group of residents wanting to coordinate community outreach efforts and enhance participation in the public sector. Since then, PROPS has expanded to include resident-organized and led activities including Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) for local Houston law enforcement, facilitating a lunchtime psychoeducation initiative at a local preparatory school, and assisting in the BCM Alliance Refugee Health Fair.

### Building Bridges Forum

Another hallmark event of PROPS is the yearly Building Bridges event, a community forum focused on the interplay of psychiatry with faith and spirituality. Held on June 10th and sponsored by Menninger, Building Bridges returned to an in-person event for the first time since moving to a virtual format during the COVID pandemic.

Organized by PGY-4 resident Dr. Dania Albaba, M.D., and first-year addiction fellow Dr. Nancy Shenoi, M.D., This year's topic, "Bridging the Gap Between Substance Abuse and Spirituality," discussed the role that spirituality plays in addressing and healing addiction.

"Faith-based rehab centers want to rely more on spirituality and faith to change people's behavior, and psychiatrists often view addiction or substance use disorders as a neuro-biological disease." Dania Albaba said when describing the decision to choose this year's topic. "How can we bridge that gap of understanding?"

Speakers for the forum included the Medical Director of Addiction Services at Menninger Clinic, Dr. Daryl Shorter

M.D., Chief Clinical Officer of Santa Maria Hostel, Vaughan Gilmore, LCSW, LCDC, Reverend and Educator, Gregory Han and Menninger Clinic Chaplain, Salvador Delmundo Jr.

*"It's one of the most impactful things we do as residents, to give back to the community,"*

*Dania Albaba, M.D.*



Top photo: Dr. Albaba moderated the panel along with Dr. Shenoi. Right photo: Gregory Han answers about how he believes that spirituality and healing from substance abuse can intersect.



Right: Salvador Delmundo, Jr., Menninger Clinic Chaplain





## Menninger Rises in US News Rankings

The Menninger Clinic rose in the US News Rankings, garnering 7th place as one of the best psychiatric hospitals in the nation. Menninger is the only independent psychiatric hospital among the nationally ranked leaders.

Menninger has begun offering a broader range of services to assist more people. The Adolescent Day Treatment Program opened on July 10th, and the Bridge Program, a less restrictive inpatient program, opened on July 17th. New programs include a withdrawal management pathway for patients



Dr. Daryl Shorter

to safely withdraw from alcohol, benzodiazepines, opioids, and other substances led by Dr. Daryl Shorter, M.D., Medical Director of Addictions Services at The Menninger Clinic, Associate Professor at Baylor College of Medicine, and a specialty outpatient assessment for determining fitness for duty, which may be requested by licensing boards, employers, and organizations led by Dr. Edward Poa, M.D., Director of Forensic and Special Consultations Service at The Menninger Clinic; Associate Professor at Baylor College of Medicine.



Dr. Edward Poa

## PIVOT Team Receives VA Office of Rural Health Grants

Personalized Implementation of Virtual Treatments



(PIVOT) increases access to mental health care for Veterans facing barriers to in-person appointments, developing an implementation science-based approach and mixed-methods formative evaluation process. Since 2019, PIVOT has served over 24,000 rural Veterans via telehealth through collaboration with 25 VA facilities and over 150 community-based outpatient clinics. The Office of Rural Health grants totaling \$1.5 million will fund the following PIVOT projects at Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center: Personalized Implementation of Virtual Treatments for Rural Veterans (PIVOT-R), PI – Jan Lindsay, Ph.D and Co-PI – Stephanie Day, Ph.D., Digital Mental Health Clinics for Rural Capacity Building, PI – Julianna Hogan, Ph.D., Implementation of Virtual Mental Health Care for Rural Native Veterans, PIs – James Shore, M.D. and Jan Lindsay, Ph.D., and Improving Access to Mental Healthcare for Rural Veterans with Spinal Cord Injury, PIs – Hilary Touchett, Ph.D. and Felicia Skelton, M.D.



