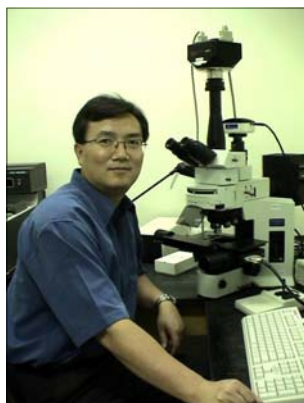




# Breaking Through

The newsletter of the University of Ottawa Institute of Mental Health Research

## Continued Funding Success: IMHR & China Collaboration



Dr. Zhang

Congratulations to IMHR Researcher **Dr. Xia Zhang** who has been awarded a 3-year CIHR grant worth \$50,000/year. This is a Collaborative Grant between China and Canada and, as such, the National Natural Science Foundation of China will contribute 150,000 Yan RMB/year for 3 years to Dr. Zhang's collaborator, **Dr. Lin Xu**, at Kunming of China. This novel project will not only provide data for a better understanding of the mechanisms underlying autistic spectrum disorder, but may also establish a scientific basis for development of new strategies to treat human autisms. This grant start on January 1, 2009 and is the third CIHR grant awarded to **Dr. Zhang** (two other grants are 5-year grants). As a result of

this grant and collaboration, **Dr. Xu** will visit **Dr. Zhang's** lab at the IMHR in the summer of 2009.

As well, congratulations to **Drs. Pamela Prince** and **Nancy Brookes** who, in collaboration with an inter-professional working group that included **Margaret Tansey**, **Claude Lurette**, **Grace McBride**, **Karen Poole**, **Evelyn Sparks**, **Lindsay Webber** and **Dr. Nicola Wright**, have received funding from the Support for Interprofessional Research and Education (SIRE) program sponsored by the Academic Health Council - Champlain Region (AHC) in the amount of \$9,568 for a pilot project entitled: "The Ten Essential Shared Capabilities: A Framework for Developing Inter-Professional Education for Mental Health Teams and Students". Objectives of the present project are to develop and evaluate the first of a five-module education initiative for inter-professional education based on the UK Department of Health's ten essential shared capabilities framework for the mental health workforce.

## Joint Social Work & IMHR Event



Dr. Raphael

On November 7, 2008, **Dennis Raphael**, Ph.D., Professor at the School of Health Policy and Management at York University in Toronto, Canada gave a talk titled "The Social Determinants of Mental Health or Why Adverse Living Conditions Make Us Emotionally Ill", which outlined how the social determinants of health -- or living conditions -- come to shape mental health, as well as showed how the quality of these social determinants of health result from public

policymaking. Finally, **Dr. Raphael** suggested means by which health sector professionals can influence public policymaking, thereby improving the mental health of Canadians. **Dr. Raphael** has over 150 scientific publications that focus on the health effects of income inequality and poverty, the quality of life of communities and individuals, and the impact of government decisions on Canadians' health and well-being. In addition, **Dr. Raphael** is editor of *Social Determinants of Health: Canadian Perspectives* co-editor of *Staying Alive: Critical Perspectives on Health, Illness, and Health Care* and author of *Poverty and Policy in Canada: Implications for Health and Quality of Life*, all published by Canadian Scholars' Press.

## Research Bootcamp

In partnership with the ROHCG, the University of Ottawa IMHR is in the process of developing as series of dedicated workshops aimed at building on and expanding current research capacity and expertise within our organization.

We are asking for your input to help us shape the content, form and focus of the sessions so that they will meet the training

and education needs of the broadest range of individuals. As a first step, we are inviting you to complete a brief survey (see link below). Of course, all responses are anonymous. Please visit the following link to complete the survey:

[http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=2fX4OzXEdejdj\\_2f7ZAUEiBaFg\\_3d\\_3d](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=2fX4OzXEdejdj_2f7ZAUEiBaFg_3d_3d)

## In This Issue...

- Dr. Michael Seto
- Dr. Fedoroff in Washington
- New Faces in SACRU
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- New Library Service

## Focus On Research: Dr. Michael Seto



Dr. Seto

Michael Seto, Ph.D., recently joined the Royal Ottawa Health Care Group (ROHCG) as a psychology consultant to the Integrated Forensic Program, after working for 10 years as a psychologist in the Law and Mental Health Program at the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health in Toronto. He worked as a research scientist at the Clarke Institute of Psychiatry from 1994 to 1997, when the Clarke Institute became part of the Centre of Addiction and Mental Health.

