MUSC Psychiatry
Chair Update
September 2014

Thomas W. Uhde, MD
Department of Psychiatry and
Behavioral Sciences & Institute of
Psychiatry
Dr. George Orvin passed away at the age of 92. With him went much of the best and most colorful history of the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, and the Medical College of South Carolina. Dr. Orvin was among the old time physicians who understood the healing power of his relationship with his patients.

After finishing medical school, Dr. Orvin practiced general medicine for 10 years and realized that much of his practice was psychiatry. He then returned to training and completed a psychiatry residency at both MUSC and the Maudsley Hospital in London. He joined the MUSC Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences faculty in 1961. Dr. Orvin gradually devoted more and more of his attention to the treatment of adolescents and their families, and established the eight bed adolescent inpatient unit, 10 North, in 1967. He was appointed acting Chairman of the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences in 1982, and was named Professor Emeritus in 1993. Dr. Orvin creatively used the ideas of Peter Blos, MD, Erik Erikson, and Donald Rinsley, MD, among others, to develop a well-structured adolescent inpatient treatment program that included individual, group, and family therapies. He adapted Peter Laqueur, MD's multifamily group therapy to the treatment of adolescents and their parents and is regarded as a pioneer in the practice of this modality. Dr. Orvin strongly believed in the necessity of maintaining a healthy milieu for effective treatment, and expected faculty, trainees, and staff to attend a weekly problem solving process group led by him. As he stated, “All other therapies will fail if the ward milieu is not also therapeutic.”

“Farewell our beloved colleague, mentor, and friend.”
~Elizabeth Riddle, MSW, LISW
FACULTY PROFILE:  
Dave Beckert, MD

Dr. Beckert is a graduate of Penn State University, earning a BS in Biology with Honors in 2002. He completed his MD from the University of Virginia in 2006. He then came to the Medical University of South Carolina, where he completed his general psychiatry residency training in 2010. He served as a Chief Resident in his senior year, and was awarded the Dr. Henry P. and M. Page Durkee Laughlin Foundation Award, a peer selected award, in recognition of professional achievement, dedication, and scholarship. Following his residency, he joined the faculty in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at MUSC.

Dr. Beckert has been involved in several areas of interest throughout his medical schooling, residency education, and current faculty appointment. He has been very active in education, supervising both medical students and residents on clinical rotations, teaching medical students in small groups, and serving as the Associate Program Director for the Psychiatry Residency Training Program. He has been involved in various aspects of clinical work as well, covering adult inpatient services, consult-liaison and emergency services, and adult outpatient services. The settings for his clinical work include the Medical University of South Carolina Institute of Psychiatry, the MUSC Counseling and Psychological Services center, the Charleston-Dorchester County Community Mental Health Center, the National Crime Victims center, and the Colleton Medical Center. Exposure and involvement in this unique mix of settings helps Dr. Beckert play an active role in inter-agency cooperation and gain experience in a variety of roles. This mix also allows him to provide excellent clinical care to a wide variety of patients, ranging from students affected with mental illness to clients in the local community who are severely and persistently mentally ill.

Dr. Beckert is also an active member of the American Psychiatric Association. He joined this organization as a member when he was a medical student, maintaining membership through residency and into his early career professional development, and participating in the local Low Country South Carolina chapter. He was elected to serve as the South Carolina representative to the national Assembly of the APA, starting in 2012. He is also a member of the Disasters and Terrorism Committee of the Group for the Advancement of Psychiatry, and has helped organize and co-author several chapters in “Disaster Psychiatry: Readiness, Evaluation, and Treatment”, published in 2011, and he recently helped with the completion of a project to turn parts of this publication into an online training that is sponsored by the APA. He has presented posters and workshops at various national conferences and meetings throughout his experience as a medical student, resident, and early career psychiatrist. His most recent presentations so far in 2014 alone have taken place locally as a co-presenter at MUSC Psychiatry Grand Rounds, at the state-level as a plenary speaker at the South Carolina Psychiatric Association Annual Meeting, and nationally as a workshop participant at the American Association of Directors of Psychiatric Residency Training Annual Meeting in Tucson, AZ as well as at the American Psychiatric Association’s 167th Annual Meeting in New York, NY.
Meet Mari Asper, MD

Dr. Mari Asper is a member of the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences Voluntary Faculty and also the department’s Community Practitioners Advisory Board. She is currently in private practice at Tricounty Behavioral Health in North Charleston and is also a psychiatric consultant for Pinelands Group Homes in Summerville. Dr. Asper also enjoys volunteering at the Harvest Free Medical Clinic.

