C-BIN WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

Dr. Qawi Telesford joined NKI in August, 2017 as a Research Scientist. He received his PhD from Virginia Tech and Wake Forest University in biomedical engineering. His graduate research primarily focused on network science with application to neuroimaging data. Specifically, he used graph theory to study the effects of chronic alcohol self-administration in nonhuman primates. Most recently, he finished postdoctoral work at the University of Pennsylvania where he studied dynamic networks in human neuroimaging data.

Currently, Dr. Telesford works with Charles Schroeder and Michael Milham as member of the Center for Biomedical Imaging and Neuromodulation (C-BIN), where his work primarily focuses on simultaneous EEG and fMRI. Taking advantage of the temporal resolution of EEG and the spatial resolution of fMRI, they are exploring how the brain functions at rest and during natural video watching. He also has an interest in network science, particularly in the area of dynamic network analysis and temporal networks.

Zhen Yang, PhD, joined the Center for Biomedical Imaging and Neuromodulation (C-BIN) as a Research Scientist last July. Dr. Yang is interested in brain functions and their relation to psychiatric disorders. She was trained in neuroimaging and clinically-focused research during her pre- and post-doctoral period. Before joining NKI, she
worked as an Instructor in the Department of Psychiatry at the University of Pennsylvania, where she used fMRI to understand neural substrates underlying treatment responses to Cognitive Behavioral Therapy in affective disorders. Here at NKI, she combines multimodal imaging and neuromodulation techniques to delineate and test circuit-level models of brain function and to identify trans-diagnostic imaging markers of psychiatric disorders.

NKI also welcomes Dr. Lang Yoo, a postdoc who joined the Nixon Lab (Dementia Research) in April. Dr. Yoo obtained her BS and MS in Molecular Biology from Sejong University (Seoul, Korea) and her PhD in Molecular Neurobiology from Yonsei University (also in Seoul). She then worked as a postdoctoral fellow at Yonsei University. She specialized in biochemical and cell biological techniques to analyze post-translational modifications and signal transduction.

**GRANTS RECEIVED**

Dr. Pamela Butler (Clinical Research) received a two year R21 grant titled “Social Reward Learning in Schizophrenia”.

Dr. Charles Schroeder and co-PI Dr. Michael Milham (Biomedical Imaging & Neuromodulation) were awarded Administrative and Diversity supplements associated with their R01 grant titled “Defining Neuronal Circuits and Cellular Processes Underlying Resting fMRI Signals”.

Dr. Emily Stern’s (Clinical Research) five year R01 grant titled “Neurobiology of Sensory Phenomena in Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder” has been transferred from Mt. Sinai to NYU and NKI. The grant is a collaboration between NYU and NKI.

Dr. Russ Tobe (Outpatient Research) received a three year subcontract on an R01 grant awarded to Dr. Elizabeth Phelps titled “Stress, Arousal and Mood: Affective Influences on Decisions under Uncertainty”. The grant is a collaboration between NYU and NKI.
**KUDOS**

**Nurse’s Recognition Award**

At Nurse Recognition Day on May 10, Laura Panek, RN (Outpatient Research) received the Nurse’s Recognition Award. In Laura’s absence, the award was accepted by Liz Falco and later presented to Laura (photo below). Laura was acknowledged with these words:

“This nominee is a superb candidate for this award. She is unique in her many years of service to our community. Not only for her clinical contributions but her efforts in advancing treatments and understanding of mental illness through scientific work and her tireless efforts in community service. The winner in the administrative category is ... Laura Panek, RN.”

**FROM AROUND THE INSTITUTE**

Mary Griffin, PsyD, has accepted a position as Employee Assistance Program (EAP) Coordinator for RPC, NKI, RCPC, Blaisdell, and Cook Chill. Dr. Griffin has been a psychologist at RPC since 2006, working both on the units and in a supervisory role. Dr. Griffin received her doctorate from Argosy University in Atlanta. Her training also included placements at Emory Center for Rehabilitation, Westborough State Hospital, University of Medicine and Dentistry of NJ, and MHA Elmsford Clinic. Her career has focused primarily on clinical care, emphasizing an empathic, solution-focused approach.

