





uOttawa

Institut de recherche  
sur le cerveau

Brain and Mind  
Research Institute

# 2017 2018

## ANNUAL REPORT

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University of Ottawa  
Brain and Mind Research Institute

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# CONTENT

<b>INTRODUCTION</b>	<b>03</b>
Message from the Interim Director	04
Message from the White Coat Cabinet Chair	05
<b>OUR MEMBERS</b>	<b>06</b>
<b>RESEARCH IMPACT</b>	<b>08</b>
From Bench to Bedside	08
Introducing Dr. Maxime Rousseaux	10
Awareness & Action	12
<b>uOBMRI SHOWCASE</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>RESEARCH</b>	<b>16</b>
Research Recognition	16
Research Projects & Funding	17
<b>uOBMRI EVENTS</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>OUR PARTNERS</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>INTEGRATED NETWORKS</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>GOVERNANCE</b>	<b>22</b>
Governing Council	
Internal Advisory Board	
External White Coat Cabinet Board	
Scientific Council	



## CONNECT.EXCITE.HEAL.

The University of Ottawa Brain and Mind Research Institute (uOBMRI) is Ottawa's largest assembly of basic researchers and clinician scientists that are focused on brain and mind related health.

The uOBMRI helps orchestrate research in a collaborative and innovative fashion by overcoming the barriers that exist between research at the basic and clinical levels. It does so by helping to coordinate research efforts among

its research members at the various uOttawa faculties, local hospitals, affiliated networks and local research institutes.

The uOBMRI supports its members by enhancing the research environment, facilitating access to resources and expanding programs in order to attract the best candidates.

**We are working together to promote awareness and education of brain and mind related health in the community.**

# MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR



Over the past year, the uOttawa Brain and Mind Research Institute (uOBMRI) has undergone a leadership transition stemming from Dr. David Park's move to Calgary as Director of their renowned Hotchkiss Brain Institute. Nevertheless, the uOBMRI has continued to flourish and will continue to do so. The uOttawa Vice President's Research Office has reaffirmed its commitment that the uOBMRI is a top priority and a new Director be recruited in 2019 to take on what was started by its visionary leaders.

On September 1st 2018, I accepted the position of Interim Director of the uOBMRI and with that appointment, I was given the privilege of helping to pave the way for the new leader. I have since had the pleasure of meeting with our partner leaders, members and community stakeholders. This has given me an opportunity to further understand and appreciate the breadth of research, the needs of stakeholders and the extent of outreach and awareness going on in our community.

I look forward to continue meeting with all our stakeholders to help shape the immediate future of the uOBMRI by building bridges, strengthening relationships and creating collaborative, exciting opportunities for all.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M Schlossmacher'.

Michael Schlossmacher, MD  
**Interim Director**, uOttawa Brain and Mind Research Institute

# MESSAGE FROM OUR WHITE COAT CABINET

In the past year, the uOBMRI has experienced leadership changes that has affected us all. Times of change often allow for new, innovative ideas and this event is no exception. We are proud to work with Dr. Michael Schlossmacher as Interim Director as we move ahead to recruit a new dynamic leader. His leadership, expertise and knowledge are unparalleled. He is paving the way for the uOBMRI in this transition phase. Michael has already implemented ideas to help strengthen the important partnerships that are key to the success of the uOBMRI.

As we move forward, it will be my honour and pleasure to continue to co-chair, with Mélanie Vadeboncoeur, the University of Ottawa Brain and Mind Research Institute's White Coat Cabinet. We are a dedicated group of Ottawa area citizens with a keen interest in advancing awareness of, support for and success of a world-class institution in neuroscience research and the treatment of brain disorders. The White Coat Cabinet supports the uOBMRI awareness activities (such as Brain Health Awareness Week) and the uOBMRI fundraising activities (such as the Strokes for Stroke Golf Tournament).

We look forward to welcoming a new leader in 2019 and will continue to support and work closely with the uOBMRI team and its stakeholders.

Sincerely,



Brian Reinke  
**Chair**, uOttawa Brain and Mind Research Institute White Coat Cabinet

# OUR MEMBERS

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## Who are our members?

The University of Ottawa Brain and Mind Research Institute (uOBMRI) is Ottawa's largest assembly of basic researchers and clinician scientists that are focused on brain and mind related health. We currently have over 250 scientific members. Our members include clinicians, clinician scientists, fundamental researchers from across numerous specialties, who work to understand the nervous system (central and peripheral) in order to make an impact on brain health.

