



THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Department of Psychiatry  
Faculty of Medicine

# ANNUAL NEWSLETTER

2023 in Review



## YEAR END MESSAGE FROM THE DEPARTMENT HEAD

Dear colleagues,

With the end of 2023 drawing near, I wish to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to each of you for your countless contributions and hard work, and also celebrate our collective achievements this year as a Department.

The concrete targets outlined in our Strategic Plan for 2020-2025 continue to serve as reliable benchmarks by which we measure our successes, and I am delighted to note that 2023 has been an exceptional year in terms of progress.

We remain committed to expanding our research capacity at UBC-Vancouver and across our distributed sites, with several active recruitments in progress in the areas of Concurrent Disorders and Youth Depression, and within the Northern Medical Program and Fraser Health. Further, there are several new academic positions on the horizon, which we are looking forward to announcing in the New Year. On the educational front, we welcomed the first two residents of our new Interior track in July 2023, and in 2024-2025, anticipate more training positions in our Psychiatry postgraduate programs than ever before.

We also set our sights on completing several large projects, including the launch of the refreshed Department website, the restructure of our Divisions and the appointment of three new Division Heads, the inaugural application cycle of our Stimulus Grant program, and the establishment of a new Resident and Faculty Respectful Environments, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (REDI) Committee and a new Awards and Recognition Committee.

Additionally, this past summer the Department prepared and submitted a comprehensive Academic Unit Report in advance of the departmental internal review, which was completed by a panel of FoM reviewers in October. I sincerely appreciate every Department member who took the time to participate in the interviews, as your engagement and candid feedback have been crucial to the process. The internal review presented a valuable opportunity for us to track our many milestones over the last several years, reflect upon the state of the Department, and take a closer look at the opportunities and challenges of our current academic environment, so that we may explore renewed priorities and take meaningful steps toward achieving these in the months and years ahead.

This year-end newsletter encapsulates all of our notable highlights from this year, and I hope you will read through it with a sense of pride and accomplishment. In my fifth year as Department Head, I remain indebted to our four Associate Heads who have been indispensable to our leadership team, and of course, all of our outstanding Department members without whom our achievements thus far would not have been possible. With your continued engagement and ongoing support, I look forward to working together as we set our course for the New Year.

Once again, I wish to thank you all and hope you have a safe, happy and well-deserved rest this holiday season!

Sincerely,

Dr. Lakshmi N. Yatham  
Professor and Head, UBC Department of Psychiatry  
Director, Institute of Mental Health, UBC  
Regional Head and Program Medical Director, VCH/PHC

# Acknowledgement of Land

The Department of Psychiatry and its distributed programs, sites are located on traditional, ancestral, and unceded territories of Indigenous peoples around the province.

We acknowledge:

The Vancouver Fraser Medical Program and the Vancouver Academic Campus of the University of British Columbia are situated on the traditional territory of the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh peoples.

The Southern Medical Program and the Okanagan Academic Campus of the University of British Columbia are situated on the territory of the Syilx Okanagan Nation.

The Northern Medical Program and the University of Northern BC are situated on the traditional territory of the Lheidli T'enneh, part of the Dakelh (Carrier) First Nations.

With respect, the Lekwungen peoples on whose traditional territory the Island Medical Program and the University of Victoria stand and the Songhees, Esquimalt and WSÁNEĆ peoples whose historical relationships with the land continue to this day.



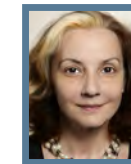
*The Bentwood Box, carved by Coast Salish artist Luke Marston.*

## Special Thanks to Our Associate Heads, Executive Committee, and Educational Leadership

UBC Psychiatry would like to recognize our four Associate Heads, **Dr. Jordan Cohen**, **Dr. Sophia Frangou**, **Dr. Anson Koo**, and **Dr. Raymond Lam**, all of whom have provided exceptional leadership and strategic oversight to their respective portfolios in 2023, and have demonstrated an unwavering commitment to supporting the overall mission and mandate of the Department.



