Message from

Christopher Madden, M.D.
Executive Clinical Director

Dear Colleagues,

The big news for this newsletter is the appointment of Dr. William Dauer as the leader of the O’Donnell Brain Institute. Bill will arrive in July and he brings a long record of accomplishments in neurology and neuroscience. He is excited about the opportunity, and I think that as you have a chance to interact with him over the coming months, you will agree that we are very fortunate to have him join us as director.

In other significant news, the Clements University Hospital third tower that will provide inpatient care for O’Donnell Institute patients recently held a topping out ceremony. It is still on schedule to open in late 2020.

Since I will be turning over newsletter duties to Dr. Dauer, I want to take this opportunity to express my appreciation to all of you who have helped as we’ve set up the foundation for the Institute over these last couple of years. I would especially like to thank you for your many kindnesses to me and the team, and your patience with us as we got the project off the ground.

I have learned a great deal from you and have come to have a profound respect for the tremendous depth of talent here and for the dedication of the people working in the Neurosciences at UT Southwestern, both on the clinical side and in the sciences. I look forward to working with you all as a colleague in the Institute in the years to come.

Sincerely,

Chris Madden

Our Mission

Trusted care, informed by next generation brain research, delivered by leading experts while teaching tomorrow’s leaders
William T. Dauer, M.D., selected as inaugural Director of Peter O’Donnell Jr. Brain Institute

From the UT Southwestern Newsroom

William T. Dauer, M.D., a neurologist acclaimed for his research into dystonia and Parkinson’s disease, has been named the O’Donnell Brain Institute’s first director.

Dr. Dauer currently serves as Director of the Movement Disorders Group and Director of the Morris K. Udall Center of Excellence for Parkinson’s Disease Research at the University of Michigan.

“Dr. Dauer’s broad experience as a neurologist and a scientist positions him to provide strong leadership as the Peter O’Donnell Jr. Brain Institute works to accelerate the translation of fundamental discoveries into cutting-edge treatments for a broad spectrum of brain disorders,” said Dr. W. P. Andrew Lee, Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs, Provost and Dean of UT Southwestern Medical School.

“The personal and societal burden of neurological and psychiatric disease is great and increasing. The Peter O’Donnell Jr. Brain Institute represents the bold and visionary commitment of UT Southwestern President Dr. Daniel Podolsky and the medical center’s leadership to tackle the challenge of improving the lives of individuals with brain disease,” Dr. Dauer said.

“The success of the Institute is uniquely possible at UT Southwestern because of its world-leading scientific culture and unprecedented institutional commitment to brain science and clinical care. I am extraordinarily honored and excited to direct the Institute and to join the remarkable UT Southwestern community.”

For nearly two decades, Dr. Dauer’s groundbreaking research has been focused on the molecular basis of dystonia and the mechanisms of neurodegeneration in Parkinson’s disease. His findings have elucidated the critical role of the torsinA protein in the progression of dystonia, which is marked by disabling, involuntary movements. Studies taking place under his direction at the Udall Center explaining the neurobiologic basis of falls in Parkinson’s disease are being used to pioneer a novel therapy for this currently untreatable symptom.

Dr. Dauer will hold the Lois C.A. and Darwin E. Smith Distinguished Chair in Neurological Mobility Research, and will serve as Professor of Neurology and Neurotherapeutics.

Read more
Dr. John Warner, John Castorina (architect), Dr. Daniel Podolsky, and Byron Carlisle, RN, stand in front of the Clements University Hospital third tower during the “Topping Out” celebration on March 1, 2019.

UT Southwestern faculty and staff were on hand to sign the last beam that was placed atop the 12-story building.

New Research Building

UT Southwestern will break ground later this spring on a separate building. The 9-story facility will house O’Donnell research programs. The building will be located on North Campus.

A Look Inside Tower 3

644,000 square feet
Neurology
Neurosurgery
Psychiatry
EMU
Gamma knife suite
Diagnostic imaging department
ED expansion
Anke Henning, Ph.D., named Director of Advanced Imaging Research Center

Anke Henning, Ph.D., a former research group leader at the Max Planck Institute for Biological Cybernetics in Tübingen, Germany, will lead the UT Southwestern Advanced Imaging Research Center as its scope broadens to include novel brain imaging approaches.

Dr. Henning developed novel MRI methods for non-invasive visualization of disease-related structural and metabolic changes in the brain, spinal cord, and heart. She also led clinical research involving heart imaging, brain imaging for psychiatric disorders, and spinal cord imaging in traumatic injury.