## BCM Signs Agreement with HCSO

The Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences Department recently signed a new multi-year agreement with the Harris County Sheriff's Office (HCSO). This agreement helps provide outreach, education, and clinical services for Law Enforcement and First Responders (LE/FR) and their families to decrease stigma, improve coping strategies, access mental health services, and advance wellness and resiliency. This opportunity will offer core clinical training, including a Law Enforcement and First Responders Training Track, and additional community engagement and outreach.

# BCM Partnerships Aim to Tackle Youth Mental Health Crisis

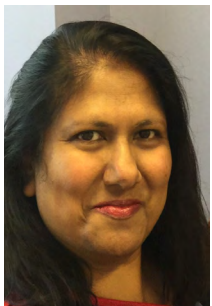
## Providing Safe Mental Health Resources to Our Next Generation

Mental health in the youth population is in crisis. Contributing factors such as peer pressure from social media and increased demands on academic performance combined with the effects of historical isolation experienced during the COVID-19 pandemic have all led to an increase in depression, anxiety, and suicidal ideation in children and teens.

Yet, in a time when mental health care is dire for youth, a recent study by Dr. J. Wesley Boyd and medical student Victoria Chen, highlighted how hard it is to receive mental health care for children and teens. Researchers in Houston, Los Angeles, and Chicago found that initial appointments were available 11% of the time, 19% of provider phone numbers were wrong, and 25% of psychiatrists were not accepting new patients.

### New Collaboration at TCH

BCM's Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Science attempts to change the landscape of child and adolescent mental health through a new collaboration at Texas Children's Hospital. Dr. Kirti Saxena, Chief of Psychiatry at Texas Children's Hospital and Associate Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences in the Menninger Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at BCM, worked together with pediatric hospital medicine to develop a continuum of care for children with behavioral health needs who are unable to find inpatient care within 24 hours.



Dr. Kirti Saxena

Under this collaboration, Advance Practice Providers were provided supervised psychiatric training from psychiatric BCM faculty at TCH. This training equipped them with the skills to assist psychiatry in the initial treatment evaluation



and treatment plan while providing daily care for the duration of the patient's admittance in the hospital while inpatient services were being located.

Not only does this collaboration provide comprehensive care, but it also assists the families as they navigate difficult circumstances. "These families struggle a lot" Saxena said. "If it's a post-suicide attempt, severe depression, or a child with autism, the ability to meet with the patient every day or the family every day, that piece was missing."

With this collaboration's successful nature, some patients can eventually be able to go home rather than go into inpatient care.

"Psychiatry and pediatric hospital medicine have built a solid relationship. We work well together to make sure the medical aspect and behavioral health aspect are targeted simultaneously and making sure that we communicate and deliver that comprehensive approach", Dr. Lisa Ayoub-Rodriguez, Director of Pediatric Hospital Medicine Behavioral Health Team at TCH and Senior Pediatric Faculty at BCM.

### Texas Child Mental Health Care Consortium

BCM Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral



## Community

### Youth Mental Health Crisis (cont.)

Sciences has also joined the Texas Child Mental Health Care Consortium (TCMHCC) to help address the urgent need for mental health care and increase mental health workers for youth in Texas. Formed by the 86th Texas Legislature, with additional federal funding approved in 2021, the TCMHCC utilizes health-related higher education institutions to address the youth mental health crisis through 5 initiatives.

Those initiatives include providing telehealth-based consultation and training to primary care providers through the Child Psychiatry Access Network (CPAN), providing in-school behavioral telehealth care to at-risk children and adolescents (TCHAT), studying and improving the delivery of child and adolescent mental health services in Texas through two state-wide research networks, funding full-time academic psychiatrists as academic medical directors and new psychiatric resident rotation positions at facilities operated by community mental health providers (CPWE), and expands both the number of child and adolescent psychiatry fellowship positions in Texas and the number of these training programs (CAP).

Currently, BCM Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences Department has 22 providers serving as part of the TCMHCC with Jennipher Cole, MBA, serving as TCHAT Clinical Director, Lauren Havel, M.D, serving as CPAN Medical Director, and Asna Matin, M.D., serving as TCHAT Medical Director.