In her new role as EAP Coordinator, Dr. Griffin provides services to all NYS and RFMH employees and their families. NYS EAP was established in 1983 to help State employees balance the demands of work, home, and life. EAP provides information, assessment, and referral to community resources to address a broad range of issues and concerns. Services with Dr. Griffin are confidential, provided at no cost, and every effort is made to ensure that community referrals are coordinated with health benefits. Dr. Griffin assists employees in identifying and resolving personal, family, and workplace
issues so they can live healthier, happier, and more productive lives. As EAP Coordinator, she also collaborates with the RPC Campus EAP/Wellness Committee to bring health and wellness events to our facilities. New committee members are welcome. Contact Dr. Griffin at 845-680-7780 or Mary.Griffin@omh.ny.gov to learn more or make an appointment. Look for her emails for information and health and wellness opportunities available to all staff.

**OMH Grand Rounds**

NKI Director Donald Goff, MD presented the OMH Statewide Grand Rounds in May, on the topic of “Long Acting Injectables for the OMH Patient Population: Pros & Cons”. The panelist for the program was Anca Amighi, MD (Clinical Director, South Beach Psychiatric Center) and the moderator was Jay Carruthers, MD (Medical Director, Bureau of Psychiatric Services for NYS OMH). OMH Grand Rounds are archived on the OMH HUB website, and this program can be viewed [here](#).

**OMH Medical Director** Dr. Lloyd Sederer’s presentation at NKI last month coincided unfortunately with severe local weather, but there are a number of articles in popular outlets discussing the topic of his new book, *The Addiction Solution*. Two of these are “Breaking Addiction’s Grip” in U.S. News and “9 Things That Matter about Psychoactive Drugs” on the Scientific American Observations blog.

**The Rubin**

Liz Phelps, PhD (Emotional Brain Institute) was one of the featured speakers at a recent event at the Rubin Museum on *The Future of Evidence* – “How do we face a future when the long-held promise of visual and scientific evidence is increasingly precarious?” This event was part of a year-long thematic series at the Rubin on “The Future”.

**NAMI Rockland**

The Rockland 5K run/walk benefiting the programs of the Mental Health Association (MHA) of Rockland and NAMI Rockland was held on May 19 at Rockland Lake. Pictured above at the finish line is Xiaoping Guo who works in NKI’s Central Reference Lab, where he performs routine sample assays from the OMH hospitals by gas chromatography.
**PUBLICATIONS OF NOTE**

### Neuron

**Catia Teixeira** (Emotional Brain Institute) is the first author of this new paper published in the June 6 issue of *Neuron*. She is also the lead author of a recent article in the *Journal of Alzheimer's Disease*.


### Journal of Alzheimer's Disease


### BMJ Open

Deputy Director **Antonio Convit** and **Ricardo Osorio** (Clinical Research) are coauthors of this open access paper published by *BMJ*.


### Cell Reports

Numerous members of the **Center for Biomedical Imaging and Neurmodulation** contributed to this open access article appearing in *Cell Reports*. **Ting Xu** and **Michael Milham** are the corresponding authors.


### Current Opinion in Behavioral Sciences

In this *Current Opinion in Behavioral Sciences* paper, **Regina Sullivan** and **Maya Opendak** (Emotional Brain Institute) review the neurobiology of survival circuits and their transitions during development.


### Nature Reviews Neuroscience

Emotional Brain Institute Director **Joseph LeDoux** coauthored this paper published in the May issue of *Nature Reviews Neuroscience*.

With her NYU coauthors, Helena Hansen (Social Solutions & Services) has a new article in Medical Anthropology Quarterly looking at racial aspects of the opioid epidemic.


Brett East, Donald Wilson, and collaborators from NKI’s Emotional Brain Institute and Center for Dementia Research published their latest paper in Neuroscience.


In this paper, Stan Colcombe (Biomedical Imaging & Neuromodulation) and coauthor Arthur Kramer revisit their 2003 meta-analysis on the effects of fitness on cognitive function of older adults. That earlier paper has been cited over 1,600 times.


NKI Director Donald Goff and colleagues in China recently published this article in Schizophrenia Research.


