

Spring 2014

FIELD NEUROSCIENCES INSTITUTE

FIELD NOTES

Idol Sings for a Cure

American Idol Winner

Scotty McCreery to perform for
FNI's Field of Hope - Close to Cures

Friday, September 26, 2014

green: brain blood vessel
blue: neurons in hippocampus
red: astrocyte



Gary L. Dunbar, Ph.D.
FNI Executive Director



E. Malcolm Field, MD
FNI Medical Director

Making a Difference

When we look back on our lives, I think most of us will agree that the most meaningful moments have been the ones in which we know our efforts have made a difference, whether this might be through helping a friend or neighbor in some small way or making a major contribution to a cause that benefits many people. We hope that you and all our FNI friends will take a look at the profoundly positive impact your contributions have provided for hundreds and thousands of people in the Mid-Michigan area and beyond.

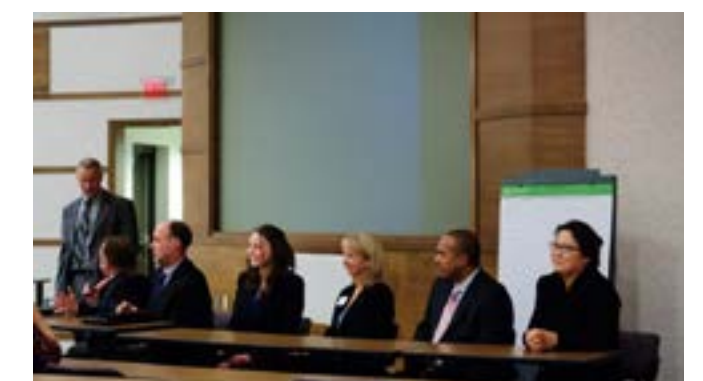
Our ThinkFirst, Buckle Your Brain, Caught Being Safe, Matter of Balance, and sundry other educational programs save lives by helping to prevent avoidable accidents and/or reduce injury severity by teaching others how to take proper precautions, such as wearing a helmet when bicycling, skateboarding, or snowboarding. Our support groups, such as those for people with spinal cord injury or multiple sclerosis have enriched the lives of many by providing helpful educational programs and much-needed social support networks. Our efforts in bringing the latest technologies to the neurosciences department at St. Marys of Michigan have helped to provide the life-saving tools, including the CyberKnife and Stealth Navigational System, allowing our gifted physicians to use them in their efforts to save countless lives.

Finally, our clinical and pre-clinical research programs have contributed to new life-saving treatments, as well as providing educational opportunities to the next generation of neuroscientists, neurosurgeons, and health care providers. As we look back on the accomplishments of the past year and beyond, we can take a great deal of collective pride in how FNI has made a huge difference, not only in the lives of those who are struggling with major neurological disorders, but also in enriching our own lives by giving us a deep sense of satisfaction that we have been able to make a difference. The members of the FNI Board and Staff want to thank all of you for your generous donations of time, talent, and/or treasure in the efforts of helping others, and by doing so, we hope that you feel that your assistance to FNI and those in need has translated into one of those meaningful moments when you realize that your efforts are making a difference.

You are Cordially Invited to Attend
 A Special Grand Rounds/Presentation:
Stroke
 Featuring Presentations by E. Malcolm Field, MD and Gary L. Dunbar, PhD
 followed by a panel discussion and question and answer session

Thursday, June 26, 2014
 6:00-8:30 pm (dinner provided)
 St. Mary's of Michigan Masud Hall

RSVP Required: 989-497-3117 or mgonzalez@stmarysofmichigan.org



Photos from the January 2013 Alzheimer's Special Grand Rounds

Martha Ann Joseph
Chair FNI Board of Directors

We're on cloud nine! Scotty McCreery, 2011 *American Idol* winner, will be Field Neurosciences Institute's featured artist for our "Field of Hope, Close to Cures" fundraiser to be held at the Temple Theatre on September 26, 2014. I remember Scotty appearing on *American Idol* and cheering for him all the way and now I'm so excited he will perform for FNI at our Close to Cures concert. Our dedicated researchers are getting so close to cures! Please buy your sponsorships early as we're most hopeful for a sell-out!



