

Newsletter

DISCIPLINE OF PSYCHIATRY

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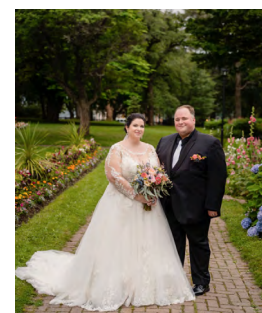
Announcements

Congratulations to **Dr. Anne Hurley** and **Dr. Chris Earle**, who were the successful candidates in the competition for the two GFT faculty positions within our Discipline! They will begin their new positions on December 1, 2023.

Congratulations to **Dr. Emily Fitzgerald**, and fiancé, Giles Ayers, on their recent engagement!

A belated congratulations to **Dr. Rebecca Harrison** and husband Jeff Hong, who were married in the Summer of 2022!

Congratulations to **Dr. Julia Curtis**, and husband Bill Jenkins, who tied the knot on August 19!



Welcome to Bennett Pitts, second child to **Dr. Paul Pitts**, PGY4, and wife Megan! Bennett was born on September 24, 2023. Congrats to all!

Congrats to **Dr. Catherine Hickey** on being named as President-Elect of the Canadian Psychiatric Association! This is a huge honour for our Discipline.

Congrats to **Dr. Eva Davenport**, PGY3, on her appointment as Chair of the Members-in Training sub-committee of the CPA! This position also places her on the Board of Directors of the organization

Welcome to **Dr. Jessica Sang** who will be joining our Faculty on January 1, 2024!

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Events



A resident faculty social was held in August 2023. **Dr. Kathleen Callanan** and **Dr. Julia Curtis** did a fantastic job organizing this at the Swiler's Club, with games, and a photo booth! Baby Teddy was the best-behaved guest of the evening.



Dr. Sarah Noble organized a Faculty and Resident Retreat which was held on September 22. It was well attended, and received excellent feedback. It included discussions around MAiD and social accountability. It was lovely to get together in person, and enjoy the view from Signal Hill Campus! Baby Teddy made another outstanding appearance.

Invites and Involvements



Several of our faculty and residents were present at the Canadian Psychiatric Association annual conference in Vancouver this October.

◀ Back left to right: Eva Davenport, Chris Earle, Mahlodi Tau, Angelique Myles, Drea Uzans, Ming Wang. Front left to right: Elizabeth Rowe, Ted Chen, Graeme Campbell.

Residents are all smiles at junior teaching with **Dr. Jasbir Gill** at the courthouse this past June! Left to right: Michael Gilbert, Dakotah Janes, Leanna Lewis, Eva Davenport, Nailah Hafid, Malcolm Hughes. ▶



Presentations

Complexity in Long-Term Care: Panel Discussion. Plenary session at the Annual Scientific Meeting of the Canadian Academy of Geriatric Psychiatry. Kirkham J, Woolfrey J, O'Rourke A, **Hickey C**, McKim A. St. John's, NL. 2023

Trainee Education Session: Geriatric Psychiatry Across the Career span. Annual Scientific Meeting of the Canadian Academy of Geriatric Psychiatry. **Hickey C.**, Hussain M., Tobin M., Thoo V., Lai P. St. John's, NL. 2023.

What factors influence residents to enroll in geriatric psychiatry subspecialty training? A cross-Canada survey. Oral presentation at the Annual Scientific Meeting of the Canadian Academy of Geriatric Psychiatry. **Sang J., and Hickey C.** St. John's, NL. 2023.

Design, Development, and Implementation of an Asynchronous Online Course to Complement Competency-Based Postgraduate training of Geriatric Psychiatry Sub-Specialty Residents. Poster presented at the Association for Medical Education in Europe Conference. **Hickey C.**, Chisholm T., Esliger M., Murphy C., Hategan A., Singh K., Levinson A. Glasgow, Scotland. 2023.

