

MIND NEWS AND EVENTS

Institute for Memory Impairments and Neurological Disorders

Making Memories Last a Lifetime

February 2012



JOIN US FOR THE TIME OF YOUR LIFE!

You'll have the Time of Your Life on Saturday, March 10, 6 pm to 12 midnight, at the Center Club as we experience the music, dance, food, flavors and culture of the 1960s while raising much-needed funding for research at UCI MIND.

Guests will be transported back to the 1960s as they tour rooms transformed by décor into "The British Invasion," "Motown," "Supper Club," "TV Land," "Futurama," and "Surf's Up!" Guests will enjoy cocktails, food stations featuring specially created dishes by Center Club Chef Lewis Butler and select chefs from local care communities, silent and super silent auction items, a wine wall, live entertainment and dancing all night long.

We are deeply grateful to Linda Young, Elite OCProductions, and our entire Event Committee, chaired by Jacque DuPont and Marc Carlson, for creating the Time of Your Life. Jacque and Marc, who spearheaded the 2010 and 2011 Wine for the MIND events, share, "We fondly remember these fun events and thank all the supporters who made both such a huge success and now are helping make Time of Your Life even better." The new event name is "just perfect", as Jacque and Marc note, "because we wanted to remind everyone that now is the time to donate to UCI MIND, which is committed to making sure we can remember all of the times of our lives."



The **Time of Your Life** highlights three very special individuals, Nancy Edwards, Steve Heins (second row, farthest right), and Nancy Jenkins, who were in their teens and twenties during the 1960s. Today they all have Alzheimer's disease.

Event tickets are \$200 per person, and sponsorships are available at \$2,500 and above. Our thank you goes to major sponsors, as of this printing – Silverado Senior Living, Atria Senior Living, Irvine Cottages and Assured InHome Care, Vista Gardens, Sonnet Health, InHome Care Solutions, San Clemente Villa by the Seas, and the Allergan and Crean Foundations, which have stepped up to lead our fundraising efforts. As well, our thanks go to Southern California Wine and Spirits, which is generously donating all wine and spirits for the evening.

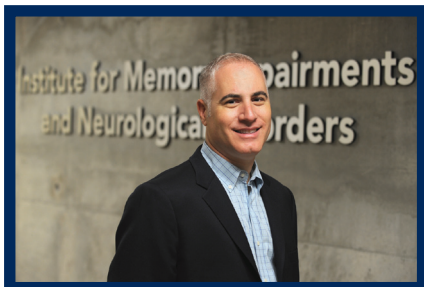
To purchase tickets or sponsor the event, contact Linda Scheck, Director of Development and Donor Stewardship, at lscheck@uci.edu or (949) 824-3251.

GENEROUS SUPPORTERS UNDERWRITE FRONTIERS OF THE MIND

Special thanks to Tom and Elizabeth Tierney for sponsoring the Fall Frontiers of the MIND lecture and dinner. The keynote lecture was delivered by Dr. Anne McKee of Boston University, with introductory presentations by UCI MIND faculty members Drs. Brian Cummings and Steven Schreiber. The program focused on the long-term consequences of traumatic brain injury from sports, such as football and boxing, particularly the development of dementia. A recent study by Christopher Randolph at Loyola University, reported at the 2011 Alzheimer's Association International Conference, suggests that just over 35% of retired football players have possible dementia. Clearly, increasing protection against head injury is a key strategy for reducing risk of Alzheimer's disease and other dementias.

From the Director...

Frank LaFerla, Ph.D.



It's my pleasure to introduce the first issue of MIND News and Events, which you will be receiving each February and August, in between the publication of our major newsletter, MIND Matters, in May and December. Together these two publications will enable us to keep our growing community of friends abreast of the latest happenings at UCI MIND on a quarterly basis.

At the start of 2012, I am prouder than ever of the people who comprise UCI MIND – our researchers, clinicians, volunteers, and supporters. This first edition of MIND News and Events highlights some of the many people who are making a difference at UCI MIND with the support of our generous donors. I am especially pleased to announce the appointment of Aimee Pierce, M.D., as medical director of our Memory Assessment Clinic and Cordula Dick-Muehlke, Ph.D., as our Director of Education. Please take a moment to read about both of these remarkable women on the back cover.

Additionally, I want to recognize the work of the extraordinary people featured on the following page. My congratulations to award recipients, Thomas and Elizabeth Tierney, Dr. Rodrigo Medeiros, and Meredith Chabrier as well as to Dr. Leslie Thompson and Dr. Kim Green for their achievements. These accomplished individuals represent the exemplary UCI MIND team that is leading research efforts to understand, better treat, prevent, and eventually cure Alzheimer's disease.