Additionally, Wayne Goodman, M.D., serves on the Executive Committee, while Laurel L. Williams, D.O., serves as Medical Director for the Centralized Operation Support Hub of the TCMHCC.



Dr. Laurel Williams

OB-GYNS to get care done at the primary care level and we have gotten care to kids quickly across 25 school districts in our BCM catchment area. We are committed to being a part of the solution to bring family centered evidenced based compassionate care to Texans regardless of who and where they are."

Laurel L. Williams, DO Professor and Medical Director TCMHCC CPAN and TCHAT programming and BCM CAP Program Director



### Dr. Eric Storch Celebrates 10 Years as Chair of the OCD Foundation Pediatric Behavior Therapy Training Institute

Co-founded by Dr. Wayne Goodman, the International OCD Foundation serves patients affected with OCD and advocates, supports research, and provides training. Dr. Eric Storch, in his educational role as Chair of the OCD Foundation Pediatric Behavior Therapy Training Institute, has led the training of over 1,000 licensed exposure-based clinicians to date in providing exposure-based cognitive-behavioral therapy for youth with OCD. Pediatric training institutes are held 4-5 times yearly, with 1-2 training institutes occurring virtually. In-person trainings have previously been held in Mexico, Iceland, the United States, and Canada.

"The consortium continues to work to break down healthcare silos that frustrate families and patients and stymie care. I am very proud of our team at BCM. We have graduated more fellows than ever in our CAP fellowship, we have provided significant support and education to now primary care physicians including

### James Lomax, M.D.



Distinguished Emeritus Professor

● Psychiatry Resident: 1974-1977

● Chief Resident 1976-1977

● Former Karl Menninger Chair for Psychiatric Education

● Former Brown Foundation Chair for Psychoanalysis Associate Chairman

● Former Director of Educational Programs

● Barbara and Corbin J. Robertson, Jr. Presidential Award for Excellence in Education, 2003

● Oskar Pfister Award of the APA for excellence in Psychiatry and Spirituality, 2016

● AADPRT Annual Lifetime Service Award, 2019

● President of the Baylor Alumni Association, 2019-2021.

"I think the theme of my life is that I've benefitted from a series of happy accidents or serendipity. The first time I walked on the Baylor campus was 60 years ago this summer when I was a high school student. Baylor was small and so different then. The chairmen of several different departments spent time with us, I watched Dr. DeBakey do surgery from the upstairs auditorium. Amazing things like that. The right place, the right people at the right time."

**What do you think is one of your proudest career moments to date?**

"One thing about being in academic medicine that is just wonderful, is that when I stepped down as Vice-chair for Education, I turned that over to Dr. Kim-Lan Czelusta, who I had met when she was a second year medical student. To turn over a job you love to somebody who you've known for a long time, care a great deal about and loved watching them develop. That's the moment I would be happiest about."

**How did your Baylor College of Medicine Residency prepare you for your career?**

"I was incredibly fortunate. I was more interested in the more psychotherapeutic, psychological aspects of mental illness and our Residency Director was Dr. Robert Gilliland, who founded Houston Galveston Psychoanalytic institute. When I was Chief Resident, he wanted to retire in three years and he asked me if I would be his assistant and then take over his job, the Residency Program, when he was ready to retire. It was just good luck and good fortune. I had a wonderful role model and would have done whatever job he was doing if he asked me to do it with him. I absolutely loved the job of being Residency Director."

**What is something you hope others have learned from you?**

"Being able to be openly curious about things that are different from you or that you don't understand. We get paid to do that in psychiatry and it's just wonderful. In education, we get paid to be mentors. What a great job."

Dr. James Lomax was recently appointed to the Baylor College of Medicine Board of Trustees. Dr. Lomax will serve as an ex officio member, representing the College's Alumni Association.



### OCD Genetics Research Grant for Identifying Genetic Risk Factors in Latine/x African Descent



Dr. Cynthia Onekya

Genetic features are the strongest established risk factor for obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD). However, due to underrepresentation, little is known regarding the genetic risk factors associated with OCD among individuals of Latine/x African descent which leads to

downstream disparities in the application of genetic findings.

