

Psychiatry Department Communication

June 2019

Department Overview

- ❖ As part of our mission to bring the tremendous assets of our department closer together, we met for our second departmental meeting this past month. Drs. Gary Tithcott and Shannon Venance presented an overview of the curriculum changes occurring at the UGE level. Western is moving toward small group, case-based learning. As a result, more faculty will be needed. In addition, they are looking for faculty coaches. Our own Dr. Priya Subramanian is directing that effort. If you would like to contribute, please speak with her.

Dr. David Litchfield spoke about the future of research. Grants are more successful when they have been reviewed within a department prior to submission and when they are interdisciplinary and collaborative. This is important guidance for our researchers going forward.

Dr. Dickey announced the creation of a new department-wide position to focus on wellness. The first step is to create a working group to write a job description. Having a clear set of deliverables will help this person be successful. We anticipate a 0.1 FTE position.

Research Update

- ❖ On June 17, 2019, the Government of Canada announced the next phase of funding for the Canadian Consortium on Neurodegeneration in Aging (CCNA). From 2019 to 2024, CCNA will receive \$46 million from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) and 11 other partner organizations, including the Alzheimer Society of Canada (ASC), the Centre for Aging + Brain Health Innovation (CABHI), Brain Canada, and the Ontario Brain Institute. Drs. Amer Burhan, Akshya Vasudev and Lisa VanBussel will continue to contribute to the academic production of this initiative.

Education Update

- ❖ Undergraduate Psychiatry completed the second Psychiatry Enrichment Program from June 17-21, 2019 from 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. A total of sixteen medical students comprising of first and second years participated in this program. The students met with psychiatrists and psychiatry residents to learn more about residency in Psychiatry at Schulich Medicine & Dentistry and career opportunities in psychiatry. The students visited various sites and were exposed to a variety of mental health programs at LHSC, St. Joseph's and CMHA (Canadian Mental Health Agency). Afternoons were spent shadowing and observing psychiatrists at work. The students were highly appreciative of this program. Formal feedback will be shared when available.



- ❖ Congratulations to our residency graduates and thank you to the faculty who made it possible!



Graduated from Psychiatry Residency:

Jonathan Gregory (C&A Subspecialty Program)
 Sumit Chaudhari (Geriatric Subspecialty Program)
 Michael Thomson
 Laura Powe (LHSC PEPP)
 Nina McCurdy (C&A Subspecialty Program)
 Sheena Ghodasara (Geriatric Subspecialty Program)
 Jennifer Dela Paz (C&A Subspecialty Program)
 Kimberly Fielding (C&A Subspecialty Program)

Graduated from C&A Subspecialty Program:

Sonia Wadhwa (Part time LHSC C&A)
 Richard Painter

Clinical Update

- ❖ On June 10, 2019, the Zero Suicide Team of St Joseph's Health Care London was recognized at the National Health Leadership Conference. They were selected by the Canadian Patient Safety Institute (CPSI), HealthCareCan and Health Standards Organization (HSO) to present at the Excellence in Patient Engagement for Patient Safety Recognition Program. The program aims to identify, celebrate and disseminate leading practices in patient engagement for patient safety. In addition to the recognition, the initiative was identified as a leading practice and has been added to HSO Leading Practices Library.
- ❖ On June 21, 2019, Dr. Amer Burhan presented at Neuropsychiatry of Alzheimer accredited rounds. He provided an update on Alzheimer Disease agitation and the two studies funded by National Institute of Aging, Brain Canada and Centre of Aging and Behavioral Health Innovation. Recruitment of subject is ongoing. He was recently (June 12th) featured on CTV London where he discussed these issue and their impact on quality of life and cost of care in seniors.

Recruitment

- ❖ We have made nine full-time academic offers and six of them have accepted. Of which Dr. Laura Powe begins practice July 15, with the PEPP Program. We are holding three recruitment visits in July and more being planned for August.
- ❖ Resident retention – Dr. Powe begins in PEPP July 15. Dr. Wadhwa will spend one day a week in Child and Adolescent Psychiatry. We are delighted that they are joining our faculty.

Upcoming Events

- ❖ Monday, September 9th – Golf Tournament to honour Dr. Raj Harricharan – *Details will be sent out shortly.*
- ❖ Sunday, October 6th – Run for Peace of Mind – deadline to register is September 15th – Please visit <http://www.forpom.org/run> for more details.

- ❖ Tuesday, October 29 at 3:00 p.m.- 5:00 p.m. – Quarterly Department of Psychiatry Meeting at the Parkwood Mental Health Care Building - F2-235 Auditorium. In this meeting Jim McCormack, Finance Manager, will provide a detailed financial picture of the department. This will be followed by a gathering at Dr. Chandlee Dickey's residence. – *Details will be sent out shortly.*

Residents' Corner

- ❖ Welcome to the following PGY1 residents who will be joining us July 1, 2019. Welcome to the family.

London Campus

Corinne Boudreau
Yoel Green
Alexander Hofkirchner
Tricia Mohan
Daniel Turski
Dina Lagzdins
Tyler Pettes
Ivan Witt
Jessica Chen

Windsor Campus

Ashan Veerakumar
Natalie Musial