

## Message from the Chair

There is no down time in a department like ours. Nonetheless, I hope that amidst the grant writing, the welcoming of new students and residents, and the caring for patients, you found the time to enjoy the best days of the summer and to take well-deserved holidays with family and friends. One area that does usually tend to slow down during the summer is administration with fewer meetings and McGill's summer Fridays. This was not the case for us this year as we



(From left to right) Mr. Irving Ludmer, Dr. Guy Rouleau, Dr. Mimi Israel



moved back into the newly renovated (but not totally finished) Ludmer Research and Training Building. A small inaugural event was held on September 26 to thank Mr. Irving Ludmer for his generosity.



(From left to right) Dr. Mimi Israel, Mr. Irving Ludmer, Dr. Marco Leyton, Dr. Gabriella Gobbi, Dr. Theodore Sourkes

Other important Ludmer R&T news pertain to an exciting new collaboration between

our department and the Neuro. Dr. Guy Rouleau, newly recruited director of the MNI and Chair of Neurology and Neurosurgery at McGill will be relocating a part of his lab to the R&T. Dr. Rouleau's accomplishments and longstanding interest in mental health research offers an opportunity to develop meaningful collaborations between psychiatry and neurology.

The official confirmation announcing the appointment of the new scientific director of the Douglas Research Centre will be issued by the University soon. In the meantime, we can share with you the fact that the selected candidate will be joining our department in January 2014.

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*Message from the Chair continued...*

Several leadership changes are anticipated for the year ahead. Dr. Michael Bond, Psychiatrist-in-Chief at the Jewish General Hospital, will be stepping down, as will Dr. Martin Gauthier Psychiatrist-in-Chief at the Montreal Children's Hospital and chief for the Division of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry. Dr. René Desautels, chief for the Division of Geriatric Psychiatry, also stepped down last spring. Searches to fill these positions have been initiated. We have

also posted the position of Postgraduate Program Director for Geriatric Psychiatry.

Finally, you should have all heard by now that I have decided not to renew my mandate as Chair of the Department. A search committee chaired by Mara Ludwig, Associate Dean of Faculty Affairs, has been assembled and your input will be solicited. The end of my mandate also coincides with McGill's cyclical review of our department. We are

finalizing the documents, and planning a visit by two external reviewers, Professor Trevor Young, Chair, Department of Psychiatry, University of Toronto, and Professor Jerrold Rosenbaum, Chief of Psychiatry, MGH, Harvard University. The site visit has been scheduled for October 7-9, 2013, and different groups within the department will have the opportunity to meet with reviewers.

*Graduation*



*(From left to right) Octavian Boureau, Valérie Falardeau, Anne Crawford, Cosmin Ioncu, Marie-Michèle Gagné, Elise Martineau-Corbeil, Layla Dabby, David Lachance, Anca Seculin, Rimma Orenman, Angela Bucatel, Leon Tourian, Lorin Young*

Resident graduation was a huge success this year. In front of family, friends, and teachers, 14 residents were honored and eloquently captured their residency experience with insight and wit. One of the highlights of the evening was the beautiful Irish blessing sung by 2 of Dr. Karl Looper's daughters. We also congratulate graduates from our masters of psychiatry program, Noemie Aubert-Bonn, Ilia Blinderman, Nicole D'souza, Shamira Pira, Ilya Razykov, Robert Simon Biskin and Luisa Molino who received their diplomas at spring convocation.

## AMPQ

Members of our department are also making an impact in the community. Four members were elected to the board of the Association des Médecins Psychiatres du Québec (AMPQ), please join me in congratulating (from left to right) Drs. Pierre Assalian, Karine Igartua (President-elect), Theodore Kolivakis, and Georgina Zahirney.



*Message from the  
Chair continued...*

The 2013 student research day was held on June 3<sup>rd</sup> with 23 excellent presentations delivered by students from the Douglas, the MUHC, and the JGH. Congratulations to award recipients and their supervisors.

