



# PADRECC

November/December 2005

## Insider



**NW PADRECC**  
Parkinson's Disease Research, Education & Clinical Center

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### Sole Support Fundraiser

On September 25 **Susan O'Connor, Jane Anau, and Shannon Squire** participated in the first annual PRO Soul Support for Parkinson's walk at Willamette Park. Dubbed 'The PADRECCians,' our team raised over \$450 and spent the afternoon on a 5k loop through the park! In all, more than 600 participants attended the walk and raised a total of \$81,600 to be used towards local Parkinson's services.

The PADRECC intends to take part in Soul Support yearly and is already looking forward to next year's event. Thanks to those who made financial contributions and attended the walk. Mark your calendars for next Sunday, September 24, 2006!

### Calendar Items

#### Portland PADRECC Staff Mtg

Wed, November 2, 11:30 am  
7D153, lunch will be served

#### HD Support Group

Th, Nov 3, 6:30-8:00 pm  
Penny Hogarth, MD  
(see pg. 2 for details)

#### "Caring for the Caregiver" pt. talk

Fri, Nov 4, 10:00 am (Vancouver VA)  
Eileen Divine & Vicki Wolff

#### PADRECC Exec Meeting

Wed, Dec 7, 11:30 am  
7D153, lunch will be served

#### "Fatigue in PD" patient talk

Fri, Jan 27, 10:00 am (Portland VA)  
Gordon Campbell, ANP

#### Upcoming Journal Clubs

Nov 3 Kathy Chung (VA)  
Nov 17 Steven Gunzler (VA)  
Dec 1 Lee Robertson (VA)  
Dec 8 Steven Johnson (OHSU/PCO)  
Dec 15 Ke-Zhong Shen (VA)  
Dec 22 Matt Brodsky (OHSU/PCO)



### Seattle Recruits First Fellow

Last year the Seattle PADRECC site received approval and funding for a VA Special Fellowship in Movement Disorders, bringing the total fellowship slots to three for the NW PADRECC. Recruitment for the two 2005-06 slots is still underway in Portland, but Seattle has successfully recruited their first candidate, Hojoong Mike Kim.

Hojoong Mike Kim is currently a PGY-4 Neurology resident at the University of Washington Medical Center. He was born in Indianapolis, Indiana and grew up in the Chicago area. He was first introduced to the field of Neuroscience through neuro-cell biology at Harvard Summer School. He attended Amherst College, majoring in Neuroscience. There, his interests in Neurology lead him to a Howard Hughes summer research fellowship following his freshman year where he worked with Dr. Robert Brown at Massachusetts General Hospital on ALS and SOD mutations. As part of his major, he completed a thesis on PCP as an animal model for schizophrenia. He attended University of Illinois Medical School where he took a year off to pursue research in the field of human neuro stem cell transplantation. Working with Dr. Kiminobu Sugaya, he studied the importance of Reelin in human neuro stem cell biology as well as using stem cell transplantation in improving cognitive functioning in animal models of Alzheimer's Disease. After completing his medical internship at the University of Illinois Medical Center, he was accepted into the University of Washington Neurology program. His main interests include Neurodegenerative diseases including Parkinson's disease and ataxias. He is currently working with Cyrus Zabetian and Ali Samii on the role of Hereditary Hemochromatosis mutations on Parkinson's Disease.

He will be starting his Movement Disorder Fellowship at the Seattle Puget Sound VA/ University of Washington Medical Center in July 2006.

## National Consortium Registration Available Online

The VA Parkinson's Disease Consortium electronic online registration is now available. If you know any VA-affiliated health professionals who are interested in becoming part of the Consortium's research and education exchange, they can now register electronically at the Consortium site at <http://vapdconsortium.org/> (please note, the URL will be changing to 'parkinsons.va.gov')

## Recent Publications

Borovecki F, Lovrecic L, Zhou J, Jeong H, Then F, Rosas HD, Hersch SM, **Hogarth P**, Bouzou B, Jensen RV, Krainc D. Genome-wide expression profiling of human blood reveals biomarkers for Huntington's disease. *Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A*. 2005 Aug 2;102(31):11023-8.

