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I AM PLEASED TO REPORT that the UC Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Neuroscience continues to successfully advance even in the face of a stiff economy. As discussed on page 2 of this newsletter, we recently launched a second major departmental center of excellence, in collaboration with the Lindner Center of HOPE (LCOH), the Division of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry at Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center, the UC Department of Family and Community Medicine and the UC Neuroscience Institute. This new collaborative effort, the Cincinnati Mood Disorders Consortium, is designed to increase public awareness and the level of care of depressive and bipolar disorder throughout the region. We are obviously very excited about this collaboration.

Additionally, as part of this same effort to improve mental health services within the community, I am pleased to report that the opening of our new geriatric psychiatry unit has been very successful. This unit is part of UC Health University Hospital’s expansion into Deaconess Hospital across Clifton Avenue from the main UC campus. We are in the process of moving all of our hospital-based psychiatry services to this site in order to dramatically improve our physical plant. This move allows us to expand our total number of inpatient beds (from 48 to 72) by the addition of the 24-bed geropsychiatry unit. It also allows our adult inpatient units to expand from semi-private to private rooms. The new space is brighter, more open and much more conducive to the high-quality care that we provide. Importantly, although we will be located in Deaconess Hospital, we are leasing this space and our services remain part of University Hospital and UC Health. UC Health has provided considerable support toward improvement of the mental health care that we deliver, and this move is one part of a larger strategic plan to expand our mental health services throughout UC Health and the region.

Importantly, as part of this expansion, we will be developing closer integration with the LCOH. Although the LCOH clinicians have always been part of our academic department, the new integration will bring together the clinical practices. The LCOH is a real jewel added to UC Health, and in conjunction with our move to the improved Deaconess space—as well as the addition of a geriatric psychiatry program—we believe UC Health psychiatry is poised to become the national leader in mental health care delivery as well as a model of integration within a larger health system. Please “stay tuned” to progress and developments as we make these changes to our clinical services.

Best Wishes,

Stephen M. Strakowski, MD
The Dr. Stanley and Mickey Kaplan Professor and Chairman
Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Neuroscience
Vice President of Research, UC Health

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AFFILIATES:
Cincinnati Children’s
Lindner Center of HOPE.

MISSION STATEMENT  To acquire and refine medical and scientific knowledge and then to apply it through education and clinical service toward high-quality, evidenced-based treatment of people suffering from mental illnesses.
Geriatric Fellowship Gains ACGME-Accreditation, Expanding Subspecialty Training Options

The Geriatric Psychiatry Fellowship Program, under the direction of Muhammad Aslam, MD, has been accredited by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education. The fellowship, approved for two positions, begins July 2011. “This approval brings yet another addition to our department’s excellent sub-specialty training programs,” said Stephen Strakowski, Dr. Stanley and Mickey Kaplan Professor and Chair of Psychiatry and Behavioral Neuroscience. Training will take place at the Cincinnati Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center, in the community, at VA nursing homes, Geriatric Medicine and the UC Health University Hospital Geriatric Psychiatry Unit at Deaconess. Lisa Gray, MD, a graduate of the UC College of Medicine, will serve as the first geriatric fellow.

Applicants should contact Melissa Turner at melissa.turner@va.gov or (513) 475-6378.

Addiction Medicine Research Fellowship Among First Accredited Programs in US

The Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Neuroscience’s Center for Treatment, Research and Education in Addictive Disorders (CeTREAD) is proud to announce that its Addiction Medicine/Research Fellowship, under the direction of Shannon Miller, MD, has been accredited by the American Board of Addiction Medicine (ABAM) Foundation, effective July 1, 2011. The accreditation is for three years. Among U.S. Addiction Medicine fellowships, only 10 were selected to be the first-ever accredited programs in U.S. history—providing the only training pathway for board certification in addiction medicine. These 10 programs are now on a path toward Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) accreditation, as well as American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) inclusion of addiction medicine as a formal specialty.

Strakowski Appointed Vice President of Research for UC Health

Stephen Strakowski, MD, Dr. Stanley and Mickey Kaplan Professor and Chair of Psychiatry and Behavioral Neuroscience, has been appointed vice president of research for UC Health.

The announcement was made April 18 by Jim Kingsbury, president and CEO of UC Health, and Santa Jeromy Ono, PhD, UC senior vice president for academic affairs and provost. At the same time, Andrew Filak, MD, interim dean of the College of Medicine and vice president for health affairs, was appointed vice president of education of UC Health.

“I am very excited about having these two highly talented and capable physician leaders serving in these new roles,” Kingsbury said. “They are experts in their respective areas, and together they will provide the vision and leadership that will ensure two of our three missions—research and education, both crucial to our success along with clinical care—remain vibrant.”

Strakowski, who will continue to serve as department chair, will provide executive oversight of all research activities occurring at all UC Health service sites, including University Hospital, West Chester Hospital, Drake Center and UC Physicians. He will report to Kingsbury and serve on the UC Health Policy Council.

“I am honored to be given this opportunity to work within the leadership of UC Health,” Strakowski said. “The creation of a vice president of research in our health system is a significant milestone in our aligning the academic and clinical missions of UC Health.

