



Chair's Corner

Looking Back Looking Forward

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Director of Neuropsychiatry
Professor of Psychiatry and Neurology

2019 is behind us. The advent of a new year is a time for looking back. Radio stations will have counted down the top 100 songs of 2019. News organizations will have published collections of the most memorable events of 2019. The advent of the new year is also a time of anticipation. What changes will take place in 2020 in our immediate environment, in our country, in the world? It's a familiar ritual. The word January derives from the Roman god, Janus, the god of beginnings and endings who is depicted as having two faces—one looking backward and one looking forward. With the new year rapidly approaching, I've been looking back at the changes, growth and evolution of our department this past year, and anticipating the many exciting changes to come. So please indulge me as I look back at our progress and look forward to what's to come for UMass Psychiatry.



Janus, the Roman god of beginnings and endings.

LOOKING BACK

When I woke up the morning after becoming interim chair, I looked forward with great apprehension to the many tasks and seemingly insurmountable obstacles that lay before us. I was incredibly fortunate to have a crack leadership team willing to roll up their sleeves, brainstorm, and put our plans into action. We were faced with the downsizing of some clinical programs, the decommissioning of one of our research buildings, the move of a major research center, our decision to take on the management of the DMH Southeast Area hospitals and mental health centers paired with budget issues in our existing contracts, the retirement of some of our most senior faculty, leadership changes in several areas, and multiple faculty and staff vacancies. The leadership group held a retreat on May 30, 2018 and began a three-month process of establishing our goals, strategy and highest priority tasks for the coming years. The list was long. There were twenty-five high priority issues brought forward. Among these we

selected five as the highest priorities for the coming year. I am pleased to report that we have made tremendous progress on all five. Here they are:

1) Faculty Recruitment

The Problem: The marketplace for faculty recruitment has become extremely competitive. A number of factors are driving this: the rise of for-profit mental health care with resultant salary inflation; expansion of regional mental health services in excess of supply of graduating providers; an aging workforce; constraints on mental health budgets; the expansion of medical schools nationwide increasing competition for faculty; the evolution of work priorities in the newly graduating workforce; and many other factors. We had numerous openings on our faculty and we suffered from having a more or less ad hoc approach to recruitment.

The Plan: We broke down barriers between our clinical and school recruitment processes and formed a unified recruitment committee under the leadership of Marie Hobart, MD, Vice Chair for Public Sector Psychiatry. Ably assisted by our senior academic administrator, Carol DeCoursey; administrative support staffers, Mariah Ackert and Geoffrey Bottone; and group practice recruiter Jennifer Saintelus, the committee began meeting regularly to address the problem. Department vice chairs, Alan Brown, MD; Patrick Smallwood, MD; Tony Rothschild, MD; and Yael Dvir, MD made it a priority to participate, exchange ideas, create unified ads, standardize the interview process, and continually update one another.

The Outcome: It worked! We began to fill our vacancies with excellent new faculty members and, in the process, built a sense of unity of mission between our clinical and school departmental administrations.

2) Compensation & Retention

The Problem: Let's face it. Our resources are not unlimited. We live in times of tight budgets and embarrassing expenditures on mental health compared to other fields of medicine. Occasionally, faculty or staff would tell us about what appeared to be more remunerative positions elsewhere.

The Plan: Revise the faculty compensation plan with a goal of more transparency and an ability to reflect educational effort as well as clinical and research productivity.

The Outcome: The plan was revised to accomplish these goals. New educational incentives were put in place. A uniform method of determining protected time for research was created.

3) Telepsychiatry

The Problem: Although we had implemented telepsychiatry on a limited basis for addiction and emergency evaluations, we had not yet begun to use it to increase behavioral health services to a broader population or to make our specialty services

more broadly available. We were also missing an opportunity to contract to provide these services more widely.

The Plan: The new outpatient clinic at 100 Century Drive was equipped for telemedicine consultation in each of the 38 examination rooms. Dr. Alan Brown pulled a committee together to begin to look at the provision of telemedicine services. With the opening of the new OPD, Dr. Patrick Smallwood kept the wheels turning and made the necessary contacts. Recently we named a Director of Telepsychiatry, Dr. Caridad Ponce, to accelerate progress. She has begun working with the clinical system's Division of Virtual Medicine to enable our OPD providers to begin doing telepsychiatry consultation.

The Outcome: Through the new telepsychiatry initiative, we hope to increase our impact on the Central Massachusetts community and increase the availability of specialty consultation.

