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FROM THE CHAIRMAN'S OFFICE
This year’s Visiting Keith Professor was Dr. Mitch Berger, Professor and Chairman, The Department of Neurological Surgery, The University of California San Francisco. Dr. Berger delivered lectures on Manuscript Writing in Neurosurgery, Molecular-based Profiling and Outcome Prediction of Gliomas, and Current Management of Glial Tumors. Congratulations to Nicolas Phan who received the first place award for the Morley Prize for best resident research paper and presentation, and to Eve Tsai and Gelareh Zadeh who were runner-up award winners. Special thanks to Mark Bernstein who organized the entire program, and hosted a wonderful dinner for Mitch Berger at Messis Restaurant on February 11th, 2001. Please see images below from this year’s Keith Lectureship.

Michael Taylor and Abhaya Kulkarni were recipients of the KG McKenzie 1st place awards for best basic science and clinical research papers respectively given by the Canadian Neurosurgical Society. Michael and Abhaya will present their papers at the upcoming Canadian Congress of Neurological Sciences meeting in Vancouver June 18 – 22, 2002. Congratulations to Michael and Abhaya for their outstanding accomplishments!

HONOURS, AWARDS AND APPOINTMENTS
Ash Singhal received an Ontario Graduate Scholarship in Science and Technology from the Institute of Medical Science.

Richard Perrin has been appointed to the position of Grand Chambellan in the new executive of the Confrerie des Chevaliers du Tastevin Sous Commanderie de Toronto.

Bradley Jacobs received the Codman Neurotrauma Young Investigator’s Award for 2002.
Michael Taylor won the KG McKenzie Prize for best basic science research paper given by the Canadian Neurosurgical Society.

Abhaya Kulkarni won the KG McKenzie Prize for best clinical research paper given by the Canadian Neurosurgical Society.

Alan R. Hudson has been appointed President and CEO of Cancer Care Ontario effective April 1st, 2002.

Charles Tator has been appointed Chairman of the Canadian Brain and Health Coalition.

Charles Tator has been appointed the first incumbent of the Robert Campeau Family Foundation Chair in Brain and Spinal Cord Research at the Toronto Western Hospital and University of Toronto.

Charles Tator has won the 2002 Grass Award of the Society of Neurological Surgeons for sustained excellence in research from a neurosurgical investigator in North America. This award is one of the most prestigious awards in neurosurgery.

PUBLICATIONS


VISITING PROFESSORSHIPS


Jim Rutka. Visiting Professor. University of Wisconsin, Madison Wisconsin. 1) Medulloblastoma from a difficult past to a promising future. 2) Classification and current management of brainstem tumors in children. February 1, 2002


JOB & GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

NEUROTRAUMA SURGEON
Baylor University Medical Center, Dallas, Texas
New opportunity for a Neurotraumatologist to start a Neurotrauma service at Baylor University Medical Center, a major tertiary medical center, the flagship of a large, influential hospital system. Employed position with excellent income and benefits package. If interested in this position, please contact Kay Wysong, Physician Recruiter, Baylor Health Care System, (800) 887-8759, email CV to kaywy@baylordallas.edu or fax CV to (972) 860-8501.

Innovative combined academic/private practice neurosurgical group seeks an additional neuro-oncologist to join an established neuro-oncology program. Applicants should have experience in clinical trials and research publications. In addition, participation in neurological residency training and academic point will be based upon background. Respond to:Emilio M Nardone, M.D, Director of Neurosurgical Oncology, Central Illinois NeuroHealth Sciences, 1015 South Mercer Avenue, Bloomington, IL 61701 Phone: (309) 662-7500 tFax: (309) 662-7333

Connaught Fund Programs
Automatic Start-up Grants for New Tenured and Tenure-Stream Faculty, Deadline – none
Grants for International Colloquia/Symposia, Deadline – March 16, 2002

North American Spine Society
2002 Outstanding Paper Award. Submission DEADLINE: March 2, 2002

AONA Resident Trauma Research Support Program
http://membrane.com/sona/res98.html

RESIDENTS' CORNER
Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center has fellowships in clinical and/or investigative neuro-oncology beginning July 1, 2002. Further information is available from Stephanie.