To view our membership profiles, please visit our website at:  
**<http://www.uottawa.ca/brain/about-institute/faculty>**



# How to become a Member?

## Membership Guidelines:

- Must have expertise or major interest in brain and mind related research
- Must provide a CV as a new member and to renew on an annual basis
- Request for membership can be submitted to the Director at any time throughout the year. Please email [uOttawaBMRI@uottawa.ca](mailto:uOttawaBMRI@uottawa.ca) for all membership requests

## Members have access to:

- Opportunities for project funding based on approval from the Scientific Council
- Opportunities to participate in collaborative uOBMRI Projects
- Updates on activities within the Brain and Mind Research community
- Programs and groups within the uOBMRI that facilitate interactions and provide direction to brain research activities within Ottawa
- Participation at uOBMRI outreach events

## As a Member you must:

- Acknowledge the uOBMRI in published works, presentations and press releases
- Submit your CV once a year





# MEMORY & COGNITION



## RESEARCH IMPACT

In 2017, the uOBMRI and Bruyère Research Institute (BRI) launched the Memory Collaborative, a joint fundraising partnership for improved memory and dementia research.

## IN THEIR WORDS:

"The Memory Collaborative is an initiative that provides a unique platform to facilitate collaborations between basic researchers and clinical researchers and physicians. It allows the transfer of knowledge from "bench to bedside and back". It helps push forward the research on memory formation and cognitive functioning, to help us connect the changes in the brain to changes in function that bring older adults with memory challenges to see their health practitioner. The better we understand these links, the better care can be provided by clinicians, and the more successful will be our interventions to slow down progression, and ultimately prevent cognitive decline, Alzheimer's disease, and dementia."

- Drs. Frank Knoefel & Nafissa Ismail

MD, Physician, Bruyère Memory Program, Bruyère Continuing Care,  
Assistant Professor, Faculty of Medicine, uOttawa, uOBMRI

PhD, Associate Professor, School of Psychology,  
University Research Chair in Stress and Mental Health, uOttawa, uOBMRI



"THROUGH THE WORKSHOP, WE WERE ABLE TO ENGAGE CLINICIANS, BASIC SCIENTISTS AND PATIENTS IN DISCUSSION ABOUT CHALLENGES IN MEMORY-RELATED RESEARCH." -KHALED S. ABDELRAHMAN, TRAINEE

## FROM BENCH TO BEDSIDE:

### EDUCATION THROUGH COLLABORATION

In 2016, leading cognition and memory researchers in Ottawa formed the uOBMRI Memory Cognition Group (MCG), a collective group focused on understanding the fundamentals of cognition and memory, preventing and treating cognitive decline and improving clinical care delivery.

In the midst of exciting research developments, a growing need and opportunity also became clear. In order to deliver effective clinical care and education on memory loss and dementia, research must extend from bench to bedside. With the goal of addressing this need, the uOBMRI and Bruyère Research Institute (BRI), launched the Memory Collaborative, a joint fundraising partnership for improved memory and dementia research, education and care on June 21st, 2017.

Through this partnership, both institutes work collaboratively to address a full spectrum of research, through the science of over 100 investigators and trainees.

Since its inception, members of the Memory Collaborative have been dedicated to the mission of education through collaboration. Notably, the first Memory Collaborative Trainee Workshop was held in Spring 2018, bringing together trainees from both institutes.

Between presentations and interactive demonstrations in basic and clinical science, trainees were able to learn about the range of research taking place in Ottawa and how they can further collaborate and understand memory loss.

# INTRODUCING:

## Dr. Maxime Rousseaux

"THE SENSE OF COMMUNITY AND COMMITMENT TO COLLABORATION ARE VERY STRONG AT THE UOBMRI. WHILE MANY OF THE SCIENTISTS ARE COMING FROM DIVERSE AND SOMEWHAT DISPARATE FIELDS, THEY SHARE THE SAME MENTALITY OF BREAKING DOWN SILOS AND WORKING TOGETHER TO TACKLE IMPORTANT QUESTIONS. I FEEL PRIVILEGED TO BE PART OF THIS STELLAR GROUP."

