December 2017

DNET Faculty Meeting:
The next scheduled faculty meeting of DNET will be on **Wednesday, December 20, 2017** at 10:00 a.m. in MR-301. If you have any items of concern for the next agenda please contact Dr. Julie Pilitsis.

**December Seminars:**

**Wed., Dec 6, 2017; 9:30 a.m., MS316**  
Jessica Nuwer  
DNET Graduate Student  
“TBA”

**Wed., Dec 13, 2017; 9:30 a.m., MS316**  
Corinne Wilson  
DNET Graduate Student  
“TBA”

**Wed., Dec 20, 2017; 9:30 a.m., MS316**  
OPEN

**Wed., Dec 27, 2017; 9:30 a.m., MS316**  
OPEN

**No Chalk Talks scheduled for December**

**Department of Psychiatry**  
**Journal Club presentations**
Clinical Psychology Journal Club presentations are held on the 3rd Thursday of every third month at 12:00 noon.

**Eric Molho, MD**, Riley Family Chair of Parkinson’s Disease and Professor of Neurology will be presenting at the Thursday, December 21st Journal Club. Title “TBA”.

**2017-2018 Schedule**

**Thurs, Sept 21, 2017; 12:00pm; MS-316**

**Thurs, Dec 21, 2017; 12:00pm; MS-316**

**Thurs, Mar 15, 2017; 12:00pm; MS-316**

**Thurs, June 21, 2018; 12:00pm; Huyck Auditorium**

**DNET Journal Club presentations:**
Journal Club presentations are held on Fridays, at 12:00 noon in **MR-301**. Faculty and Postdoctoral Fellows will make presentations as well as the students. Please feel free to bring your lunch.

**December schedule for Journal Club:**
- Dec 1: Heidi Tucker
- Dec 8: OPEN
- Dec 15: OPEN
- Dec 22: No Journal Club
- Dec 29: No Journal Club

**DNET HOLIDAY PARTY**
Sunday, December 3rd: 1:00-3:30PM  
@ Lucky Strike  
See details at end of Newsletter

**Students, Faculty and postdocs are encouraged to sign up for any open date to present a paper from the literature or their own paper. The sign-up sheet is in the DNET office.**
Faculty Highlights:
Please submit information to be included in this section to Pya Seidner, no later than the 25th day of the previous month.

Faculty interviews:
The following candidates will be here in December. If you would like to meet with them and aren't already scheduled, please let Pya know.

• Tanuj Gulati, Ph.D.  
  Second Visit  
  December 18-19, 2017

• Rachel Penrod-Martin Ph.D.  
  Second Visit  
  December 20, 2017

Publications:
From Mongin Laboratory:
(* Equal contribution)


Presentations:
Dr. Julie Pilitsis presented “Psychosurgery: Past, Present and Future” at the AMC Psychiatry Grand Rounds on November 1, 2017.


Nuwer J, Fleck M. “Characterizing the GABA_A 0 subunit.” Presented by Jessica Nuwer.

Jacobson L. “Virally-transduced deletion from locus coeruleus norepinephrine neurons suggests a role for glucocorticoid receptors in preventing depression-like behavior.”


Grants and Awards:
Tara Lindsley has been awarded a 2-year grant from the Northeast Group on Educational Affairs (a regional division of the AAMC) to support her project entitled, “Cranial Pursuit computer-based neuroanatomy games: Assessment of impact on learning outcomes and learner attitudes.” The study is a collaboration between AMC, Penn State and the University of Vermont medical schools. Co-investigators from Rebecca Keller (MCP) and Isabelle Maisonneuve (Professor Emeritus, DNET; programmer for Cranial Pursuit) from AMC, and Drs. Debra Byler and Usman Hameed (Penn State) and Dr. Sarah McCarthy (UVermont). The grant start date is pending approval by the IRBs of the three institutions. The budget will support the purchase of statistical software, tech support by a computer programmer, and a work-study student.

Promotions:
Congratulations to Russ Ferland and Yunfei Huang whose promotion to Professor from Associate Professor in DNET has been recently approve by the Board of Trustees of the Albany Medical College.
**General Information:**

This section will include information on new employees, department meetings, such as the annual safety exam and any other items of general interest.

