Resident Research Opportunities

Residents can pursue a variety of basic and clinical research rotations, within our department or in other UW departments, from as little time as half a day per week for 6 months or a one month block, to all of their available elective time. For advice or information regarding specific research opportunities in basic neuroscience, please contact John Neumaier MD PhD (neumaier@u.washington.edu), and for opportunities in clinical research please consult Deb Cowley MD (dcowley@u.washington.edu).

The department offers a year-long PGY-4 clinical research seminar focused on clinical research methods and grant-writing. For more information regarding this program, please contact Deb Cowley MD.

Below is a partial list of potential research mentors and projects within our department.

CHRMC

Bryan King MD (Child Division Director): autism and related conditions, intellectual disability, developmental psychopathology, behavioral psychopharmacology

Christopher Varley MD (Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Residency Director): ADHD, pediatric psychopharmacology

Brent Collett PhD: neurocognitive and psychosocial sequelae of chronic medical conditions (particularly craniofacial anomalies), infant mental health, early onset disruptive behavior disorders

Robert Hilt MD: access to child psychiatry services, psychiatry training for primary care providers, systems of care, consultation and emergency psychiatry

Ray Hsiao MD: screening, assessment, prevention and treatment of substance use disorders, assessment and treatment of co-occurring disorders, adapting evidence-based practices in special populations, and health services utilization

Elizabeth McCauley PhD: developmental psychopathology with a focus on mood disorders, treatment of depression, school based preventive interventions, management of depression in primary care

Jon McClellan MD: early onset psychotic disorders, particularly bipolar disorder and schizophrenia; psychiatric genetics

Matthew Speltz PhD: developmental psychopathology, early onset conduct disorder, attachment disorders, psychological adjustment of children with chronic medical disorders, craniofacial birth defects
Peter Roy-Byrne MD (Chief of Psychiatry, HMC): dissemination of evidence based treatments for anxiety and depression in the primary care setting; improving quality of care for disadvantaged patients with depression and anxiety; use of genetic markers to predict treatment outcome in anxiety and depression

David Avery MD: mood disorders, transcranial magnetic stimulation, ECT, seasonal affective disorder, light therapy, circadian rhythms

Michael Clark MD PhD: the molecular biology of stress and the dorsal raphe

Kate Comtois PhD: dialectical behavior therapy, borderline personality disorder

Christopher Dunn PhD: motivational interviewing, substance use disorders, psychotherapy education

Jutta Joesch, PhD: health care economics, mental health during pregnancy and postpartum, interventions for alcohol/drug dependence and mental health problems

Toni Krupski PhD: addiction; outcomes of addiction treatment; impact of research on public policy; using administrative data to track outcomes of behavioral interventions

Barbara McCann PhD: hypnosis, cognitive-behavior therapy, eating disorders, obesity

John Neumaier MD PhD: serotonin receptors in animal models of stress, addiction, and cognition; neuroendocrine regulation of serotonin neurotransmission; molecular pharmacology of serotonin receptors

Richard Ries MD: substance use disorders, co-occurring addictions and chronic mental illness, health services research in addictions, 12-step facilitation, psychopharmacology of addictions

Mark Snowden MD MPH: geriatrics, health services research, nursing home psychiatry

Eric Strachan PhD: psychoneuroimmunology; psychosocial aspects of HIV/AIDS; psychological treatments for voices, paranoia, and delusions; chronic fatigue, chronic pain; twin studies

Karina Uldall MD MPH: HIV/AIDS; hepatitis/liver disease; consultation-liaison psychiatry; psychiatric education
Paul Zarkowski MD: emergency psychiatry; clinical neurophysiology, including laser evoked potentials, EEG source localization, heart rate variability; transcranial magnetic stimulation

Douglas Zatzick MD: interventions for and prevention of post-traumatic stress disorder in patients with trauma; health services research

UWMC:

Jurgen Unutzer MD, MPH (Chief of Psychiatry, UWMC): health services research; integrated mental health services; primary care psychiatry; geriatric mental health care

Paul Borghesani MD PhD: neuroimaging of aging and dementia

Soo Borson MD: geriatric psychiatry, cognitive screening in primary care settings

