



The View from Puget Sound

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

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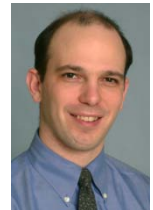
Message from the Chairman

Richard G. Ellenbogen, M.D. FACS



Welcome to a new e-newsletter for the Department of Neurological Surgery. I will use this format to communicate regularly on the achievements and news of the department and its members. As one of the premiere departments of neurological surgery in the US, we have many accomplishments to celebrate and goals yet to achieve. Our mission is quite clear, and has not changed in 5 decades! We continue to provide compassionate, cutting edge neurosurgical care, develop innovative research solutions to complex neurosurgical issues, and educate the next generation of leaders in neurological surgery. To that end, our direct research funding has grown from \$4.1M in 2005, when we started this new chapter in our history, to approximately \$11M today including our neurological surgery research efforts at the Seattle Children's Research Institute. During that same period, our clinical portfolio has grown from 2,500 neurological surgery procedures to over 4,500 procedures in 2009.

Our research interests span from nanotechnology, computer brain interface, neuro-oncology, epilepsy, neuro-traumatology, cerebrovascular disease, to stem cell research and beyond. We continue to attract and retain top basic and translational research scientist, residents, fellows and clinical faculty from around the country. **Professor and Chief (SCH) Jeff Ojemann** has stepped into the role of departmental research director. His goal is to elevate and organize the department's research efforts and he is meeting with each of the residents and research faculty. He will work closely with the newly appointed administrative team responsible for editing grants and assisting with the pre and post award functions. Jeff possesses both the intellectual firepower and passion to help us advance our research programs. He has begun to successfully enlist our renowned neuroscientists in the education of our residents in research methodology and grant writing. Congratulations go to R-4 Neurological Surgery resident **Jason Chang** who was just awarded the 2010 CNS Dandy Research Award based on his trauma research proposal under the auspices of **Professors Temkin** and **Chesnut**.



Professor Anthony Avellino has been appointed **Neuroscience Institute** Director by the School of Medicine. He has already achieved success in lowering classic departmental silos and providing programmatic coordination, which has been met with enthusiastic approval from our hospital and referring partners. Tony possesses both the administrative savvy and financial skills (MBA) to augment his broad and practical medical knowledge of the clinical neurosciences.

Our clinical faculty, fellows, and residents continue to provide world class care at all of our affiliated hospitals, Harborview Medical Center, University of Washington Medical Center, the Puget Sound VA and Seattle Children's Hospital. We are thrilled about the addition of the 6th UW Medicine entity, Northwest Hospital, which boasts the neurosurgical talent of one of our former residents **Dan Lazar, MD** and excellent colleagues **Steve Klein, MD** and **Steve Houston, MD**.

With the start of the academic school year, I want to welcome our fabulous new residents: **John Nerva from the University of Minnesota, Peter Chiarelli from Harvard Medical School, and Sean McEvoy from Yale Medical School**. Also, welcome to our new post graduate fellows, **Toba Naizi (Pediatrics) Gareth Adams (Spine), Nick Quandah (Spine), and Sal Di Maio (Skull Base and Vascular)**.

Finally, please help me extend a warm welcome to our newest faculty members, **William Shain, PhD from the Wadsworth Center in New York** and

Dr. Manuel Ferreira, MD, PhD from the Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston.

Bill is a well established and nationally recognized leader in neuro-prosthetics research and is working with Nino Ramirez and Jeff Ojemann at Seattle Children's Research Institute. We are thrilled to have recruited Bill to our department to help us with UW's robust Brain Computer Interface (BCI) research innovations. Manny, a talented surgeon scientist



will provide expertise in our already acclaimed skull base team. Manny brings additional significant expertise in meningioma, NFII, and minimally invasive pituitary surgery, which at UW we have over a decade of experience in practicing. His research interests are in the field of molecular neuro-oncology. It is my pleasure to lead such a highly talented and collaborative team. I look forward to a very healthy and happy, successful year.

Sincerely,

Richard G. Ellenbogen, MD, FACS

Professor and Chairman, Department of Neurological Surgery



Summer Internship Program A Success!

(Jim Pridgeon, MHA - Lecturer)

Another exciting aspect of our educational efforts has been our **UW Medicine Neurological Surgery Summer School Research Program** which runs solely from departmental donations. We are in our 4th year of funding.

