

Faculty, Staff, and Trainee News

See what your colleagues are up to

Sheldon Benjamin selected as director by American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology



The American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology has selected Sheldon Benjamin, MD, as one of its eight psychiatry directors. Dr. Benjamin, interim chair of psychiatry and professor of psychiatry and neurology, began his four-year, renewable term on Jan. 1.

"I consider this one of the most important roles that I'll have in organized medicine because the deliberations of the board get at the core of what is expected of people in our specialty," said Benjamin. "Its deliberations are quite important and I'm very excited to be at the table for these discussions." Read the full UMass Med NOW article by Sandra Gray [here](#).

Shriver's Autism Insurance Resource Center receives grant from Flutie Foundation



The Autism Insurance Resource Center at UMass Medical School's Eunice Kennedy Shriver Center has received a \$15,000 grant from the Doug Flutie, Jr. Foundation for Autism Inc. Amy Weinstock, founding director of the resource center, talks about how the funding will be used. Read more in [UMass Med NOW](#).

Amy Weinstock

Dr. Ed Bender receives grant from AACAP



Ed Bender, DO, MPH, a PGY-5 Child Psychiatry Fellow, was selected to receive a grant from the American Association of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry to attend the AACAP Legislative Conference and Assembly Meeting in Washington, D.C. Congratulations Dr. Bender!

Dr. Hart Selected to Receive Department Sponsorship to Attend AAMC Early Career Women Faculty Leadership Seminar



Ashley Hart, PhD was selected to receive Department of Psychiatry sponsorship to attend the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) Early Career Women Faculty Leadership Development Seminar to be held in Minneapolis, Minnesota. This seminar provides women at the assistant professor level with the knowledge and skills necessary to navigate the academic medicine enterprise and continue along the path to leadership. Congratulations Dr. Hart!

Dr. Eisenstock receives 2020 American Heart Association “Heart of Gold” Award



Congratulations Dr. Eisenstock!

At the Central Massachusetts Heart and Stroke Ball on February 29th, Jordan Eisenstock, MD, Assistant Professor of Psychiatry and Neurology, received the American Heart Association's prestigious Heart of Gold Award for the Neurology Medical Professional category. "Dr. Eisenstock is a consistent and tireless advocate for stroke patients and has served on the Association's board for several

years and is also a member of the Association's Stroke Awareness Committee. He has raised significant funds for stroke research and education. His team has created patient and caregiver resources for those affected by stroke. He was chosen for his substantial contributions towards achieving the Association's mission to reduce disability and death due to stroke". Source [AHA website](#)

Watch the 2-minute AHA video about Dr. Eisenstock [here](#).

Tips on Quitting Vaping



Dr. Amy Harrington was interviewed on *Health Watch* where she discussed available resources for people who want to quit vaping. Watch the interview [here](#).

Video Abstract: Psychiatric Symptoms: Prevalence, Co-Occurrence and Functioning Among Extremely Low Gestational Age Newborns at Age Ten Years



Video Author: Yael Dvir, MD
Published on: 12.03.2019

Our video abstract previews our paper on psychiatric symptoms, prevalence, co-occurrence and functioning among extremely low gestational age newborns at age ten years. We review the study's objectives, with focus on importance, new information presented, as well as clinical applicability and clinical and research implications. View video [here](#).

Dvir, Yael; Frazier, Jean A.; Joseph, Robert M.; Mokrova, Irina; Moore, Phoebe S.; O'Shea, T. Michael; Hooper, Stephen R.; Santos, Hudson P. Jr; Kuban, Karl

Journal of Developmental & Behavioral Pediatrics. 40(9):725-734, [December 2019](#).

John C. MacQueen Award



Nancy Byatt DO, MS, MBA, FACLP is the recipient of the John C. MacQueen award. This award honors individuals who have made exemplary contributions to maternal and child health issues. The Association of Maternal and Child Health Program (AMCHP) Board recognizes Dr. Byatt's long career of excellence and innovation in maternal and child health and her tireless work advancing the field. The award will be presented at the AMCHP 2020 annual conference which will take place in Arlington, Virginia. Dr. Byatt will also be delivering an honorary lecture at the conference. Congratulations Dr. Byatt!

