

# From The Top

VOLUME II, ISSUE I

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WASHINGTON  
UNIVERSITY  
DEPARTMENT  
OF  
NEUROLOGY  
NEWSLETTER

## Department News

Dear Neurology Faculty, Fellows, Residents and Staff—

Welcome to the first edition of the 2007 Neurology Newsletter. We were extremely pleased to hear so many positive comments following the distribution of the previous newsletters and certainly welcome further comments and suggestions for future issues.

As an announcement, there have been tremendous changes to the Department Private section of the Neurology web site. When you have a chance, take a peek and let us know of any suggestions for additions or changes you may have. The login for the department private site is "Neurology01 (+ windows log-in)" The password is your windows password. And don't forget that comments and suggestions are always welcome for the Neurology Newsletter as well.

Thank you so much.

Michelle Aubuchon

### Pioneering Alzheimer's Disease Researcher Leonard Berg Dies at 79

By Michael C. Purdy

Leonard Berg, M.D., the founder and former director of the Alzheimer's Disease Research Center, died Monday, Jan. 15, 2007, following a stroke. He was 79.

Berg, professor emeritus of neurology, received many awards and honors for his contributions to Alzheimer's research, including the Lifetime Achievement Award and the Public Service Award from the Alzheimer's Association, the Peter H. Raven Lifetime Award from the St. Louis Academy of Science and the School of Medicine Second Century Award

"Leonard Berg was one of the most talented and respected physicians I have known," said Chancellor Emeritus William H. Danforth, M.D. "He was ahead of the rest of us in recognizing the importance of Alzheimer studies. We all trusted his judgment and wisdom."



Berg had two separate and distinguished careers in medicine — one for several decades as a clinician in private practice and a second one in research. In the 1970s, motivated by his work with patients, Berg started a discussion group in the Department of Neurology on dementias. With his colleagues in the department, he was able to develop a system for distinguishing healthy aging from the onset of very mild dementia. Based on that research, the National Institutes of Health (NIH) in 1979 awarded Berg, who was in private practice, and colleagues at the school a four-year grant to study both groups over time, conducting

regular, detailed assessments of their mental and physical status as the subjects grew older. The early work formed the foundation for the systematized assessment of dementia and detection of early onset of Alzheimer's disease now in common use.

That study, known as the Memory and Aging Project (MAP), continues to this day, having studied a total of more than 3,000 volunteers during nearly 30 years. As neurologists, psychologists and pathologists have discovered that the processes underlying Alzheimer's disease begin taking a toll on the brain decades prior to the disease's first clinical symptoms, the MAP has provided researchers with valuable insights into subtle changes that may one day be used as markers of the disease's onset. Such markers now are regarded by many as an essential step for successful treatment of Alzheimer's disease.

In 1985, Berg was awarded a grant from the National Institute on Aging (NIA) to establish the Alzheimer's Disease Research Center (ADRC) at the School of Medicine and Barnes Hospital. The center continues to be funded by the NIA and other agencies, supporting the work of several Alzheimer's researchers recognized in recent years with the field's highest awards. Berg stepped down as director of the center in 1997.

"Leonard Berg founded the Alzheimer's disease research program at Washington University and led it to international prominence," said John

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.

## Department News Continued...

C. Morris, M.D., the Friedman Distinguished Professor of Neurology and current director of the ADRC. "He also was an esteemed neurologist and, for me and many others, a valued mentor and friend."

Since 1997, the ADRC, with support from industry, has hosted a biennial Alzheimer's research symposium in Berg's honor.

"Leonard was a visionary clinician-scientist promoting Alzheimer's disease research and clinical care at Washington University," said David Holtzman, M.D., the Andrew B. and Gretchen P. Jones Professor and head of the neurology department. "The buzzword now at the NIH and around academia is translational research, but Leonard was doing cutting-edge translational research 30 years ago. I respected him as a physician-scientist as much as anyone I have known. As a person, he was a true mensch."

Berg was a member of the American Medical Association, the American Academy of Neurology, the American Neurological Association, the Society for Neuroscience and the Society for Experimental Pathology.

Berg's many leadership positions included terms as president of the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology in 1985, chairman of the Missouri State Advisory Board on Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders from 1988-1995 and chairman of the national Alzheimer's Association's Medical and Scientific Advisory Council from 1991-95. He was a member of the National Scientific Advisory Council of the American Federation for Aging Research for more than a decade and served on a Congressional Advisory Panel on Alzheimer's Disease from 1993-95.

