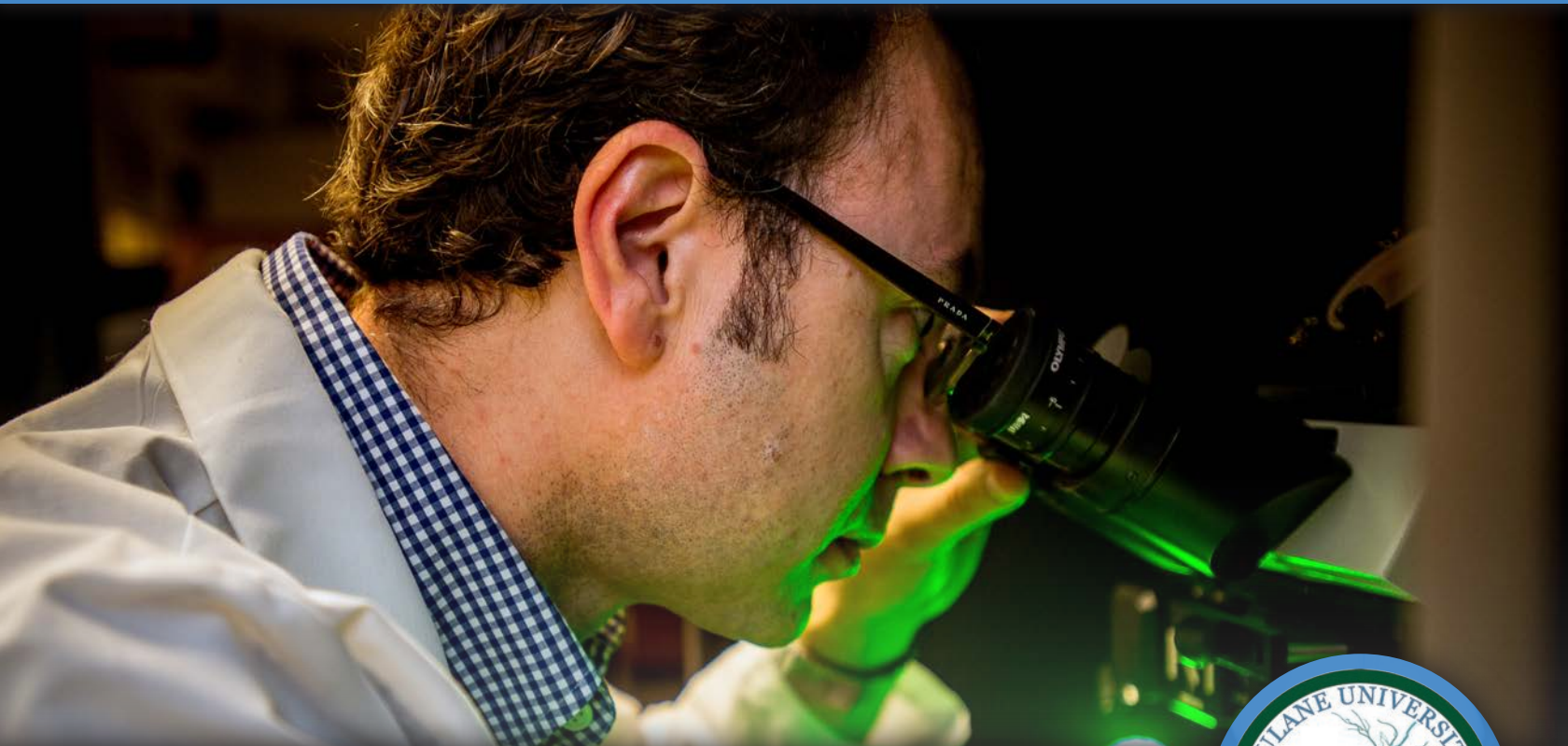


Tulane BRAIN INSTITUTE

September 2018 Newsletter



RESEARCH | EDUCATION | OUTREACH





Dr. Jill Daniel
Photo Paula Burch-Celentano

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Greetings!

It is hard to believe that it has been two years since we launched the Tulane Brain Institute in October of 2016. In these pages, we are delighted to share with you highlights of our second year.

Much has happened this past year as our administration, faculty, staff, students, and supporters worked together to grow neuroscience at Tulane. We celebrated the opening of beautiful new research and administrative facilities in Flower Hall on the uptown campus. The Tulane Brain Institute was awarded its first major grant – a \$1 million award from the Louisiana Board of Regents to enhance core facilities on both the uptown and downtown campuses. The Priddy Family Foundation pledged \$1 million to the Brain Institute to establish the Priddy Family Spark Research Endowed Fund that will support early-stage research of our faculty. Other generous gifts to the Brain Institute have endowed funds to provide targeted research support for our faculty and students as well as for community engagement activities that support patients and families impacted by brain injury and disease. The Brain Institute was featured prominently at Tulane's "Only the Audacious" campaign launch events in New Orleans and throughout the country as part of the showcase of the pioneering research and transformative teaching taking place at Tulane. Our researchers are making important new discoveries as we work together to understand the brain and develop new treatments for brain disorders. In May, we came together to celebrate and applaud the amazing accomplishments of the 2018 graduates of the Tulane Brain Institute's Neuroscience Program.

