



Message From The Chair



I suspect that many of us feel like summer sped by too quickly. Regardless of whether or not you have children at home who grabbed their backpacks and mounted school buses, we all feel the new school year upon us.

In July, new psychiatric trainees joined us, and this month our new psychology trainees started their positions. Our largest first year medical school class (235 students) donned their new white coats. This reminds of us the enormous educational mission that confronts all of us. We host trainees at multiple levels and in most of our settings.

I call upon you to meet the challenge of educating our next generation of clinicians. For some, that may mean therapy supervision, others work side-by-side with learners who are posted to inpatient settings. Our department is also unique in the training opportunities for Advanced Practice Nurses as well as medical students, psychiatric residents, psychology interns, psychology post docs and psychiatric fellows.

We rely on faculty, including adjunct faculty, to meet these training needs. But this is not a one-sided opportunity since many of our faculty either come to UMass Chan or affiliate with us to work with trainees. Working with trainees keeps our skills current and enriches our day-to-day work life. If you are involved in training, thank you. If you are not, please consider doing so. Thank you.

Happy Fall!

Kimberly Yonkers, M.D.
Katz Family Chair
Department of Psychiatry

PSYCHIATRY RESIDENCY NEWS

It's the start of the school year and our residents have been very busy.

Alexa Hooberman, M.D. (PGY-3), submitted a poster with Siu Ping Chin Feman, M.D., about her PGY2 elective experience, "Addictions and Street Psychiatry: An Elective on the Street," which was accepted for presentation at the American Academy of Addiction Psychiatry annual meeting.



Bogdan Anton, M.D. (PGY-4), was accepted into the ITQC team leaders.

Pooja Dutta, M.D. (PGY-1), presented a poster on her work as a medical student with Xiaoduo Fan, M.D., entitled "Food4Thought: a Medical Trainee-Led, Remotely Delivered Nutrition Outreach Program for Individuals with Serious Mental Illness" at the Association for Academic Psychiatry (AAP) national meeting in Washington, DC.

I also taught a Master Educator course at the AAP meeting in DC as well.

The vice chair of education, Sheldon Benjamin, M.D., recently gave lectures and performed neuropsychiatric consultations at the SARAH Rehabilitation Hospital in Brasilia, where our Neuropsychiatry Department has an exchange program.

And finally, our program director of the Neuropsychiatry Residency, Elizabeth DeGrush, M.D., ran at the Falmouth Road Race for team Genesis Club last month.

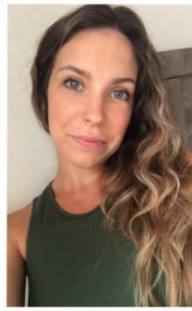
We look forward to sharing more exciting news in the near future.

Regards,

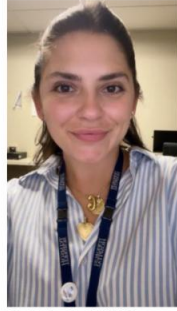
Auralyd Padilla Candalero, M.D.
Training Director
Assistant Professor, Psychiatry

