Message from the director, Dr. Todd Golde

Dear Colleagues:

It's been full speed ahead in 2019, and as you'll see in this newsletter, our researchers have been hard at work.

I'd like to thank everyone who has completed the online submission process to become an MBI member. We've now launched our public-facing, searchable MBI Faculty Membership Directory. Membership is open to all UF faculty, fellows, residents, students and research staff. Click here to learn more.

While NIH funding is crucial, the impact of philanthropic gifts can't be overstated, and over the past few months we've seen incredible acts of generosity from the Lauren and Lee Fixel Family Foundation and The Harris Rosen Foundation. Twenty years ago, it was a gift from the McKnight Brain Research Foundation that propelled the MBI to new heights and these types of gifts are far reaching and benefit our entire neuroscience research enterprise at UF Health. We are in this together, and I can't wait to see the impact these gifts will have on our university.

While this year continues to move at a rapid pace, I invite you to read my reflection on 2018 and the MBI's 20th anniversary: bit.ly/MBI_2018.

Thank you for reading The Brainstorm, and for all your contributions to the MBI and neuroscience research at UF!

MBI Faculty Membership Directory is live!

As the MBI continues its mission to create a broader umbrella for neuroscience research at UF and beyond, we have launched our MBI Faculty Membership Directory.

MBI membership is also open to UF fellows, residents, graduate/undergraduate students and research staff.

CREATE YOUR ONLINE MEMBERSHIP PROFILE »
April 11: McKnight Inter-institutional Meeting keynote speaker

Dr. Tony Wyss-Coray from Stanford University is the keynote speaker for the 11th Inter-institutional Meeting of the four McKnight Brain Institutes (University of Alabama at Birmingham, University of Arizona, University of Florida and University of Miami), presented by the McKnight Brain Research Foundation. The lecture will focus on the systemic regulation of brain aging and neurodegeneration.

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UF and UF Health announce $20 million gift from Lauren and Lee Fixel Foundation

Funds will help launch institute at UF Health for Parkinson’s and other neurodegenerative diseases.

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Renowned neuroscientists to join UF Health, propel discovery of treatments for neurological diseases

Three neuroscientists from top U.S. research institutions will join the Fixel Institute and collaborate with teams of neuroscientists at the MBI.

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UF and UF Health announce $12 million gift to launch brain tumor research initiative

The Harris Rosen Foundation gift is the cornerstone of a $100 million fundraising commitment to support the UF Health-led ReMission Alliance Against Brain Tumors.

UF Health-led ReMission Summit draws top experts, focuses on new brain tumor treatments

More than 100 brain tumor experts united at the inaugural ReMission Summit in Orlando with a mission to rewrite the story of brain cancer through collaboration and innovation.

NIAAA director delivers 2019 Luttge Lectureship

NIAAA Director Dr. George Koob discussed alcohol use disorders and the pursuit of new treatments during the 7th Annual Luttge Lectureship in Neuroscience, established and sponsored by the McKnight Brain Research Foundation.

UF neuroscience students celebrate Brain Awareness Week with demos for kids
UF neuroscience students deployed to public schools during Brain Awareness Week and hosted field trips to the MBI and academic health center.

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MBI hosts SfN Chapter Conference

The MBI and UF departments of neuroscience and psychiatry co-sponsored the ninth annual North Central Florida Chapter of the Society for Neuroscience Conference.

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April 15: CARE Symposium

The 7th Annual CARE Symposium "Opioids and the Brain: Mechanisms and Impact" features Dr. Brigitte Kieffer (pictured) from McGill University, Dr. R. Kathryn McHugh from Harvard Medical School and Seminole County Sheriff Dennis Lemma, who was recently appointed as chair of the state attorney general's opioid panel.

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Facial pain conference draws experts, advocates to UF meeting

Patient advocates and top national experts in trigeminal neuralgia, a chronic
pain disorder that causes intense pain to the face, met at UF on March 7 and 8.

**Three of JAMA Neurology's top articles of 2018 authored by UF researchers**

JAMA Neurology's rankings were determined by a quantitative measure of the attention each scholarly article received in traditional and social media.

**New model to study Alzheimer’s, Parkinson’s may help pinpoint disease mechanisms**

A team led by Dr. Cara Croft has demonstrated a novel method to model Alzheimer’s disease and Parkinson’s disease pathologies and seek potential therapeutic targets.

**Neurosurgery chair Dr. Brian Hoh discusses stroke**

Following the death of actor Luke Perry, Dr. Brian Hoh discussed the signs, risk factors and prevalence of stroke, and his hope for future research and care.

**UF Health Florida Recovery Center expands**
Experts at the FRC collaborate with MBI researchers to develop the best multidisciplinary treatments for those battling substance use disorders.

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Harnessing immunoproteostasis to treat neurodegenerative disorders

In the journal Neuron, MBI Director Dr. Todd Golde discusses both the promise and the challenges of harnessing "immunoproteostasis" to treat Alzheimer's and other neurodegenerative disorders.

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Sports-related concussion position statement updated

Dr. Jay Clugston co-authored an updated position statement by the American Medical Society for Sports Medicine on concussion in sport, underscoring the need for accurate diagnosis, active management and further research.

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MBI researchers in the spotlight

Journalists regularly reach out to our MBI members for their expertise on many subjects. If a reporter contacts you, please alert assistant director of communications Todd Taylor, science writer Michelle Koidin Jaffee or UF Health media relations coordinator Rossana Passaniti so we can assist with, archive and promote your media endeavors. Here are recent examples of MBI researchers in the news:
• Dr. Steven DeKosky (The New York Times) — Supplements won’t prevent dementia
• Dr. Duane Mitchell (Orlando Sentinel) — Harris Rosen donates $12 million to brain cancer research
• Drs. Regina Bussing & Anthony Russell (Gainesville Sun) — UF Health Florida Recovery Center expands
• Dr. Michael Okun (WCJB TV20) — UF Health receives $20 million donation

SEE MORE EXAMPLES OF MBI RESEARCHERS IN THE SPOTLIGHT»

Get a free professional headshot

Any UF Health-affiliated faculty or staff member who needs a new or updated headshot can have one made with no appointment at the Creative Services Production Studio in the Communicore. Click here and scroll to the bottom of the page for more information and open studio times.

MBI news to share?

Contact assistant director of communications Todd Taylor or science writer Michelle Koidin Jaffee.

Friend on Facebook  Follow on Twitter