**Dr. Jordan Cohen**  
Associate Head, Postgraduate Education & Continuing Professional Education



**Dr. Sophia Frangou**  
Associate Head, Research & International Affairs



**Dr. Anson Koo**  
Associate Head, Clinical Affairs & Partnerships



**Dr. Raymond Lam**  
Associate Head, Graduate & Undergraduate Education

We wish to also thank each of the members of our Executive Committee, which includes our Associate Heads, Health Authority leadership **Dr. Vijay Seethapathy** (BCMHSUS), **Dr. Wei-Yi Song** (VIHA), **Dr. Barbara Kane** (NHA), **Dr. Paul Carey** (IHA), and **Dr. Nel Wieman** (FNHA), PGE Program Director **Dr. Irfan Khanbhai**, Department Clinical Affairs Representative **Dr. Joseph Tham**, DMCBH Director **Dr. Lynn Raymond**, and Director of Administration, **Ms. Vicky Yau**. Our Executive Committee has been instrumental in providing guidance to the Department Head, and in informing strategic planning processes that shape the direction of teaching, research and other key areas in the Department.

As well, we wish to recognize **Dr. Kathryn Fung**, **Dr. Clare Beasley**, **Dr. Kulwant Riar**, **Dr. Ashley Miller**, **Dr. Barinder Singh**, **Dr. Ashok Krishnamoorthy**, **Dr. Kenneth Heng**, **Dr. Faiza Hameer**, **Dr. Alison Gregson**, **Dr. Dmitri Zanozin**, **Dr. Ryan Knebel**, **Dr. Charles Ho**, **Dr. Erin Michalak**, **Dr. Jaeyun Yoo**, **Dr. Michelle van den Engh**, and all of our outstanding Site Leaders, Oversight Directors, DSSLs and other educational leadership for their support and dedication to our medical students and residents, and for ensuring the excellence and ongoing success of our Psychiatry Undergraduate and Postgraduate Education Programs.

Finally, we would like to acknowledge the hard work of our Division Heads **Dr. Roberto Sassi** (Child & Adolescent Psychiatry), **Dr. Ashok Krishnamoorthy** (Geriatric Psychiatry), and **Dr. Emlene Murphy** (Forensic Psychiatry), and also warmly welcome our recently appointed Division Heads **Dr. Christian Schütz** (Substance Use & Concurrent Disorders), **Dr. Randall White** (Adult Psychiatry & Mental Health Services), and **Dr. Timothy Murphy** (Neuroscience & Translational Psychiatry).

## UBC PSYCHIATRY TODAY Facts & Figures

**Annual Operating Budget 23/24:**  
\$9.5 million

**Research Funding FY 23/24:**  
\$15 million to date (Dec 2023)

**Clinical Faculty:**  
784 Members

**Academic Faculty:**  
39 Members

**Research Associates,  
Postdoctoral Fellows, and  
Clinical Fellows:**  
43 Members

**Student, Administrative, and  
Research Staff:**  
220 Members

**Residents in General Psychiatry  
Specialty:**  
138 Residents

**Residents in Psychiatry  
Subspecialty:**  
10 Residents

## RESEARCH Pillar

### Accomplished in 2023

**Stimulus Grant Initiative:** The inaugural Stimulus Grants were awarded to four recipients across the Clinician, Junior Academic and Child & Youth Mental Health categories; the application cycle was also launched for 2024/2025, with another three awardees announced in December 2023.

#### Academic Faculty Recruitments:

- **New CRC Tier 2 Academic Faculty Position in Early Intervention:** Appointment process of successful candidate in final stages and will be announced shortly.
- **New Academic Faculty Position in Youth Depression:** Appointment process of successful candidate in final stages and will be announced shortly.
- **New Academic Faculty Position in Neuropsychiatry:** Dr. William Panenka appointed to this position in September 2023.
- **New Royal Columbian Hospital Foundation Professorship in Mental Health:** Position has been posted and interviews are being planned for the Selection Committee.
- **New Academic Faculty Position in Concurrent Disorders:** Position has been posted and applications are being accepted.
- **New Academic Faculty Position in Northern Medical Program:** Position has been re-posted and applications are being accepted.