Meet The New Psychology Fellows, Practicum Students, and Interns

Postdoctoral Fellows



Bridget Bertoldi, PhD



Gabrielle Wilkinson,
PhD



Meirong You, PhD

Psychology Practicum Students



Briana Donley, MA



Aimee Heinze, MA



Vanessa Miller, MA



Kaya Reed, MS

Psychology Interns



Kyla Jones, MS



Haruka Notsu, MS



Amanda Priest, MS



Amanda Raymond,
MA



Emily Warren, M.Ed

Meet The New Forensic Psychology Fellows

Forensic Psychology Fellows



Danika Charles, PhD



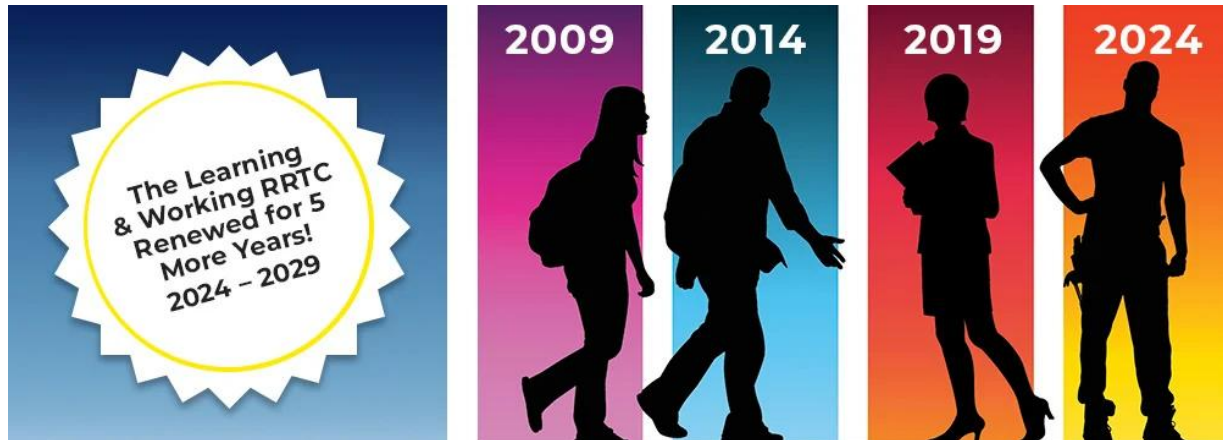
Cheyenne Craven, PsyD



Alex Lambros, PhD

Awards

Congratulations to Transitions ACR for being awarded the NIDILRR Learning & Working RRTC 5-Year Grant for the 4th Time.



Find Out
More

Research

UMass MIND aims to develop new intervention strategies to promote whole person health. The following studies are open for patient enrollment. Most of the study visits are conducted at 26 Queen Street, Worcester. Patients will be compensated for their research participation. Please contact us at: 508-856-Mind (6463) or Mind@umassmed.edu

1.) Metabolic Benefits of Adjunctive Lumateperone Treatment in Clozapine-treated Patients with Schizophrenia

The purpose of this investigator-initiated, double-blind, randomized, placebo-controlled study is to determine whether adjunctive lumateperone (Caplyta®) might improve metabolic health in clozapine-treated individuals with schizophrenia or schizoaffective disorder. Lumateperone is an FDA-approved medication for adults with schizophrenia. Patients will receive lumateperone or placebo for 12 weeks and meet with the study team approximately 8 times. A variety of metabolic outcomes will be measured, including body fat distribution using a body composition analyzer and lipid particle size using NMR spectroscopy. For a brochure of the study, please click [here](#).

2.) A Phase 3, Randomized, Double-blind, Placebo-controlled Study to Evaluate the Safety and Efficacy of Adjunctive KarXT in Subjects with Inadequately Controlled Symptoms of Schizophrenia

The purpose of this double-blind, randomized, placebo-controlled study is to evaluate the effectiveness of KarXT, an oral adjunctive medication, for the symptoms of schizophrenia. People who are diagnosed with schizophrenia and who already take antipsychotic medication, but still have symptoms, may be eligible to participate. Participants will receive either KarXT or a placebo for 6 weeks and meet with the study team approximately 8 times. For a brochure of the study, please click [here](#).

3.) Cluster Randomized Trial of Enhanced Coordinated Specialty Care (CSC 2.0) for Early Psychosis

The UMass Screening and Treatment of Early Psychosis (STEP) Clinic is a partnership between UMass Mind and Community Healthlink. Following the national Coordinated Specialty Care (CSC) model for early psychosis intervention, the STEP Clinic integrates mental health care, substance abuse treatment, and primary care in one location. However, the real-world application of CSC presents substantial obstacles such as patient involvement and retention. UMass Mind and the STEP Clinic are excited to be a part of an NIH-funded study led by McLean that evaluates the effect of an enhanced coordinated specialty care model called CSC 2.0 on patient engagement. This study will give crucial information about the feasibility and effectiveness of implementing an expanded CSC strategy across early psychosis clinics in Massachusetts. To refer a patient to the STEP Clinic and possible participation in the CSC 2.0 study, please call 508-856-mind (6463) or email mind@umassmed.edu.

WE ARE STILL LOOKING FOR PATIENTS FOR OUR PSILOCYBIN STUDY

A New Treatment-Resistant Depression Medication

We are currently enrolling participants with treatment-resistant depression (TRD) in a clinical research study utilizing psilocybin to improve depressive symptoms.

Participants must:

- be 18 years of age or older
- have been diagnosed with treatment-resistant depression
- have not adequately responded to at least 2 different antidepressant treatments
- not be pregnant or have plans to become pregnant

The psilocybin dosing takes place over three days, starting with a pre-dosing therapy session, followed by a six-to-eight-hour dosing session with a therapist, and ending with a reintegration session. Each dosing session takes place in a controlled setting.

Subjects will be randomly assigned to receive study drug or placebo, and receive some study-related care at no cost. Compensation for expenses and travel will be provided for qualified participants.

Contact Michelangela Yusif
774-455-4136
IRB # STUDY00000671-AJRothschild

For more information [please visit](#).

Opportunities

Invitation to Become a Psychotherapy Supervisor

UMass and UMass Memorial faculty are formally invited to become a psychotherapy supervisor for psychiatry residents. Your expertise and experience in the field would be invaluable in providing guidance and mentorship to our trainees.



- Leadership of Psychiatrists in their PGY 2-4 years
- Involves a one hour commitment each week
- Role commences July 2024

For more information, reference the email from Psychiatry Communications sent on 03/18/24.

