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Denice Cruz-Rodriguez, administrative assistant working in the chairman’s office

Jeffrey Newport, M.D., professor and director, Women’s Reproductive Mental Health Program, medical director, Health and Recovery Unit, JMH

Mirandia De Jesus-Rivera, M.D., voluntary assistant professor, research coordinator and recruiter, PTSD study

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A warm welcome to our new faculty and staff!

WELCOME

In this issue of BrainStorms, I want to focus on the many accolades received by our esteemed faculty. I could not be more proud of our remarkably hardworking, productive and accomplished faculty. Philip D. Harvey, Ph.D., Leonard M. Miller Professor and Chief of the Division of Psychology has been named the recipient of two major research awards. The John B. Barnwell Award from the Veterans Administration and the Alexander Grahman Award from the American Psychiatric Association. Both recognize his pioneering contributions to our understanding of schizophrenia, one of the most severe of the psychiatric disorders. He has also been honored by being invited to present to Pope Francis, together with Eric Kandel, M.D., the Nobel Laureate from Columbia University, to a first ever Vatican organized mental health congress. Sara J. Czaja, Ph.D., Leonard M. Miller Professor and Scientific Director, Center on Aging has been invited to the Nobel Prize ceremony and will participate in this year’s Nobel Week Dialogue. She was named President, Division 20 (Aging) of the American Psychological Association and was appointed to a newly formed Institute of Medicine Committee on Caregiving. Her program project grant application, the Center for Research and Education on Aging and Technology Enhancement (CREATE), from the National Institutes on Aging received a perfect score (1.0) and will provide 5 years of funding.

We have had 3 faculty admitted as members of the American College of Psychiatrists (ACP), Ingrid Vailullo-Feltes, M.D., M.B.A., Assistant Professor and Medical School Chief Safety and Compliance Officer, Dante Durand, M.D., Assistant Pro- fessor and Director of the Adult Outpatient Psychiatric Clinic at MHJ; and Elizabeth Crocco, M.D., Assistant Professor and Chief, Division of Geriatric Psychiatry. Two of our faculty received promotions recently, Amanda Myers, Ph.D., to the rank of Associate Professor with tenure, and Suzanne Lechner, Ph.D., to Associate Professor, Research Track. Other faculty honors include the following: Samir Sabbag, M.D., Assistant Professor, par-ticipated in the NIMH Summer Research Insti-tute on Geriatric Mental Health at UCLA; Jorge Sotelo, M.D., Assistant Professor, received the Nancy CA Roeke Certificate of Recognition for Excellence in Medical Student Education from the American Psychiatric Association and Joseph Henry, M.D., Assistant Professor, was named to the 2014 edition of Leading Physicians of the World. Mahendra Kumar, Ph.D., Professor and Deborah Jones, Ph.D., Professor received a 5 year grant from the National Institute of Drug Abuse on “Predictive Biomarkers of CVD Risk in Diverse HIV+ Cocaine Abusers”.

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Additionally, I was reappointed for another term to the Board of Directors of the American Foundation Suicide Prevention, accepted the position of Associate Director of the UMMMS MD/PhD Program, and was recently notified that I am one of the top 400 most cited biomedical researchers as measured by publication citations (Eur J Clin Invest. 43:1339 -1365, 2013). Lastly, a brief update on the state of the Department — we finished the previous fiscal year ahead of budget and are delighted by the receipt of a philanthropic gift of $500,000 which together with more than $800,000 from the University of Miami Hospital (UMH), will be utilized to build and launch our new day treatment/partial hospitalization program. We have recruited and are in the process of recruit- ing several new faculty. We are particularly delighted with the recruitment of Dr. Jeffrey Newport, M.D., Professor and Director of our new Women’s Reproductive Mental Health Program. Our educational programs are thriving and we are in the midst of recruiting our next class of PGY-1 residents who will begin July 1, 2015. The applicants are absolutely outstanding. We are also moving ahead with building our new residency review committee (RRC) approved affiliated residency program in Palm Beach.