Our progress in researching ways to make memories last a lifetime depends on the support of our community. We are grateful for the generosity of all our donors, who will be listed in our May MIND Matters newsletter. For now, we highlight the support of Thomas and Elizabeth Tierney, whose sponsorship made possible the recent Frontiers of the MIND educational event on traumatic head injury.

In closing, I would like to personally invite you to help advance our mission of making memories last a lifetime by coming to the Time of Your Life, our upcoming fundraising event, featured on the cover. I look forward to seeing you at this memorable and fun event benefiting UCI MIND.

UCI MIND LAUNCHES MIND MATTERS CLUB

On January 19, UCI MIND launched the MIND Matters Club at the home of John and Linda Burton, who graciously hosted this inaugural gathering of individuals who have committed to giving \$1,906 or more annually to UCI MIND. Guests gathered to hear Dr. Margaret Gatz, Professor of Psychology at the University of Southern California, describe her research into dementia among Swedish twins. Cardiovascular disease, diabetes, and obesity in midlife emerged as major risk factors for dementia in this research while physical exercise, higher educational attainment, and greater work complexity were clearly protective against cognitive impairment. As Dr. Gatz noted, "Brain health is a lifetime endeavor, as our research has shown that lifestyle choices and environment in early-to-midlife play a role in the development of or protection against dementia."

Members of the MIND Matters Club have a special interest in promoting their own cognitive health and benefit from a confidential annual memory screening and brain health consultation, quarterly private receptions, an exclusive quarterly news brief highlighting recent discoveries at UCI MIND and elsewhere, an annual appreciation event at the home of UCI MIND Director, Frank LaFerla, Ph.D., and priority access, if needed, to the UCI MIND Memory Assessment Clinic.

To join the MIND Matters Club, contact Linda Scheck, Director of Development and Donor Relations, at lscheck@uci.edu or (949) 824-3251.



Dr. Frank LaFerla, Dr. Margaret Gatz,
and Dr. Cordula Dick-Muehlke
at MIND Matters Club launch

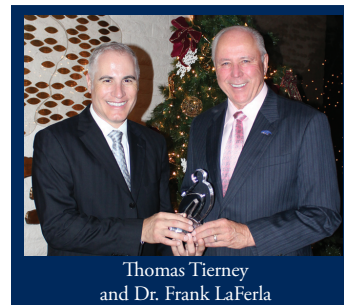


PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

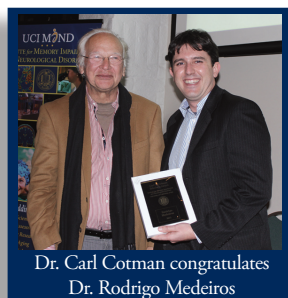
Highlighting achievements at UCI MIND

UCI MIND AWARD RECIPIENT

Thomas and Elizabeth Tierney received the 2011 UCI MIND Award, the highest honor bestowed by the Institute. Tom has been a UCI Foundation Trustee since 1986, and he is the CEO of VitaTech. As a couple, Tom and Elizabeth chaired the campaign for the new UCI hospital and received the UCI Medal. The Tierneys have provided leadership and support to the Institute, most recently by sponsoring the Frontiers of the MIND program on traumatic brain injury. They join past awardees Dr. Malcolm Dick (2009) and Dr. Jacqueline DuPont (2010).



Thomas Tierney
and Dr. Frank LaFerla



Dr. Carl Cotman congratulates
Dr. Rodrigo Medeiros

CARL W. COTMAN SCHOLARS AWARD

Dr. Rodrigo Medeiros, a postdoctoral fellow in the laboratory of Professor Frank LaFerla, was the 2011 recipient of the "Carl W. Cotman Scholars Award." This award is named in honor of UCI MIND's founding director and recognizes outstanding young investigators within the Institute who have made significant contributions to our understanding of the neurobiology of memory impairments and neurological disorders. Rodrigo is the lead author on several important publications, including one in the prestigious Journal of Neuroscience. Despite his young age, he has 32 lifetime publications, with 7 research articles published in 2011 alone.

NATIONAL RESEARCH SERVICES AWARD

Meredith Chabrier received a prestigious pre-doctoral fellowship from the National Institutes of Health. The National Research Services Award program provides financial support for promising doctoral candidates who are performing dissertation research and training in scientific health-related fields. Meredith is a 3rd year doctoral student in the laboratory of Professor LaFerla, studying the interaction between the Alzheimer's plaque and tangle proteins.



Meredith Chabrier
at the microscope



Dr. Leslie Thompson,
Huntington's disease expert

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Professor Leslie Thompson, noted Huntington's disease researcher, has been appointed as Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Huntington's Disease. The journal aims to facilitate progress in understanding the genetics, molecular correlates, pathogenesis, pharmacology, diagnosis, and treatment of Huntington's disease and related disorders.