**Expanding Research Capacity:** Six new fellows are supported by the 2023/24 IMH Marshall Fellows Program to advance the training of emerging scholars and expand research capacity.

**Psychedelic Research Studies:** The Ketamine Pilot Intervention Clinical Program expanded to UBC Hospital in September 2023, and we are continuing to work on developing further infrastructure for clinical studies with novel compounds, such as CBD and psychedelic substances.

### Current Focus

**New Academic Position in Island Health:** Planning and funding approvals are in progress.

**New Academic Faculty Position in Data Science:** Planning for this position is in progress, in partnership with DMCBH.

## EDUCATION Pillar

### Accomplished in 2023

**New CaRMS Residency Track in Interior Health:** The new CaRMS residency track in the Interior welcomed its first two residents on July 1, 2023.

**Re-Entry Residency Positions:** Two re-entry positions were allocated to Fraser for 2023/24, and one re-entry position was allocated to Interior Health for 2024/2025.

**2023 Royal College Accreditation Review of Forensic Subspecialty Program:** Following the Royal College external review of our Forensic Subspecialty Program in May 2023, the Program was successful in obtaining full accreditation.

**Psychiatry Summer Immersion Program (PSIP):** Our 2023 PSIP was a fantastic opportunity for twenty Year 1 UBC medical students to get an inside look at a career in psychiatry through interactive sessions and clinical shadowing experiences over two days in early June. We wish to sincerely thank **Dr. Cam Anderson, Dr. Danielle Chin, Dr. Bryan Chow, Dr. Kaveh Darabian, Dr. Allan Furlong, Dr. Nataliya Grishin, Dr. Colleen Northcott, Dr. Kylie Riou, Dr. Jennifer Russel, Dr. Chris Schenk, Dr. Raman Srivastava, Dr. Randall White, Dr. Monique Wong, Dr. Georgia Walton, Dr. Simon Woo, and Dr. Olga Yashchuk** for generously dedicating their time and energy to the Program.

**Vancouver Summer Program (VSP):** Our 2023 VSP was a huge success, with fifty-five international undergraduates gaining exposure to key areas of interest in mental health, such as mood disorders, psychosis, and psychotherapy. We express our deep thanks to **Dr. Clare Beasley, Dr. Stan Floresco, Mr. Jesse Fox, Dr. Bill Honer, Dr. Kam Keramatian, Dr. David Kealy, Dr. Laura Labonté, Dr. Alexander Levit, Dr. Mahesh Menon, Dr. Diane McIntosh, Dr. Harish Neelakant, Dr. Elton Ngan, Dr. John-Jose Nunez, Dr. Jay Padmanabhan, Dr. Ric Procyshyn, Dr. Ram Randhawa, Dr. Lynn Raymond, Dr. Christian Schütz, Dr. Angela Russolillo, Dr. Jeremy Seamans, Dr. Joe Tham, Ms. Karina Thiessen, Ms. Sarah Woolgar, and Dr. Kathryn Wynn** for their contributions to the Program.

### Current Focus

**Support of Residents:** We aim to explore and implement ways to provide better guidance, support and mentorship to residents in the General and Research Tracks in their Research, QI/QA and Scholarly Activity projects.

**Master's Program in Translational Psychiatry:** This will be jointly offered by UBC Psychiatry and SPPH, with the first student intake anticipated for September 2024.

**CME Director:** Recruitment of a CME Director with expertise and interest in supporting competency based CPD is a priority for the Department.

## PEOPLE Pillar

### Accomplished in 2023

**Departmental Restructure of Divisions:** Following Department-wide consultation in 2022 which informed the development of a new organizational and reporting structure for our Divisions, the restructure process was completed and three new Division Heads were appointed to lead the refreshed Substance Use & Concurrent Disorders, Adult Psychiatry & Mental Health Services, and Neuroscience & Translational Psychiatry Divisions.

