As noted in the previous issue, Drs. Carole Siegel and Morris Meisner joined Gene Laska at the Rockland Research Institute in the mid-1960’s. This installment continues the story of the “industrial triplets,” recapping some highlights of Carole’s career at NKI.

Over the years, Carole Siegel enlarged the activities of the Multistate Information System (MSIS) epidemiological group to encompass a broader arena of services research, and created (along with colleague Ann Goodman) one of the first multi-disciplinary mental health services research groups in the country. She eventually received 20 grants and contracts from NIMH, SAMHSA, AHRQ, NYC, and NYS to conduct services research studies. For nine years, she headed a Center for the Study of Issues in Public Mental Health, one of seven NIMH supported Services Research Centers in the US. It was a collaboration between the central office of the NYS Office of Mental Health, New York University, and the State University of Albany.

Carole’s administrative role as deputy director of the NKI World Health Organization Collaborating Center led to work on data collection and analysis methodologies for use by developing countries to monitor their mostly nascent mental health services. She directly participated in projects including the development of community survey and computer system methods for collecting mental health data in developing countries, and the analysis of the international data on the long
term course and outcome of schizophrenia. Over the past nine years, she headed the NYS OMH-funded Center of Excellence in Culturally Competent Mental Health. She introduced a holistic framework for operationalizing cultural competency that covers not only providers’ cultural awareness and the cultural appropriateness of the services they deliver, but emphasizes the importance of top-down cultural competence emanating from organizational policies and procedures.

She has lectured extensively both nationally and internationally; was an elected member of the Council of the Mental Health Section of the American Public Health Association (APHA); and has served on numerous advisory committees, including an NIMH Services Research Subcommittee. In 2001 she was awarded APHA’s Mental Health Section’s services research Carl Taube Award. She has promoted young talent, encouraging them to aim high, and takes particular pride in the achievements of those whom she has mentored.

Carole has worked extensively with fellow statisticians Gene Laska, Morris Meisner, and Joseph Wanderling. She also enjoys the ability to crosswalk between disciplines, allowing her to pair with research content persons such as psychologist Mary Jane Alexander, economist Kristine Jones, sociologist Gary Haugland, and anthropologist Kim Hopper. Her background in operations research has informed much of her work that aims to stochastically model complex situations so that critical parameters impacting outcomes can be discerned and measured – as exemplified in her post-9/11 work on mental health disaster planning).

Continued on next page
The measurement of fairness and equity in the delivery of health services has been thematic in her statistical work. Early on, under contract to NIMH, she conducted an evaluation of the equity of mental health service delivery using Lorenz curves and Gini coefficients as equity metrics. Work on capitated payment schemes used a Bayesian and economic framework to develop a blended payment that increased the fairness of premiums not only from a consumer perspective but also minimized the chance that providers would unduly suffer by luck of the draw. Current work has focused on the development of instruments and statistical performance measures of “cultural competency” in mental health care delivery, and recently for managed care companies and other integrated health care models in which service populations are comprised of diverse cultural groups.

Her interest in metrics to measure achievement of desirable social goals is exemplified by her work on the construction for NYC of Indices of Mental Health and Social and Mental Well Being of a community. The Indices are based on an input/output model that relates socioeconomic conditions and services to need, and services to outcomes. The Indices were operationalized from 1991 to 1995. In 1997, The New York Times featured a story on this project on the first page of its Metropolitan section. More recent collaborative work with Gene and Morris encompasses multivariate cost effectiveness analysis; counting methodologies applied to count the homeless and to de-duplicate counts of veterans who are cross system users; and clinical trial statistical approaches to measure onset and duration.

Looking ahead, Carole will be working in the NYU Department of Psychiatry as a research statistician in the Cohen Veterans Center for the Study of Post-Traumatic Stress and Traumatic Brain Injury. She and Gene will work with ‘big data’ sets in a search for predictors of diverse PTSD trajectories and the identification of unique phenotypes. She also will be more actively pursuing her work as a ceramicist, and participating in community work to expand the audience for clay arts among cultural groups, the disabled, and the elderly. Her grandchildren continue to teach her new things.
C-BIN Director Michael Milham was featured on WNYC news on February 19th. The report covered the recently launched effort to acquire MRI scans of the brains of 10,000 New York City children.

The 2015 NYU Langone Department of Psychiatry Year In Review includes a section on the department’s work in “Addiction: Exploring the Causes, Finding Solutions”. Two NKI scientists, Crystal Fuller Lewis, PhD, and Helena Hansen, MD, PhD (SSSR) are featured, for their work on harm reduction and on the social forces impacting addiction, respectively.

Sloka Iyengar and Michael Tanksley were married in January at City Hall. Sloka worked in the Scharfman lab at NKI until last year. After a stint at the Northeast Regional Epilepsy Group, she is currently freelancing as a medical writer. Michael is an IT specialist at Bloomberg.

