

MIND MATTERS

Psychiatric Research Institute Named Center of Excellence

The Psychiatric Research Institute (PRI) has been named the sixth Center of Excellence at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS). The Institute is slated to open in 2008.

Being designated as a Center of Excellence represents the convergence of a facility, faculty, staff and programs focused on mental health. The combination of a facility and talented people to address this specific discipline will serve to meet the growing needs of Arkansans.

G. Richard Smith, M.D., the Marie Wilson Howells Professor and Chairman in the Department of Psychiatry and the first director of the UAMS Psychiatric Research Institute, became a member of the Chancellor's Administrative Cabinet,

which includes the directors of each Center of Excellence, deans of the UAMS colleges and other senior campus administrators. The Centers of Excellence work in partnership with the UAMS Medical Center. Other UAMS Centers of Excellence are the Arkansas Cancer Research Center, the Harvey and Bernice Jones Eye Institute, the Myeloma Institute

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for Research Therapy, the Jackson T. Stephens Spine & Neurosciences Institute and the Donald W. Reynolds Institute on Aging. *continued on page 5*

UAMS



PSYCHIATRIC RESEARCH INSTITUTE

UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS FOR MEDICAL SCIENCES

In Case You Didn't Notice

Along with our newly established entity, the Psychiatric Research Institute, we have a new look. Our masthead for "Mind Matters" has changed, and other changes are soon to follow on the Web site, letterhead, invitations, etc. We are excited to use our new logo and hope you start recognizing all around town our new round symbol in what has been dubbed "PRI blue."



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G. Richard Smith, M.D.

Dear Friend,

While there always seems to be a lot of change going on in our department and in the world of mental health, recent exciting events certainly mark some important changes for us at what is now the Psychiatric Research Institute.

No matter how busy we are, we should not forget what our efforts are about: people (patients) and their families getting better, one patient at a time. Whether it is the young woman with the anxiety disorder that caused tremendous pain and impeded her life, the attorney with the addiction that almost cost him his family and his job, or the child from north Arkansas who comes to the Child Study Center to get his medication adjusted for his attention deficit disorder, each is special and requires our full attention.

As you will read on the front page of this issue, the Chancellor has announced that the Psychiatric Research Institute is now officially the sixth Center of Excellence at UAMS. Many people have put in many hours of work towards this goal, and while the work is ongoing, we are excited to mark this milestone. We will continue to forge ahead with our mission of improving treatment for people with mental disorders and their families through professional education, research and standard-setting clinical care.

To go along with our newly sanctioned status as the Psychiatric Research Institute, there are other changes, such as a new logo and thus, a new look. We hope the logo will become easily recognizable to you and others in the community and in our state as a symbol of excellence. There have been some changes also in this publication, and there will be other changes ahead.

I hope you will join me in embracing these changes and those to come as we work together to develop the Psychiatric Research Institute.

Best wishes,

G. Richard Smith, M.D.



Research Highlights on Families

Parenting Program for Mothers with Substance Use Problems

Catherine Stanger, Ph.D.

This study involves a 12-week parenting group for mothers that are past or current substance abusers. Other caregivers are encouraged to participate as well. *For more information, contact Jonathan Young at (501) 686-5827 or JAYoung@uams.edu.*

Delay Discounting of Child Behavior

Catherine Stanger, Ph.D.

Parents and children will complete tasks that require them to make decisions between immediate and delayed options. Parents with substance use problems and parents who do not have substance use problems may participate. *For more information, contact Jonathan Young at (501) 686-5827 or JAYoung@uams.edu.*



Program for Psychiatry and the Law

In an effort to provide a much needed but rare service to our state, several psychiatrists who are trained specifically in forensics have developed a new program, the Program for Psychiatry and the Law. This service provides forensics evaluations and consultations for legal and administrative purposes, including criminal cases, personal injury, disability, competency and any other psychiatric evaluations that may benefit specific legal cases.

