

## CIDD Director of Research Dr. Gabriel Dichter receives the 2017 Junior Faculty Mentor of the Year Award from the UNC Department of Psychiatry



*Dr. Bradley Gaynes (left), Professor of Psychiatry and Associate Chair of Research Training and Education, presents the 2017 Junior Faculty Mentor of the Year Award from the UNC Department of Psychiatry to Dr. Gabriel Dichter (right).*

The UNC-Chapel Hill Department of Psychiatry awarded CIDD Director of Research Dr. Gabriel Dichter with the 2017 Junior Faculty Mentor of the Year Award. This award was established by the department to recognize the commitment of faculty members to the career development specifically of junior faculty.

Dr. Dichter's commitment to junior faculty mentoring includes serving as primary mentor or co-mentor to a number of K-awardees in the Department of Psychiatry, including currently the KL2 award of Dr. Erin Walsh, UNC Assistant Professor of Psychiatry, who is studying linkages between inflammation and neural responses to rewards in anhedonic patients, and Dr. Crystal Schiller, UNC Assistant Professor of Psychiatry, who is studying the effects of estradiol on neural responses to rewards in perimenopausal depression.

Dr. Dichter has also mentored many CIDD postdoctoral fellows who were supported by the CIDD T32-funded postdoctoral training program in neurodevelopmental disorders, including currently Dr. Jessica Kinard, who is learning methods to probe striatal dopaminergic responses to rewards in autism using simultaneous PET/MR, and previously Dr. John Richey, who is currently Associate Professor of Psychology at Virginia Tech.

Dr. Dichter is also NC LEND faculty and is currently mentoring the research projects of LEND trainees Alissa Hopper (Department of Allied Health Sciences) and Dianna Padilla (MPH Graduate Student). Finally, Dr. Dichter has been primary mentor to multiple clinical psychology, developmental psychology, and school psychology doctoral students, including currently Maya Mosner, who is studying the neural mechanisms of reward learning in autism, Rachel Greene, who is studying neural responses to acute intranasal oxytocin in autism, and Paul Cernasov, who is learning experimental therapeutic approaches to evaluating novel anhedonia treatments using high-field functional neuroimaging.