I invite you to take a few minutes to read about these and other highlights of the past year. If you would like to learn more, please get in touch (jmdaniel@tulane.edu). I would love to share with you in detail all of the exciting work that is ongoing at the Brain Institute. Also, to keep abreast of the latest news throughout the year, please check out our website (brain.tulane.edu) and follow us on Facebook.

We look forward to continued success and growth of the Tulane Brain Institute in the new academic year!

Jill M. Daniel

Jill M. Daniel, PhD
Gary P. Dohanich Professor in Brain Science
Professor, Department of Psychology
Director, Tulane Brain Institute

ANNUAL TULANE BRAIN INSTITUTE RETREAT

Brain Institute faculty and Neuroscience Program doctoral students gather for a picture at the 2018 Annual Tulane Brain Institute Retreat held in February at the New Orleans Museum of Art.

For the past nineteen years, Tulane neuroscientists from across the University have come together for an annual retreat on a Saturday early in the spring semester to enjoy a day of camaraderie and science.



TULANE BRAIN INSTITUTE CELEBRATES THE OPENING OF NEW ADMINISTRATIVE AND RESEARCH FACILITIES

On March 16, 2018, the Tulane Neuroscience community came together for a celebratory reception to commemorate the opening of new Tulane Brain Institute facilities in Donna and Paul Flower Hall for Research and Innovation on the uptown campus.

The new facilities include the Marta and William Marko Memory and Cognition Research Cluster, named for Marta and Bill (E '81, E *83) Marko, whose generosity supported the infrastructure developments. This research cluster includes three faculty labs in which neuroscientists with different expertise, but a common research interest in understanding brain mechanisms that support memory and cognition, will work side-by-side in this new interdisciplinary space. Also included in the research cluster is the Brain Institute Cell and Tissue Imaging Core Lab, made possible through the generous support of Donna (P '98) and Paul (E *75, P '98) Flower. This new microscopy core is available for shared use by Brain Institute faculty from across the university.

New administrative facilities, from which Brain Institute research, education, and outreach activities are overseen, include office space for staff, the Director, and three faculty members as well as a conference and meeting room with beautiful views of the campus oaks.

Attendees at the reception included Tulane President Mike Fitts, Provost Robin Forman, Vice-President for Research Laura Levy, other members of the administration, faculty, staff, students, and supporters of the Tulane Brain Institute.



Top: Marta and Bill Marko check out one of the new faculty labs in the Marko Memory and Cognition Research Cluster.

Middle: Attendees at the reception celebrating the opening of new Brain Institute facilities gather for opening remarks.

Right: Donna and Paul Flower stand at the entrance of the Brain Institute Cell and Tissue Imaging Core Lab.

Photos Sabree Hill



NEW BRAIN INSTITUTE FACULTY JOIN THE MARTA AND WILLIAM MARKO MEMORY AND COGNITION RESEARCH CLUSTER

Great facilities help attract great faculty. Two talented neuroscientists recently recruited to Tulane have begun their research in brand new labs in the Marta and William Marko Memory and Cognition Research Cluster in Flower Hall.

Dr. Jonathan Fadok, Assistant Professor in the Department of Psychology, studies how neuronal circuits interact to control learning and adaptive behavior. A fundamental goal of his research is to discover the neurobiological mechanisms underlying emotional states, with the hope of identifying novel targets and strategies for therapeutic intervention designed to alleviate mental illness. Fadok came to Tulane following completion of postdoctoral training at the Friedrich Miescher Institute for Biomedical Research in Basel, Switzerland.

Dr. Maria Galazo, Assistant Professor in the Department of Cell and Molecular Biology, aims to understand the interplay between mechanisms acting at the genetic, cellular, and network levels that regulate neural circuit formation and emergence of cognitive functions. A major goal of the work is to understand how disruptions of these developmental mechanisms lead to neurological disorders. Galazo came to Tulane following completion of postdoctoral training at the Picower Institute for Learning and Memory at Massachusetts Institute of Technology and the Department of Stem Cell and Regenerative Biology at Harvard University.

We envision that the Marko Memory and Cognition Research Cluster will be the first of many Brain Institute interdisciplinary lab clusters built around research strengths of our faculty and located across the University.



Drs. Jonathan Fadok and Maria Galazo stand at the entrance of the Marko Memory and Cognition Research Cluster, location of their new research labs.