In partnership with the Department of Human Services Division of Behavioral Health Services, the Department of Psychiatry sponsors a forensic psychiatry fellowship, which just graduated the first forensic psychiatrists trained within the state of Arkansas. Both of these psychiatrists, Raymond K. Molden, M.D., and Robert Forrest, M.D., have joined board certified forensic psychiatrists **Albert Kittrell, M.D.**, and **Ben Guise, M.D.**, in our department to establish the new Program for Psychiatry and the Law. *For more information call (501) 686-7725.*

A Donor's Perspective

Stacey Jacuzzi Antes

Vic Jacuzzi and his family are well-known and respected in Central Arkansas. What is not as well-known is that about 10 years ago, his daughter, Stacey Jacuzzi Antes, was diagnosed with bipolar disorder. Stacey suffered with this disorder for eight years until her death.

The Jacuzzi family is honoring Stacey by naming the second floor conference room of the Psychiatric Research Institute in her memory. Our thanks to the Jacuzzi family for their gift and for sharing openly and honestly their feelings about Stacey.

Eulogy for Stacey, 08/2004

Bipolar disorder is a devastating and disabling disease. The people who get this disease do not ask for it...do not want it...and did nothing to deserve it... but like a cancer, they are its victims and it will last the rest of their lives. The family members and friends who try to assist are very often left with a sense of helplessness.

There are varying levels of severity of the disease. Most bipolar disorders are successfully manageable by rigorous disciplines of several potent medicines. These medicines have varying degrees of success, and most often have unwelcome side effects.

Stacey's condition, however, was defined as "fragile." She was constantly struggling with her reality.

Things we take for granted – like having a surge of energy – to Stacey this could be the beginning of an uncontrollable manic episode. Conversely, she could also sleep all day long.

Stress was her enemy. Something as innocent as preparing for a Christmas holiday, or preparing for her drive from Dallas to Little Rock, could cause an obvious emotional imbalance that often times left her out of sync for several days, and sometimes for several weeks.

Frustrated often with her disabling condition, she would say...“This isn't fair. Why me?”

Stacey was first diagnosed less than 8 years ago. The disease cost Stacey her marriage, her proximity to her children, her friendships, her physical health, her financial wellbeing and, worst of all, her self esteem. As best she could, she fought this disease every day, but in the end, lost the battle.

She loved her two sons more than anything. And Stacey was deeply loved by all of her family...she will be missed.

When you think of Stacey in your thoughts and prayers, please remember her generous heart, her radiant smile...and think kindly of her.

Thank you,
The Victor Jacuzzi Family



UAMS Joins Mayo Clinic in Pharmacogenomics Research Study

The UAMS Department of Psychiatry is joining researchers in the Genomic Expression and Neuropsychiatric Evaluation (GENE) Unit at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn., in a study to determine how to use genetics to personalize treatment for psychiatric illnesses.

David Mrazek, M.D., professor and chairman of the Department of Psychiatry and Psychology at the Mayo Clinic, says that by determining gene codes for enzymes that metabolize psychiatric medications, researchers may be able to determine which medications are optimal for a particular patient. A simple blood test may reveal whether a patient has genes that interfere with the body's metabolism of antidepressant drugs. Knowing if a person has specific genes may give the physician information about which drugs are likely to cause side effects.

Education Awards Banquet



G. Richard Smith, M.D., presented the Shannon Award to John Spollen, M.D., for devotion and exemplary teaching skills.



Rhonda Mattox, M.D., received the M. Joycelyn Elders Community Service Award, which goes to a resident who has made significant contributions to community health.



2005-2006 Department of Psychiatry residents and fellows.



Larry Labbate, M.D. was awarded the Eckart Award for excellence in residency education.

Other awards not pictured include the Master Educator Award, presented to Puru Thapa, M.D., and the following awards presented to residents: John Schay, M.D., received the Outstanding Patient Care Award; Rhonda Mattox, M.D., Outstanding Graduating Resident Award; Matthew Crouch, M.D., received the Lloyd Radar Award for the outstanding resident teacher.

