

KREWE OF PSYCH

Tulane Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences Departmental Newsletter



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Message from the Chair

By John W. Thompson, Jr., MD



We live in interesting times. At the time of writing, Tulane University has just lifted its proof of vaccination requirement. We no longer have to wear masks indoors. Covid numbers are down across the city. It feels both strange and liberating, but I welcome these signs of a slow, steady return to "normal" life.

I am also proud of our department's flexibility over the past two years. We've been able to serve our students and our patients despite a variety of challenges. We're making great strides with our EDI work, thanks in no small part to Dr. Angela Keyes's efforts, and we will continue to prioritize this within our department in the coming years. We've even managed to clear the hurdle of random power outages with great communication, speed and efficiency (and by 2023, a new generator). We also had an extremely successful year with Match--you can view our new trainees [at this link](#). I know the past few years have been a series of challenges, but everyone has risen to meet them. I look forward to the coming months bringing a return to the traditions we have missed, with our community around us, stronger than ever.

Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences Department Grants Awarded

We are excited to share information about the grants that members of our department have worked so diligently to secure.

Dr. Allison Boothe Trigg: Aug 2021 – July 2022 City Seats New Orleans, Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation program, \$208,000. Administrative program to provide mental health consultation to children enrolled in the City Seats program, secure consultants, reflective supervisors for coaches in the program, oversee and/or provide development professional development opportunities for City Seats teachers, and support universal mental health screening and referral services for children enrolled in City Seats program. (Primary Investigator).

Aug 2021 – July 2022; NOEEN (New Orleans Early Education Network) Early Childhood Educators Professional Development & Evaluation, \$52,500. Create and provide a series of large and small group professional development webinars for early childhood educators and evaluate impact of professional development series. (Co-Primary Investigator with Angela Keyes).

Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences Department's Professional Awards

The department would like to extend our congratulations on all the hard work members of our department have put forth to merit these awards.

Sherry Liang, R2 with Med/Psych program has received 2nd place for the Louisiana chapter ACP Resident Poster competition and also for a second place win at the national Association of Medicine and Psychiatry Resident Vignette competition.

In Case You Missed It: Watch Match Day 2022!



Did you miss attending Match Day this year? No worries--you can still watch the video [at this link](#). Bonus: see if you can spot the people who matched with Psychiatry!

Upcoming Events in Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences Department



Forensics Symposium (Virtual): April 22 & 23, 2022. You can sign up [at this link](#). Please contact Lora Ghawaly (lghawaly@tulane.edu) to for any questions regarding this event.

Happening
Soon!

Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences Programming

Check out our upcoming lectures and information about past sessions!

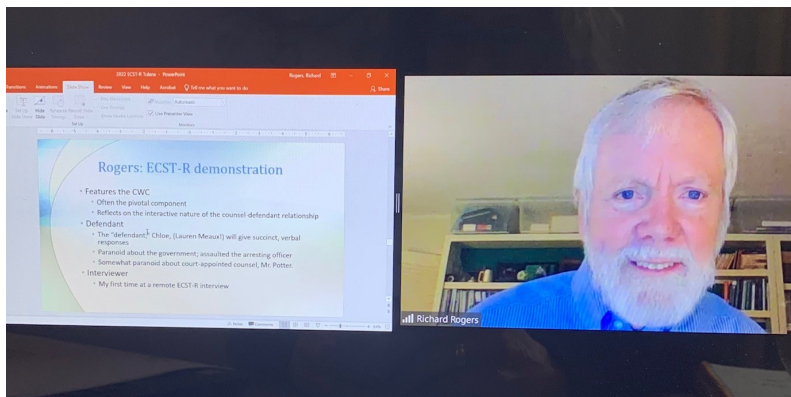
"Stories from the Village" Conference Is TIKES Networking Hub

Happening Soon!



The African proverb “It takes a village to raise a child” continues to ring true to the many caregivers tasked in supporting the well-being and healthy development of young children. For 15 years, the TIKES Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation program has been serving the village of Louisiana caregivers with the goal of improving the quality of early childhood care. To celebrate this milestone, the TIKES program is hosting “Stories from the Village”, a free virtual conference for early childhood professionals. The conference is an opportunity for professional development for early childhood educators to learn more on topics related to infant and early childhood mental health and to connect with TIKES consultants across the state. The conference will feature keynote speaker Dr. Charles Zeanah, and will be held on **April 5th, 2022**. [Register here!](#)

"Competency To Stand Trial" Presentation Delivers New Resources



On January 12, 2022, the Forensic Psychology and Psychiatry divisions, in partnership with Eastern Louisiana Mental Health System (ELMHS) in Jackson, La., held a half-day workshop titled, “**The ECST-R: Advancing Forensic Knowledge and Competencies.**” The workshop was presented by the first author of the ECST-R, **Richard Rogers, PhD, ABPP.**

Dr. Rogers is Regents Professor of Psychology at the University of North Texas. Dr. Rogers has been highly influential in developing multiple empirically validated measures for competency to stand trial (Evaluation of Competency to Stand Trial—Revised (ECST-R), malingering (SIRS; Rogers et al., 1992) and Miranda abilities (Standardized Assessment of Miranda Abilities (SAMA), integrating data from more than 700 adult pretrial defendants. The workshop was well attended--over 30 faculty and trainees from the Psychiatry and Psychology departments joined, as well as the ELMHS Psychology department. The workshop was held to increase competency among our forensic faculty in order to advance the mission of the forensic hospital, which is to provide high-quality empirical care to seriously mentally ill patients in Louisiana’s forensic system.

