January 22, 2010

Happy New Year, 2010, and welcome back! In spite of the slowing of the US economy, the DPRG group remains strong and a very important contributor to the University of Colorado Denver School of Medicine activities. At the annual meeting we voted to reduce the number of small grants as well as amount awarded and to supplement the postdoctoral training program as needed for potential insurance needs as they arise. This decision was unanimously approved by the Executive Committee. We see this as a temporary measure until the economy turns around, the national health plan is resolved, and the NIH reassesses its role in helping cover the insurance needs of the fellows. Lots of ifs but I see the cup as ½ full due to the strong management of the endowment through this downturn.

The DPRG affiliated NIH postdoctoral training program is due for submission of its competing renewal early this spring. Randy Ross will be working hard to ensure the contained success of this program entering its 33rd year. The fellows are important contributors to the biweekly meetings as well as the glue tying many research groups together.

The DPRG biennial retreat is this spring as well. Marianne Wamboldt and her committee have organized the program around “The Effects of Perinatal Stress on Child Outcomes: Directions for Future Prevention and Intervention.” It will be held May 3 - 4, in nearby Golden Colorado. Registration materials have been sent out. Please register early as the space is somewhat limited. The speakers include Michael Meaney (McGill University), Tom O’Connor (University of Rochester), and Zachary Stowe (Emory University). Their titles and reading materials will be available on the DPRG website after the first of the year. The format of the retreat will differ this year in an attempt to meet the demands of everyone’s busy schedules.

I want to thank Marianne Wamboldt again for ensuring that we have a fixed place to meet for our seminars. I also want to thank Africa Armendariz, Crystal Natvig, and Melissa Sinclair for their hard work in keeping the DPRG meetings on track. Africa will be leaving this year to pursue her nursing education and we wish her the best. Maribel Perea will be taking over in the “back of the room” beginning this winter. We are pleased to have her assistance.

Mark L. Laudenslager, PhD
Executive Director
All seminars are held on Tuesdays from 10:00-11:45 am at The Children's Hospital, Gary Pavilion North, Denver Room.

January 12
Kristen Holm, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, UCD
Social and Psychological Factors in Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease

January 26
Susan Hepburn, Ph.D., Clinical Psychologist, JFK Partners, Director of Research, Assistant Professor, Department of Psychiatry, UCD
Investigating Comorbidity: Down Syndrome and Autism

February 9
Brian Stafford, M.D., MPH., Assistant Professor, Medical Director, Department of Psychiatry, Child Psychiatry & Behavioral Sciences, UCD
TBA

February 23
Camille Hoffman, M.D., Obstetrics & Gynecology, Instructor, Postdoctoral Fellow, UCD
Perinatal Stress, a Stressed Placenta(?), and Pregnancy Outcomes

March 9
Iris Mauss, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Department of Psychology, DU
Emotion Regulation Ability and Resilience in the Face of Stress

March 23
Ken Maclean, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, Department of Pediatrics, UCD
Biochemical and Epigenetic Pathogenic Mechanisms in Homocystinuria: From Microarrays to Novel Treatments

April 13
Heather Taussig, Ph.D., Associate Professor, UCD, Program Director, Kempe Center
Fostering Healthy Futures: A Program of Research with Maltreated Children in Foster Care

April 27
Alberto Acosta, M.D., Ph.D., Associate Professor of Medicine and Neuroscience, Div. of Clinical Pharmacology and Toxicology, UCD
A Potential Pharmacotherapy for the Cognitive Deficits Associated to Down Syndrome Based on Translational Evidence for NMDA Receptor Dysfunction

May 3rd & 4th
16th Biennial Retreat
The Effects of Perinatal Stress on Child Outcomes: Directions for Future Prevention and Intervention
AFFILIATED SEMINARS

Affect Seminar
January-June, 2nd & 4th Tuesdays of the month 1:00-2:30pm, Ben Nighthorse Campbell Building, Room 304/305. BNC: Bob Emde

Developmental Disabilities Research Group
2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month 8:30-9:45, Education S. Building, JFK Partners Clinic meeting room 5300. If you wish to be added to the email list please send email to dina.johnson@ucdenver.edu: Susan Hepburn

Perinatal Vulnerability to Psychosis Research Group
4th Tuesday of the month 8:15-9:45 (9:00-10:30 May –August), Ben Nighthorse Campbell Building, Room 202: Randy Ross

Child Grand Rounds
Please visit the DPRG website for an updated schedule.

If you are interested in joining any of these groups, contact the leader. If there is an area not covered that you think there would be interest in, contact the DPRG office.