Genetic Testing May Help Treat Psychiatric Disorders

At Beautiful Minds on Sept. 27, **G. Richard Smith, M.D.**, taught a lesson on basic genetics to explain more about the topic of his presentation: “Psychiatric Genomes: Using Designer Meds for Blue Genes.”

The largest group to date, about 70 people, lunched at the Pleasant Valley Country Club and learned about how genetic testing may help to prevent, diagnose and treat psychiatric disorders. Smith said that the Psychiatric Research Institute is in the beginning stages of offering genetic testing to its patients, which will help them and

their doctors to find appropriate medications, among other things.

Smith explained that this genetic testing, known as “pharmacogenomics,” is the term used to describe the process of evaluating a patient’s genetic makeup and how it might determine the way different drugs are metabolized by the body. Metabolism can cause a drug to affect people differently, depending on the rate a person might metabolize elements of that drug. The Psychiatric Research Institute and other major academic centers in the country are studying and practicing

ing pharmacogenomics in relation to psychiatric care, Smith said. “Genotype testing will become a new standard of care. Psychiatric genomics is an exciting field that will only become more useful clinically the more we learn.”



Ann Blair Parke talks with Lynn Taylor, M.D., at Beautiful Minds.

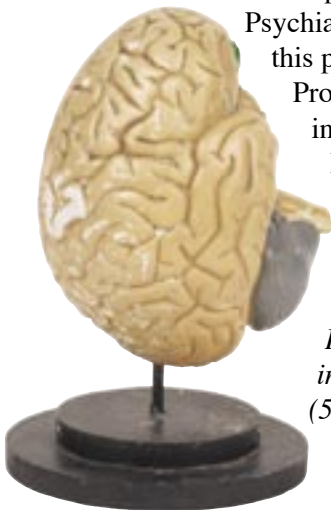


Neuropsychology Service

Stroke. Brain Injury. Cancer. Alzheimer's disease. Parkinson's disease. In addition to many other medical and psychiatric illnesses, any of these conditions may warrant neuropsychological testing, intervention and recommendations. The Neuropsychology Service at the UAMS Psychiatric Research Institute was developed to provide neuropsychological assessment for adults with various neurological, medical, neurodevelopmental and psychiatric conditions. Neuropsychological assessment involves the examination of such skills as memory, attention and concentration, reaction time, processing and other cognitive and daily living skills using standardized assessment instruments that are sensitive to various causes of brain dysfunction. The outcome of a neuropsychological assessment is a conclusion about the individual's functioning and also provides recommendations for intervention or adjustment. **Jennifer Kleiner, Ph.D.**, recently joined the faculty

of the Department of Psychiatry to develop this program at the Program for Adults in the Blandford Building on the St. Vincent's Infirmiry Medical Center campus.

For more information call (501) 686-5900.



Hunt Named to Prestigious Clinical Scholars Program



Justin Hunt, M.D., a UAMS Department of Psychiatry senior resident and part-time National Institute of Mental Health postdoctoral fellow has been accepted into the Robert Wood Johnson Clinical Scholars Program. This honor has been bestowed on one other graduate from UAMS and the program admits only 28 physicians nationally each year. Dr. Hunt will start the two-year program on July 1, 2007 at the University of Michigan. His interest is college mental health services on campuses throughout the South and Midwest and currently Dr. Hunt is involved in a qualitative, key-informant interview study with 10 different counseling center directors on ten different college campuses.