4) Neuromodulation

The Problem: Our ECT service had to be downsized several years ago due to the failure of third-party payors to cover the cost of providing the service at University Campus. In addition, we were not able to offer transcranial magnetic stimulation (TMS) treatment for refractory mood disorders, although the treatment had been available in other centers for several years. We had no biological research to speak of in neuromodulation, which was becoming an increasingly important component of mood disorder treatment.

The Plan: Recruit a director of neuromodulation. Create a TMS treatment center. Find an off-site venue for outpatient electroconvulsive therapy (ECT) and increase our ECT treatment capacity. Begin research and education programs in neuromodulation.

The Outcome: We were fortunate to recruit Khurshid, MD from the University of Florida as our inaugural Director of the newly established Center for Neuromodulation. Space was remodeled at our Westborough location (in the Community Neuroscience Services building) and the first TMS machine came online in June. Two additional machines are being added this month to allow us to increase the number of patients who will benefit from this treatment. The ECT service at University Campus was reorganized. We are currently working with the clinical system to identify a new venue for outpatient ECT treatment. Meanwhile, we inaugurated a new neuromodulation rotation for all PGY-2 psychiatry residents and the first two research projects are now in the early stages of development.

5) Academic Environment

The Problem: One thing that distinguishes a job in an academic department from a job anywhere else is the feeling of academicity. If one were to compare a job in the private sector with one in an academic department on salary alone no one would work in a

department. Steps were needed to increase the feeling of belonging to an academic department.

The Plan: Begin having regular meetings specifically for faculty. Start meetings with a “science moment” describing a particular research project in the department. Under the leadership of Vice Chair for Academic Affairs, Mary Ahn, MD, the Career Development and Research Office worked with the leadership group to survey the entire faculty about a number of issues related to faculty engagement. Create a standard way to provide the time needed for junior faculty to conduct pilot research projects and thus facilitate their application for K awards. Commit to sending women faculty to the AAMC’s early and mid-career leadership development seminars. Seek funding for internal pilot grant awards. Encourage senior faculty attendance at the weekly grand rounds lectures. Involve more faculty in resident training via the weekly case conferences and biological psychiatry seminars.

The Outcome: The new faculty meetings have been well attended and have started with a science moment. The faculty survey revealed that our mission to the people of the Commonwealth and our dedication to education are what attracted many of us to the department. A number of steps were taken to improve the ability for junior faculty to build academic careers. The Vice Chair for Research, Tony Rothschild, MD, will review requests from junior faculty for protected research time and make recommendations to the chair. A 3-person committee will oversee the progress of any junior faculty granted research time and advise them as to steps they might take. Sources of startup funds are being sought. Two faculty completed the Office of Faculty Affairs’ Junior Faculty Development Program and two additional faculty were accepted for the current year. Department members have been strongly encouraged NOT to schedule any competing meetings during departmental grand rounds. The training directors now work with the resident seminar coordinators to identify faculty who might not have previously presented but may well be appropriate to present at resident seminars.

The Year in Review

2019 opened with most of our 7th floor clinicians and staff having to move to temporary quarters on the second floor. With the creation of the Center for Neuromodulation outpatients were able to receive TMS treatment at UMass for the first time. Our new 38-office outpatient clinic opened on Century Drive in the same building as the new Hospital for Behavioral Medicine. The MCPAP program moved into the CANDO clinic offices on the seventh floor providing economy of scale and better integration. A MCPAP bridging clinic was also opened within the CANDO clinic. Under Dr. Alan Brown’s leadership we were able to obtain funding to create additional access to medication assisted treatment through the emergency room for opiate addiction. Dr. Karla Rodriguez has partnered with colleagues in emergency medicine to offer tele-evaluations for substance use disorders as well. The MCPAP for Moms program, founded by Nancy Byatt, DO with Tiffany Moore-Simas, MD of OB-Gyn, has rapidly grown, spawning Lifeline 4 Moms to help establish the training needed for other states to copy the

MCPAP for Moms program. The MISSION model treatment program, headed by Dr. Smelson, has continued to expand nationally. iSPARC received a major funding grant from the DMH in late 2018 and has had some national funding successes since then. Our telemental health initiative got off the ground this past year and will hopefully continue to grow in 2020.

We were fortunate to have recruited a large number of clinical and administrative staff in 2019. Please see the end of this article for their names.

