Speaker Biographies

Dr. Michael Flaum, associate professor of Psychiatry at the University of Iowa, directs the Iowa Consortium for Mental Health Services and is co-director of the Mental Health Clinical Research Center. He is an expert in the provision of psychiatric services in the state of Iowa. Currently, he is working under contract to DHS to provide technical assistance for the states effort to implement evidence based practices under the Center for Mental Health Services (CMHS) mental health block grant program.

Dr. Steve Bartels, a professor of psychiatry and community and family medicine at Dartmouth Medical School, will speak about the latest national and state level efforts to develop EBPs specifically targeted for older adults. Dr. Bartels has served as a consultant to the President’s New Freedom Commission on Mental Health and is past president of the American Association for Geriatric Psychiatry. He is a national expert on evidence-based practices for older adults.

Dr. Patricia Arean, an associate professor of psychiatry at the University of California at San Francisco, is a national expert in the integration of mental health service in primary care settings and has studied a disease management model for treating depression in older primary care patients. Dr. Arean will talk about the PRISM-E study, and discuss her SAMSHA Targeted Capacity Expansion program called the Senior Behavioral Health Service. This program offers early intervention for mental illnesses and treatment for ongoing cases of depression and behavioral problems associated with dementia.

Dr. Martha Bruce, a professor of sociology in psychiatry at Cornell University, is a leading expert in the use of mental health services by older populations. She will speak about her latest work which identifies suicidal ideation and depressive symptoms among older primary care patients, and the provision of health and supportive services to older adults at home and in the community. Dr. Bruce is the director of the National Institutes for Mental Health (NIMH)-funded Advanced Research Institute, a nation-wide mentoring program for junior investigators focusing on mental health service use among older populations, and serves as Chair of the NIMH mental health services study section.