On behalf of the Priddy Family Foundation, Robert (left) and Kikie (right) Priddy have donated \$1 million to establish the Priddy Family Spark Research Endowed Fund. (Photo courtesy of the Priddy family).

TULANE BRAIN INSTITUTE RECEIVES \$1 MILLION PLEDGE FROM THE PRIDDY FAMILY FOUNDATION

By Roger Dunaway

Tulane University's Brain Institute has received a \$1 million pledge from the Priddy Family Foundation to endow and establish the Priddy Family Spark Research Endowed Fund. The fund will provide competitive awards to faculty for early-stage research support that advances the research priorities of the Brain Institute.

"We are very excited about our involvement with the Tulane Brain Institute and are honored to be a part of such a great undertaking," said Robert Priddy. "After years in venture capital, I know when I see a quality venture and investing in early-stage scientific research at Tulane will have tremendous returns for humanity in the future."

The criteria for awards from the Priddy Family Spark Research Endowed Fund will be based on the scientific merit of the project, the potential to elevate the

national visibility and reputation of the Tulane Brain Institute and the potential for future support from competitive national funding agencies.

"Robert Priddy is one of our most distinguished and loyal alumni. He and Kikie share a passion for encouraging academic excellence at all levels - from K-12 to graduate school and beyond," Tulane President Mike Fitts said. "This latest act of generosity from the Priddy Family Foundation will provide opportunities for Tulane students to join the efforts of Tulane Brain Institute researchers in exploring age-related dementias and other neurodegenerative diseases, stroke, posttraumatic stress, autism, schizophrenia and a host of other issues critical to understanding the brain and improving lives worldwide."

Robert Priddy spent 30-plus years in aviation, starting three airlines from scratch, all of which were successful operations and ultimately sold to larger airlines. He then spent several years in personal venture capital investing before co-founding Comvest Investment Partners, a private equity fund managing over \$3 billion in assets in both equity and debt funds. Since retiring, he manages his personal investments as Chairman of RMC Capital, LLC.

TULANE BRAIN INSTITUTE RECEIVES \$1 MILLION GRANT FROM LOUISIANA BOARD OF REGENTS

By Roger Dunaway

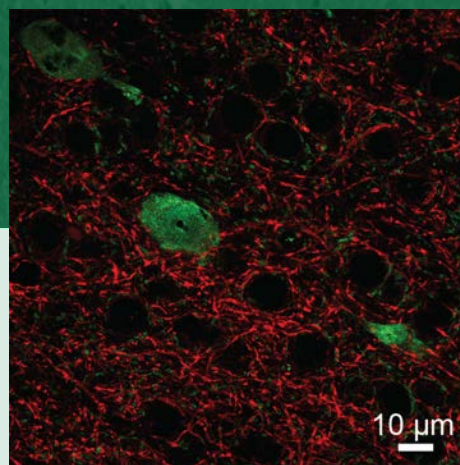
Tulane University's Brain Institute has received a 5-year, \$1 million Comprehensive Enhancement Grant from the Louisiana Board of Regents and will use the funds to purchase scientific instruments over the next five years for its shared facilities uptown and downtown.

The "Enhancement of Core Research Facilities in the Tulane Brain Institute" grant was the result of contributions from 25 faculty members from the Tulane Brain Institute's uptown and downtown campuses and the Primate Center who worked together on the proposal.

The grant will fund the purchase of one piece of significant research instrumentation in each of the next five years, resulting in sophisticated, state-of-the-art core neuroscience research facilities at the Tulane Brain Institute, which will be available for use by faculty and students from across the university.

The instrumentation will include two new state-of-the-art microscopy systems for the Tulane Brain Institute Cell and Tissue Imaging Core in Flower Hall on the uptown campus and a functional near-infrared spectroscopy optical brain imaging system for the Tulane Brain Institute's Human Research Core located downtown in the J. Bennet Johnston Building.

The two other items are a metabolic housing system for rodents, which is part of the development of a Tulane Brain Institute Rodent Metabolic Core on the downtown campus, and a multichannel electrophysiology in vivo and in vitro systems for the Tulane Brain Institute Electrophysiology Core located uptown.



Among the instrumentation to be purchased are powerful microscopes for the new Tulane Brain Institute Cell and Tissue Imaging Core including a high resolution confocal laser scanning microscope such as that used to acquire the above image of mouse cortex (inhibitory interneurons in green, projections to the cortex in red). Image courtesy of the L. Schrader lab.

GENEROUS GIFTS TO THE BRAIN INSTITUTE SUPPORT RESEARCH, EDUCATION, AND OUTREACH INITIATIVES

Over the past year, support for the Brain Institute continued to grow allowing for increased investment in faculty research, student education, and community outreach and engagement.