--MAXIME ROUSSEAU, PHD



For Dr. Max Rousseaux, studying neuroscience was never a question. He has always been interested in the immense complexity of the brain and understanding what makes people tick. So why did he focus on neurodegenerative diseases like Parkinson's and ALS? Beyond wanting to explore the role that neurodegenerative diseases play in understanding the fundamental function of the brain, he's always been motivated by the Parkinson's community.

"Growing up as a scientist in an entrenched Parkinson's community in Ottawa, and meeting with patients, really gave me a sense of responsibility and sort of ownership of the field".

Dr. Rousseaux's career began in Ottawa, where his training went hand in hand with his involvement with the PRC and PIPR. While he worked to understand models of Parkinson's Disease and Stroke, he grew attached to the Ottawa Parkinson Disease (PD) community and their efforts.

Being embedded in the community is a reminder of the challenges patients living with Parkinson's face everyday.

Dr. Rousseaux's passion for improving patient care continued with his post-doctoral fellowship at the Howard Hughes Medical Institute/Baylor College of Medicine (Texas), where he established a PD-centered research program that employed genetic screening methods to "shed light onto new pathways for therapeutic intervention in diseases such as PD and Alzheimer's disease."

After a successful stint in Houston, Texas where he also continued to advocate for scientific literacy by serving on the judging committee for Junior Breakthrough Prize (2017) as well as lobby alongside scientists, physicians and patients in Washington for more funding in PD, Dr. Rousseaux has recently returned to Ottawa.

# PARKINSON'S

## RESEARCH IMPACT

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In April 2018, the uOBMRI welcomed its newest recruit with the hiring of Dr. Maxime Rousseaux, a neuroscientist specializing in Parkinson's disease and ALS.

## IN THEIR WORDS:

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"We are so fortunate to have Max devote his career to Parkinson's research! Max "fits" the collaborative efforts of researchers in the Parkinson Research Consortium. He brings with him a youthful, contagious enthusiasm to the field of Neuroscience. He is a creative thinker, a breath of fresh air and has a remarkable passion driving Parkinson Research towards a cure!"

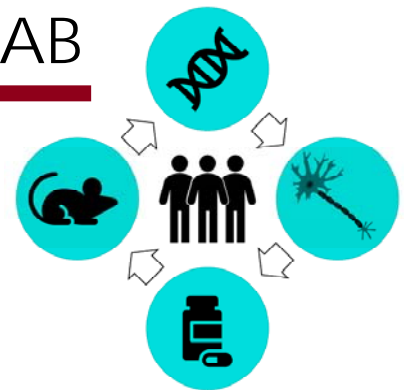
- Shelby Hayter, PRC Advisory Board Member

## LOOKING FORWARD | ROUSSEAUX LAB

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### HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE THE FIRST 6 MONTHS OF THE ROUSSEAUX LAB?

"The first 6 months in our lab have flown by. Though it took a little bit of time to obtain our equipment and set up our experimental platforms, we are now fully operational and are doing exciting science! We have a great team that is multidisciplinary and motivated. It is also a very exciting time where any new data feels like a big accomplishment since we are basically starting from nothing." -Dr. Rousseaux



Logo Credit:

Terry Suk & Haley Geertsma

### WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING FORWARD TO MOST IN THE NEXT YEAR?

"Now that we are up and running, I look forward to working with other members of the PRC (and the uOBMRI as a whole) to accomplish our scientific goals. I am also excited to see what will come of my trainees' hard work, especially in the projects that were inspired by their own creative thinking. Lastly, I am looking forward to get more involved in community events and outreach in 2019."

-Dr. Rousseaux

# CONCUSSION

## RESEARCH IMPACT

From advocating on behalf of the patient experience to revamping the official guidelines for concussion, our Concussion Advisory Group (CAG) members made their mark on concussion research and awareness in 2018.

### IN THEIR WORDS:

"This group organized itself with the aim of improving access to care as well as treatment for persons with concussion and persisting symptoms. I am privileged to engage with patients and family members directly outside of the clinical setting which allows me as well as other clinicians and researchers to have a broader, more informed patient perspective. This group provides information, guides research, engages study volunteers and generates funds for research."

