What Can We Do For You?

Ever wish you had more help writing your grants? At the last Research Committee meeting, we discussed ways we could be helpful to researchers applying for external funding. We decided that we would offer the opportunity for researchers preparing a grant application (or even with just an early grant idea) to come meet with us to get some feedback. We will ask researchers to provide the committee with at least the “Specific Aims” section of the grant so we can provide feedback. We will begin this in April and hope it proves to be a useful service to the department!

We hope you will enjoy this newsletter and find some helpful information. Please take note of the new Department listservs and contact the appropriate people if you would like to participate. An additional announcement includes the newly formed Schizophrenia Journal Club for interesting discussions about important research related to schizophrenia. Dr. Sherri All has additional information.

Lastly, I hope you’ll add the 10th Annual Department of Psychiatry Poster session to your calendars. This annual tradition will take place on Thursday June 18, 2009 from 9am-10:30am in rooms D201-D203. It’s always an interesting event where you get to learn about your colleagues’ work. We hope you will submit a poster and participate. Psychiatry residents and Psychology interns are eligible for the Best Poster Award! Hope to see you all there!

Department Listservs

Just a reminder that there are currently three listservs serving research-related purposes for our department. These listservs are more than just distribution lists set up for mass mailings - though they often serve that purpose as well. They are an opportunity for our faculty to discuss issues of substance. You only need to send an e-mail to the listserv e-mail address and you can communicate with dozens of faculty. Please don’t forget to make use of these valuable communication tools. Below are descriptions of the three active listservs.

Please see Listservs on page 5
Recent Faculty Publications


Recent Faculty Grant Submissions

Maria Karavidas - NIH/NINR - "A Psychophysiological Treatment for Medically Unexplained Physical Symptoms (MUPS)"; $1,560,000; 4 Years

Paul Lehrer - Consortium as part of an NIH application submitted by Rutgers – "Toolbox Development for Dynamic, Multi-Level Assessment Behavioral Flexibility"; $389,293; 5 Years

Ted Petti - Consortium as part of an NIH application submitted by Rutgers – "Group Behavioral Activation Treatment for Middle School Anxiety and Depression"; $12,498; 3 years

Marc Steinberg - NIH/NCI - "Motivational Interviewing for Low Income Smokers in Primary Care"; $3,001,075; 5 Years

Jill Williams - Consortium as part of an NIH application submitted by Brown University – "Ecological Assessment of Smoking Treatment Response in Smokers with Schizophrenia"; $193,037; 5 Years

Jill Williams - NIH - "Nicotine Nasal Spray vs. Nicotine Patch for Smoking Cessation in Schizophrenia"; $1,950,000; 5 Years

Schizophrenia Journal Club

Next Meeting:
April 23, 2009
151 Centennial Ave.
Training Room E

For more information,
contact Dr. Sherri All

Recently Funded Awards

Jill Williams - Pfizer – A Phase 3B 12 Week, Double-Blind, Placebo Controlled, Multi-Center Study Evaluating the Safety and Efficacy of Varenicline Tartrate (CP-526,555) 1MG Bid for Smoking Cessation in Subjects with Schizophrenia and Schizoaffective Disorder"; $233,375

Ted Petti - GlaxoSmithKline – “The Evaluation of Lamictal™ as an Add-on Treatment for Bipolar I Disorder in Children and Adolescents, 10 to 17 Years of Age” $315,774;

Matt Menza - Pfizer – A 52 Week Open label Study of PD0332334 in Subjects with Generalized Anxiety Disorder“; $31,115

Alex Interian - Subcontract through Cambridge Health Alliance – "The Right Question Project. An Intervention to Increase Engagement & Retention in mental Health Care"; $112,323; 3 years

Sherri Novotny - Dept of Defense – “Developing Treatment, Treatment Validation, and Treatment Scope in the Setting of an Autism Clinical Trial”; $598,502; 3 yrs
Publications from page 2

workshop on definitions, assessment, and research opportunities. *Schizophrenia Bulletin*; 34, 1211-1220.


Dr. Jill Williams set up the Addiction Psychiatry listserv for discussions of interest to researchers and clinicians interested in addictive behaviors, including alcohol, illicit drug, and tobacco use.

Dr. Marc Steinberg set up the Psychiatry Research and the Research Coordinators listservs. The Psychiatry Research listserv is for faculty members, psychiatry residents, and psychology interns involved in research in the department. Discussions include issues related to the IRB, research funding, research highlights in the department, and other topics of general interest to researchers in the department.

The Research Coordinators listserv includes research assistants and research coordinators in the department. They are closer to the “front line” than the faculty and can often share recruitment tips and other useful information. In addition to the listserv, members of the Research Coordinators listserv meet in person periodically to network and learn about other research teams in the department. This group does not have the benefit of faculty meetings for interacting with other research groups and these meetings are a great way for research coordinators to share information with one another that can help all research groups.