If you have any questions, contact

sureyya.iscan@umassmemorial.org, or auralyd.padillacandelario@umassmed.edu



Women's Faculty Committee Invitation

•Open Seats

- ✓ WFC members
- ✓ WFC co-chair

Committee Charge

- ✓ The WFC meets once monthly to identify, plan and organize ways to support our female faculty
- ✓ Initiatives include the biannual day-long Women's Faculty Retreat, social events, promotion workshops, award nominations, and more
- ✓ Open to female-identifying faculty



If interested, or for more information, contact suzanne.gillies@umassmed.edu

Upcoming Events

PSYCHOPHARMACOLOGY JOURNAL CLUB

The Psychopharmacology Journal Club meets on the 4th Wednesday of the month over Zoom from 12pm – 1pm.

The next Journal Club meeting **Wednesday September 18, 2024** - 12:00 to 1:00 pm Eastern Time (US and Canada). Alexander Lichtenberg, M.D., Neuropsychiatry (PGY-6), Chief Resident will be discussing "*Anti-Amyloid Monoclonal Antibodies for the Treatment of Alzheimer's Disease*"

The next meeting will be on Wednesday, October 23rd from 12:00-1:00 pm

Join from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android: <https://umassmed.zoom.us/j/91950328105?pwd=N0hKR2N4WWlQeENLSThVZnRwMmF1Zz09>. Password: 703626

If you would like more information about the journal club or if you would like something discussed, please reach out to Anthony.Rothschild@umassmemorial.org

GRAND ROUNDS

Grand Rounds occur every Thursday at noon with some exceptions. Please visit the webpage below for upcoming topics.

If you are unable to participate in person, you can watch the videos on the *Grand Rounds Playlist* on our **YouTube Channel**.

Grand Rounds
Webpage

Recent Events

In July, we had our department picnic at Dr. Sheldon Benjamin's home. Despite the heat, the attendees enjoyed putting together the resident photo puzzle, played corn hole, and caught up with colleagues. Thank you Dr. Benjamin for your gracious hospitality.





New Travel Expense System

UMASS CHAN HAS TRANSITIONED TO *CONCUR* TO MANAGE BUSINESS AND TRAVEL EXPENSES

Within the Concur Expense module, bank card transactions and out-of-pocket purchases can be submitted with receipts for reimbursement through an expense report. The Concur Request module allows users to submit requests for Pre-Travel Authorization as well as Prior-Approval and Expense Exceptions for items out of policy.

Concur will replace Terra Dotta, PeopleSoft Expense Module submission for out-of-pocket reimbursement and the current bankcard process for submitting documentation via Buyways and allocation of expenses in PeopleSoft.

The new University Travel Policy, **University Travel Policy and associated standards**, requires all University Travel, both domestic and international, be registered in the University Travel Registry. Please note: failing to register your Travel may impact expense reimbursement eligibility. With our new Concur platform and Healix Travel Registry, University travel must be registered *after travel is approved and booked*. Please see the section on **Before Departure** to learn more about how to register your University Travel.

[New University Travel Policy Information](#)

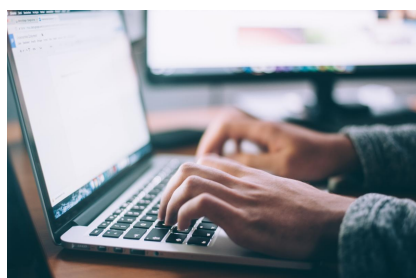
Helpful Information

PROFESSIONAL HEADSHOTS

The University offers headshots on a few Wednesdays a month in the Medical School Building. The link to sign up is below:

<https://outlook.office365.com/owa/calendar/PhotoSignUps@umassmed.edu/bookings/>

For more information, you can contact Colleen.Locke@umassmed.edu



JOIN THE DEPARTMENT WRITING GROUP

The Psychiatry Department Writing group is a collegial working group, which meets monthly to develop effective writing skills as members progress in their ongoing writing projects. Skills are developed to increase productivity, to implement effective writing strategies, to reach audiences, and to target journals

successfully for acceptance. The group provides step-by-step support as members reach their individual writing goals.

Madelyn Hicks, M.D., FRCPsych and Kimberly Yonkers, M.D., run this group.

Read
More

THE CONVERSATION

Faculty, do you want to increase visibility and have your writing reach 19 million readers a month? Check out [The Conversation](#) online.

Many UMass Chan scholars have been published here and you could be next. Articles published in *The Conversation* reach every newsroom in the US and have been reposted by *The Scientific American*, *PBS News Hour*, and *The Washington Post*. Read more about it on the link above, and be a part of the national conversation with *The Conversation*.

To submit an article for [The Conversation](#), please contact [Sarah Willey](#), Media Relations Manager, 774-284-0186.

Read
More

Visit our
Website

News From The
University

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508-856-8989



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