**Awards & Recognition Committee:** Established to actively nominate deserving Department members for significant awards and honours in adherence with principles of equity and diversity, and ensure that nominees from across our distributed sites are considered.

**Department Social Media and New Website:** The new and improved Department website was launched in March 2023, and our followers on X (formerly Twitter) have increased to over 1,100 followers.

**New Director, Fellowship Program:** Dr. Andrew Howard was appointed to this role to provide oversight on the development and implementation of standard practices for the recruitment, admission, onboarding, supervision and evaluations of both Clinical Fellows and Clinical Postdoctoral Fellows.

### Current Focus

**Respectful Environments, Equity, Diversity & Inclusion (REDI):** In February 2023, the Department Executive Committee met with the Executive Director of the FOM Office of REDI, Ms. Roslyn Goldner, to discuss actionable initiatives to advance REDI in the Department. The Department continues to work with the FoM Office of REDI to implement these plans. A Resident REDI Committee has since been established, and this will be converged with a broader faculty-level REDI Committee, which will be charged with the development of an REDI plan for the Department.

**Indigenous Mental Health Initiatives:** We will seek to expand cooperation and collaboration with Indigenous partners to advance reconciliation and ensure equitable treatment and representation in mental health research, education and clinical care.

**Departmental Programs:** Associate Head Dr. Lam will work with the new Division Heads to lead the development of criteria and accountabilities of all Programs to be organized under the new divisional structure.

## PARTNERSHIPS Pillar

### Accomplished in 2023

**Route to BC College Licensure of US-trained Psychiatrists:** Department leadership submitted to the College of Physicians and Surgeons of BC (CPSBC) a proposal assessing US training requirements in comparison to those in Canada, and putting forward a number of recommendations to address these while allowing for a more straightforward and less onerous route to CPSBC licensure.

**Partnerships with DMCBH, BC Children's Research Institute, Other Centres and Health Authorities:** Leveraging funding and support from our partners, we created new academic faculty positions within the Department.

**Renewal of MOU with National Centres for Mental Disorders in China:** The Department renewed its 2019 Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) with Shanghai Mental Health Center (SMHC) at Jiao Tong University School of Medicine and the Changsha Second Xiangya Hospital at Central South University (our MOU with Beijing Anding Hospital at Capital Medical University is still ongoing), in order to strengthen our academic partnerships with these leading mental health centres in China.

**Renewal of MOU with NIMHANS in India:** The Department renewed its 2017 Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) with the National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences (NIMHANS) in India, in order to foster further collaboration in regards to research projects, exchange of visiting faculty and trainees, joint organization of symposia, seminars and CPD events, and other activities.

### Current Focus

**Health Authorities Physician Recruitment Models:** The Department is working closely with Regional Department Heads of Health Authorities in ongoing discussions to explore models of funding to support recruitment of physicians.

**BC College of Physicians & Surgeons:** The Department is continuing a dialogue with the BC College in regards to physician licensing obstacles, as it relates to psychiatry, among other issues.

**Leveraging Our Partnerships:** Throughout 2023, the Department has actively pursued opportunities to engage with Health Authorities, the Ministries, the BC and Royal Colleges, as well as philanthropic organizations in order to garner support and investment in initiatives to advance our common goals and to drive innovation and transform care in mental health. Many of the accomplishments achieved this year have been the result of these discussions and negotiations, and looking forward, we will continue to build cooperative and mutually beneficial relationships with all of our strategic partners.

# Faculty Highlights



## New Clinical Faculty Appointments

We currently have 700+ clinical faculty who are actively engaged in teaching, research and administrative leadership roles to support undergraduate and postgraduate Psychiatry education across the province.

