

Baylor College of Medicine

MENNINGER DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHIATRY & BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES

NEWSLETTER

WINTER 2023

A Message From the Chair

Team Science

I have always tried to marry research and clinical care in my work. When I started my career at Yale, the motto of the unit I worked on was "Research in the Service of Patient Care." At an Academic Medical Center like ours, even the most basic research must define the public health significance of that work.

As a clinical researcher, I still derive my inspiration from my patients. And then I try to deploy innovations in science and technology to advance the understanding and treatment of patients with that illness.

Another guiding principle is an emphasis on team science. Although individual investigators can still contribute to advances in psychiatry, solving complex problems increasingly requires collaboration across diverse scientific fields and different institutions. This is especially true as we learn to apply new technologies to unravel the relationship of brain activity to behavior.

An example of team science in action is our research on developing more effective interventions for severe and treatment resistant obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD) using devices that can both stimulate the brain and record from it during behavior.

In October 2022, the Departments of Psychiatry and Neurosurgery at BCM jointly hosted a hybrid workshop entitled, "Deep Brain Stimulation (DBS) for OCD: Lessons for Integrating Clinical Practice of Psychiatrists, Neurosurgeons, and Psychologists." One of the take home messages of that meeting was to underscore the importance of teamwork to manage the treatment of patients with severe OCD. It takes an interdisciplinary team working cohesively across academic departments and institutions to conduct this research and improve patient outcomes. Psychiatrists, neurosurgeons, psychologists, engineers, neuroscientists, neurologists, and neuroethicists are all critical. The workshop was made possible by a generous gift from a grateful patient.

We had **186 attendees** -- 38 onsite, 148 virtual – including several of our learners (photo below). **34 attendees were international**, representing Mexico, Turkey, Germany, Japan, Sweden, Canada, Australia, Sri



(continued p.2)



Residents Somto Obi, Gibson Anugwom, Ishu Pathak, and Nancy Shenoi with Dr. Goodman at the DBS for OCD workshop. Ziba Colah, Adeolu "Funso" Oladunjoye, and Robert Daboval attended virtually.



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Community

The Menninger Clinic Expands Building and Services

The Menninger Clinic opened its Outpatient Services Center in September, thanks to the generosity of many donors. This 3,000 sq.ft building has been in the works for 10 years. Board members, clinicians, and community members attended the ribbon cutting.

The building will initially house its Center for Brain Stimulation, Outpatient Assessments and Therapy, plus Sleep Medicine Center.

The Menninger Clinic also expanded its Addictions Services with an eight-week intensive outpatient program for adults, according to Dr. Daryl Shorter, medical director.

The Recovery IOP supports adults and family members with integrated services for substance use, addictions, and co-occurring mental health disorders. Clients meet with Dr. Shorter bi-weekly for medication management. Each week offers psychotherapy groups, psychoeducational groups, individual therapy, family therapy and a multi-family group.





Dr. John Oldham, Ann Trammell, Dr. James Lomax, Dr. Kim-Lan Czelusta



Dr. Wayne Goodman, Armando Colombo, Dr. Huda Zoghbi

I-r: Dr. Cory Walker, chief medical officer, Jeff Paine, Foundation board chair, Ronald P. Cuenod, Jr., Clinic board chair, and Armando Colombo, president and CEO.

Message From the Chair

(continued from p. 1) Lanka, Italy, Portugal, Jordan, Brazil, Morocco, India, and Puerto Rico.

Dr. Sameer Sheth, Dr. Eric Storch, and I – a neurosurgeon, a psychologist, and a psychiatrist – have been working closely for the last five years to evaluate and manage patients with severe, treatment resistant OCD – 20 of whom went on to have DBS at BCM. Along with guest speakers from Harvard, Brown, University of Colorado, Stanford, and Mount Sinai, we shared our



Dr. Sameer Sheth, Dr. Wayne Goodman, and Dr. Eric Storch (neurosurgeon, psychiatrist, and psychologist) collaborate to help patients with treatment-resistant OCD. They were the workshop team for DBS for OCD.

collective experience at the workshop regarding DBS for OCD and conveyed best practices to groups starting programs

Among the positive feedback we received from attendees was the value of having a patient talk about her experience undergoing DBS for treatment resistant OCD. She spoke about her illness and how both DBS and Exposure & Response Therapy (ERP), which was added to her DBS, had helped her. For me, it was touching to witness how far she had come. It also reminded me that helping patients is the driving force behind doing research.

--Wayne K. Goodman, M.D.

Honors

Five-Year Renewal for VA's South Central MIRECC

The Veterans Health Administration renewed the South Central Mental Illness Research, Education and Clinical Center (South Central MIRECC) for another five years. The \$2.5 million



grant funds pilot grants, salaries, demonstration projects, and more. Congratulations to BCM faculty leaders: Drs. Mark Kunik, Jan Lindsay, Ali Asghar-Ali, Jeff Cully, Natalie Hundt, and Lilian Dindo.

The SCMIRECC score fell within the highest level of excellence for its overall goals, operational plans and management, and staffing plans. The overall implementation plan demonstrated a high rate of success.

"The MIRECC affords us opportunity to grow Baylor and Mental Health Service Research to improve the reach of mental health treatment of Veterans, particularly those who live in rural areas," said Kunik.

The SCMIRECC also was recognized for excellence in communication, recruitment/retention, employee satisfaction, crisis response, and methodology support. Feedback highlighted the focus on brief interventions, rural health, telehealth, and implementation for aligning with VA priorities and having a national impact. The education portfolio of products and programs along with fellowship programs were noted as outstanding.

Top 25% Podcast: MindDive

Congratulations to co-hosts Drs. Kerry Horrell and Robert Boland at The Menninger Clinic.



<u>Mind Dive Podcast</u> received more than 4,000 downloads within the first seven days of launch for the first 13

episodes. This qualifies Mind Dive among the top 25% of all podcasts.

