

The Montlake Cut

A Publication of the Department of Neurological Surgery, UW Medicine Health Care System

August 2012



Chairmans Message... The View from Puget Sound ...

Because of a certain duplication of effort, I have decided to combine the two departmental newsletters. At the same time, I believe it is important for the Department of Neurological Surgery Chair to have an open and direct dialog with faculty, residents, staff and the WWAMI community. Therefore, a new regular feature of our quarterly MONTLAKE CUT will incorporate what I will continue to call *The View From Puget Sound*. By naming both the Montlake body of water in the title

(near UWMC and Children's Medical Center), as well as Puget Sound (closer to HMC and the Seattle VA) I hope to be inclusive of the entire system. My goal is to share that information I think relevant to all of us in our joint dedication to education, research and patient care.

I am sad to relay the news that Professor *Emeritus* A. Basil Harris has died. Dr. Harris, who retired about eleven years ago, was a long time important member of the department. He was remembered with reverence, affection, and some humor at a recent memorial service hosted by his family at the University Club. His contributions to science, technological innovation and resident education will be long remembered.

This issue of the newsletter also contains articles about new and old members of the department, their accomplishments and activities, some departmental history, the announcement of a wedding, and upcoming events.

In order to be as successful as possible, I invite anyone who receives this publication to contact the editors with stories and information they would like to see included.

Sincerely,

Richard G. Ellenbogen, M.D., F.A.C.S.
Professor and Chairman
Department of Neurological Surgery



Richard G. Ellenbogen, M.D., F.A.C.S.

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IN MEMORIAM...

*The UW Department of Neurological Surgery
regrets to announce the passing of Dr. Albert Basil Harris*

Albert Basil Harris, MD January 19, 1929 ~ May 6, 2012 Dr. Harris, known as "The Commander in Chief", was a pioneer in neurosurgery, technique and instrument design. A Cum Laude graduate and 4-year National Merit Scholar from Birmingham Southern College; received his MD from the Medical College of Alabama in 1954, as a 4-year Jefferson Medical Scholar; post graduate neurosurgery training at Barnes Hospital, St. Louis, MO. Dr. Harris served as Captain in the US Army from 1955-1957. He joined the medical faculty of Washington University, St. Louis; American Board of Neurological Surgery certified 1966; University of Washington Medical School Department of Neurosurgery, Seattle, WA, 1967-2001; named Professor Emeritus of Neurological Surgery upon retirement in 2001. President & Chairman of Washington Association of Neurological Surgeons ('78-'80); Board of Directors of American Association of Neurological Surgeons ('87); President of Western Neurosurgical Society ('90-'91); served in various capacities at the National Institute of Health, National Science Foundation, and Joint Council of AANS & CNS; lifetime member of the King County Medical Association; numerous grants and publications. Dr. Harris greatly enjoyed teaching all of the residents that passed through the UW Medical School and he would like you all to remember, "Watch and learn!" He enjoyed working with his colleagues at the UW and the support of the O.R. and clinic staff. He was gratified by his patients around the world who remember his knowledge and expertise. In addition to his passion for learning and unending quest for knowledge, Dr. Harris enjoyed camping, gardening, skiing, travel, the theater, and was a Husky fan! After retirement, Dr. Harris enjoyed life on the beach - kayaking, boating and oyster farming on Camano Island, WA where he also served as president and on the board of directors of the Tillicum Beach Association. He is survived by his wife of 54 years Freda, three children Elizabeth Harris (Robert), Kathryn Bryant (Paul), and Basil Jr., four grandchildren Kyle Bryant, Eric Bryant, Emily Bryant and Nicholas Harris. We remember him for his patience and dedication. He will be greatly missed. A memorial service was held at the UW Faculty Club on June 24.



Albert B. Harris, MD

A memorial service was held on June 24, 2012. Memorial donations may be made to the National Multiple Sclerosis Society www.nationalmssociety.org/donate or the [charity of your choice](#)

Published in The Seattle Times on May 13, 2012

STAFF IN THE KNOW...

GRANT RELATED QUESTIONS?

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GRAND ROUNDS INFORMATION?

SHARON ANDREWS

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RESIDENCY PROGRAM INFORMATION?

