Message from Dr. Lisanby

Mental health has been a central topic in the news of late. The tragic shooting in Newtown, CT this past December shook all of us, particularly caregivers, teachers, and students. This event also raised national concerns about gun policy and access to mental health services. As mental health care providers, we play a unique role in offering evidence-based interventions to help individuals cope with traumatic events such as this. I invite you to read our Ask the Experts column below to hear from two of our Duke Psychiatry faculty who specialize in child trauma and gun violence.

We hope that you enjoy receiving these periodical updates from the Department, and encourage you to forward this newsletter to those who may be interested in subscribing and learning what’s new at Duke. We also welcome your feedback or story ideas, which can be sent to psychiatrychair@dm.duke.edu.

Sincerely,
Sarah Hollingsworth Lisanby, MD
Lawrence C. Katz Professor and Chair, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences

News

Honoring Professor Emeritus Dr. James H. Carter, Sr.

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the first black students to enroll at Duke. The University is celebrating through a year-long series of events, including our Annual James H. Carter Sr, MD Lecture. We were honored to have Dr. Annelle B.

In The News

Hospital emergency rooms are on front lines during mental health crisis
Charlotte Observer, March 10, 2013
With an increasing number of mental health patients seeking care from the ER, Dr. Marvin Swartz states that "hospitals have been left in a terrible squeeze."

Effects of Bullying Last Into Adulthood, Study Finds
Exciting new research, the most comprehensive effort to date, on the long-term effects of bullying by some of our child and adolescent experts, Drs. Copeland, Angold, and Costello.

Promising Depression Therapy
Dr. Lisanby discusses transcranial direct current stimulation, a milder and less expensive form of brain stimulation that recent studies show is a safe alternative for medication and psychotherapy-resistant depression.

Number of Alzheimer’s patients could triple by 2050
CBS This Morning, February 7, 2013
Dr. Doraiswamy said that the expectation is based on three things: more people getting tested, better diagnosis, and an increase in life expectancy.
Primm, Director of the Office of Minority and National Affairs for the American Psychiatric Association, speak with us about mental healthcare disparities in the U.S. Read More >

Duke Gives Back: ECT Donation to Moi University in Kenya

Duke Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences secured the donation of an electroconvulsive therapy (ECT) machine by the manufacturer, Somatics, LLC, to Moi University's Department of Psychiatry. Installed in February, the new ECT device replaces a nonfunctional machine and allows Moi to resume this treatment modality. Read More >

Leadership Transition for Psychiatry Residency Education Program

We are pleased to announce our new Interim Program Director of General Psychiatry Education, Jane Gagliardi, MD, MHS. Dr. Gagliardi succeeds Grace Thrall, MD who served as Program Director for 14 years. Please join us in welcoming Dr. Gagliardi and in thanking Dr. Thrall for her invaluable contributions to our Department. Read More >

Research Spotlight

Sarah Lisanby, MD and Andrew Krystal, MD were interviewed by a local North Carolina news station about their translational research testing a new Deep Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation device for treatment resistant depression, which eventually led to its FDA approval in January 2013. A patient who participated in the study shared, “I felt like it got back to where I was 15 years ago. It was a very wonderful gift and it has given me hope for the future.” Read more >

Ask the Experts

Hear from two of our experts here at Duke who specialize in evidence-based treatment of child trauma and in gun violence

Yoga and the Mind: Can Yoga Reduce Symptoms of Major Psychiatric Disorders?

Time, January 28, 2013

In order to explore the widely held belief that practicing yoga can relieve mental stress, a team of Duke researchers reviewed more than 100 studies on the effect of yoga and mental health.

Marriage Might Lengthen Life

Health Magazine and The Telegraph, January 11, 2013

Research conducted by Ilene Siegler, PhD, MPH, suggests that being single during midlife may raise the risk for premature death.

Are Spiritual Communities Healthier?

Huffington Post, December 28, 2012

A recent study by Dr. Harold Koenig revealed that older people who regularly attend religious services have elevated levels of a protein that indicates positive immune function.

Events

Saturday, April 6, 2:00 - 5:00 pm

Professor Emeritus Alan Whanger, MD has generously offered, free of charge, over 400 of his psychiatry books to members of the Duke Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences community. You are invited to an Open House at his home (1712 Woodburn Road, Durham, NC 27705) the afternoon of April 6. Come meet your colleagues and take a piece of psychiatry history with you!
and risk assessment research: John Fairbank, PhD and Jeffrey Swanson, PhD. Read more >