Dr. Oldham Named to National Advisory Council

Dr. John Oldham, distinguished emeritus professor at Menninger Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, was named to a national advisory committee working to identify credible sources of health information in social media. Oldham said it's right on target with a concern of his for a long time.



"I'm not a digital native, but I have a command of the wild west of the Internet," Oldham said. "The world of virtual therapy is important and needs to be validated and authenticated."

The committee is a collaboration between National Academy of Medicine, Council of Medical Specialty Societies, and World Health Organization (CMSS-NAM-WHO).

Dr. Chaison to DC for VA Office Opportunity

Dr. Angelic Chaison,

psychologist at MEDVAMC and assistant professor in the Menninger Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, was selected to work with VA Central Office on a 120-day special assignment in



the Office of Mental Health and Suicide Prevention (OMHSP). She will develop efforts concerning Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion with current acting director, Dr. Tamara Campbell.

Dr. Chaison serves as a co-chair of the Multicultural and Diversity Committee (MDC) of the VA Psychology Training Council (VAPTC), chair of the Multicultural and Diversity Subcommittee (MDSC) of the MEDVAMC Psychology Training Program, and a VA subject matter expert for Problem Solving Therapy for Suicide Prevention.

Dr. Peters: Early Career Psychology Rep with APA

Dr. Zina V. Peters, assistant professor at BCM, psychologist and Health Behavior Coordinator at Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center, will serve on the American Psychological Association (APA) Division 18, <u>Veteran Affairs Section Membership Committee</u> as an Early Career Psychology (ECP) Representative.



Honors

Dr. Shorter Honored at Health Museum Community Gala



Dr. Daryl Shorter (second from left) was honored at a black-tie Health Museum of Houston gala for making contributions as a physician and educator in the recovery community.

The Museum honored eight of Houston's top health professionals creating a legacy for serving members of minority communities and developing innovative educational programs. Shorter has a passion for teaching with the focus to eliminate the bias and stigma associated with addictions.

Another BCM physician was honored: Dr. Jesus Vallejo.

Dr. Shah Earns HHS Award



Harris Health System executive team recognized Dr. Asim Shah, Psychiatry Medical Chief, for his servant leadership.

Pictured Dr. Steven Brass, executive vice president & chief medical executive; Dr. Jennifer Small, executive vice president - ACS; Dr. Asim Shah; and Dr. Glorimar Medina, executive vice president - BT.

Dr. Kauth to Lead VA's LGBTQ+ Health Program

Veterans Health Administration appointed **Dr. Michael Kauth,** professor in the Menninger Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, to the new position of executive director of the VA's <u>LGBTQ+ Health</u> <u>Program</u>. He was sworn in as a member of the senior executive



staff by VA Chief of Staff Tanya Bradsher.

Kauth says his first priority is to complete the gender identity and sexual orientation identity data field implementation and collection efforts.

"For the first time, VA will be able to look at health outcomes for Veterans based on how they identify their gender and sexual orientation identity rather than rely on diagnoses," Kauth relates. "That will be a huge accomplishment."

In his role, Kauth will lay out his vision for the program office, build the new team, and embed the LGBTQ+ Health Program throughout VA.

"Ultimately, I am most excited that I get to change clinical practices in VA to improve health care for all Veterans, especially LGBTQ+ Veterans," Kauth says.

As a result of stigma, stress, and discrimination, LGBTQ+ Veterans face increased health risks and unique challenges in health care. Kauth suspects that VA is the largest provider of health care to LGBTQ+ people in the country.

"We will soon find out!"

University of Iceland Ph.D. Student Heads to Storch Lab

Orri Smárason, a Ph.D. student in clinical child psychology at the University of Iceland, has been awarded a Fulbright scholarship grant and a Leifur Eiriksson Foundation fellowship, to be a visiting student researcher at the Eric Storch Lab in spring 2023.



Dr. Smárason will participate in

research projects on OCD and anxiety disorders with Drs. Storch, Wayne Goodman, Andrew Guzick, Andy Wiese, Amanda Palo, and Yasmine Omar.

Awards

Dr. Boland Earns AAP Lifetime Achievement Award

Dr. Robert Boland, senior vice president & chief of staff at The Menninger Clinic and professor & vice chair at Baylor College of Medicine, received the 2022 Association for Academic Psychiatry (AAP) Lifetime Achievement Award during the organization's Annual Meeting in September 2022. This award recognizes long-term, sustained contribution by a national or international leader in education, specifically to AAP.



l. to r.: Sean Blitzstein (immediate past president, AAP), Dr. Robert Boland,and Lewis Krain (president, AAP).

Dr. Chaudhry: Resident Award

Dr. Raheel Chaudhry (PGY-

5) received the 2022 Resident Psychiatric Educator Award from Association for Academic Psychiatry (AAP). This award is given to honor psychiatry residents/fellows who demonstrate particular promise as educators and scholars in the field of academic psychiatry.



Residents Receive AAAP Award

Two General Psychiatry residents received awards from the American Academy of Addiction Psychiatry. Congratulations to **Dr. Kristen Laster,** who received the AAAP Underrepresented Minority Award, and **Dr. "Funso" Oladunjoye**, who received the AAAP Regional Award.



VA Project: Promising Practice FY23

Personalized Implementation of Virtual Treatments for Rural Veterans

A VA project, **Personalized Implementation of Virtual Treatments for Rural Veterans** (PIVOT-R), earned a special designation as a VA Office of Rural Health Promising Practice for FY23.

Dr. Jan Lindsay leads the PIVOT team, which includes Drs. Amspoker, Caloudas, Day, Ecker, Hogan, and Touchett.

PIVOT-R uses a flexible implementation approach, adapted from Implementation Facilitation, that integrates training/education, mentoring, and an iterative mixed-methods evaluation approach to expand the availability of VA Video Connect (VVC; video telehealth to home) for mental health with an emphasis on rural Veterans and providers.

PIVOT-R has received more than \$1M in annual funding from ORH. PIVOT team members have

received additional funding for related projects focused on implementation of VVC with specific populations. The PIVOT team was formally identified as rural consultants to national VACO partners in FY20 and continues to collaborate closely with national partners at OMHSP and the Office of Connected Care to support national VA's efforts to expand virtual care and contribute to national VA's guidelines and recommendations for VVC-delivered mental health care.