-Dr. Shawn Marshall, CAG Chair





# AWARENESS & ACTION

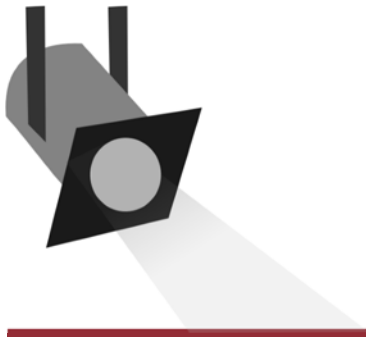
IMPROVING PATIENT CARE ONE STEP AT A TIME

Formed in late 2015, the Concussion Advisory Group (CAG) represents a unique partnership between the uOBMRI researchers/clinicians, patients and community, working to address the urgent needs of those who have experienced concussions. Guided by the goal to “Eliminate the Wait”, the CAG is working towards making the healthcare system more accessible and clearer to navigate for others.

In 2018, the CAG made their biggest impact yet on concussion awareness and research. In March, over 200 community members attended the inaugural March for Concussion. Attendees were able to understand how unique each concussion patient’s experience is, and the importance of access to improved patient care.

Thanks to the CAG member’s tireless efforts to share their stories via this event and media, over \$15,000 was raised in support of concussion research.

CAG Chair, Dr. Shawn Marshall has always appreciated the patient perspective. As the lead provincial author of the 3rd edition of *Guideline for Concussion/Mild Traumatic Brain Injury & Persistent Symptoms*, he used his concussion community’s insight to publish guidelines that went beyond the physician/clinician scope in 2018. For the first time ever, the new guidelines include a patient version with a comprehensive set of tools and plans to manage symptoms. Important care information is now accessible in an exciting new way thanks to the Ottawa concussion research community. For more guideline information, click [here](#).



# uOBMRI SHOWCASE

April 30 2017—May 1 2018

## Dr. Michael Schlossmacher honoured with the Grimes Research Career Achievement Award

“All you have to do is crack the door open and show something can be done that people thought couldn’t be done.”

Dr. Schlossmacher, a senior researcher at the Ottawa Hospital Research Institute and a Professor of Cellular and Molecular Medicine at the University of Ottawa, has built an award-winning career on both caring for patients...and looking at problems from unusual angles in an effort to work toward better treatment or a cure for the disease. Read the full profile from the Ottawa Citizen [here](#).



## Researchers at the uOttawa faculties of Medicine and Science uncover yet another piece of the puzzle for how the brain functions | Dr. Richard Naud & Dr. André Longtin



Dr. Richard Naud has been contributing to the mapping of the human brain. His navigation technique: computer-based simulations that work to decipher the language of the brain.

Recently, in collaboration with Dr. Alexandre Payeur and Dr. André Longtin, Dr. Naud discovered a new piece of the puzzle about the brain, published in one of the most prestigious physics journals, [Physical Review X](#), titled “Noise Gated by Dendrosomatic Interactions Increases Information Transmission”. Continue reading [here](#).

## New research centre a 'game changer' for neuromuscular disease | Dr. Jodi Warman & Dr. Robin Parks

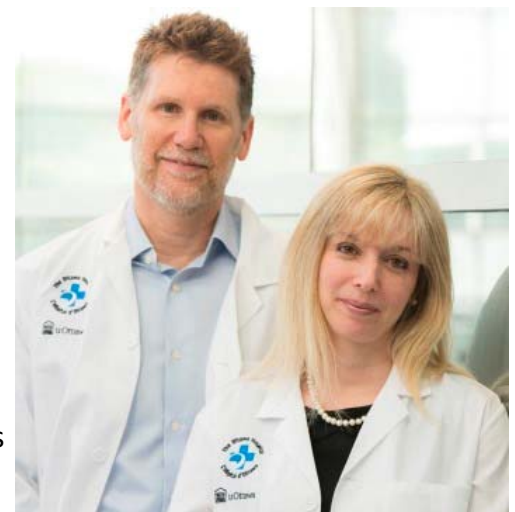
Ottawa neurologist Dr. Jodi Warman Chardon recalls seeing patients with neuromuscular diseases — including muscular dystrophy, ALS and others — getting on the train to Montreal to take part in clinical trials not available in Ottawa. Some had to travel much farther. The image has stayed with her.

“So many people are desperate to participate in clinical trials,” she said. It made her realize more must be done to help make therapies and research available to Ottawa patients closer to home.

The Ottawa Hospital’s new neuromuscular research centre, which opened at the Civic campus, will enable patients to take part in clinical trials here in the capital, which will give them access to new treatments that are not otherwise available.