The Michael Cochran Memorial Community Engagement Endowed Fund in Neurodegenerative Disease, Neural Injury and Repair was established by Mathilda Cochran in memory of her husband, Michael D. Cochran, PhD, who graduated from Tulane in 1963 with a B.S. in geology. Income generated from the endowment will support community engagement activities at the Brain Institute including those such as the Tulane Stroke Survivor Support Group that link Tulane neuroscience students to patients and their care-givers affected by brain injury and disease.

The McQuillen Family Endowed Fund was established by Traci Peterson McQuillen and Michael G. McQuillen, proud parents of two neuroscience majors, in honor of Michael's mother whose experience with Alzheimer's disease inspired the family to support research that would ameliorate this and other neurological disorders. Income generated from the endowment will support research at the Brain Institute dedicated to the treatment and cure of brain disease.

Other gifts to the Brain Institute, including those by AS



The Michael Cochran Memorial Community Engagement Endowed Fund supports Brain Institute community engagement activities including the Tulane Stroke Survivor Support Group.

Mitchell Foundation, Susan LeFevre-Friedman and Ronald Friedman, Yvette and Kyle Guidry, Jennifer and Robert Kottler, and Carol and Bob Tessler provide support for core research facilities, the neuroscience student summer research program, the new Tulane Brain Institute Distinguished Lecture Series and other initiatives.

TULANE BRAIN INSTITUTE HOSTS SYMPOSIUM ON SCIENCE CAREERS IN THE NON-PROFIT SECTOR

In April, nearly 70 graduate students from Tulane University and LSU Health Sciences Center gathered in the J. Bennett Johnston Building on the downtown campus to learn about career prospects for science PhDs in the non-profit sector. The event included speaker presentations, a panel discussion, and an interactive social gathering.

Symposium speakers were Dr. Steven Kaminsky of the Rett Syndrome Foundation, Dr. Lauren Friedman of the Alzheimer's Drug Discovery Foundation, Dr. Steve Finkbeiner of the Gladstone Institutes, Dr. Erik Lontok of the Lipedema Foundation, and Paula Clifford of Americans for Medical Progress.

Graduate students Rachel Wise and Amy Feehan of the Tulane Brain Institute Neuroscience Program and Alifiani Hartono of the Tulane Biomedical Sciences Program organized the event. "Many PhD students are interested in careers outside of academia. Our hope was that this event could educate us about



Dr. Erik Lontok, Chief Science Officer at the Lipedema Foundation, shares information about his own career path with symposium attendees.

career options of which we may not be aware." says Wise.

Primary support for the event was provided by the Tulane Neuroscience Jean Yocum Harlan Memorial Fund, which was established by Dr. Richard Harlan, a former Director of the Neuroscience Program, to

support training initiatives for Tulane Neuroscience PhD students. Support was also provided by the Tulane Biomedical Sciences Program and its Student Association, Tulane Graduate and Professional Student Association, Tulane Graduate Studies Student Association, and LSU Health Sciences School of Graduate Studies.

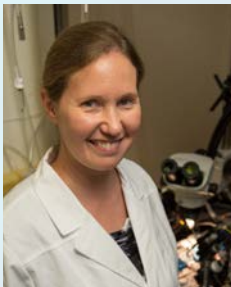
RESEARCH SPOTLIGHTS

Research at the Tulane Brain Institute is centered around four research themes built on identified strengths that are advanced by transdisciplinary teams made up of Brain Institute faculty, postdoctoral fellows, and students from across the University.

Themes are supported through investment in infrastructure and programmatic initiatives with the goal of developing physical and intellectual clusters of research excellence in the following four areas.

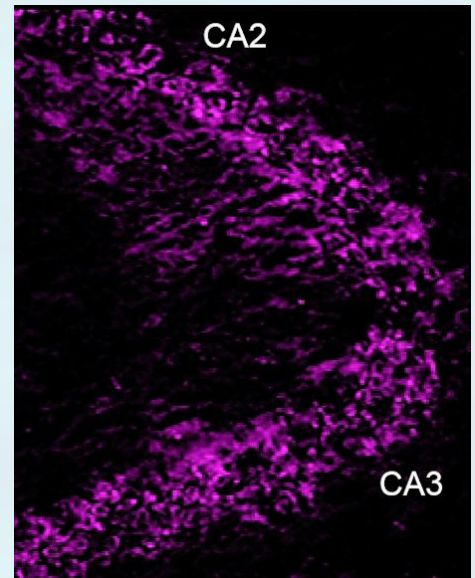
Research Spotlight in Memory and Cognition

What are molecular mechanisms involved in the onset of schizophrenia?



Schizophrenia is a complex and often debilitating brain disorder that can impact thoughts, cognition, affect, and behavior. The onset of schizophrenia typically occurs between 18 and 35 years of age. The molecular pathways responsible for this specific disease window are unknown. **Dr. Laurie R. Earls**, Assistant Professor of Cell and Molecular Biology in the School Of Science and Engineering studies molecular pathways that regulate brain function differentially with age and how these differences affect the age of onset for brain disorders.

