

**MOVING FORWARD TOGETHER**

JULY 10, 2025

**MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR**

Dear All,

This has been an eventful period for academic and health care organizations countrywide and Penn is no exception. The leadership of PSOM and the Health System is working hard to ensure we preserve our academic mission and continue to conduct cutting edge research and educating the next leaders in the field. We also are razor focused on maintaining the quality care we provide to patients every day in a manner that is sustainable and fiscally responsible. It is not an easy task, but I have confidence in our leaders. You will see that we continue to seek ways to do more with less in all spheres with the same insistence on excellence. Something that gives me hope is the fact that Penn is very resilient, which I mentioned in my last note to you. Penn has not just survived through wars (Revolutionary, Civil, WWI, WWII, Vietnam and more), economic crises (Great Depression, Great Recession) and pandemics (Spanish Flu, Covid-19), it has thrived. So, as tough as times are, we will prevail if we stick together and adhere to our missions, which are a blessing in that they are laudable goals focused on improving things in the world in ways large and small.

It is Summer, a time when many of us are thinking about taking a vacation. If you have not done so already, I urge you to take time off. It is very important for our health to unplug and focus on endeavors other than our work. Even if you need or prefer to take a

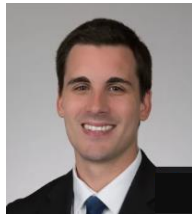
staycation, our city and region offer beautiful surroundings, museums, gardens, nature, etc. Please take care of yourself. Remember to follow your routines with sleeping, eating, and exercise and recall that altruism increases resilience. We are able to be altruistic because of our missions to heal, educate and find causes of and solutions to health problems and we need everyone to accomplish these missions whether you work in a lab, a clinic, a classroom, in operations or in finance.

Thank you for all you do. We need you! I wish you a peaceful rest of your day and week!

Warmly and with gratitude, m

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#### **WELCOME CHARLES PALMER MD**



Charles Palmer, MD is joining us from the Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC), where he recently completed a six-year combined residency in Psychiatry and Neurology.

Dr. Palmer brings valuable experience in ECT, TMS, FUS, and DBS and will be an asset as we continue to expand our Interventional Psychiatry program.

Clinically, he will be working with the Interventional Psychiatry intake clinic and the ECT service. In addition, he will be involved in research, including DBS programming for our clinical trials. The rest of his time will be at PAH with the Neurology and Neurosurgery departments.

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#### **CONGRATULATIONS TO MATHIAS BASNER, MD, PHD, MSciEpi**



Dr. Mathias Basner will be awarded NASA's Exceptional Scientific Achievement Medal at Johnson Space Center on August 19, 2025, for exceptional research contributions related to characterizing and measuring cognitive function of individuals in space and related environments. Dr. Basner will be joining a prestigious list with several Nobel Laureates.

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#### **CONGRATULATIONS TO MATTHEW R. HAYES, PHD**



Please congratulate Dr. Matthew Hayes becoming the President Elect of The Society for the Study of Ingestive Behavior (SSIB) in August 2025. SSIB is the largest professional organization in the world devoted to basic scientific research on eating, drinking, and appetite. Their mission is committed to advancing scientific research on food and fluid intake and its associated biological, psychological and social processes.

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## WELCOME RESIDENT, CLASS OF 2029



Katherine Aliano Ruiz, MD



Yocasta Alvarez, MD, PhD



Emma Chaloux-Pinnette,  
MD, PhD



Adaora Ekwonu, MD



Brendan Ho, MD



Peter Lambert, MD, PhD



Nicolas Mandel, MD



Jonathan Myers, MD



Lucas Occhino-Moede,  
MD, MPH



Chevonne Parker, MD, MPH



Armaan Singh, MD, MBA



Somachukwu Umeozulu, MD

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## CONGRATULATIONS TO BOTH DR. ARPITA BANERJEE AND DR. ASHLEY UN ON WINNING PRESTIGIOUS AWARDS BY THE PENNSYLVANIA PSYCHIATRIC SOCIETY



Dr. Arpita Goswami Banerjee is being honored with the Society's Jack Greenspan Early Career Award. The award is a prestigious honor recognizing outstanding psychiatrists in the early stages of their independent careers. Awardees are honored for their dedication to preserving and defending the practice of psychiatry within the state, and their meaningful contributions to the Philadelphia Psychiatric Society or broader organized psychiatry.

Dr. Ashley Un is being honored with the Society's Larry Real Public Psychiatry Award. The award celebrates leadership in community-focused psychiatry — particularly in underserved, public-sector settings. It recognizes

those who advocate, innovate, and implement meaningful systems-level changes in public mental health. It serves as a tribute to Dr. Real's legacy of compassion, recovery-centered care, and organizational leadership.

Both awards will be presented at the Philadelphia Chapter's annual awards gala on November 15, 2025.

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## WE WELCOME THE 2025-2026 PSYCHOLOGY INTERNS COHORT



**Reina Kiefer**  
University of  
Rhode Island  
Adult track



**MaryKate Frisch**  
University of  
Connecticut  
Child /  
Developmental  
Disabilities track



**Olivia Larson-  
Mylonas**  
University of  
Pennsylvania  
Adult track



**Max Larrazabal**  
University of Virginia  
Adult track



**Joren Adams**  
Oregon Health &  
Sciences  
University  
Neuropsychology  
track



**Katherine Sadek**  
University of  
Texas  
Adult track



**Sekine Ozturk**  
Stony Brook  
University  
Adult track



**Courtney Wright**  
University of  
Kentucky  
Student Health &  
Counseling track



**Zarría Stephens**  
Loyola University -  
Maryland  
Student Health &  
Counseling track



**Gelan (Lana) Ying**  
University of  
Florida  
Neuropsychology  
track



Dr. Angela Burdick-McPhee's PhD was officially conferred on May 12, 2025. She walked at her graduation at the University of Holy Cross in New Orleans on May 18th.

Dr. Burdick-McPhee has been a practicing clinician for 17 years and is a Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC) in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Louisiana, and Oregon. She is also a Licensed Clinical Alcohol and Drug Counselor (LCADC) in New Jersey, Certified Advanced Alcohol and Drug Counselor (CAADC) in Pennsylvania, and Certified Alcohol and Drug Counselor Level 3 in Oregon.



Click [here](#) to learn more.

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## **PENN PSYCHIATRY AMBULATORY SERVICES NEWSLETTER**

Provide practice updates and program expansions • Introduce new hires • Recognize individual or group achievements • Share testimonials from patients who have benefitted from our services • Spotlight the expertise and specialties of our mental health professionals.

[December 5, 2024](#) – Premier Issue

[June 10, 2025](#) - Special Issue, dedicated to: Measurement-Based Care (MBC)

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### **THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE.**

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#### **Vision**

Promoting health for the brain and mind to transform lives and the world.

#### **Mission**

Penn Psychiatry develops and implements new ideas to understand, prevent, and treat disorders of the brain and mind, through innovative research and discoveries, outstanding educational, world-renowned clinical services, and transformational public health policies.

Click [here](#) to access the Penn Psychiatry website.