


Message from the Chair

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With the summer now drawing to a close, I hope you are all returning from some well-deserved holidays, and are ready to begin the year with renewed energy. I am looking forward to this academic year, during which I am certain that our department will continue on its path to achieving academic excellence and innovation.

Since my appointment six months ago, there have been several internal and external changes that have affected our department. Bill 10 was adopted last winter and has had wide-ranging repercussions on our institutions. The health care administrative structure and service reorganization continues to be in flux and presents new challenges to both our academic mission and to the delivery of clinical services. In addition to the regional health-service structural changes, CIHR is implementing significant transformations to the way it reviews and awards funding, which have required each of us to adjust our approach to academic endeavours. Although these changes are difficult, we are learning together how to adapt to the new realities of psychiatric care and research, and I am confident that new opportunities will arise that will benefit us as a whole.



Internally, we have made progress in shaping the future of the department. As detailed in an announcement sent in the spring, Dr. Nicola Casacalenda has been appointed as the Associate Chair of Clinical Affairs. We welcome him aboard and are looking forward to his fresh perspective on clinical matters and other departmental affairs.

We have also embarked on a mission to unify the vision of care delivered by psychiatric services across the different sites affiliated with McGill. This newly created initiative, called "Rethinking Psychiatry at McGill," gives us an opportunity to readjust in the face of all the health-system changes, and to plan strategically. The committee has met twice, in April and in June. Together, we

have agreed on two pilot projects. First, under the Faculty of Medicine's current mandate to advance Global Health projects, we are considering the creation of a McGill Global Mental Health Program. Second, we have begun discussions to standardize patient handover procedures at psychiatric emergency services across the different sites. With these important projects underway, I am enthusiastic about our department's ability to work together to bring meaningful change to our patients.

Save the Date!
Friday,
November
27th
Departmental
Day!

Message from the Chair continued...

Another important aspect of our department's activities is in communicating our vision, our work and our successes to each other and to the public. For these reasons I am pleased to announce the forthcoming creation of a Department of Psychiatry Twitter account. I would welcome any feedback from you about ongoing activities and invite you to let us know about events you would like us to communicate.



The Glen Yards Hospital

Finally, I would ask you all to mark your calendars for the **Departmental Day on November 27th**. Please join us for this event during which the Dean will visit us to exchange with members of our department, and you will have the opportunity to learn about ongoing academic and clinical activities conducted by departmental members. In addition, we will be hosting a cutting edge conference entitled "Physician-assisted dying: the psychiatrist's role?" just days before the new Quebec law goes into effect. This will definitely be a Departmental Day not to be missed!

I wish you all an enjoyable return to your activities and anticipate an excellent academic year.

Sincerely,

Gustavo Turecki
Chair, Department of Psychiatry

Appointments and Promotions

Emeritus

Nancy Frasure-Smith

Promotions

Brett Thombs to Full Professor
Lucie Nadeau to Associate Professor
Jaswant Guzder to Full Professor
Jens Pruessner to Full Professor
Marcelo Berlim to Associate Professor
Marion Koch to Assistant Professor (part time)
Sylvain Williams to Full Professor

New Appointments

Diana Awad (Assistant Professor)
Jason Bond (Assistant Professor)
Mark Brandon (Assistant Professor)
Angela Bucatel (Assistant Professor)
Rosemarie Chenard-Sousy (Assistant Professor)
Christian Dubé (Faculty Lecturer)
Ferid Fathalli (Assistant Professor)
Marie-Claude Geoffroy (Assistant Professor)
Paola Habib (Assistant Professor)
Outi Mantere (Associate Professor)
Valentin Mbekou (Faculty Lecturer)
Ruben Martins (Assistant Professor)
Xiang Fe Meng (Assistant Professor)
Alexandre Traicu (Assistant Professor)
Sylvia Villeneuve (Assistant Professor)
Yael Wolf (Assistant Professor)



Photo Credit: Romualdo Ray Barillaro, DMHUI

Left to Right: Lynn McVey, François Morin, Dr. David Eidelman, Minister of Economic Development Jacques Daooust, Martine Turcotte, Dr. Naguib Mechawar, Dr. Gustavo Turecki, Minister of Health Dr. Gaetan Barrette, Marisa Giannetti, and Benoît Morin

The department is proud to announce the inauguration of the Centre for Translational Research on Mood Disorders and Suicide at the Douglas Mental Health University Institute this past August. The cutting-edge centre, along with the newly modernized Douglas-Bell Canada Brain Bank, will help researchers from around the globe to advance knowledge about neurodegenerative and psychiatric diseases.

Department Highlights

We had a wonderful turn out at the cocktail dinatoire in honor of our outgoing chair, Dr. Mimi Israël, on April 14th, 2015. A great time was had, with delicious food and speeches that were original and appreciative. A beautiful piece of artwork was presented to Mimi, which she will likely admire for years to come.

We welcome Dr. Leon Tourian as the new Graduate Program Director effective July 1st, 2015. His dedication and commitment to residents and to educational excellence will definitely be valued and we look forward to important initiatives coming up during his mandate.

The 21st Summer Program in Social and Cultural Psychiatry was hosted from May to July 2015. This year, over 80 Canadian and international students attended the program. Thanks to the dedication and effort of the Transcultural Division's faculty and support staff, we have been able to offer this unique



Dr. Leon Tourian

program for two decades.

