

From The Top



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Department News

WASHINGTON
UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT
OF
NEUROLOGY
NEWSLETTER

Aging & Dementia

John C. Morris, MD, Section Head

ICAD Update

The 10th International Conference on Alzheimer's Disease & Associated Disorders (ICAD) will take place in Madrid, Spain, in July. The Aging & Dementia Section and the Alzheimer's Disease Research Center (ADRC) will be well-represented at this important event, with 22 affiliated investigators, fellows and trainees scheduled to present their work.

ADRC investigator and Chair of Neurology, Dr. David Holtzman, will give a plenary address on the last day, July 20th, entitled "Studies of Beta-Amyloid Metabolism: Insights into Pathogenesis, Diagnosis and Treatment of Alzheimer's Disease." ADRC Genetics Core Leader, Dr. Alison Goate, will speak on progress in genetics research during a symposia on July 17th. Section Head and ADRC Director, Dr. John C. Morris, will chair and speak as part of a symposia on the clinical diagnosis and course of Alzheimer's disease (AD) on July 20th.

The ADRC will host a Pre-ICAD Poster Session to showcase all of our submissions on Tuesday, July 11, 11:30-1:30, in the lobby of the EP Newman Education Center. All are welcome!

Research

Many of the research projects to be

featured at ICAD will focus on early and pre-clinical detection of Alzheimer's disease. Some of this work is represented in the following recent and in press papers:

Fagan, AM, Mintun MA, Mach RH, et al. (2006). Inverse relation between in vivo amyloid imaging load and CSF A β 42 in humans, *Annals of Neurology*, 59: 512-19.

Mintun, MA, LaRossa, GN, Sheline, YI, et al. (in press). [11C]PIB in a nondemented population: Potential antecedent marker of Alzheimer disease. *Neurology*.

Storandt, M, Grant, EA, Miller, JP, & Morris, JC. (in press). Longitudinal course and neuropathological outcomes in original vs. revised MCI and in pre-MCI. *Neurology*.

Recruitment

The study of disease modifying therapies is another important focus.

✦ **Clinical Trials:** Currently, the ADRC is conducting two Phase II passive immunization trials and a gamma secretase inhibitor trial. Another trial, involving Namenda and Aricept, focuses on MRI changes in persons taking these drugs.

Longitudinal Studies: The ADRC is

also actively recruiting persons for our Adult Children Study (i.e., persons aged 45+ with or without a family history).

If you know of someone that might be interested in volunteering for any of these studies, please ask them to call 314-286-2683.

Leonard Berg Symposium

The dates and topic are now set for the 6th Leonard Berg Symposium. The event will take place on Friday-Saturday, September 28-29, 2007, at the EP Newman Education Center on the medical campus. The symposium, which honors ADRC founding director, Dr. Leonard Berg, will focus on clinical and neuropathological criteria for the diagnosis of early AD. Many believe that current criteria are outdated and future studies, especially those focused on biomarkers and prevention, will benefit from more precise criteria. Details about the symposium will be posted to the ADRC website in the next few months (see <http://alzheimer.wustl.edu/>).

Neuro-Immunology

Dr. Anne Cross

Congratulations to Robert Naismith MD, Assistant Professor. Dr. Naismith was selected as a 2006 K12 Clinical Scholar. He was one of only seven young clinicians from several institutions in St. Louis selected. The award will help support his time to do research.

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 to submit to this newsletter for possible publication; please see contact information on the last page.

Department News Continued...

Congratulations to John Rinker II MD, Fellow in the MS Section. Dr. Rinker was awarded the 2006 Serono-Pfizer Fellowship by the Clinical Fellowship Committee of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society.

Neuro-Critical Care

Dr. Michael Diringer

Please join us in welcoming Dr. Jesse Corry, who will start in Neuro-Critical Care as a new fellow in July.

Neurofibromatosis Program

Dr. David Gutmann

The Neuro-Oncology Division has established a new resident rotation to provide a comprehensive and multidisciplinary experience in Neuro-Oncology. Residents will participate in outpatient clinics that include Adult Neuro-Oncology, Pediatric Neuro-Oncology, Radiation Oncology, and Neurosurgery. Residents will attend the Neuropathology Case Conference as well as Adult and Pediatric Neuro-Oncology Case Conferences. Interested residents should contact Dr. David Gutmann at gutmann@wustl.edu or Carol Lane at lanec@wustl.edu.