Postdoctoral associate, Dr. Cynthia Onekya was recently awarded a supplemental grant from the NIH which aims to utilize a community-based participatory action research (C-BPAR) approach to develop community-informed recommendations on culturally relevant best practices for recruiting individuals of Latine/x and African descent for OCD genetics research.

This is Dr. Onekya's first NIH grant and will lead toward furthing the LATINO project led by Dr. Storch.



### Dr. Averill named Psychedelic Program Co-Director



Dr. Lynnette Averill

Dr. Lynnette Astrid Averill, Ph.D has recently been named as the co-director of the ELIPSIS program. This program, Ethical Legal Implications of Psychedelics in Society Program (ELIPSIS), has been founded by the Center for Medical Ethics

and Health at Baylor College of Medicine through private funding with a focus on ethical and policy issues related to psychedelic research.

Research on the therapeutic use of psychedelics ended over 50 years ago, due to questions about the potential for unregulated use, the ethics behind its use, and political pressure. This new program seeks to establish guidelines for safe research and use while also ensuring adherence to policies, guidelines and legal implications.

### OCD Deep Brain Stimulation Research Featured in Congressional Briefing



At a recent Congressional Neuroscience Caucus (CNC) on June 14, Congressional members from

both parties heard testimony about the unprecedented undertakings of the NIH BRAIN Initiative and the groundbreaking research and discoveries funded by the Initiative.

One such project was the BRAIN study led by Dr. Wayne Goodman at Baylor College of Medicine. During this

study, Dr. Sameer Sheth, vice chair of research in the Department of Neurosurgery, implanted a deep brain stimulation device in participants.

During the hearing, one participant of the study, Katie, accompanied by Dr. Nicole Provenza, a postdoctoral fellow at the Baylor College of Medicine, shared her story of living with debilitating OCD and the life-changing results since the implantation of the DBS device. While Katie still lives with OCD, she can now function and enjoy being with her family. Katie's testimony showcased advanced brain research's profound life-changing effects and real-world applications in treatment-resistant neurological disorders.



## Research

### Illuminating the Path: using explainable AI techniques to build next-gen mood decoders and unveil neural biomarkers of depression



Dr. Kelly Bijanki

by: Kelly Bijanki, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Department of Neurosurgery and Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences.

Explainable AI is revolutionizing our understanding of intracranial electrophysiology, offering hope for personalized depression treatments. AI, driven by data and pattern recognition, navigates complex neural data, shedding light on depression's neural circuits.

In the Translational Neuromodulation Lab at Baylor College of Medicine, neuroscientists have identified a novel biomarker of depressive symptoms by studying invasive intracranial recordings in patients participating in a clinical trial at BCM. Biomarkers - signposts within the neural landscape that guide us toward early detection, accurate diagnosis, and personalized interventions – are a central goal for the field of biological psychiatry. Remarkably, the group has shown that their newly-discovered biomarker tracks with changes in depressive symptoms over short intervals, from minutes to hours, and it is especially strongly detected deep in the brain, in the

swath of cortex lying just behind the eyes. With new grant funding from the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH), the group will extend their prior findings to examine the extent to which the biomarker changes during naturalistic expressions of emotion (facial expression, vocal dynamics, linguistic features), as well as examining the degree to which the biomarker changes as a response to different types of intracranial stimulation, in order to build a comprehensive map of the brain's

responsivity to different patterns of electrical impulses.

The fusion of Explainable AI with exquisitely sensitive intracranial recordings in patients with severe depression opens doors to novel therapeutic interventions. These investigations are accelerating progress toward closed-loop systems that adaptively modulate

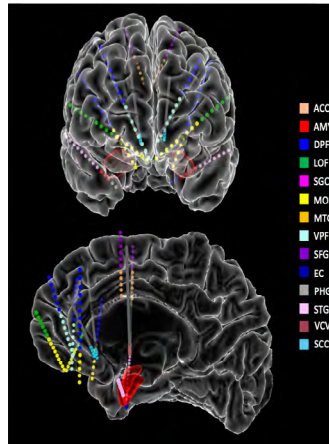


Figure representing intracranial recording positions for electrophysiological traces being studied with AI to characterize a biomarker of mood.

neural activity, diverting it from the depths of depression. These systems, guided by real-time neural pattern analysis, can precisely administer interventions like deep brain stimulation or neuromodulation, custom-tailored to each individual's unique neural signature. BCM and the Translational Neuromodulation Lab are thrilled to step into this new era in therapeutic development for psychiatric disorders.

