

DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHIATRY

# 2022 Psychiatry Research Retreat

**November 16**  
09:00–12:00 p.m.

Virtual via WebEx

For additional information, please contact Kristina Hernandez  
at [nageladm@ohsu.edu](mailto:nageladm@ohsu.edu) or 503-494-0338

<https://www.ohsu.edu/school-of-medicine/psychiatry-research>



## General Information

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This event will be recorded. Links to the recording, program event, and slides will be available on the Research Admin X:Drive. The program will be available on the [Psychiatry Research public website](#).

For additional information, please contact Kristina Hernandez at [nageladm@ohsu.edu](mailto:nageladm@ohsu.edu)

## Schedule

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**9:00 – 9:05 a.m.**

Introduction by Bonnie Nagel, Vice Chair for Research, Psychiatry

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Group 1

**9:05 – 9:45 a.m.**

Jennifer Loftis, Chris Stauffer, Jonathan Emens, Robert Mealer, Angelica Morales, Atheir Abbas, Joel Nigg, & Bonnie Nagel

**9:45 – 9:55 a.m. Discussion**

**9:55 – 10:05 a.m. Break**

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Group 2

**10:05 – 10:45 a.m.**

Steve Dobscha, Ben Morasco, Maya O'Neil, Alan Teo, Rebecca Marshall, Hanna Gustafsson, Alice Graham, & Hannah Morton

**10:45 – 10:55 a.m. Discussion**

**10:55 – 11:05 a.m. Break**

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Group 3

**11:05 – 11:40 a.m.**

Suzanne Mitchell, Jeni Johnstone, Belle Zaccari & Aurora Newman, Elinor Sullivan, Lauren Denneson, Jason Chen, & Kristen Mackiewicz Seghete

**11:40 – 11:50 a.m. – Discussion**

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**11:50 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**

Closing Remarks

### Group I

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#### Jennifer Loftis, PhD

The Loftis lab conducts translational research that investigates immunological mechanisms and treatments for neuropsychiatric symptoms, particularly in the context of substance use disorders and chronic viral infections. Future areas of study and potential collaboration include investigating COVID-19 mental health effects and developing a treatment-focused addiction research center.

#### Chris Stauffer, MD

The Social Neuroscience & Psychotherapy (SNAP) Lab aims to maximize the benefits of therapeutic alliance and psychotherapy through the adjunct use of social psychopharmacology—such as oxytocin, MDMA, and psilocybin. Ongoing and future studies will involve pragmatic clinical trial designs moving toward implementation.

#### Jonathan Emens, MD, FABSM

My current research focuses on the role the circadian and sleep physiology play in mood regulation, mood disorders and cardiovascular physiology. I would be interested in collaborations that explore the impact of interventions for mood disorders on sleep and circadian rhythms.

#### Robert Mealer, MD, PhD

Dr. Robert Mealer investigates schizophrenia risk genes in the brain, with particular focus on enzymes involved in the addition of carbohydrates to proteins through glycosylation. In the future, Dr. Mealer hopes to expand his research of protein glycosylation in the brain to other neuropsychiatric disorders including substance use and dementia.

#### Angelica Morales, PhD

My research currently focuses on determining how individual variability in neurobiological responses to acute and chronic drug exposure predict trajectories of substance abuse over time. I plan to expand this work by exploring how individual differences in neurobiological responses to drugs impact different outcome measures such as the efficacy of pharmacotherapies or the development of other forms of psychopathology.

#### Atheir Abbas, MD, PhD

My research is focused on using rodent models to better understand changes in neural oscillations associated with schizophrenia and classic psychedelic drugs. I am interested in collaborations with clinical researchers interested in studying neural oscillations in psychiatric disorders and acute psychedelic states.

## 5th Annual Department of Psychiatry Research Retreat

Wednesday, November 16, 2022

### Joel Nigg, PhD

I conduct research characterizing the cognitive and emotional characteristics of ADHD and relating these to genetic and environmental etiologies and neural and physiological units of analysis. I do this work collaboratively and look to future collaborations particularly on the exposome.

### Bonnie Nagel, PhD

The research in my lab focuses on understanding normative variation in neurodevelopmental and biopsychosocial trajectories, identifying markers of risk and resilience for psychopathology (including addiction, depression, and suicide), and disentangling risk markers from sequelae associated with psychopathologies themselves.

## Group 2

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### Steve Dobscha, MD

My research interests include suicide prevention; approaches to integrating psychiatric and primary medical care; treatment of chronic conditions including chronic pain in primary care, and patient engagement in care. I would like to continue to explore ways to support professional development for early career investigators working in these areas and other health services topics.

### Ben Morasco, PhD

Broadly interested in health services research related to improving the assessment and treatment of chronic pain, with specific focus on patients with co-occurring substance use disorders.