Born in St. Louis July 17, 1927, Berg graduated from the University in 1945 and from the medical school in 1949. After serving internships and residencies at Barnes Hospital, the Neurological Institute of New York at Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center and the National Institutes of Health, Berg joined the medical school's faculty as a community-based member of the voluntary faculty in 1955. He became

professor of clinical neurology in 1972. Berg joined the school's full-time faculty as a professor of neurology in 1989 and moved his clinical practice into the school's neurology department. In addition to Barnes Hospital, now Barnes-Jewish Hospital, Berg provided care for patients and consulted on medical cases at St. Louis Children's Hospital, St. Louis Shriner's Hospital for Crippled Children and St. Louis Regional Hospital.

Berg is survived by his wife of nearly 59 years, Gerry Berg; two daughters, Kathy and Nancy; son John, his wife, Christine, and their daughter, Katie. John Berg is an associate vice chancellor and Christine Berg is a member of the faculty of the Program in Occupational Therapy.

A private family service and burial are arranged. Plans for a later public memorial service are pending.

Memorial donations may be made to the Alzheimer's Disease Research Center. Call 286-2881 for more information or send to: ADRC-WUSTL, 4488 Forest Park Ave., Suite 130, St. Louis, Mo., 63108.

## Good Luck and Farewell !

**After 27 years at Washington University, Dr. Bill Powers will be leaving this Spring to assume the position as Chair of the Department of Neurology at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.**

**You will be missed greatly!**

After 27 years at Washington University, Bill Powers will be leaving our institution to become chairman of Neurology at the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill. His influence here has been far-reaching and his departure will be felt throughout the medical center. He is the embodiment of the true physician scientist, performing internationally recognized clinical research,

providing outstanding care to his patients, and imparting his wisdom and almost astonishing knowledge of the literature to hundreds of students, residents, and fellows. His track record of NIH grants, stroke center achievements, patient referrals, close working relationship with faculty within and outside our department, and numerous teaching awards from residents and students attest to his widespread success and contributions to the university.

Much of the physician and teacher I am today is a reflection of the training I received from Bill. I am most grateful for the 12 years I have had to work with him and wish him continued success as he takes on the challenges of this new phase to his career.

Written by:

Allyson Zazulia, MD

### General Neurology

Dr. Sylvia Awadalla

Dr. Todd Schwedt was interviewed by KSDK's Kay Quinn, aired on January 9, 2007, for "Ask The Doctor." The topic was, "Are Migraines Hereditary?"

"There certainly is a genetic component to migraine. However it's likely due to multiple different genes that interact with environmental factors," said Dr. Todd Schwedt of the Headache Center at Washington University.

To read the full story, visit KSDK.com or click on the link. [http://www.ksdk.com/news/news\\_article.aspx?storyid=110392](http://www.ksdk.com/news/news_article.aspx?storyid=110392)

Dr. Schwedt started in neurology in July of 2006. Some of his recent accomplishments include;

- ✦ Awarded a K12 Multidisciplinary Clinical Research Career Development Award which will begin in July 2007. His work for this award focuses on new headaches and central sensitization that occur following endovascular coiling of unruptured intracranial aneurysms.
- ✦ Soon to be enrolling subjects with migraine for clinical trials of both acute and preventative medications.

## Department News Continued...

### Neuro-Immunology

Dr. Anne Cross

Rob Naismith will be joining the Steering Committee of ACTRIMS, America's Committee for Treatment and Research in MS.

This is a prominent national committee. I am proud of Rob being asked to serve with a very select group of MS experts.

To read more on ACTRIMS you can visit their website by going to <http://www.actrims.org/about.asp>

### Aging & Dementia

Dr. John C. Morris

Morris Presented Prestigious Neville Grant Award by BJH

On 11/9/07, John C. Morris, MD, Friedman Distinguished Professor of Neurology, was presented with the *Dr. Neville Grant Award for Clinical Excellence* by Barnes-Jewish Hospital. Named in honor of Dr. Neville Grant, Professor Emeritus of Clinical Medicine at Washington University, the award is the highest honor given to a physician on staff each year.

Holtzman receives 2006 MetLife Award

David M. Holtzman, MD, Jones Professor and Chair of Neurology is a recipient of this year's MetLife award. This award is one of the highest honors given annually for re

Participants in the Alzheimer: 100 Years & Beyond Conference, University of Tübingen, Germany.



*Dr. Neville Grant Award for Clinical Excellence* by Barnes-Jewish Hospital. Named in honor of Dr. Neville Grant, Professor Emeritus of Clinical Medicine at Washington University, the award is the

search on Alzheimer disease. The award will be presented in Washington, DC on Feb. 23rd. Holtzman was the previous recipient of the 2002 MetLife award for promising research on Alzheimer disease. Prior MetLife award winners at Washington University are Drs. John Morris and Alison Goate.