KELLY JAIN
MARY GILBERT

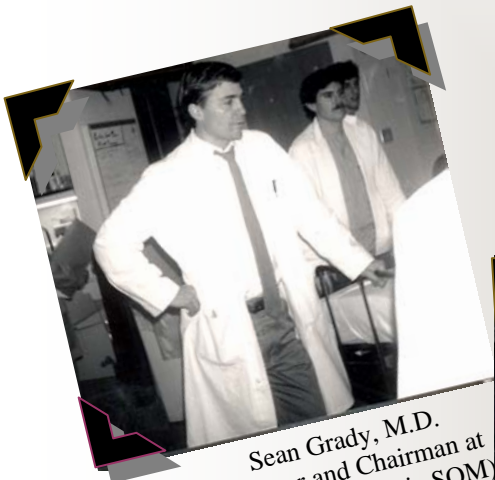
kgjain@uw.edu
mmg@uw.edu

EVOLUTION OF THE NEURO-CRITICAL CARE UNIT (NCCU) AT HARBORVIEW MEDICAL CENTER

The original dedicated neuro intensive care unit was started in the mid 1980s. Until then, critically ill neurosurgery patients were hospitalized in a general surgical ICU. Current NCCU nurses believe Lynn Nemeth was the first nurse manager. 9/North/C was referred to then as the NICU, and occupied 6 beds on the 9th floor in the east tower that is now the Pediatric ICU. Several of the original nurses still work in the current unit: Mary Riem, Jess Nuten, Steve Bea, and Sheri White.

The Neuro Critical Care Unit now utilizes about 40 beds on 2 West, and is managed by Theresa Braungardt. The nursing is magnificent, and the collaboration between the services, improves every week.

These photographs are a flash back to the original home of the NCCU, and were probably taken in the late 1980's. Jessica Nuten has kept them all this time.



Sean Grady, M.D.
(Now Professor and Chairman at
University of Pennsylvania SOM)



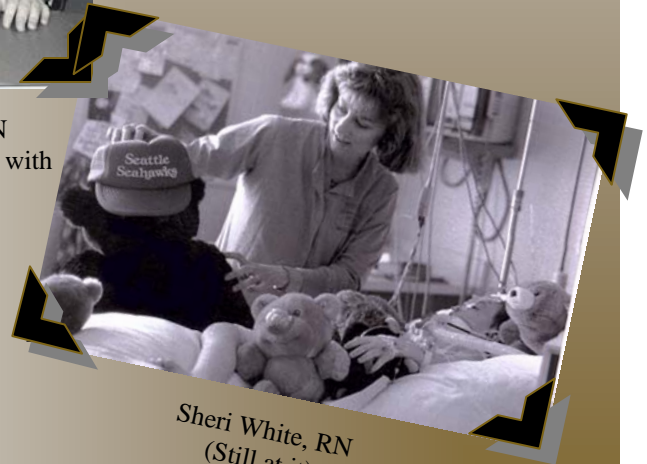
Jessica 'Jess' Nuten, RN
(who saved and provided us with
these photos)



Left to right:
Cindy Hecker, RN; Steve Bea, RN
(Circa late 1980's)



Robert Rostomily, MD as Chief Resident
(although he claims this photo was taken
last week)



Sheri White, RN
(Still at it)

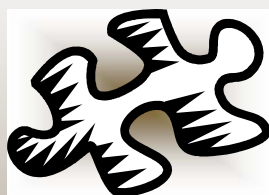
JJ AND KATEY GET HITCHED

In a private ceremony on June 1, Katey Boyd married senior neurological surgery resident Jason Chang. Katey is one of the exceptional NCCU nurses, which is where JJ must have cornered her. They celebrated at Eastlake's Cicchetti Restaurant, and enjoyed Mediterranean Tapas late into the evening. The event was filled with happiness, laughter, and enfolded in the love and support of their closest friends and families. Assuming they get packed in time after all this, Katey and Jason will leave for the London rotation in early July.



DR. CHOWDHARY SOLVES THE LAST PUZZLER...