### Maya O'Neil, PhD

My research focuses on the clinical topics of PTSD, TBI, and suicide prevention, but has an overarching methods focus on FAIR (Findable Accessible Interoperable Reusable) Data and related evidence synthesis, visualization, and dissemination methods. I work closely with the National Center for PTSD, AHRQ, NIH/DoD FITBIR, and VA Office of Mental Health and Suicide Prevention to disseminate both findings and databases, and in the future I'm hoping to expand research collaborations and methods dissemination efforts to include additional operational partners and stakeholders who can make use of the methods and data products we generate.

## 5th Annual Department of Psychiatry Research Retreat

Wednesday, November 16, 2022

### Alan Teo, MD, MS

I study how our social connections and interpersonal relationships shape and influence mental health outcomes, with focuses on scalable interventions with broad reach and health services research in the VA. I would like to collaborate with those interested in gatekeeper training as a public health and/or community-based suicide prevention intervention.

### Rebecca Marshall, MD

The Data, Evaluation and Technical Assistance (DAETA) team works with statewide mental health programs to track outcomes, evaluate program effectiveness and contribute to system improvement efforts. Currently our team is working with the following programs: Crisis and Transition Services, Intensive In-home Behavioral Health Program and Wraparound. Starting January 1, we will be launching data projects with the statewide Mobile Response and Mobile Response Stabilization Services, which will be linked with the new 988 system.

### Hanna Gustafsson, PhD

My research examines the impact of prenatal and early life stress on children's risk for psychopathology with an emphasis on the psychobiological (e.g., inflammation) and family-level mechanisms (e.g., caregiver-child dynamics) through which this risk is conveyed. My future plans include integrating measures of child inflammation into my studies examining the effects of perinatal mental health on child self-regulation.

### Alice Graham, PhD

My current research focuses on elucidating risk and protective factors relevant for perinatal mental health and infant brain development and testing preventive intervention strategies. I would like to explore implementation research that integrates a mechanistic, biological perspective.

### Hannah Morton, PhD

My postdoctoral research examines neurocognitive and temperament development in ADHD, aiming to characterize heterogeneity and identify predictors of longitudinal outcomes. In the next year, I plan to tie these interests in to my previous work in autism spectrum disorder to better understand the overlap and distinction of developmental mechanisms of ADHD and autism.

### Group 3

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#### Suzanne Mitchell, PhD

My current research focuses on trying to identify the genetic, neurobiological and psychological mechanisms underlying decision making. I would like to explore differences with psychiatric patients with disorders characterized by apathy, examine relationship to relapse in drug use or interventions to reduce relapse.

#### Jeni Johnstone, PhD

The Science of Nutrition Affect and Cognition in Kids (SNACK) lab examines complementary and integrative interventions - currently focused on micronutrient supplementation, previously on mindfulness - for ADHD, emotional dysregulation, mood, stress and anxiety in children and adolescents. Going forward, we are examining different formulations of the micronutrients, used alone or in combination with behavioral interventions, the biological mechanisms of response to the micronutrient intervention (in hair, saliva, blood, urine and stool) and in different populations, notably pregnant people with depression; collaboration is welcomed in any of these areas.

#### Belle Zaccari, PsyD & Aurora Newman, MS

We are presenting an update to last year's research project exploring facilitators and barriers to the implementation of virtual Complementary Integrative health approaches for Veterans with chronic pain and PTSD. This work will be extended in a modified Delphi study conducted over the next year with relative experts in the VA who have experience with integrated care for chronic pain and PTSD.

#### Elinor Sullivan, PhD

My research focuses on examining the influence of environmental factors such as nutrition and stress on the physical and mental health on the birthing parent and on offspring neurobehavioral regulation. I am interested in learning and collaborating in the realm of early intervention research.

#### Lauren Denneson, PhD

My research focuses on improving the health and well-being of military veterans at risk of suicide and improving patient-centered approaches to suicide prevention. In future work, I plan to continue to investigate gender differences in suicide risk and resilience and methods for tailoring suicide prevention for women.

## 5th Annual Department of Psychiatry Research Retreat

*Wednesday, November 16, 2022*

### Jason Chen, PhD

My research focuses broadly on how to identify and support those at elevated risk for suicide through relational-, community-, and systems-level approaches. Research areas I am continuing to explore include suicide messaging, social networks impacts of suicide exposure, emergency department settings, and the role of identity in suicide risk.

### Kristen Mackiewicz Seghete, PhD

The majority of my research is currently focused on neurobiological mechanisms of perinatal mental health and substance use and development and implementation of preventive perinatal mental health interventions. I am interested in extending multi-disciplinary collaborations in intervention implementation, perinatal mental and physical health, mindfulness based interventions, and neuroendocrine functioning.