

# FROM THE TOP



## Department News

DEPARTMENT  
OF  
NEUROLOGY  
NEWSLETTER

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JULY 2008

\*This is a quarterly newsletter that will be sent out as a PDF file and will be linked to the Department of Neurology website at [www.neuro.wustl.edu](http://www.neuro.wustl.edu). To submit to this newsletter for possible publication; please see contact information on the last page.\*

### A Few Notes From Dr. Holtzman:

I want to wish a happy new year to everyone (new academic year!). Yes, it's that time of the year again when we welcome all of the new pediatric and adult Neurology residents as well as the rehabilitation residents. We had a nice gathering on Thursday, June 26th and I want to thank Carol Lane for all her help with the event. Some of the new things coming up over the summer will be that Drs. Stuart Weiss and Joe Black will remain as voluntary faculty in adult Neurology but will be integrated in terms of their practice with the Department. They will begin seeing patients in the Center for Advanced Medicine starting this Fall. In addition, Dr. David Gutmann will be moving his laboratory from the Biotechnology building to a newly redesigned lab on the second floor of McMillan hospital. On the research front, 3 large new program project grants begin this summer: the Spotrias grant in the cerebrovascular disease section (PI: Dr. Colin Derdyn), a grant to study multiple sclerosis (PI:

### CONGRATULATIONS!!

to Resident

**Rawan Tarawneh,  
MD**

**for receiving the highest score in the nation on the RITE exam for the second year in a row!!**

**Her percentile was 100%!!!!**

**She ranked FIRST in the nation among all levels of training.**

**Dr Tarawneh would like to thank the neurology faculty for their continuous support and excellent mentorship!"**

Dr. Anne Cross), and the DIAN grant (Dominantly inherited Alzheimer network (PI: Dr. John Morris). Congrats to the many faculty and staff involved in these important new projects. Have a great summer!

**Pediatric Neurology  
Dr. Michael Noetzel**  
Members of the section of

Pediatric and Developmental Neurology have been very busy in their pursuit of grant support.

Dr. Brad Schlaggar was the recipient of a 5 year, \$1.9 Million R01 from the NICHD entitled "Development of Skilled Reading: fMRI studies" He also received a 1 year, \$75,000 award from the Tourette Syndrome Association to fund the second year of his work on "Functional Connectivity of Executive Control Networks in Tourette Syndrome". Congratulations also go out to Brad for being honored by the pediatric neurology residents with this year's Arthur L. Prensky Award in recognition of his outstanding teaching.

Paul Golumbek, MD, PhD received a 3 year grant from the Muscular Dystrophy Association to study prednisolone's therapeutic site of action in *mdx* mice. The *mdx* mouse is the model of Duchenne muscular dystrophy, the most common, inherited, progressive muscular dystrophy. Despite the presence of inflammation in the weakening muscles, Paul previously demonstrated that prednisolone's

## Department News Continued...

action is independent of T-cells, B-cells and antibody. The new grant will distinguish possible effects on the remaining immune components versus direct effects on the muscle tissue.

Dr. Michael Wong received a 3-year Challenge Award grant from Citizens United for Research in Epilepsy (CURE).

Christina Gurnett, MD PhD received a Multiple Sclerosis Society Pilot Grant to study the "Genetic etiology of multiple sclerosis in a large Amish community". Dr. Gurnett also received a March of Dimes Basil O'Connor Starter Scholar Award to study "Gene discovery in idiopathic clubfoot".

Congratulations to each of these investigators.

### Epilepsy

#### Dr. Edward R. Hogan

Dr. R. Edward Hogan was named to the Editorial Board of *Epilepsia*, the Journal of the International League Against Epilepsy.

The epilepsy section is glad to welcome Dr. David Strayhorn as the clinical neurophysiology-epilepsy fellow for the 2008-2009 academic year. David will join the epilepsy section in July, 2008, following his neurology residency here at Washington University in St. Louis.

The annual Goldring Lecture is scheduled for November 21, with speaker Terence O'Brien M.D. FRACP from Melbourne, Australia. Please save the date.

Please join us in welcoming Pat Roy to the Epilepsy Section. Pat Roy comes to us from an Orthopedic practice in West County and started with the Epilepsy Section on June 23, 2008. Pat's

### The annual Goldring Lecture November 21, speaker Terence O'Brien M.D. FRACP from Melbourne, Australia. Please save the date.

medical experience and customer service skills will be a great addition to the Epilepsy Section.