Current work includes investigation of how certain genes and normal aging interact to result in schizophrenia-related neuronal dysfunction. The Earls lab studies the 22q11.2 deletion syndrome, the major genetic risk for schizophrenia. They have recently identified a novel, small gene in the 22q11.2DS region called *Pants* that contributes to normal, age-related memory decline. They are examining a potential role for *Pants* in the onset of schizophrenia. "In the past, the assumption has been made that the brain operates in the same manner at all stages of adulthood," says Earls. "We are challenging this assumption by searching for cognitive mechanisms that change throughout adulthood."



Expression of *Pants* in regions CA2 and CA3 of the adult hippocampus, a region of the brain important for learning and memory. Earls lab.

Research Spotlight in Hormone-Brain Interactions

How do early life experiences impact response to stressors later in life?



The early caregiving a child receives serves as a critical developmental regulator of both child behavior and biology. **Dr. Stacy Drury**, the Remigio Gonzales Professor of Child Psychiatry and Vice Chair of Research in Pediatrics in the School of Medicine and Associate Director of the Brain Institute, studies how parent-child relationships impact genetic and epigenetic factors to shape children's neurodevelopment and long-term health. Sensitive caregiving has been shown to impact children's stress response systems, guiding how

they respond to later stressors. Dr. Drury's clinical and translational research focuses on improving outcomes in at-risk children by providing an enhanced understanding of the interaction between early life experiences, the stress response systems, and neurodevelopment. "If we know that exposure to traumatic events negatively impacts the child and that children who develop a good primary relationship with their mom are positively affected, then we can find ways to counteract those negative events as they occur later in life," Drury says.



Researcher Kyle Esteves (right) from Dr. Stacy Drury's Behavioral & Neurodevelopmental Genetics Laboratory interviews a mother about her relationship with her infant.

NEURODEGENERATIVE DISEASE, NEURAL INJURY AND REPAIR

HORMONE-BRAIN INTERACTIONS

BRAIN-BODY HEALTH

MEMORY AND COGNITION

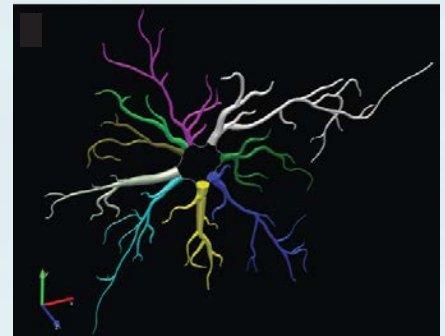
Research Spotlight in Neurodegenerative Disease, Neural Injury and Repair

What is the role of glia cells in neurodegenerative disease?



Glia are cells that hold the brain together, both physically and functionally. **Dr. Andrew MacLean**, Associate Professor of Microbiology & Immunology in the School of Medicine and based at the Tulane National Primate Research Center, is interested in the role of glia in neurodegeneration, particularly that which occurs in association with infectious disease. Some glia activation is necessary for normal brain function as well as in response to infection. However, MacLean's research has shown that oftentimes elevated glia activation that occurs in response

to infection is not turned off again when the infectious agent is cleared from the body, such as what occurs following infection with Dengue or Chikungunya viruses. He is currently investigating the impact for the brain of lasting infections such as HIV, during which glia may be overstimulated for years. The long-term goals of the research are to determine mechanisms of glia activation and to develop strategies to prevent or reverse activation that is detrimental. "As these cells are the glue holding brains together, we need to understand how they function to allow us to function properly," says MacLean.



Reconstruction of an astrocyte, a type of glia cell, from a rhesus monkey. Note the heavily branched processes that leave the central cell body. Each tip is capable of controlling a different neuron, making astrocytes the master regulators in the brain. MacLean Lab.

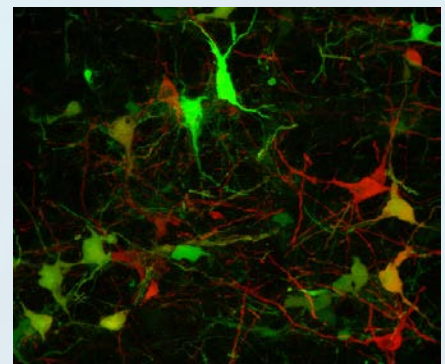
Research Spotlight in Brain-Body Health

Can we develop new treatments for hypertension by targeting the brain?



Hypertension — or high blood pressure — is a long-term, high-risk condition for millions of people worldwide. **Dr. Andrei Derbenev**, Associate Professor of Physiology in the School of Medicine aims to understand the essential relationship between the brain and blood pressure control in health and disease. The brain is directly involved in the regulation of blood pressure, largely through actions of neurons and neural circuits that control kidney function, heart and vasculature. Work in the Derbenev lab has identified neurons in a brainstem structure

called the medulla that are linked to the kidneys and involved in the control of blood pressure. His research team is currently studying how cannabinoids, both cannabis as well as endogenous cannabinoids produced naturally by the body, can act in the brain to impact blood pressure. "Our goal is to develop neurotherapeutic approaches to restore the function of the neural circuits that are dysfunctional in hypertension," says Derbenev.