Recent publications reflect the work of Dr. Lindsay and the PIVOT team, which has examined video telehealth use among rural and urban Veterans, found greater utilization of video telehealth by women Veterans compared to men, and identified predictors of video telehealth for patients and providers.

Awards

Katy Gathron Completes NCURA Mentoring Program

Katy Gathron, MS, MPH, research administration associate, completed the year-long National Council of University Research Administrators (NCURA) <u>Mustang Mentoring Program</u>. She was selected for the 2022 cohort class.

This program targets research administrators early in their career who want to enhance their leadership skills. Mentors guide the mentee through

a leadership development skills course.

Gathron was guided by Katherine Kissman, director of research contracts at Texas A&M University. Gathron, along with other graduates of the program, presented at the NCURA Region V conference. Her presentation was titled



"A Comprehensive Guide to Sponsored Project Closeouts at BCM."





Duff Dean, research administration lead, and Katy Gathron, research administration associate

Dr. Page Earns Psychiatry Award

Lindsay Page, M.D. received the Geriatric Psychiatry Outstanding Educator Award in 2022.



Drs. Lindsay Page, Ali Sibley, and Ashish Sarangi

Dr. Asghar-Ali Earns All Four Norton Fulbright Awards

Dr. Ali Abbas Asghar-Ali

recently received notification he earned the Norton Rose Fulbright Faculty Excellence Award in Educational Research. This award will be given at Baylor Awards' Day in May.



The bonus is this award

completes a Norton Rose "flush" for him with Asghar-Ali earning awards in all four categories: Teaching and Evaluation, Leadership, Educational Materials, and Educational Research.

"The Norton Rose flush is quite an accomplishment and recognition of his effort," says Dr. Laura Marsh, executive director of the Mental Health Care Line at MEDVAMC.

Lab Student Wins Image Award

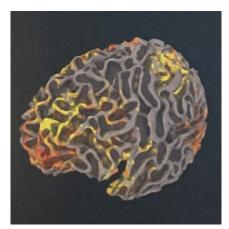


Anthony Allam, a second-year BCM medical student in Dr. Papageorgiou's Lab, won 2nd place in the Scientific Image category at "Technology and Data Innovations for a Cure," the 18th Annual Research Symposium with Dan L Duncan Comprehensive Cancer Center.

Anthony Allam

The title of his image: Cortical meuromodulation network targeted for the alleviation of cancerinduced cranial neuropathy.

This represents the physiological dynamics of tongue, motor, and sensory control at the brain level decoded using 3D Convolutional Networks.



Allam's 2nd place winning image in Scientific Image category

Collaboration

DBS for OCD Workshop Gathers International Audience

by Vicki Powers

Deep Brain Stimulation for OCD illustrates the power of collaboration in science. Our department was thrilled to offer our first conference -- a one-day workshop at a downtown hotel bringing together experts to share, learn, and network. We never dreamed international attendees in 16 countries would be interested and virtually attend, as well.

Our **Deep Brain Stimulation for OCD** workshop in October -- jointly sponsored by BCM's Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences and Department of Neurosurgery -- brought together national speakers who covered subjects such as DBS programming, medication, psychotherapy, ethics, and case examples. It exceeded all expectations for attendance and confirmed the need for education and case studies.

The workshop team (Drs. Wayne Goodman, Sameer Sheth, and Eric Storch) was proud a patient, Katie W., agreed to share her story. OCD had taken over every aspect of her life before she

had DBS surgery. A year after surgery, Katie felt free from the paralyzing effects of OCD.

"I am so grateful to have had the opportunity to share my experience. Dr. Sheth, Dr. Goodman, and team truly gave me a chance at life again," Katie relates. "I hope that sharing my story showed others what a life-changing difference this procedure can make."

Local media interviewed Katie. The <u>segment</u> appeared on KPRC 5 p.m. news the day of the conference.



Dr. Martijn Figee, Mount Sinai, reviewed DBS for OCD.



Dr. Rachel Davis, University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus, discussed ethics.



Dr. Carolyn Rodriguez, Stanford School of Medicine, discussed pharmacotherapy.



Dr. Darin Dougherty, Mass General Hospital, shared on programming with Dr. Goodman.



Katie W. with Dr. Sameer Sheth and Dr. Wayne Goodman. OCD had taken over every aspect of her life before she had DBS surgery.



Hal Tashman speaks with attendees.



Dr. Eric Storch asks a question in the Q&A. Dr. Storch spoke earlier about assessments/ERP.



Vicki Powers and Jackie Wynn served as the event planning team.



Speaker Dr. Martijn Figee, Mount Sinai, with Dr. Nicole Provenza, BCM, and speaker Dr. Wael Asaad, Brown University.

Education

New Regional Campus in Temple Expands Learning, Faculty

Two open houses in fall 2022 kicked off recruiting season at the new affiliation in Temple: **Baylor College of Medicine's School of Medicine Temple Regional Campus.** Baylor Scott & White and Baylor College of Medicine created an affiliation and 20-year partnership. The goal is to train more students to become physicians in Texas and expand the workforce pipeline, which is definitely needed.

The School of Medicine at Baylor College of Medicine will welcome its inaugural class of medical students to the Temple regional campus in summer 2023.





Psychiatry residents meet with law enforcement at a regional training facility to provide guidance on verbal deescalation and acute agitation from a psychiatric perspective. The residents consider this one of their most prized relationships since it allows them to work together closely to promote mental health awareness and protect those most vulnerable.



Psychiatry residents get involved locally with professional organizations. In December, they attended the Houston Psychiatric Society Mixer. Dr. Flynn O'Malley, senior psychologist at The Menninger Clinic, presented on "Issues in Working with Transgender Persons and Treating Gender Dysphoria."

Dr. Julia Ridgeway-Diaz (second from the right) is pictured with BCM residents.