“I look forward to working with other university research leaders to move the College of Medicine research activities forward.”

Addiction Psychiatry Fellowship Reaccredited

CeTREAD’s ACGME-accredited Addiction Psychiatry Fellowship, under the leadership of Show Lin, MD, and Shannon Miller, MD, was re-surveyed by the ACGME and given a robust five-year accreditation. The Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Neuroscience is now one of a select few departments in the U.S. to have both ACGME-accredited and ABAM-accredited addiction specialty fellowships. Interested candidates should contact Madelyn Milner at madelyn.milner@va.gov or (513) 861-3100, extension 6676.
Experts Join to Launch Mood Disorders Consortium

There are 21 million Americans with mood disorders, including about 140,000 in the Greater Cincinnati region—with only one-half to one-third of them receiving treatment.

Additionally, about $83 billion is spent annually in the United States managing mood disorders.

“These are major medical issues that our country has failed to address,” says Stephen Strakowski, MD, Dr. Stanley and Mickey Kaplan Professor and Chair of the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Neuroscience.

The department took a major step toward doing its part to address these issues by joining with experts from the UC College of Medicine, Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center and the Lindner Center of HOPE to launch the Cincinnati Mood Disorders Consortium (CMDC).

“Our mission is to improve the lives of people with mood disorders through improved coordination of key clinical care components, research and education,” says Strakowski. “Mood disorders are immensely disabling and disrupt every facet of a person’s life, including physical health.”

The launch event was held April 29 in the CARE/Crawley Building’s Dr. Stanley and Mickey Kaplan Reception Hall on the UC medical campus. Speakers included Strakowski; Cincinnati City Council Member Chris Bortz; Santa Ono, PhD, UC senior vice president for academic affairs and provost; James Kingsbury, president and CEO, UC Health; and Thomas Boat, MD, executive associate dean, UC College of Medicine, and CEO, University of Cincinnati Physicians.

“This is an exciting day,” Boat said. “The No. 1 challenge in American medicine is not heart disease; it is not cancer; it’s not even obesity. It’s mental health disorders.”

The CMDC is a partnership of experts from the UC Neuroscience Institute, UC’s Department of Family and Community Medicine, Cincinnati Children’s and the Lindner Center of HOPE, which is affiliated with the UC College of Medicine and provides care for individuals with mental illness.

The Consortium joins the Center for Treatment, Research and Education in Addictive Disorders, launched in December 2010, as a center of excellence associated with the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Neuroscience.

The consortium’s mission: to improve the lives of people with mood disorders through improved coordination of key clinical care components, research and education.

The CMDC Governing Board

- Stephen Strakowski, MD (chairman)
- Michael Cerullo, MD, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Neuroscience (ex officio)
- Paul Keck Jr., MD, president and CEO of the Lindner Center of HOPE
- Scott Ries, MSW, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Neuroscience (ex officio). Ries serves as CMDC administrative director.
- Anya Sanchez, MD, administrative director of the UC Neuroscience Institute
- Michael Sorter, MD, director of the Division of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry at Cincinnati Children’s
- Christopher White, MD, assistant professor of psychiatry and family medicine
Symposium Offers Insight Into Depression and Suicide

If 90 percent of suicide victims have a diagnosable depressive illness, and if depression is often treatable, then suicide should be preventable. That was a conclusion one could draw from the two-part symposium staged by the newly formed Cincinnati Mood Disorders Consortium at Xavier University’s Cintas Center April 30.

Experts from the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Neuroscience, the Lindner Center of Hope and Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center immersed an audience of clinicians (in the morning) and community members (in the afternoon) in statistics, guidelines, illuminating stories and ideas. Guest speakers included former Detroit Lions quarterback Eric Hippel and Cincinnatians Karen and Dave Troup, who share a tragic bond in having lost a son to suicide.

The statistics were sobering. Of the 14 million U.S. adults who suffer from depression, 6.8 million receive no treatment. Of the 7.2 million who are treated, only 3.2 million are adequately served.

Among the reasons for inadequate care, speakers said, are improper diagnoses, improper dosing, failure of primary care physicians to refer patients with complex disorders to specialists for optimal management and failure among people with depression to seek treatment because of stigma or a fear that they will become a burden to family or friends.

Speakers included John Greden, MD, executive director of the University of Michigan Comprehensive Depression Center and founding chair of the National Network of Depression Centers, which includes UC and the Lindner Center of Hope. He noted that the suicide rate in the United States has been flat for 40 years at 11.5 per 100,000 and said, “We need to get out there screening in the high schools, supporting research projects, achieving—and just as importantly—maintaining wellness, and countering stigma.”

Karen Troup, PhD, field service assistant professor in UC’s special education program and mother of Jacob Ober, who committed suicide at age 20, shared her story at the afternoon session along with her husband, Dave.

“If I had a message to share from what I’ve learned today, it would be never to assume that a child would never take his or her own life,” she said. “Rather, parents should be vigilant and assume that it can happen to anyone. Everyone needs to know what questions to ask and have a plan of response if they learn that any person is struggling with serious depression.”