Dr. Asper received her M.D. from the University of Iowa and completed her General Psychiatry Residency, as well as her Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Fellowship, here at MUSC. She is double board certified in General Psychiatry and Child and Adolescent Psychiatry. Dr. Asper enjoys working with patients of all ages, and specializes in the treatment of A.D.H.D., anxiety disorders, mood disorders, and PTSD and trauma.
FACULTY PROFILE:

Olga Brawman-Mintzer, MD

Olga Brawman-Mintzer, MD is a tenured Professor of and has been a faculty member in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at MUSC since 1993. During her tenure she served as Medical Director for CNS Research and Business Development for The Clinical Innovation Group/MUSC Foundation for Research Development, and the Director of our Clinical Research Anxiety Program and is one of the leading anxiety disorders researchers in our department. She was a Senior Visiting Scientist at National Institute of Mental Health, Division of Services and Intervention Research. Olga also serves as a staff physician and researcher in the Military Sciences Division at the Ralph H. Johnson VA Medical Center.

Olga has earned her BS and medical degrees at The Hebrew University, Hadassah Medical School in Jerusalem, Israel. She went on to serve as a Postdoctoral Research Fellow in immunology at UCLA. Following residency training in Psychiatry at the University of Miami School of Medicine, she completed a 2-year Research Fellowship in anxiety disorders at MUSC in the Department of Psychiatry. This double, post-doctorial training, both in basic and clinical research, has allowed her to successfully basic and clinical research.

Olga is a pioneer in several areas of knowledge. She was one of the first researchers to evaluate the potential role of atypical antipsychotics in the treatment of anxiety disorders. She also completed one of the two available trials to evaluate the role of selective serotonin uptake inhibitors in elderly patients suffering from generalized anxiety disorders. Her line of research has been possible through continuous funding stream from both federal and corporate sources. Her work has resulted in extensive peer-reviewed literature.

This work has been coupled with a focus on examining biological correlates impacting neuropsychological disorders. This has led to research addressing the urgent clinical issue of lasting effects of Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI), specifically cognitive impairment. The resulting clinical trial, performed through a large cooperative, nation-wide grant funded by the Veterans Health Administration, evaluates the potential role of cholinesterase inhibitors in the treatment of cognitive impairment in subjects with TBI. This is the only ongoing study of its kind evaluating a pharmacological treatment to manage cognitive impairment in combat Veterans who have suffered TBI. This trial, will attempt not only to provide information on effective pharmacological treatments for these patients but also help gain insights into the neurochemical basis of this disorder. Through collaborative research relationship with the Digestive Disease Center (DDC) team, Olga is also working on large-scale projects examining the psychological factors operating in functional GI disorders. Main findings have been recently published in JAMA, Journal of Clinical Gastroenterology, and Gastrointestinal Endoscopy.
Ed Kantor is an Associate Professor in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences and has been the Residency Director for almost 6 years. He is ABPN Board Certified in Psychiatry and Psychosomatic Medicine (Consult-Liaison Psychiatry) and has Interprofessional Board Certification in Psychiatry Traumatic Stress and Emergency Crisis Response. Ed has a 9 year old cat "Leo" and an 8.5 year old German Shepherd- "Hunter", a service dog, who helps him with mobility problems resulting from a serious 2009 hospitalization. Hunter doubles as a therapeutic assist dog on the IOP Senior Care Units and at the NCVC clinics.

Beginning life in the Yankee stronghold of Brookline, Mass., Ed moved all around the East Coast as a kid for his father's work in the Public Health Service. Ed attended the University of Maryland, receiving a BA in Urban Studies-Planning. As young adult, after his parents passed away unexpectedly, Ed was lovingly absorbed into a large, Irish-catholic, multi-ethnic, adoptive family of six brothers, 3 sister-in laws, and numerous nieces and nephews.

After providing primary care support for 2 years, Ed was asked to be the first Psychiatric Physician Assistant at Montgomery County Emergency Services (MCES), a model Crisis Psychiatric Emergency Service program in Norristown, PA. Concurrently, he served as a Medical Officer with the U.S. Coast Guard Reserve for over 12 years, and was the Chief Reserve Medical Administration Officer for Group Philadelphia and the New Jersey shore.

In 1989, after about 8 years of working and teaching as a Physician Assistant (PA-C), mostly in Emergency Psychiatry, Ed decided it was time to become a Psychiatrist. He completed premed training at the University of Pennsylvania, and then attended Hahnemann University in Philadelphia for medical school (now rebranded as part of Drexel), and then completed Psychiatry Residency (Chief Resident) at the University of Virginia.