Congratulations, Geriatric Psychiatry Fellow Graduates



Ashish Sarangi, M.D. (July 2022 graduation)

Academic Psychiatry at University of Missouri



Alexandra Sibley, M.D. (September 2022 graduation)

Legacy Community Health



Ashish Sarangi, M.D. and Alexandra "Ali" Sibley, M.D. with program director, Ali Abbas Asghar-Ali, M.D., and program coordinator, Maria Abu, CPhT, MBA at the 2022 fellowship graduation dinner.

Clinical

Expansion Pilot Program (PeriPAN) Focuses on Mental Health for Expectant and New Mothers

by Vicki Powers

Pregnant women and new mothers in Texas are benefitting from a pilot program that recently launched in Texas. **Perinatal Psychiatry Access Network (PeriPAN)** connects medical providers of perinatal women with reproductive psychiatry specialists in real time via a phone line. The program includes access to a curbside consult with a reproductive psychiatrist with ongoing consultation for a specific patient as needed; referrals for therapists, groups, and other resources for perinatal patients; and educational programs for the clinicians.

This expansion of the Texas Child Mental Health Care Consortium is possible thanks to federal funds from the American Rescue Plan Act. PeriPAN follows the **Child Psychiatry Access Network** (**CPAN**) structure and framework. Baylor College of Medicine is one of four participating geographic psychiatrist networks in Texas.

"This program is a natural development of CPAN, since its mission is to help support mental health care for children," said Dr. Karen Horst, assistant professor, interim chief, Division of Reproductive Psychiatry, Obstetrics & Gynecology, at Baylor. "Beyond providing the best mental health care for perinatal patients, we know that one of the best ways to support mental health for children is to support the mothers."

The Process

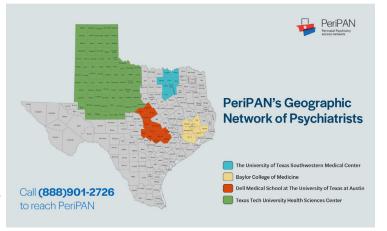
The network of psychiatrists in the PeriPAN pilot will help providers address maternal mental health conditions in three ways:

1. Real-time phone-based consultations with perinatal experts

2. Resource and referral navigation

3. CME programs focused on the fundamentals of reproductive mental health and training around reproductive mental health

"We're trying to fill in the gap between what the providers know and what we know," Horst said. "It doesn't mean that reproductive psychiatrists work themselves out of a job. It just means perinatal patients can get help earlier, through their OB/GYN,



midwife, or general psychiatrist. PeriPAN functions as a bridge between generalists and specialists."

Why the Need?

Horst said there is a huge gap between primary care providers (people taking care of pregnant and postpartum women) and reproductive psychiatrists.

"There aren't enough reproductive psychiatrists to meet the huge need for mental health care during the perinatal period, and general psychiatrists don't receive adequate training in medication use during pregnancy and breastfeeding," Horst said.

Unfortunately, there is a shortage of mental health providers and reproductive psychiatrists in Texas. Nearly 50,000 women who gave birth in Texas in 2019 had depression, anxiety, PTSD, and bipolar disorder.

In the first few months, there has been a lot of enthusiasm around the PeriPAN pilot. A big part is getting the word out through outreach and cold calling. Horst said the pilot will measure success by the amount of engagement with providers -essentially how many calls they get for assistance.

"I'm also excited that we're training more and more practitioners to know about reproductive mental health issues through Baylor's women's mental health track in the psychiatry department and OB/ GYN residency," Horst related. "And we have our first women's mental health fellow this year and an elective for medical students."

Research

VA Project: Anxiety and SUD

by Anthony Ecker, Ph.D.

Anxiety disorders are among the most common mental health conditions, with over 30% lifetime prevalence. Anxiety disorders are linked to negative impacts in social, occupational, and physical functioning and also related to poorer mental health outcomes, including increased risk of suicide. Individuals with anxiety disorders are more likely than those without to have substance use disorders (SUD) which further compounds risk for impacts on functioning and can make treatment for either disorder less effective.

The co-occurrence of anxiety and SUD can create a vicious cycle in which individuals may use substance to reduce or manage symptoms of anxiety, but then experience negative consequences related to that substance use. Unfortunately, many traditional psychological treatment pathways, including many commonly used cognitive behavior therapy (CBT) protocols, are disorder specific, requiring individuals to address anxiety and SUD separately, and may not explicitly address the intimately connected conditions.

Transdiagnostic CBT addresses multiple conditions within the same therapy protocol. Importantly, transdiagnostic CBT addresses factors that maintain co-occurring disorders, directly addressing the vicious cycle of anxiety and substance use.

My recent work focuses on developing and testing transdiagnostic interventions with an eye towards implementation. As a part of my fiveyear VA Rehabilitation Research and Development Career Development grant, I am currently developing resources for providers to incorporate transdiagnostic CBT into their practice.

Using an iterative treatment development process, my research assistant Raven Pigee and I have conducted qualitative interviews with 20 Veterans to



Brenda Salgado, Jennifer Lee, Anthony Ecker, and Raven Pigee

ask about their preferences and needs for treatment. We've also authored a guide for combining evidencebased skills for managing alcohol use. A pilot trial using these materials will be starting soon.

The team (Dr. Jeff Cully, Dr. Mike Cucciare, PhD, Jennifer Lee, Raven Pigee, Brenda Salgado) and I are also conducting a pilot randomized controlled trial of an Internet-assisted transdiagnostic CBT protocol among Veterans in rural areas, with the hope of better understanding how to provide transdiagnostic CBT with as few training barriers as possible. The trial has enrolled nine Veterans from rural areas, with Veterans in the treatment condition showing promising improvements in both anxiety and substance use.

Drs. Guzick and Storch

Dr. Andrew Guzick and **Dr. Eric Storch** were awarded a \$833,147 grant from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board Autism Grant Program along with collaborators in BCM Pediatrics Drs. Robin Kochel and Leandra Berry. The grant will help develop and test transdiagnostic behavioral therapy for anxiety and depression in autistic adolescents.

