



The View from Puget Sound

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Message from the Chairman

Richard G. Ellenbogen, M.D. FACS

Professor and Chairman, Department of Neurological Surgery



While you might not know it from the current temperatures in Seattle, spring is here and there's an air of excitement in the department. We were very pleased with this year's residency process and match and are looking forward to welcoming our two incoming residents in July. Of course, this is bittersweet as it also means we are preparing for graduation in June where we will honor and say good bye to our current chiefs.

In this issue, I am pleased to highlight Dr. Peter Thompson, a talented physician, inventor and entrepreneur. We also start a new feature that will introduce you to one of our talented staff members in each issue. Rosemary Kimmel is our first spot light and a perfect choice. Rosemary's writing and editing skills are phenomenal and she is a great asset to our research program.

We are making final plans for the 3rd International MASSIN Congress which will be held in concert with the Washington State Association Neurological Surgeons (WSANS) annual meeting. Thank you to all of you who have confirmed your attendance and especially to those of you presenting papers. This promises to be a world class conference and I would encourage anyone who has not signed up to do so as soon as possible. You can find all of the details and registration information by following this link: <http://depts.washington.edu/uwconf/massin/index.html>.

Sincerely,
Richard G. Ellenbogen, MD, FACS
Professor and Chairman, Department of Neurological Surgery



Welcome Peter A. Thompson, MD

We are pleased to welcome Dr. Peter A. Thompson to our department as a Clinical Professor. Dr. Thompson is a highly respected clinician, biotechnology executive and entrepreneur with a productive history in [both] translational research , global product development and commercialization of drugs and devices. He is board-certified in internal medicine and oncology. Although he will not be directly involved in patient care, Dr. Thompson will advise [consult from time to time] on matters relevant to teaching, research and other activities related to the mission of the department; especially in the area of neuro-oncology. Additionally, he will be available to our Department as a resource for consultation on potential paths to financing, development and commercialization for projects of interest to our faculty.

After receiving his Sc.B in 1981 and then medical degree from Brown University in 1984, Dr. Thompson completed his Internship and Residency in Internal Medicine at Yale University in 1987. He then became a Fellow in Medical Oncology at the National Cancer Institute from 1987-1989, and was named as a faculty member at NCI in 1989 – a position he held until 1991.

Dr. Thompson has substantial experience in the Biotechnology sector and will advise us on innovations and technology as well as neuro-oncology. He co-founded Trubion Pharmaceuticals, and served as CEO and Chairman from its inception through its IPO on NASDAQ and as a public company until his retirement in 2009. Dr. Thompson is the former Vice President & General Manager of Chiron Informatics at Chiron Corporation and held various executive positions at Becton Dickinson, including Vice President, Research and Technology Department of BD Bioscience. He is a co-founder of iMetrikus, a clinical decision support company, where he served as CEO and Chairman. He is a Venture Partner at Orbimed Advisors and the founder and Managing Director of Strategicon Partners, an investment and management services company. He currently serves as a director of Anthera, CoDa Therapeutics, Principia, and Response Biomedical Corp. He was an Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year in 2007, and is named as an inventor on 11 patents.

Dr. Thompson has exceptional skills as a clinician, researcher and entrepreneur, and he will be a great asset to our academic program. His insights on the private sector will support our mission in developing translational research. We are excited to partner with Dr. Thompson and have him as part of the team.



Finance & Administrative News

*(Jana Pettit, MBA- Director of Finance & Administration,
Department of Neurological Surgery)*

I would like to begin using this space to highlight our outstanding administrative and finance staff and am pleased to start with Rosemary Kimmel. Rosemary came to our department and the University of Washington in January, 2003, after having worked at a variety of other careers and locations, the last a 7-year stint as an editor for a medical transcription firm on the East coast. In 2004, she obtained her specialty certificate in writing/editing from the American Medical Writers Association. She has been a freelancer for medical publishers, worked at Washington U/St. Louis (the “other” Washington!), managed a medical office, worked for a psychologist, taught middle school, but says that most of her experience and training have come from raising

three kids, now all in their 20's. Certainly, they have taught her the patience and fortitude that helps her cope with the wide-ranging job responsibilities inherent to working in this department. She initially was hired to support three faculty, but her role has changed into a combination of pre-award support for the entire department and administrative support for faculty. In her spare time, she is an avid reader, quilts to relax, dabbles in photography, and wishes she had more time to travel; with 8 siblings and her parents still living in St. Louis, and her daughter living in D.C., most of her travels are to those locations, although last October she took a 3-week Eurail and hostelling trip through Germany, Austria and Prague with two of her children. This year holds the promise of wine-tasting tours in the Northwest, and a camping trip to the Olympic Peninsula. Thank you Rosemary for your invaluable contributions to our department!



Residency Match

*(Richard G. Ellenbogen, MD, FACS, Professor, Chairman, and Residency Director,
Department of Neurological Surgery)*

It was another amazingly competitive year with stellar neurological surgery resident applicants (approximately 200 applying to our program). The interview season (n=25) was a blast with tours of Seattle and intriguing interviews with motivated students. It is with great pride that I announce our top two applicants chose us for



their residency training. They are truly impressive multidimensional, warm, talented and interesting people - Kelly Collins and Brian Hanak. Kelly will graduate from the University Of Michigan School Of Medicine and has earned two undergraduate degrees from Carnegie-Mellon with three majors, Computer Engineering, Electric Engineering and Biology. Brian majored in Neuroscience at Yale and is completing Medical School at Harvard. Both earned Varsity letters in college in track with Brian winning the Ivy championship in the 3000 Steeplechase and Kelly specializing in marathons and cross country. Both have successfully completed and published robust research projects throughout college and medical school.... and, both are relocating with their Significant Others.Lastly, both will be great additions to our already stellar resident staff. Please help me welcome the future Drs. Hanak and Collins.

Finale



Mark your calendars! The Department of Neurological Surgery will be hosting graduation ceremonies on June 5, 2011 at the UW Faculty Club. We will be honoring graduating residents: Mahesh Karandikhar, MD, and Jeff Mai, MD; and fellows: Gareth Adams, MD; Sal Di Maio, MD, Toba Niazi, MD, and Nicholas Quandah, DO.