In June, Ed was recognized as an "Outstanding Mentor" by the graduating seniors in Psychiatry. He has been the recipient of the APA Nancy Roeske Award for Sustained Contributions to Medical Student Education, and the Bruno Lima Award for Outstanding Service in Disaster Mental Health by the APA. Ed was recognized by the Association of Academic Psychiatry (AAP) with their Junior Faculty Award and has been inducted into the Academy of Distinguished Educators at the University of Virginia, School of Medicine in 2006 for his work with Medical Students and Residents there. Particularly meaningful to him, was being selected by the UVA Med School Senior class in 2004 to serve as a graduation Marshall, representing all the clinical faculty at the university. Ed has given numerous national lectures, workshops and seminars, Grand Rounds, and Community talks.

Currently, he is working to incorporate the new ACGME Milestones initiative into residency training through new evaluation metrics, committee structure changes and ongoing tools, and education for faculty, staff and residents. In 2013, Ed was one of 3 psychiatrists selected to represent South Carolina at the Instructor Trainer program for the DSM 5 release teach around the department, the state, and at the APA Annual meeting in 2014.

Ed has been active in the APA and several other national psychiatry organizations since med school, and is now a Distinguished Fellow (DFAPA) and an active member of AADPRT, AGLP, AAEP and the Group for the Advancement of Psychiatry (GAP), serving on their Disasters and Terrorism Committee.
SERVICE AWARDS

THANK YOU to the following employees of the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences and the Institute of Psychiatry for their dedicated service:

20 years
Harriet Cooney
C. Lindsay DeVane
Myrna Divinagracia
Melisa Rowland
Sonja Schoenwald
Suzanne Smith

10 years
Kevin Armstrong
Ann Ashby
Amy Baldridge
Jeffrey Cluver
Lisa Hunninghake
Dori Long
Michael McGinnis
Betty McKelvey

Christopher Pelic
Cynthia Plutro
Patrick Randall
Alyssa Rheingold
Reginald Terry
Konstantin Voronin
Sharlene Wedin
Ed Weiss

DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR TAs/CLINICAL COUNSELORS

The Institute of Psychiatry provides development opportunities for Therapeutic Assistants and Clinical Counselors through the Human Services Specialist Advancement Program (HSSAP). Eligible TAs and CCs may submit an application endorsed by their manager for the Lead TA, Senior TA, or Senior CC position by September 30, 2014 to initiate the process.

Applications are submitted to Bryan Counts, HSSAP Review Board Chairperson.

If you are interested in this opportunity, please review the HSSAP eligibility criteria, application, and professional profile requirements. Please contact Bryan Counts with any questions at 792-6259.
KUDOS/WINS

- Dr. Lee Lewis was featured on the Office of Public Relations—News Center site. The article was titled: Creativity: Healing grace or suicidal path? http://academicdepartments.musc.edu/pr/newscenter/2014/improv.html

- Block One - Faculty Excellence "Teachers of the Rotation” winners/nominees for Psychiatry include: Dr. Chris Fields, Dr. Jennifer Jones, Dr. Mary Ladd, Dr. Callie Lalich. This award given is to those attendings and residents that have made an impact on the college of medicine students' education. Each block the students have the option to vote and those nominated become the block winners and are recognized via email and a certificate. These block winners, then become the nominees for the yearly awards. At the end of each academic year there is an awards ceremony where one winner and two runner-ups are chosen from the nominees from across all 3rd and 4th year clinical education rotations.

- Dr. Gregg Dwyer presented as an invited speaker “Sex Offense Cases: Understanding Stress Reactions and Coping Mechanisms” at the National Federal Probation and Pretrial Services Sex Offender Management Symposium in St. Louis, MO.

- Dr. Sarah Book was invited to serve on a Board of the South Carolina Recovering Professionals Program called the Recovering Professional Assistance Service (RPAS), which manages a non-profit fund that provides financial assistance to professionals in South Carolina who have a drug or alcohol addiction but do not have the ability to pay for treatment.

- Alyssa Rheingold was elected to a three-year term on the Board of Directors for the International Society for Traumatic Stress Studies (ISTSS). Two former interns and postdoctoral fellows of the NCVC were also selected.
Our next Drop-in Town ALL will be held Monday, September 15 from 2-3pm in the IOP auditorium. During drop-in Town ALL’s **an open forum** will be held for those individuals who have questions or issues that need to be addressed. Members of the Administrative Leadership Committee of the Departmental Council will be on hand to answer any questions you have during the drop-in open forum. Please contact psychall@musc.edu if you have any questions.

IOP BLOOD DRIVE

American Red Cross Sponsored Quarterly IOP Blood Drive
Friday, September 19, 2014
10:00am to 3:00pm
4 South Weight Management Room
Andolinis Pizza, Gourmet Doughnuts from Glazed, Ben & Jerry pint coupons, Soda
Contact Bonnie Jones to sign up jonesb@musc.edu

SEMINAR

Dr. Vincent P. Clark
Professor
Department of Psychology
University of New Mexico

“Neuroimaging Combined with Neuroenhancement for Basic and Clinical Research.”