The first phase of this project involves stakeholderinformed development of a CBT protocol that will be piloted and refined. The second phase includes a randomized trial testing the protocol.

Dr. Mark Kunik

Dr. Mark Kunik received a four-year \$600,000 award from Texas Alzheimer's Research and Care Consortium (TARCC).

The grant aims to improve the characterization and recruitment of community dwelling Hispanic/ Latinos, a group who is at higher risk for Alzheimer's and related dementias, yet are under-represented in clinical trials. The grant represents a partnership between Baylor College of Medicine, University of Houston, and Houston Methodist.

Dr. Papageorgiou

Dr. Dorina Papageorgiou, assistant professor of psychiatry, neuroscience and physical medicine and rehabilitation, received a \$250,000 grant from the TIRR Foundation through its Mission Connect program. The award supports her research project to elucidate casual mechanisms of visual motion perception and exploring Al-assisted linear and nonlinear decoders to provide sensitive and specific MRIbrain computer interface neurofeedback to cortically blind patients.

Dr. Webber

Dr. Troy Webber was awarded the 2022 National Academy of Neuropsychology (NAN) Clinical Research Grant with co-investigators Nick Pastorek at VA and Steven Woods at University of Houston.

The proposal is entitled "Neuropsychological Assessment Feedback: Does Spaced Retrieval Practice Enhance Recall of and Adherence to Recommendations in Black Veterans?"

Webber says this \$15,000 award over the next two

to three years will have limited impact on day-to-day practice in neuropsychology but will allow them to address multiple iissues. First, the study will test a novel strategy for enhancing the recall of, intention to use, and adherence to neuropsychological assessment feedback. Second, they will test this approach exclusively in Black American Veterans in hopes it will improve the brain health of individuals who have been historically underrepresented in neuropsychological research.

"I am excited we will be one of the first groups to systematically test how we can improve the uptake of neuropsychological assessment feedback," Webber said.

Webber is grateful and said this wouldn't have been possible if not for his residency training at the VA (and Dr. Eric Storch in graduate school), the supportive environments at VA/BCM, and space provided for professional development.

Sample of additional grants:

Dr. Ellen Teng received \$2.9 million grant from Department of Defense over four years regarding CBT therapy for Veterans with anxiety and PTSD.

Dr. Nidal Moukaddam and **Dr. Asim Shah** were awarded a \$50,000 grant from America's Essential Hospitals for educational efforts on office-based addiction treatment programs at Ben Taub Hospital.

Dr. Jennifer Gatchel received a grant from National Institute of Aging for "Depression and Alzheimer's Disease: CaTAUstrophy?"

Dr. Ricardo Jorge received \$2.1 million from Department of Defense for Veterans with Gulf War illness (growth hormone replacement therapy).

Jr Faculty Career Development Awards

Dr. Melissa Jones is the recipient of a five-year VA Career Development Award for her research "Pimavanserin for Insomnia in Veterans with Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder."

Dr. Taek Oh received a K25 mentored quantitative research CDA for "Functional Connectivity Alterations Among Opioid Users in Treatment."

Dr. Derrecka Boykin is the recipient of a five-year award for her research "Understanding Community Mental Health Care for Rural Veterans with Military Sexual Trauma."

Alumni Spotlight

Kathlene Trello-Rishel, M.D.

Baylor College of Medicine, Psychiatry resident: 1992-1995

How did your Baylor residency prepare you for your career?



I was able to get a broad range of exposure to a diverse population of patients. I was able to learn medication management and had a lot of exposure to psychotherapy – which helped me learn more about patients and understand them. I felt very confident after

leaving Baylor, like I had seen it all.

I also had a lot of supervision to help me feel secure and confident in my abilities to work independently.

What is one of your favorite memories during your time at Baylor?

I think the residents in my class. I keep in touch with a few of them, who are close friends today. I also value the times I had with my supervisors, residency class faculty, and my patients.

What do you want to pass along to residents you work with at UT Southwestern?

Dr. Lomax was such a great program director. I hope I can carry on at least some of the things he impacted on me. I would like the residents that I work with as program director to feel like they're not alone, that they can work independently, but that there's always someone there supporting them.



What is Dr. Trello-Rishel Doing?

Program Director, Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Fellowship, UT Southwestern Medical Center, 2021present

Professor of Psychiatry, UT Southwestern Medical Center, 2019-present

Assistant Director, Outpatient Psychiatry, Children's Medical Center (Dallas), 2013-present

I felt the Baylor faculty and staff supported me, even as I did things independently with patient care.

Can you describe more about the triple board position you have?

Yes, I'm a triple board program director for Pediatrics, General Psychiatry, and Child Psychiatrist. Medical students who match into the program complete the program in five years instead of the nine years that it would take to train in each program independently. When they complete the program, they are board eligible in all three specialties.

It's unique. We're the 10th program in the country and will be the only one in Texas. It will be nice for our Texas medical students who are interested in Triple Board Training to be able to stay and train in Texas. We'll be able to keep them here as triple board candidates.

What is one of your proudest career achievements to date?

What I value most are the relationships with former students, residents, and fellows. I had a recent Zoom meeting with a former medical student of mine who is a successful child psychiatrist.

Part of what keeps me going are the relationships with patients but also the relationship with students, residents, and fellows who've gone on and are making an impact with their patients. I hope I played a small role in teaching and helping them in their journey to become a psychiatrist.

I feel fortunate to have the opportunity to teach and value the impact the residents, students, and fellows have had on me.

DEI Spotlight

It is with great excitement we highlight some of the incredible work our faculty, staff, and trainees have been doing to address issues of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion throughout our community and within the department. This quarterly spotlight is an opportunity to shine a light and acknowledge this work and people engaging in it, as well as create new initiatives and collaborations. -- Dr. John Saunders, Vice Chair, Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion at The Menninger Clinic

by Rose Yang, Psy.D.

In my role at The Menninger Clinic, I focus on DEI in a number of different areas.