Pediatric and Developmental Neurology

Dr. Ed Trevathan

- Janice Brunstrom, MD received a large NIH contract for a clinical trial on Baclofen among children with Cerebral Palsy.

- Brad Schlaggar, MD, PhD, Assistant Professor of Neurology and Pediatrics, will become the Director of the Pediatric Neurology Residency Program starting in July.

- Liu Lin Thio, MD PhD, Assistant Professor of Neurology and Pediatrics, will become the Director of the Pediatric Epilepsy Center starting in July.

- Mary Bertrand, MD, Assistant Professor of Neurology and Pediatrics, begins October 1, 2006, working primarily in the Pediatric Epilepsy Center.

- Edwin Trevathan, MD, MPH, Professor of Neurology & Pediatrics, received a 4 year grant from the CDC to study "Epidemiology of Autism, Cerebral Palsy, & Epilepsy in Metropolitan St. Louis".

General Neurology

Dr. Sylvia Awadalla

We would like to welcome Dr. Todd Schwedt. Dr. Schwedt will be part of General Neurology and begins on July 3rd. The focus of his practice is in headache. He joins us from the Mayo Clinic in Scottsdale Arizona.

Sleep Center

Dr. Stephen Duntley

Dr. Robert Struthers will begin his Sleep Center Fellowship in July. Welcome Dr.

Struthers.

Adult Epilepsy

First of all, we would like to wish a belated welcome to Dr. Darla Darby. Dr. Darby completed her fellowship in epilepsy and clinical neurophysiology and joined the faculty in January 2006.

We would also like to welcome Dr. R Edward Hogan who will be joining the epilepsy section as the new director this fall. Dr. Hogan is currently the director of the Greater Midwest Epilepsy Center at St. Louis University. In addition,

Dr. Ziad Al-Aani will be starting his fellowship in epilepsy and clinical neurophysiology in October.

Finally, we wish a belated farewell to Dr. Timothy Lynch who moved to Albany, New York in April 2006.

Neurology Business Office

Tom Giandinoto—

Business Office Manager

As many of you are aware Jan Struck our Manager of Administrative Services retired in June. We are pleased to announce Laura Colvin will be starting August 1, as our new Manager of Administrative Services.

This fiscal year the department will be implementing an on-line time sheet. Rollout details to come.

GRANTS—Start Dates of 4/1/06—6/30/06



Recent new
or competitive
grant awards

David Gutmann New
NIH R21
"Identification and Preclinical Evaluation
of Brain Tumor Therapies"

Jin-Moo Lee New
American Health Assistance Founda-
tion
"Amyloid Plaque Degradation by Matrix

Metalloproteinase-9"

Brad Racette

New Michael J. Fox Foundation
"Clinical Discovery 2006 Award"

Mark Jacquin

Competitive Renewal NIH Program Pro-
ject
"Molecular Mechanisms of Trigeminal
Development"

Ed Trevathan

CDC June 1 2006 start 5 year grant

"Metropolitan St. Louis Autism & Developmental Disabilities Surveillance & Epidemiology..."

Jan Brunstrom

Very large, complex grant – Many people put in extreme amounts of hard work to get this funded. Huge congratulations should go out to Jan for her award.

"NIH Best Pharmaceuticals for Children Act Pediatric Drug Study: Use of Oral Baclofen for Treatment of Spasticity of Cerebral Palsy in Children contract 6/15/06 start"

IT & HELP DESK

Microsoft Exchange e-mail server update:

We have been in the process to migrate all users over to the Microsoft exchange server for email access. As of June 1st, we are over 85% of the way done and are continuing to work quickly to complete this project. Again, we appreciate everyone's cooperation and patience throughout this process. Once the full migration is complete, steps will be taken to connect into other departments Exchange directories to query email addresses from those groups. Also will come the ability for Windows Mobile 5 devices such as PDA's and Smart Phones to sync with Exchange wirelessly from anywhere with an internet connection.

Citrix Application Server:

Our Citrix application farm is continuing to grow and get more use for clinical/business applications. For those not familiar with Citrix, it's a remote server application which allows us to quickly deploy applications department wide without installing anything on end user's PC's. Using this approach allows us to quickly and efficiently install and maintain critical applications while still allowing on demand access from any computer with a web browser. Some of the programs now hosted via Citrix are Clindesk, Barnes Mainframe, IDXTerm, IDXWeb, FIS, and M.A.R.S. Currently in testing for Citrix deployment are programs like Allscripts (TouchWorks), and front desk scanning.