Applicant for MUSC SmartState Endowed Chair of Translational Neuroimaging

Monday, September 22, 2014
9am
IOP Auditorium
We (the MUSC Weight Management Center) has been training an interprofessional group of MUSC students in how to treat obesity. As part of their training (a sort of capstone project, if you will), they will be going out into the community to provide a FREE 10-week weight loss program to lower-income residents. Here’s a short video that details it: [http://youtu.be/SkdvF-xOxv8](http://youtu.be/SkdvF-xOxv8). We’ve even purchased a bunch of CARTA passes so that interested residents aren’t inhibited by transportation issues.

We offered this same program last spring ([http://academicdepartments.musc.edu/catalyst/archives/2013/9-20lean.htm](http://academicdepartments.musc.edu/catalyst/archives/2013/9-20lean.htm)), which was very well received, but we just need help getting the word out to those who stand to benefit.

We currently have about 20 community participants signed up, but would like to start with about 60. We’re currently reaching out to several media outlets, but if any of you have avenues for sharing this with potential participants, we would be much obliged!

We’ll be holding 2 x 10-week programs: one in West Ashley (starts 9/6) and the other Downtown (starts 9/9).
Depressive Disorders
Removing the Bereavement Exclusion in Depression

DSM5 contains several new depressive disorders, follow link below for more information.
http://academicdepartments.musc.edu/psychiatry/education/DSM5/Fact%20Sheet%20PDFs/Highlights%20of%20Changes%20from%20DSM-IV-TR%20to%20DSM-5.pdf

DSM5 Monthly Update—August 2014
http://academicdepartments.musc.edu/psychiatry/education/DSM5/DSM%205%20Monthly%20Updates/August%202014.pdf
September 27th is the 2014 American Heart Walk.

The IOP has a team set up on the American Heart Walk website and you are invited to sign up and walk as a team, donate to the cause or both.

https://www.kintera.org/faf/search/searchTeamPart.asp?ievent=1091674&lis=1&kntae1091674=4B86C68D8F7644CE8CD7E5FEECF5DAE1&supId=387772413&team=6029541

More information will be coming soon about events that will help raise money.

If you have any questions, please contact Bruce Cross (crossbg@musc.edu)
"Making Tobacco History: Accelerating Efforts to Reduce the Harm Caused by Tobacco"

2014 Fall Scientific Retreat on Tobacco Related Research

Thursday, October 30th
9:00AM - 4:30PM
MUSC Bioengineering Building (BEB) Auditorium
Reception from 4:30PM - 6:00PM in the BEB Lobby

--- Keynote Speakers ---

John R. Seffrin, PhD
Chief Executive Officer, American Cancer Society, Inc

Jonathan M. Samet, MD, MS
Senior Editor, Surgeon General's Report 2014, Distinguished Professor and Chair, Department of Preventive Medicine, University of Southern California

Register NOW at sctr.musc.edu
Registration is free but required.
Potential presenters & attendees should register by September 12, 2014.

--- Retreat Sponsors ---
WALK TO PREVENT SUICIDE

2014 OUT OF THE DARKNESS COMMUNITY WALKS

October 19, 2014

On-site Registration starts at 1:00 pm; Program at 2:00 pm; Walk at ~2:30 pm

Please join us for information booths, speakers, a short walk around beautiful Hampton Park, music and the creation of a memory board honoring those loved ones lost to suicide. Take this opportunity to discover and connect with survivors, supporters and many community resources.

Hampton Park; Downtown Charleston, SC

Register today at www.OutOfTheDarkness.org
14th Annual Social Work Conference: Hot Topics in Social Work

Friday, October 24 | 8:00 am - 4:45 pm | Daniel Island Club

Join us for one full day of education and networking as we address the most current issues and hot topics facing social workers today. This year’s conference will be held just outside of Charleston at the Daniel Island Club, a state-of-the-art facility in a beautiful Lowcountry setting. Topics include working with combat veterans, cultural competency, working with LGBT youth and community, and stress inoculation therapy and self-care in social work practice.

The SC Board of Social Work Examiners will approve 7 hours of designated credit.

General Registration: $110 | MUSC Employees & Retirees: $80 | BSW/MSW Students: $30
Fees increase October 1. Fee includes materials, continuing education credit processing, breakfast and lunch.