The Robert Wood Johnson Clinical Scholars Program is a post residency leadership program focused on training physicians for program development and research in public policy, community health, and health services research. Since 1972, when the program was established, almost 1000 physicians from a variety of disciplines have been trained and many have gone on to become leaders in national health care organizations both public and private. In November of 2005, UAMS Department of Psychiatry hosted the first Annie Lea Shuster Lecture on Social Medicine which featured the Robert Wood Johnson Clinical Scholars Program Director at UCLA, Robert H. Brook, M.D., Sc.D. who gave an informative and entertaining lecture entitled "Building a Successful U.S. Healthcare System." The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation is the nation's largest philanthropy devoted to improving health and health care and supports training, education, research and projects that demonstrate effective ways to deliver health services.

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Center of Excellence

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The PRI facility will consolidate the majority of the Department of Psychiatry's resources under one roof. The department is currently scattered among 13 locations in central Arkansas and has about 120,000 patient visits, all of which will move to the new building. The department in its larger scope includes the VA Hospital, Arkansas Children's Hospital and the Arkansas State Hospital, which together care for more than 1,200 patients daily.

The five-story, 100,000-square-foot PRI will be located adjacent to the new hospital expansion and parking deck, which are also under construction. The PRI will include outpatient and inpatient services, as well as research and education space. Two floors have been named for donors: the Fred and Louise Dierks Research Laboratories and the Walker Family Clinic.

Psychiatric Research Institute Associate Director Named



Teresa L. Kramer, Ph.D., has been named the Institute's first associate director. Dr. Kramer is the chief psychologist and

an associate professor in the Division of Health Services Research. She has been actively involved in clinical work since she joined the department from the University of Cincinnati, where she was the director of Child and Adolescent Services and of Research for University Psychiatric Services in the Department of Psychiatry. For the last five years, Dr. Kramer has been devoted nearly full-time to her National Institutes for Mental Health Career Development Award on quality of care for depressed adolescents. Dr. Kramer is also the co-developer of the very popular National Institutes of Health-funded Partners in Behavioral Health Sciences program, which teaches teachers, students and the general public about the brain and mental illness. More recently, she has initiated a project with a coalition of local faith leaders and mental health professionals to investigate and enhance the interface between spirituality and mental health.

Dr. Kramer completed her formal education at the University of Cincinnati, where she was Phi Beta Kappa. She had a four-year career in public relations and communications before returning to school for her doctorate in clinical psychology. She completed a general psychology internship in the Department of Psychiatry at the Medical University

of South Carolina and a post-doctoral residency in child and adolescent mental health at the Wright State University School of Professional Psychology.

Dr. Kramer will devote approximately 50% of her time to her new leadership position, while continuing to develop her research career and provide ongoing clinical care. Initially, she will have responsibility for incorporating and coordinating our outpatient clinical programs that will move to the new building; helping to lead our efforts to communicate both internally and externally about the Institute; and developing the vision and strategies to promote the Institute's capacity to be of service to the state.

New Faculty

Stanley "Luke" Crawford, M.D., assistant professor, Arkansas State Hospital, Arkansas Health Center

Robert Forrest, M.D., instructor, Arkansas State Hospital and Program for Psychiatry and the Law

Ann Guthrie, M.D., assistant professor, Arkansas State Hospital

Gail Harber, Ph.D., assistant professor, executive director, Arkansas Lawyers' Assistance Program

Jennifer Kleiner, Ph.D., assistant professor, neuropsychologist, Program for Adults

Raymond Molden, M.D., instructor, Arkansas State Hospital and Program for Psychiatry and the Law

PRI Pledges Continue to Grow

The Psychiatric Research Institute Advisory Board pledged over \$300,000 in two months toward the completion of the Psychiatric Research Institute. The 20-member board has announced that it will have 100 percent participation from all members prior to year-end.

Not only are our board members supportive, our faculty and staff continue to add to our building fund. Faculty and staff of the Department of Psychiatry have pledged and additional \$79,000 toward the construction. The faculty, clinical experts and administrative staff have built a reputation for providing professional, confidential care and know how important PRI will be to Arkansans.

For more information, contact Renie Rule at (501) 526-7795.