Joining our Department this year are 52 new clinical faculty members:

**Clinical Professor:** Dr. Jazwant Guzder

**Clinical Instructors:**

Dr. Alexandra Anghel	Dr. Emilia Henriques	Dr. Jennifer Na
Dr. Chi Hung Au	Dr. Ekaterina Jitlina	Dr. Courtney O'Hara
Dr. Negar Bayat	Dr. Christine Kennedy	Dr. Eric Paulsen
Dr. Lindsay Blair	Dr. Sarina Kot	Dr. Kathryn Porter
Dr. Julia Blake	Dr. Christopher Lachowski	Dr. Katherine Ramsden
Dr. Mark Bodnarchuk	Dr. David Lee	Dr. Jason Robinson-Anagor
Dr. Naomi Brennan	Dr. Harrison Lee	Dr. Leah Rosetti
Dr. Aletta Bronkhorst	Dr. Hella Lee	Dr. Jennifer Rurak
Dr. Eduardo Chachamovich	Dr. Olivia Lockhart	Dr. Kayode Shope
Dr. Unita Chetty	Dr. David Long	Dr. Kanwar Ajit Sidhu
Dr. Bennett Cheung	Dr. Annie Ma	Dr. Grace Son
Dr. Kaveh Darabian	Dr. Daljit Mahal	Dr. Luke Swenson
Dr. Liam Dodge	Dr. Oluseyi Malomo	Dr. Gurvinder Warrya
Dr. Janice Ebenstiner	Dr. Sara Meunier	Dr. Clara Westwell-Roper
Dr. Ashley Galloway	Dr. Sheena Miao	Dr. Gordon Yung
Dr. Shivaun Rose Gannon	Dr. David Mo	Dr. Paige Zhang
Dr. Caroline Harvey	Dr. Stefanie Montgomery	Dr. Rebecca Zivanovic

## New Academic Faculty Appointments



**Dr. William Panenka**  
Associate Professor (Tenure)

In September 2023, Dr. Panenka was appointed to a tenured Associate Professor position, which was created for UBC Psychiatry through the Faculty of Medicine Academic Renewal Program. Previously a Partner faculty member in the UBC Department of Psychiatry, he is the founding Medical and Research Lead for the Neuropsychiatry Concussion Clinic within the BC Neuropsychiatry network, which has served as an important recruitment site for studies aimed at finding cognitive, imaging, and other biomarkers that will predict outcome and response to treatment for individuals with head trauma. In November 2023, Dr. Panenka was also appointed as the Director, Research Track for our Postgraduate Program.

## Clinical Faculty Promotions

The following 22 clinical faculty members were recommended by the Department to receive promotions, effective on July 1, 2023:

Dr. Hezekiah Agboji, to Clinical Assistant Professor	Dr. Tyler Oswald, to Clinical Assistant Professor
Dr. Janel Casey, to Clinical Associate Professor	Dr. Karen Rivera, to Clinical Assistant Professor
Dr. Marilyn Champagne, to Clinical Associate Professor	Dr. Mandeep Saini, to Clinical Assistant Professor
Dr. Joanna Cheek, to Clinical Associate Professor	Dr. Kelly Saran, to Clinical Associate Professor
Dr. Edwin Chete, to Clinical Associate Professor	Dr. Joachim Sehrbrock, to Clinical Assistant Professor
Dr. Shauna Correia, to Clinical Assistant Professor	Dr. Barinder Singh, to Clinical Assistant Professor
Dr. Miriam Driscoll, to Clinical Associate Professor	Dr. Erin Smith, to Clinical Assistant Professor
Dr. Lingsa Jia, to Clinical Assistant Professor	Dr. Andrea Tuka, to Clinical Associate Professor
Dr. Arvind Kang, to Clinical Professor	Dr. John Tavares, to Clinical Assistant Professor
Dr. Ryan Knebel, to Clinical Assistant Professor	Dr. Tyler Varnals, to Clinical Assistant Professor
Dr. David Morgan, to Clinical Associate Professor	Dr. Jaeyun Yoo, to Clinical Assistant Professor

