VCU PM&R UPDATE

TBI Model Systems Grant

Renewed:

VCU was awarded $2.26 million, over 5-years, to study outcomes & treatments for TBI. The TBI Model System (TBIMS) is funded by the National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research (NIDILRR). VCU researchers will collect outcome data and contribute to a national database. VCU will also be participating in other multi-site studies. The primary goal of our VCU center project is to evaluate the comparative effectiveness of skill-building, psychotherapeutic, and educational interventions focused on resiliency for persons with TBI. In the past three decades, VCU clinical researchers have produced nearly 400 brain injury publications including books and peer reviewed manuscripts. Dr. Jeffrey Kreutzer serves as Principal Investigator with Dr. David Cifu serving as co-PI. For more information about the model systems programs, please visit www.msktc.org/tbi.

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VCU Welcomes New CERSE Director:

Ronald Seel, PhD has been appointed “Executive Director of VCU’s Center for Rehabilitation Science & Engineering (CERSE) and Prof VCU Dept PM&R. Dr. Seel’s distinguished record of research, program administration, evidence-based practice, & interdisciplinary collaboration will support CERSE’s ongoing mission of service to individuals w/ disabilities through research, scholarly activity and clinical innovation.

Dr. Seel completed his doctoral training in Counseling Psychology and a fellowship in Neuropsychology at VCU. He served as Dept of PM&R faculty 2001-2010, during which time he served as Associate Director of Research for the Defense and Veterans BI Ctr and Executive Dir of the Parkinson’s Research at McGuire VAMC. Since 2010, Ron has been the Director for Acquired Brain Injury Research at Shepherd Center’s Research Institute in Atlanta.

Dr. Seel has been funded on federal and Foundational grants for nearly $30 million, including PI on 5, and has published 57 peer-reviewed scientific articles across a range of rehabilitation areas, including SCI, BI, Parkinsons disease, sleep, PTSD and research methodology.

VCU & Sheltering Arms “Joint Venture” Update:

Sheltering Arms Physical Rehabilitation Centers purchased 25 acres in West Richmond to build the new SAH-VCU 114-bed rehab hospital, expected to open: spring, 2020. This “joint venture” allows plans to advance the convergence of rehabilitative and regenerative medicine consistent with the commitment to provide inpatient rehabilitation for people who have had strokes, spinal cord injuries or brain injuries, as well as people in need of general rehabilitation or those with various neurological diseases and disorders.

McGuire VA Medical Ctr featured in PBS documentary

PBS released a new documentary, “Polytrauma Rehab in the VA: Compassionate Care”, in September, featuring footage and interviews from the CENC site at the McGuire VA medical center & shining a bright light on the Richmond VA's efforts in polytrauma rehab. Link to the McGuire Polytrauma video: http://ideastations.org/polytrauma

PM&R Hosts CENC Research Meeting

National researchers gathered at VCU in August for the 4th annual “Chronic Effects of Neurotrauma Consortium” (CENC), a chance for investigators to further collaborate on important research issues. CENC researchers are investigating mTBI, commonly known as concussion, in the nation's Service Members and Veterans to better understand its effects on late-life outcomes and neurodegeneration, identify Service Members most susceptible to these effects, and identify the most effective treatment strategies. This $62.2 million project is jointly funded by the Dept of Defense and Dept of Veterans Affairs. Learn more about CENC: www.cenc.rti.org
Allison Hickman, DO has accepted the position of Associate PM&R Residency Program Director at VCU PM&R.

Ajit Pai, MD was accepted into VA’s Health Care Leadership Development Program for 2018. Additionally, he has been named Chair of VA’s MSK & Rehab Workflow Advisory Group for the Electronic Health Record Modernization.

Ajit Pai, MD & Joseph Webster, MD, PM&R faculty members at the McGuire VA Medical Center, were recently awarded a 3-year, $500,000/year telerehabilitation grant sponsored by the Veterans Health Admin Office of Rural Health and Office of Rehabilitation & Prosthetics Services.

Gary Goldberg, MD accepted the position of Brain Injury Fellowship Program Director for VCU PM&R.

Joseph Webster, MD was recently the 1st guest on a new MossRehab podcast series (a series of discussions with pioneers in PM&R), providing insight into current clinical and scientific research that not only advances our field but improves the lives of our patients. Dr. Webster’s groundbreaking work with osseointegration (bonding the connectors for prosthetics directly to a patient’s bone) - is creating a new path for some patients.

Tim Hudson, MD has been invited to be an ABPMR oral board examiner.

Suzanne Taylor, PhD – involved in clinical trials involving assessment site for surgical implantation of stem cells in pts w/ TBI and also with pts w/ metastatic brain tumors who are receiving whole-brain radiation or stereotactic radiosurgery. Recent presented at ACRM: Oncology Rehab in Blood Cancers: From Diagnosis through Bone Marrow Transplant; in Atlanta and as invited speaker for the annual Bone Marrow Transplant Survivor Symposium last May “Managing Fatigue so it Doesn’t Manage You”.

VCU PM&R welcomes new faculty members:
Amma Agyemang, PhD, MPH - joined CENC faculty, working on the $62.2 million grant conducting TBI research in Veterans & Service Members.

PM&R Faculty Updates

CONFEERENCE UPDATE
The 2018 Williamsburg Brain Injury Rehabilitation Conference: May 3-4, 2018
www.williamsburgbiconference.com

“Practical Solutions to Real World Problems”
The “Williamsburg” Brain Injury Conference provides a thought-provoking opportunity to learn and interact alongside leading national and internationally-recognized TBI experts. This conference provides a unique focus on practical solutions and interventions to improve brain injury rehabilitation practice. Continuing education credits (CEU) are available for a number of disciplines.