### Cerebrovascular Disease

#### Dr. Jin-Moo Lee

The Cerebrovascular Disease Section is teaming with the NNICU, Stroke Rehabilitation, and members of Vascular Neurosurgery and Interventional Neuro-radiology to form the Center for Stroke and Cerebrovascular Disease. The goal of the initiative is to stimulate research collaboration and to facilitate more efficient and effective clinical practice. One feature of this Center (aided by the recent funding by SPOTRIAS, PI Colin Derdeyn) is the formation of an acute stroke Patient Access Core (PI, Abdul Nassief), which will aid investigators in identifying and enrolling acute stroke patients in clinical studies. Andria Ford is leading an Acute Trials Team, to rapidly identify and enroll acute stroke patients in the Emergency Department. The Core will also oversee equitable distribution of patients among the many acute stroke trials.

Another feature of this collaborative effort is the formation of a Comprehensive Outpatient Stroke Clinic, which involves members of the Cerebrovascu-

lar Disease Section, Stroke Rehabilitation, Interventional Neuroradiology and Vascular Neurosurgery. Specialists from these different subspecialties are represented in this Friday morning clinic to provide one-stop care for stroke patients.

Congratulations to Francesca Ryan for being selected a "Star Performer"! This is an award given to recognize and honor Washington University clinical support staff who consistently perform acts of superior customer service which personify the WU Physician Professional Service Commitments and promote the vision of providing our patients with the best ambulatory care in the world.

### NNICU

#### Dr. Michael Diringer

Please join us in welcoming Michael Rubin, MD, Imoigele Aisiku, MD Rael Sundy MD.

Michael Rubin will join us in July as a Neurocritical Care fellow. He comes to us from the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas, TX where he completed his residency. Michael obtained his Medical Degree from the Texas Tech Health Science Center School of Medicine.

Imoigele Aisiku joined us in June as a part time attending. Imo initially trained in Emergency Medicine followed by Critical Care at Emory. He is currently Assistant Professor in the department of anesthesiology and Co-Director of the Neurosurgical Science ICU at the Virginia Commonwealth University. Dr. Aisiku hopes to learn our approach to managing patients in the NNICU to enhance his role in Virginia.

Rael Sundy MD is completing his fellowship in Pulmonary and Critical Care

## Department News Continued...

### Neuro-Immunology cont'd...

Medicine here at Washington University this month. He wishes to build further expertise by training in Sleep Medicine and Neurocritical Care in our department. Originally from Johannesburg South Africa, Rael is an avid road-runner, cyclist, swimmer & gardener.

### Neuro-Immunology Dr. Anne Cross

Laura M Piccio, MD, PhD, Fellow in the MS Section, won first prize – the John Whitaker Track Award - for her presentation at the 22<sup>nd</sup> annual Consortium of Multiple Sclerosis Centers annual meeting in Denver Colorado on May 30<sup>th</sup>. Her presentation was entitled: "Identification of Novel Soluble TREM-2 Protein in Cerebrospinal Fluid and its Association with MS and CNS Inflammation" She also won a nice prize of \$5,000. Congratulations Dr. Piccio!!

### Alzheimer's Disease Research Center Dr. John Morris

#### John C. Morris, MD, Wins Mentorship Award

Dr. Morris received the Mentor Award from the Academic Women's Network (AWN) at their 2008 Spring Dinner. The purpose of the AWN is to promote professional and social interactions among the female academic faculty with the intent to discover and support mutual goals and to assist and mentor female junior faculty and trainees in the pursuit of their goals.

Washington University School of Medicine faculty are nominated by the students, post-docs, and faculty who have

benefited from the mentor's guidance and role modeling. A winner is chosen who exemplifies outstanding mentorship of a female faculty member or trainee not only through his or her teaching responsibilities but through mentorship in every sense of the word.

### Awards and Honors for Other ADRC-Affiliated Faculty

Qiang Liu, PhD, received the Hope Center Award in May. Each year, an award goes to a graduate student and a postdoctoral fellow whose work best fulfills the mission of the Hope Center. Dr. Liu is a postdoctoral fellow in the lab of Dr. Guojun Bu.