Tag (Technical Advisory Group):

The Neurology IT staff as well as other IT groups have come together with the library to

form the Technical Advisory Group. Created at the beginning of the year, the TAG will provide technical knowledge and recommendations in achieving an IT community for the campus which provides the best of security, access, availability and ease of use for all staff, faculty, and students. By combining forces on issues we can come together to solve problems that affect us all or tap into the knowledge and expertise of other departments that may have already encountered various technical obstacles. This also helps us become more standardized across the board so that going forward departments are able to interact with each other more easily and reliably.

To contact the IT help desk, please call 747-1165, send an e-mail to neurosupport@neuro.wustl.edu or visit their website at <http://neurosupport.wustl.edu>

Submitted by David Haas—Systems Manager

HIPAA

Neurology Windows Account

A user of the Neurology/IT Services is any employee, student or **visitor who is here for more than 5 days.**

To obtain a Neurology domain Windows log-in ID for a new user, a supervisor must fill out the Neurology [Request for New Account Form](#). The new user should have completed the correct level of HIPAA training before requesting a log-in. The Neurology Request for New Account Form must be used for a Neurology domain Windows log-in, email

account, software such as Mars, Filemaker Pro, VPN accounts or access to a shared drive (use "other", and please explain, if your request is not listed on page2) If a user transfers to the Neurology Department, the same rules apply. When a user leaves the department the same form can be used but the section to deactivate an account should be filled out. Please do not fill out the section related to HIPAA, I must verify the correct HIPAA training so I will fill out that section. The form is located at: <http://www.neuro.wustl.edu> under the heading INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

If you have any HIPAA related questions, please feel free to contact:

Shirley Moore
Neurology HIPAA Privacy Liaison
by e-mail at moores@neuro.wustl.edu
or
by phone at 747-0532

You can also look at our HIPAA policies and procedures at <http://hipaa.wustl.edu>

EDUCATION

Resident Updates—

Dear Neurology Residents and Faculty,

Every year the Wash Univ. Emergency residents vote on the clinical service that they feel has been most supportive of the Emergency Department's clinical mission. For the second time since the 2000-2001 academic year, the Emergency Department residents felt that of all the hospital's services, Neurology was the most deserving department. Our residents' responsiveness and willingness to provide timely, professional consults are once again appreciated by the ED. Congratulations to all of our residents and to the department on receiving this honor! Our residents' hard work and dedication are evident to other services. Please join me in congratulating all the residents. Well done!!!

Abdullah Nassief, MD
Residency Director

The Irwin Levy Resident Teaching Award went to:

Dr. Diego Torres for a second year in a row. This award is given to a resident that was chosen by the medical students as the best teacher.

The Sven Eliasson Award for Teaching Excellence went to:

Dr. Muhammad Al-Lozi for a second year in a row. This award is given to an attending that was chosen by the residents as the best teacher.

The Leonard Berg Award, for best poster presentation, was given at the Residents' Day Symposium on May 26 to Dr. Andria Ford and Dr. Steven Day.

Carol Lane— Residency Coordinator

We would like to welcome the new PGY-2 residents:

Dr. Patrick Bushard
Dr. Rachel Darken
Dr. Andrew Godbey
Dr. Manu Goyal
Dr. Yo-EI Ju
Dr. R. Brian Sommerville
Dr. Rawan Tarawneh
Dr. Leo Wang

We would also like to say good-bye and good luck to the following seniors:

Dr. Steven Day
Dr. Christopher Mitchell

Good luck in your future endeavor.

We are happy to announce that the following seniors have accepted a fellowship at Washington University:

Dr. Benjamin Brennan
Dr. Michelle Burack
Dr. Andria Ford
Dr. Michael Snyder
Dr. Robert Struthers
Dr. Allison Wright-Willis

Resident Schedules Webpage

Since May 2006 all resident schedules have been available on the Neurology Department's Website. Anybody can access them at any time within the "Departmental Only" section, using their username and password for the *Neurology0* domain. This year we have added a number of new schedules, to try to make all information as accessible as possible. The webpage also contains the Attendings' schedule and the Residents' Survival Manual (AKA The Little Red Book, recently updated by Dr. Taylor Bear, PGY-

3). This location will have the most up-to-date information at all times. Please plan to check the website often. We thank Michelle Aubuchon for her help with the website.

