



# EVELYN F. AND WILLIAM L. MCKNIGHT BRAIN INSTITUTE



## Todd Golde, MD, PhD

Executive Director,  
Evelyn F. and William L. McKnight Brain Institute,  
University of Florida  
Professor of Neuroscience,  
UF College of Medicine  
Director, 1Florida Alzheimer's Disease Research Center

### Mission

The Evelyn F. and William L. McKnight Brain Institute of the University of Florida, known as the MBI, is one of the nation's most comprehensive and diverse neuroscience research centers. Our investigators and physician-scientists from across the UF campus hope to broaden the understanding of many neurological disorders and change them from untreatable to treatable, incurable to curable and inevitable to preventable.

### Research Areas of Focus

#### ADDICTION

We are tackling addiction from all angles — at the molecular level, via behavioral neuroscience and through human laboratory studies and epidemiological approaches.

#### BRAIN CANCER

We are working to increase survival rates and develop curative treatments for patients diagnosed with primary or metastatic brain tumors.

#### BREATHING RESEARCH AND THERAPEUTICS

We are developing new therapies to enhance breathing and swallowing ability for those with neurological disorders.

#### CHRONIC NEUROLOGICAL DISEASES

We are pursuing innovative approaches to develop the next generation of therapies to combat neurodegenerative diseases such as ALS, Alzheimer's, dystonia and Parkinson's.

#### COGNITIVE AGING

We are dedicated to translating novel discoveries about brain aging into interventions that will preserve cognitive function and improve quality of life for older adults.

#### MENTAL HEALTH, NEUROBEHAVIORAL SCIENCES AND PSYCHIATRY

We are working to understand the causes of neuropsychiatric illness and to improve the lives of those suffering from these brain disorders.

#### PAIN AND SENSORY PHYSIOLOGY

We are exploring ways to reduce or block neuropathic pain and to help those who have lost, or never had, the sense of smell and/or taste.

#### TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY, SPINAL CORD INJURY AND STROKE

We are pursuing new therapies to restore function and improve quality of life for those suffering from traumatic brain injury, spinal cord injury and stroke.

# 200+

faculty involved with the MBI from more than 50 academic departments and centers

# \$60M

active neuroscience- and neuromedicine-based NIH funding (funding per year has doubled from 2010 to 2020)

# 110+

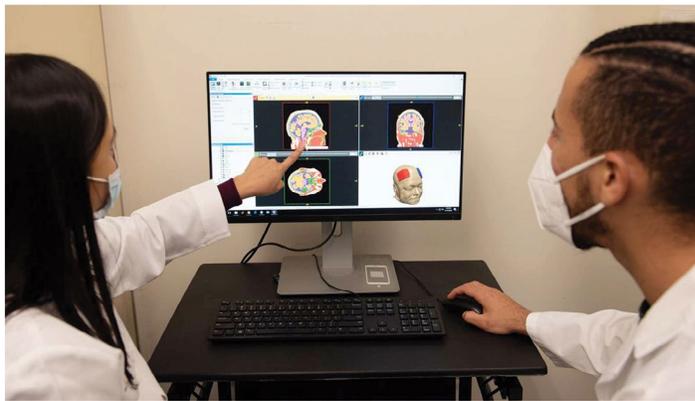
NIH-funded principal investigators

# No. 6 & No. 14

rankings in neurology/ neuroscience and neurosurgery for NIH funding among public universities



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### Research Facilities

The MBI building houses the UF College of Medicine departments of neuroscience, neurology, neurosurgery and psychiatry in addition to UF's Center for Smell and Taste, the Advanced Magnetic Resonance Imaging and Spectroscopy Facility and the UF Center for Cognitive Aging and Memory Clinical Translational Research. The state-of-the-art, six-story building on Newell Drive creates seamless collaborations and provides research support for faculty and staff. Additionally, across the UF campus, more than 200 MBI-affiliated faculty members work on multidisciplinary teams to better understand how the brain works and how various diseases alter brain function.

### Education

Each year, more than 50 graduate students and several hundred undergraduates, dozens of medical residents, numerous postdoctoral fellows and hundreds of staff scientists participate in our efforts.

The MBI is training the next generation of neuroscientists by complementing and enhancing existing training programs at UF. This includes supporting laboratory training experiences as well as providing opportunities in areas of scientific enterprise outside the lab, such as scientific communications and education.

To build our larger, more diverse scientific community, the MBI hosts prominent visiting scientists from collaborating institutions, engages in outreach activities with researchers in our community and supports the efforts of our own scientific leaders to organize events and conferences.

### Patient Care

Many of our physician-scientists treat patients and conduct research at the UF Health Neuromedicine Hospital, the Norman Fixel Institute for Neurological Diseases at UF Health and other facilities across the UF Health system.

The MBI supports the development of multidisciplinary teams and approaches that are focused on rapidly translating basic science findings in the laboratory into clinical applications.

### Leadership

The MBI is led by directors Drs. Todd Golde, Steven DeKosky and Jada Lewis and guided by its Executive Committee, composed of a diverse group of investigators, physician-scientists and experts from various neuroscience and neuromedicine disciplines at UF.

**\$50M+**  
from MBI to support research over the past decade

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**10+**  
colleges at UF participate in MBI projects