Henry "Roddy" Roediger III, PhD, Professor of Psychology, received the Howard Crosby Warren medal, the highest honor awarded by the Society of Experimental Psychologists, in April 2008.

Gene Rubin, MD, PhD, Professor of Psychiatry, received the 2008 Alumni/Faculty Award from the Washington University Medical Center Alumni Association on May 10th.

### Kopolow and Friedman Award Winners

Each year at the Annual Friedman Conference, two awards are bestowed upon deserving individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the field of aging and have shown a commitment to research and/or patient-oriented care.

The **Kopolow Award** recognizes a resident, post-residency fellow, or non-tenured junior faculty member in Geriatric Neurology, Geriatric Psychiatry, or Geriatric Medicine.

This year's Kopolow awardee is **Consuelo Wilkins**, MD, Assistant Professor of Medicine in Geriatrics. Dr. Wilkins

received a plaque and award money for aging-related educational endeavors. The award is supported by Barnes-Jewish Hospital Foundation from the Alene and Meyer Kopolow Fund for Geriatric Psychiatry, Geriatric Neurology, and Geriatric Medicine.

The **Friedman Award** recognizes a non-physician who has made outstanding contributions to patient-oriented care, education, or research on aging or aging issues.

This year's awardee is **Marie Meisel**, RN, MSN, who works with the St. Louis Area Agency on Aging and the Memory and Aging Project Satellite. Ms. Meisel received a plaque and award money for aging-related educational endeavors. The award is supported by Barnes-Jewish Hospital Foundation from the Dorismae and Harvey A. Friedman Fund. The ADRC congratulates all these recent honorees!

### Congressman William Lacy Clay Visits the ADRC

On May 5, 2008, U.S. Representative William Lacy Clay visited the ADRC to meet some of our investigators and to learn about our research. Stressing to Congressman Clay that he has a world-class Alzheimer's research center right here in his own district, Dr. Morris proceeded to discuss the critical continued need for the federal funding of research. The effort to have an audience with Congressman Clay was instigated by the ADRC's African American Advisory Board, which is instrumental in advising the ADRC on ways to educate African Americans about the disease and to recruit them into research studies. The latter is crucial to ensuring that research results are applicable to the African American population, which may be at an increased risk of developing AD.

## Department News Continued...

### Alzheimer's Disease Research Center cont'd...

#### 2008 Participants' Meeting

On June 7, the ADRC thanked its participants in the Memory & Aging Project and the Adult Children Study with a gathering that took place at the Doubletree Hotel at Westport. Over a hot, full breakfast, participants enjoyed learning about exciting new research coming out of the ADRC. Speakers included Dr. John Morris, Dr. Randy Bateman, Dr. Consuelo Wilkins, Dr. Jan Duchek, Dr. Cathy Roe, Dr. Jim Galvin, and Dr. Allyson Zazulia, who also offered free blood pressure screenings after the event. Celebrating a special 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Participants' Meeting, a record number of approximately 360 participants and their guests were in attendance.

### Upcoming Events

**Norman Seay Lecture** - The 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Norman R. Seay Lecture will be held on October 7, 2008 from 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm on the medical school campus. The featured guest lecturer is James Jackson, PhD, Professor and Director of the Institute for Social Research at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. This lecture series is named after Norman Seay, a civil rights activist and leader, and the founding chair of the ADRC's African American Advisory Board.

**ICAD 2008** - The 2008 Alzheimer's Association International Conference on Alzheimer's Disease will be held in Chicago, IL July 26-31. Visit <http://www.alz.org/icad/> for more information. A poster session will be held in the atrium of the Farrell Learning & Teaching Center to highlight the research of ADRC investigators that will be presented at the ICAD. The

poster reception will be Friday, July 18, from 11:30 am – 1:30 pm. Pizza will be served. Please RSVP to Barbie Kunte-meier at 314-286-2882 or [kunte-meierb@abraxas.wustl.edu](mailto:kunte-meierb@abraxas.wustl.edu).

