

Dear Faculty, Staff, Students and Residents:

Please be advised that Matthew Menza, MD, professor and chair of the Department of Psychiatry, has informed us of his decision to retire, effective June 30, 2020.

An internationally known researcher in neuropsychiatric aspects of Parkinson's disease, Dr. Menza joined the faculty of Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School in 1986 and was appointed chair of the department in 2007.

Dr. Menza and a small group of researchers are responsible for bringing attention to the non-motor aspects of Parkinson's disease (PD), which cause significant suffering and impairment for patients. He conducted the first NIH-sponsored clinical trial to test treatment for depression in patients with PD and was the lead researcher on the first multi-center, controlled trial of insomnia in PD. Along with Dr. Laura Marsh of Johns Hopkins Medical School, Dr. Menza co-edited a book on the non-motor aspects of Parkinson's disease, *Psychiatric Issues in Parkinson's Disease: Practical Management*.

Dr. Menza established an active research program in general psychopharmacology, including sleep, depression, anxiety, schizophrenia and bipolar disorder, which attracted more than 75 clinical trials to the medical school. He has published more than 100 journal articles and book chapters and has served on numerous NIH committees and study sections.

Dr. Menza maintained an active clinical practice and was listed for many years in both the Castle Connolly Guide to the Best Doctors in the New York Metro Area, and *New Jersey Monthly's* Best Doctors.

During his tenure as chair, Dr. Menza has been a steadfast leader through the significant changes undergone by the medical school. Under his direction, the department developed successful educational, research and clinical programs, and many of the faculty are Dr. Menza's recruits.

Information regarding a search for the department's next chair will be announced in the near future.

On behalf of the faculty, staff, residents and students of Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, we thank Dr. Menza for his service and loyalty. We are very sorry to see him leave, but know the department will continue to excel as a direct result of his vision and leadership.

Please join us in congratulating Dr. Menza and wishing him well in retirement.

Robert L. Johnson, MD, FAAP
Interim Dean

Tom Hecker, PhD
Executive Vice Dean