Quality Scholars Class of 2020 Announced



Abita Raj, MD has been selected to join the UMass Memorial Quality Scholars Class of 2020. Quality Scholars is a faculty development program that focuses on teaching quality science. Graduates acquire competencies including Lean, patient-centered care, and effective communication and conflict resolution. Each Quality Scholar designs, implements, and analyzes a quality improvement project, and presents results to peers and leaders at the end of the year. The Quality Scholars Program was founded in 2010 and has graduated 106 scholars. Congratulations Dr. Raj!

Experts Worry E-Cig Bans Could Backfire: Here's Why



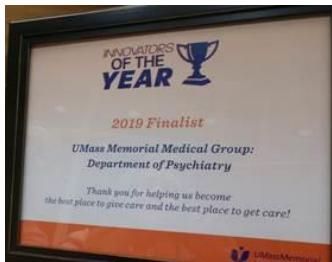
"Our messaging has always been that the problem with switching from combustibles to e-cigarettes is that you're still addicted to nicotine," said Tina Grosowsky, project coordinator for the Central Massachusetts Tobacco-Free Community Partnership, a program of the UMass Department of Psychiatry. Read the full Healthline article [here](#).

UMass MIND Hosts Healthy Baking Demo and Nutrition Talk



UMass MIND, a community intervention project of the UMass Psychotic Disorders Program, recently hosted a healthy baking demonstration and nutrition talk to empower individuals suffering from mental illness to make healthier eating choices. Read the full article [here](#).

Department of Psychiatry 2019 Finalist Innovators of the Year



The Department of Psychiatry was among 16 finalists for *Innovators of the Year*. We congratulate the top three winners, Patient Scheduling, Eye Center, and Pharmacy-Memorial campus, and are very proud to announce the Department of Psychiatry as this year's recipient of the "Most Collaborative" award. Congratulations to Dr. Amy Harrington and all for the continuing *PartnerUp* campaign!

Program aims to train OB-GYNs to spot signs of depression in moms



Nancy Byatt, DO, MS, MBA, FACLP (far left) and Tiffany Moore Simas, MD, MPH, MEd were interviewed by Scripps Television about the MCPAP for Moms Program. The interview was aired in multiple media markets around the country. "Every time a woman is seen by an obstetrics provider it is an opportunity to detect depression, discuss it, and engage women in treatment," says psychiatrist Nancy Byatt, who is the founding Medical Director of

the [Massachusetts Child Psychiatry Access Program for Moms](#), or MCPAP for Moms. Listen to the full interview with Drs. Byatt and Moore Simas [here](#)

Mental Health Bridges

a mental health literacy training website



Congratulations to Len Levin and a group of Library and Psychiatry colleagues who have successfully launched a new site created for persons with mental health issues to teach them health literacy skills – that is, to better understand how to find information about both their mental and physical health, how to assess that information for accuracy, and how to use that information to have better conversations with their providers, their family, and their friends. Access the Mental Health

Bridges website [here](#).

photo credit <http://rihoque.name/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/Screen-Shot-2018-02-13-at-8.34.52-AM-326x245.png>

OPD Celebrates 1st Anniversary at 100 Century Drive



The Outpatient Department clinicians and staff celebrated their first anniversary in the 100 Century Drive, Worcester space!

Dr. Denietolis named Senior Program Director WRCH Adolescent Continuing Care Units



Brian Denietolis, PsyD, named Senior Program Director of the WRCH Adolescent Continuing Care Units. Dr. Denietolis has served as the program's Interim Director since this past summer. He has been a vital part of the ACCUs since 2011. He has also been Director of Training for the Psychology Traineeship since 2016. Dr. Denietolis holds an academic appointment at UMASS Medical School as Assistant Professor of Psychiatry and Pediatrics and is Adjunct Clinical Professor in the Department of Clinical Psychology at Antioch University New England. **Congratulations** Dr. Denietolis!

General Psychiatry Chief Resident 2020-2021



The Office of Psychiatric Education and Training is pleased to introduce the General Psychiatry Chief Resident for 2020-2021.

Cassidy Cooper, DO
Program Chief Resident

Congratulations Dr. Cooper!