5th Annual Jeff Ericksen Musculoskeletal Lectureship will be held on May 11, 2018 at VCU. Jason D. Tucker, MD, is scheduled to be this year’s keynote speaker.

UPDATE US !!!
Please take a moment to tell us noteworthy news about you, your job, and/or your family, new practice opportunities, certifications, grants, presentations, papers, relocation, travel, etc.). Send updates to Dr. William. McKinley, VCU PM&R, Box 980661, Richmond, VA 23298
Fax# (804) 828-5074
E-MAIL William.McKinley@vcuhealth.org

Douglas Wisor to deliver 2018 “Alumni Presentation”
VCU PM&R is proud to welcome Doug Wisor, MD for our “20th annual PM&R Alumni Lectureship” (June 8th, 2018). Dr. Wisor, a ’98 VCU PM&R grad, is President of the National Spine & Pain Centers (DC/VAAWV). All are encouraged to attend Dr. Wisor’s presentation & the reception to follow.
It is with REGRET that we INFORM our ALUMNI of the passing of Jacob (Jay) Neufeld, in Sept. JAY was a valued faculty in VCU PM&R from 2002-2007 as part of our VCU Pediatric-PM&R Rehab team, and also directed our VCU Peds-PM&R dual residency program and Peds-PM&R fellowship. He was very active in AAPM&R, AAP, ACGME and other key PM&R organizations.

Alumni at AAPM&R: Dan Dorfman (89), Greg Leghart (93), Michael Henry (91), Gin-Ming Hsu (98), Jeff Johns (99), Dave Ripley (00), Dan Slater & Steve Nichols (03), Jason Frankel & Ralph Brutus (05), Katrina Lesher (06), Fred Dery (09), Amit Sinha & Marcus Smith (11), Steve Jackson (13), Don Tower (14), Rave Mummaneni (15), Angel Chang (16)

Steve G. Ferguson (84) - checked in from Knoxville, Tn. He is affiliated w/ the Patricia Neal Rehab. Ctr (Ft. Sanders Regional Hospital)

Lois Buschbacher (92) - was selected as Chief PM&R at the Roudebush VAMC (Indianapolis)

Kathy Dec (93) – Performed as Med Dir of Richmond Marathon and attended fall committee meeting as rep for the sports medicine advisory committee for the national federation of high school assoc’s

Darryl Kaelin (95) – currently serving as PRESIDENT of AAPM&R

Michelle Miller (96) - Work is busy as always and I now have the pediatric PM&R division up to 7 full time physicians.

Douglas Wisor (98) - promoted to President of National Spine & Pain Ctrs (NSPC), a leading management services organization serving 68 interventional pain management clinics across 7 states & providing services to over 130 pain physicians & providers.

Jeff Johns (99) - selected to participate in the Vanderbilt Leadership Academy for the ’17-’18 academic year., an invite-only program of ~25 people at Vanderbilt University Med Ctr, designed to further develop personal and interpersonal leadership skills

David Ripley (00) – named CHAIR of the AAPM&R CNS rehabilitation council

Tim Silver, MD (01) – presented recently to the national park service employees on “wilderness medicine & tick borne illness”. Tim also volunteers with Medical Reserve corps, & the Virginia Dept Military affairs & was a volunteer MD at the Rio 2016 summer games.

Jason Frankel (05) - was chosen as one of Boston’s Top Doctor’s for 2018 by Boston Magazine.

Fred Dery (09) - got engaged (Beth Morrow), wedding date pending, but we has ski trips to Alta and Sun Valley planned.

Mohammad Agha (13) – Was appointed to the HIMSS Bd of Directors for the Midwest Gateway Chapter as the Advocacy Director and Bd of Directors for the Ctr for Patient Safety & Missouri Amer College of Healthcare Executives.

Jessica Hupe (18) - Congrats on induction into Eastern Mich Univ Athletic Hall of Fame, which cited her ability to overcome obstacles & dedication to goals, enabling great success, both personally & professionally & mentoring others through the “Lucky Fins”.

Olivier Rolin (18) - chosen as recipient of the “Outstanding Resident Research Award” at 2017 AAPM&R mtg (Denver, 10/17), for his abstract “Does intensive initial training improve mobility for amputees receiving a new lower extremity prosthesis?” His abstract was one of 3 selected for this award out of the over 500 submitted for review by residents!


VCU RESIDENTS visible at AAPM&R

Congratulations to Residents who represented VCU PM&R at the 2017 American Academy PM&R in Denver, Colorado for “Poster Presentations” (Drs. Arbonies, Haywood, Hills, Hupe, Lacey, Lazaro, and Rolin). Great job!

VCU PM&R SIG Update
The VCU School of Med PM&R Student Interest Group (SIG) has been very active with a mission of increasing awareness and opportunities related to PM&R for VCU medical students. Annual events include enhanced clinical opportunities, presentations, brochures, and fundraising. Current officers are David Underhill (Presidents), Nathan Manche (Vice-President), Jarrell Raper (Treasurer), and Daniel Nguyen (Clinical Liaison). Thanks all!

Sports Med Coordinators
Drs. Adam Hills and Kate Zakrzewski head up PM&R sports medicine opportunities at VCU. Residents cover numerous sporting events including, high school football, CAA men’s soccer championship (in Richmond), men’s & women’s soccer, volleyball & field hockey.

Residents Summarize Research
Dr. Seacrist (Regional Editors) head up a group of VCU PM&R resident contributors to Rehab in Review, a monthly newsletter summarizing important research in specialties related to PM&R (neurosurg, rheumatology, pain, etc.). Each month VCU submits 5 articles to Rehab in Review for possible publication.

We’re on the web... http://www.pmr.vcu.edu