I am so grateful to our faculty, staff, students, residents, fellows, colleagues, philanthropic board, and leadership for working together to advance our common goals of outstanding clinical service, teaching, and research.

My best wishes to all of you for a happy and health holiday season and New Year.

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Faculty Spotlight: Dante Durand, M.D.

Dr. Durand is Assistant Professor & Director of the AOPC (Adult Outpatient Psychiatric Clinic)

Award. His teaching responsibilities are many, supervising 2nd and 3rd year residents and teaching medical students. Besides the strong academic knowledge our trainees receive from him, he stimulates our residents by writing case reports and supervising them on their research projects.

In addition to seeing 60 plus patients per week and his administrative and teaching responsibilities, he also devotes his time to research. His particular area of interest is treatment resistant schizophrenia and associated cognitive deficits. Currently, he is an investigator of the phase 3 Study of the Alpha-7 Nicotinic Acetylcholine Receptor Agonist (EVP-6124) as an Adjunctive Pro-cognitive Treatment in Schizophrenia. He recently was a presenter at the International Society of Clinical Trials and Methodology Consensus Meeting in Washington DC. He has 14 publications and serves as a review editor for several peer reviewed journals.

In his “free” time he is an avid reader, mostly fascinated with the psychiatry literature and his passion to keep learning. He spends lots of time with his 2 children and wife (a local dentist). He holds a position with the distinguished Knights of Columbus group at his church; and will participate in any sport at any time (think departmental softball game). If you wonder where he gets all of his strength, determination and grace; he spent years of training as a competitive long-distance runner in Peru and continues to run every day. In fact, he was last year’s number 1 runner in the UPS 5k run in his age group.

Dr. Albert Schweitzer once said, “Do something wonderful, people may imitate it.” Thank you, Dr. Durand for being a great example to all of us.

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University of Miami Hospital (UMH) Mental Health 305.894.4444

Jackson Memorial Hospital (JMH) Crisis Triangle 305.440.7332

Silver Alert. If you know someone has gone missing, please call 911 immediately. A Missing Person Alert involves the public in locating a missing person. For more information, contact who has gotten lost. Go to: http://www.floridasilveralert.com/

Appointments and Office Numbers

Main Psychiatry Appointment Scheduling 305.355.9028 option 1

Behavioral Health Hospital 305.355.9028 option 2

Boca Raton 561.939.4044

Child & Adolescent 305.355.9028 option 5

Clinical Research Building 305.243.2301

Courtelis Center 305.243.4129

Deerfield Beach 954.571.0117

University of Miami Hospital 305.689.1352

Center on Aging 305.355.9081

Brain Flavors Pavilion 305.355.9080

English, then option 3

Memory Disorders Clinic 305.355.9065

Chairman’s Office 305.243.6400

Important University Updates

Workday: Out with the Old, In with the New

Workday is the new system that will integrate all of UM’s departments, divisions, lines of business, and geographical locations into a unified enterprise-wide information system. The first phase, The Workday HR project is scheduled to launch January 2015. Don’t panic! It’s a great, easy to use system that will improve delivery of services, and will provide all of us with the tools we need to be successful at UM. For a snapshot of what you will be able to see and do in Workday, visit The Workday on Workday. Our department’s organizational liaison is Adrienne Jare, she will be providing us with frequent updates for a smooth and successful transition.