Neurons labeled in the brainstem that are involved in regulation of kidney function. Derbenev lab.

MARKO SPARK FUND RECIPIENTS INVESTIGATE HOW DYSFUNCTIONAL TAU PROTEIN, A HALLMARK OF ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE, SPREADS IN THE BRAIN

The 2017-2018 Tulane Brain Institute Marko Spark Innovation Research Fund grant was awarded to Drs. Anne Robinson, Professor of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering, and Laura Schrader, Associate Professor of Cell and Molecular Biology, in support of their project "Mechanistic Determinants of Trans-synaptic Tau Transmission".

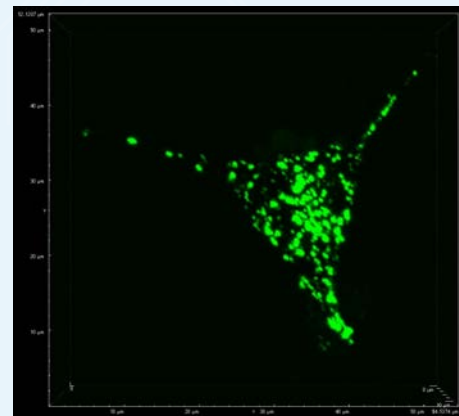
This new collaboration brings together the expertise of Robinson in protein biochemistry with that of Schrader in neuronal circuits and function to test novel hypotheses regarding how pathological tau is transmitted between brain regions.

Tau protein is found throughout healthy brains and helps provide structural support to neurons. Under pathological conditions tau loses its ability to support cell structure and accumulates to form toxic neurofibrillary tangles, a characteristic of Alzheimer's and other neurodegenerative diseases. Results

of recent studies indicate that dysfunctional tau can be taken up by cells and transferred across synapses in the brain, ultimately spreading from one brain area to another. Robinson and Schrader are investigating mechanisms by which this transmission occurs. They aim to provide a better understanding of the molecular and cellular processes that result in the brain pathologies associated with this devastating disease with the ultimate goal of developing preventative strategies and treatments.

Supported by pilot data collected as a result of the Marko Award, Robinson and Schrader recently submitted grant proposals to both the Alzheimer's Association and the National Institutes of Health with the hope of continuing their collaborative research.

The Marko Spark Innovation Research Fund was established in 2016



Robinson and Schrader show that green fluorescently-labeled tau protein added to the media of a neuronal cell model is taken up by the cells as early as 4-6 minutes following addition, as observed via confocal microscopy.

through the generous support of Marta and Bill Marko (E '81, E *83) to spark innovative cross-disciplinary research and support the creation of collaborative research teams at the new Tulane Brain Institute. An annual \$50,000 research award is to be made through 2020.

TULANE BRAIN INSTITUTE FEATURED IN ONLY THE AUDACIOUS CAMPAIGN EVENTS

In December, Tulane launched "Only the Audacious: The campaign for an ever bolder Tulane". The campaign is the most ambitious fundraising endeavor in university history, with a goal of raising \$1.3 billion. The Tulane Brain Institute, for which a fund raising goal of \$50 million has been set, is playing a big role in the campaign.

The Brain Institute was on the program at the Big Reveal event held on December 8, 2017, announcing the launch of the Only the Audacious campaign. Brain Institute faculty members discussed the pioneering research and transformative teaching in neuroscience occurring at Tulane today with Business Professor Peter Ricchiuti as he hosted a live episode of his radio show / podcast "Out to Lunch" on stage.

Tulane Brain Institute members are joining President Fitts for regional launch events of the campaign in cities throughout the country.



Faculty members Drs. Stacy Drury, Jim Zadina, and Jill Daniel discuss the Brain Institute with Business Professor Peter Ricchiuti at the Audacious Campaign Big Reveal event held at Tulane in December.

MEET THE CLASS OF 2018 SENIOR SCHOLARS IN NEUROSCIENCE

Tulane Senior Scholars are chosen by the faculty as the students with the highest scholarly achievement in their undergraduate majors. The Class of 2018 included three Senior Scholars in Neuroscience.

