

## *A message from our Chair*

June 2023

For those who had the opportunity to celebrate with family and friends this Memorial Day, we hope your holiday was meaningful. With gratitude we thank our veterans and active military service providers who continue to pledge their lives and their service to our country.



This month's newsletter shares Department of Neurology updates for April and May 2023. As we prepare for graduation, it is a great time to reflect on our school and research community achievements.

### ***Eighth Annual Neurology Department Research Celebration***

Our department community was pleased to hold the **[Eighth Annual Research Celebration on May 24, 2023](#)**.

Speakers Simon Wentworth and Bahadar Srichawla opened our evening presentations with excellent basic and clinical science. Trainees exhibited 26 different posters, including medical student, resident, and postdoctoral fellow presenters. More information is available about the research presentations, in the **[2023 Presentation Program](#)**.

### ***April 24, 2023: 75th AAN Annual Meeting in Boston***

The Department of Neurology had the honor of showcasing our most recent research initiatives from the past year during the 2023 AAN Conference held in Boston, MA, April 22 to 27, at the Boston Renaissance Waterfront Hotel. Thirty-four members of our department presented posters, or platform presentations. Congratulations to all presenters! We are so proud of our Research Presenters who participated in this year's event.

The department hosted an alumni reception during the event, and photos from the most recent AAN event are available **[here](#)** on our website. It was an honor to celebrate and remember the past forty years of residency education with alumna, Stacy Rudnicki, MD, who completed our residency program in 1983. Our reception included approximately 65 guests including current faculty, residents and alumni from ten different U.S. states, and as far as Costa Rica and Iceland.

We were pleased to recognize Naomi Northrup for her many years of commitment and service to all of our Department of Neurology community!





Enjoy the spring,

A.M. Barrett  
Chair, Department of Neurology  
UMass Chan Medical School & UMass Memorial Health

## May - Stroke Awareness Month

In recognition of Stroke Awareness Month, the Vascular Neurology Stroke Center team staffed a table in the front lobby of UMass Memorial Medical Center sharing educational materials on the signs and symptoms of stroke!



Pictured here (left to right): Carolyn Griffin, RN, Kelsey Donahue, RN, Michelle Fernald, RN, and Kayla Overly, PA-C



Pictured here, Muhammed Gunduz, MD

Stroke Center team members included: Kayla Overly, PA-C, Kelsey Donahue, RN, Carolyn Griffin, RN, Michelle Fernald, RN, Brian Silver, MD, Katie York, RN, Nurse Educator, and Pete Daoust, RN, Nurse Manager from 4E, and residents Muhammed Gunduz, MD and Mustafa Donmez, MBBS

# Celebratory News

We would like to congratulate a number of our community members on the promotions and awards received recently. We thank you for your continued contributions to our department and our community.

## Wissam Deeb, MD,

has received the 2023 American Academy of Neurology (AAN) - AB Baker Teacher Recognition Award. Congratulations on your achievement and award!  
(<https://www.aan.com/research/education-award-recipients>).



## Nils Henninger, MD, PhD,

and Associate Professor of Neurology and Psychiatry has been appointed as Associate Vice Chair for Research.



## Lisa Hall, PhD,

received the DRIVE Commendation by the Dean and the Diversity and Inclusion Office, at UMass Chan Medical School recognizing her work in creating an inclusive and appropriate educational environment for our learners. Well Done Dr. Hall!



## Kate Daniello, MD

has been promoted to Associate Professor of Neurology as of May 17, 2023.



## Daryl Bosco, PhD, has some exciting news!!

She is co-chairing the Third International Research Conference on Neurodegenerative Diseases (IRCND), from October 20 to 23, 2023. For more information, click the link here: <https://gasnd.org/ircnd/2023/index.php>



The speakers will be focused on basic and translational science of ALS/FTD, AD, PD & HD.

If you are interested, please reach out to [Daryl.bosco@umassmed.edu](mailto:Daryl.bosco@umassmed.edu) for more information

# Welcome to our Community!!

Access more information regarding our [newest team members here.](#)



WELCOME to our community



Melissa Rotunno, PhD,  
Associate Professor

Joins Bosco Lab

with a strong background in mass spectrometry and proteomics she enjoys rock climbing on the weekends

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WELCOME to our community



Charles Hill, Clinical Research Assistant

joins the team of Neurology Research Coordinators

He is an avid musician and licensed scuba diver

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WELCOME to our community



Ayshe Ana Beesen, MD,

joins the Neurocritical Care Team

Beesen studied - neurology at UCLA and - neurocritical care at Ceders-Sinai she loves to swim, bake, and practice yoga

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WELCOME to our community



Jean Pierre Schatzmann Peron, PhD

Neuroimmune Interactions Laboratory

- investigating the mechanisms of neurodegeneration during viral infection  
- using endometrial mesenchymal stem cells as a therapeutic tool against neuroinflammation.