• **Diversity Forum** – I co-lead a Diversity Forum with Dr. Kerry Horrell at Menninger that is open to all staff. We focus on issues relevant to patient care, as well as read and discuss the latest research around DEI topics, including women's health, LGBTQ+ rights, benevolent sexism, and AAPI communities during the pandemic.

• **Diversity Council** – I collaborate with other DEI leaders at Menninger to focus on DEI initiatives and needs at Menninger. Dr. Adrian Lira (Director of Professional Development) and I have brought back quarterly in person Lunch & Learns with a DEI focus. Dr. Kerry Horrell and Dr. Elizabeth Laney recently presented on women and health equity.

• Faculty Leader & Liaison for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion – This is a new role that I stepped into this year. I am the liaison between Menninger and Baylor, especially since Menninger is wanting to advance its initiatives and steps to further its DEI mission. I collaborate frequently with Dr. Lira in helping Menninger become a leader in DEI. • Gender identity trainings – I have worked on presenting to various disciplines around the importance of gender identity and the respectful use of preferred pronouns. This is in line with Menninger's mission and the goal of providing compassionate, respectful care to our patients.



• **AAPI mental health** – I have done various presentations (including a grand rounds with Dr. Phuong Nguyen) around AAPI mental health and the importance of recognizing the need for culturally informed mental health services. Dr. Nausheen Noor and myself are presenting on Perinatal Mental Health in AAPI Women.

Check out the new <u>department DEI web page</u>! It includes DEI news and events, DEI resources such as DEI-related video library, Inclusion and Equity Ambassadors, committee vision, and initiatives.

Alumni Spotlight

(continued from p. 12)

Any thoughts around burnout with medical students?

There are a lot of demands for shorter patient visits, more focus on documentation -- a lot of things that are more stressful and tedious. But focusing on relationships with patients and keeping that in mind, despite all these other demands.

As program director, I incorporate mindfulness sessions for fellows and try to balance that time and support them with activities where they can do retreats and gather together. It's the relationships that are so important.

How has psychiatry changed since you completed your residency?

Certainly, technology has changed. I think there are good and bad things with technology. We have so much information sharing and access to information now.

I work with teenagers, so just the access to social media, video games -- it's a different world from when I was in training. These are challenges for teens that weren't present during my training.

I think our relationship with patients and rapport building is something that fortunately has stayed the same. You have to keep using different means and access to continue that and not be distracted by your EMR and notes.

Tribute

Dr. Norman Decker created the consult/liaison section in Baylor's Department of Psychiatry and ran the residency program for more than 25 years.

In Memorium: Norman Decker, M.D.

June 12, 1936 - November 6, 2022

Dr. Norman Decker, a highly respected and influential psychiatrist with long ties to Baylor, passed away late last year.

A native New Yorker, Norman Decker grew up in Bronx, New York, and attended Bronx High School of Science -- a school that has produced eight Nobel Prize winners and eight Pulitier Prize winners.

He attended Columbia University and later Vagelos College of Physicians and Surgeons, the medical school of Columbia University. His father's electrical workers' union provided the scholarship funds that sent Dr. Decker to both college and medical school. Decker completed a residency in internal medicine in Seattle and a fellowship in psychiatry at Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai in New York City.

Dr. Decker served two years in the United States Army as captain at Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio, built a successful psychiatry pratice on Park Avenue in New York City, and later a strong private practice in Houston. He served on the clinical faculty at Baylor College of Medicine and the VA Hospital system.

While at Baylor, Dr. Decker created the consult/ liaison section in the Department of Psychiatry and ran the residency program for more than 25 years. He also served on the staff of Bellaire General Hospital. Later in his career, Dr. Decker founded Cancer Counseling, an advanced psychiatric consult service



offering counseling, guidance, advice, and comfort to dying cancer patients and their families. He became obsessed with the sheer scale of human suffering he observed around him, and this was an outcome.

He closed his Houston practice as his career progressed in his golden years and began seeing selfpay, Medicare, and indigent patients who generally could not afford quality care. This compassionate practice continued well into the years when dementia began to slowly take his life.

Dr. Decker met the love of his life at Columbia University, Hannah Shulman, with whom he shared a 69-year love affair and a 65-year marriage. Together they had two children, four grandchildren, a step grandchild, and two great grandchildren.

-- excerpted from the memorial service program

New Faces in Psychiatry



Olayemi Akindele, DNP, MSN Instructor Baylor St. Luke's Medical Center



Shetal Amin, M.D. Assistant Professor Harris Health



Carlin Barnes, M.D. Assistant Professor The Menninger Clinic



Britney Lambert, M.D. Assistant Professor Harris Health

Anuron Mandal, M.D.

Assistant Professor

The Menninger Clinic



Sudhanshhu Nene, M.D. Assistant Professor

Harris Health

Taylor Neff, Ph.D. Assistant Professor The Menninger Clinic



Ronak Patel, M.D. Assistant Professor Harris Health



Julia Hadden, Psy.D. Assistant Professor MEDVAMC



Jazmin Roldan, M.D. Assistant Professor Harris Health



Sean Hurdiss, M.D. Assistant Professor The Menninger Clinic



Topaz Sampson, M.D. Assistant Professor The Menninger Clinic



Sandra Soenning, Ph.D. Assistant Professor The Menninger Clinic



Bonita Sur, Ph.D. Assistant Professor

The Menninger Clinic



Shradha Thakur, M.D. Assistant Professor

Baylor Psychiatry Clinic

Serena Weber, M.D. Assistant Professor The Menninger Clinic



Andrew Wiese, Ph.D. Assistant Professor Baylor Psychiatry Clinic and Research

Qingmin Ruan, M.D. Assistant Professor Harris Health

Happenings

Walk to End Alzheimer's: Baylor Ranks Top Team in Houston

The Baylor team, led by Dr. Mark Kunik, achieved big milestones at the 2022 Walk to End Alzheimer's walk. With nearly 300 BCM walkers, Kunik said Baylor had the largest team and was the most successful fundraiser in the city -- by a long shot -- at more than \$90,000! Kudos to Baylor Memory Walkers for helping to make a difference. Kunik was co-chair of the entire Houston walk this year! Kunik is professor in Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences and Director, South Central Mental Illness Research, Education and Clinical Center at Michael DeBakey VAMC.