Dr. Huskey Rounds:

Starting August 2006, Dr. Huskey will be lecturing the PGY-2s on the first Wednesday of the month from 8-9 am on various interesting topics. We are very excited about this opportunity and appreciate Dr. Huskey's dedication to teaching. All residents are welcome to participate.

Clinical Neuroscience Discussion Group

Dr. Adam Fisch (PGY-3) is organizing a Resident Clinical Neuroscience Discussion Group that will meet biweekly on Monday and Wednesday mornings from 7:15 to 8:00 AM. Dr. Diego Torres (PGY-4) will be helping as well. The purpose of the group will be to review the fundamental aspects of neuroscience requisite to the practice of clinical Neurology. In the discussion group, we will learn the neurophysiologic and neuroanatomic basis of the neurologic examination and the method of localization of neurologic complaints/findings. As well, we will use clinical case presentations to learn the differential diagnoses of these complaints/findings. All residents are welcome. PGY-2 residents are strongly encouraged to attend. Please contact Dr. Fisch with any questions regarding the discussion group. Meetings will be held in the 11400 conference room and begin on Wednesday, August 2nd, at 7:15 AM

Medical Student Updates—

Dr. Allyson Zazulia

“For the second time since the 2000-2001 academic year, the Emergency Department residents felt that of all the hospital's services, Neurology was the most deserving department.”

EDUCATION Continued...

Medical Student Updates— Dr. Allyson Zazulia Coursemaster— 2nd year Diseases of the Nervous System

Pre-clinical neurological education: Pre-clinical neurological education activities consist of the Diseases of the Nervous System course and neurology patient hospital sessions for 2nd year medical students, the introduction to the neurological exam and a clinical neuroscience selective for 1st year medical students, and the Student Interest Group in Neurology (SIGN). Everything but the SIGN activities occur exclusively in the second half of the academic year, so all should be quiet for the next few months. You will start hearing from me in the Fall with requests to participate in the various activities. Eighty-five academic and clinical faculty, fellows, and residents from the neuro-related specialties volunteered their time at least once for the 1st and 2nd year medical students last year. The success of our program depends on your help, so please find the time in your schedule to contribute.

Dr. Robert Naismith Coursemaster— 3rd Year Neurology Clerkship

As many of you know, the 2006-2007 academic year began on June 19 for the 3rd year neurology clerkship students. Please help us make this another year of success by being available to the students while they are on the floor and seeing patients for the first time. Although we are all busy, the students really appreciate the personalized attention they receive on our service.

The first grading session for the clerkships will be held on Wednesday July 12, 2006 at 10:30am in the 11400 conference room. We would like to express the importance of these grading sessions for the student's final neurology grade and ask that the continued and excellent attendance be maintained. It is equally important for residents as well as attendings to participate. Please note that if you are unable to attend the grading sessions, the evaluations will be distributed through inter office mail for you to fill out and return as soon as possible. If you prefer to have the evaluations before the date of the grading session,

email Michelle Aubuchon and you will receive them earlier.

We would like to thank those residents that put forth an extra effort last year in teaching the students. There were numerous votes for the resident teaching award which kept the race extremely close throughout the year. In addition to Diego Torres who had the most votes, special mention goes to Doug Larsen, Alex Carter, Vikram Shakkottai, Leslie Skolarus, Arun Varadhachary, and David Strayhorn who were mentioned numerous times on the course evaluations by the students. We look forward to seeing this effort again this year.

Again thank you for your cooperation and efforts that continue to make this department successful in educating each and every student that comes through, as thoroughly as possible. This past year, five graduating seniors went on to top Neurology training programs across the country. Although we wished that they would stay here, they may someday make their way back to us. Your valiant effort in assisting in the education of our students is what helps to keep this institution ranked among the top in the country.

Washington University Department of Neurology Newsletter

Attention: Michelle Aubuchon

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St. Louis Mo 63110

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Fax: 314-362-2826

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Congratulations to the following employees for their extensive dedication and hard work to the Department of Neurology.

Your loyalty is greatly appreciated.

25 years of service

Rati Choksi 8/4/1981

15 years of service

Shirlene Taylor 8/3/1992

10 years of service

Ellen Haynes 7/1/1996

Amy Bain 8/12/1996

5 years of service

Martha Caldera 7/23/2001

LaJune Stanton 8/13/2001

