

## INTEGRATING A MODERN NEUROSCIENCE PERSPECTIVE INTO EVERY FACET OF CLINICAL PRACTICE

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*The overarching aim of the NNCI is to create, pilot, and disseminate a comprehensive set of shared resources that will help train psychiatrists to integrate a modern neuroscience perspective into every facet of their clinical work. This collection reflects the collaboration of diverse residency training programs from across the country. The curriculum is built on principles of adult learning and is adaptable for use in a range of learning environments.*

# LIVE SESSIONS: ONLINE CASE CONFERENCE STARTS OCTOBER 13TH

**SOME** of you may remember the Integrative Case Conference module that we demonstrated at the 2014 BRAIN conference. Participants were enthusiastic about the learning experience and, since then, a number of programs have started running these sessions on their own. We have also received feedback that for some programs it may be hard to execute this module with local resources. Not to worry- the NNCI is here to help!

**During the 2015-2016 academic year, we will be hosting a webcast series of Integrative Case Conferences. These will be held on a series of Tuesday mornings between October and March (exact dates not yet finalized). The time on each morning will be 10:15 - 12:30 (Eastern).**

For each session, the first hour (10:15 - 11:15) will feature commentary about a case by experts who each represent a diverse clinical perspective (typically: neuroscience, psychotherapy, and social psychiatry). There will be ample time for Q&A, including from online participants.

Following the case, we will have a "Scientific Foundations" discussion from 11:30 - 12:30. This hour is designed to offer participants the opportunity to dig deeper into the relevant neuroscience and to engage with a content expert.

We piloted a webcast case conference last fall and had more than 15 programs from across the US and Brazil participate. Feedback from this "beta test" was very positive and generated a number of suggestions that will help us further adapt and improve the experience.

We are tentatively planning to webcast 6-8 sessions, focused on the topics of: **schizophrenia, depression, bipolar disorder, obsessive-compulsive disorder, addiction, and post-traumatic stress disorder.**

Our first session will be on **October 13th** focusing on a challenging case of someone with chronic schizophrenia. Discussants will include: Godfrey Pearlson, discussing the neurobiology of schizophrenia; Robert Ostroff, an analyst and inpatient attending; and John Strauss, commenting on the case from a Recovery perspective. In the second hour, participants will have the chance to engage more deeply with Dr. Pearlson about the neurobiology of schizophrenia and his extraordinary work with the BSNIP project (see <http://psychiatry.yale.edu/education/grand/2015/0410.aspx>). Please contact Amanda Wang ([wangama@nyspi.columbia.edu](mailto:wangama@nyspi.columbia.edu)) if you are interested in participating in any of these sessions or have any questions.

# NNCI'S LATEST SESSIONS

## THIS "STUFF" IS REALLY COOL

[➔ LINK TO SESSION HERE](#)

In recent years, we have seen a massive, exponential growth of neuroscience research that is revolutionizing our understanding of the biological basis of psychiatric illness. If you've ever found yourself having trouble keeping up with the science... these talks are for you. The goal of these videos was to pick a handful of topics to present at an introductory level that each reflect cutting edge neuroscience that could change the way we think about, and, ultimately, treat our patients — the kind of topics that will make you say, "*Wow... This 'stuff' is really cool...*"

## MICROBIOME: THE EXCREMENT EXPERIMENT

[➔ LINK TO SESSION HERE](#)

There is widespread public interest — at times, almost reaching a frenzied level — in the relationship between diet and physical and mental wellbeing. One fascinating ongoing area of research explores the concept of the "microbiome" — i.e. the role that gut bacteria may play in health and illness — including potential effects on mental health and illness. The following Neuroscience in the Media session is designed to explore this topic using a fun article that appeared in the *New Yorker*.

## PSILOCYBIN: THE TRIP TREATMENT

[➔ LINK TO SESSION HERE](#)

Facing one's own death can be distressing, forcing an individual to confront existential questions that he or she might prefer to avoid. For individuals with terminal illnesses, this may be a source of great distress and prevent them from being able to experience a "good death". What if there was a way to help make this process easier by helping individuals come to terms with this inevitable transition? We present here a Facilitator's Guide for teaching trainees about psychedelic therapy, with an emphasis on the effects of psilocybin on the brain, particularly the default mode network.

# CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2015-2016 NNCI SCHOLARS

➔ TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THIS YEAR'S SCHOLARS CLICK HERE



**Michael Avissar, MD, PhD**

Cornell  
PGY-4



**John Torous, MD**

Harvard-Longwood  
PGY-4



**Basar Cenik, MD, PhD**

UT Southwestern  
PGY-3



**Rebecca White, MD**

Loma Linda  
PGY-3



**Tammy Duong, MD**

University of Southern California  
PGY-4



**Bryce Winingar, MD**

Georgetown  
PGY-3

## AWARDS & RECOGNITION

### **NNCI RECEIVES NIH GRANT**

As many of you are aware, the NIH R13 grant that has supported the BRAIN conference for the past 10 years has now expired. We are delighted to announce that the National Institute of Mental Health has awarded an R25 administrative supplement grant to the NNCI that will allow us to continue this exciting training opportunity. Grant funds will also support the new NNCI Scholars program and have allowed us to hire a full time program manager, Amanda Wang.

### **AAMC Recognizes NNCI**

The Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) has been selected as a winner of the 2015 Building Bridges and Spanning Boundaries Award for Innovations in Research and Research Education. The NNCI was selected for this prestigious award from a highly competitive field. The recognition includes a \$10,000 award that will be used to support ongoing educational initiatives in the NNCI.