Dr. Mark Kunik, Nate Church, and Dr. Francisco Orejuela







Dr. Mark Kunik served as co-chair of the 2022 Houston Walk to End Alzheimer's walk.



Duff Dean, Vicki Powers, and McKenzie Sluder represent the Jamail staff.

OCD Walk

Members of the OCD Program participated in the annual OCD Walk October 2022 in Houston. The **1 Million Steps 4 OCD Walk** represents a chance for the community to bring greater awareness to OCD and help raise funds.



Servando Rodriquez Barajas, Madeleine Fuselier, Sarah McKay, Becca Greenberg, Daphne Ayton, and Dr. David Riddle.

Astros Spirit Day

Jamail staff participated in Spirit Day at Baylor to send good luck to the Houston Astros!



Santiago Romero, Katy Gathron, Jackie Wynn, and Vicki Powers cheer on the Astros for Spirit Day.

Happenings

Resident Life: Fall Retreat

Baylor General Psychiatry Residency was thrilled to return to Memorial Park for our annual Fall Retreat in November. Dr. Goodman, Dr. Czelusta, and Dr. Pershern started the day with words of welcome, and from there we launched into the day's activities. Although we missed Halloween, we still got dressed up as is tradition. Dr. Pershern was everyone's favorite starch, corn, while Dr. Danielle Egbe was the winner of the costume contest as the cutest dinosaur around. With a focus on bonding and team spirit, residents and program leadership had an amazing time competing in a Rock Paper Scissors Tournament, an Amoeba Race, and Capture the Flag!



Child and Adolescent Psychology Fellow Life: Fall Retreat

Child and Adolescent Psychology fellows gathered for their fall retreat in October 2022. They spent the morning playing board games at a cafe and moved the fun to Tarka Indian cuisine for lunch.

"I enjoy social gatherings, because it gives us an opportunity to bond with our colleagues in a non-academic environment," said Dr. Raheel Chaudhry, chief resident.





Presentations

Dr. Tom Kosten --

 UTHealth Addictions Conference: Closing the Gap Between Science and Practice. Keynote Speaker 4, "Opioid Use Disorder Medications: The Challenge of Fentanyl," August 27, 2022.

Drs. Anthony Ecker and Jan Lindsay --

• UTHealth Addiction Conference: Closing the Gap Between Science and Practice. "Digital Mental Health Tools," August 27, 2022. Drs. Lindsay and Ecker presented on work implementing digital mental health tools to connect underserved Veterans with mental health care, including video telehealth and interactive therapy programs with mental health coaching.

Dr. Lynnette Averill --

- Houston Psychological Association. "Of forests and trees: an introduction to the current state of psychedelic-assisted therapies and important ethical considerations for safe, equitable, and accessible use," CME Ethics presentation, October 29, 2022.
- **Congressional Testimony**, Canadian Senate Subcommittee on Veterans Affairs. Invited SME on stressand trauma-related concerns among Veterans and the potential of psychedelic medicine and assisted therapies in treatment and suicide prevention efforts. November 2022.

Dr. Lynnette Averill, Xenakis S, Abend E. --

 National Association of State Controlled Substances Authorities (NASCSA). "The use of psilocybin, MDMA, and other psychedelic drugs for the Treatment of Mental Health Conditions," Salt Lake City, UT. October 24-27, 2022. (two podcasts on the same topic for NASCSA podcast series)

Dr. Daryl Shorter --

• American Academy of Addiction Psychiatry Annual Meeting. "Substance Use Disorder Among LGBTQ+ Persons: From Disparities and Barriers to Opportunities" for symposia titled Inequities in Substance Use Treatment for Marginalized Communities: Challenges and Opportunities, December 2022.

Dr. Daryl Shorter and **Dr. Kristen Laster** -- BCM General Psychiatry PGY-4 resident, co-presented.

• Film and Media Workshop: "We're Not Making it Past 21: Juice WRLD, Hip Hop Culture, and Substance Use Disorders."

Dr. Nidal Moukaddam --

• 6th Annual Technology in Psychiatry Summit. Michelle Patriquin, Jan Lindsay, Nidal Moukaddam, Jessa Westheimer, Peter Iacobelli, Ashutosh Sabharwal. "Technology Implementation for Mental Health End Users (TIME): A New Technology Design and Implementation Approach Across Intensive Psychiatric Settings," Oct 2022.

- Baylor College of Medicine PM&R Faculty Retreat. Speaker/moderator. "Incorporating Psychotherapeutic and Biopsychosocial Approaches in Managing Pain." Oct 2022
- Long COVID Syndrome Forum, BCM. "Neuropsychiatric Impacts of Long COVID," December 10, 2022.
- **poster**: "CraveSense: Measuring Craving Moments in Opioid Use Disorders," Zachary KingI, Nidal Moukaddam, et al. - presented at Al in Health, Ken Kennedy Institute, Houston, Texas, November 7, 2022

Dr. Phuong Nguyen and Dr. Mollie Gordon --

 Annual week-long Gender-Based Violence course hosted by Defense Institute for Medical Operations (DIMO)/United States Air Force. "Human Trafficking, A Public Health Approach." Audience members comprised 45 military medical officers from 25 different countries. San Antonio, December 2022.





Drs. Michelle Patriquin, Jan Lindsay, Nidal Moukaddam, Jessa Westheimer, Peter Iacobelli, Ashutosh Sabharwal

• 6th Annual Technology in Psychiatry Summit. "Technology Implementation for Mental Health End Users (TIME): A New Technology Design and Implementation Approach Across Intensive Psychiatric Settings," 10/27/22

Drs. Andrew Wiese and Andrew Guzick --

• Legacy Community Health. "Assessment and Treatment of OCD." November 1, 2022. OCD and treatment for OCD for all therapists.