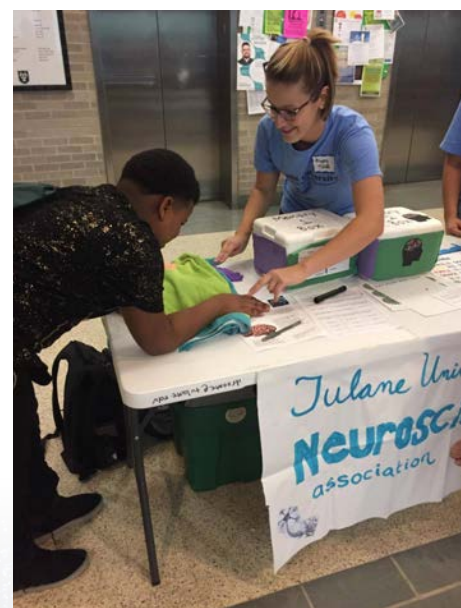
Sierra Lear, a double major in Neuroscience and Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering, graduated with an overall GPA of 4.0. She conducted her Senior Honors Thesis in the lab of Brain Institute and Department of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering faculty member, Dr. Anne Robinson, investigating the role of adenosine A2a receptor signaling in Alzheimer's' disease. Lear was awarded a National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship to support her graduate training in the PhD Program in Bioengineering offered jointly from UC Berkeley and UC San Francisco. "I expect great things from Sierra as her career progresses and have been so glad to have been a part of her experience at Tulane," says Robinson.

Joseph Ramsey, a double major in Neuroscience and Spanish, graduated with an overall GPA of 3.986. He conducted his Senior Honors Thesis in the lab of Brain Institute and Tulane National Primate Center faculty member, Dr. Andrew MacLean, investigating brain glia activation during fear responding. Ramsey received a National Institutes of Health (NIH) Postbaccalaureate Intramural Research Training Award, which provides recent graduates with an opportunity to conduct research at NIH. He is currently studying the neurocircuitry of addiction at the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism and eventually plans to pursue an MD/PhD joint degree. "Joseph is a great student, and will be an ambassador for Tulane for years to come," says MacLean.



Joseph Ramsey receives his honors cord as Senior Scholars are recognized at the Honors Senior Reception held in May.

Silas Buck, a Neuroscience major with a minor in Political Science, graduated in three and one-half years with an overall GPA of 3.909. He conducted his Senior Honors Thesis in the lab of Brain Institute and Department of Psychology faculty member, Dr. Paul Colombo, investigating biological mechanisms mediating the ability of musical training to alter stress reactivity and immune responses. Buck is continuing his research career as a PhD student at the Center for Neuroscience at the University of Pittsburgh. "Silas is highly intelligent, motivated and dedicated to scientific rigor", says Colombo. "I expect him to excel in both his graduate studies and as an independent investigator."



Members of the student-run Tulane University Neuroscience Association or TUNA participate in "Exploring Your Brain" workshops at the School of Science and Engineering GIST (Girls in STEM at Tulane) and BATS (Boys at Tulane in STEM) Programs held each year for fifth through seventh graders. TUNA celebrates all things neuroscience and sponsors a variety of scientific, social, and outreach activities throughout the year.

THE BRAIN INSTITUTE CONGRATULATES OUR 2018 GRADUATES

At the May Commencement, 135 students were awarded degrees in Neuroscience that included 106 Bachelor of Science, 25 Master of Science and four Doctor of Philosophy degrees.

The following Neuroscience graduates received Neuroscience Program Awards:

Silus Buck - Senior Scholar in Neuroscience

Sierra Lear - Senior Scholar in Neuroscience

Joseph Ramsey - Senior Scholar in Neuroscience

Matthew Coleman - Gerall Award in Behavioral Neuroscience

Caroline Bonaventure - Neuroscience Faculty Award

Mimi Chen - Neuroscience Faculty Award

Sheridan Goldstein - Neuroscience Faculty Award

The following Neuroscience graduates received University Awards:

Catherine Broussard - Cowen Scholar

Hanan Rimawi - Cowen Scholar

Mimi Chen - The Leaders in Service Award

Samuel Fallan - The Leaders in Service Award

Hanan Rimawi - The Leaders in Service Award

Emma Newton - Student-Athlete Award

Taylor Kimball - Newcomb-Tulane College Dean's Service Award

Hanan Rimawi - The Jim Runsdorf Excellence in Public Service Student Award

Sierra Lear - William Peery Society

Joseph Ramsey - William Peery Society

The following Neuroscience graduates received national awards:

Sierra Lear - National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellow

Hanan Rimawi - Fulbright U.S. Student Program Awardee

The following graduates received PhD degrees in Neuroscience:

Katelyn Black - currently a Professor of Practice in Neuroscience at Tulane

Jeremy Hartner - currently a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Michigan

Kevin Pollard - currently a postdoctoral fellow in Biomedical Engineering at Tulane

Diankun Yu - currently a postdoctoral fellow at Harvard University



Neuroscience graduates gather in the Lavin-Bernick Center prior to the May 19, 2018, School of Science and Engineering Undergraduate Diploma Ceremony held in Delvin Fieldhouse.

FACULTY ACCOLADES

Congratulations to the following Brain Institute faculty for their recent awards and recognitions.