Streptococcus pyogenes (which killed *Jim Henson*, creator of the *Muppets*) mixed with *Serratia marascens* (discovered by *Bartolomeo Bizio, a pharmacist from Padua*) was shown by William Coley, now called the Father of Immunotherapy, to be useful treatment for several kinds of bone cancers. This mixture, called Coley's Toxin, was criticized by the American Orthopedic Society, and by James Ewing in particular, who thought that radiation was the treatment of choice. Coley's data and record keeping were believed to be poor, and a paper published in 1965 showing a 22% complete remission rate (good even by today's standards) found suspect. The American Cancer Society attacked that paper as providing insufficient evidence, which is unusual, until you consider that *Dr. Helen Nauts (nee Coley, William's daughter)* was the author. She went on to become the only women other than *Marie Curie* to win National Institute of Social Sciences' Gold Medal for Distinguished Service to Humanity. Dr. Nauts founded the New York City, NY, Cancer Research Institute, until recently headed by *Lloyd Old*, also considered one of the fathers of modern tumor immunology (BCG for bladder cancer). Dr. Old died November 28, 2011 of prostate cancer.



New Puzzler

To what does the term "**Blue Mouth**" refer as relates to HMC?

We remain anxious to publish stories, photos about all aspects and activities of the Department. Please share your memories, ideas, and suggestions for stories and news items that expand our common ground. Please contact us at these email addresses:

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UWMC NEUROLOGICAL SURGERY CLINIC RECEIVES AWARD

The University of Washington Neurological Surgery Clinic received the *PATIENT SATISFACTION EXCELLENCE (PSE) AWARD* for earning a score of 94.7% last summer quarter (Jul-Sep 2011). PSE is a new award created by the Patients are First Rewards & Recognition Committee, and is awarded



across UWMC, Harborview Medical Center, Northwest Hospital, and UW Medicine Neighborhood Clinics. It recognizes each unit or department that met or exceeded the goal of 92.2% for patients' "willingness to recommend" for outpatient areas. It is based on the quarterly patient satisfaction survey results, which means that departments have the chance to receive it each quarter.

The "willingness to recommend" a score is a result of the patient's overall care experience during their clinic visit. Staff and providers all contribute to this outcome.

L to R (First Row): Molly Drinkwater, Adele Wirch, Dr. Anthony Avellino, Cynthia Cottle-Bailess, Erika Reinholdtsen, Natalie Johnson, Julie Allman

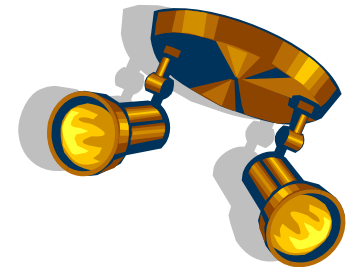
"We are committed to providing excellent care for every patient every time and hope that this award will show this ongoing commitment".

*Adele Wirch,
Manager, UWMC Neurological Surgery Clinic*

Faculty Spotlight

Raimondo D'Ambrosio, Ph.D.:

Dr. Raimondo D'Ambrosio has received two-year NIH funding for a Translational R21 Exploratory Research Grant entitled "Optimization of the FPI model for epilepsy therapy development." While many anti-epileptic drugs have been introduced over the last 30 years, the proportion of patients with inadequate seizure control has remained unchanged at about 30%, and no cure for epilepsy has been found. Better models of epilepsy are needed to screen for novel antiepileptic and antiepileptogenic treatments. Dr. D'Ambrosio's proposed studies aims to optimize a promising new model of posttraumatic epilepsy that is resistant to antiepileptic drugs, and adapt it for efficient routine drug screening.



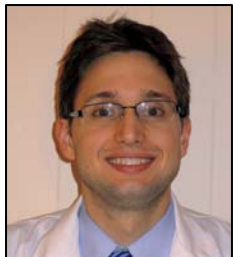
THREE NEW PGY-1 NEUROSURGEONS

Dr. James Bales was born in Anchorage and retains his Alaskan residency. That's understandable. But he was an undergraduate in Pullman, and if he's still a Cougar he's going to have the same problem around here that Ryan Morton has still being Irish! James attended WSU on a full academic scholarship, although the major draw may have been the girlfriend of that moment, who can safely be mentioned because they are now married. He majored in neuroscience and psychology as an undergrad. He was a teaching assistant in organic chemistry and did neuropsychological testing on TBI patients as an undergraduate research assistant. After he left the Palouse in 2004, James was a Research Assistant working on problems of autism at Case Western for a year.

As an MD/PhD student at the University of Pittsburgh, James was the institutional representative to the American Physician Scientist Association, and a graduate teaching assistant in the undergraduate neurophysiology course. He was also elected student chair of the MD/PhD program. As further preparation for becoming a neurosurgeon, James first completed his OB rotation at Pitt and then delivered his own son!