Another exciting development is the launching of FNI's new prevention program, a Matter of Balance. Several sessions already are scheduled at Center Courts in May and June, so call FNI to learn more about the program. Sessions require no charge but reservations are necessary. I plan to attend to improve my balance, flexibility and strength. If this program suits you or a friend or family member, please join me for safer walking, bike riding and living life to the fullest.

Field Neurosciences Institute relies on you, our loyal supporters, to further our Mission of prevention, early diagnosis, care and cure of neurological diseases, disorders and injuries. We are so blessed to have so many give of their time, talent and resources for FNI. Hundreds volunteer to help with our fundraiser. Scores more help with our education and prevention programs and so many others volunteer time and expertise as board members or special committee members. Others serve as E. Malcolm Field Society members and we are so appreciative of all our donors. All of these wonderful men and women embrace our mission and passionately work for a better world neurologically. It is estimated that one out of three persons will suffer a neurological disease, disorder or injury in their lifetime. We all know and see of such suffering in our families and friends, so time is of the essence! We thank you for your remarkable generosity. You are the backbone of FNI!

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11th Annual James E. O'Neill Memorial Lecture to feature Graham Farmelo

October 23, 2014, 7:00 pm - Saginaw Valley State University, Malcolm Field Theatre



Graham Farmelo is an award-winning science writer and biographer, specializing in physics and physicists. Formerly an academic, museum professional and undercover restaurant critic, he is now a writer, speaker and consultant in science communication, especially in Europe and North America. Usually based in London, he is a Bye-Fellow at Churchill College, Cambridge and is a regular visitor at the Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton. He is a keen consumer of books, theatre, exhibitions, music and film. (grahamfarmelo.com)

Dr. Farmelo will discuss his books, *Churchill's Bomb* and *The Strangest Man*, about the quantum physics genius, Paul Dirac.

The James E. O'Neill Memorial lecture series was established in 2003 to honor the late Saginaw educator, legislator and community servant. Co-sponsored by SVSU and the Field Neurosciences Institute, the series is intended to dynamically reflect O'Neill's passion for excellence in government, education and the neurosciences, and to provide opportunities for people to learn about public service from individuals who have unselfishly contributed to the betterment of the human condition.

Caring for the Patient with Multiple Sclerosis

October 18, 2014

Horizons Conference Center
6200 State Street
Saginaw, MI 48603
989-799-4122

Chairperson: Heather Clark 989-497-3023 or hclark@stmarysofmichigan.org

Registration begins at 8 am; Program begins at 8:30 am; Program concludes approximately 4:30 pm.

- Nature of MS: Epidemiology, Diagnosis, Natural History, Clinical Course
- Disease Management: Acute Relapses and Disease Course
- Trends in Research, Emerging MS Therapies and Role of the MS Nurse
- Comprehensive Symptom Management with Case Studies
- Case Studies Incorporating Concepts of Chronic Illness Management

REGISTRATION IS FREE!

However, you will be asked to provide credit card information in order to guarantee your spot. Credit Card will be charged a one-time \$25 fee only if you do not attend and do not cancel your registration at least 96 hours or 4 days in advance.

Pre-registration is required. No on-site registration.

This Educational Design Activity is co-provided by the International Organization of MS Nurses (IOMSN) and Nurse Practitioner Alternatives (NPA).

Awarded 6.5 contact hour (s) of continuing nursing education; 4.0 of these credits are in the area of pharmacology.



Field of Hope - Close to Cures Friday, September 26, 2014

This year's highly anticipated fundraising event will feature Scotty McCreery, *American Idol* winner of the 10th season in 2011 and platinum recording country artist. McCreery will perform songs from his third album, *See You Tonight*, released in October of 2013.

The proceeds from the 2014 event will be used to purchase an in vivo imaging system, which will enable researchers to explore the cellular basis of disease and determine the response to drug therapies in living creatures.

New this year

Due to the popularity of this performer, the Temple Theatre is partnering with FNI with expectations of selling out the show to provide maximum proceeds. Tickets for the show, at non-sponsorship levels, will go on sale Friday, August 15th. It is highly recommended to commit to sponsorships prior to this date to receive preferred seating.

Please contact FNI today to make your reservations for this exciting event!

