Resident Receives Janssen Award

Johnathon Yost, PGY4, has received a grant from Janssen Scientific Affairs, LLC, to support research on acute antipsychotic induced blood pressure changes among psychiatric inpatients with schizophrenia, schizoaffective disorder, and bipolar affective disorder. Specifically, he will assess blood pressure changes related to administration of and changes in antipsychotic medications. In addition, he will assess how polypharmacy, age, and other demographic and medical covariates may relate to acute blood pressure changes. Through this retrospective chart review, the research aims to obtain a meaningful understanding of how antipsychotic use may influence systolic and diastolic blood pressure changes, as well as other vital signs.

New Assistant Residency Program Director

Santosh Shrestha, MD, assistant professor of Clinical Psychiatry, has been appointed as associate residency program director. He will assume the position of residency program director in July 2014. He currently teaches the “Trauma and Abuse Seminar,” and works with residents on case reports. His past research has included patient attitudes toward DNR orders. He hopes to enhance resident safety training in the coming months, and conduct educational research related to those activities.

We Welcome…

Ruta Kulys, MS, LCSW, executive director of the Community Services Network.

As data will be recorded for the length of inpatient stay, up to 30 days, trends in increases or decreases will be assessed both for the individual patient and by antipsychotic type.

Ms. Kulys received a Master of Science in Social Work from Columbia University in New York in 1989. Her past employment history includes Columbia Presbyterian Medical Center, Cornell Medical Center, the University of Illinois at Chicago, private practice, and Memorial Counseling Associates, where she integrated yoga and meditation with individual and group therapy. “CSN is a wonderful program,” she said. “If this program didn’t exist, the lives of our clients would be dramatically different. Our work makes a difference in the community, and that’s highly satisfying.”
Department Accolades

✓ Jeffrey Bennett and Stephen Soltys were tied for Most Professional Faculty Person by the exiting medical student class.

✓ Ruth Stark, medical education program specialist in the Child Division, was chosen as the September 2013 Employee of the Month.

✓ Trinadha Pilla, PGY5 Med/Psych, won the resident vignette presentation at the Association of Medicine and Psychiatry National Meeting for the topic, “Unstable Genes, Unstable Mind,” together with Kathy Bottum and David Resch. Dr. Pilla has also been accepted to the Pain Fellowship at Johns Hopkins.

✓ Trinadha Pilla, PGY5 Med/Psych, won first place in the research poster competition for “Azithromycin intravenous bolus infusion improves the quality of visualization of EGD in acute upper GI bleeds,” and third place in the oral abstract competition for his vignette titled, “Chronic fatigue syndrome by any other name,” at the American College of Physicians Illinois Downstate Meeting for Students and Residents (Urbana, November 2013).

✓ The Department of Psychiatry has received a five-year reaccreditation from the Council on Accreditation. The achievement shows the department met high performance standards and is delivering superior quality services to patients.

✓ Thank you to Roger Dunham, Ciara Freres, and Susan O’Donnell, who were “Caught in the Act” of providing exemplary customer service!

BOARD CERTIFICATIONS

We are pleased to announce that recent Department of Psychiatry residents and child fellows are now board certified:

Pravesh Basnet, MD
Jennifer Hardwick, MD
Gaurav Jain, MD
Subodh Jain, MD
Lokesh Shahani, MD

Newsletter Editor

Editor: Janice Hill-Jordan, PhD

Let us know about your scholarly achievements! Please submit research or accolades to be included in Psychiatry Research Today to the editor at jhill2@siumed.edu. We are also seeking guest contributors to write brief summaries about their current research or other activities.
Publications

Posters

*Nurse educator for the Department of Psychiatry clerkship.

Conference Presentations


Vicari S. “Compassion fatigue: Tips for fatigue resilience.” Sangamon County Medical Society’s Second Annual Health and Well Conference (October 2013) (*School of Medicine Examiner* 10.11.13).
**SCRIHS Approved Research Projects**

The following research projects were approved by SCRIHS in 2013:

**Borders S.** “Coping, social support, and resource utilization in individuals with cancer: What is the relationship to distress?”

**Chung R., Broquet K.** “International medical graduates in psychiatry residency and fellowships may benefit from education in American culture: A pilot study.”

**Deotale P., Bennett J.** “Medical-surgical emergencies on psychiatric inpatient units: Retrospective chart analysis for early indicators”

**Hill-Jordan J., Takahashi A.** “School shootings and mental illness: A study of offender and incident characteristics.”

**Jeetwani A., Deotale P., Hill-Jordan J.** “Survey of implementation of SIU Psychiatry call, conference, and seminar schedule notifications into a single cross-platform electronic calendar system: A quality improvement project.”

**Lee S.** “Primary care and behavioral health integration from concept to reality.”

**Lee Y., Onwuameze O.** “Patient perceptions of Assertive Community Treatment.”

**Mahajan A., Takahashi A.** “Physicians’ beliefs, attitudes and knowledge toward medical marijuana use.”

**Thomas S., Dobbins M.** “Attitudes of primary care physicians towards other specialties.”

**Yost J., Bennett J.** “A pilot study of acute antipsychotic induced blood pressure changes among psychiatric inpatients with schizophrenia, schizoaffective disorder, and bipolar affective disorder.”

**In the News**

Chad Noggle was interviewed by *The Southern Illinoisan* about the team approach to cancer treatment (*School of Medicine Examiner* 10.11.13).

Rebecca Loschen was quoted in a news story about bullying on WBGZ radio and [www.altondailynews.com](http://www.altondailynews.com) (*School of Medicine Examiner* 10.25.13).

Ruta Kulys was interviewed by The State Journal-Register regarding donations needed for the Community Support Network (*School of Medicine Examiner* 12.20.13).

The mission of the SIU School of Medicine Department of Psychiatry is to engage in excellence in psychiatric education and research while providing high quality, effective, state-of-the-art clinical care.

*Department chair: Stephen M. Soltys, MD*