**Memory Walk** - The Alzheimer's Association's Memory Walk is the nation's largest event to raise awareness and funds for Alzheimer care, support, and research. Volunteers of all ages are called on to become champions in the fight against Alzheimer's. The St. Louis walk will be held in Forest Park on Saturday, September 13. The Memory and Aging Project forms a Memory Walk team each year to support the event and to raise money. Register online to join our team, or contact Barbie Kunte-meier at 314-286-2882 or [kunte-meierb@abraxas.wustl.edu](mailto:kunte-meierb@abraxas.wustl.edu) for more information about the MAP team. Please visit [www.alzstl.org](http://www.alzstl.org) for more information and to register to walk.

## TOUCHWORKS (Allscripts)

### HIPAA

#### To Touchworks users in Adult Neurology

If you would like to add, edit or delete a template in Touchworks please contact me. I can add, edit or delete most templates including the Medcin Findings in Touchworks.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me,

Shirley Moore  
Adult Neurology Department Admin for Touchworks  
314-747-0532  
314-294-2273 pager  
314-747-3274 fax  
314-308-3522 cell

#### HIPAA terms:

**Business Associate** means a person or entity who (1) on behalf of a covered entity performs or assists in a function or activity involving the Use or Disclosure of Individually Identifiable Health Information, including claims processing or administration; data analysis, processing or administration; utilization review; quality assurance; billing; benefit management; practice management; repricing; and other functions and activities; or (2) provides legal, actuarial, accounting, consulting, Data Aggregation, management, administrative, accreditation or financial services that involves the disclosure of Individually Identifiable Health Information.

For a full list of HIPAA terms go to the Glossary at <http://hipaa.wustl.edu/>

Shirley Moore  
Neurology HIPAA Privacy Liaison  
314-747-0532 office—314-294-2273 pager  
314-747-3274 fax—314-308-3522 -cell

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mailing address:  
HIPAA Privacy Office  
660 South Euclid, Campus Box: 8098  
St. Louis, MO 63110

## IT

All requests/comments/concerns may be directed to Neurology Computing Services @ 7-1165. If you are interested in NEURO login for access to Citrix through any web browser you may contact the helpdesk @ 7-1165.

## Special Congrats

Jeanine Schierbecker, was nominated and selected as a Gerry and Bob Virgil Ethic of Service Award recipient.

You can read the article at the web address below.

<http://www.ethicofservice.wustl.edu/2008honorees/schierbecker.php>

## Wash U Updates

Need help efficiently using Becker Library resources? The Becker Library Liaison Program partners specific departments with a librarian. For neurology, this librarian is Will Olmstadt.

Will is happy to help the neurology department. For example, he can demonstrate how to:

- Use Becker Library resources effectively for patient care and research
- Locate Becker Library resources to help prepare grants and reports

Create alerts from the literature on topics of interest

Please feel free to contact him at:

Will Olmstadt, MS, MPH  
Becker Medical Library  
362-4734,  
olmstadtw@wustl.edu  
<http://becker.wustl.edu>

## ADULT and PEDIATRIC RESIDENCY PROGRAM

### Pediatric Neurology Residency Director

#### Dr. Brad Schlaggar

The pediatric neurology residency program welcomes Lori Nichols, our new residency program coordinator and Division Administrator.

Please join us in congratulating our graduating residents:

Doug Larsen MD will be joining the faculty of the Dept of Neurology,

Carolyn Pizoli MD PhD will be joining the faculty of the Dept of Neurology,

Judy Weisenberg MD will be staying on as a pediatric epilepsy fellow at St. Louis

Children's Hospital.

Congratulations are in order for Chris Smyser MD PGY4. Chris received the Steven M. Rothman Award for outstanding teaching by a pediatric neurology resident. This award is voted on by the St. Louis Children's Hospital housestaff. Chris will be starting his chief resident year in pediatric neurology starting July 1.

### From the Adult Neurology Chiefs

#### Dr. Patrick Bushard and

#### Dr. Manu Goyal

The chief residents and the remainder of the PGY-2 and -3 classes would like to thank Taylor Bear, Adriana Escandon, Adam Fisch, Eric Klawiter, Vikram Shakkot-

tai, Lesli Rusche-Skolarus, David Strayhorn, and Arun Varadhachary for all of their hard work over the last three years. We wish them luck as they move on to new and exciting endeavors.

