

THE BRAINSTORM

The McKnight Brain Institute of the University of Florida e-newsletter

Issue 26, Summer 2022

Message from the Director, Dr. Todd Golde

Dear Colleagues:

As many of you have heard, I will soon be leaving UF to begin the next chapter of my career as director of the Emory Center for Neurodegenerative Disease and a professor of pharmacology and chemical biology and neurology, beginning Aug. 1, 2022.

Over the past 12 years at UF, I've had the honor to serve as founding director of the CTRND, director of the 1Florida ADRC and, for the past five-plus years, executive director of the MBI. At UF, I have experienced amazing scientific and professional growth, and while I am truly excited about the new opportunity at Emory, it is still hard to envision leaving given my numerous scientific colleagues here, many of whom are close friends.

I wish to thank all members of the MBI community for the role you've played in our successes during this time. I'm so grateful to have had such incredible colleagues, administrative staff and institutional support. I think the neuroscience and neuromedicine research community has truly exemplified "The Power of Together" as well as any group on campus.

I owe a special debt of gratitude to the MBI administrative staff, Felecia Milton, Amy Clifton, Sabrina Sanchez and Pat Joy; UF leadership, including Drs. David Nelson and Stephen Sugrue; MBI Deputy Directors Drs. Steven DeKosky and Jada Lewis and Chief Science Officer for Neuroscience Research Dr. Kevin McNaught; and the MBI communications team of Todd Taylor, Michelle Jaffee and Jackie Hart. Lastly, a big shoutout to the faculty members who comprise the UF Health Neuroscience and Neuromedicine Research Executive Committee. This group embraced the concept of the MBI as a "transparent umbrella" for neuro research and an "institute without walls," and they were pivotal in ensuring that the neurosciences at UF were not just good but great.

I am confident that the MBI and neuroscience research at UF will continue to thrive, and I look forward to seeing what you all accomplish.

This isn't goodbye, as I'll be just up I-75, and, as always, only a Zoom away.

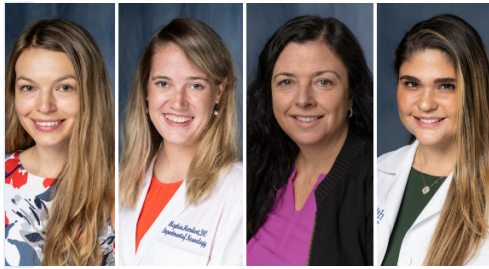
Cheers!



[Click here to read UF Health President Dr. David Nelson's message.](#)

Spotlight on Ukraine Aid Efforts

[UF neurologists raise more than \\$20,000 to help people in Ukraine](#)



Natives of Ukraine and Poland team up with colleagues to help victims of war.

[READ MORE »](#)

UF psychiatrists deliver antibiotics, surgical supplies to Ukrainian border

In just a weekend, two UF Health Jacksonville physicians brought much-needed supplies to a convent near Ukraine.

[READ MORE »](#)



Gator NeuroScholars
An enhanced postdoc fellowship at the University of Florida
Accelerating academic research careers in the neurosciences

If you're looking to gain valuable postdoc experience, apply today to become a Gator NeuroScholar!

Up to 4 successful applicants will receive:

- Highly competitive stipend (\$60-65K) up to 3 years
- Up to \$25K to collect preliminary data to support a K99/R00
- Additional funds to support travel and computing needs
- Mentorship opportunities across UF's McKnight Brain Institute

Deadline to apply: July 31, 2022

Gator NeuroScholar Enhanced Postdoctoral Fellowships

Up to four postdocs will be awarded a highly competitive stipend (\$60-65K) for up to three years, plus travel and computing support. Apply by July 31.

[READ MORE »](#)

UF to test novel CAR-modified T-cell technique in clinical trial for glioblastoma

First-in-human trial aimed at enhancing effectiveness of immunotherapy against brain tumors.

[READ MORE »](#)



UF researchers to study long-term impact of COVID-19 stressors

Under a \$1.1 million NIH grant, researchers will analyze the impact of COVID-19 stressors on alcohol use and long-term well-being in older adults.

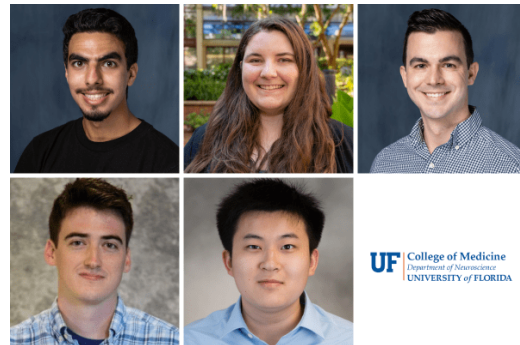
[READ MORE »](#)



UF neuroscience students lead creation of new mouse model for Alzheimer's research

A new mouse model expresses low levels of a mutant form of tau, a protein associated with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias.