Questions? Call (843) 792-0175 or e-mail psych-events@musc.edu.
For conference details and to register online, visit musc.edu/psychevents.
Motivational Interviewing (MI) is a collaborative conversation style for eliciting and strengthening a person’s own motivation for change. It is an evidence based, guiding method of communication, which has been shown to be successful in research methodologies. People are more likely to make changes if they perceive they have control and choice, and MI is a language that draws upon the patient’s own expertise for solutions. This exciting training brings together psychiatrists, psychologists, social workers, counselors, primary care physicians, and other helping professionals with an interest in increasing patient engagement and empowering lasting behavior change. Our MINT-certified trainers have developed a hands-on workshop incorporating lectures, breakout groups, roundtable discussions, and video presentations to present a complete introduction to Motivational Interviewing.

For workshop details, click here.
SCOR REQUEST FOR PILOT PROJECT PROPOSALS

In order to catalyze women’s health-related research throughout the MUSC campus, the Specialized Center of Research (SCOR) on Sex and Gender Factors Affecting Women’s Health is pleased to announce a request for pilot project proposals focused on sex and gender-related issues in neuroscience. The pilot program will provide short-term start-up funds (up to $15,000) to promising postdoctoral fellows and junior faculty (less than 5 years from post-doctoral training/terminal degree) to collect initial data for an RO3, R21, or R01 submission. The project must focus on a neuroscience-related topic and explore either sex/gender differences or disorders/treatments as they uniquely relate to women. The project can be either clinical or basic science, but consistent with the NIH Roadmap Initiative and the vision of MUSC's South Carolina Clinical and Translational Research Institute (SCTR). Projects involving multidisciplinary teams and/or translational research efforts are especially encouraged. Applications are due by noon on November 3, 2014. For more information visit www.musc.edu/scor or contact Sarah Gainey(smithsar@musc.edu).
PSYCHIATRY GRAND ROUNDS

Grand Rounds are held on Fridays from 12:00 – 1:00pm in the IOP auditorium. The full Grand Rounds schedule along with other conference information can be found at: www.musc.edu/psychevents

September 26: “Gilles de la Tourette’s Syndrome: The Self Under Siege”
James F. Leckman, MD, PhD
Nieson Harris Professor of Child Psychiatry, Psychiatry, Pediatrics, and Psychology Child Study Center, Yale University

October 3: Title TBD
Bernadette P. Marriott, PhD

October 10: 7th Annual Jason Pressley Visiting Professorship
“The Anterior Limbic Model of Bipolar Disorder”
Stephen M. Strakowski, MD
Senior Vice President, Strategy & Transformation, UC Health
Professor of Psychiatry & Behavioral Neuroscience, Psychology, and Biomedical Engineering University of Cincinnati

October 17: “Alcohol’s Effect on the Adolescent Brain”
Lindsay Squeglia, PhD
Assistant Professor, Psychiatry & Behavioral Sciences
Medical University of South Carolina

October 24: “The Use of Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation for Antenatal Depression”
Deborah Kim, MD
Assistant Professor of Psychiatry
Perelman School of Medicine and the University of Pennsylvania

October 31: Clinical Case Conference
Session open to MUSC faculty, staff, and trainees only

November 7: “Beyond the Device: Comprehensive Care of ICD Patients”
Samuel F. Sears, PhD
Professor, Psychology and Cardiovascular Sciences
East Carolina University

November 14: “Sex Offenders Can’t be Cured: Is It Time to Shift the Paradigm?”
J. Paul Fedoroff, MD, FRCPC, DABPN
Director, Sexual Behaviors Clinic, The Royal Mental Health Care Centre
Professor of Psychiatry and Head, Forensic Psychiatry
University of Ottawa

November 21: “Role of Hypocretin (Orexin) in Narcolepsy, Parkinson’s and Normal Behavior”
Jerry Siegel, PhD
Professor of Psychiatry and Biobehavioral Sciences
UCLA Center for Sleep Research
VA GLAHS
The HEARTH CENTER FOR EATING DISORDERS invites you to an evening with AMERICA THE BEAUTIFUL 3 producer, Darryl Roberts.

South Carolina’s premier screening of ATB 3 will be followed by a Q&A discussion with Darryl, Dr. Tim Brewerton, The Hearth’s Executive Medical Director, and Amy Gerberry, The Hearth’s Clinical Director.

AMERICA THE BEAUTIFUL 3

America the Beautiful documented the rise and fall of a 12-year-old professional model in New York and Los Angeles. In his second film, America the Beautiful 2, Roberts explored America’s obsession with beauty and diets. In this third, and final, installment Roberts draws back the curtain on the sexualization of young girls in the media and society.

