Welcome New Faculty

- **Orion Mosko**, PhD, is a clinical and health service psychologist with 17 years of experience who transitions from contract to employed status within Outpatient Services. After graduating from the University of California at Irvine in cognitive science/psychology, he received his PhD in clinical psychology from the University of Texas in Austin. Dr. Mosko completed his internship and two postdoctoral fellowships in clinical psychology at the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio, Baylor College of Medicine (Menninger Child and Family Program) and Baylor Scott & White Health in association with Texas A&M University Health Science Center (adult track), respectively.

- **Amy Vyas**, MD, joins Outpatient Services as a staff psychiatrist. Dr. Vyas earned her BA (English) from Duke University and her MD at Tufts University School of Medicine. She completed her psychiatry residency and child psychiatry fellowship training at Baylor College of Medicine, which included a rotation at Menninger. Dr. Vyas was recently honored as the top fellow in her graduating class. Her interests include psychotherapies for adult and pediatric patients, particularly psychodynamic psychotherapy.

Board Welcomes New Directors

I am delighted to welcome the following new Directors to The Menninger Clinic’s Foundation Board.

- **David E.K. Frischkorn Jr., MBA**, is Managing Director of Corporate Finance for Seaport Global and has served on several mental health boards, including as Chair of the Child Guidance Center and the Harris County Psychiatric Center Advisory Board.

A complete summary of our many accomplishments will be available in September in our online annual report.
Kudos

- Congratulations to M. Justin Coffey, MD, and Jon Stevens, MD, MPH, who were recognized as Top Doctors by Houstonia Magazine, and to Neil Puri, MD, for being named a Top Doctor in Psychiatry by H Texas Magazine.
- Harrell Woodson, PhD, Administrative Director of Outpatient Services, has been promoted to Associate Chief of Outpatient Services. In this expanded leadership role, Dr. Woodson will serve as the senior administrative leader for our Outpatient Services enterprise, which includes oversight roles for Pathfinder and The Gathering Place, as well as for future expansion initiatives. Please join me in congratulating Dr. Woodson and thanking him for assuming this important leadership role.
- The Center for Brain Stimulation is pleased to announce the opening of the TMS Service. TMS, or transcranial magnetic stimulation, is a noninvasive medical procedure that uses targeted magnetic pulses to stimulate areas of the brain, such as the prefrontal cortex. TMS is approved by the FDA for the treatment of medication-resistant depression, and recent studies suggest that it may also be effective in treating certain anxiety disorders, such as OCD. Menninger’s TMS Service is led by M. Justin Coffey, MD, and Kristina Bullard, MSN RN NE-BC.
- The Information Technology Team has earned the HDI Team Pinnacle of Excellence Award. This award recognizes the fact that 100% of Menninger’s leaders and team members providing IT customer support are certified in the best practices of IT service management and customer service. This award also reflects the remarkably high engagement of our IT Team, which is among the highest (82%) in the organization.

Progress on FY 2018 Priorities

- Menninger’s preparation to implement an EHR is picking up speed as clinical leaders form special task forces to optimize the way care teams work together today. As one example, Avni Cirpili, CNO, has convened a Nursing Informatics Council, led by Tina Bullard, MSN RN NE-BC, to focus specifically on nursing work flow, identifying ways to reduce redundancy, increase standardization and make it easier for nurses to do their important work.
- August will see many design decisions made on our new Outpatient Services and Education Building, including exterior building refinement, landscaping and furniture selection. Tina Baugh, IT, will continue to work with our IT consultant to ensure we incorporate the latest technology into the building, while Greg Odom, Facilities, will be working with our mechanical engineers on the heating and air conditioning, emergency power and building controls. Other items on the agenda for August include building security and unique interior design elements. We look forward to sharing more information with you as we move forward.

Menninger Advances Knowledge

In June, Menninger investigators made important contributions to the medical literature.
- Michelle Patriquin, PhD, and colleague’s authored an invited review which examined the newest literature related to anxiety, in order to develop a novel conceptual framework for future research related to generalized anxiety disorder (Chronic Stress, vol. 1, June 8, 2017).
- Alok Madan, PhD, MPH, and colleagues used topological data analysis to identify a potential biomarker of an attenuated treatment response among inpatients with serious mental illness. Insofar as the observed pattern of resting-state functional connectivity collected early during treatment is replicable, this potential biomarker may indicate the need to modify standard of care for a small, albeit meaningful, percentage of patients (Journal of Neuropsychiatry and Clinical Neurosciences, vol, 29(3), 275-283).
- View other important contributions to the medical literature by our faculty and staff on our website.

Links to Topics of the Month

- August—National Immunization Awareness Month, Back to School Safety Month
- August 8—U.S. News & World Report announces 2017-2018 America’s Best Hospitals and specialty rankings
- August 9-12—Menninger will be the site of the only Child Attachment Interview Training Course in U.S.
- August 12—International Youth Day
- August 20—Menninger Family Education Day
- August 25—Psychology and social work fellows’ graduation ceremony at Menninger, 2-4 pm, Classrooms

Menninger Celebrates Diversity

- August 1—Tisha B’Av (Jewish)
- August 7—Baksha Bandhan (Hindu)
- August 14—Krishna Janmashtami (Hindu)
- August 15—Assumption of Mary (Christian)
- August 21—Senior Citizens Day
- August 23—International Day for Remembrance of Slave Trade and its Abolition
- August 26—Women’s Equality Day
- August 31—Eid al-Adha (Muslim)

Have a great month!

Ed Coffey, MD
“There is no health without mental health.”