[READ MORE »](#)



MBI Rising Stars: Grace Lloyd

Grace Lloyd is the latest investigator to be featured in the MBI Rising Stars video series.

[READ MORE »](#)

MBI Day in the Life: Dr. Nancy Padilla-Coreano

Experience a day in the life of Dr. Nancy Padilla-Coreano as she sets up her first laboratory at the MBI.

[READ MORE »](#)



UF Women of Neuro

We are highlighting the women leading our neuro research efforts at the University of Florida with our UF Women of Neuro series

- **Dr. Carol Mathews:** interim chair of the Department of Psychiatry
- **Dr Catherine Price:** director of the Perioperative Cognitive Anesthesia Network
- **Dr. Sara Jo Nixon:** director of the Center for Addiction Research & Education



MBI deputy director surpasses 100K citations

Dr. Steven DeKosky has been cited over 100K times, per Google Scholar.

[READ MORE »](#)

UF neuroscientist honored with Dr. Mavis Agbandje-McKenna Award

Dr. Sara Burke received the inaugural Dr. Mavis Agbandje-McKenna Distinguished Research Mentoring Award.

[READ MORE »](#)



UF brain tumor expert receives Clinical Science Research Award

Dr. Duane Mitchell earned a UF College of Medicine award given to a researcher whose work has an impact on patient care.

[READ MORE »](#)

UF psychiatrist earns Lifetime Achievement Award

Dr. Regina Bussing was honored with 2022 UF College of Medicine Lifetime Achievement Award.

[READ MORE »](#)



UF neuroscientist receives leadership award

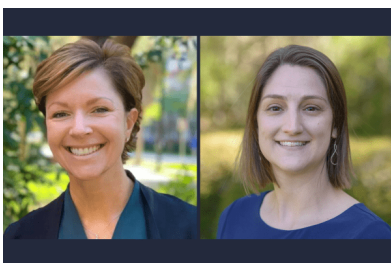
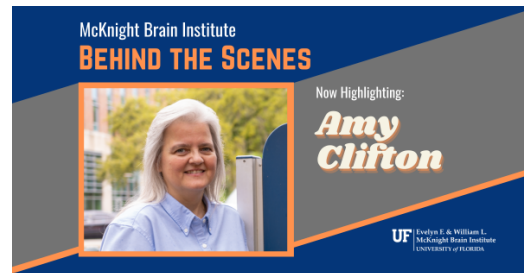
Dr. Aysegul Gunduz named to inaugural class of Gator Nation Leadership Award winners.

[READ MORE »](#)

Behind the Scenes: Amy Clifton

It takes a village to keep the MBI research community running smoothly. We're highlighting some of the key staff members driving our efforts.

[READ MORE »](#)



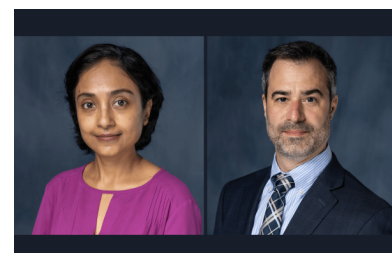
UF researchers test combination of stimulation, rehab for spinal cord injury

A noninvasive form of electrical stimulation combined with intensive walking rehab was found to be safe and feasible in small study for incomplete spinal cord injury.

[READ MORE »](#)

UF neuroscientists awarded grants to advance Lewy body dementia research

The Harry T. Mangurian Jr. Foundation supported grants for two Lewy body dementia pilot studies.



[READ MORE »](#)



V Foundation-UF Health team up to fight pediatric cancer

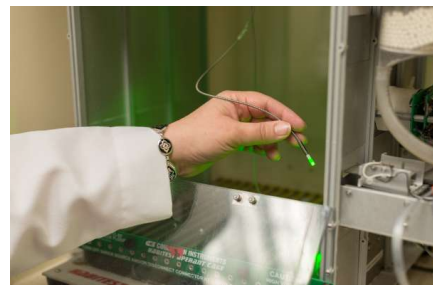
Dr. Duane Mitchell and his team received funding to bolster clinical research programs advancing novel immunotherapy treatments.

[READ MORE »](#)

Optogenetics shown to elicit activity in paralyzed diaphragm in mice

Optogenetic light pulses elicited activity in a paralyzed diaphragm in preclinical mouse-model study.