OCTOBER 1, 2014

Senate’s End | 320 Senate Street | Columbia, SC
Cap. 100
5:30 pm | Wine and Heavy hors d’oeuvres
6:30 pm - 8:00 pm | Film
8:00 pm - 9:00 pm | Q&A

OCTOBER 2, 2014

Sottile Theatre | 44 George Street | Charleston, SC | Parking: 34 St. Phillip Street
6:30 pm - 8:00 pm | Film
8:00 pm - 9:00 pm | Q&A


ONGOING STUDIES

A Randomized Controlled Trial of Varenicline for Adolescent Smoking Cessation
This is a 12-week trial of varenicline versus placebo, added to smoking cessation counseling, for smokers ages 14-21.
Phone 843-792-4097, e-mail smokingstudy@musc.edu

Gender, Hormones, and Stress-Related Smoking
This project is designed to examine relationships between gender, reproductive hormones, and smoking behaviors in the laboratory and natural environment.
Phone 843-792-4097, e-mail smokingstudy@musc.edu

ACCENT: Achieving Cannabis Cessation—Evaluating N-Acetylcysteine Treatment
This is a 12-week multisite trial of N-acetylcysteine versus placebo, added to contingency management, for cannabis-dependent adults ages 18-50.
(MUSC is leading the study but is not among the enrollment sites)
Phone 843-792-8894, e-mail accent@musc.edu

Group Motivational Interviewing (GMI) For Homeless Veterans In VA Services
The proposed study will investigate the effectiveness, implementation process, and cost estimate of Group Motivational Interviewing (GMI) for Veterans with SUDs receiving VA housing services. Outcomes will be assessed at multiple time points using a multi-modal approach. The ultimate goal of this research is to establish the basis of a GMI dissemination and implementation course of action for highly vulnerable homeless Veterans in VA housing for achieving their greatest success in attaining housing stability.
Contact: Elizabeth J. Santa Ana, Ph.D., 843-789-7168

Oxytocin in Cocaine Dependence
This is a non-treatment study investigating the effect of oxytocin on stress response and brain activity in response to cocaine cues. Participation involves 6 outpatient visits, including 2 fMRI scans. Cocaine dependent individuals between 18 and 65 years old may be eligible to participate.
Contact: Lisa Nunn, 843-792-0476

Exploring Sex Differences in the Neural Correlates of PTSD: Impact of Oxytocin
This is a non-treatment study investigating gender differences in the effect of oxytocin on neural circuitry related to PTSD. Participation involves 3 outpatient visits, including 2 fMRI scans. Individuals between 18 and 50 years old who experienced traumatic or stressful events in childhood may be eligible to participate.
Contact: Todd LeMattty, 843-792-8179

The Effects of Oxytocin on Couples’ Conflict-Resolution Interactions
The aim of this study is to examine the extent to which oxytocin improves conflict resolution skills and mitigates craving and subjective, physiological, and neuroendocrine reactivity in response to dyadic conflict among couples with substance use problems. Couples will complete a psychosocial assessment and two 10-minute videotaped conflict resolution tasks. Using a double-blind design, both partners within each couple will be randomly assigned to receive either intranasal oxytocin or saline spray. We examine measures of change in each partner's conflict resolution skills, craving, and subjective, physiological, and neuroendocrine responses to the conflict resolution tasks.
Contact: Dr. Julianne Flanagan, 843-792-5569
Integrated Treatment of OEF/OIF Veterans with PTSD and Substance Use Disorders

In comparison to the general population, U.S. military and Veterans are at an increased risk for developing both substance use disorders (SUD) and Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). Current research has shown that there is a high comorbidity of SUD and PTSD, and although there are a number of treatments for SUD and PTSD independently, there are very few effective methods to simultaneously treat both disorders. Because of this substantial gap in the treatment of both SUDs and PTSD, it has become essential to develop a combined treatment that would address and treat both disorders. Individuals, specifically U.S. military and Veterans, with SUD/PTSD have unique needs that require a specialized treatment approach. This designed approach would employ cognitive-behavioral therapy (CBT) to treat the SUD, in conjunction with Prolonged Exposure therapy to treat the PTSD. Prolonged Exposure (PE) is an empirically supported and evidence-based treatment that is currently regarded as the "gold standard" psychosocial treatment for PTSD. In combination with CBT, this treatment would address both disorders in hopes of reducing substance use and PTSD symptomatology.

Contact: Frank Beylotte  843-792-2522 beylott@musc.edu

Laboratory Study of the Influence of Oral Cannabidiol on the Subjective, Reinforcing and Cardiovascular Effects of Smoked Marijuana

Cannabidiol (CBD) is an antagonist at the CB-1 and CB-2 receptors. Pre-clinical work indicates that CBD blocks the actions of tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) and therefore may be an oral candidate for the treatment of marijuana dependence. This Phase 1 human laboratory study seeks to determine the ability of CBD to diminish marijuana smoking and establish further safety information. Subjects will be given oral CBD or placebo to see if marijuana smoking is reduced in a laboratory setting.