Psychiatry on the Web

The radio series "Here's to Your Health" for September 8-22, 2006 featured information about manic depressive disorder. "Here's to Your Health" is a UAMS-produced informative radio segment. To hear this and any other archived segments related to psychiatry, log onto our Web site at www.uams.edu/psych/default.asp and click on "Here's to Your Health."

Faith Leaders and Mental Health Professionals Brought Together

On June 13, 2006, the conference “Bridging Faithful Spirits and Healthy Minds” brought together faith leaders and mental health professionals to increase knowledge and reduce stigma associated with mental illness. The free conference was hosted by the Partners in Behavioral Health Sciences (PIBHS) program in the Department of Psychiatry. Co-sponsors included the University of Arkansas Clinton School of Public Service, the University of Nebraska Public Policy Center, the Central Arkansas Coalition for Spiritual and Mental Health, and the UAMS Psychiatric Research Institute.

This innovative inaugural conference was developed to provide cutting-edge, scientifically-grounded information about mental illness, effective treatments and programs that could expand partnerships between



Participants from the mental health and faith communities came together for the informative conference.

mental health professionals and faith leaders. The keynote address, “Religion, Spirituality and Health: Background, Research, and Applications,” was delivered by Harold G. Koenig, M.D., M.H.Sc., who is the co-director of the Center for Spirituality, Theology, and Health at Duke University Medical Center. Other topics covered during the conference included a discussion of a successful faith and community-based partnership in Nebraska; networking issues for faith, mental health and community services; and challenges and opportunities for integrating mental health professionals and the faith community in Arkansas.



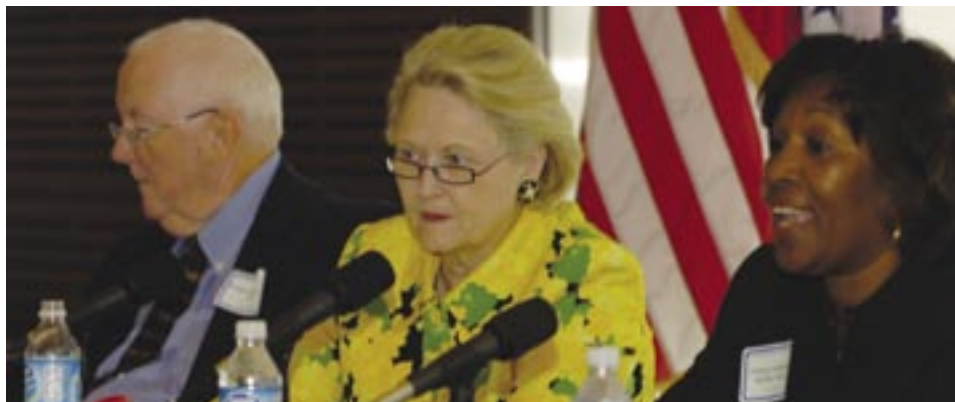
Harold Koenig, M.D., M.H.Sc., delivers the keynote address.



Terry Kramer, Ph.D. visits with Rev. Leomard Hawkins of St. John Baptist Church, Little Rock before he delivered the invocation.



Alan Tomkins, J.D., Ph.D., gives the group valuable information about his successful project in Nebraska that brought together faith-based and community organizations.



(l-r) Thomas Harvey, M.S., M.A., internationally recognized leader in social welfare; Nancy Speck, mental health consultant; and Rev. Dr. Cheryl Anthony-Mobley, Ph.D., field questions as part of the plenary panel.

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Beautiful Minds

November 8, 2006

Country Club of Little Rock
**“Setting Healthy Boundaries: Limits,
Love, and Life”**
The Reverend Canon Susan Sims Smith

February 28, 2007

Details to follow

April 11, 2007

Details to follow

*For information, please contact
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ercokrill@uams.edu*

Mark Your Calendar

Friends of PRI
Nov. 12, 2006
Fall Hunter’s Moon Event



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