LOOKING FORWARD

There is much to look forward to next year. Of course, the major event we anticipate in 2020 will be the hiring of a permanent department chair. The search committee process is on schedule. We eagerly await moving from temporary quarters back to our newly remodeled 7th floor headquarters sometime in the spring. In the spring we also plan to announce the new location of our outpatient ECT service completing the Center for Neuromodulation. Our telepsychiatry services will expand in the coming year. And we anticipate adding faculty to our outpatient mental health programs.

This year we decided not to have a department holiday party as we've done in recent years. Instead we are planning a department-wide party later this month, the likes of which our department has never seen. I hope you will join us from 4-6 PM on Wednesday January 15th in the Faculty Conference Room for **THE PSYCHIATRY WINTER GAMES!** Click [HERE](#) to see the video invitation.

And, above all, I look forward to continuing to work together with all of you to treat, teach about, and conduct research into the problems of the Commonwealth's mentally ill population.

Thank you all for continuing to allow me the privilege of leading the department and thank you for all of the work you do every day.

I hope you had a happy holiday season and I wish you a successful 2020.

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And now, meet the new employed staff who joined us in 2019 (with many thanks to our long list of contingent workers as well):

Psychiatrists

Last Name:	First Name:	Degree:	Job Title	Primary Affiliation:
Vidal	M. Andrea	MD, CPE	Staff Psychiatrist	Worcester Recovery Center & Hospital
Srivastava	Smita	MD	Child Psychiatrist (MCPAP)	UMass Memorial Medical Group - UMMC
Jalnapurkar	Isha	MD	Child Psychiatrist	Community HealthLink, Inc./CANDO/Shriver
Thompson	Amber	MD	Staff Psychiatrist	Worcester Recovery Center & Hospital
Ornstein	Miriam	MD	Area Child & Adolescent Psychiatry Director	Department of Mental Health (DMH)
Larrow	Brian	DO	Psychiatrist	VAMC Springfield Outpatient Clinic
Bokor	Gyula	MD	Staff Psychiatrist	Taunton State Hospital
Khurshid	Khurshid Ahmad	MD, FAASM, FAPA, FAASM	Director, Center for Neuromodulation	UMass Memorial Medical Center
Stern	Robin	MD	Associate Medical Director; C/L and EMHS with specialty in women's mental health	UMass Memorial Medical Center
Schibuk	Larry	MD, FRCP(C)	Medical Director	Marlborough Hospital
Springer	Susan	MD	Staff Psychiatrist	Corrigan Mental Health Center

Psychologists

Last Name:	First Name:	Degree:	Job Title	Primary Affiliation:
Clark	Erika	PhD	Neuropsychologist	UMass Memorial Outpatient Psychiatry
Kim	Sohye	PhD	Psychologist	E.K. Shriver Center
Miller	Mary Kate	PsyD	Psychologist	UMass Memorial Medical Center
Braga	Lucia	PhD	President & CEO	SARAH Network of Rehabilitation Hospitals (Brazil)
Humphreys	Clare	PhD	Neuropsychologist	UMass Memorial Outpatient Psychiatry
Lopez	Stella	PsyD	Psychologist	UMass Memorial Medical Center
Tangney (Lenz)	Erin	PhD	Psychologist	UMass Memorial Medical Group
Audet Khanna	Danielle	PsyD	Director, Psychologist, Court Clinician	Boston Juvenile Court Clinic
Lee	Jeanna	PhD	Primary Care Psychologist	Hahnemann Family Health Center

Last Name:	First Name:	Degree:	Job Title	Primary Affiliation:
Fusaro-Davis	Marie	PhD	Psychologist	8 East, UMass Memorial Medical Center
Gaba	Ayorkor	PsyD	Psychologist	Veterans Administration
Oropeza-Diaz	Yashira	PsyD	Psychologist	Student Counseling Service UMass Memorial Medical Center
Austin	Elizabeth	PhD	Psychologist	UMass Memorial Outpatient Psychiatry
Rynczak	Danielle	JD, PsyD	Forensic Psychologist	UMass Medical School