New faculty and APPs

NEUROLOGY
Sarah Smith, PA
Movement Disorders

NEUROSURGERY
Anthony Maioriello, M.D.
Assistant Professor
Neurosurgery Clinic at Texas Health Dallas

Andy Vaughan, PA-C
Neurosurgery Clinic at Texas Health Dallas

ORTHOPAEDIC SURGERY
Douglas Dickson, M.D.
Spine Center

PSYCHIATRY
Candace Genest, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor
Autism, Developmental Disorders, Rehabilitation

Jo Kutty Kurian, APN
Psychiatry Clinic - Bass

Snoben Kuruvila, PA
Psychiatry Clinic - Bass
New training program focused on sleep and circadian rhythms now accepting applications

The O’Donnell Brain Institute is offering a new training program for graduate students and postdoctoral fellows who are interested in the biology of sleep and circadian rhythms. The Cellular and Systems Biology of Sleep and Circadian Rhythms Training Program (SCRTP) is currently accepting applications.

Trainees receive in-depth exposure to state-of-the-art technologies and experimental approaches from world-leading sleep and circadian rhythms research investigators.

Trainees will develop independent research programs that can span the gap from bench to bedside. Trainees will also receive mentored experience in grant writing, communication, and publication of their research, as well as career counseling.

Learn more.

Clinic Updates

UTSW Neurosurgery Clinic opens at Texas Health Dallas

Neurological Surgery has expanded clinical services to a new location on the Texas Health Dallas campus.

Anthony Maioriello, M.D., and Andy Vaughan, PA-C, are seeing patients for a variety of spine and neurosurgical conditions. The practice will grow in the coming months with Christopher Taylor, M.D., arriving in June, Kathryn Hoes M.D., in August, and Russell Payne, M.D., in September.

The clinic is the first UT Southwestern Neurosurgery practice on a Texas Health Resources campus.

O’Donnell Brain Institute launches online Second Opinion service

The O’Donnell Brain Institute created an online service that allows Texas residents to receive a second opinion from one of our physicians right from their home.

The service currently provides second opinions for certain neurosurgery, surgical epilepsy, and spine diagnoses.

The goal is to provide access to world-class neurosurgeons for anyone living in Texas who may be unable to travel to a UT Southwestern location.
Awards and Recognition

**UT Southwestern Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences** has awarded **Bishakha Mona, Ph.D.**, the 33rd Annual Ida M. Green Award. The award is given to a female graduate student who has demonstrated scholastic excellence and outstanding citizenship as well as advancing the mission and values of UTSW and the Graduate School.

Ms. Mona successfully defended her dissertation in the **Genetics, Development and Disease Program** and will receive her Ph.D. this May. Her dissertation research uncovered developmental mechanisms of neuronal cell fate specification in spinal cord circuit formation.

**Adam Brenner, M.D.**, Director of the UT Southwestern Psychiatry Residency Program, was named the next Editor-in-Chief of the journal Academic Psychiatry. The journal’s mission supports work that furthers knowledge and stimulates evidence-based advances in academic medicine in six key domains: education, leadership, finance and administration, career and professional development, ethics and professionalism, and health and well-being.

Dr. Brenner is also serving as President of the **American Association of Directors of Psychiatric Residency Training**.

The **Sports Neuropsychology Society** (SNS) awarded **Kristin Wilmoth, Ph.D.**, the SNS Dissertation Award for her research entitled “Outcomes following sports-related concussion in school-aged children and adolescents: The influence of psychological factors.”

Dr. Wilmoth earned her Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology from UT Southwestern and is currently completing a Postdoctoral Fellowship in Neuropsychology at Medical College of Wisconsin.
The Sports Neuropsychology Society (SNS) awarded Nyaz Didehbani, Ph.D., the SNS Early Career Award. The award recognizes the significant impact that Dr. Didehbani has made in the area of sports concussion research. She is an Assistant Professor of Psychiatry.

The American Psychiatric Association awarded fellowships to three UT Southwestern Psychiatry Residents. The APA fellowships provide psychiatry residents the experiential learning, training, and professional development they need to be leaders.

(pictured from l-r)
Karen Duong, D.O. (Public Psychiatry Fellowship)
Bilge Turkozer, M.D. (Child and Adolescent Fellowship)
Meagan Whitney, M.D. (Leadership Fellowship)
Celebration of Excellence

More than 20 O’Donnell Brain Institute members gave presentations and submitted improvement projects for the inaugural UT Southwestern Health System Celebration of Excellence.

The event highlighted performance improvement projects across campus in the categories of quality, patient experience, people, and financial stewardship.