## Honors and Awards

### Dr. Pershern Receives AADPRT Executive Council Appointment



Dr. Lindsey Pershern

Dr. Lindsey Pershern, Director of Residency Training at Baylor College of Medicine and Medical Director of Admissions at The Menninger Clinic, was recently appointed to serve as Membership Committee Chair on the Executive Council for

the American Association of Directors of Psychiatry Residency Training (AADPRT). Dr. Pershern joins Dr. Laurel Williams, CAP Director at Baylor College of Medicine and Medical Director of the Texas Child Mental Health Care Consortium, on the Executive Council.

Dr. Pershern will also serve as Facilities Chair for the 2024 Association of Directors of Medical Student Education in Psychiatry (ADMSEP) Annual Meeting in Pittsburgh, PA.



## Honors and Awards

### Dr. Saunders Receives Norton Rose Fulbright Educational Grant



Dr. John James  
Saunders

Dr. John James Saunders received the Norton Rose Fulbright Educational Grant Fund for the grant proposal "Community Collaboration for Creation of Mental Health Curriculum to Decrease Mental Health Stigma". Norton Rose Fulbright

Educational Grants are eligible to past award recipients and serve to further the educational mission of Baylor College of Medicine.

### NIMH Outstanding Resident Award Honorable Mention

The NIMH Outstanding Resident Award (ORAP) recognizes residents with outstanding research and academic potential. This year Dr. Ahmed Ahmed was privileged to receive an Honorable Mention.



Dr. Ahmed Ahmed

### ACNP Travel Award

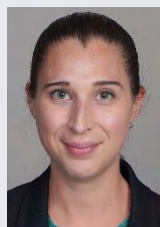


Dr. Amanda Tamman

Dr. Amanda Tamman received The American College of Neuropsychopharmacology (ACNP) travel award, which is awarded to young scientists in the field of neuropsychopharmacology.

### NNCI Ambassador Scholar

Dr. Laura Kenyon was chosen to be a National Neuroscience Curriculum Initiative Ambassador Scholar, which assists in integrating a neuroscience perspective into modern psychiatry.



Dr. Laura Kenyon

### GME Resident Council



Dr. Dafe Jessa

Dr. Dafe Jessa was elected to BCM's Graduate Medical Education Resident Council. The Resident Council represents the voice of residents and fellows in decisions the College makes for graduate medical education.

### Association for Academic Psychiatry Awards

Two physicians in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences were recognized as 2023 Association for Academic Psychiatry award recipients. Dr. Jeffery Kahn, Associate Program Director, General Psychiatry Residency Program, and Medical Director of the Baylor Psychiatry Clinic received the Early Career Development Award, and Dr. Shelley Rote, Chief Resident of Education, received the Resident Psychiatric Educator (RPE) Award.



Dr. Jeffery Kahn & Dr. Shelley Rote



Left to right, Drs. Dania Albaba, Robert Boland, Jeffery Kahn, Shelley Rote, Kim-Lan Czelusta, Lindsey Pershern, and Ali Abbas Asghar-Ali.

## Honors and Awards

### Dr. Asim A Shah Awarded \$5 Million Donation from The Valour Foundation



Dr. Asim Shah

Houston is currently the fourth largest city in the United States, but regardless of size, there are only two psychiatric ERs in Houston. One of those is BCM-affiliated Ben Taub, which has been outsourcing beds in the ER to keep up with the demand of patients.

Problems quickly arise when substance users come to the ER intoxicated and require crisis stabilization and observation due to statements made while intoxicated. With few resources and beds already available for psychiatric emergencies, substance users who may only require a step-down stabilization phase followed by outpatient rehab are overloading ER space needed for medical emergencies.