This past spring, we saw the move of both the Royal Victoria Hospital and the Montreal Children's Hospital to the new Glen site. Those who participated in the MUHC



walk for the official opening on June 20th saw a large representation of members from the Faculty of Medicine and McGill University, as well as dignitaries from all levels of government. As time passes, we hope our faculty members from the MUHC Departments of Psychiatry and Child Psychiatry are settling in well.

Dr. Howard Steiger presenting Dr. Mimi Israël with her gift at the departmental cocktail dinatoire

In Memorium

Maurice Dongier
1925 – 2015

Frank Raymond Ervin
1926 – 2015

Theodore (Ted) Lionel Sourkes
1919 – 2015



Dr. Laurence Kirmayer, second from the right, and his Cultural Psychiatry class during the 2015 Summer Program

Grants, Awards and Recognitions

Dr. Laurence Kirmayer

Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada

Dr. Marco Leyton

2015 Canadian College of Neuropsychopharmacology (CCNP) Innovations in Neuropsychopharmacology Award

Dr. Sherif Karama

2015 Canadian College of Neuropsychopharmacology (CCNP) Young Investigator Award

Dr. Ashok Malla

2015 Canadian College of Neuropsychopharmacology (CCNP) Medal

Dr. Gabriella Gobbi

Venezia Prize from the Italian Chamber of Commerce in Canada, for the best collaborative scientific project between Canada and Italy.

2015 FRSQ Awards and Grants

Chercheurs-boursiers

Dr. Tak Pan Wong

(Établissement de jeunes chercheurs)

Dr. Mayada Elsabbagh

Chercheurs-boursiers cliniciens

(Établissement de jeunes chercheurs cliniciens)

Dr. Simon Ducharme

Dr. Srividya Iyer

Dr. Jai Shah

Recherches sur l'urgence et le continuum des soins -Volet 1

Marie-Josée Fleury

Formation de doctorat et de maîtrise

Valerie D'Amour-Horvat

Michelle Lonergan

Genevieve Sauve

Franz Veru

Stephanie Gumuchian

Danielle Brittany Rice

Natalia Jaworska



Dr. Srividya Iyer

2015 CIHR Grants

Srividya Iyer

Foundation Grant

Enhancing youth mental health: A program of research into mental healthcare needs, pathways, outcomes and services

Phyllis Zelkowitz

Operating Grant

Developing informational and emotional supports for couples undergoing infertility treatment

Team Grant: Advancing Research to Improve Boy's and Men's Health - General Grant New Promoting Physical and Mental Health in Men Facing Fertility Issues

Mallar Chakravarty

Operating Grant

Imaging-genetics biomarkers for disease risk in Alzheimer's Disease

Lalit Srivastava

Operating Grant

Role of developing hippocampus in organizing prefrontal cortical functions



Dr. Leon Tourian, third from the left, and McGill Psychiatry Residents

2015 Student Research Day Awards

Richard Boyce FRQ-S Award
(Supervisor: Dr. S. Williams)

Huy Binh Nguyen Douglas Foundation Award
(Supervisors: Drs. M. Meaney & T.P. Wong)

Angelica Torres-Berrio Douglas Research Center Award
(Supervisor: Dr. C. Flores)

Shauna Solomon-Krakus Dennis/Birmingham Award
(Supervisor: Dr. D. Dunkley)

Jennifer Lissemore MUHC Award
(Supervisors: Drs. C. Benkelfat & M. Leyton)

2015 Resident Awards Night

Resident Awards for the Best Scholarly Paper

Dr. Vincent Laliberte
Gabrielle Weiss Prize
Dr. Matthew Sloan
Saul Wilner Prize
Dr. Venkat Bhat
Innovative Publication Prize
Dr. Dominique Elie
Serge Bikadoroff Prize
Dr. Vincent Laliberte
Chairman's Prize

Resident Awards for Clinical and Educational Excellence

Dr. Alanna Propst
Most Promising Clinician
Dr. Wid Kattan
Most Promising Teacher
Dr. Carl Chinara
Dennis Engels Awards for excellence in Psychotherapy

Faculty Awards

Dr. Nick Casacalenda
Best Training Director
Dr. Leon Tourian
Best Teacher
Dr. Tewfik Said
Best Supervisor

Elections

Dr. Annie Trepanier (R5)
President of the Federation of Medical Residents of Quebec

Dr. Aris Hadjinicolaou (R2)
President of the Association of Residents of McGill

Welcome New Residents 2015

Alexandre Allard
McGill University

Rosalie Cavin
McGill University

Iulia Cristinalonescu
McGill University

André Do
McGill University

Nasr Farooqi
Queen Mary Westfield Coll, England

Marie Fournier
Université Laval

Artin Mahdanian
Tehran University of Medical Sciences

Anika Maraj
University of Ottawa

Estelle Ouellet
Université de Montréal

Hyehyun Paek
Dalhousie University

Delphine Roussel-Bergeron
Université de Montréal

Rouzbeh Shadpey
Université de Sherbrooke

Blanca Elena Vacaflor
Université de Montréal

Dafna Wajszilber
McGill University



Dr. Karl Looper, far right, and McGill Psychiatry Resident Graduates

2015 Residency Graduation

Dr. Carl Chiniara
Dr. Wid Kattan
Dr. Eric Lis
Dr. Ruben Martins
Dr. Alanna Propst
Dr. Matthew Sloan
Dr. Jean Daniel Sylvestre