James' research interests are now focused on Traumatic Brain Injury. He has published five peer reviewed journal articles, four as first author, as well as contributed to two book chapters. In addition to his wife and son, James interests include biking, fencing, computer and writing. The editor of this newsletter intends to exploit this latter talent for his own purposes.

Dr. Robert Bonow was born in Washington (the other one), and grew up in Glencoe, Illinois. As a Cornell undergraduate, he majored in Neurobiology and Behavior, and was the photography editor of the Cornell Daily Sun. He also helped to design and build a simple extracellular recording electrode for use in neurophysiology. Before medical school, Robert did summer research at Northwestern, but some of it had to do with heart valves so it barely counts. The other project at Northwestern concerned the potential role for stem cells in treating spinal cord injuries, which still remains largely potential. He was a member of Quill and Dagger, the senior honor society at Cornell. Robert was an Eagle Scout in 2001 and the recipient of an NIH Post baccalaureate Research Training Award in 2007.



Robert Bonow, M.D.

As a medical student at Tufts, Robert survived life in the "combat zone" and continued to do research both in Boston and at NIH where his interest was in neuro-inflammation. Between 2008 and 2011, he was elected by his peers to serve as liaison between med students, the Dean of Medical Education, and the Curriculum Committee. Robert was elected to AOA.

He begins his life as a UW PGY-1 with four peer reviewed publications, one of which he first authored. He was perhaps attracted to the Northwest because of his interest in mountaineering and climbing, which will make him a candidate for Louis Kim's fourth annual Hike to the Heavens this year.

As an undergraduate at the University of New Mexico, **Dr. Robert Buckley** majored in biochemistry and molecular biology, as well as economics, so he seemed to be on a path for a job in the biotechnology sector. Somewhere he swerved. Between 2002 and 2008, he also was a referee in the US Soccer Federation in Albuquerque, and officiated in more than a thousand games, including high school, NCAA championships, and professional matches. Also during these years, Robert helped to launch a local youth referee development program. So maybe he really was planning to be a referee all along.

His volunteer efforts continued as a medical student at Washington University, where he created and coordinated the medical school participation in the university-wide intramural sports programs. In addition, he



James Bales, M.D., Ph.D.



Robert Buckley, M.D.

THREE NEW PGY-1'S *(Continued from previous page)*

worked in the St. Louis Young Scientist community outreach program for disadvantaged high school students, and was a volunteer in the medical student run free clinic for the underserved. Maybe social work attracted him. As a medical student, Robert's research interests included an examination of the genetic predisposition to sepsis in a mouse model, the study of DTI as a prognostic marker in children undergoing ETV, triple-H therapy in the treatment of unsecured aneurysms, and the role of diagnostic angiography in brain biopsy. This work resulted in the submission of two peer reviewed publications, one of which he first authored. So it seems he wants to be a neurosurgeon after all.

Robert was awarded an NIH Summer Research Fellowship, and was elected to AOA. He notes his interests are playing bass, triathlons, ultimate Frisbee, backpacking and---cooking. So he can run up the ridge, carry the 60 pound pack, play the base, and make lunch on *The Hike to the Heavens*.



DR. SEK HAR COMPLETES WFSBS PRESIDENCY

As President of *The World Federation of Skull Base Societies*, from 2008-2012, **Dr. Laligam Sekhar**, recently attended the combined *6th International Congress of the WFSBS* and *10th European Skull Base Society Congress* in Brighton, UK. In addition to delivering a 'Skull Base Masters' lecture, and presenting no less than 3 papers, Dr. Sekhar passed the WFSBS Presidency to Professor Michael Gleeson.

Department of Neurological Surgery faculty members Dr. Manuel Ferreira, presented a paper, and Dr. Gordana Juric-Sekhar presented a poster.

The theme for the combined Congress was *'Inspiration, Education and Exploration of the Future'*.

SERVICE CULTURE GUIDELINE OF THE MONTH:

RESPECT PRIVACY & CONFIDENTIALITY means that we discuss patients and their care in a confidential setting.

FACULTY PRESENT AT WSANS ANNUAL MEETING

The Department of Neurological Surgery was well represented at the May 2012 Annual Meeting of *The Washington State Association of Neurological Surgeons* held in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho .



Laligam Sekhar, M.D.

Dr. Laligam Sekhar, Vice Chairman, Department of Neurological Surgery presented his paper on *Basilar Tip Aneurysms Micro Surgical and Endovascular Treatment Results*. Co-authors include Drs. Farzana Tariq, Ryan Morton, Basavaraj Ghodke, Danial Hallam, and Louis Kim.

Dr. Richard G. Ellenbogen presented *Concussion: A Perfect Storm and the Role of the NFL* and **Dr. Manuel Ferreira, Jr.** presented his paper on *Multimodality Therapy in the Management of Secreting Pituitary Adenomas*.

In addition, **Dr. Noojan Kazemi**, UW Spine Fellow, presented his lecture entitled *Spine*.

The Washington State Association of Neurological Surgeons' mission is to promote scientific, educational, and socioeconomic issues related to Neurological Surgery and the Neurosciences in the State of Washington.



Manuel Ferreira, M.D., Ph.D.

EXERCISE WILL CHANGE YOUR LIFE, AND HERE'S WHY

Neurological Surgery **Professor David B. Coppel** is quoted in a recent Seattle Times Pacific NW Magazine article entitled "Exercise will change your life, and here's why" by Maureen O'Hagan. Dr. Coppel, a sports psychologist and Director of Neuropsychological Services and Research for the Seattle Sports Concussion Program, has clinical interests in Sports concussion, neuropsychological and neurocognitive evaluations, sport and performance psychological consultations, and cognitive-behavioral therapy. His research involvement includes neurocognitive functioning in sports-related concussion, attention and concentration aspects of performance, and sport psychology interventions. A link to the article is found here:

http://seattletimes.nwsourc.com/html/pacificnw/2018312089_pacificpfitlife10.html

Top Researchers & Scientists Develop Future Hydrocephalus Research Agenda

Landmark Conference Steers Direction for Future Research Grants

The Seattle Children's Hospital Research Institute and the University of Washington partnered with the Hydrocephalus Association and several other research institutions in co-hosting a trailblazing research conference in Seattle, Washington, on **July 9 – 11, 2012** the event was designed to bring together world-renowned researchers, scientists, NIH representatives, and representatives from biomedical device manufacturers in an effort to advance research on the causes and treatment options for hydrocephalus. The conference showcased presentations from the leading experts working in the field, updating participants on the latest innovations and findings going on in research on hydrocephalus, and engaging them in a dialogue to strategize about where the next great breakthroughs may occur. They focused on research with the highest chance to impact clinical care.

"We planned this conference to bring a unique view of how scientific research affects the patient" said Dr. Samuel Browd, conference Co-PI and neurosurgeon at Seattle Children's Hospital. "The collaboration between researchers from these disciplines should generate new thinking on how to best advance hydrocephalus research."

This conference, entitled ***OPPORTUNITIES IN HYDROCEPHALUS RESEARCH: PATHWAYS TO BETTER OUTCOMES***, boasted a speaker line-up of some of the world's pre-eminent scientists, researchers, clinicians, and engineers who have been studying key aspects of hydrocephalus such as:

***CAUSES OF HYDROCEPHALUS
TREATMENT ADVANCES***

***ENHANCEMENTS IN DIAGNOSIS
OUTCOME IMPROVEMENTS***

UW Medicine



Seattle Children's
HOSPITAL • RESEARCH • FOUNDATION

Hydrocephalus
Association



Patrik & Leila Gabikian + 1

Former UW Medicine Department of Neurological Surgery residents Patrik and Leila Khorasani Gabikian announced the birth of their first child, Izabella, born on June 27, 2012.

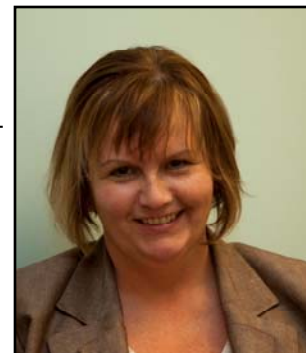


Staff Spotlight...