Dr. Asim Shah, Chief of Psychiatry at Ben Taub & Harris Health System and Executive Vice Chair of Menninger Department of Psychiatry at Baylor College of Medicine, came up with an idea to address this issue many years ago. However, the funding has not been available until now.

Under Dr. Shah's plan, \$2 million of a gift from the Valour Foundation will be used to build a new unit at Ben Taub with ten beds for stabilization and observation of substance users before referring them to the Houston Recovery Center for rehab and starting medication-assisted treatment.

The remaining funds will also be used to treat substance abuse through further improvements at Ben Taub and community-facing prevention such as a conference.

Not only will these programs funded by the Valour donation meet the full mission of BCM: clinical, research, education, and community service, but the financial impact on the community will be enormous.

Dr. Shah has also recently been honored as a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh.

Thank you to The Valour Foundation, including Drs. Beth and Stuart Yudofsky and Peter Goddard, for this donation which will make a meaningful impact for mental health in Houston.

## Faculty Awards Day 2023

### Faculty Awards for Excellence in Patient Care

#### Early Career Award

Ajay Shah, M.D.  
Andres Arturo Avellaneda Ojeda, M.D.  
Amanda Palo, Ph.D.  
Jeffery Steven Kahn, M.D.

#### Star Award

Ali Abbas Asghar-Ali, M.D.

### Norton Rose Fulbright Excellence Award

#### Teaching and Evaluation

Kimberly Cappa Davis, Ph.D.  
Katherine Ann Gallagher, Ph.D.  
Nidal Moukaddam, M.D., Ph.D.  
Nicold Schneider Psy.D, ABPP  
Courtney Jean Taylor, Pd.D.

#### Educational Research

Ali Abbas Ashgar-Ali, M.D.

#### Educational Materials

Jennifer L. Bryan, Ph.D.



Dr. Sharma with the 2022-2023 Menninger Fellows

### Outstanding Educator Awards

Dr. Shweta Sharma was selected by the class of 2022-23 Menninger Fellows as a recipient of the Jon G. Allen Distinguished Educator Award and Dr. Elizabeth David was bestowed the 2023 Outstanding Educator Award by the Menninger Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences.



# The New Faces In Psychiatry



Poonam Awatramani, M.D.  
Assistant Professor  
MEDVAMC

Baylor  
College of  
Medicine

Amanda Broyles, Ph.D.  
Assistant Professor  
MEDVAMC



Robert Daboval, M.D.  
Assistant Professor  
Harris Health



Kristen Frasio, Ph.D.  
Assistant Professor  
MEDVAMC

Baylor  
College of  
Medicine

Patrick Grant, PsyD.  
Assistant Professor  
MEDVAMC

Baylor  
College of  
Medicine

Laura Haney, Ph.D.  
Assistant Professor  
MEDVAMC

Baylor  
College of  
Medicine

Henry Heisey, M.D.  
Assistant Professor  
MEDVAMC



Raheel Imtiaz Memon, M.D.  
Assistant Professor  
Harris Health

Baylor  
College of  
Medicine

Kim Dahyeon, Ph.D.  
Assistant Professor  
MEDVAMC

Baylor  
College of  
Medicine

Yulia Korshykava, M.D.  
Assistant Professor  
Harris Health



Ruma Mian, M.D.  
Assistant Professor  
Harris Health

Baylor  
College of  
Medicine

Rune Moelbak, Ph.D.  
Assistant Professor  
MEDVAMC



Olusegun Popoola, M.D.  
Assistant Professor  
MEDVAMC

Baylor  
College of  
Medicine

Luis Rodriguez, Ph.D.  
Assistant Professor  
MEDVAMC



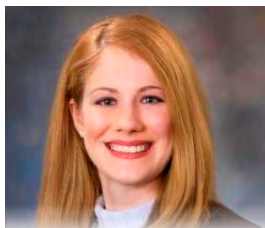
Jacqueline Sabarese, Ph.D.  
Assistant Professor  
MEDVAMC