Other Allied Professionals-School

Addo, Ruby Korang	Counselor, Mental Health I	Adolescent Unit-Worcester Recovery Center & Hospital
Adu-Boahen, Franklin	Counselor, Mental Health I	Adolescent Unit-Worcester Recovery Center & Hospital
Allen, Tyler Brandon	Counselor, Mental Health I	Adolescent Unit-Worcester Recovery Center & Hospital
Beckham, Erin Elizabeth	Clinical Research Assistant	Medical School Building
Bereket, Zion	Clerk, Data Entry	Biotech One
Bruzios, Kathryn Elizabeth	Coordinator, Clinical Research I	Medical School Building
Cali, Ryan Joseph	Research Coordinator I	Medical School Building
Callini, Mackenzie	Counselor, Mental Health I	Adolescent Unit-Worcester Recovery Center & Hospital
Chiang, Mathew Lin	Clinical Research Assistant	Biotech One
Chiarelli, Lindsey Ann	Counselor, Mental Health I	Adolescent Unit-Worcester Recovery Center & Hospital
Craffey, John William	Counselor, Mental Health I	Adolescent Unit-Worcester Recovery Center & Hospital
Curtis, Christina Elizabeth	Counselor, Mental Health I	Adolescent Unit-Worcester Recovery Center & Hospital
Daou, Jim	Specialist, Education	Adolescent Unit-Worcester Recovery Center & Hospital
Donovan, Leslie Grace	Counselor, Mental Health I	Adolescent Unit-Worcester Recovery Center & Hospital
Esson Baidoo, Priscilla A	Counselor, Mental Health I	Adolescent Unit-Worcester Recovery Center & Hospital
Garbitt, Renee M	Clinical Nurse Specialist	Corrigan Mental Health Ctr
Goggins, Liam Michael	Counselor, Mental Health I	Adolescent Unit-Worcester Recovery Center & Hospital

Gonzalez Martinez, Juan Sebastian	Clerk, Data Entry Ii	Biotech One
Grossman, Benjamin Thomas	Counselor, Mental Health I	Adolescent Unit-Worcester Recovery Center & Hospital
Hansen, Rachann Bertha	Dental Assistant	Worcester Recovery Center & Hospital
Haryanto, Joseph Anthony	Counselor, Mental Health I	Adolescent Unit-Worcester Recovery Center & Hospital
Jost, Tina Franziska	Counselor, Mental Health I	Adolescent Unit-Worcester Recovery Center & Hospital
Kaufman, Steven Ira	Clerk, Data Entry I	Maple House
Kibe, Marygoretti W	Supervisor, Nurse	Adolescent Unit-Worcester Recovery Center & Hospital
Kopp, Kimberly L	Supervisor, Nurse	Adolescent Unit-Worcester Recovery Center & Hospital
Lane, Ian Anthony	Research Coordinator I	Chang Building
LaPenta, Danielle Nicole	Clinical Research Assistant	Medical School Building
Laurent, Maugline	Counselor, Mental Health I	Adolescent Unit-Worcester Recovery Center & Hospital
Lipper,Hannah Sean	Research Coordinator Ii	Biotech One
Lucas,Latasha	Counselor, Mental Health I	Adolescent Unit-Worcester Recovery Center & Hospital
Mansolillo,Marissa	Counselor, Mental Health I	Adolescent Unit-Worcester Recovery Center & Hospital
Mensah,Stefania Rina Opuni	Counselor, Mental Health I	Adolescent Unit-Worcester Recovery Center & Hospital
Mensah-Frimpong, Daniel	Counselor, Mental Health I	Adolescent Unit-Worcester Recovery Center & Hospital
Michaud, Samantha Rose	Counselor, Mental Health I	Adolescent Unit-Worcester Recovery Center & Hospital
Nelson, Aisha Addie	Counselor, Mental Health I	Adolescent Unit-Worcester Recovery Center & Hospital
Nicolellis, Deborah Lyn	Training Director	Maple House
Olatunji, Yusuf Olawale	Counselor, Mental Health I	Adolescent Unit-Worcester Recovery Center & Hospital
Posada Rodriguez, Camilo	Clinical Research Assistant	Biotech One
Proctor, Janasia A.	Counselor, Mental Health I	Adolescent Unit-Worcester Recovery Center & Hospital
Ramos, Jean Carlos	Counselor, Mental Health I	Adolescent Unit-Worcester Recovery Center & Hospital
Rao, Morgan Lori	Research Coordinator I	Maple House

Robillard, Leslie Ann	Counselor, Mental Health I	Adolescent Unit-Worcester Recovery Center & Hospital
Rodriguez, Camila	Counselor, Mental Health I	Adolescent Unit-Worcester Recovery Center & Hospital
Roy, Kristen M	Research Project Director	Maple House
Schultz, Jeanne M	LPN III	Adolescent Unit-Worcester Recovery Center & Hospital
Schultz, Jeanne M	LPN III	Adolescent Unit-Worcester Recovery Center & Hospital
Springer, Susan Londergan	Staff Psychiatrist	Corrigan Mental Health Ctr
Thompson, Marissa Elizabeth	Counselor, Mental Health I	Adolescent Unit-Worcester Recovery Center & Hospital
Torres Gutierrez, Isaac David	Counselor, Mental Health I	Adolescent Unit-Worcester Recovery Center & Hospital
Vigeant, Cynthia Leigh	Counselor, Mental Health I	Medical School Building
Wnuk, Jean Ann	Social Media Specialist	Maple House
Yeboah, Michael	Counselor, Mental Health I	Medical School Building
Zayas, Julio	Counselor, Mental Health I	Adolescent Unit-Worcester Recovery Center & Hospital