Sponsorship levels include special recognition at the event and the following amount of tickets: (available tickets only guaranteed until August 15th)

\$15,000	20 tickets
\$10,000	18 tickets
\$7,500	16 tickets
\$5,000	14 tickets
\$2,500	12 tickets
\$1,500	10 tickets
\$600	4 tickets
\$300	2 tickets
\$125	1 ticket

Born on October 9, 1993, Scotty McCreery grew up in Garner, North Carolina. Scotty has always had a talent for singing, appearing around the state in numerous events and winning a number of local singing contests while in high-school.

In 2011, Scotty successfully auditioned for *American Idol*. He sang his way through almost eighteen weeks of contests and on the contest's finale in March of 2011, Scotty was crowned the show's tenth winner.

In the months following his *American Idol* appearances, Scotty's rendition of "I Love You This Big" became the highest debut single the Billboard chart has ever recorded as it sold more than 170,000 units in its first week alone in stores nationwide. By August of the same year, his winning song would become certified gold.

Within two years, Scotty McCreery became one of country's hottest new stars, with album sales topping 1.6 million. During this whirlwind career explosion, he performed for President Obama, sang the national anthem at the World Series, performed in the Macy's Day Parade and put on shows from coast to coast.

Scotty is now a part-time student at North Carolina State University and is focused on the success of his career and his grades.



Show-only tickets

Sold now through August 14th for sponsors and to the general public starting on August 15th

Premiere \$85
Main Floor \$70
Second Balcony \$55
Third Balcony \$45

Call FNI at 989-497-3117



Aaron Antcliff I grew up on a farm near West Branch and was very close to my Grandfather, who suffered with, and recently died from, Parkinson's disease. This was my primary motivation for my life-altering decision to study neuroscience. I can remember taking my first neuroscience course at CMU, and knowing somehow that I was entering a world that I very much wanted to be a part of. The subject was cutting-edge brain research, and my instructor was passionate about each and every aspect that was taught. My professors impressed upon me that anyone, if they were willing to work hard at it, could take part in a quest to ease the suffering, and make a positive difference in their lives through scientific research. I was hooked. Since then, I have been involved with the FNI lab at CMU and have experienced a monumental change in my life. I have taken part in some very exciting research projects, and am continuing to receive world-class education with Drs. Gary Dunbar and Julien Rossignol at the

FNI lab. The FNI Fellowship that I received will allow me to embark on an exciting study in which I will induce ordinary bone-derived stem cells to over-express an important protein that will assist in carrying those stem cells across the blood-brain barrier. These cells will then, hopefully, localize in damaged areas of the brain release other proteins that will assist in the recovery of brain functioning. If it wasn't for the FNI lab, and the FNI Fellowship I have received, I doubt that I would living out my dream to help others through developing new therapeutic approaches to brain diseases. I am immensely proud and honored to receive this first-ever fellowship award from FNI, and I look forward to the continuing education and research experience at this truly first-class and one-of-a-kind laboratory. We truly are at the forefront of research here, and I'm honored to a part of it. Thank you FNI !!!



Tia Hall It is truly an honor to be considered a part of the FNI research family. I can't fully express my gratitude to Dr. Field and the FNI Board members for awarding me the FNI fellowship. Research has become a strong passion of mine; initially sparked by my experience as a nurse aid in the health care field. Working in the medical field opened my eyes to the devastating impact on so many of the families and patients affected by neurodegenerative diseases and disorders, including traumatic brain injury, multiple sclerosis, Huntington's, Parkinson's, and Alzheimer's disease. My desire to help others, to improve the quality of life for people and give them hope, is the prime motivation for my drive to do research. The FNI Fellowship has given me the opportunity to continue looking for potential therapeutic treatments for Alzheimer's disease (AD). The research that I will be conducting centers around observing the therapeutic efficacy of adult-derived stem cells and genetically modified stem

cells in altering some of the neuropathological and behavioral symptoms associated with AD. Specifically, these funds will help me look for ways in which we can prevent the misfolding of proteins that lead to the plaques observed in AD. With the ultimate goal of better understanding this devastating neurodegenerative disease and developing new treatments to counteract it, I strive daily to grow as a neuroscientist and as a person. Once again, I cannot thank FNI for their generous contributions and continual support. Together, we will help find effective treatments or cures for AD.