Dr. Jill Daniel was awarded a \$1.8 million grant from NIH, “Short-term estradiol use in middle-age: Implications for female cognitive aging”. Daniel was also named the inaugural Gary P. Dohanich Professor in Brain Science.

Dr. Stacy Drury was selected to receive the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry’s 2018 Norbert and Charlotte Rieger Award for Outstanding Scientific Achievement that recognizes the most significant paper published in the Journal of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry within the last year.

Dr. Laurie Earls was awarded a \$194,124 grant from the Louisiana Board of Regents, “Molecular characterization of a novel, small peptide important for age-related neuronal dysfunction”.

Dr. Jonathan Fadok was awarded a \$157,639 grant from the Louisiana Board of Regents, “Neuronal mechanisms controlling the scalability of fear”.

Dr. Maria Galazo was awarded a \$70,000 NARSAD Young Investigator Grant from the Brain and Behavior Research Foundation, “The role of fronto-thalamic activity in regulation of sleep oscillations and memory consolidation”.

Dr. Hai Huang was awarded a \$1.8 million grant from NIH, “Synaptic mechanisms of auditory information processing”.

Dr. Jeffrey Lockman was awarded funding from the Lorentz Center in the Netherlands to hold an international week-long workshop, “Learning body models: Humans, brains, and robots”. Lockman was also awarded a Visiting Fellowship, Institute of Advanced Study at Toulouse, 2019.

Dr. Jeffrey Tasker was awarded a \$1.8 million grant from NIH, “Traumatic stress increases alcohol drinking via endocannabinoid disinhibition of basolateral amygdala” (Multi-Principal Investigator grant with Nick Gilpin of LSU Health Science Center).

Dr. James Zadina was awarded a \$650,000 Veterans Administration Merit Review Award, “A novel analgesic with reduced side effects and abuse liability relative to morphine, with potential for opioid dependence therapy”.

LOOKING FORWARD



Dr. Edvard Moser, Founding Director of the Kavli Institute for Systems Neuroscience, Norwegian University of Science and Technology.

Inaugural Tulane Brain Institute Distinguished Lecture to Feature Nobel Laureate, Dr. Edvard Moser

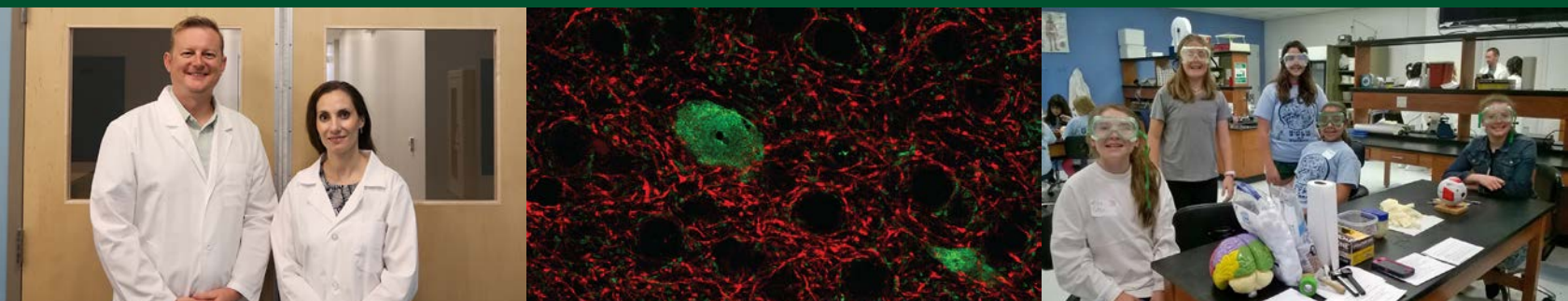
On January 23, 2019, the Tulane Brain Institute will open its new Distinguished Lecture Series with Dr. Edvard Moser, recipient of the 2014 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine for his role in the discovery of cells that constitute a positioning system in the brain.

The Tulane Brain Institute Distinguished Lecture Series was established with the goal of bringing internationally renowned scientists, including current and potentially future Nobel Laureates, to campus to interact with Tulane faculty and students and to provide a lecture on their work to the New Orleans Neuroscience community.



Tulane Brain Institute

Donna and Paul Flower Hall
Suite 200
6823 St. Charles Avenue
New Orleans, LA 70118



Giving to the Tulane Brain Institute

Our vision is to create a new era of discovery, learning, and public influence in brain sciences at Tulane as we advance the Tulane Brain Institute to national prominence. A gift to the Brain Institute can help us realize this vision.

To give online, please go to <http://giving.tulane.edu> and type in *Brain Institute* in the “other” box. For more information on giving opportunities or if you would like to target your gift to initiatives supporting faculty and their research, the training and education of our students, or community outreach and engagement, please contact **Nicole Graas** at **504.314.2900** or ngraas@tulane.edu. Thank you.