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WELCOME to our community



Annie Collins, B.Sc., BM BCh, MRSB, postdoc

Joins Brown Lab and Watt Lab

- research focus on using oligonucleotides to target sporadic ALS.

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## Neurology Specialty Group Community Events

### Save the Date and Join the Teams!!

- The Angel Fund for amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) Research (Angel Fund, Inc.) is sponsoring the Squirrel Run XXV - Annual Jimmy Kennedy Memorial Run for ALS on Sat June 10, 2023. <https://theangelfund.org/events/squirrel-run-xxv-2/>

***The Angel Fund, Inc.** is an independent non-profit charity ( tax-id 04-3478977) is dedicated to supporting research on ALS (Lou Gehrig's Disease) at UMass Chan Medical School; we are internationally recognized for ground-breaking work in the fight against this devastating illness.*

- The Sharon Timlin Annual Race for ALS will take place on Saturday, June 17, 2023. Follow the link for more information: <https://www.sharontimlinrace.org/>
- ALS - Walk of Hope will take place Saturday, Sept 9th

## Neurology News

### Boston Marathon fitting tribute for families touched by ALS - Siblings among teams raising money for ALS research at UMass Chan

Running the Boston Marathon to support amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) research at UMass Chan Medical School is a family affair this year as two sets of siblings are on teams racing for a cure.

[Read full article](#)



## Newly Published Research Updates



Find the most recently published articles and posters from our UMass Chan Department of Neurology community **on our website**. Publication announcements are received from PubMed and Google Scholar online sources.

We appreciate your research!

# Continuing Our Education in Neurology

Click to learn more about our [April seminars](#) and [May seminars](#).

## Faculty Care

**Program** focused on "**Mindfulness**" by

Presenters: Valerie Wedge, MSW, and Erin Almstrom, CEAP on May 18, 2023



## Faculty Care Program

focused on "**Healing Conversations: How I found community while walking my dog**" by

Presenter: Lucia Knoles, PhD on April 20, 2023



## Neurohumanities

**Seminar** focused on "**Neuropsychiatry of Magic**" by presenters:

Kathy L. Niu, MD and Barbara Schildkrout, on May 11



## Neurohumanities

**Seminar** focused on "**Ebola: Reflections on a Physician's Calling**" by

presenters: Steven Hatch, MD, MSc. on April 14, 2023



## April Neurology Seminar

April 28, 2023 "**The ATXN2**

**RNA/protein complex: a role in more than just cerebellar degeneration**"

by **Stefan Pulst, MD**, Chair of the Department of Neurology, University of Utah.



## Neuroscience of Disease Forum Topic

- Disorders of Consciousness, by presenters: Andrew Galica, MD, UMass Chan & Michael Young, MD, MPhil, MGH, Friday, May 12, 2023



## April Neurology Seminar

April 27, 2023 "**Brain Repair After Stroke**", by

presenter: **Steven Cramer, MD**, Medical

Director of Research, California Rehabilitation Institute.



## Neuroscience of Disease Forum Topic

"**Opioid Use Disorder, A neurobiological and Clinical Overview**", by

presenter: **Caridad Ponce Martinez, MD and Michael R. Bruchas, PhD**, Friday, April 21, 2023



Save the date for more Neurology Continuing Ed.

[DOM Calendar](#)

[Grand Rounds Archives](#)

We are Growing - see our open positions

To learn more about our various positions and to apply, [click here](#).

- **Clinical Research Coordinator III (2023-42752)**
- **Clinical Research Coordinator III (2023-42612)**

- **Research Associate (2022-42469)**
- **Research Associate 1 (2021-39245)**

**The Sena-Esteves Lab**

- **Research Associate (2022-42131)**
- **Research Associate (2022-42133)**

## Upcoming UMASS training & event opportunities



Schedule your faculty headshot with the [Sign Up Link](#)

**Photo Sessions (FREE headshots!)**

**Date:** Every other Wednesday

**Time:** 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

**Location:** Sherman Center - 5th floor

## Professional Staff Development

Office of Faculty Affairs

Center for Clinical & Translational Science

Visit the [Professional Staff Development Website](#)

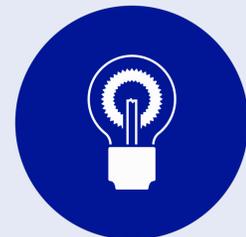
- Quick link to the [Professional Staff Development Registration page](#)
- Quick link to the [Professional Staff Development Calendar](#)
- Quick link for [LMS SSO Helpdesk Support](#)

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## Diversity and Inclusion Office

To learn more about  
DIO

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