Cameron Learman It was many years ago that my love for the elderly, especially those living with dementia, ignited. As an activist for those with dementia and their families, I consciously made a decision to make a difference. Volunteering at an adult day care center, instructing exercise programs to those with dementia, and providing direct patient care as a certified nursing assistant within a nursing facility, paved the way. Knowing the risk factors, understanding the myths, the steps to diagnosis, and treatment options is vital in providing education and support to those in need. This is what motivated me to join the FNI labs at Saginaw and at CMU, so that I could conduct research to further our understanding of, and to search for effective treatments for, Alzheimer's disease (AD). My specific research interests came when, while working as a nursing assistant, I became increasingly aware that diabetes was prevalent amongst my AD residents. To further explore this link, I will use the FNI fellowship to study how diabetes, specifically Type II Diabetes Mellitus, is involved with AD, and to evaluate the efficacy of using genetically altered adult stem cells to treat this complicated and

devastating disorder. My dream to make a significant and positive impact on the lives of the elderly through research into the causes of, and treatments for, AD would not have been possible without the generous support of FNI. I would like to extend a heart-felt thank you to Dr. Field and the FNI Board members for awarding me an FNI fellowship. You not only have given me the opportunity to further my education, but you are allowing me to do my part in turning helplessness into hopefulness for those with AD and for their families.

Jacob Dunkerson In 2011 I was accepted into the Masters of Science in Occupational Therapy (MSOT) program at Saginaw Valley State University (SVSU) with an interest in helping patients suffering from the consequences of neurological injury. At about the same time I began working with Dr. Smith in the Brain Research Laboratory (BRL) at SVSU. As I progressed through the MSOT program I found myself frustrated by the lack of options to help those suffering from brain injury, while at the same time learning more and more about how I could perform research to develop therapies that are so desperately needed for the brain injury community. After three years of working in the lab and in the clinic, I have decided that I can help more through science than I could ever help through practicing as an occupational therapist. I have worked on multiple research projects; one of which has been published and another which I helped design, lead, and have just recently submitted for publication to the Journal of Restorative Neurology and Neuroscience. In both experiments I gained valuable research experience, from basic animal care to independently performing cortical contusion impact surgeries and stem cell transplantations. I have learned how to conduct and analyze multiple behavioral tests, histological procedures, and microscopy techniques. I am currently developing a proposal to perform an additional research project which will combine enriched environment and neural stem cell therapy to treat chronic symptoms of Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) 30 days post-injury. In order to fund this project, I am submitting a proposal for a grant through the Student Research and Creativity Institute at SVSU.



Last year my father was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer and three months later he passed away. As a result, I am now independently supporting myself by working part-time as a lifeguard at SVSU and as an on-call OT. The funds that this fellowship will provide will allow for me to work less at these part-time positions and focus more on my studies and to continue being active in the laboratory. Though I have completed all requirements for the MSOT, I still need an additional year at SVSU to complete my bachelors degree. Over the next year, I will take additional classes with a focus in neuroscience, biochemistry, and genetics. I will also continue to perform research in the BRL and prepare for the Graduate Record Examination in order to ensure that all aspects of my graduate application are competitive. After I obtain my Ph.D. in neuroscience, my plan is to continue my development through post-doctoral training opportunities leading to a position that would allow me to combine my interests in mentoring with the ability to perform high-level neuroscience research. All of these experiences are preparing me for applying to neuroscience graduate programs across the nation. I have already identified and met with potential mentors at many universities. The experiences I have had at SVSU and the support that this fellowship will provide will lead to opportunities to continue my growth as a neuroscientist.

Garrick Salois During my studies as a psychology major at Saginaw Valley State University, I became fascinated by how behavior arises from changes in the brain. My interest in exploring aberrant brain function led me to volunteer at the Brain Research Laboratory (BRL), headed by Dr. Jeff Smith. Over the past year volunteering at the BRL, I have learned about traumatic brain injury. Despite decades of research in animal models, no consistently effective treatment for traumatic brain injury has been found. One possible reason for this is that animals typically recover from experimentally-induced injury in standard laboratory cages. It has been shown that animals whose recovery environment is enriched with sensory stimuli recover differently than rats in standard caging. To examine this effect, we studied brain-injured rats treated with progesterone and/or neural stem cells as they recovered in either enriched environments or standard caging. As a student researcher, I was able to participate in all aspects of the project, including behavior testing, histology, and data analysis. The project eventually culminated in a presentation of our work at the Faculty for Undergraduate Neuroscience conference in San Diego and will soon be submitted for publication. Results from this study indicated substantial changes in the hippocampus of injured rats. Detailed morphological analysis of this system is challenging because its relatively large size and high spatial complexity is difficult to preserve using traditional serial section microscopy. However, recent technological advances are making it easier to visualize and quantify detailed morphological changes in relatively vast sections of brain tissue. In October 2013, I won a Saginaw Valley State University Student Research and Creativity Institute grant, allowing me to utilize SeeDB, a new optical clearing technique, in combination with confocal immunofluorescence microscopy, to analyze vascular, neural, and glial changes in the hippocampus, including neurogenesis, following long-term environmental enrichment in rats.



While I work on this project, I am also developing my applications for several PhD programs. With the support of the Field Neurosciences Institute, I intend to take further classes in biochemistry, genetics, and statistics - classes I would not otherwise be able to afford. These skills will allow me to competitively apply to prestigious PhD programs in neuroscience - a key step toward a career as a scientist.

We are continuing our studies in the areas of Multiple Sclerosis, glioblastoma, and traumatic brain injury, including:

Stratify 2

A Multiple Sclerosis clinical trial: We have 65 subjects enrolled and have started the extension study that will track these patients for 4 more years. The principal investigator (PI) for this study is Barbara Jahnke M.D. The purpose of the study is to quantify the serological prevalence of JCV (John Cunningham virus) antibody in the MS population and give the prescribing physician and patients receiving Tysabri more accurate information of their risk for developing PML (progressive multifocal leukoencephalopathy). The official title of the study is: JCV Antibody Program in Patients with Relapsing Multiple Sclerosis Receiving or Considering Treatment with Tysabri: STRATIFY-2. We have already learned that patients who test positive to the JC virus antibodies, have been on immune suppressants and have more than 24 infusions of Tysabri are at greater risk of developing PML. This study has a new amendment that will now only follow the patients on Tysabri and add 2 additional blood draws per year.

Synapse

This is a randomized trial for patients with a traumatic brain injury. Subjects get randomized to standard of care or to standard of care with the addition of the IV infusion of Progesterone. This study has completed enrollment and the outcome data is currently undergoing statistical analyses.

CDX-110 Vaccine for Glioblastoma

CellDex-110 phase III study has been approved and we are now screening patients. This is the next phase, the phase III part of this research study for the treatment of brain cancer. We are currently in long term follow up in the phase II portion of the study.

Submassive and Massive Pulmonary Embolism Treatment with Ultrasound Accelerated Thrombolysis Therapy (SEATTLE II Extension) This is a new study with the interventional radiologist, Dr. Nakagawa. We are currently in the contracting phase and getting ready to take to the IRB.

In addition to these ongoing clinical research studies, our Research Nurse, Heather Clark, continues to lead the local Multiple Sclerosis Support Group and has been instrumental in bringing the International Multiple Sclerosis Conference to the Saginaw area. This year's conference will be "Caring for the Patient with MS" on October 18th (see page 5 for conference details). The continued involvement by Heather and Dr. Barb Jahnke in MS clinical work and patient care and with their continued involvement with the International Organization of Multiple Sclerosis Nurses provided the basis for Saginaw being selected for this year's conference.



2014 Neurosciences Golf Outing

Saturday, August 23rd at Apple Mountain in Freeland.

Save the Date!

A Matter of Balance

St. Mary's of Michigan, Field Neurosciences Institute now offers an eight-session, educational and strength training program for adults 50+.

The Matter of Balance program emphasizes practical strategies to reduce fear of falling and increases activity levels. Participants learn to view falls and fear of falling as controllable, set realistic goals to increase activity, change their environment to reduce fall risk factors and exercise to increase strength and balance.

Each FREE session is from 9 to 11 a.m. at Center Courts, 3320 N. Center, Saginaw. To maximize outcomes, participants are encouraged to attend all eight sessions.

- Wednesday, May 21
- Thursday, May 22
- Friday, May 23
- Wednesday, June 4
- Friday, June 6
- Wednesday, June 11
- Thursday, June 12
- Friday, June 13

Reservations required. Please call 1-844-907-8000 to confirm your attendance.



MANAGING CONCERNS ABOUT FALLS

Support/Resource Groups

Spinal Cord Injury Resource Group 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm

- May 20
- July 15
- September 16
- November 18

contact: Mary Kunz
mkunz@stmarysofmichigan.org or 989-497-3075

Multiple Sclerosis Resource Group 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm

- June 10
- July 8
- August 5
- September 9
- October 14
- November 11
- December 9

contact: Heather Clark
hclark@stmarysofmichigan.org or 989-497-3023

(both held at St. Mary's of Michigan Towne Centre conference room)

See www.fni.org for all calendar events, including Grand Rounds educational opportunities

Pre-Clinical Research

Our pre-clinical research productivity continues to exceed the ambitious goals of the five-year plan and the benchmarks established in our strategic plan. Researchers in the FNI at CMU have produced over 15 publications, spanning the complete array of disorders targeted in the 5-year plan (stroke, degenerative disc, Alzheimer's, and Huntington's disease). In addition, initial work on using adult stem cells for treating Parkinson's disease (which was an addition to the focused area on the 5-year proposal) was initiated and has already produced publications. The highlight of the 5-year plan was the FNI-initiated breakthrough on using genetically altered adult stem cells that overexpress brain derived neurotrophic factor to treat Huntington's disease that is now heading for clinical trials in California.

Our new addition to the FNI lab at CMU, Dr. Crusoe Nan, has begun leading FNI researchers in two new lines of research which have been initiated this past year, involving assessing the efficacy of adult stem cells for treating acute and chronic spinal cord injury and stroke.

As this is the last year of the 5-year FNI-CMU collaborative research projects, a presentation of the accomplishments of the funded project will be made, as well as a presentation for future projects if the Board votes to renew this collaboration for another five years.

Work at the FNI lab in Saginaw has been focused on the molecular mechanisms underlying the neurodegenerative processes that occur in AD. Dr. Mee-Sook Song, Austin Clarey, and a team of volunteers have been looking at ways in which potential therapeutic interventions may reduce the plaques found in brain tissue samples from rodent models of AD. Dr. Song has completed a manuscript of this work as is submitting it for publication in a respected, peer-review scientific journal.

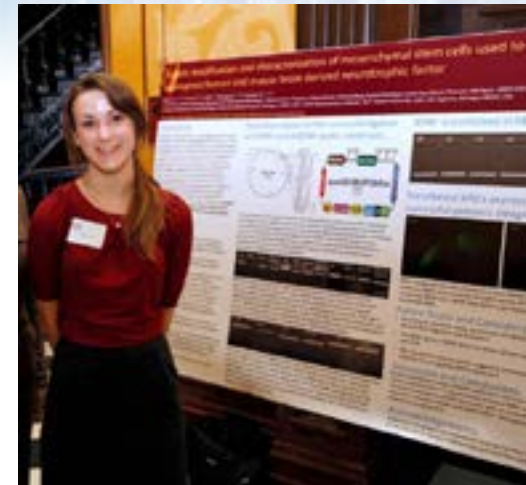
Collaborative projects with Dr. Jeff Smith, Dr. Charles Weaver, and Dr. Rosalyn Sweeting at SVSU are still ongoing. Both Dr. Smith and Dr. Weaver have submitted FNI-sponsored research manuscripts for publication in peer-reviewed scientific journals. Solicitation for applicants for FNI Fellowships to be awarded to SVSU students interested in neuroscience has been initiated. In addition, new collaborative projects between FNI and SVSU researchers are being designed.

Finally, five FNI Fellowships, derived from the proceeds of last year's Fall Fundraiser, have been awarded to Tia Hall, Aaron Antcliff, Cameron Learman, Jacob Dunkerson and Garrick Salios. These funds will be used to help students devote their time to the critically important and therapeutically relevant neuroscience research in the FNI lab at CMU and also at Saginaw Valley State University Brain Reserach Lab, working with Dr. Jeff Smith.



Dr. Mee-Sook Song and Austin Clarey

FNI Lab at CMU

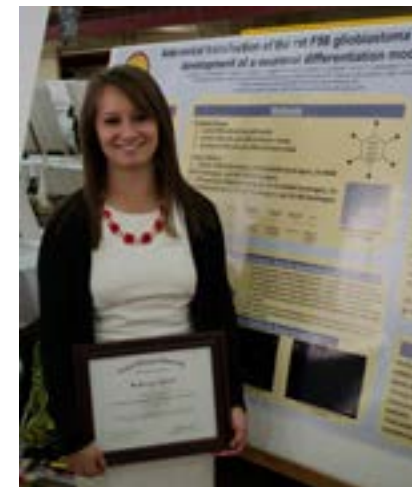


Allison Moore is a 2014 McNair Scholar in Neuroscience and Psychology for Outstanding First Generation Students



The Alpha Chapter in Michigan of Nu Rho Psi: Members From Back Left to Right: Amanda Eickholt, Sean Honard, Lucas Huffman, Jessica Matyas, Emily Marlow, Ryan Welchko, Paul Venekase

Front Left to Right: Kelsey Mankel, James Berlin, Noel Jones-Camp, Leslie Siegel, Rebecca Culver, Sabrina Parker, Rebecca Smith, Amy Rechenberg



Rebecca Culver received the Provost's Award for Undergraduate Research and Creative Accomplishments



Central Neuroscience Society Members



Tia Hall received a Travel Award this past year from the Faculty for Undergraduate Neuroscience



Andrew Crane received this year's American Society for Neural Therapy and Repair travel award

Injury Prevention

1. **ThinkFirst for Kids and Teens:** We have been busy educating in several elementary and middle schools and are on target to educate in 50 percent of the schools in the Saginaw and Bay areas per our strategic plan.
2. **Caught Being Safe:** We distributed 15,000 coupons for the winter campaign and have received several VERY positive comments about this program. We are gearing up to distribute another 60,000 coupons in May for the summer campaign.
3. **Spinal Cord Injury Resource Group:** Bi-Monthly meetings have brought many resources and education to over 20 people. We continue to offer resources to each other as well as providing resources and support to newly injured individuals with physical disabilities.
4. **As part of the First Merit Grant that was received, we purchased a distracte driving simulator that we will be able to use in our ThinkFirst for Teens program as well as expand our driver education and are hoping to utilize during many community events.**



Mary Kunz and Tami Bersano hold a real brain at the Wayne State University Brain Day

FNI's ThinkFirst Group Awarded Grants

FirstMerit Bank and the Arnold & Gertrude Boutell Memorial Fund awarded a three year, \$57,000 grant to support the ThinkFirst for Kids, ThinkFirst for Teens and Buckle Your Brain programs. This grant will allow FNI to educate more schools and provide more helmets throughout the Saginaw, Bay and Arenac counties. The grant also provided resources to purchase a driving simulator to be used for teen and community presentations. This simulator creates an experience, including the consequences, of driving impaired by alcohol, drugs, and fatigue in addition to being distracted by texting, cell phone use, and peer distractions.

The Junior League of Saginaw Valley also awarded the ThinkFirst programs with funding, providing \$2,500 for the purchase of bicycle helmets to be used at the annual Spring Into Safety event, held May 17th. The organization provided volunteers at the event to help custom-fit and distribute helmets to local children.

Thank you to FirstMerit, the Junior League and also to St. Mary's of Michigan Foundation!

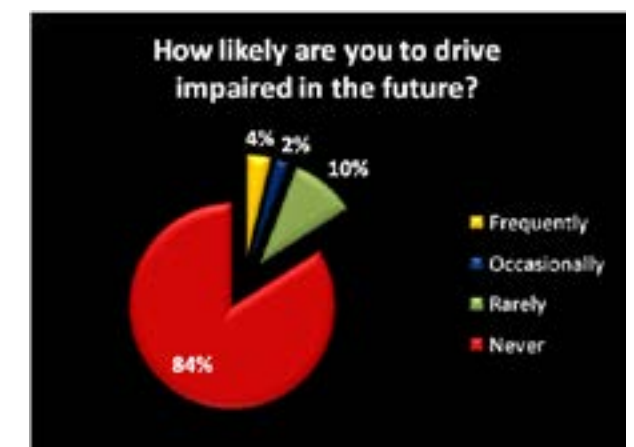
Distracted Driving Simulator

FNI received a new tool for injury prevention thanks to the FirstMerit Arnold & Gertrude Boutell Memorial Fund grant. One Simple Decision® (OSD) is a simulation-based impaired & distracted driving program designed to prevent destructive driving behaviors among teens and young adults. This innovative technology presents students with a first person account of the real life consequences of distracted and impaired driving.

One Simple Decision tracks driving violations real time displaying them on the screen as they occur. Driving violations captured include speeding, swerving, running stop signs or signal lights, making wrong turns, driving in the bike or center lanes, etc

One Simple Decision has a fully integrated survey platform allowing customers to collect data specific to their needs. The built-in database provides immediate and insightful data collection opportunities including student throughput, demographics and opinions. The survey findings allow customers to demonstrate accountability and secure funding. Additionally, customers can customize the survey questions specific to their unique issues, such as seat-belt use, frequency of texting while driving and state specific requirements.

Contact FNI at 989-497-3117 to request this helpful new tool at your next event!



In Memoriam

Leonard LeFevre
July 22, 1932 - January 20, 2014

Len served with distinction on the Field Neurosciences Institute Board of Directors from 2000 to 2012 and as an Honorary Member from 2012 to 2014. His vision and quest for excellence guided the development of the Institute and his personal attention and energy provided guidance to it's mission. His intense concern for the community and his dedication to the ideals and philosophy of the Daughters of Charity enriched the lives of many others. Len's talents in the legal and business professions benefited our community as did his generous contributions to numerous area charities. FNI wishes to express its appreciation and gratitude for his years of outstanding service to the Institute and for his many accomplishments.



Elizabeth McGraw
July 2, 1928 - March 26, 2014

Liz volunteered for FNI, and being married to John McGraw, FNI founding Board Member, was always there to support the organization. She raised six children while earning her Bachelor's Degree in Nursing and worked for St. Mary's until her retirement. She was also involved in St. Mary's Auxiliary and many other local organizations. According to Martha Ann Joseph, FNI Board Chair, Liz loved to dance and she had a wonderful Irish sense of humor. She was an amazing woman who is greatly missed. Below are tributes received in Liz's memory:



- | | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Edward and Deann Anderson | Stephen and Patricia Jaska | Jack and Lynne Provenzano |
| Herbert and Catherine Anderson | Frank and Mary Ann Johnson | Regina Provenzano |
| Dr. Ernie and Leanne Balcueva | Nancy Johnson | Peter and Marcia Ramah |
| Craig and Mimi Bell | Martha Ann Joseph | David and Lisa Rapin |
| Joe Billig | Patrick and Sue Kaltenbach | Richard and Nancy Riffel |
| Dr. Brent and Barbara Boggess | Patricia Kenny | Catherine B. Ryan |
| Otto Brandt | C. Steven and Lisa Kocks | Dr. Galileo and Judy Sarmiento |
| David and Ruth Buko | Dale and Mary Krueger | John Sivey |
| Arnie and Deb Burns | Robert Krupka | Dennis and Chris Smigiel |
| Bradd Chisholm | Barry and Mary LaTarte | Ronald and Michelle Snow |
| Joseph and Margaret Dashner | Geraldine LeFevre | John and Sue Spreeman |
| Hon. Joseph and Carol De Francesco | Mr. and Mrs. Edward Lynch | Michael and Kim Stelter |
| William Demmer | Grace Makrianis | Ron Stelter |
| Jeffrey Donahue | Theresa May | Dr. and Mrs. Joseph Talbot |
| Jane Egerer | Thomas and Ruth McDonald | Mark and Diane Thompson |
| Patricia Emmenecker | John and Rosalie McFall | Duane and Carol van Benschoten |
| Dr. E. Malcolm and Lois Field | Susan Meyers | Joan Van Vlaenderen |
| Martha and Daniel Foley | Ernext Muscott | Ricardo and Connie Verdoni |
| Dan Fredendall | Florence Nagy | John and Sharon Wahl |
| Pat and Michelle Gallagher | Peggy Nemode | Jane Waugh |
| William Giorgis | Michael and Ellie O'Connor | Joan Webber |
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