

September 2017

Stepping Out-Stepping Up is a monthly, community-oriented newsletter of the Department of Psychiatry published by the Office of Mental Health Promotion.

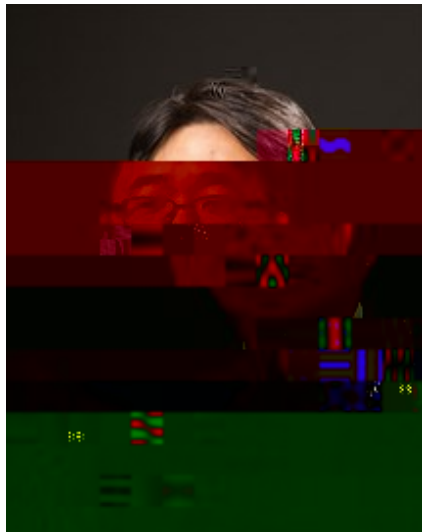
Psychiatry Welcomes Dr. Hochang Benjamin Lee as New Chair

Hochang Benjamin (Ben) Lee, M.D., was installed as the new John Romano Professor and Chair of the Department of Psychiatry on September 12th during the opening academic school year convocation.

Dr. Lee was founding director and chief of Yale's [Psychological Medicine Service](#). He also directed Yale's [Psychological Medicine Research Center](#), which develops strategies to deliver psychiatric services to medical and surgical inpatients and prevent the onset of neuropsychiatric issues after major surgeries.

He succeeds previous John Romano Professor and Chair of Psychiatry Eric Caine, M.D., who has stepped down after leading the department for nearly 25 years. Caine will remain on the faculty and continue his nationally-funded research in suicide prevention.

[Mark B. Taubman, M.D.](#), URMCE CEO and School of Medicine and Dentistry dean, said Lee's ability to work well with other clinical departments to address behavioral health conditions "will further the department's collaborative philosophy and its mission

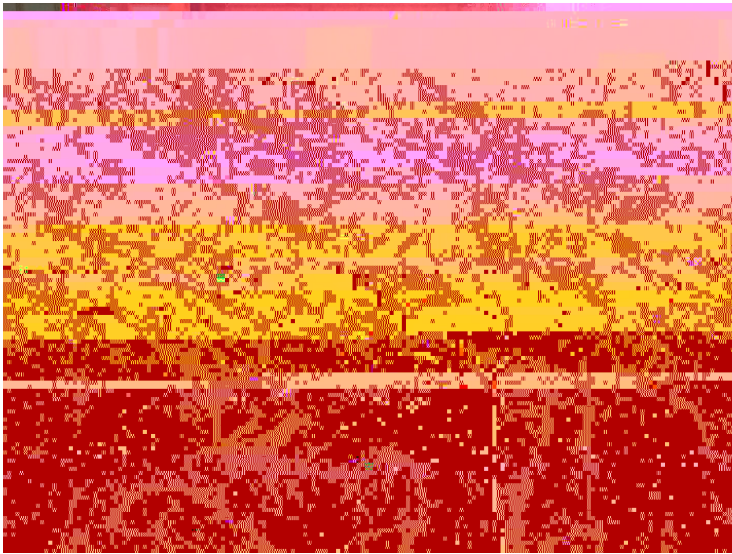


Community-Oriented Events

Don't forget to check the calendar for special university sponsored events:

www.rochester.edu/diversity/eventscalendar/

- Decoding the Tablecloth, written and performed by Gabriela Kohen and directed by Connie Grappo, this play explores the psychological impact of trauma over five generations in Kohen's family as well as her experiences as an immigrant girl growing up Jewish and Latina in New York. From pre-Holocaust Poland, to the tango halls of Argentina, to disco-era Brooklyn, Gabriela portrays over twenty characters as she weaves her family's struggle to belong with their unique cultural identity and oral history. For more information or to purchase tickets visit www.jcrochester.org.
- Dealing with Loss and Trauma: Developing the Skills of Grief, Grace and Gratitude, with presenter Theo Munson, author of Finding Your Way Through Grief, will take place on Tuesday, October 3rd from 6-7:30 pm at 220 Avenue D. This event is free. To register, email Mona Isler at ramona918@gmail.com or call (585) 727-7736 by September 29.
- Rochester Scleroderma Patient Education Forum will be on Saturday, October 14th from 11 am to 4 pm at The College At Brockport Rochester Educational Opportunity Center (REOC), located at 161 Chestnut Street in Rochester, NY. For a full agenda or to register please visit their [website](#).
- The Bridge Art Gallery is accepting submissions for the show, Stronger Together, through October 16th. For more details or for a submission form please visit the [Bridge Art Gallery website](#). For



Outstanding presentations were delivered to both faith leaders and laity to make everyone more aware of the issues and myths surrounding mental illness in today's society. Reverend Chassity Dennis, MSW, representing her pastor of New Bethel Church, Rev. Dr. Weldon Thomas, spoke on PTSD and its impact. Mr. Charles J. Brown, AAS/CASAC of the Department of Psychiatry of the University Rochester Medical Center, presented the topic encompassing the "Disease of Addiction," its process, with a focus on how the church can assist those dealing with addiction and mental illness to cope and/or recover. There was an overwhelming request for the presenters to supply handouts of what they presented to the participants. Both speakers became connected to this institute through Renewing of the Mind, a mental health class for clergy and lay ministers.

The Bishop James R. Wright, Sr., Institute of Christian Education has been in existence since 2007 and is attended by delegates from all over New York State from Albany to Buffalo, New York and by family and friends outside of the New York Western First Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the Church of God In Christ.





Mental Illness Awareness Week



Mental Illness Awareness Week

(MIAW) is an opportunity to highlight the importance of adequate mental health care which takes place October 1-7. October 5th specifically is National Depression Screening Day.

The [Nation Alliance on Mental Illness \(NAMI\)](#) offers a [toolkit](#) for those looking to get involved and promote the theme of "Into Mental Health: Inspired, Informed, Involved" during MIAW.



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