Zhu ZT, Munhall A, Shen KZ, **Johnson SW**. NMDA enhances a depolarization-activated inward current in subthalamic neurons. *Neuropharmacology*. 2005 Sep;49(3):317-27.

Bowen JD, Kamin R, **Leverenz JB**, Fishel MA, McCormick WC, Kukull WA, Larson EB. Interrater reliability and accuracy in identifying ischemic strokes using computed tomography scans in people with dementia. *J Am Geriatr Soc*. 2005 Oct;53(10):1743-7.

Poorkaj P, **Nutt JG**, James D, Gancher S, Bird TD, Steinbart E, Schellenberg GD, Payami H. Parkin mutation analysis in clinic patients with early-onset Parkinson's disease (*Am J Med Genet* 129A: 44-50, 2004). *Am J Med Genet A*. 2005 Oct 20;139A(1):56.

Woltjer RL, Cimino PJ, Boutte AM, Schantz AM, Montine KS, Larson EB, Bird T, **Quinn JF**, Zhang J, Montine TJ. Proteomic determination of widespread detergent insolubility, including Abeta but not tau, early in the pathogenesis of Alzheimer's disease. *FASEB J*. 2005 Aug 29.

**Zabetian CP, Samii A**, Mosley AD, Roberts JW, Leis BC, Yearout D, Raskind WH, Griffith A. A clinic-based study of the LRRK2 gene in Parkinson disease yields new mutations. *Neurology*. 2005 Sep 13;65(5):741-4.

*\*Many of these are available electronically from the PADRECC*

## Education & Outreach

**Coming up!** **Penny Hogarth** will give a presentation on "Research Updates" as a guest speaker at the Huntington's Disease Support Group on Thursday, November 3, 2005 from 6:30-8:00pm at OHSU's Child Development and Rehabilitation Center, room 3200. This group is open to anyone concerned with Huntington's – people with or at risk for HD, people who have a friend or family member affected with HD, people who know they have the HD gene but don't yet have symptoms – all are welcome. For more info, please contact Vicki Wolff (503-418-1661)

PADRECC staff were involved in several local outreach and education efforts this fall. In September, **Gordon Campbell** gave a lecture on "Management of Restless Leg Syndrome" at the annual meeting of the Oregon Nurse Practitioner Association. In October, **Penny Hogarth** gave an invited presentation in Philadelphia at the annual meeting of the Huntington Disease Study Group on "Tauroursodeoxycholic Acid in Huntington's Disease." **Kathy Chung** presented a lecture on "Learning about Essential Tremor: Diagnosis and Treatment Options," at an educational event sponsored by the International Essential Tremor Foundation.

## Staff Corner



### Susan O'Connor, RN

Susan came to the PADRECC with many years of neurology experience, where most recently, she spent the last 9 years working for the Alzheimer's Center at UCLA. She coordinates the DBS Co-op Study and manages the movement disorder clinic at the Portland VA. For the weekly clinic, Susan triages new patients to appropriate providers and insures continuity of care for returning patients, provides one-on-one nursing consultations, both in person and by telephone after a visit. She has been the driving force behind the development of a patient education program at Portland, which includes comprehensive patient education materials, classes on disease management, and a patient lending library. Susan enjoys collaborating with other providers to systematically address common clinical issues seen in clinic, such as falls and depression.

As study coordinator, Susan has been instrumental in recruiting and retaining patients in the CSP study. At this point, Portland has exceeded its goal of 13 patients. Upon joining the PADRECC, she attended several DBS programming courses and now assists with programming of DBS patients outside the CSP study as well. She works with the OR and neurosurgery to provide battery changes for all patients with DBS.

One of her new roles is overseeing the patient registry for the NW PADRECC as well as becoming PI for the National Evaluation of the PADRECC Program conducted out of the Boston VA.

In her free time of, Susan and her husband share the fun hobby of owning a vineyard (Nysa Vineyard) and are bottling their very own first wine this year!

### Farewell to Kari Swarztrauber, MD!

Kari will be leaving the PADRECC at the end of the year. Stay tuned for the details of a send off celebration which will be scheduled soon. Susan, will you bring the wine?