RE-Boot Family Practice Network, Continuing Professional Development Event. Virtual presentation on Geriatric Psychiatry and Capacity Assessments. **Hickey C.** 2023.

E-Learning on Substance Use Disorders in Older Adults: The Canadian Geriatric Psychiatry Online Program Modules. Geriatric Addictions Rounds, (Invited lecture). **Hickey C.**, Chisholm T., Esliger M., Krishnamoorthy A., Levinson. Toronto, ON. 2023.

Identification of Variables Associated with time to Treatment in Youth with Psychotic Disorders. Poster presented at the SHARE Summit. Giovannini-Green Z., Gao Z., **LeDrew K.**, Luscombe S., Penney S., and Mugford G. St. John's, NL. November, 2023.

Integrating Physical and Mental Health Care for Individuals with Serious Mental Illness In NL (IAMWISE Study): Update on Progress. Poster presented at the SHARE Summit. Maddigan J., Bruneau J., Phillips L., **Ledrew K.**, Deeb A. St. John's, NL. November, 2023.

Experiences of Specialist Physicians with E-Consultations in a Small Academic Centre. Poster presentation at the Canadian Society of Endocrinology and Metabolism. Mader J, **Myles A.**, Cooke-Hubley, S. Montreal, QC. October, 2023.

Seeking Solidarity: A brave space to share experiences with EDIIA issues in training. Presentation at the Canadian Psychiatric Association's Annual Conference. Thomas Z., Sanokho M., Côté-Olijnyk M., Singhal N., **Rowe E.** Vancouver, BC. October, 2023.

Awards

Congrats to all the award winners for the 2022/2023 academic year! The majority of these were presented at Scholarship Day on June 16, 2023:

Clinical Supervisor Award – **Dr. Stuart Gill** (Jr.) and **Dr. Rebecca King** (Sr.)

Academic Teacher Award – **Dr. Julia Curtis** (Jr.) and **Dr. Ashli Hayes** (Sr.)

Resident Teaching Award – **Dr. Paul Pitts**

Postgraduate Geriatric Psychiatry Scholarship – **Dr. Emily Bolt** ▶



Frederick O’Neill Award – **Dr. Dakotah Janes** ▶



Janssen Research Award – **Dr. Rebecca Harrison** ▶



Best Resident in Research: In Progress Award – **Dr. Emily Fitzgerald**

Subspecialty Programs

GERIATRIC

Dr. Cathy Hickey

The Geriatric Psychiatry Subspecialty Residency Program is pleased to announce that our inaugural graduate, **Dr. Jessica Sang**, finished her program in June of 2023. We look forward to congratulating our second graduate, Dr. Duncan MacIver, who will finish his program in June of 2024.

We are so proud of these residents and are thrilled to announce that Dr. Sang recently joined the Miller Center as a Staff/Faculty. Thank you to all members of the Geriatric Psychiatry Residency Program Committee who worked hard to make our training program a reality. L-R, Duncan MacIver, ▶

Cathy Hickey, Jessica Sang.



CHILD AND ADOLESCENT

Dr. Weldon Bonnell

The Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Subspecialty Residency Program is lucky to have two excellent residents: **Dr. Rebecca Harrison** (PGY-5) and **Dr. Jonathan Phang** (PGY-6). We had a positive experience with our internal review this fall and are actively preparing for our Royal College accreditation next fall. Our faculty and residents had an excellent experience at our first Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Journal Club in November. I am deeply grateful to all the members of our Residency Program Committee and faculty that are working hard to ensure the highest quality educational experience for our residents.

Message from the Program Director

2023 has been a typically eventful year. Between ER diversions, pilot programs for call and numerous last second adjustments to the call schedule, there have been lots of changes and challenges. Throughout the year, I've been impressed by the dedication and resilience of our resident group in dealing with these developments as they arise.

I expect the new year will be no less eventful. The year will begin with the CARMS 2024 process, move into the long-anticipated "double cohort" with both PGY 4 & 5 residents writing the Royal College exam in February and March, and, end with the program receiving its external review from the Royal College in November.