Dr. John Bradford (Associate Chief, Forensic Psychiatry) who was instrumental in recruiting him here says, "Dr. Seto will help the ROHCG/IMHR achieve their shared objective of becoming national leaders in forensic psychology".

Dr. Seto is also cross-appointed to the Department of Psychiatry and the Centre of Criminology at the University of Toronto, where he taught a graduate seminar and provided guest lectures for both undergraduate and graduate courses. He will hold similar cross-appointments at the University of Ottawa.

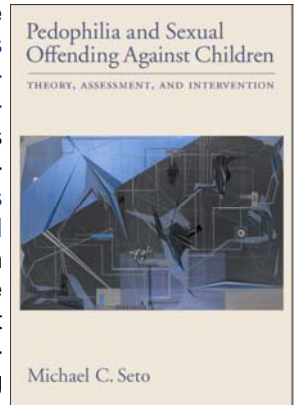
In recent years, Dr. Seto has focused most of his efforts on research and consultation. He has published and presented extensively on the topics of pedophilia, child pornography, sexual offending, risk assessment, psychopathy, and mentally disordered offenders. Dr. Seto has appeared in myriad media outlets to talk about stories on pedophilia, child pornography, sexual offending, and psychopathy including CBC Radio, CBC Newsworld, CTV, Global Television, TVO, The Globe and Mail, The National Post, and Maclean's magazine.

Dr. Seto recently authored a book on pedophilia and sexual offending, published by the American Psychological Association in the Fall of 2007 ("Pedophilia and Sexual Offending: Theory, Assessment, and Intervention"). This book has received very positive reviews, including reviews in the *Journal of Forensic Sciences*, the *New England Psychologist*, and the *Forum* newsletter of the Association for the Treatment of Sexual Abusers, the largest international organization representing professionals and researchers working with perpetrators.

Dr. Seto's research is funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council, the Ontario Mental Health Foundation, and the Correctional Service of Canada. He is currently a co-investigator for a project funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council that examines the role of sadism in sexually violent offending, and is the principal investigator for a project that examines the role of child pornography use in sexual offending against children. His research on child pornography offending suggests that many of the offenders are likely to be pedophiles yet have no known history of sexual contacts with children, suggesting that pedophilia is not a sufficient factor. Early results of his current research project suggests that antisocial characteristics play a key role in explaining who is more likely to directly offend against children in the future.

With the Integrated Forensic Program, Dr. Seto intends to continue his work on pedophilia and sexual offending, as well as pursue new lines of research on mentally disordered offenders, violence risk assessment, and program evaluation.

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Dr. Seto's New Book

## Dr. Fedoroff Goes to Washington



Dr. Fedoroff

On November 12, 2008 Director of the IMHR Forensic Research Unit (FRU), Dr. Paul Fedoroff was invited by the US Department of Justice to participate in the announcement of a new program: Project Safe Childhood (PSC). Many major US English and Spanish language

television networks including CNN and Fox TV covered the multi-media event.

Dr. Fedoroff's consultative assistance was specifically commended; in fact, he was the only researcher and the University of Ottawa the only academic institution mentioned during the hour long event. PSC is designed to raise awareness

about the ways the internet can be misused and exploited. Dr. Fedoroff's contribution is another example of how IMHR research is being recognized internationally and how research in the FRU translates into protection of children worldwide.



The studio where announcement took place

For more details and links see: <http://www.usdoj.gov/opa/pr/2008/November/08-opa-998.html>. The public service announcements from this initiative will be widely disseminated through the internet, television, and movie theatres.