**WINNER**

Julie Petitta-Greer, BSN, RN, Cynthia Hill, BSN, RN, and Mariusz (Mike) Michalkowski won first place for "Collaborative Linen Savings Project" in the category of Financial Stewardship. (above photo)

**FINALIST**

(not pictured) Kristen Hall, B.S., Jessica Moreno, M.S., RN, Anthony Williams, LVN, and Carlos Bagley, M.D., MBA, were finalists for “Decreasing Patient Confusion in the Postoperative Deformity Patient Population” in the category of Patient Experience.

Nigam Gandhi, MHA

Abdul Kamal, RN, BSN
Laurie Enright, O’Donnell Director of Marketing, wins award for brand book

Our Director of Marketing, Laurie Enright, in collaboration with advertising agency, Kickstand, won an Addy award for the O’Donnell Brand Book in the category of “Public Service Collateral.”

The brand book was created and launched in the fall of 2018 and is a milestone for the O’Donnell Brain Institute as we continue to build awareness of our focused work in the cure and treatment of neurological and spinal cord disorders.
More than 100 people attended a conference held by the O'Donnell Brain Institute for patients with brain injury.

“Traveling the Path after TBI” was held March 9, 2019, on West Campus.

Dr. Surendra Barshikar and the Department of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation sponsored the seminar. Patients received insight and guidance on topics related to stress, communication, relationships, and intimacy after brain injury.

They also had the opportunity to ask questions of experts in the field of brain injury including doctors, therapists, psychologists, counselors and other patients living with TBI.

UT Southwestern’s O’Donnell Brain Institute, Parkland Hospital, and Texas Health teamed up to offer a series of free community classes for people who have suffered a stroke. The classes cover several topics including medical equipment and transportation, speech and swallowing difficulties, nutrition therapy and stroke prevention. There are several series planned and they take place in different locations across Dallas.
Upcoming Events

Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation Scientific Day: Research and Evidence-Based Update on Spine Disorders
Highlights recent scientific advances in interventional spine care pertaining to the field of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (PM&R) in adults. The seminar will also showcase research conducted by residents, fellows, and members of the Department of PM&R.

When: May 3, 7:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Where: T. Boone Pickens Biomedical Building Auditorium, NG3.112

Bike MS: Round-Up Ride
Join the UT CONQUER MS team as we pedal towards a world free of multiple sclerosis. The 2–day cycling event offers multiple route options departing from Frisco on Day 1 and ending in Fort Worth's Sundance Square on Day 2. Contact team captain, Katherine Treadaway, for more details: 214-645-0562, Katherine.Treadaway@UTSouthwestern.edu

When: May 4–5, 2019
Where: Frisco, TX

Head for the Cure 5K Run/Walk
Join us to raise awareness and funds to support the fight against brain cancer. Proceeds from the event will benefit the O'Donnell Brain Institute and the Brain Tumor Collaborative, a network of medical centers with the expertise to participate in state-of-the-art clinical trials investigating new treatments for malignant brain tumors.

When: May 4, 2019, 7:15 a.m. for team photo, 8:00 a.m. start of race
Where: Oak Point Park, Plano, TX

Student Mental Health: High School, College, and Beyond
For providers who screen, treat, and/or refer for student mental health services within high school, college, and graduate environments. Focus will be on mental health issues that commonly arise in these settings. Speakers will address the importance of the transition period, collaborating within and outside of systems to improve student mental health care, and recognizing unique needs of various student populations. Free event but space is limited so registration is required.

When: May 11, 2019, 8 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Where: 5323 Harry Hines Blvd., D1.700, Dallas, TX

New Frontiers in Pediatric Neurology Symposium
Sponsored by Children’s Health and UT Southwestern, this symposium is designed to impact positive changes in physician competency, improve performance in clinical Pediatric Neurology practice, and subsequently improve patient outcomes.

When: Friday, May 31, 7 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Where: Texas Scottish Rite Hospital
Photo Sessions for Faculty and APPs

Time passes, styles change, and then, someone asks for your professional photo.

Be like Cher and keep up with the times! Make plans to attend one of the upcoming UTSW photo sessions.

**Upcoming Dates:**
Monday, May 13
Tuesday, June 18
Wednesday, July 17
Thursday, August 15

**Times available from:**
8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.

**Location:** Clements University Hospital, 3rd floor patient lobby, north side

Contact Paige Poletes to schedule a time.
paige.poletes@utsouthwestern.edu
214-405-5526

Neuroscience Graduate Program faculty and students gather for the traditional annual group photo at the 2019 retreat held at the Dallas Arboretum.