

The Geriatrics and Aging Processes Research Branch in the Division of Translational Research (DTR) has two new additions to the staff here at NIMH.

Dr. Laura Rowland is the new Chief of the Neuroscience of Mental Disorders and Aging



Program in the Geriatrics and Aging Processes Research Branch. Dr. Rowland received her Ph.D. in Experimental Psychology: Behavioral Neuroscience from the University of New Mexico, going on to complete her Postdoctoral Fellowship at the Maryland Psychiatric Research Center. Prior to coming to DTR, Dr. Rowland was a tenured Associate Professor at the University of Maryland School of Medicine, Department of Psychiatry and the Director of the Post-doctoral training program funded through the NIMH. Supported by NIMH and foundation funding, her research focused on proton magnetic resonance spectroscopy studies of glutamatergic and GABAergic function and bioenergetic alterations in schizophrenia and related disorders. Her research program integrated these *in vivo* neurochemistry measures with functional paradigms, multimodal neuroimaging, and translational behavioral neuroscience to

better understand learning mechanisms, aging/illness course, and novel treatments in schizophrenia and related disorders. Dr. Rowland serves as a Deputy Editor for *Schizophrenia Bulletin* and a member of the Brain and Behavior Research Foundation Scientific Council.

Dr. Elizabeth Necka is a AAAS Science and Technology Policy Fellow managing a portfolio in



the Geriatrics and Aging Processes Research Branch. Dr. Necka received her Ph.D. in Psychology from the University of Chicago under the mentorship of Drs. Greg Norman and John Cacioppo, and completed her postdoctoral fellowship at the National Center for Complementary and Integrative Health working with Dr. Lauren Atlas. Her research has focused on understanding the mechanisms underlying social influences on health, perception, and cognitive function, and psychophysiological regulation of social behavior, and she has technical expertise in functional neuroimaging, advanced statistical methods, and machine learning techniques for the analysis of multidimensional data.