We thank the Louisiana Department of Health, Dr. John Thompson and the Psychiatry department for their support, which enabled this exciting workshop. We look forward to more to come!

Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences Department Community Events

At a recent NOLA Drive-Thru Baby Shower community event, the Fourth Trimester & Beyond Clinic and the TIKES Infant & Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation Program provided perinatal mental health and child development information, as well as early childhood care and consultation resources. It was a wonderful event to support families, especially new caregivers in our community!



Pictured are **Bess Hart, Makenna Wheeler (TSSW Intern) & Violet, Hien Sanchez, Marion Boreros and Jaquelynn Johnson.**



Presentations and Scholarly Activity By Our Faculty, Staff and Trainees

The department is delighted to see the number of presentations that our faculty have given, and the scholarly endeavors they have undertaken. Here, we share and celebrate their commitment to academic achievement.

Please click on a faculty member to be taken to their webpage, which lists their scholarly activity and/or presentations.

PRESENTATIONS

[Allison Boothe Trigg](#)

[Jon Buckley, MD](#)

[Rachel Hammer, MD](#)

[Angela Keyes, PhD](#)

[Julie Larrieu, PhD](#)

[Charles Santos, MD](#)

SCHOLARLY ACTIVITY

[Allison Boothe Trigg](#)

[Rachel Hammer, MD](#)

[Angela Keyes, PhD](#)

[Julie Larrieu, PhD](#)

[Charles Santos, MD](#)

[Ashley Weiss, DO, MPH](#)

In Case You Missed It: Faculty Features From Around the Web

Dr. Charles Zeanah was featured in The Washington Post in an article titled "[Trauma In Infancy Can Have A Lingering Effect Throughout Life.](#)"



We are honored and pleased to announce that **Myo Thwin Myint, MD**, has been named a **Distinguished Fellow of the American Psychiatric Association**. The Distinguished Fellowship is awarded to outstanding psychiatrists who have made significant contributions to the psychiatric profession in at least five of the following areas: administration, teaching, scientific and scholarly publications, volunteering in mental health and medical activities of social significance, community involvement, as well as for clinical excellence. Distinguished Fellow is the highest membership honor the APA bestows upon members.

Dr. Myint came to Tulane University School of Medicine in 2008 for his integrated triple board residency. He joined the faculty in 2013. Dr. Myint now serves as training director of the Triple Board Residency and Child & Adolescent Psychiatry Fellowship Programs. You can read more about his APA fellowship [at this link](#). The department would like to congratulate Dr. Myint on this great honor, and we greatly value his continued commitment and dedication to our trainees and department.

Personal News from Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences Department

We are excited about the good news members of our department have shared with us.



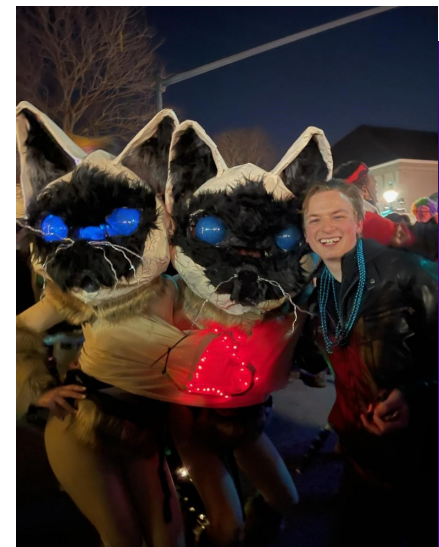
Dr. Gayle Pletsch (left) and LaTonya Guice (right) enjoy the view from their float in the Krewe of Cleopatra (below).



Lori Hursh celebrates matching with Tulane Psychiatry on March 18, 2022.



The Lowenburg family has had a recent addition! Max was born on Friday, January 21, 2022. His mother, Megan, and older brothers Eli, David, and Tash (four legs) are very excited. Congratulations, Dr. Lowenburg!



Dr. Ashley Weiss and Dr. Serena Chaudhry parade in costume for Chewbacchus, along with research coordinator Robert Roy.



GETTING IN TOUCH

A questionnaire will be sent out to the entire department at least twice a year to gather information for this newsletter. If you would like to provide information for the next newsletter as it comes up, please contact Lora Ghawaly at lghawaly@tulane.edu.