I. Greetings from the Chair

As part of the Department of Psychiatry & Behavioral Neuroscience’s strategic and succession planning, the following changes in the Department’s clinical leadership structure took place last month. Dr. Gerald Shiener has graciously agreed to assume the role of Medical Director for Integrated Care and Consultation Liaison services. To achieve and lead this important objective, he has resigned as the Chief of Psychiatry at SGH. Dr. Stephen Warnick has been appointed as the new Chief of Psychiatry at SGH. In this role, he will be mentored by Drs. Shiener and Amirsadri. Dr. Victor Ajluni has been promoted to be the Medical Director for the DRH crisis center. He will be working very closely with Drs. Amirsadri and Haddad in this role. Dr. Ali Amirsadri has resigned from the medical directorship of DRH crisis center. He will continue with his other roles and duties and will be focusing more on central issues related to the Department.

On December 16, 2015, the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Neurosciences will host a Holiday Party at Tolan Park, additional details on page 5. I hope to see you all there!

II. News from the Faculty

- **Shane Perrine, PhD.**, in collaboration with Dr. Jinsheng Zhang (WSUSOM), was recently awarded a grant from the Department of Defense for their study, “Targeting TNF-alpha For Treating Blast-Induced Tinnitus and Its Related TBI”. As a co-investigator, Dr. Perrine will conduct the behavioral (anxiety/emotional-related) testing.

III. Research Activities

- **Denise I. Briggs**, a PhD candidate in our Translational Neuroscience Program working in the lab of Dr. Donald Kuhn, presented a poster at the 2015 Society for Neuroscience (SFN) annual meeting in Chicago, IL (Oct. 17-21, 2015). Her poster entitled “Studies of repetitive mild TBI: Animal model of sports-related head impact”, was recently selected from among more than 850 other posters and presentations on TBI for a visit by VIPs and special speakers. The Advocacy, Outreach & Training Department of the Society selected Denise’s poster in part because one of the speakers at their Public Advocacy Forum this year is Chris Borland, the former NFL football player who gave the address at this year’s meeting on his decision to retire from professional football after his remarkable rookie season. The likelihood of head trauma and a desire to preserve his mental health were two major factors that influenced Mr. Borland’s decision to retire.
IV. Office of Education and Training

- **Dr. Anita Chang**, PG - 3 resident recently had her article, “Unseen Wounds of War,” publication by the AJP Resident’s Journal.

All work and no play!!!? No way! Some of you have noticed occasional soccer games hosted on Wednesday evenings with our DPBN residents and if you’re lucky… you’ll even catch Dr. Balon playing!

*Left to Right Top: Musa Yilanli, Omar Waqhar, Khushminder Chahal, Samad Hassan, and Dr. Balon*

*Left to Right Bottom: Umair Daimee, Ahmed Mohammed, Murtadha Abdulhussein, and Anne Wagner.*
U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow announced that Michigan will be awarded $982,373 to compete in a nation-wide program to improve and expand access to mental health care. This first-of-its-kind initiative is based on Senator Stabenow’s Excellence in Mental Health Act, which is one of the most significant steps forward in community mental health funding in decades. Selected by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Michigan is one step closer to being chosen to be part of a new eight-state demonstration program to expand quality mental health care. This new program will offer patients increased services like 24-hour crisis psychiatric care, counseling, and integrated treatments for mental illness. Senator Stabenow’s bipartisan Excellence in Mental Health Act was cosponsored by Senator Roy Blunt (R-MO) and signed into law by President Obama last year.

**REMINDER**
We are deeply saddened by the recent passing of Henry Krystal, the American psychoanalyst and expert on the psychological impact of the Holocaust died on October 8, 2015 at the age of 90. The cause was complications of Parkinson’s disease. Dr. Krystal had been professor and Interim Chair of the Department of Psychiatry at the Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine, where he held the rank of professor emeritus at the time of his death. Dr. Krystal’s studies of the survivors of the Nazi Death Camps were an outgrowth of his evaluations conducted in the 1950s and 1960s of over 1000 applicants for reparations from the German government for psychological difficulties stemming from their incarceration in the Camps. Dr. Krystal described these evaluations as extremely taxing as they evoked his own memories of captivity. He was taken by the Nazis at the age of 14 and he survived incarceration and torture in camps including Starachowice, Auschwitz/Birkinau, Bobrek, and the death marches between Buchenwald and Sachsenhausen. He was the only member of his family to survive the war. In the early 1960s, Krystal chaired a landmark series of international symposia on psychological traumatization, a forerunner of PTSD. These conferences led to Massive Psychic Trauma, a book edited by Dr. Krystal and published in 1968 that highlighted features common to Holocaust survivors, survivors of the Hiroshima atomic bomb, and other extreme psychological traumas. This work helped to make the case for the existence of a lasting psychological syndrome following psychological traumatization. Over decades, Krystal developed and refined psychotherapeutic techniques that began by enabling people first to tolerate, then label, then explore, and finally embrace their emotional distress, so that they could understand and grow from their traumatic experiences. His theoretical, clinical, and therapeutic writings have informed generations of scholars and clinicians. Dr. Krystal’s contributions were recognized with many honors, including the Pioneer Award of the International Society of Traumatic Stress Studies, the Laughlin Lifetime Achievement Award of the American Psychoanalytic Association, and the Tikkun Olam (Healing the World) Award of the Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Detroit.

"The only way to make sense out of change is to plunge into it, move with it, and join the dance." - Alan Watts
The Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Neurosciences Cordially Invites You to the Holiday Party

December 16
12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Tolan Park – 2nd floor conference room

Lunch will be provided.

Please R.S.V.P. by November 23 to
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