Michael’s mother and sisters from Spokane, WA and Las Vegas, and Sloka’s brother from Los Angeles were in attendance. The ceremony was Western and Indian. After exchanging the rings, Michael tied the wedding necklace. Since both were willing to give up their last names, they compromised by both keeping them.

Dr. Hansen also coauthored this letter published in The New York Times, pointing out the role of institutional racism in the decline in life expectancy among whites.

In Memoriam

Maurice Green, MD, who had a long and distinguished career in psychiatry and psychoanalytic research and teaching, passed away on January 21 at the age of 93. He coauthored one book and edited several others, and published many journal articles. Dr. Green was a Life Fellow of the American Psychiatric Association. He was affiliated with the William Alanson White Institute and with New York University. Later in his career, he had ties with NKI and published several papers with NKI investigators.

Cameron Craddock (C-BIN) contributed this guest blog to the GigaBlog, which is connected to the open access journal GigaScience (in which Dr. Craddock published an article last year). The blog post highlights open science efforts in neuroimaging.
Compliance Corner is a new feature of the NKInformer intended to highlight various compliance-related matters pertinent to the research enterprise at NKI.

**Investigational New Drug (IND) & Investigational Device Exemption (IDE) Assistance Program Launched**

The Compliance Oversight Program announces the establishment of an IND/IDE Assistance Program to assist investigators holding an IND or IDE at all states of an investigation. Specifically, the IND/IDE assistance program will:

- Help determine if an Investigator-Initiated protocol potentially requires an IND or IDE prior to grant submission or IRB review;
- Provide education to investigators regarding their regulatory responsibilities as the sponsors of INDs or IDEs;
- Provide guidance in the preparation and submission of sponsor-investigator IND or IDE requirements;
- Provide regulatory assistance during FDA inspections of sponsor-investigator clinical trials.

An [IND Decision Worksheet](#) and an [IDE Decision Worksheet](#) have been linked to myNKI, under Institutional Review Board.

Please contact Challace Pahlevan, Compliance Director, if you have any questions or would like to discuss your protocol in further detail.

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**PUBLICATIONS OF NOTE**

Helena Hansen (SSSR) coauthored this paper examining institutionalized racism in the area of drug addiction and policy.


NKI Director Donald Goff’s recent paper on the use of d-cycloserine in schizophrenia appears in *Current Neuropharmacology*.


Babak Ardekani, Antonio Convit, and Alvin Bachman have a new paper in the *Journal of Alzheimer’s Disease*. Dr. Ardekani elaborates:

“Using a publicly available database (MIRIAD), the paper shows that hippocampus atrophy in AD progresses at a faster rate in females. We also report a new measure, hippocampal volumetric integrity (HI), that we have developed for characterizing hippocampus atrophy using structural MRI data.”

Elizabeth Phelps (Emotional Brain Institute), with colleagues from NYU and Yale, published this work on memory and attention in Neuron.


Dr. Jean-Pierre Lindenmayer (Manhattan Psychiatric Center) published a review on the management of schizoaffective disorder.


Abel Lajtha (Neurochemistry) founded Neurochemical Research 40 years ago. He served as Editor in Chief until 2011, and published many papers in that forum throughout his career. The first print issue for 2016 includes a commemorative article by Dr. Lajtha, as well as a research paper by Henry Sershen and other NKI investigators. Dr. Sershen is Managing Editor of the journal.


Vilma Gabbay (Child & Adolescent Psychiatry) is the senior author of this paper on certain brain makers in adolescent depression.


Michael Milham (C-BIN), with Xavier Castellanos (Child & Adolescent Psychiatry) and others, wrote about the potential of longitudinal imaging study designs in psychiatry.


Christopher Cain and Regina Sullivan (Emotional Brain Institute) contributed a chapter to this recently published textbook on PTSD.

Donald Wilson (Emotional Brain Institute) and NKI colleagues authored this paper on the relationship between fetal alcohol exposure, sleep fragmentation, and cognitive impairment. For more about this research, see the NYU press release here.


Ralph Nixon and colleagues in the Center for Dementia Research published their latest research in Neurobiology of Aging.


This paper by Korey Kam and other members of the Scharfman Lab (CDR) appears in Scientific Reports, an open access journal from the Nature Publishing Group.


Menahem Krakowski, with coauthors currently or formerly at NKI, published his latest research on schizophrenia and violence in Schizophrenia Bulletin. Also recently appearing in that journal is a study of the cost-effectiveness of integrated care in early psychosis treatment, coauthored by James Robinson (ISD).


The NKI librarian is always available to assist with literature searching, citation searching (Web of Science, Scopus), bibliographic reference management, and the like. When you have any information needs, or questions about available resources, don’t hesitate to turn to us.

The library still offers a comfortable, quiet space for reading, work, and small meetings. And we now have Wi-Fi. Just ask the library staff for the password.

You can link to the NKI Library’s website from myNKI. The Library site includes quick links to the NYU Health Sciences Library and to the New York State Library, as well as links to NKI’s own library resources (journal finder, online catalog, PsychiatryOnline, etc.). Remote access is available using NKI’s VPN.
Two versions of the *Merck Manual* are freely available online. Click [here](#) for the professional version, or [here](#) for the consumer version (written in everyday language).