Surgical Neurology Branch offers combined basic science and clinical fellowships to those considering careers in academic neurosurgery. For further information go to http://intra.ninds.nih.gov/Lab.asp?Org_ID=95

QUESTION OF THE MONTH (Prepared by Robin Humphreys)

Which of the following statements concerning uncinate fits is correct?

(A) They are characterized by olfactory hallucinations that occur as a result of an irritating lesion of the uncus, adjoining region of the parahippocampal gyrus, or region adjoining the amygdala
(B) They are characterized by olfactory hallucinations that occur as a result of an irritating lesion of the mediodorsal thalamic nucleus
(C) They are an epileptic disorder whose focus is the prefrontal cortex, and they result in a failure to discriminate odors
(D) They are a partial complex seizure disorder of the amygdala and hippocampus that results in the expression of violent, uncontrolled behaviour
(E) They are an epileptic disturbance caused by the formation of a tumor that is limited to the olfactory bulb, and they result in a failure to discriminate odors.

ANSWER TO THE LAST QUESTION (January NEUROSURGE Volume 3; Issue 5)

The answer is B.

The fibers passing through the pyramidal decussation arise from areas 4,6,3,1 and 2 (ie primary motor, premotor and primary sensory regions) of the cerebral cortex. This bundle, situated at the most caudal aspect of the medulla, characterizes that level of the medulla. The descending fibers pass to all levels of the cord and provide the anatomic substrate underlying voluntary control of movements of the limbs. Thus, if the entire bundle of fibers contained within the decussation were destroyed, bilateral cortical inputs to spinal cord motor neurons that govern both the arms and legs would be eliminated, and quadriplegia would result.

PDF OF THE MONTH
In the January 2002 issue of Neurosurgery (Neurosurgery 50: 1-10, 2002), a review article by Michael Lawton, UCSF, on approaches to Basilar Apex Aneurysms is provided as a PDF. This article is heavily weighted towards neurosurgical clipping of basilar apex aneurysms. The comments which follow the article by many outstanding vascular neurosurgeons are worth reading.

WEBSITE OF THE MONTH
http://www.brain-surgery.com/history.html
By visiting this website, you will be able to read a brief account of the history of neurosurgery throughout the centuries.

UPCOMING NEUROSURGICAL MEETINGS
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

NATIONAL/NORTH AMERICAN:

2002 AANS/CNS Section on Tumor Satellite Symposium, Chicago, Illinois, April 11-12, 2002.


5th Congress of the European Association of Neuro Oncology, Florence, Italy. September 7-10, 2002.


2002 Outstanding Paper Award. Submission DEADLINE: March 2, 2002

NEUROSURGERY RESIDENT SEMINARS:
The seminars will be held at The Hospital for Sick Children beginning at 0900 hours in Room 1527, 1st Floor, Roy Hill Wing (previously known as Gerrard Wing) unless otherwise noted.

Pediatric Neurosurgery Curriculum 2002

March 1, Embryology of the Spine and CVJ, Dr. M. Binmahfoodh; Radiology of the Pediatric Spine, Dr. Derek Armstrong; Pediatric Spinal Injury, Dr. Peter Dirks

March 8, Pediatric Head Injury, Dr. Robin Humphreys and Dr. Peter Dirks; Child Abuse and NonAccidental Head Injury, Dr. Dirk Huyer

March 15, TBA

March 22, City Wide Rounds, Evolution of Transphenoidal And Transfacial Surgery to the Skull Base, Dr. William Couldwell, St. Michael’s and Wellesley Hospitals, 2E Assembly Hall, Shuter Wing, 2nd Floor, 7:00 to 8:00 a.m.

March 29, Good Friday

The seminars will be held at The Hospital for Sick Children beginning at 0900 hours in Room 1527, 1st Floor, Roy Hill Wing unless otherwise noted.

HEADS OF DIVISIONS MEETING
Thursday, March 21st, 2002 0700-0800 hours, North Conference Room

RESIDENCY PROGRAM COMMITTEE MEETING
Tuesday, March 26th, 2002 0700-0800 hours, Room 1445, First Floor Roy Hill Wing.