## New Administrative Leadership Roles

**Dr. Claire Docherty** appointed as **UGE /PGE Discipline Specific Site Leader (DSSL), Southern Medical Program**  
**Dr. Andrew Howard** appointed as **PGE AM Academic Curriculum Director and Director, Fellowship Program**  
**Dr. Ashley Miller** appointed as **PGE Child & Adolescent Subspecialty Program Director**  
**Dr. Timothy Murphy** appointed as **Division Head, Neuroscience & Translational Psychiatry**  
**Dr. William Panenka** appointed as **PGE Director, Research Track**  
**Dr. Christian Schütz** appointed as **Division Head, Substance Use & Concurrent Disorders**  
**Dr. Michael Weitzner** appointed as **PGE Site Director, Kamloops Hospital**  
**Dr. Randall White** appointed as **Division Head, Adult Psychiatry & Mental Health Services**



# Recognition

## 2023 Honours & Accolades

Congratulations to all our Department members who were recognized this year for their notable achievements, including the people below who were honoured by the Department, Faculty, University, or by provincial, national or international bodies for their significant contributions to teaching, research, clinical excellence and service. (\*Please accept our sincere apologies if we missed anyone.)



**Dr. Janel Casey**  
BC BUSINESS WOMEN  
OF THE YEAR AWARD -  
RUNNER UP



**Dr. Quinten Clarke**  
PROVIDENCE HEALTH  
CARE RESIDENT  
RECOGNITION AWARD



**Dr. Dean Elbe**  
CANADIAN  
HEALTHCARE  
NETWORK PRACTICE  
INNOVATION AWARD



**Dr. Harry Karlinsky**  
ACPC ANNUAL  
AWARD FOR CREATIVE  
PROFESSIONAL  
ACTIVITY



**Dr. Terrance Snutch**  
MARGOLESE  
NATIONAL BRAIN  
DISORDERS PRIZE



**Dr. Evelyn Stewart**  
FoM DISTINGUISHED  
ACHIEVEMENT  
AWARD FOR SERVICE



**Dr. Steven Taylor**  
CLARIVATE HIGHLY  
CITED RESEARCHER



**Dr. Fidel Vila-Rodriguez**  
FoM DISTINGUISHED  
ACHIEVEMENT  
AWARD FOR OVERALL  
EXCELLENCE



**Dr. Randall White**  
APA WCDB JOHN D.  
HACKETT LEADERSHIP  
AWARD

## 2023 Research Grants & Awards

NEW CIHR FUNDING (PIs listed)

**Dr. Jehannine Austin**  
**Dr. Raymond Lam**  
**Dr. Brian MacVicar**  
**Dr. Tonia Nicholls**  
**Dr. William Panenka**  
**Dr. Lynn Raymond**

MSHR BC HEALTH PROFESSIONAL-  
INVESTIGATOR AWARD

**Dr. Kamyar Keramatian**

MSHR BC CONVENING &  
COLLABORATING (C2) AWARDS

**Dr. Kamyar Keramatian**  
**Dr. Janet Mah**

CAPL FELLOWSHIP &  
AAPL RAPPEPORT FELLOWSHIP

**Dr. Mario Moscovici**

BRAIN CANADA RISING STARS  
TRAINEE AWARDS

**Ms. Elizabeth Gregory**  
**Mr. Ahmad Samara**  
**Ms. Karina Thiessen**

DMCBH ALZHEIMER DISEASE GRANT

**Dr. Brian MacVicar**

DMCBH TRAINEE ENDOWMENT  
AWARDS

**Mr. Abhijit Chinchani**  
**Ms. Hong Lu**  
**Mr. Ahmad Samara**  
**Ms. Karina Thiessen**

UBC PSYCHIATRY STIMULUS GRANTS

**Dr. Michael Song (22/23)**  
**Dr. Heather Palis(22/23)**  
**Dr. Clara Westwell-Roper (22/23)**  
**Dr. Ruiyang Ge (22/23)**  
**Dr. Ivan Torres (23/24)**  
**Dr. Clare Killikelly (23/24)**  
**Dr. Shira Segal (23/24)**