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When Nicole was her graduate medical education hat, she is responsible for all activities pertaining to the development, recruitment, administration, oversight of regulatory compliance, and quality assurance of the fellowship function of these individual programs. When Nicole was her research hat, she is an institutional investigator with an academic and patient care focus. To recommend someone for Faculty Spotlight or Staff Stars, please email suggestions to PsychiatryStaffOffice@miami.edu

HHIV - NeuroAIDS

• HHIV-1 Infection and Manifestations: Revised Edition

(For more information contact Dr. Mehmet Kurnu at mkurnu@med.miami.edu)

• HHIV 1 Predictive Biomarkers of CVD Risk in Diverse HHIV-1 + Ozone (Contact Dr. Felicia Gould at ffgould@med.miami.edu)

• Alcohol and Drug Abuse: Treatment and Research

• A Phase 1B, placebo controlled, efficacy, safety, and dose-response study of Lefoleidine in the treatment of Opioid Withdrawal (Contact Dr. Francesca Al-Belouo at fbelouo@med.miami.edu)

Behavioral Disorders & Psychotic Disorders (Contact Dr. John Onghena at jonghena@med.miami.edu)

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• Prospective Determination of Psychosocial Risk Factors for PTSD

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Cognition

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MO Functional Skills Test (Contact Dr. Samee Sabag at ssabag@med.miami.edu)

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- Caregiver for California Opioid Disorder in Schizophrenia (Contact Dr. Philip Harvey at psharvey@med.miami.edu)

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Faculty Spotlight
Dante Durand, M.D.

Dr. Durand is Assistant Professor & Director of the AOPC (Adult Outpatient Psychiatric Clinic).

T he AOPC at Jackson Health System is a highly regarded outpatient clinic and the first of its kind in the state of Florida. The clinic provides comprehensive care for patients with a wide range of psychiatric disorders, including depression, anxiety, bipolar disorder, schizophrenia, and addiction. The clinic offers a range of treatment options, including medication management, psychotherapy, and specialized programs for specific conditions.

Dr. Durand was drawn to the field of psychiatry because he is committed to helping patients improve their quality of life. He believes that effective treatment can transform lives and make a positive impact on people’s health and well-being. He is passionate about providing compassionate and evidence-based care, and he values the trust that patients place in him.

Dr. Durand’s teaching responsibilities are many, including supervising the clinic’s staff, managing patient care, and providing continuing education opportunities for other healthcare providers. He is dedicated to staying up-to-date on the latest research and treatment developments in the field of psychiatry, and he is always looking for ways to improve the care that he provides.

Dr. Durand is highly regarded by his staff and patients alike. He is known for his approachable and personable style, as well as his commitment to the overall well-being of his patients. He is a natural leader and a respected member of the medical community.


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Nico has been volunteering for Big Brothers Big Sisters since January 2014 and is a Big Sister to a seven year old girl. She spends time with her each weekend doing a variety of social activities and helping her improve her swimming and reading. Also, Nico is the volunteer director of a volunteer organization for a non-profit organization that emerged from her passion to keep learning. She dedicates lots of time with her 2 children, and with a local school teacher, he helps her get off his stage, determination and grace, he spent years of training as a competitive long-distance runner in Peru and continues to run every day. In fact, she was last year’s number 1 runner in the UPS 5k run in his age group.

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Events / Welcome

PSYCHIATRY GRAND ROUNDS
http://med.miami.edu/education/grand-rounds

1/14/15 Kimberly Ann Yonkers, M.D.
Depression and Anxiety in Pregnancy: To Treat or Not to Treat, That is the Question.

1/21/15 Alan F. Schatzberg, M.D.
Does the HPA Axis Play a Role in Cognitive Impairment and Psychosis in Depression.

2/4/15 Daniel S. Pine, M.D.
Pediatric Anxiety: Integrating Psychopathology and Affective Neuroscience.

MAGEC
2015 IGT (Interprofessional Geriatric Training):
http://www.centeraging.med.miami.edu/Image/Calendar

MENTAL HEALTH SUMMIT
5/2/15 “Stop the Stigma”
Sponsored by NAMI and the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences.

Faculty Spotlight: Dr. Dante Durand

In this issue of BrainStorms, I want to focus on the many accolades received by our distin-
guished faculty. I could not be more proud of our remarkably hardworking, 
productive and accomplished faculty.