The Residency Program Committee (RPC) is planning for all these events. We have started releasing a brief newsletter (RPC Notes) after each monthly meeting, highlighting the major developments and discussions from each meeting. These are emailed to all residents and faculty, as well as being posted on the discipline's website. Questions and comments are always welcome.

Let's hope for a good 2024. In the meantime, I hope everyone manages to get a well deserved break at some point in the last few weeks of this year.

~ Andrew

Message from the Chair

Hello Everyone,

A belated welcome to a new academic year! As a Discipline, we continue to be busy providing clinical care and medical education at the undergraduate, postgraduate and continuing professional development levels. In the undergraduate medical curriculum alone in 2023-2024, we will deliver 29 hours of lectures, 2 hours of tutorial, 15 hours of clinical skills, supervise 70 clinical clerks and take part in at least 7 OSCEs. Thank you to all our faculty and residents for their ongoing engagement, and our amazing administrators, Lisa, Jackie and Melissa, for keeping it organized.

Given the academic demands on our group, I am very pleased to announce some new GFT positions for the Discipline. Dr. Anne Hurley and Dr. Christopher Earle were successfully recruited to the posts previously advertised. Moreover, we have been given direction to recruit another GFT in Geriatric Psychiatry, as Memorial University will be introducing a new postgraduate program in Geriatric Medicine, as well as expanding its Care of the Elderly Program in Family Medicine.

While we continue to use technology to facilitate our distributed education model and promote efficiency, there have been some lovely opportunities to come together in recent months. The retreat in September could have taken place with no content for the same amount of time as people caught up and reconnected. We were particularly delighted to see Dr. Edison, who made the trip in from Grand Falls. It is my hope to plan more hybrid Discipline activities moving forward.

In addition to socializing, we did use the retreat as an opportunity to discuss the upcoming introduction of legislation that will allow MAiD MD-SUMC: Medical assistance in dying where a mental disorder is the sole underlying medical condition, in March 2024. This is uncharted territory for the disciplines across the country, and can elicit strong feelings from patients, family members, advocates, and clinicians. It will be important that we continue such dialogue and support one another as we navigate this change in clinical and academic settings.

Another challenge in 2024 will be the “double cohort” eligibility for the Royal College examinations. With the introduction of Competence by Design, residents now complete the exam in PGY4, prior to commencing the Transition to Practice stage of training. This, of course, means that in 2024 we have 2 cohorts of residents preparing for these pivotal exams, while balancing clinical demands. I have great

faith in the leadership of Dr. Latus and Dr. Mercer, as well as the residents and their unflinching support of one another, to meet this challenge. Moreover, I look forward to working with our current PGY4s next year as they truly assume a junior attending role after achieving this important milestone.

As 2023 comes to an end, the Faculty of Medicine's Strategic Plan is being reviewed. Most of the established working groups are completing their mandates, with the exception of the group focused on Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI). This group for the Faculty of Medicine will be chaired by our own Dr. Elcock. EDI considerations are particularly critical in psychiatry, as our patients can experience the intersectionality of being in a marginalized group, and the stigma of psychiatric illness, while trying to access safe care. I have, therefore, initiated a resident-faculty working group within our own Discipline to enhance the educational program around EDI, and collaborate with Dr. Elcock's group.

I would be remiss not to remind everyone that November 2024 will also include our Royal College Accreditation review for General Psychiatry, Geriatric Psychiatry and Child and Adolescent Psychiatry. Our tireless Program Directors, Dr. Latus, Dr. Hickey, and Dr. Bonnell, steered us successfully through internal reviews with PGME in the last year. They will need our ongoing responsiveness to emails, updates, and meetings, so, thank you in advance for your time.

As 2023 comes to a close, I wish everyone a wonderful holiday with family and friends. I also hope that we return, invigorated, to meet the challenges and the possibilities of 2024.

~Sarah