Zoran Brkanac MD: molecular genetics of ataxia and reading disability

Paul Ciechanowski MD MPH: health services research; consultation-liaison psychiatry; attachment styles, physician-patient relationships, treatment adherence

Megan Dwight-Johnson MD MPH: inpatient and consultation-liaison psychiatry; health services research; mental health service delivery in Latina populations

Jesse Fann MD MPH: psycho-oncology, neuropsychiatry, health services research

Deb Kaysen PhD: alcohol use and post-traumatic stress disorder; cognitive processing therapy for PTSD

Mary Larimer PhD: substance use disorders, gambling, interventions in high-risk college student populations

Wayne Katon MD: health services research, interaction between depression and anxiety and common medical illnesses like diabetes, and development of integrated mental health models to improve quality of care and outcomes of primary care patients with depression and anxiety

Parvoneh Poorkaj Navas PhD: molecular and genetic interactions in tauopathies (e.g. Alzheimer’s disease, frontotemporal dementia with Parkinson’s)

Paul Phillips PhD: dopamine neurotransmission in animal models of motivated behavior and drug abuse
Nephi Stella PhD: basic neurobiology of cannabinoids; cannabinoids as therapy for brain tumors

Mark Sullivan MD PhD: pain, opiate prescribing, ethics in psychiatry, consultation-liaison psychiatry, psychiatric consultation for cardiac patients

Judith Turner PhD: Chronic pain: psychosocial predictors and outcomes; psychological and medical treatment effectiveness

Peter Vitaliano PhD: chronic stress, psychophysiology, and cognition

Michael Vitiello PhD: effects of aging on sleep

Sara Webb PhD: developmental cognitive neuroscience, neurobiology of autism

VA

Murray Raskind MD (Chief of Psychiatry, VA): neuroendocrinology and treatment of Alzheimer’s disease; noradrenergic function and prazosin treatment in post-traumatic stress disorder and alcohol dependence

Monique Cherrier PhD: aging, Alzheimer’s disease, memory, neuroimaging

Suzanne Craft PhD: neuroendocrine effects on cognitive function in normal and pathological aging

Dorcas Dobie MD: genetics of schizophrenia; post-traumatic stress disorder and other psychiatric conditions in female veterans

Kenric Hammond PhD: bioinformatics

Matthew Jakupcak PhD: behavioral activation treatment for post-traumatic stress disorder; PTSD in Iraq and Afghanistan veterans

Daniel Kivlahan PhD: substance use disorders; screening for addictions in primary care; treatment of substance use disorders

Ruth Kohen MD: serotonin receptors, molecular basis of mood disorders and schizophrenia

Dianne Lattemann PhD: endocrinology, insulin metabolism and action, brain-gut peptides
James Leverenz MD: molecular pathology of the locus coeruleus in Alzheimer’s disease

Gail Li MD PhD: biomarkers and treatment of Alzheimer’s disease and cognitive impairment; treatment of traumatic brain injury

Miles McFall PhD: psychotherapy treatments for post-traumatic stress disorder, smoking cessation

Charles Meredith MD: addictions; prazosin treatment of alcohol dependence

Valerie Olson PhD: norepinephrine in animal models of post-traumatic stress disorder and addiction

Elaine Peskind MD: stress hormones in aging and Alzheimer's disease

Eric Petrie MD: structural and functional neuroimaging of cholinergic and adrenergic function in neurodegenerative and psychiatric disorders

Allen Radant MD: oculomotor dysfunction in schizophrenia, genetics and endophenotypes in schizophrenia

Dennis Rasmussen PhD: neuroendocrine mechanisms in alcohol abuse

Andrew Saxon MD: phenomenology, treatment, psychopharmacology of alcohol and drug abuse and dependence

Tracy Simpson PhD: alcohol use disorders and post-traumatic stress disorder

Patti Szot PhD: regulation of monoamine transporters

Stephen Thielke MD MPH: health services research, geriatric psychiatry

Debby Tsuang MD: genetics of schizophrenia, dementia, and post-traumatic stress disorder

Charles Wilkinson PhD: glucocorticoids, hippocampal function, memory and aging, in primates and humans