Roberto Sanchez, D.O.  
Assistant Professor  
Harris Health



Brett Shaw, M.D.  
Assistant Professor  
TCH



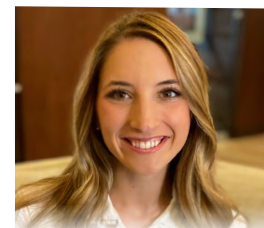
Alexandra Sibley, M.D.  
Assistant Professor  
MEDVAMC



Amanda Tamman, Ph.D.  
Assistant Professor  
Jamail Specialty Care



Juliann Tea, M.D.  
Assistant Professor  
MEDVAMC



Allie Townsend, Ph.D.  
Assistant Professor  
Baylor Clinic/ Jamail

Baylor  
College of  
Medicine

Carolyn Tran  
Instructor  
BSLMC



Michael Trejo, M.D.  
Assistant Professor  
MEDVAMC

Baylor  
College of  
Medicine

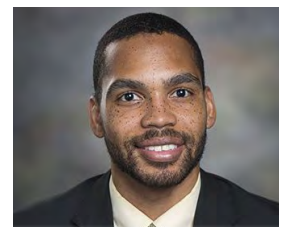
Kimberly Usher, Ph.D.  
Assistant Professor  
MEDVAMC

Baylor  
College of  
Medicine

Amy Ustjanauska, Ph.D.  
Assistant Professor  
MEDVAMC

Baylor  
College of  
Medicine

Ashley Wilk, Psy.D.  
Assistant Professor  
MEDVAMC



Roy Lee Williams, M.D.  
Assistant Professor  
BSLMC

# Presentations

## Dr. Andrew David Wiese

- Osteogenesis Imperfecta Foundation of Europe Annual Topical Meeting. "Understandings the Connection between Pain in OI and Mental health, and the Impact on Sleep and Fatigue." June 2023, Stockholm, Sweden.
- 28th Annual Obsessive Compulsive Disorder Conference. "Provider Perceptions of In-Person and Telehealth Delivered HRT for BFRBs Presentation." July 2023, San Francisco, CA.

## Dr. Jin Han, Dr. Julie Williams, Dr. Shelley Rote

- Association of Directors of Medical Student Education in Psychiatry (ADSEP) Annual Meeting. "Grading Fairness: Current and Future Strategies." June 2023, San Diego, CA.

## Dr. Shelley Rote, Dr. Dania Albaba, Dr. Kim-Lan Czelusta,

- Academy for Professionalism in Health Care hybrid conference, Health Care Professionalism and Bias Reduction: Sharing Global Strategies. "Crossing the Divide: Building Therapeutic Alliances in Challenging Patient Encounters." June 2023, Health Education Campus of Case Western Reserve University and Cleveland Clinic and via Zoom.

## Dr. Daryl Shorter

- Partners in Treatment Conference on Mental Health. "Advances in Clinical Use of Cannabinoids: Science or Snake Oil." June 2023, Scottsdale, Arizona.

## Dr. John Rucker

- American Psychological Association. "Mentalization Based Therapy for those with comorbid personality pathology and treatment-resistant depression." Washington, DC. Panelist.

## Dr. Robert Boland

- American Psychiatric Association Annual Meeting. "Effective Presentation Skills in Psychiatry." July, 2023. San Francisco, CA.

- American Psychiatric Association Annual Meeting. "New and Improved! The ABPN Continuing Certification Program." July, 2023. San Francisco, CA.
- Grand Rounds, Norwalk Hospital-Nuvance Health. "Aging: the good, the bad and the inevitable." May 2023, Norwalk, CT.

## Dr. Thomas Kosten

- NIDA Genetics and Epigenetics Cross-Cutting Research Team Meeting. "Deconvolution of microRNA/mRNA Networks in Brain Regions Impacted by Cocaine Use Disorder to Develop a Mechanistic Biosignature for Pharmacotherapy Response." May 2023, NIH Campus, Bethesda, MD. Panelist
- NIDA Genetics and Epigenetics Cross-Cutting Research Team Meeting. "Gene Correlation Networks Replication Analysis Across Studies to Identify Top Candidate Gene Targets in Opioid Use Disorder." May 2023, NIH Campus, Bethesda, MD.