Contact: Melissa Michel  843-792-1901

A Pharmacokinetic Comparison of Immediate Release N-Acetylcysteine With extended Release N-Acetylcysteine In Healthy Adults

The specific aim of this research plan is to confirm in human volunteers that the pharmacokinetic characteristics of NAC following administration of the new oral extended release formulation will support once daily dosing in clinical trials involving patient populations. This proposal is to conduct a relative bioavailability study to compare plasma drug concentrations of NAC following a standard immediate release formulation of four 600 mg tablets (single 2400 mg dose) with concentrations from a single administration of six 400 mg dosage forms (2400 mg dose) of the test formulation. Each subject will serve as his/her own control and receive both formulations. The immediate release formulation will always precede the new experimental formulation.

Contact: Melissa Michel  843-792-1901

N-acetylcysteine for Relapse Prevention to Cocaine Use

The purpose of the study is to assess the safety and efficacy of extended release N-Acetylcysteine (NAC) in preventing relapse to cocaine use. Subjects must be abstinent from cocaine use prior to entering into the study. The study has two working hypotheses. First, NAC will decrease relapse to cocaine use, based on multiple time-to-event measures of relapse in a group of cocaine-dependent individuals with at least 7 days of confirmed abstinence from cocaine before medication initiation. Second, the NAC group will show sustained efficacy over placebo in the 4-week follow-up period after medication is discontinued. The rationale for investigating the efficacy of NAC in the treatment of cocaine addiction was initially based on animal data that pointed to perturbations of glutamatergic brain circuitry after chronic operant exposure to cocaine. NAC ameliorated glutamatergic deficits and inhibited cocaine and cue induced reinstatement of cocaine seeking behaviors. Recent preclinical work strongly suggests that NAC will be most effective as a relapse prevention agent after a brief period of abstinence from cocaine.

Contact: Melissa Michel  843-792-1901
ONGOING STUDIES

**Vitamin D and Type 2 Diabetes Study (D2d)**
The goal of the Vitamin D and type 2 diabetes (D2d) study is to determine if vitamin D supplementation works to delay the onset of type 2 diabetes in people at risk for the disease and to gain a better understand how vitamin D affects glucose (sugar) metabolism. Researchers at twenty US sites will enroll people with pre-diabetes (people who have higher than normal blood glucose level but not high enough to meet the diagnosis of diabetes). The study will enroll participants over approximately 2 years and participants will be followed for approximately 4 years. Participants will receive either Vitamin D or a placebo by chance. Participants will take 1 pill a day for the duration of the study. Participants will visit the study site for up to 13 scheduled visits during their participation.
Contact: Suzanne Kuker 843-792-5427

**Genetic and Brain Mechanisms of Naltrexone’s Treatment Efficacy for Alcoholism**
This treatment study is an 16-weeks outpatient clinical trial where subjects will get medication, which might help them to reduce or stop their drinking or a placebo (placebo is a capsule that looks the same as the investigational drug, but has no real medication. It is a “sugar pill”). This study will recruit and randomize subjects who have expressed an interest in receiving treatment for alcohol dependence. Upon enrollment into this study there will be 11 outpatient visits. Each visit will last about 1-1.5 hours.
Contact: Konstantin Voronin 843-792-2727

**Impulsivity and Drinking/Craving: Effect of a Dopamine Stabilizer Medication**
MUSC Center For Drug And Alcohol Programs is conducting an alcohol research study investigating the effects of a medication in response to alcohol. Individuals (ages 21-40) who complete the study will be paid for their participation. This study does not involve alcohol treatment.
Contact: Mark 843-92-1222.

**Sleep Research Data Repository (SRDR)**
The aim of this study is to develop a data warehouse of biological and psychological information related to sleep and sleep disorders. Data being collected include sleep physiological measurements and the results of interviews, questionnaires, and laboratory tests obtained from both healthy subjects and patients with psychiatric and medical conditions, focusing primarily on narcolepsy with cataplexy, recurrent isolated sleep paralysis, and sleep panic. SRDR data will be made available to current and future IRB-approved investigators who wish to investigate sleep across a large spectrum of medical conditions.
Contact: Kim Leslie 843-792-0403

**Enhancing Disrupted Reconsolidation: Impact on Cocaine Craving, Reactivity & Use**
The purpose of this double-blind, placebo-controlled study is to examine whether beta-adrenergic antagonist propranolol can attenuate cocaine-associated memories and thereby reduce cocaine craving, cue reactivity, and use in cocaine dependent participants. Participants will receive either placebo, 40mg, or 80mg of propranolol after each of two laboratory sessions of cocaine cue exposure. Participants will be evaluated on cocaine craving, physiological reactivity to cocaine cues, and cocaine use in follow-up sessions for 6 weeks.
Contact: Amanda Smith 843-792-6984
Reducing Smoking Cue Reactivity and Behavior via Retrieval-Extinction Mechanism