## New Faces at SACRU



Dr. Prichard

Dr. Zoë Prichard has joined SACRU as a post-doctoral fellow. She completed her undergraduate degree in Biochemistry at the University of New South Wales in 1999 and then went to the Australian National University to complete an honours year in Human Behavioural Genetics, focusing on anxiety and depression in children and adolescents. After this, she spent three years working as a DNA scientist at the New South Wales Forensic Laboratory before starting her PhD in 2004

entitled: "Genetic and Environmental contributions to Antisocial Behaviour in Humans". After completing her PhD at the end of 2006, she worked for the Department of Immigration and Citizenship, where one of her tasks was to assist a research group within the University of Wollongong to investi-



Ms. Eaton

gate physical and mental health outcomes of people in immigration detention in Australia.

Emma Eaton has joined SACRU as a research assistant. Emma went to Trent University in Peterborough where she majored in Psychology. She also studied at the University of Dundee (Scotland) for one year of her degree. Emma has previous experience at the IMHR, as she worked here for two summers as a summer student. She hopes to enter a graduate program in Clinical or Counseling Psychology. In her spare time she enjoys volunteering at community organizations, sports like snowboarding, cross country skiing, and hiking, and travel.

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## New At Your Medical Library: Loansome Doc



Loansome Doc is a quick and easy way to order journal articles directly from your Pub-

Med search. If we have the journal in our collection, we will e-mail it to you, or have it ready for pick up, usually the same day. If it's not one of our journals, we will order it from

another library and let you know when it's ready to be picked up (usually within 2 days). There's no charge to use this service.

For more information and to find out how to register, please see our web page on OREO at <http://oreo.rohcg.on.ca/departments/library/index.cfm>.

## Recent Publications, Presentations, Workshops & Awards

Bradford, J.M.W. (2008). Violence and Mental Disorder (Guest Editorial). *Canadian Journal of Psychiatry*, 53, 635–636

Brookes, N., Murata, L., & Tansey, M. (2008). Tidal waves: Implementing a new model of mental health recovery and reclamation. *Canadian Nurse*, 104(8), 22-27,

Fedoroff, P.J., (2008) Sadism, Sodomasochism, Sex, and Violence. *Canadian Journal of Psychiatry* 637–646.

Poulter MO, Du L, Weaver IC, Palkovits M, Faludi G, Merali Z, Szyf M, Anisman H. (2008). GABAA receptor promoter hypermethylation in suicide brain: implications for the involvement of epigenetic processes. *Biological Psychiatry*, 64, 645-52.

This study, whose co-authors included Dr. Zul Merali (President & CEO, IMHR), Dr. Lisheng Du (IMHR Research Associate) and Dr. Hymie Anisman (Affiliate IMHR Researcher) received extensive publicity in both local (*Ottawa Citizen*), national (*Globe and Mail*) and international media. This study found that the genome in people who have committed suicide as a result of major depression was being chemically modified by a process that is normally involved in regulating cell development. The rate of methylation in the suicide brains was found to be nearly ten times that of the control group, and the gene being shut down was a neurotransmitter receptor that plays a major role in regulating behavior.

On October 23, 2008, Celia Li, RN; BScN; CPMHN(C) and Nancy Brookes, RN; MSc(A); PhD; CPMHN(C) presented "Excellence and Innovation in Psychiatric and Mental Health Nursing: Transforming Practice and Care Through the Tidal Model" in Beijing, China at the Registered Nurses' Association of Ontario/Nightingale Consultation of Culture Ltd conference "Nurses: The Solution in Health Care Transformation."

## Comments & Suggestions

The University of Ottawa IMHR welcomes any suggestions on improving our newsletter and making it more informative. To submit suggestions or material to appear in future editions of *Breaking Through*, please contact Dr. Owen Kelly, Research Associate, at 613.722.6521, ext. 6727, or by email at [okelly@rohcg.on.ca](mailto:okelly@rohcg.on.ca).