## Dr. Lindsey Pershern

- American Psychiatric Association Annual Meeting. "Supporting Students and Medical Educators: Trends in the Match, Advising and Mentoring (invited session from ADMSEP leadership group)." May 2023. San Francisco, CA.
- American Psychiatric Association Annual Meeting. "Brain-ival! Using Interactive Games to Teach Neuroscience workshop." May 2023. San Francisco, CA.
- Texas Educator's Academies Collaborative for Health Professions – Southeast Educational Symposium. "Effective Skills for Mentoring Women workshop". May 2023. UMTB Health, Houston, TX.
- Association of Directors of Medical Student Education in Psychiatry (ADMSEP) Annual Meeting. "Building a Better Advising Experience workshop". June 2023. San Diego, CA.



# Publications

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# In the News

[The Silent Killer: Depression](#), FOX-26, 6/26/23. Dr. Robert Boland

[TOC: ¿Qué es y cómo se manifiesta? Explica Eric Storch](#), 7/13/23 CNN Chile, Dr. Eric Storch.

[Living with long-term cancer is depressing. Texas doctors say psychedelics could help](#), The Hill, 7/18/23. Dr. Lynette Averill

[Common prescription drugs could cause depression as side effect](#), UPI, 7/18/23, Dr. Sanjay J. Matthew.

[Congressional Briefing Highlights Groundbreaking BRAIN Initiative Research](#), NIH, 7/19/23, Dr. Wayne Goodman.

[Extreme Heat Can Take Toll on People Battling Mental Health Issues](#), HealthDay, 7/27/23, Dr. Asim Shah.

[You're not imagining it. Houston's heat wave is affecting our mental health](#), Houston Landing, 7/27/23, Dr. Asim Shah.

[Q&A: Student mental health discussion with Texas Child Mental Health Consortium](#), Community Impact, 8/2/23, Dr. Laurel Williams.

[Managing Menopause in the Summer, KHOU](#), 8/3/24. Dr. Nicole Doghor

[Extreme Heat Is F-cking With Our Heads](#), Rolling Stone, 8/6/23, Dr. Asim Shah.

[Think Seasonal Affective Disorder is a Thing? Try Living Through Texas Summer](#), 8/1/23, Dr. Asim Shah.

[FDA Approves First Pill for Post Partum Depression](#), FOX-2, 8/7/23. Dr. Kelly Truong

[Are we over-or-under-diagnosing ADHD?, BCM Policywise](#), 9/1/23, Dr. Chadi Chalarge.

[7 Sneaky Ways Extreme Heat Can Mess with Your Body and Mind, Real Simple](#), 9/7/23, Dr. Asim Shah.

[6 Types of Drugs That Could Cause Depression](#), AARP, 9/12/23, Dr. Asim Shah.

Radio and Podcast

[Canada Talks](#), Dr. Robert Boland on Heat and Mental Health, 8/16.

[Should Psychedelic Drugs be Used to Treat PTSD and Depression in Veterans](#), Houston Public Media, 8/2/23, Dr. Lynette Averill

[Mind Dive podcast](#), w/ Dr. Robert Boland, Dr. Kerry Horrell:

- [Neuropsychiatry. Connecting the Brain to Behavior](#): Dr. Julia Rideway-Diaz, 5/22/23
- [Approaching Addiction Psychiatry](#): Dr. Daryl Shorter, 7/7/23.

BCM Press Releases

[Overcoming Driving Anxiety](#), 8/30/23, Dr. Eric Storch.

Blogs

[Confronting Mental Illness Stigma](#), Dr. Serena Weber, Dr. Robert Boland, 5/26/23

[Hot to Handle? Heat and mental health. Psychology Today](#), Dr. Robert Boland, 7/18/23

[Nuclear Anxiety, "Oppenheimer," and Prometheus](#), Dr. Marsal Sanches, 8/4/23

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