...Welcome Bonnie Bradley

We are pleased to welcome Bonnie Bradley as Dr. Ellenbogen's new administrative assistant. Bonnie brings a wealth of experience from her long tenure at Massachusetts General Hospital supporting W. Gerald Austen, MD, the Edward D. Churchill, Professor of Surgery at Harvard Medical School and Surgeon-in-Chief for nearly 30 years. Bonnie moved across the country to support the education of her son, Liam, and is pleased to be able to spend time with her family who also live in Seattle. Bonnie has been a wonderful addition to our department and the team supporting Dr. Ellenbogen.

Bonnie can be reached at 206-744-9321 or bbb325@uw.edu



Bonnie Bradley

...Kelly Chaddock

In 2002, Kelley Chaddock became an Administrative Assistant in the Department of General Internal Medicine. Within a year, she was promoted and helping to recruiting patients into studies of Carpal Tunnel Syndrome and Discogenic Back Pain. Through this work Kelley discovered her passion for research. In 2006, she joined the Department of Neurological Surgery as an Administrative Specialist supporting the Department. After Dr. Chesnut received an NIH grant to fund his Traumatic Brain Injury project in Latin America, Kelley became research coordinator for that project. Kelley has enjoyed travelling to Bolivia, Argentina and Montreal for work related to this research. Kelley is currently partnering with her colleague, Jim Pridgeon, to write a paper on the administrative work done for the clinical trials in Latin America. In addition to her research duties, Kelley continues to provide administrative support for Dr. Chesnut and Dr. Zhang.

Kelley can be reached at 206-744-9322 or chaddk@uw.edu



Kelley Chaddock

Kelley Chaddock's daughter, Emele, plays soccer for Crossfire Premiere SC U14 ECNL girls soccer team and is currently ranked in the top 100 players in the nation and 3rd in the Pacific Northwest among female soccer players her age. Her team recently won the Manchester United Premier Cup (MUPC) US Finals which were hosted by Nike on their Beaverton campus. The US Finals draw the most competitive U14 and U15 teams across the nation.

Emele's team now advances to the MUPC World Finals which will be held in Gothia Sweden in July. The Manchester United Premier Cup (MUPC) is the largest international youth football tournament in the world, involving over 6,000 teams from over 40 countries.

Congratulations to Emele and Crossfire Premiere SC and good luck when you represent the United States in Sweden!



Emele Chaddock



Upcoming Grand Round Lectures

...Mark Your Calendars

All lectures held on the UW Medicine-Harborview Campus in the
Research & Training Building Auditorium
(300 Ninth Avenue, Seattle, WA)



GRAND ROUNDS 2012

- AUGUST 1, 2012: 7:00 – 8:00AM** **NEUROLOGICAL SURGERY JOURNAL CLUB**
Presenter: Richard G. Ellenbogen, M.D.
Professor and Chairman
Theodore S. Roberts' Endowed Chair
Department of Neurological Surgery | U of Washington
- 8:00 – 9:00AM** **NEUROLOGICAL SURGERY LECTURE**
'Volunteerism in Western Kenya: A Neurosurgeon's Experience'
Speaker: David T. Pitkethly, M.D., F.A.C.S.
Professor Emeritus
Department of Neurological Surgery | U of Washington
- AUGUST 8, 2012: 7:00 – 8:00AM** **NEUROLOGICAL SURGERY LECTURE**
8:00 – 9:00AM **TBA**
- AUGUST 15, 2012: 7:00 – 8:00AM** **'MTBI in the NFL – a Personal Journey'**
Speaker: Elliot J. Pellman, M.D.
Clinical Professor-Medicine, Rheumatology & Orthopaedics
Mount Sinai School of Medicine, New York, NY
Member (Commissioner's Designee)NFL/Players Assoc
Medical Accountability and Care Committee
- **8:00 – 9:00AM** **NEUROPATHOLOGY LECTURE**
- AUGUST 22, 2012: 7:00 – 8:00AM** **NEUROLOGICAL SURGERY FACULTY MEETING:**
Department of Neurological Surgery Only
- **8:00 – 9:00AM** **'Brain-Machine-Interfacing Technology Applied to**
Neuromodulation: Exploring an Evolutionary and
Translational Prosthetics Roadmap'
Speaker: Timothy Denison, Ph.D.
Technical Fellow and Director of Neuroengineering
Medtronic, Inc.
- AUGUST 29, 2012: 7:00 – 9:00AM** **M&M**
Department of Neurological Surgery Only

Information on UW Medicine Department of Neurological Surgery Grand Rounds :
<http://neurosurgery.washington.edu/>