With recent updates to PsychiatryOnline, the site now instantly adapts to mobile devices, no matter the screen size. Also, the Books menu now has a few options. The “Premium Books” collection includes the titles that are available in full text through NKI’s license. These include a number of APA textbooks, the DSM library, as well as some other titles.

Also, The American Journal of Psychotherapy is now being published by American Psychiatric Publishing. Current and archival content is hosted on the PsychiatryOnline platform.

This blog on the NEJM Journal Watch site provides a nice reminder and caveat about the insidious problem of “predatory” journals – “Predatory Journals Are Such a Big Problem It’s Not Even Funny”.

[6]
As defined by NCBI, “a BioProject is a collection of biological data related to a single initiative, originating from a single organization or from a consortium. A BioProject record provides users a single place to find links to the diverse data types generated for that project.” And now the updated BioProject interface allows you to filter by a variety of project attributes, making it easier to locate the BioProjects that interest you. To read more about these improvements, see this NCBI Insights blog post.

In a recent NIMH Director’s Message, Dr. Joshua Gordon reviews the recommendations of the Genomics Working Group of the National Advisory Mental Health Council. The report delves into how researchers can make progress given the complexity of the genetic landscape underlying psychiatric disorders.

The National Library of Medicine (NLM) has redesigned its homepage. The new design features simplified navigation, improved access to news and highlights about NLM’s work and training opportunities, and more direct access to NLM’s most popular resources (including PubMed, MedlinePlus, and ClinicalTrials.gov). You can read more about the homepage redesign in the NLM Technical Bulletin here.

While walking around the RPC grounds near the old Rockland Children’s Center, Dr. Jim Clelland (Clinical Research) noticed what appeared to be remnants of train tracks in the woods. After doing some investigating, he determined that these are apparently what remains of a spur of the Piermont line that once delivered coal to the Rockland State Hospital power plant! You can see some evidence on this old topographical map.

In a paper recently published in eNeuro, scientists report experiments in which they transferred molecules from the brain cells of trained snails to untrained snails, causing the untrained animals to behave as if they had experienced the training. These experiments provide support for a nonsynaptic, epigenetic model of memory storage in this species. This New York Times article describes the research – “Scientists Made Snails Remember Something That Never Happened to Them”.

Blackwell’s Island Asylum

In a new book called Damnation Island: Poor, Sick, Mad, and Criminal in 19th-Century New York, the author Stacey Horn recounts the troubled history of New York’s institutions for some of its most vulnerable residents. The Blackwell’s Island “Lunatic” Asylum for the mentally ill was part of a complex of buildings on what we now call Roosevelt Island. You can read a bit about that facility here. And you can listen to an interview with the author on this Midday segment on WNYC.
Donald Wilson, PhD (Emotional Brain Institute) was a presenter at the 40th Annual Meeting of the Association for Chemoreception Sciences held in April in Florida. Dr. Wilson co-chaired and spoke at a symposium on “Cholinergic modulation of olfactory function in health and disease”. He also presented at a Satellite Symposium on “Central mechanisms for chemosensory processing and perception”.

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 offers a comfortable, quiet space for reading, work, and small meetings. To use the library’s Wi-Fi network, 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.

**UPCOMING EVENTS AND SEMINARS**

**Center for Dementia Research Seminar Series**

*Held on Thursdays at 10 am*

**Javier Pacheco-Quinto, PhD**

Biomedical Research Institute of New Jersey

*Biomedical insights on Alzheimer’s disease: lessons from Aβ catabolism*

June 21st

**Statewide Grand Rounds**

**Balancing Clinical & Statutory Responsibilities for Insanity Acquittees**

**Dr. Li-Wen Lee**

Medical Director & Assistant Commissioner, Division of Forensic Services and Assistant Clinical Professor of Psychiatry, Columbia University

and

**Dr. Matthew Grover**

Forensic Coordinator, Bronx Psychiatric Center

Wednesday, June 20th

1:00 – 2:30 pm

*Broadcast in the Director’s conference room*

The New York State Office of Mental Health (OMH) regularly hosts an 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 on the OMH website.
Below is a list of references that have been added to the NKI publications database since the previous update. The full database contains over 5,800 items dating back to 1995 and can be searched from the myNKI website.