**Renovation Updated:**
Renovation on MS515-519: Alan Furbeck is still planning on having the renovation complete by late December.

**Junior Faculty Development Program**

**JFDP Sessions in December**

- **December 13th**
  - **Scientific Writing**
  - **Criteria for authorship**
  - 7:00 - 7:30 am; MS-134C
  - Shellie Asher, MD
  - Associate Professor, Emergency Medicine
  - Assistant Dean, Graduate Medical Education
  - Steering Committee, Junior Faculty Development Program
  - AMC

- **Elements of a paper, peer review and revision process**
  - 7:30 - 9:00 am; MS-134C
  - Mike DiPersio, PhD
  - Vice Chair of Research, Department of Surgery
  - Professor, Regenerative & Cancer Cell Biology
  - Steering Committee, Junior Faculty Development Program
  - AMC

- **December 27th**
  - **No Session**

**Neurosciences Grand Rounds**

- **Thursday, December 7, 2017, 9:00 a.m., Huyck**
  - Arnulf Koeppen, MD
  - Professor of Neurology & Neuropathology
  - AMC
  - “Ataxia: Diagnose the cases”

- **Thursday, December 14, 2017, 9:00 a.m., Huyck**
  - Anthony Ritaccio, MD
  - Professor of Neurology & Neurosurgery
  - AMC
  - “Driving”

- **Thursday, December 21, 2017, 9:00 a.m., Huyck**
  - Lauren Jacobson, PhD
  - Professor of DNET
  - AMC
  - “CNS targets for depressive and mood-elevating effects of glucocorticoids”

- **Thursday, December 28, 2017, 9:00 a.m., Huyck**
  - Happy Holidays
  - No Grand Rounds

**Important dates to remember:**

**2018**

- **March 7th**
  - Poster Day at AMC Hilton Garden Inn

- **April 1st**
  - Easter - local school breaks will be 4/2-4/6

- **April 12th**
  - Awards Day – ME-700

- **April 27th**
  - Last Date for Thesis Defense for May graduation
    - final thesis to library May 18th

The JFDP webpage is now live
www.amc.edu/academic/jfdp.
TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH UPDATE

This month, we would like to highlight our students and fellow who will be presenting at the North American Neuromodulation Society this January 11-14 in Las Vegas, NV. Congratulations to Dr. Roy Hwang for his formal presentation of “Safety of Deep Brain Stimulation Lead Placement in Anticoagulant-Suspended Patients,” and also to Vignesh Kumar on his oral abstract presentation of “Efficacy of Alternating Tonic Stimulation and High Frequency Stimulation in Improving Spinal Cord Stimulation Outcomes.” For poster presentations, congratulations to Dr. Lucy Gee for “Spinal cord stimulation significantly reduces opioid use in patients with chronic pain,” Jacquelyn MacDonell for “A pilot study of usage patterns during simultaneous administration of tonic and subthreshold waveforms,” and Yufan Lin for “Comparison of Active Cathode Locations in Patients with Tonic and Sub-Threshold Spinal Cord Stimulation” and, “BurstDR Stimulation Improves Pain Experience in Patients After Inadequate Relief with Tonic Stimulation.”

In translational research, Albany Medical College was the first center to receive approval for the PREFERENCE study being conducted by Abbott. Dr. Pilitsis, Michael Gillogly, and Margaret Czerwinski will be working on patient identification and enrollment. The purpose of this study is to better understand patient preference and quantitative outcomes comparing constant voltage to constant current in deep brain stimulation. Patients currently on a constant voltage based system in need of a battery upgrade will be enrolled and battery upgrades will change to constant current systems. Outcomes will be collected prior to battery change, 3 months and 12 months after the new battery is placed. Funds from this study support research staff salary and a percentage of indirects fund DNET staff salary.

DECEMBER GSO EVENTS

A Basic Science Student Holiday Party and Bake Sale is tentatively scheduled

Details to follow from GSO
PLEASE JOIN US for
DNET’s
Holiday Party

LUCKY STRIKE
CROSSGATES MALL, LOWER LEVEL

DECEMBER 3rd
1:00PM - 3:30 PM

Bowling
Appetizer Buffet
Game Cards for Students and Children

RSVP TO ELLINOR BY 11/20/17