CONGRATULATIONS!

April 7th:
Brown Bag with Drs. Jan Olav Johannessen and Inge Joa

April 16th:
Clinical Area Meeting (Student Reps Invited)

April 28th:
Brown Bag with Dr. Gerald C. Davison

May 8th:
Leibovitz Conference

Congratulations to Sohyun Han and Justin Hummer who were selected to receive a 2014 National Science Foundation (NSF) Graduate Research Fellowship Program (GRFP) Fellowship! This reflects well on them, their mentors (Margolin and Davison), and our program. Way to go!

Saks Student Scholar Program

The Elyn Saks Institute has a student scholar program that provides some financial support ($2000) and some involvement with the institute regarding mental illness, legal issues, policy and ethics. In addition, the scholar is required to meet on a regular basis (monthly?) and write a paper that can result in a publication. For a list of the current student scholars and the institute go to:

http://weblaw.usc.edu/centers/saks/scholars.cfm

If you are interested in applying to be a Sax Student Scholar please send to Steven Lopez (lopezs@usc.edu) the following:

1. a one-page single spaced statement indicating why you want to participate in this program.
2. your cv.

The deadline for receipt of these materials is April 20.
The “TIPS” Early Intervention in Psychosis Study: Outcome and Development of Evidence Based Services

Over the years the question rose whether detecting psychosis earlier could improve prognosis. Perhaps “applying existing schizophrenia treatments as soon as possible in the course of the disorder may slow or stop deterioration” (McGlashan & Johannessen, 1996). The Scandinavian early Treatment and Intervention in Psychosis Study (TIPS) engineered an early detection (ED) of psychosis programme that sought to reduce the duration of untreated psychosis (DUP) through early detection teams and extensive information campaigns. The lecture will describe the rationale for the TIPS study, and will present examples of the different components of the ED system.
Gerald C. Davison, PhD

Professor of Psychology and Gerontology

University of Southern California

Case Conferences and the Dialectics of Science and Practice

Forty years ago Paul Meehl published a classic article entitled “Why I Do Not Attend Case Conferences.” During our recent ADCT interview process, we were fortunate to participate in case conference-like presentations that I believe Meehl would have found a good deal more interesting and useful than what he wrote about two generations ago. In my presentation I will discuss an outline for what I believe can help clinicians hold forth in a case conference setting in ways that can be useful for the presenter, the audience, and ultimately the patient or client. Special attention will be paid to the view that clinical assessment is constructive in an epistemological sense and that it should be inextricably tied to the decisions to be made for and with the patient, most especially the treatment options that are available. I will also argue that ongoing assessment is fundamental to creating and making adjustments in evidence-based interventions, the advantages and limitations of which will also be discussed. Along the way I will integrate what I’ve called the “dialectics of science and practice,” which is a somewhat ponderous way to describe the scientist-practitioner (Boulder) model of clinical psychology, the foundation of most high-quality clinical programs including our own.
The Leibovitz Conference: Thursday, May 8th. It will be held at the PSC. The program starts at 4:30 p.m. with student presentations and is followed by a buffet dinner at 6:30 p.m. We would be delighted if you could join us for this celebration of our students’ collective accomplishments. Please RSVP to Erika Quinly by April 24th.

Call for Presenters: Please let us know ASAP if you want to present, preferably by April 7th. Based on this we will let you know who we select so that you can submit an abstract. Typically we give preference to advanced students. But at this stage, please just let us know if you are interested so we can get back to you quickly about who all will be presenting.

The Davison Award: A plaque plus a monetary gift in the amount of $200.00 will be awarded to a student based on excellence in writing as judged by faculty based on a student’s first authored publications or in-press papers reflecting work completed at USC during the past academic year (May 2013-March 2014). The Gerald Davison award will be granted during the upcoming Leibovitz Conference. If you would like to be considered for this award, please send your paper to Erika Quinly by April 11th.