The NIH has redesigned its Grants and Funding website, [Grants.nih.gov](https://www.grants.nih.gov). You can take a video tour of the newly simplified site [here](#).

**Tooting Your Own Horn**

With the advent and development of various “altmetrics”, there are now a range of ways to think about and measure research impact. And along with this new (online and social) research environment have come new ways of promoting your work. Here are a few resources to get you started:

- A colorful summary of “Tips and Tricks” from the company [Altmetric](https://www.altmetric.com).
- A [guide](#) to tracking the impact of your papers from the [Impactstory blog](https://impactstory.org).
- The toolkit available from [Kudos](https://www.kudos.com) to help you broaden readership and increase your impact.

**DEPARTMENT OF WONDER**

**Score One for the Computers**

The latest edition of “man vs. computer” played out recently in South Korea when an elite Go player, Lee Sedol, took on AlphaGo, Google’s [DeepMind](https://deepmind.com) computer program. The match did not end well for the humans, with AlphaGo winning 4 games to 1. But the problem for people may go beyond any particular match or challenge (Go or chess or poker, etc.). Some have suggested that artificial intelligence may in fact pose an existential threat to humanity. For a bit of background on this topic, you can read these articles from [Observer](https://wwwobserver.com), [Wikipedia](https://en.wikipedia.org), and [Sam Harris](https://www.samharris.org).
In January, the NYU Master Scholars Program in Humanistic Medicine and the Department of Psychiatry hosted a special event entitled “Alcoholism: Treatment and Recovery”. The evening included a live performance of scenes from the award-winning play *Bill W. and Dr. Bob*, about the founding of Alcoholics Anonymous, followed by a panel discussion. Dr. Helena Hansen (Social Solutions and Services) participated in the panel along with other NYU faculty and one of the authors of the play. You can view a video of the event here.

On March 18, NKI Director Donald Goff, MD, was the NYU Child Study Center Grand Rounds presenter. The topic of his talk was “Helpful or Hurtful? Antipsychotics in Early Psychosis”.

**UPCOMING EVENTS AND SEMINARS**

**NKI PRESENTS**

Dan V. Iosifescu, MD, MSc

Director of Adult Psychopharmacology  
Mount Sinai Behavioral Health System  
Associate Professor of Psychiatry and Neuroscience  
Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai

*The Search for Novel Treatments in Mood Disorders: The Mount Sinai Experience*

Monday, April 11th, 2 pm  
Conference Room B  
Hosted by Donald Goff, MD

Center for Biomedical Imaging and Neuromodulation Presents

David V. Smith, PhD

Department of Psychology, Rutgers University  
*Brain Connectivity Shapes Responses to Social and Economic Incentives*  
Monday, April 11th, 11 am

Peter Lakatos, MD, PhD

Research Scientist, NKI  
*Dynamics and function of neuronal oscillatory entrainment in the auditory system*  
Monday, April 18th, 11 am

Adriana Di Martino, MD

Leon Levy Assistant Professor of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, NYU Child Study Center  
*Revealing the Autism Connectome with Brain Imaging*  
Monday, April 25th, 11 am

Hwamee Oh, PhD

Assistant Professor of Neuropsychology  
Columbia University  
*Multimodal Neuroimaging Investigation of Alzheimer’s Disease Pathology in Cognitively Normal Older Adults*  
Monday, May 2nd, 12 noon
Center for Dementia Research Seminar Series

Held on Thursdays at 10 am

Masuo Ohno, PhD
Center for Dementia Research, NKI
Department of Psychiatry, NYU

Preclinical perspective on efficacy and potential limitation of BACE1 inhibition in Alzheimer’s therapy
Thursday, April 21st

Paul Mathews, PhD
Center for Dementia Research, NKI
Department of Psychiatry, NYU

Title TBD
Thursday, May 5th

Joanna Jankowsky, PhD
Department of Neuroscience
Baylor College of Medicine

Title TBD
Thursday, May 19th

Dun-Sheng Yang, PhD
Center for Dementia Research, NKI
Department of Psychiatry, NYU

Title TBD
Thursday, May 26th

The New York State Office of Mental Health (OMH) hosts a monthly interactive video broadcast covering the latest research, technology and treatment implementation in the fields of psychiatry and psychology. These programs are recorded, and the archived Statewide Grand Rounds programs can be viewed by OMH employees on the OMH intranet. Anyone can view the programs on the OMH website.

NKI Publications Update

Below is a list of references that have been added to the NKI publications database since the previous update. The full database contains over 5,000 items dating back to 1995, and can be searched from the NKI website.


Bruno D, Grothe MJ, Nierenberg J, Sidtis J, Teipel SJ, Pomara N. The association of output order and variability in free recall with cognitive ability and hippocampal volume in elderly individuals. Alzheimer’s and Dementia 11[7 Suppl. 1], P574. 2015. [Abstract]