NEW FACULTY APPOINTED

Congratulations to Dr. Kim N. Green who was recently appointed as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Neurobiology and Behavior. Dr. Green has risen through the ranks at UCI, where he began his postdoctoral training in 2003 in the laboratory of Professor Frank LaFerla. He is a leading expert on identifying novel interventions for Alzheimer's disease. In addition, he and his wife, Dr. Claudia Czimczik, Assistant Professor in the Department of Earth Systems Science, welcomed their second child this fall.



Recently appointed Assistant
Professor Dr. Kim Green

AIMEE L. PIERCE, M.D.



Dr. Aimee Pierce, Assistant Clinical Professor in UCI's Department of Neurology, has been named Medical Director of the UCI MIND Memory Assessment Clinic. Hailing from Eugene, Oregon, Dr. Pierce earned her B.S. in Biology at the California Institute of Technology in Pasadena, CA, and her

M.D. at the Columbia College of Physicians and Surgeons. After graduating she completed an internship in Internal Medicine at New York Presbyterian Hospital, a residency in neurology at UCLA, and a fellowship in geriatric neurology and dementia at the VA San Diego Healthcare System affiliated with UCSD. Dr. Pierce officially joined the Department of Neurology faculty in August 2011.

Specializing in the diagnosis and treatment of Alzheimer's disease and related disorders, Dr. Pierce has conducted clinical trials investigating several new medications for Alzheimer's disease, participated in basic research on the mechanisms of synaptic toxicity of amyloid-beta peptides in Alzheimer's disease and the link between amyloid beta plaques and neurofibrillary tangles, and authored two book chapters on sleep disorders in the elderly and patients with dementia. She was the recipient of the Young Scholar Award from the Alzheimer's Association of San Diego/Imperial Chapter in 2009.

Reflecting on her role as medical director, Dr. Pierce notes, "The brain is the organ that makes us uniquely human, and it is endlessly fascinating to study the brain's function and foibles. Each patient, no matter their diagnosis or stage, will always have strengths and weaknesses. My job is not just to make a diagnosis, but to help the patient and family understand their own brain, understand their diagnosis, and allow them to contribute, if they choose, to our research on brain disease."



MIND New and Events is a publication of the UCI Institute for Memory Impairments and Neurological Disorders in collaboration with the Alzheimer's Disease Research Center (ADRC) and the California Alzheimer's Disease Centers (CADC). The ADRC is funded by a grant from the National Institute on Aging and supports and promotes interdisciplinary research on Alzheimer's disease. The CADC is funded by the California Department of Public Health. The CADC provides expert clinical assessments and diagnosis of memory complaints related to Alzheimer's disease and other dementias.

Editor: Cordula Dick-Muehlke, Ph.D., Director of Education
Layout: Shirley Sirivong, Community Health Program Manager

CORDULA DICK-MUEHLKE, PH.D.



Cordula Dick-Muehlke, Ph.D., is a licensed clinical psychologist who has dedicated her career to bettering the lives of people with Alzheimer's disease and their families, joined UCI MIND as Director of Education in January 2012. Recognized as the 2011 Dementia Care Professional of the Year by the Alzheimer's

Foundation of America, Dr. Dick-Muehlke has spent the past 17 years as executive director of Alzheimer's Family Services Center in Huntington Beach, where her leadership led to development of a state-of-the-art facility, built in partnership with Hoag Memorial Hospital Presbyterian, and a continuum of programs to support persons from the earliest to most advanced stages of dementia and their families.

An impassioned advocate for people with Alzheimer's disease and their care partners, Dr. Dick-Muehlke has served as the Chair of the California Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders Advisory Committee, the President of the California Association of Adult Day Services, and a member of the California Alzheimer's Disease State Plan Task Force. Since 1990, she has given nearly 400 presentations to professional and lay audiences on a myriad of topics, such as the subtypes of dementia, treatment and prevention of Alzheimer's disease, management of neuropsychiatric symptoms, successful aging, living with memory loss, and spiritual care, just to name a few. A skilled writer, Cordula has co-authored a number of articles investigating motor learning with Dr. Malcolm Dick, Senior Neuropsychologist at the UCI MIND Memory Assessment Clinic and her husband of nearly 20 years.

Dr. Dick-Muehlke received her bachelor's degree in English from Portland State University in 1975, a master's in counseling psychology from the University of Portland in 1985, a second master's degree in theology from Fuller Seminary in 1988, and her doctorate in clinical psychology from Fuller Graduate School of Psychology in 1993.



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