We also held the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Resident Research Day on July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2013. It was an opportunity to meet incoming residents who were accepted in our research track and to hear presentations showcasing work currently being done by other residents. Dr. Raymond Lam was the guest speaker and he delivered a witty and inspiring talk on the life of a clinician-scientists.

A number of our faculty members have been promoted and granted tenure

and we warmly like to congratulate them, as well as the departmental committee members who work so diligently to ensure the dossiers meet University requirements. Congratulations to Drs Boivin, Joober, Latimer and Lepage who are now full professors. In addition, several of our faculty were recent recipients of grants, awards and recognitions.

Recent donations to our faculty development fund have allowed us to sponsor or contribute to several events. For instance, the upgrading of this year's resident graduation ceremony, sponsorship of resident and student research day and funding of two faculty development days this fall (The STACERS Assessment

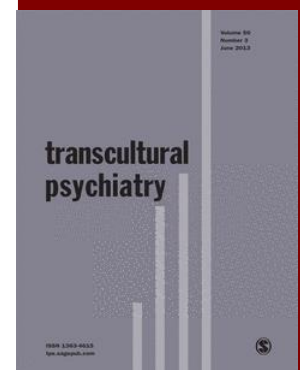
Training and Faculty Development Workshop).

We are also very pleased to contribute to the anniversary celebrations of our *Division of Social & Transcultural Psychiatry* journal celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> volume. The oldest and most prestigious journal in the field of cultural psychiatry, *Transcultural Psychiatry* was founded at McGill and published in-house until 1992 when we contracted with SAGE Publications (UK). The journal is the official publication of the World Psychiatric Association Section on Transcultural Psychiatry and of the Society for the Study of Psychiatry and Culture.

Wishing you a bright fall season.

*Mimi Israel*

Chair, Department of Psychiatry



# Grants, Awards and Recognitions



Dr. Nicola Casacalenda  
Associate Professor

## Promotions, New Hires and New Appointments

### Promoted to Full Professor with tenure

Diane Boivin  
Ridha Joobar  
Eric Latimer  
Martin Lepage

### Promoted to Associate Professor with tenure

Reut Gruber  
Aurelie Labbe  
Naguib Mechawar

### Promoted to Associate Professor

Marie-Josée Brouillette

### New Hire, Faculty Lecturer

Ioana Iordache

### ACPC Award for Excellence in Education

Nicola Casacalenda

### NSERC (Canada)

Nicolas Cermakian  
Weiya Ma

### Volkswagen Foundation Competition (Germany)

Amir Raz

### Psychiatry Residents Research Award

Vincent Laliberté, MD, MSc

### Psychiatry Graduate Students Research Award

Gerald Jordan, MSc

### Early Career Psychiatrists Research Award

Robert Simon Biskin, MD, MSc

### Psychiatry Fellowship Award

Jai Shah, MD, MSc, DABPN

## 2013 FRSQ Awards and Grants

### Chercheurs-boursiers -

#### Clinique et épidémiologique

Jennifer Coelho,  
*Institut Douglas*  
Aurelie Labbe,  
*Institut Douglas*  
Maria N. Rajah,  
*Institut Douglas*  
Pedro Rosa-Neto,  
*Institut Douglas*  
Brett Thombs,  
*l'Hôpital Général Juif*

### Chercheurs-boursiers -

#### Santé et Société

Anne Crocker,  
*Institut Douglas*  
Monica Ruiz-Casares,  
*CSSS de la Montagne*

#### Formation de doctorat

William Affleck  
Liam Crapper  
Nicole D'Souza  
Vanessa Delisle  
Jeffrey Gross  
Juan Pablo Lopez

### Recherches en santé et

#### société

Anne Crocker,  
*Institut Douglas*

## March 2013 CIHR Operating Grant Competition Results

Gabriella Gobbi (Martin Beaulieu)

*Melatonin MT1 receptor as a target for antidepressant drugs*

Jorge Armony (Neda Ladbon Bernasconi)