Dr. Kerry Horrell --

- **Psychotherapy and Faith Conference**. "Address Religious-Based Shame in the Development of Gender and Sexuality Beliefs.
- **BCM Grand Rounds**. Internal and External Barriers to Health: Overview of Health Equity for Women

Presentations

Dr. Megan Mooney --

 American Psychological Association Annual Convention (main stage event), Minneapolis, MN.
Invited panelist for The Psychological Impact of Anti-Trans Legislation with Dr. Frank Worrell, and other psychologists from around the country: Haynes-Mendez, K., Worrell, F.C., Grant, N.E., Gebhard, K. Howell, G., Mooney, M. August 2022.



pictured: Dr. Alice Mao, Christie Barrera, Sana Younus (CAPI), Alex Ngo (PGY3), Shankar Nandakumar (PGY3), Vinh-Son Nguyen (PGY3), and Olivia Hindera (MS4) at AACAP.

Dr. Alice Mao, Dr. Sana Younus, Olivia Hindera, and Dr. Christie Barrera --

 American Academy of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry annual conference, Toronto, Ontario, Canada, October 2022.
"Cheer: The Dark Side of the Mat."

Dr. Melissa Jones --

• Cross-Disciplinary Alzheimer's Disease Research Symposium, Baylor College of Medicine. "Prodromal Markers of Alpha-Synucleinopathies." Research talks from recipients of HM-BCM pilot awards and scholarships.

Dr. Amy Cuellar --

• Houston Mood Disorders Conference. "Psychosocial Interventions for Bipolar Disorder." The University of Texas Health Sciences Center at Houston, McGovern Medical School, October 2022.

Dr. Julia Ridgeway-Diaz --

• University Women's Club, gave a talk to an international audience (U.S., U.K. and Argentina) about dementia.

Dr. Dorina Papageorgiou --

- Gulf Coast Consortia Mental Health Conference, "Brain computer interfaces: neural mechanisms in health and disease."
- International Real time Functional Neuroimaging

Conference, Yale School of Medicine, October 20, 2022. "Dynamic causal modeling elucidates that individualized realtime fMRI neurofeedback enhances learning to modulate sensorimotor networks targeted towards the alleviation of neuropathic pain."

Dr. Nidal Moukaddam and Dr. Asim Shah --

 Association of Physicians of Pakistani-Descent of North America - South Texas Chapter. "Pain Management: From Basics to Multi-Modal Approaches." December 10, 2022.





Dr. Robert Boland --

 Missouri Psychiatric Physicians Association Fall Meeting. New and Improved: The ABPN Continuing Certification Program"

Dr. Topaz Sampson-Mills --

- Dr. Sampson led the Houston Area Urban League Staff Retreat talk about Mental Health Post COVID-19.
- **Bexar Co. Psychiatric Association** on "Anxiety in the Black Community" at The Menninger-sponsored CE dinner.
- PGYI residents on Racism and Social Justice
- American Academy of Psychiatry and the Law (AAPL) along with Drs. Ed Poa, Jeff Khan, and Hira Hanif titled: "Gender Affirming Care in Texas and What Forensic Psychiatrists Should Know."



Dr. Alton Bozeman --

• Health Musuem of Houston. "ADHD--What to Know and Where to Turn."

Dr. Taylor Neff and Dr. Elizabeth Laney --

 Lunch & Learn. "Hysteria & Its Successors: Psychodynamic Consideration of Modern Barriers to Women's Health Equity.

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Note- Minjee Kook, lead author here, is an RCII in the department and the Storch lab manager

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In the News

COVID Pandemic May Have Aged Teens' Brains While Worsening Mental Health, New Study Finds, Houston Chronicle, 12/5/22, Dr. Asim Shah quoted.

Report: 800% spike in ER visits to Texas Children's Hospital, KRIV FOX 26, 11/17/22, Dr. Asim Shah interviewed.

<u>Texas' veteran suicide rate is nearly triple the rest of</u> <u>the population. What is being done to help?</u>, Houston Chronicle, 11/11/22. Elizabeth Kleeman, VAMC, quoted.

<u>The National Adderall Shortage Has Some Houston</u> <u>Patients Worried. Here's What Doctors Say,</u> Houston Chronicle, 10/26/22, Dr. Asim Shah quoted.

How Untreated Mental Health Issues Can Impact Mothers and their Children. FOX 26 News, 10/19/22, Dr. Asim Shah interviewed.

Signs to Watch for To Help Prevent Child Abuse, KPRC Channel 2, 10/18/22, Dr. Ed Poa interviewed.

Doctors Using Brain Surgery to Improve Symptoms of Severe OCD, KPRC Channel 2, 10/14/22, Dr. Wayne Goodman and Dr. Sameer Sheth interviewed for OCD conference + patient.



Dr. Wayne Goodman interviewed by Haley Hernandez of KPRC Ch2 regarding DBS for OCD at the October OCD event.

Entomologists and computer engineers developed a novel imaging method for analyzing gene expression in live brains. Drug Discovery News, 7/19/22. Dr. Dorina Papageorgiou quoted.

Top Docs in Houston, Houstonia Magazine

Radio and Podcast

Pho K and Boyd JW. <u>What Doctors Need to Know About</u> <u>Physician Health Programs</u>, The Podcast by KevinMD, 7/1/22.

Bastien J and Boyd JW. Life Examined: <u>In search of a</u> (good) therapist: <u>Insurance, fit, and stigma</u>, KCRW Public Radio Los Angeles, 9/3/22.

BCM Press Releases

Limit travel anxiety this holiday season - 12/16/22

Minimize adolescent stress during exams - 12/13/22

Study finds DBS increasingly viable option for treatmentresistant OCD - 9/21/22

Explaining financial struggles to your child - 7/27/22

Calming your recession anxiety - 7/20/22

Blog

Tips to Help Kids Overcome Santa-phobia - 12/19/22

Expressing Depression Differs Across Cultures - 11/10/22





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