### Three Neurology Faculty at Alzheimer 100 Conference

On November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2006, Dr. Alois Alzheimer travelled to the university city of Tübingen, Germany, to present an unusual case of dementia. Auguste D. would become known as the first documented case of Alzheimer's disease (AD). He described the pathological characteristics of the disease in the auditorium of the Clinic for Psychiatry at the University of Tübingen. This was the site for a special 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary conference held November 2-5, 2006, entitled Alzheimer: 100 Years & Beyond (see <http://www.alz100.de/idea.html>).

This by-invitation-only event featured presentations from all of the top living Alzheimer's researchers worldwide. Only a select group of ~180 were invited to speak and/or attend. Being included was a tremendous honor for all involved. Three of these individuals were from our Department of Neurology!

◆ **Alison Goate**, DPhil, Ludwig Professor of Genetics in Psychiatry, Professor of Neurology

◆ **David M. Holtzman**, MD, Chair of Neu-

rology, Jones Professor of Neurology

◆ **John C. Morris**, MD, Friedman Distinguished Professor of Neurology

### Movement Disorders

Dr. Joel Perlmutter

Brad Racette, MD was awarded a new RO1 grant from NINDS to investigate the relationship between welding and parkinsonism. This is a 5 year award and will allow Dr. Racette to extend his studies of the role of environmental exposures for the development of parkinsonism.

Minna Hong, a graduate student in the Movement Sciences Program that works in the labs of Gammon Earhart and Joel Perlmutter, received a 1.02 score on her NIH application for a pre-doctoral fellowship award. This score placed her application in the top 0.5% of those submitted. Her PhD work investigates motor physiologic aspects of gait and freezing in people with Parkinson disease. Together with Dr. Earhart, they will evaluate the potential of training on a circular rotating treadmill to help reduce turning difficulties in people with PD.

### Adult Epilepsy

Dr. Edward R. Hogan

The epilepsy section is pleased to announce the hiring of a new office manager. Donna Theiss joined the Department of Neurology on November 28, 2006. She brings extensive past experience in The Washington University School of Medicine with expertise in office management, IDX scheduling, and coordination of patient care.

Nancy Donohue has joined the staff at Barnes-Jewish Hospital in the Epilepsy Monitoring Unit. Nancy has worked in the field of EEG for many years, including time as an EEG technologist here in the Department of Neurology at Washington University. We welcome her back to the epilepsy section team, and look forward to integrating her past experience and expertise with EEG telemetry monitoring into the Epilepsy Center at Barnes-Jewish Hospital. Other news for the Epilepsy Monitoring Unit includes plans for replacement of the video EEG telemetry monitoring equipment.

R. Edward Hogan, M.D. in conjunction with Mary E. Bertrand from the Division of Pediatric Neurology and others received the cover publication in the October, 2006 issue of *Archives of Neurology* for their publication: "Composite SISCOM Perfusion Patterns in Right and Left Temporal Seizures."



Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Division  
Spinal Cord Injury Section  
Dr. Oksana Volshteyn

We would like to inform faculty of the department of Neurology, that bone density studies are available through the Rehabilitation division.

Bone density (DXA) scans are performed at 4444 Forest Park Blvd., Ste 2306, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, Bone Density Lab.

The two technologists, who perform the studies, are certified by the International Society

for Clinical Densitometry (ISCD). Dr. Neringa Juknis from the SCI section will be interpreting the DXA scan results. She is also certified by ISCD.

To schedule DXA study, please call rehabilitation clinic at 658-3887 or fax the request to 286-8555. E-mail Dr. Neringa Juknis with any questions at: [juknisn@neuro.wustl.edu](mailto:juknisn@neuro.wustl.edu).

Neuro-Muscular Disease  
Dr. Alan Pestronk

Dr. Bob Baloh was awarded the Elsevier's award for best poster at the 11<sup>th</sup> International

Congress of the World Muscle Society held in Bruges, Belgium, October 4-7, 2006. His presentation was entitled: "In vitro analysis of MFN2 mutations associated with Charcot-Marie-Tooth Disease".

#### Business Office Tom Giandinoto

Patient Accounts Organizational Changes. Lauri Thienes has accepted our position of Practice Office Manager which will be based at the CAM. Karen Altmansberger has accepted our position of Assistant Supervisor, Clinical Office at our TRISL location.