## 2023 UBC Psychiatry Faculty & Resident Awards

UBC PSYCHIATRY RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION AWARD FOR  
EXCELLENCE IN POSTGRADUATE CLINICAL TEACHING

**Dr. Cameron Anderson**  
**Dr. Lindsay Bishop**  
**Dr. Julius Elefante**  
**Dr. Muffy Greenaway**  
**Dr. Andrew Howard**

**Dr. Ashley Jewett**  
**Dr. Michael Shabbits**  
**Dr. Anyssa Shakeri**  
**Dr. Martina Smit**  
**Dr. Dmitri Zanozin**

UBC PSYCHIATRY EXCELLENCE IN  
UNDERGRADUATE CLINICAL TEACHING AWARD

**Dr. Kuljit Dhaliwal**  
**Dr. Neil Hanon**  
**Dr. Constantine Lai**  
**Dr. Colleen Northcott**  
**Dr. Anna Wisniewska**

UBC PSYCHIATRY RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION AWARD  
FOR EXCELLENCE IN CLINICAL TEACHING IN  
POSTGRADUATE SUBSPECIALTY EDUCATION

**Dr. Fulroop Sidhu**  
**Dr. Michael Weitzner**  
**Dr. Mandeep Saini**

TRICEPS AWARD

**Dr. Deirdre Ryan**  
**Dr. Robert Stowe**

RESIDENT & MD UNDERGRADUATE AWARD RECIPIENTS (UBC Psychiatry and Hospital Awards)

**Dr. Maria A. Anghel**  
**Dr. Faizan Bhatia**  
**Dr. Taylor Callander**  
**Dr. Jessica Chin**  
**Dr. Quinten Clarke**  
**Dr. Daniella Crocker**  
**Dr. Darcy Good**  
**Dr. Connor Hawkins**

**Ms. Mirna Hennawy**  
**Dr. Allison Hudson**  
**Mr. Jake Johnston**  
**Dr. Andrea Jones**  
**Dr. Laura Labonté**  
**Dr. Alexander Levit**  
**Dr. Victor Li**  
**Dr. Max Liu**

**Dr. Mariam Manna**  
**Dr. Oshin Maheshwari**  
**Dr. Adeeb Malas**  
**Dr. Connor McLean**  
**Dr. Stefanie Montgomery**  
**Dr. Isaac Rodin**  
**Mr. Lance Shaver**  
**Dr. Galilee Thompson**

**Dr. Shikha Walia**  
**Dr. Jordana Wasserman**  
**Dr. Tristan Willis**  
**Ms. Jenny Zhang**  
**Dr. Conor Zeer-Wanklyn**



# Department Year in Review



## UBC Psychiatry 2023 RESEARCH DAY

Our annual UBC Psychiatry Research Day took place on June 8, 2023 as a hybrid event, and we were thrilled to welcome in-person attendees as well as those joining remotely from across of BC.

Special thanks to our Research Day Planning Committee; our presenters **Dr. George Foussias**, **Dr. Clare Beasley**, and **Dr. Joseph Tham**; our Lightning Talk speakers **Dr. Ruiyang Ge**, **Ms. Si-ah Choi**, **Ms. Hallee Shearer**, **Ms. Ava Momeni**, **Dr. Nicole Sanford**, **Ms. Lianne Cho**, **Dr. Catriona Hippman**, **Dr. Quinten Clarke**, **Dr. Rajakumari Pampa Reddy**, **Dr. Rebecca Zivanovic**, and **Dr. Alexander Levit**; and our 35 Poster and ePoster presenters.

We also congratulate our People's Choice Lightning Talk Award winners **Ms. Hallee Shearer** and **Dr. Rebecca Zivanovic**, and our Poster winners **Dr. Triya Ramburn**, and **Mr. Borna Atrchian**.

Thanks again to our dedicated organizers, engaging speakers and attendees for contributing to Research Day and making it a success!