NIH MEDICAL STUDENT TRAINING PROGRAM
AWARDED TO RANDY ROSS

The University of Colorado medical students have a scholarly activity requirement, over the 4 years of medical school, a student must develop, complete, and present a scholarly project. In response to this opportunity, the DPRG postdoctoral faculty applied for and received NIH funding to support medical student research training. The DPRG medical student program coordinates with an already present Department of Psychiatry program to provide faculty mentors for students to complete their scholarly project. The Department of Psychiatry program is presented on the web at www.uchsc.edu/psychiatry, click on medical students, then click on Psychiatry Scholars. The website also includes the DPRG program. Any DPRG faculty that would like to be considered as a faculty mentor for medical student scholarly activities, please contact Randy Ross (Randy.ross@ucdenver.edu), Mark Laudenslager (Mark.laudenslager@ucdenver.edu), or Sharon Hunter (Sharon.hunter@ucdenver.edu).
UPCOMING MEETINGS OF INTEREST

**Society for Research in Child Development (SRCD)** The Society for Research in Adolescence 13th Biennial meeting will be held in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, March 11-13, 2010. It will focus on genetics and neurological research and will also include adolescents and the internet. For more information please visit the website, [http://www.srcd.org/](http://www.srcd.org/).

**The 5th International Conference on Brain Monitoring and Neuroprotection in the Newborn** scheduled for January 21-23, 2010 in Clearwater Beach, Florida focuses on new strategies and technology in the assessment of early brain function. It is intended to bring the most current research and application in clinical practice to a forum where the results can be translated for use by clinicians. For more information, please visit the website, [http://www.cme.hsc.usf.edu/brain10/](http://www.cme.hsc.usf.edu/brain10/).

**The 23rd Annual Gravens Conference on the Physical and Developmental Environment of the High Risk Infant**, scheduled for February 3-6, 2010 in Clearwater Beach, FL focuses on developmental care and the impact of the physical environment on premature and high risk babies. For more information, please visit the website, [http://www.cme.hsc.usf.edu/gravens10/](http://www.cme.hsc.usf.edu/gravens10/).

**17th Annual Psychoneuroimmunology Research Society Meeting** will be held at Trinity College Dublin, Ireland, June 2-5, 2010. Early registration by April 1st. For further information please visit [https://www.pnirs.org/meetings/index.cfm](https://www.pnirs.org/meetings/index.cfm)

POSTERS/PAPERS/BOOKS PUBLISHED


ANNOUNCEMENTS

2010 Biennial Retreat

Coming in May, 2010 – The 16th Developmental Psychobiology Research Group Retreat, "The Effects of Perinatal Stress on Child Outcomes: Directions for Future Prevention and Intervention," to be held May 3 & 4, 2010. We have three exciting speakers: For Basic Science, Michael Meaney; for “Bench to Bedside,” Dr. Zachary Stowe; and for “Bedside to Community,” Dr. Thomas O’Conner. This year, in response to requests from a number of DPRG members, we will be holding the retreat closer to town, in Golden, CO, and shortening it to a two day event. Each speaker will have their traditional 90 minutes for a talk, and each talk will be followed by five 10 minute “Data blitz” presentations by DPRG members or postdocs. We have three excellent discussants to discuss the speaker’s work as well as work and ideas presented in the data blitz at each level: Dr. Diego Restrepo will discuss Basic Science; Dr. Robert Freedman will discuss “Bench to Bedside”, and Dr. Robert Emde will discuss “Bedside to Community.” We hope all will plan to attend, as well as to submit abstracts for the data blitz presentations. Abstracts are due by February 15, 2010. Attendees will be accepted on a first come first serve basis. For further registration information please go to: http://www.uchsc.edu/dprg/

Marianne Z. Wamboldt

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Postdoc Training Program

Members of DPRG - if you are giving a talk and want to inform the audience that we have training programs available, there is a PowerPoint slide offered that you can include at the end of your presentation. If you have any further questions you can email Linda Greco-Sanders.
DPRG NEWSLETTER UPDATE FORM

In order to keep information in our newsletter and our records current, it is important to hear of the activities of our DPRG community members. To make that task easier, please use this form (attach additional sheets if necessary). We will include this information in an upcoming issue of the Newsletter.

Name:                                    Phone #(s):

Title/Affiliation:

Address:

E-mail:

1. Since the last issue of the newsletter was published, have you:

   a. Presented posters/papers at any meetings, conferences, etc.? (Please give date, location, name of conference, presentation title.)

   b. Published any papers? (NOTE: Please list full citation. "In press" citations will not be printed in the Newsletter. Please include ONLY published material.)

   c. Attended any conferences of interest to DPRG members? (Please give date, location, and name of meeting.)

   d. Received any awards, honors, recognition for your work? (Please give title of award, awarding agency and date that the award was given.)

2. Have you received funding for any research? (Please list sources, amount, dates and title of project.)

3. Do you know of any upcoming meetings that would be of interest to DPRG members and should be listed in the Newsletter? (Please provide name, date, locations, and who to contact.)

Return form to: dprg@ucdenver.edu
THANKS!