Written by Cindy Starr

Of the 14 million U.S. adults who suffer from depression, 6.8 million receive no treatment.

Stephen Strakowski, MD (far right), listens as Karen Troup speaks. Next to Troup is her husband, Dave Troup. Former NFL quarterback Eric Hippel is at left.

Henry Nasrallah, MD (left), with John Greden, MD, founding chair, National Network of Depression Centers, at the symposium.

Michael Sorter, MD (left), listens as Scott Ries, MSW, speaks at the symposium.
Award-Winning Weekend at 10th All-Ohio Institute

The Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Neuroscience was well represented at the 10th All-Ohio Institute on Community Psychiatry, held in Beachwood, Ohio, March 25-26, 2011, and sponsored by Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine.

All-Ohio Institute is a statewide multidisciplinary meeting on community mental health services, clinical practices, research and education. This year’s theme was “Integrating Care in the Era of Health Care Reform.”

Second-year resident Kristina Purganan, MD (below), received the third-place award in the poster competition for residents for “Informed Consent and Documentation for the Off Label Use of Atypical Antipsychotics in the Treatment of Behavioral Symptoms in the Elderly with Dementia.”

Also presenting posters were second-year resident Jennifer Moore, MD, and third-year medical student Eric Koperda.

Child and adolescent resident Jennifer Bowden, MD, and faculty members Bryan Griffin, DO, and Scott Bresler, PhD, participated in workshops.

Christopher White, MD, assistant professor of psychiatry and family medicine, served as organizer and mentor of the resident presentations.

NAMIWALKS TOP FUNDRAISING TEAM

Pounding the Pavement for a Good Cause

SO WHAT IF IT RAINED for much of the NAMIWalks fundraising event at Sawyer Point on Saturday, May 14? Members of the UC Health psychiatry team went into denial, put on their brightest smiles and raised thousands of dollars for mental illness advocacy, research, education and support programs.

Captained by Donna Niemeier, the 86-member team of faculty, friends and family was the event’s top fundraising team with $12,386. Stephen Benoit, PhD, was the No. 2 overall individual fundraiser with $3,010, just $310 behind the leader. Stephen Strakowski, MD, was fifth with $1,740.

Total funds raised for the event were $109,277—far exceeding the goal of $95,000.

Sponsors of the event—a 5-kilometer walk that extended from Sawyer Point into Newport via the Purple People Bridge and back—including UC Health, Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center and the Central Clinic.

Established in 1979, NAMI (the National Alliance on Mental Illness) is dedicated to improving the lives of individuals and families affected by mental illness.

SNAPSHOTS from the Walk
CONGRATULATIONS to our 2011 Graduates

Continued success in your career.

WELCOME to our Incoming Residents

General Psychiatry

Bryan Cairns
Family Medicine Psychiatry

Tony Cavalieri
General Psychiatry

Teresa Cone
General Psychiatry

Arman Danielyan
General Psychiatry

Peirce Johnston
General Psychiatry

Kathryn Gieselman
University of Minnesota Medical School
Minneapolis, MN

Kelli Dominick
Boston University School of Medicine
Boston, MA

Lis Gray
General Psychiatry

Justus Kam
Pediatrics / Child Psychiatry

Kathryn Kenney
Kansas City University of Medicine and Biosciences
Kansas City, MO

Chinwe Erike
Pediatrics / Child Psychiatry

Lorie Sonnier
Pediatrics / Child Psychiatry

Neha Kharwala
New York College of Osteopathic Medicine
Old Westbury, NY

Peirce Johnston
Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine
Huntington, WV

Daniel Hosta
Wright State University Boonshoft School of Medicine
Dayton, OH

Kathryn Kenney
Kansas City University of Medicine and Biosciences
Kansas City, MO

Kevin Brazill
Chicago College of Osteopathic Medicine
Midwestern University
Downers Grove, IL

Elizabeth Kraft
University of Cincinnati College of Medicine

Sarah Carreira
Michigan State University College of Human Medicine
East Lansing, MI

Katherine Lee
University of Cincinnati College of Medicine

Hilja Ruegg
Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine
Huntington, WV

Mary Rosendale
Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine
Erie, PA

Kelli Dominick
Boston University School of Medicine
Boston, MA

Eric Rueff
Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine
East Lansing, MI

Kathryn Gieselmann
University of Minnesota Medical School
Minneapolis, MN

Paul Houser
St. Louis University School of Medicine
St. Louis, MO

Yesie Yoon
Yonsei University
South Korea
Residents Get Rowdy, Raise Funds for Education

Psychstock ’11, a night of music and fun at Molly Malone’s in Covington, raised money for Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Neuroscience residents to use for a wide variety of educational purposes. This year’s event was planned by John Wirick (PGY3, Categorical Psychiatry). Department Chair Stephen Strakowski’s band, Some Assembly Required, performed. Other faculty participants included singer Charles Collins, guitarist Brian Masterson, guitarist John Hawkins (Lindner Center of HOPE) and guitarist Dan Nelson (Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center). Above, Wirick entertains the crowd on harmonica.