## IT & HELP DESK

### Known document incompatibilities with newly released Office 2007

A few days ago, Microsoft released their latest version of the Office Suite (Word, Excel, Access, Outlook, and PowerPoint). While we are not installing this on department machines yet, there are issues with attachments and documents you may receive from other users in or outside the University.

If you receive such a document or attachment, and try to open it, you will be prompted to download a patch from Microsoft (link below). For users who feel comfortable installing software on their machines, you can click the link directly to access the patch and install yourself. Other users can contact the Help Desk @ 7-1165 for assistance with applying the patch.

Please do not call for patch assistance unless you receive one of the affected document types. We are working with our software vendor to get the latest version, at which time we will begin pushing it out to all users, negating the need for a patch.

<http://www.microsoft.com/downloads/details.aspx?familyid=941B3470-3AE9-4AEE-8F43-C6BB74CD1466&displaylang=en>

### Email Storage

During our monthly assessment of the email servers, we have noticed a large spike in the amount of email storage utilization. While this is not necessarily a problem, we kindly ask that you please delete any old, un-needed messages, particularly those with large attachments. Attachments should be saved to the local PC, or network drive if needed long term.

Also, please be sure to empty your "Deleted Items" folder regularly. This can be done by right-clicking the Deleted Items folder, and then clicking "Empty Deleted Items Folder", confirm by pressing OK.

Often times we find people are using email as a file storage mechanism. This is not a best practice as it takes backup jobs longer to run, as well as a restore in the event of a failure. Network space can be provided if so desired for document retention.

### Email Spam

As many of you are aware there has been a large increase in the amount of SPAM that has been getting passed our filters. We've tried various in-house solutions, and also a product that the University is licensed for, but to no avail. Currently, we are trialing a solution from an outside vendor. Upon initial testing a mass email went out to users asking them to login to a site with their email address, and a self-generated password. I received many emails asking if this was legitimate, or a scam. This is a legitimate email, however, we ask that at this time you do not login. Because we are only in a testing scenario we do not want users changing any settings for their accounts. We apologize for any inconvenience.

### To contact the IT help desk,

- call 747-1165,
- send an e-mail to [neurosupport@neuro.wustl.edu](mailto:neurosupport@neuro.wustl.edu) or
- visit their website at <http://neurosupport.wustl.edu>

## HIPAA

### HIPAA REFRESHER -

FRIDAY, February 9, 2007

1 PM TO 3:30 PM

CAM CONFERENCE ROOM 1

Email [hipaa@wustl.edu](mailto:hipaa@wustl.edu) or call 747-4975

CEU's available

If you have not attended or sent your staff to the HIPAA refresher, I hope you would consider attending or sending your staff. This is voluntary, you are not obligated to attend but I think you will find the WU HIPAA refresher very interesting. This is your opportunity to ask the WU HIPAA Privacy Office staff HIPAA questions.

Please note the PM time for this session. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to give me a call.

Shirley Moore  
Neurology HIPAA Privacy Liaison  
by e-mail at [moores@neuro.wustl.edu](mailto: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—

### Resident Schedules Webpage

### Residency Interview Season.

The interview season has been in full swing now for almost three months. This is the first year where neurology residency programs joined ERAS (electronic residency application system). Our program is now, under ERAS, a four-year categorical program which means all applicants who match with us will do the entire four years here.

We certainly have enjoyed the massive participation from residents and attendings, and would like to thank each and every one of you for your help and support. Many of you shared your time and expertise; your contributions have been exceptional. Your attendance at the wine and cheese receptions are very much appreciated by the applicants.

Many applicants commented to me how approachable our faculty was and how it was a joy for them to discuss similar interests with you. Over all the feedback from the applicants has been remarkable in terms of the availability and willingness of our residents and faculty to please, help and answer all questions the interviewees had

### Abdullah Nassief—

### Residency Director

### Pediatric Neurology Residency Program

### Dr. Brad Schlaggar

Dr. Doug Larsen (PGY4) will serve as the inaugural Chief Resident in Pediatric Neurology for the 2007-8

academic year.

Resident recruitment is going well. We have interviewed 35 candidates for residency positions in Pediatric Neurology. The rank list for the 2007 match was turned in on January 17th. We anticipate another very successful match.

## Medical Student Updates—

### Pre-Clinical Neurological Education

### Dr. Allyson Zazulia Coursemaster—

The second year medical student neurology course (Diseases of the Nervous System, DNS) and the neurology patient sessions are underway.

We have expanded the sites for the patient sessions to include SLCH this year, thanks to the efforts of Ed Trevathan, Brad Schlaggar, Liu Lin Thio, and Mike Noetzel.