*Effects of Amygdala Lesions on Human Emotional Processing*

Véronique Bohbot, (John C Breitner, Ridha Joobar, Kyoko Konishi)

*Genetic modulation of Virtual Navigational Strategies, and Brain Function and Grey Matter in Healthy Aging*

Myra Piat (Mimi Israel, Paul Morin, Deborah K Padgett, Michel Perreault, John N Trainor)

*Moving from Custodial Housing to Autonomous Living: The Lived Experience of Residents and Their Recovery from Serious Mental Illness*

Norbert Schmitz (Philip Awadalla, Alain D Lesage, Rémi Rabasa-Lhoret, Irene Strychar, Jianli Wang,)

*Depression as a risk factor for type 2 diabetes: role of metabolic factors*



**Megan Sheppard MSc 1st prize, Douglas (supervisor: Dr. Giamal Luheshi)**  
LPS induces a prolonged change in energy balance in diet-induced obese rats

**Juan Pablo Lopez PhD 1st prize, Douglas (supervisor: Dr. Gustavo Turecki)**  
miR-1202: A Primate-Specific and Brain-Enriched miRNA is Involved in Major Depression and Regulates the Expression of GRM4

**Dr. Michael Verwey, Postdoc 1st prize, Douglas (supervisor: Dr. Cecilia Flores)**  
The sonic hedgehog co-receptor Cdo is important in the development of the VTA

**Jesse Renaud, MUHC Prize (supervisor: Dr. Gail Myhr)**  
Predicting who benefits most from cognitive behavioural therapy for anxiety and depression

**Danyael Lutgens, Birmingham-Denis Prize (supervisor: Dr. Ashok Malla)**  
Predictors of Cognition Functioning in First Episode Psychosis

**Dr. Leora Yetnikoff, Marco Leyton Addiction Award (supervisor: Dr. Cecilia Flores)**  
Adolescence: A time of transition for the phenotype of dcc heterozygous mice

## Summer Highlights



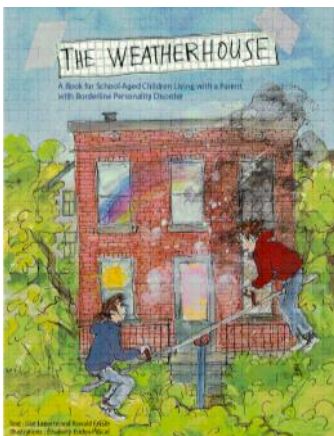
**New Residents Welcome Dinner with Dr. Karl Looper**  
(From left to right) Ahmad Almadani, Maria Fajardo La Torre, Isa Jette-Cote, Maria Tuineag, Dominique Elie, Anabel Carmel, Ralph Tacheji, Carmen Chen, Simon Dufour-Turbis, Arian Behzadi



**2013 Summer Program in Social and Cultural Psychiatry**

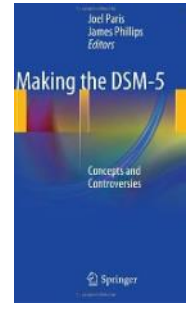
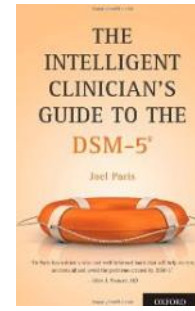
### Hot off the Press

A book for children of parents with borderline personality disorder *The Weather House*, has been written by Dr. Ronald



Fraser, Director of the Extended Care Clinic of the MUHC Personality Disorders Program and Lise Laporte, PhD, Research Director of the MUHC Personality Disorders Program. This illustrated book provides, through a touching story, clinically sound, age-appropriate information for children (under the age of 12), giving clear answers to frequently asked questions about the illness of a parent and suggesting ways to cope with the situation.

Joel Paris has published 3 books this year, and is expecting a fourth in the autumn.



*Psychotherapy in An Age of Narcissism, The Intelligent Clinician's Guide to DSM-5, Making DSM-5, Historical, Ideological, and Conceptual Issues in the DSM Process, Fads and Fallacies in Psychiatry (coming soon).*