

Dr. Fan Won the APA Kun-Po Soo Award



Dr. Xiaoduo Fan has been awarded the 2020 Kun-Po Soo Award by the American Psychiatric Association (APA). This award recognizes an individual who has made significant contributions towards understanding the impact and importance of Asian cultural heritage in areas relevant to psychiatry. In his congratulatory letter, Dr. Saul Levin, the CEO and Medical Director of APA, wrote that “...your demonstrated contributions and your exceptional achievements make you an outstanding recipient of this award”. Dr. Fan will be presenting an honorary lecture at the

APA Annual meeting which will be held in Philadelphia, PA during April 25-29, 2020.

Dr. Fan is a Board-certified psychiatrist, Director of the Psychotic Disorders Clinical and Research Program at UMass, and Director of the UMass China Mental Health Program. One of his research focuses is on the cultural aspects of mental disorders and global mental health.

Asians in the United States face disproportionate mental health disparities and unique barriers in accessing culturally appropriate mental health services; Dr. Fan’s research team has identified several key factors, such as language, religion, gender and age that explain the racial disparity in mental disorder diagnosis and treatment between non-Hispanic Whites and Asian Americans.

In parallel, the burden of mental illness has been growing in China with at least 100 million people suffering from mental illness and more than 16 million diagnosed with serious mental illness. In fact, mental illness has become the largest burden on the Chinese health system. The UMass China Mental Health Program, which includes 3 major components (China mental health leadership training program, collaborative research program, and the global case conference series), is working to help address these urgent mental health care needs of the most populous country on Earth.