[READ MORE »](#)



Identifying the specific brain network to suppress MS tremor via DBS

UF neurologists identified a distinct collection of brain fibers to target with deep brain stimulation for tremor suppression in multiple sclerosis.

[READ MORE »](#)

Spaced physical therapy may support maintaining physical function in Parkinson's disease

UF study provides evidence that spacing physical therapy sessions over time for people with Parkinson's disease may lead to a more stable, longer-term outcome.

[READ MORE »](#)





Brain cancer experts unite for 2022 ReMission Summit

ReMission Alliance members met in Orlando for 4th Annual ReMission Summit.

[READ MORE »](#)

SENDCon 2022: Registration and abstract submission now open

Registration (in-person or virtual) and abstract submission is now open for the Southeastern Neurodegenerative Disease Conference, Sept. 28-30 in Bonita Springs, Florida.

[READ MORE »](#)

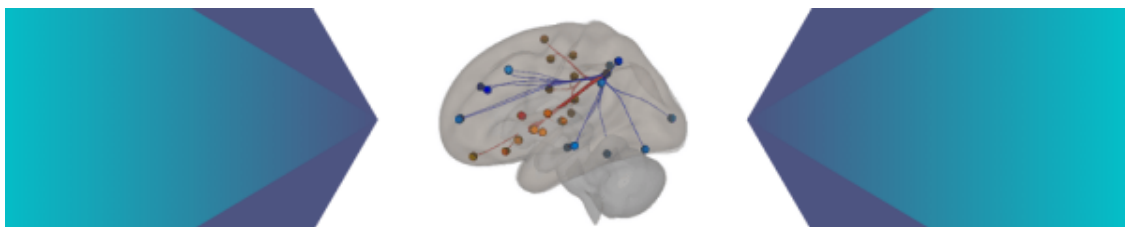


MBI researchers in the spotlight

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](#) or science writer [Michelle Koidin Jaffee](#) so we can assist with, archive and promote your media endeavors. Here are recent examples of MBI researchers in the news:

- **Dr. Marcia Morris (Psychology Today)** — [Medical mimics of depressive disorders in college students](#)
- **Dr. Brandon Lucke-Wold (CBC Radio)** — [Against the Odds: Recovering from a traumatic brain injury](#)
- **Drs. Ben Chapin, Valerie Joers & Lakiesha Williams (WCJB TV20)** — [UF researchers receive funding from Alzheimer's Association](#)
- **Dr. Michael Jaffee (BuzzFeed News)** — [Music can improve your sleep, and there are therapists who can guide you](#)

[SEE MORE EXAMPLES OF MBI RESEARCHERS IN THE SPOTLIGHT»](#)



Highlight your work with MBI's Research Snapshots

Showcase your discovery by pairing an impactful image from your latest published research with a written description of your findings. Share with our MBI communications team and work together to convey how this research has influenced your field of study.

Drs. David Fuller & Sara Turner reported that hyperbaric oxygen therapy initiated shortly after a spinal cord injury aided in improving recovery in rat-model study. [Read the Snapshot »](#)

Drs. Changlin Yang & Loic Deleyrolle provide new insight into the makeup of glioblastoma cells and potential targets for interventions. [Read the Snapshot »](#)

Dr. Erica Dale & Ian Malone's rat-model study found that applying a form of electrical stimulation below a spinal cord injury and in sync with natural breathing rhythm elicited respiratory neuroplasticity. [Read the Snapshot »](#)

[READ MORE SNAPSHOTS AND SUBMIT YOUR OWN »](#)



Reminders from the Communications Team

Please [become an MBI member](#) (if you haven't already), make sure you have [a professional headshot](#), update your [UF Health Directory profile](#) and let our [communications team](#) know early and often when you have big news or research coming out of your area. All of these efforts will help us shine an even brighter light on neuro research at UF.



Important Reminder from UF Health IT

UF faculty and staff at UF Health who use GatorMail/Microsoft Office 365 can prepare now for the July 1 shift to UF's standard three-year email retention policy.

Starting July 1, emails will be retained for three years from the date of creation or receipt. On that day, emails older than three years will be deleted from your "Inbox" and "Sent Items" folders unless they have been moved to an appropriate location. You can save selected emails longer by preparing and moving them to folders you create. This is important for emails that HIPAA requires you to archive longer.

For details and instructions, visit:

- [UF email retention policy](#)
- [UF email retention FAQ](#)
- [UF email service](#)
- How to [Retain Your Email](#) (create folders)





MAKE A GIFT



THE
BRAINSTORM

UF Evelyn F. & William L.
McKnight Brain Institute
UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA