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McLaughlin Research Institute
for Biomedical Sciences

1520 23rd Street South
Great Falls, MT

www.mclaughlinresearch.org



The Medicine Man by O.C. Seltzer

Friends of Joe Mazurek

2012

Presented by McLaughlin Research Institute
for Biomedical Sciences

Carroll College, Helena, Montana
November 13, 2012

Program - 1st half

Welcome “Friends of Joe Mazurek”

Begin @ 6 PM

- Randy Gray – Emcee

Codebreakers

Video Presentation on McLaughlin Research Institute

- Max Murray – Murmax Productions
Fairfield, Montana

Message from the McLaughlin Research Institute

- Kathy Rice – Chair, Board of Directors

The Story and Vision Behind McLaughlin Research Institute

- Nancy Davidson – Chair, National Development Council

Value of McLaughlin Research Institute’s Summer Science Education Program for Students and Teachers in Montana

- Anna Green for First Lady Nancy Schweitzer

Invocation

Graciously delivered by Dr. Thomas Trebon
Past President of Carroll College

Buffet Dinner

Program - 2nd half

Scientific Research at McLaughlin Research Institute

- Alzheimer’s Disease: George Carlson, PhD
- Parkinson’s Disease: Deborah Cabin, PhD

Translational Medicine: Benefis Health System & McLaughlin Research Institute

- George Carlson, PhD
- John Goodnow, CEO, BHS
- Paul Dolan, M.D., BHS

Personal Reflection of Joe Mazurek

- Dennis Taylor

Message of Appreciation

- Randy Gray

“Our goal is to improve patient care...the reason we do research is to improve the health of people across the world and in this community.”

- Dr. George Carlson
Director, McLaughlin Research Institute

Friends of Joe – Founders

- Karma Alfredson
- Marcia Allen
- Dorothy Bradley
- Bob Brown
- Steve and Lisa Bullock
- Allen Chronister
- Mike and Dee Ann Cooney
- Dean Ed Eck
- Eric Feaver
- Karla Gray
- Randy Gray
- Mike Greely
- Mike Halligan
- Hal Harper
- Harley Harris
- Rick and Betti Hill
- Tom Honzel
- Gene Huntington
- Ed Jasmin
- Chuck Johnson
- Stan and Holly Kaleczyc
- Dave Lewis

These individuals were good friends of Joe's and were responsible for nominating him for the Distinguished Alumni Award, which he received in 2010 from the University of Montana.

Friends of Joe – Founders

- Jason and Sarah Loble
- Les Loble
- Sherry Matteucci
- Patty Mazurek
- JanDee May
- Honorable Mike McGrath
- Ron Mercer
- Greg Munro
- Alan Nicholson
- Sue O'Connell
- Mark O'Keefe
- Jim Oppedahl
- Greg Petecsh
- Marc Racicot
- Dean Roberts
- Governor Brian and First Lady Nancy Schweitzer
- Ward Shanahan
- Jim Smith
- Dennis and Joan Taylor
- Dr. Thomas Trebon
- Chris Tweeten
- Ron and Mignon Waterman

If your name has been omitted or misspelled, please call the development office at 406-454-6009 to allow us to apologize and correct the records.

Speaker Bios

Deborah Cabin, PhD
Research Scientist, McLaughlin Research Institute

Grew up in Baltimore, Maryland. Undergraduate at Johns Hopkins University; Doctorate from the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine where she worked on mouse models of Down Syndrome and a mouse neurological mutant called "weaver". "Weaver" was thought at the time to be a model for Parkinson's disease as it loses dopaminergic neurons. Did post-doctoral training at the National Institutes of Health where she began work on development of mouse models of Parkinson's disease, and investigations into how the protein alpha-synuclein causes neurodegenerative diseases such as Parkinson's. Came to MRI late August 2006.



"MRI is positioned to unravel the secrets of Alzheimer's and other diseases that cause millions of people to lose brain functions."

- Dr. Irving Weissman

Speaker Bios

George Carlson, PhD
Director, McLaughlin Research Institute

The underlying theme of his research is the application of formal and molecular mouse genetics to advance the understanding of susceptibility to neurodegenerative diseases. His involvement in prion disease research began in 1983 while he was on the faculty of The Jackson Laboratory in Bar Harbor, Maine, beginning a long and productive collaboration with Dr. Stanley Prusiner of UCSF that helped establish the validity of the controversial prion hypothesis as a novel pathogenic mechanism. In recognition of his contributions, Dr. Carlson was invited to the Nobel festivities in Stockholm when Dr. Prusiner was awarded the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine in 1997. This work has been extended and it is now known that processes similar to those in prion infection are important in Alzheimer's disease and related disorders. George also applied his expertise in mouse genetics to a landmark systems analysis of prion disease in collaboration with Dr. Lee Hood at the Institute for Systems Biology in Seattle, Washington, and applying the approaches developed for prion infection to Alzheimer's, frontotemporal dementia, and Huntington's disease. George and his colleagues also developed what may be the first genetically tractable cell culture model for prion disease by successfully infecting CNS stem cell containing neurosphere cultures, which he is now using to model aspects of Alzheimer's disease.

The McLaughlin Research Institute had only a single faculty member and a small facility when George moved from The Jackson Laboratory in 1988. Under his leadership, a new building was constructed to house additional faculty and a large specific-pathogen-free mouse facility. Dr. Carlson has served on a number of public advisory panels and currently is a member of the Board of Directors of the N. Bud Grossman Center for Memory Research and Care in Minneapolis, Minnesota. As part of the Institute's educational mission, Dr. Carlson has mentored numerous pre-college students, undergraduates, and high school teachers through summer internships.

A native of Philadelphia, George earned an A. B. in Biochemistry from the University of Pennsylvania. His Ph.D. studies at Tufts University focused on cancer immunology. As a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Alberta in Edmonton, Canada he discovered that the mouse placenta serves as an immunoabsorbent, protecting the fetus from immune rejection by the mother. George lives with his wife Frances on the banks of the Sun River near Great Falls; their son, Benjamin, is married and lives in Portland, Oregon.

Speaker Bios

Nancy Davidson

Chair, McLaughlin Research Institute National Development Council and Member, Board of Directors

After earning a degree in Biology from the University of Montana in 1959, Nancy Davidson began a career in genetics as a research assistant in the University of Minnesota Medical School's Immunology Department. There she worked on some of the initial research on the genetics of cancer tumors. However, it was after she moved back to her hometown of Great Falls to teach science and was introduced to Dr. Ernest Eichwald, the pathologist at the Montana Deaconess Hospital, that her love of research would be continued. Dr. Eichwald, in addition to his pathology work, was doing groundbreaking research on the genetics of tissue transplantation in his laboratory at the hospital. Soon after they met, Dr. Eichwald hired Nancy to work as a research assistant. It was during her tenure there in the 1960's that Irving Weissman and Lee Hood, future Scientific Advisory Committee members, also worked in Eichwald's lab as student interns. Nancy remembers young Irv Weissman's "Eureka moment" of realizing the vast potential of stem cells while studying these early developmental cells and their process of differentiation.

Almost thirty years later, in 1993, Nancy joined McLaughlin's newly formed National Development Council. In 1994, Nancy joined MRI's Board of Directors, later serving as its chair; she continues on that Board today. She and Jerry Molen co-chaired its successful capital campaign in 1997-98, which brought Dr. John Mercer and Dr. John Bermingham to the Institute.

While she likes being part of the past story of McLaughlin, she feels its real story has yet to be told, and that is of its future potential and the impact its research will have on the understanding of and solving the causes and cures of Alzheimer's disease and other neurodegenerative human disorders.

Speaker Bios

Paul Dolan, MD

Benefis Health System

Dr. Paul Dolan is the Chief Medical Officer for Benefis Health System and has worked in Benefis Administration for the past 9 years. Dr. Dolan obtained undergraduate degrees in Biology and Chemistry prior to completing medical school at Creighton. After completing residency in Internal Medicine at the Mayo Clinic, he practiced a traditional mix of office and hospital practice for close to twenty years. After taking his job in administration he completed a Masters in Medical Management degree from Tulane University.

As Chief Medical Officer, Dr. Dolan has oversight of medical staff functions, quality improvement, and patient safety as well as serving as the Chief Medical Information Officer and Compliance Officer. He has also had oversight of a variety of departments including HIM, pharmacy, lab, the hospitalist service, case management, and wound care.

According to eminent scientist Dr. Leroy Hood, President of the Institute for Systems Biology (IBS), MRI played a critical role in moving medicine closer to the day when a simple blood test will reveal a person's predisposition to diseases like Alzheimer's and Parkinson's.

Speaker Bios

John H. Goodnow, CEO Benefis Health System

John Goodnow, CEO of Benefis Health System, has been a hospital administrator for over 35 years, at a wide range of facilities and with a record of growth, innovation, improving finances, increasing patient satisfaction and forging relationships with other organizations and communities.

Goodnow earned a bachelor's degree in Biological Science and Administrative Health Sciences from the University of California-Davis in 1974, and a Masters of Health Services Administration from the University of Michigan in 1976. He became a Fellow of the American College of Health Executives in 1987.

Goodnow's experience ranges from community hospitals to teaching hospitals and while primarily in the not-for-profit arena, does also include some for-profit experience.

The Benefis Health System is made up of five subsidiaries: Benefis Hospitals (2 campuses); Benefis Medical Group; Benefis Senior Services; Benefis Spectrum Medical; and Benefis Health System Foundation. Benefis Health System also includes one managed hospital, and an alliance of 14 affiliated hospitals (the Northcentral Montana Healthcare Alliance, NMHA).

Benefis Health System is also a partner in the Peak Health and Wellness Center and the Orthopedic Center of Montana. Benefis Health System also partners with Bozeman Deaconess Hospital; St. Peter's Hospital; and Northern Montana Hospital in the Montana Healthcare System (a collaborative focused on IT). The Benefis Health System is the largest private employer in Great Falls, Montana and has a very large service area as one of the State's premier tertiary referral centers.

Speaker Bios

Randy Gray Member, McLaughlin Research Institute Board of Directors

Growing up in Great Falls, Randy Gray watched McLaughlin Research Institute develop. Irving Weissman was his neighbor, and the Gray family was close to Jack and Sally McGregor's family. (Jack and Sally played major roles in the Institute's development, and now their daughter Bethann is on the Board of Directors.) As Mayor of Great Falls from 2000-2005, Randy advised McLaughlin on its expansion plans and other city-related matters. In 2006, he accepted a seat on the Institute's Board of Directors.

He received an undergraduate degree in economics at the University of Montana, followed by a Juris Doctor, at UM's School of Law. He then began practicing law in Great Falls with his father and others. After thirty years of practice, he retired.

Together Randy and his wife Nora make plenty of time for travel, which has always been important to their family (their three children live out of state now). They are also avid outdoors people and enjoy backpacking, climbing, hunting, fishing, and horse trips into the Bob Marshall Wilderness.

Randy has always been active in conservation groups, having served on the Montana Board of the Nature Conservancy for 12 years, and has also been an active member of the Montana Wilderness Association, of which his father was a founder. He has served on the Bureau of Land Management's Central Montana Resource Advisory Council, the Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center Foundation Board of Directors, and the C.M. Russell Museum Board of Directors, which he has recently joined again.

One of the reasons for Randy's early retirement was his health. He has a non-progressive variety of multiple sclerosis, which is well under control. His condition has given him a deeper interest in and appreciation for the research at McLaughlin, particularly that of Dr. John Bermingham, who studies myelin, which is destroyed in M.S. "They're doing extraordinary work there," he said.

Speaker Bios

Anna Green
First Lady Assistant and Policy Advisor, Office of Governor
Brian Schweitzer

She works primarily coordinating the Governor and First Lady's Math & Science Initiative, which has become the main focus of First Lady Nancy Schweitzer. She has also assisted in education policy work for Governor Schweitzer on areas such as dual-credit, distance learning, and technology in education. She graduated from Colby College in Waterville, Maine, majoring in International Studies with a concentration in development and spent time studying abroad in Ecuador and Oman. She was born and raised in Helena.

Kathy Rice
Chair, McLaughlin Research Institute Board of Directors

Kathy Rice's connections to a couple of her fellow McLaughlin Research Institute board members go back to her Great Falls childhood. Her family lived on a corner across from Irv Weissman's family and Randy Gray's family on another. "We took the Weissman girls Christmas caroling because they could sing," she recalls, "and we went to Irv's bar mitzvah." One of Kathy's brothers was Randy Gray's roommate at law school.

After earning degrees in English and drama from the University of Washington, Kathy got received masters degree in drama at San Francisco State University before returning to Great Falls.

Kathy's family has lost some members to cancer. Her father and Irv Weissman's father battled colon cancer at the same time. In 1999, Kathy's brother Mike was diagnosed with cancer, and Irv arranged for him to receive treatment at Stanford. Mike joined MRI's National Development Council, but was unable to finish his term. He died in 2001.

After Kathy chaired the Benefis Healthcare Foundation's capital campaign for the Sletten Cancer Institute, MRI was a natural fit for her. She joined McLaughlin's Board of Directors in 2005. She realized that no matter how important cancer treatment is, "We have to go even deeper, into biomedical research, since that is where answers will be found." She is putting her sharp fundraising skills to work in MRI's current fund drive.

Speaker Bios

First Lady Nancy Schweitzer

Nancy grew up in Billings, Montana. She graduated with honors from Montana State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Botany. While there, she met her husband Governor Brian Schweitzer. After they were married Nancy joined Brian in Saudi Arabia for four years before returning to Montana to raise their three children: Benjamin, Mikhail, and Katrina.

Nancy now enjoys volunteering her time and energy for Montana. Her main focus is the Governor and First Lady's Math and Science Initiative. The initiative encourages schools and businesses to champion science, technology and engineering to better prepare the next generation to be leaders in a global economy. Nancy is proud to also be involved and advocate for the Friendship Center here in Helena, the Race for the Cure, and Every Child By Two, which supports early childhood immunization.

Dennis Taylor

A retired city manager, long time Montana state government administrator, and former Montana Justice Department deputy director/chief of staff for Attorney General Joe Mazurek.



McLaughlin Research Institute for Biomedical Sciences...

is a center for neurogenetic research on Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, multiple sclerosis and other degenerative nerve diseases.

Our work to understand neurodegeneration is the foundation for medical advances that will prevent and cure these devastating diseases.

The Institute is an independent, nonprofit organization located in Great Falls, Montana. Our nationally known, genetically engineered mouse models for human disease are widely used for testing and developing new therapies.

Scientists at MRI have been working to defeat human diseases since 1954, when research at the Institute was influential in the development of transplantation medicine. Since that time, the Institute has also mentored scores of young scientists-in-the-making through a summer internship program for high school and college students to enhance their science education and critical thinking skills.



Your Gifts to MRI...

Support our research now ... so we can help patients in the future.

This year the institute has been blessed with the Mazurek family's willingness to help play a role in the search for a cure to Alzheimer's disease. The gifts in honor and memorial of Joe are true testimonials by the many individuals were touched by his friendship, leadership and commitment to his family. The institute is honored to work with Randy Gray, current board member, and the "Friends of Joe" to build financial support for Alzheimer's research now to help patients in the future.

The generous gifts made to McLaughlin Research Institute help fuel innovative, collaborative, and community-based research and education. Your meaningful contributions go directly to the research you want to support. Together with our collaborators (Lee Hood, Brad Hyman, and Irv Weissman among them) are building an unparalleled understanding of the processes causing degenerative brain diseases.

Thank you for the gifts you have chosen to give to McLaughlin Research Institute. Please do not hesitate to contact our Development Director, Lisa Flowers, PhD at 406.454.6009 or via email lflowers@mri.montana.edu.

The McLaughlin Research Institute has been awarded the highest **"four stars out of a possible four" rating** for sound fiscal management and commitment to accountability and transparency by **Charity Navigator**, the country's largest and most-utilized independent evaluator of charities. Only 17 percent of charities rated have received at least two consecutive four-star evaluations, indicating that MRI in Great Falls, Montana outperforms most other charities in America.

www.mclaughlinresearch.org