We also would like to welcome Robert Bucelli, Keith Day, Naim Khoury, Erica Patrick, Gabriela Sales de Bruin, Tomoko Sampson, Mwiza Ushe, Tuhin Virmani, and Lirong Zhu, our incoming adult neurology junior residents, and Kristin Guiliams, Seth Perlman, and Amy Viehoever, our incoming pediatric neurology junior residents. We look forward to working with all of you. If you have any concerns or questions do not hesitate to contact any of us by department e-mail.

# GRANTS

**Robert Baloh**

Japan Health Science Foundation  
 "Peripheral Nerve Myelination and Demyelination: Analysis of the Molecular Mechanism Toward its Therapy"  
 04/01/2008 – 03/30/2011

**Sutapa Banerjee**

Children's Tumor Foundation  
 "Regulation and Role of mTOR in Neurofibromin Growth Control"  
 07/01/2008 – 06/30/2010

**Randall Bateman**

American Health Assistance Foundation  
 "Human CNS-Apolipoprotein E Isoform Production and Clearance"  
 04/01/2008 – 03/31/2010

**Randall Bateman**

The Ruth K. Broad Biomedical Research Foundation, Inc.  
 "Blood Test for Alzheimer's Disease: Measuring Amyloid-Beta Production & Clearance Rates in Blood"  
 07/01/2008 – 06/30/2010

**David Clifford**

NIH/NIMH  
 "Assessment of the Neurological Impact of HIV-2 in West Africa"  
 04/03/2008 – 03/31/210

**Anne Cross**

NIH/NINDS  
 "Biomarkers and Pathogenesis of MS: From Mouse to Human"

07/01/2008 – 06/30/2013

**Anne Cross**

National Multiple Sclerosis Society  
 "A Phase II Trial of Rituxan in Multiple Sclerosis"  
 04/01/2008 – 03/31/2009

**Anne Fagan-Niven**

NIH  
 "Dominantly Inherited Alzheimer Network (DIAN)"  
 07/01/2008 – 06/30/2014

**Paul Golumbek**

Muscular Dystrophy Association  
 "Prednisolone's Therapeutic Site of Action in Mdx Mice"  
 07/01/2008 – 06/30/2011

**David Gutmann**

MALIA's Cord Foundation  
 "Stem Cell Models of Spinal Ependymoma"  
 07/01/2008 – 06/30/2009

**David Gutmann**

Children's Tumor Foundation  
 "NF Preclinical Consortium Site at Washington University"  
 06/01/2008 – 05/30/2011

**Eric Klawiter**

AAN  
 "Correlating CSF Biomarkers with Diffusion Tensor Imaging in Transverse Myelitis"  
 07/01/2008 – 06/30/2010

**Timothy Miller**

McDonnell Center for Cellular and Molecular Neurobiology  
 "Investigating Mitochondrial Function in a Rat Model of ALS"  
 07/01/2008 – 06/30/2009

**Jin-Moo Lee**

C2N Diagnostics, LLC  
 "Research and Loan Agreement"  
 12/21/07-6/21/08

**Mark Goldberg**

National Institutes of Health/NCRR  
 "Atomic Force Microscope"  
 5/1/08-4/30/09

**Christine Gurnett**

National Multiple Sclerosis Society  
 "Genetic Linkage Analysis of a Large Amish Family with Multiple Sclerosis"  
 5/1/08-4/30/09

**Mike Wong**

CURE (Citizens United for Research in Epilepsy)  
 "Stabilizing Dendritic Structure as a Novel Treatment for Epilepsy"  
 7/1/08-6/30/11

**Joel Perlmutter**

Medtronic  
 "Mechanisms of Deep Brain Stimulation Fellowship"  
 7/1/08-6/30/09

We still do not have a clean report on anniversary dates for the department. We greatly apologize for the discrepancies and are actively pursuing a solution to the problem. We will be sure to get the anniversary dates posted on the online Newsletter as soon as possible and are working to prevent future complications.

Thank you so much for your patience with this issue!

Regina Thompson & Kathy Diekmann



We're on the Web  
[www.neuro.wustl.edu/](http://www.neuro.wustl.edu/)

Dear Neurology Faculty, Fellows, Residents and Staff—

As always we are pleased to hear so many positive comments following the distribution of the previous newsletters and welcome further comments and suggestions for future issues. Thank you so much.

Michelle Aubuchon  
[aubuchonm@neuro.wustl.edu](mailto:aubuchonm@neuro.wustl.edu)