A reminder that abstract submissions for next year's event will open on Feb 15 and close on April 15, so stay tuned for more details in the New Year!

## 2023/2024 IMH Marshall Program

The review and selection process for the 2023/2024 IMH Marshall Fellows Program was completed in August 2023, and we announced six highly innovative proposals that were recommended for funding. As the Fellowship Program was originally developed to also support the training of clinician scientist psychiatrists, three of the six fellowships were awarded to MDs.



### Nicholas Ainsworth, MD

Measuring psychomotor response to L-DOPA challenge as a biomarker for outcomes in late-life depression: A feasibility study



### John-Jose Nunez, MD

Predicting and Identifying Depression in Cancer Patients From Their Initial Oncology Consultation Document Using Natural Language Processing



### Clare Killikelly, PhD

Digital early detection of psychological disorder after the loss of a loved one



### Chithra Pream Raju, MD

Cannabidiol adjunctive therapy for acute bipolar depression: A randomized double-blind placebo-controlled trial



### Ana Mikolić, PhD

Screening for psychological risk factors to improve management of mild traumatic brain injury



### Megan Rowland, PhD

Investigating the Role of Baf53b in Regulating Parvalbumin Neuronal Gene Expression and Autism Behaviours Across Development

## Administration Staffing Updates

In January 2023, we wished **Mr. Colin Bryant** well as he retired after more than 40 years of service as our Computer Systems Manager. He kindly continued to support our IT needs on an ad hoc basis until September, when we brought on board **Mr. Simon Chong** as the new Computer Systems Manager in September, as well as **Mr. Prabhjot Singh** who has been providing temporary support during this period of transition for the IT team.

On the Human Resources side, we welcomed **Ms. Eunice Yiu** and **Ms. Dora Li** as our new HR Assistants, while **Ms. Leah Ranada** was promoted to the role of Assistant HR Manager.

As well, **Ms. Klara Labady** joined our team as the Executive Coordinator to the Department Head & IMH Director and the UBC Mood Disorders Program. Additionally, **Dr. Nicole Sanford** moved into the role of Research Manager to oversee the planning and coordination of all activities related to the IMH.

Upon the departure of **Ms. Amit Natt**, we welcomed **Ms. Ikuko Azuma** who was offered a permanent role as Project Manager following her placement from Hiring Solutions. **Ms. Terena Zhao** also joined our team as our new Administrative Assistant to provide support to our six Division Heads.

Within our Education Office, we welcomed **Ms. Raquel Portillo** as our new Fraser PGE Senior Program Assistant, as well as **Mr. Juan Velasco** as our new Senior Program Assistant, UGE Years 3 & 4. We wish to thank **Mr. Prabhjot Singh** from UBC Hiring Solutions, who has continued to provide additional support to the UGE, PGE and SSP programs.

The UBC Department of Psychiatry would like to recognize and thank our hard-working Administration team for always going above and beyond to support all our Department members here at UBC Vancouver Campus and across our distributed sites.

## IN MEMORIAM

In fond remembrance of the cherished friends and colleagues we mourned in 2023.



**Dr. Hassan Azim**  
HONORARY PROFESSOR



**Dr. Robert Hewko**  
CLINICAL PROFESSOR



**Dr. Edith McGeer**  
PROFESSOR EMERITA



**Dr. Jennifer Oates**  
CLINICAL INSTRUCTOR



**Dr. William Piper**  
PROFESSOR EMERITUS



**Dr. Juhn Wada**  
PROFESSOR EMERITUS



**Dr. Paul Waraich**  
CLINICAL INSTRUCTOR



**Dr. Neil Yorkston**  
PROFESSOR EMERITUS &  
FORMER DEPARTMENT  
HEAD

# 2023 Year End Festive Celebration

## Photo Gallery





# 2023 Year End Festive Celebration

## Photo Gallery



View all the photos from the event in our album on the [UBC Psychiatry Flickr page!](#)



THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Department of Psychiatry

Faculty of Medicine