Other Allied Professionals – Clinical

Name	CC Description	Title
ANNAN,GRETTLE	EMERGENCY MENTAL HEALTH	MENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATE
BERRY,BENA	EMERGENCY MENTAL HEALTH	CRISIS INTERVENTION SPECIALIST
CHASE,PAMELA	EMERGENCY MENTAL HEALTH	CRISIS INTERVENTION SPECIALIST
DA SILVA,JASMINE C	EMERGENCY MENTAL HEALTH	REGISTERED NURSE, HOSPITAL N/U
DANQUAH,FELECIA L	EMERGENCY MENTAL HEALTH	MENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATE
DOCURRAL,ANNA S	EMERGENCY MENTAL HEALTH	CRISIS INTERVENTION SPECIALIST
FERNANDEZ,DELIO R	EMERGENCY MENTAL HEALTH	MENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATE
GAGNE,SARAH I	EMERGENCY MENTAL HEALTH	CRISIS INTERVENTION SPECIALIST
GYAMERA,PRISCILLA	EMERGENCY MENTAL HEALTH	REGISTERED NURSE, HOSPITAL N/U
HARTMAN-SHEEHAN, LYNN	TARA VISTA	APRN
MIKKELSEN, KRISTIN	PSYCHIATRY OPD	CLINICAL NURSE SPECIALIST
NICHOLS, AMY L	HPC ADDICTIONS GRANT	RECOVERY COACH, SR
PANGBORN, CHRISTOPHER	EMERGENCY MENTAL HEALTH	REGISTERED NURSE, HOSPITAL
RITACCO, ALESSIA	HPC ADDICTIONS GRANT	NURSE PRACTITIONER
TORH, CLEMENT	EMERGENCY MENTAL HEALTH	MENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATE
TVELIA JR, BRIAN M	CONSULT LIAISON ADDICTIONS	RECOVERY COACH
UNDERWOOD, BRENDA	PSYCHIATRY OPD	COORD, AMBULATORY CARE, PSYCH

AUDETTE, ALICIA A	EMERGENCY MENTAL HEALTH	REGISTERED NURSE, HOSPITAL N/U
BURZYK, JENNIFER L	TARA VISTA	APRN
OSEI ASIBEY, ABIGAIL	EMERGENCY MENTAL HEALTH	MENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATE
VEGA, ANA M	PSYCHIATRY OPD	COORD, AMBULATORY CARE, PSYCH

Trainees

Psychology Interns:

Ma, Yizhou
Metia, Jasmit
Mosich, Michelle

Neuropsychology Postdocs:

Klinoff, Vera
Naylon, Kara

Forensic Psychology Postdocs:

Bernhard, Paula
Low, Elizabeth
Sharf, Allyson

Psychiatry Interns:

Feriante, Joshua, DO
Kovic, Yumi MD
Kriegel, Joshua MD
Lichtenberg, Alexander, MD (*Neuropsychiatry*)
Nguyen, Howard, DO
Sorrentino, Erica, DO, MA
Wechsler, Bennett, MD

Psychiatry PGY-4:

Moorjani, Prerna, DO

Child & Adolescent Psychiatry Fellows:

Cui, Jingjing MD
Whitworth, Colin DO
Wilds, Caitlin MD

Addiction Psychiatry Fellow:

Henson, Mohamed MD

Forensic Psychiatry Fellow:

Hu, Wei MD

Fellow in the Neuropsychiatry of Adult Developmental Disabilities:
Isha Jalnapurkar, MD

Administrative & Finance Staff

Tallman, Derrick (Sr. Academic Administrator)
Curtis, Harry (Medical School Finance)
Davis, Geraldine (Child Psychiatry)
DeSantis, Carla (iSPARC)
McNamara, Kathleen (Student Counseling)
Moeckel, David J (iSPARC Finance)
Shenoy, Vidya (iSPARC)
Simmons, Andrea (Brockton)
Souza, Fiorella (CANDO)