Philip D. Harvey, Ph.D., Leonard M. Miller Professor and Chief of the Division of Psychology has been named the recipient of two major research awards—The John B. Bannwell Award from the Veter-

ans Administration and the Alexander Grakhoff Award from the American Psychiatric Association. Both recognize his pioneering contributions to our understanding of schizophrenia, one of the most severe of the psychiatric disorders. He has also been honored by being invited to present to Pope Francis, together with Eric Kandel, M.D., the Nobel Laureate from Columbia University, to a first ever Vatican organized mental health congress. Sara J. Czaja, Ph.D., Leonard M. Miller Professor and Scientific Director, Center on Aging has been invited to the Nobel Prize ceremony and will participate in this year’s Nobel Week Dialogue. She was named President, Division 20 (Aging) of the American Psychological Association and was appoint-

ed to a newly formed Institute of Medicine Committee on Caregiving. Her program project grant application, the Center for Research and Education on Aging and Technology Enhancement (CREATE), from the National Institutes on Aging received a perfect score (1.0) and will provide 5 years of funding.

We have had 3 faculty admitted as members of the American College of Psychiatrists (ACP). Ingrid Vailulla-Feltes, M.D., M.B.A., Assistant Professor and Medical School Chief Safety and Compliance Officer; Dante Durand, M.D., Assistant Pro-

fessor and Director of the Adult Outpatient Psychiatric Clinic at JMH; and Elizabeth Crocco, M.D., Assistant Professor and Chief, Division of Geriatric Psychiatry. Two of our faculty received promotions recently, Amanda Myers, Ph.D., to the rank of Associate Professor with tenure, and Suzanne Lechner, Ph.D., to Associate Professor, Research Track.

Other faculty honors include the following: Samir Sabbag, M.D., Assistant Professor, participated in the NIMH Summer Research Insti-
tute on Geriatric Mental Health at UCLA; Jorge Sotelo, M.D., Assistant Professor, received the Nancy CA Roeske Certificate of Recognition for Excellence in Medical Student Education from the American Psychiatric Association and Joseph Henry, M.D., Assistant Professor, was named to the 2014 edition of Leading Physicians of the World. Mahendra Kumar, Ph.D., Professor and Deborah Jones, Ph.D., Professor received a 3 year grant from the National Institute of Drug Abuse on “Predictive Biomarkers of CVD Risk in Diverse HIV−1+ Cocaine Abusers”. At the Department’s Residents and Fellows Graduation Banquet, Vanessa Padilla, M.D., Assistant Professor, received the Junior Resident Faculty Teaching Award and the Jack Skigen Award. Danielle David, M.D., Professor, received the VA Teaching Award; and Dante Durand, M.D., Assistant Professor, received the Senior Resident Faculty Teaching Award. Additionally, I was reappointed for another term to the Board of Directors of the American Foundation Suicide Prevention, accepted the position of Associate Director of the UMMMS MD/PhD Program, and was recently notified that I am one of the top 400 most cited biomedical researchers as measured by publication citations (Eur J Clin Invest. 43:1339 -1365, 2013).

Lastly, a brief update on the state of the Department — we finished the previous fiscal year ahead of budget and are deli
gated by the receipt of a philanthropic gift of $500,000 which together with more than $800,000 from the University of Miami Hospital (UMH), will be utilized to build and launch our new day treat-
tment/partial hospitalization program. We have recruited and are in the process of recruit-
ing several new faculty. We are particularly delighted with the recruitment of Dr. Jeffrey Newport, M.D., Professor and Director of our new Women’s Reproductive Mental Health Program. Our educational programs are thriving and we are in the midst of recruiting our next class of PGY-1 residents who will begin July 1, 2015. The applicants are absolutely outstanding. We are also moving ahead with building our new residency review committee (RRC) approved affiliated residency program in Palm Beach.

I am so grateful to our faculty, staff, students, residents, fellows, colleagues, philanthropic board, and leadership for working together to advance our common goals of outstanding clinical service, teaching, and research.

My best wishes to all of you for a happy and healthy holiday season and New Year.