Our goal is to inspire young students to pursue a neuroscience career. In 2010, our department's

neuroscientists hosted 9 high school and college students who participated in our summer internship program. It was a huge success from the student and faculty perspective. Several of the past graduates have already been accepted into neuroscience majors at college, or accepted into medical and graduate school programs. Each research fellow was placed in one of our labs and given the task of learning about the research and assisting with some of the lab functions and tasks. They also attended Grand Rounds and the



resident's conference each week in addition to weekly lunch meetings with individual PIs. These luncheons were an opportunity to interact with our world class researchers and learn about the wide range of research being conducted by our faculty. The summer culminated with the interns presenting to each other what they learned from their scientific mentors and **Dr. Ellenbogen**. We have plans to follow the interns and see how the internship shapes their school and career choices. This program is funded solely through individual donations for this specific program. Special thanks to Mary, Stephanie, and Jana for providing administrative support. And thanks to each and every one of our brilliant neuroscientists for sponsoring and mentoring these students!



Finance & Administrative News

(From Jana Pettit, MBA- Director)

We have completed our departmental reorganization of staff and functions and, as I have heard from several of you, we have emerged as a stronger, more responsive and more efficient team. In our monthly admin staff meetings, ideas are being developed to add structure and process to our daily routines. The group has self selected into two teams – one to work on updating our documentation of operational procedures and the other is working on developing a departmental orientation for the residents and fellows. Our management team has been working on metrics for our individual areas of responsibility and I look forward to sharing these with you in the future.

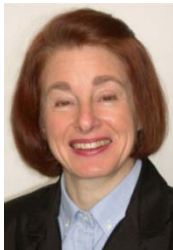
A quick reminder to all of our faculty members to submit 1460 forms for any outside work planned for this year (July 2010-June 2011). There is a limit of 13 calendar days each academic quarter in which the individual is employed (or 52 days per year). Any outside consulting is done in an individual capacity and not as representatives of the University. The Attorney General of the state of Washington will not represent individuals in claims stemming from outside consulting work, and the state of Washington cannot indemnify University employees from liability related to their outside consulting work. Please let me know if you have any questions regarding the 1460 process.

Great things are happening with our administrative and finance team. Thanks for all of your support.

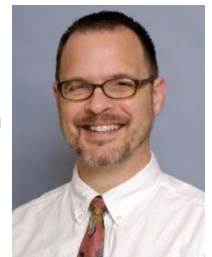
Research Awards & News

We have been very successful in our awards funding for 2010. Some recent awards include:

Dr. Temkin and **Dr. Bell** (Rehab) receiving a \$2.5M award through the DOD Consortium,



Dr. Chesnut and **Dr. Morrison** receiving individual RO1 supplements, and **Dr. Mourad** receiving a \$2.6M award from DOD to develop a field deployable brain imaging system. Congratulations to all of our research teams!



Our Department was honored to host U.S. Army 4 star General , Peter Chiarelli, Vice Chairman US Army, on October 8 for a symposium on traumatic brain injury and the research being done across the UW Medicine Health Care System. The full day symposium preceded a concussion and advocacy conference hosted by the Seattle Seahawks on October 9.



Professors Rich Ellenbogen and Stan Herring (Rehab Medicine, Neurological Surgery and Orthopaedic and Sports Medicine), organized the unique national youth sports advocacy and education event. Other participants included **Seattle Seahawks President Peter McLoughlin, NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell, Washington State Gov. Christine Gregoire, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Dr. Ileana Arias, U.S. Army General Peter Chiarelli, Dr. Hunt Batjer**, who is the Michael J. Marchese Professor of Neurological concussion prevention, management and treatment among youth athletes at Feinberg School of Medicine, Northwestern University; Brain Injury Association of Washington's Board of Director's **Richard Adler**, and UW Medicine concussion patient **Zackery Lystedt**. Dr. Ellenbogen and Dr. Batjer co-chair the NFL Head, Neck and Spine Medical Committee. Participants of the "Keeping Youth Sports Safe Round Table" discussed the goal of passing the pioneering Washington State Zach Lystedt Law in all 50 states. The NFL Commissioner has vowed to push for this laudable goal, one state at a time. This wonderful revenue neutral law has 3 essential parts: 1) an educational piece on concussion recognition for coaches, athletes and parents, 2) immediate removal of a youth athlete from any game in which they are suffer a concussion, and 3) return to practice only after being cleared by a concussion treatment expert.

FINALE: News & Events



Raimondo D' Ambrosio, PhD, Associate Professor, was recently awarded the Roy and Maxine Johnson Endowed Professorship for his pioneering work in Epilepsy Research. Congratulations Rai!

The very talented and bright **Tim Lucas, MD, PhD**, will be graduating from his residency after an impressive 10 years in our program in which he obtained a PhD in neurophysiology from his scientific mentors and world renowned neuroscientists: **Eb Fetz** and **George Ojemann**. He is completing a skull base fellowship under **Laligam Sekhar, Bob Rostomily, Louis Kim, Manny Ferreira** and team. We celebrated with Tim and his family on December 5 at the UW Faculty Club. Congratulations Tim on your tremendous sacrifice and consistent success. You have a brilliant academic neurosurgical career ahead of you!