The Student Interest Group in Neurology (SIGN) has sponsored a number of activities, including a recent dinner at Tom Thach's house, and are planning a wine and cheese series with Drs. Holtzman, Dacey, and Wippold over the next few weeks.

Interest in the newly formed College Student Interest Group in Neurology (CO-SIGN) is very high. Fifteen Wash U undergrads will be shadowing medical students during one of our upcoming DNS course days, and thirty undergrads are interested in shadowing physicians in the neuro-related specialties, so you may be receiving a request to welcome such a student into your clinic.

Thank you to all those who have volunteered and continue to volun-

teer their time for these student activities.

### Dr. Robert Naismith Coursemaster— 3rd Year Neurology Clerkship

To the Faculty, Fellows and Residents:

Thank you so much for your continued teaching efforts with the students. We encourage you to please continue helping us make this year successful by remaining 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 and are very grateful for all your effort.

Again thank you for your cooperation and efforts that continue to make this department successful in educating each and every student that comes through, and ensuring that they are taught as thoroughly as possible.

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.

The clerkship year will end in May this year and the new 3rd year clerkships for the 2007-2008 year will begin in mid June.

For questions regarding the clerkship, please contact Michelle Aubuchon at [abuchonm@neuro.wustl.edu](mailto:abuchonm@neuro.wustl.edu)

*Fifteen Wash U undergrads will be shadowing medical students during one of our upcoming DNS course days, and thirty undergrads are interested in shadowing physicians in the neuro-related specialties...*

# GRANTS—Start Dates of 10/1/06—1/31/07



## Tom Meuser

Missouri Department of Highways and Transportation  
 “Enhancing Age Specific Assessment by Missouri State Highway Patrol”  
 10/1/06-9/30/07

## Mike Howard

Mike Utley Foundation  
 “Functional CNS Remyelination by Transplanted ES Cell-Derived Oligodendrocytes”  
 1/1/07-12/31/07

## Morvarid Karimi

American Parkinson's Disease Association  
 “Mechanisms of Chronic Deep Brain Stimulation in Non-Human Primates”  
 9/1/06-8/31/07

## Susan Criswell

American Parkinson's Disease Association  
 “Parkinsonism and Manganese Toxicity in Patients with End Stage Liver Disease”  
 9/1/06-8/31/07

## Sally McIver

American Heart Association  
 “Excitotoxic Pathways of Oligodendrocyte Death in Stroke”  
 1/1/07-12/31/08

## Qingli Xiao

American Heart Association  
 “Bcl-x Alternative Splicing in Neonatal Hypoxia-Ischemia”  
 1/1/07-12/31/08

## Special News

### Baby Announcements!!

Dr. Schwedt and his wife Emily welcome new baby Madeline Samantha; born on 10-16-06. She was 7 pounds 15 ounces, 19-1/2 inches. She joined sister Maya age 3.

Dr. Kelly Brown and husband Dan had their first baby, a girl, Devon Parker on 11-22-06, 7 lbs. 3 oz, 20-1/2 in.

## Honors, Awards & Welcoming

### Congratulations!!

Congratulations to those new faculty appointments and promotions between 10/1/06 and 1/31/07

**Ed Hogan, MD**, appointed Associate Professor of Neurology and Head of the adult epilepsy section effective 10/1/06

**Mary Bertrand, MD**, appointed Assistant Professor of Neurology in the Division of Pediatric and Developmental Neurology effective 8/1/06

**David Brody, MD, PhD**, promoted to Assistant Professor of Neurology effective 1/1/07

**Rob Fucetola, PhD**, promoted to Associate Professor of Neurology, effective 1/1/07.

**Anneliese Schaefer, PhD**, appointed Research Assistant Professor of Neurology, effective 10/9/06

**Catherine Roe, PhD**, appointed Research Instructor in Neurology effective 7-1-07

### Washington University Department of Neurology Newsletter

Attention: Michelle Aubuchon  
 660 South Euclid Ave.  
 Campus Box 8111  
 St. Louis Mo 63110  
 Phone: 314-362-7177  
 Fax: 314-362-2826  
 E-mail: [aubuchonm@neuro.wustl.edu](mailto:aubuchonm@neuro.wustl.edu)

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

Your loyalty is greatly appreciated.

#### 30 years

**Terry Anderson** 3/14/2007

#### 5 years

**Marsha Rhodes** 1/7/2002

**Terri Devault** 1/14/2002

**Mary Downey-Jones** 1/14/2002

**Diane Weber** 2/4/2002

**Robert Mikesell** 3/25/2002