This study will examine the effects of a brief behavioral intervention, retrieval-extinction training, on the cue reactivity and smoking behavior of nicotine dependent participants making a quit attempt. All participants will receive two laboratory-based ‘extinction’ sessions that involve protracted exposure to multiple sequences of smoking cues. Half of the participants will be shown a video containing smoking content prior to extinction and the other half will be shown a video with no smoking content. The smoking video combined with extinction is postulated to alter memories for learning that support smoking cue reactivity and behavior. Therefore, participants shown the smoking video prior to the extinction are expected to exhibit reduced craving and smoking behavior at post-treatment follow-up time points (i.e., 24 hours, 2 weeks, and 4 weeks).

Contact: Amanda Smith 843-792-6984

Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation (TMS) for Nicotine Smoking Cessation

TMS administered over the prefrontal cortex in an effort to produce a reduction in nicotine cravings

Contact: Jkeonye Moss 843-876-5141

TMS in conjuction with Mood stabilizers for Bipolar Depression subjects

TMS stimulation is deeper in the brain to target neuronal pathways while participants continue moods stabilizer medication

Contact: Jkeonye Moss 843-876-5141

TMS in Depressed Adolescents

Noninvasive TMS using magnetic fields to stimulate brain nerve cells affection depression & mood

Contact: Jkeonye Moss 843-876-5141

Focal Electrically-Administered Seizure Therapy (FEAST) - Unilateral ECT for Depression

Focalized seizure induced to prefrontal cortex with similar efficacy to traditional ECT

Contact: Will DeVries 843-876-5141

TMS for treatment of Burning Mouth Syndrome (BMS)

TMS will be used to interrupt chronic pain associated with burning mouth syndrome

Contact: Jkeonye Moss 843-876-5141

Integrative Risk Reduction and Treatment for Teen Substance Use Problems and PTSD (RRFT)

The National Crime Victims Center is offering a therapeutic research program for adolescent victims of sexual abuse/assault that may also use alcohol or other substances to help them cope. Teens and caregivers are matched with a clinician to receive weekly trauma-specific treatment. Compensation is available for time devoted to ongoing research assessments. Therapy: Individual and group trauma-focused treatment options; average length of treatment is 3-4 months. Age Requirements: 13-18

Contact: Liz McGuan 843-792-8361 or mcguan@musc.edu

Better Resiliency Among Veterans with Omega-3s (BRAVO)

The BRAVO study is investigating whether supplementation with omega-3 fatty acids will reduce the risk for medically serious suicidal behaviors, depression, PTSD, and substance abuse in a Veteran population. Volunteers who take part in this study would drink smoothies high in Omega-3 HUFAs three times per day for 6 months. They continue current mental health care and are also seen and evaluated by the BRAVO study 6 times over the 6 month period.

Contact the BRAVO referral line at 888-322-6884 or email: BRAVO@MUSC.EDU
Clinical research for burning mouth syndrome treatment using transcranial magnetic stimulation. Burning mouth syndrome (BMS) is a persistent burning sensation in the mouth without abnormal organic findings. The Brain stimulation lab is now conducting a clinical study of the treatment for BMS using transcranial magnetic stimulation (TMS). BMS is a persistent burning sensation in the mouth without abnormal organic findings. The most affected area is the tongue (tip and lateral borders), with pain often felt in several locations. The oral burning sensation usually increases progressively during the day, reaching a maximum intensity at the end of the afternoon, but patients do not find it difficult to get to sleep. Nearly 60% of patients with BMS complain about the sensation of dry mouth or taste disturbance (bitter/metallic taste). In the literature, 1.3 million Americans may be suffering from this condition, although most people have never heard of it. Though the pathophysiology of BMS has not been fully elucidated, recent studies indicate that BMS is caused by some kind of dysfunction in the central nervous system and may be a variant of a pain disorder, or a form of somatic depression, like fibromyalgia, or something else entirely. It is very common in Japan. Treatment is not fully established, but transcranial magnetic stimulation (TMS) could be a new treatment. TMS is a non-invasive brain stimulation technology that can stimulate the cortex focally and painlessly by creating a time-varying magnetic field. The Brain Stimulation lab, Institute of Psychiatry is conducting a clinical study of treatment for BMS using TMS. If you have burning sensation in the mouth and might be interested in the treatment using TMS, please contact us. If you have friends or family who have this problem, please help us spread the word. Contact Yoji at umezaki@musc.edu or 843-876-5142.