And it will do more than that, said Warman Chardon. The centre will create a hub in Ottawa for physicians and scientists to collaborate on new treatments. She calls it a “game changer.”

Learn more about Dr. Warman-Chardon and Dr. Parks, Co-Directors of the CNMD [here](#).



## Dr. Ruth Slack elected by peers to join the Royal Society of Canada (RSC) as a Fellow



The work of Dr. Ruth Slack, at the uOttawa Brain and Mind Research Institute, gives new hope to Canadians affected by brain damage. Her team has discovered that mitochondria, a cell's energy factories, play a central role in a stem cell's decision to either remain a stem cell or proceed to develop into a neuron (fully functioning brain cell). This finding opens new lines of investigation into neurodegenerative diseases and brain damage where mitochondrial function is impaired, and new doors to potential therapy in neurological diseases. Read the uOttawa Medicine article [here](#).

## Ottawa scientist wins Canada's top stem cell prize for multiple sclerosis trial | Dr. Harold Atkins

Dr. Harold Atkins, stem cell transplant physician and scientist at The Ottawa Hospital and the University of Ottawa, received the prestigious Till & McCulloch Award for "exceptional contributions to global stem cell research."

The award [was] presented at the Till & McCulloch Meeting, organized by the Stem Cell Network, in November, 2017. Discover Dr. Atkins' path to success [here](#).



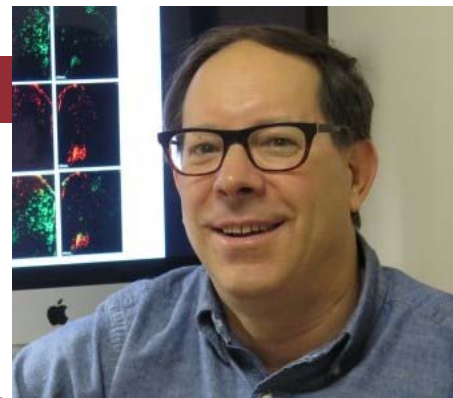
## New research published by Dr. Stephen Ferguson has shown reduced symptoms in Huntington's Disease in laboratory models, results with great potential for treatment in humans



Patients with Huntington's Disease experience a buildup of a particular mutated form of a building block, referred to as the 'huntingtin' protein. Cell death ensues, leading to progressive incapacitation and death within 15-20 years. Based on past research successes with Alzheimer's, Dr. Ferguson and his team correctly hypothesized that blocking a receptor in the brain, called mGluR5, would block the buildup of the mutated huntingtin protein and prevent the progression of Huntington's disease. Their results were published recently in Science Signaling. Learn more [here](#). For full press release, click [here](#).

## Dr. Paul Albert recognized for ground-breaking discoveries in mental health

Dr. Paul Albert has received the top research award from the Canadian College of Neuropsychopharmacology (the Heinz Lehmann Award) for his "outstanding and innovative research" in mental health. According to one of the nomination letters for the award, Dr. Albert "has made huge and lasting contributions to neurophyschopharmacology in Canada and worldwide." Read more [here](#).



**Please note that these are examples of our member's success over the past year. Please visit our website for all member news.**



# RESEARCH RECOGNITION

April 30 2017—May 1 2018

Please note that this list is not exhaustive. Please visit our website for all member news.

## In the last year, our members were...

### Published in:

- Analytical Chemistry
- Cell Stem Cell
- Development Cell
- Human Brain Mapping
- Human Molecular Genetics
- JAMA
- Movement Disorders
- Nature Communications
- Physical X Review
- PNAS
- Scientific Reports
- Stem Cell Reports
- Stroke
- And more!



### Featured on:

- BBC
- CBC Morning Live
- CBC News
- CFRA Radio
- CTV News
- Global TV
- Globe and Mail
- Ottawa Citizen
- Ottawa Hospital Journal
- Scientific American
- Seeker
- Quirks & Quarks



### Supported by:

- CFI
- CIHR
- CPSR
- Cure SMA
- Heart & Stroke Foundation
- Huntington's Society of Canada
- Michael J Fox Foundation
- MS Society of Canada
- Ontario NeuroTrauma Foundation
- Parkinson Canada
- PSI Foundation
- Scottish Rite Charitable Foundation
- Stem Cell Network



# EXAMPLES OF RESEARCH PROJECTS FUNDED THIS YEAR

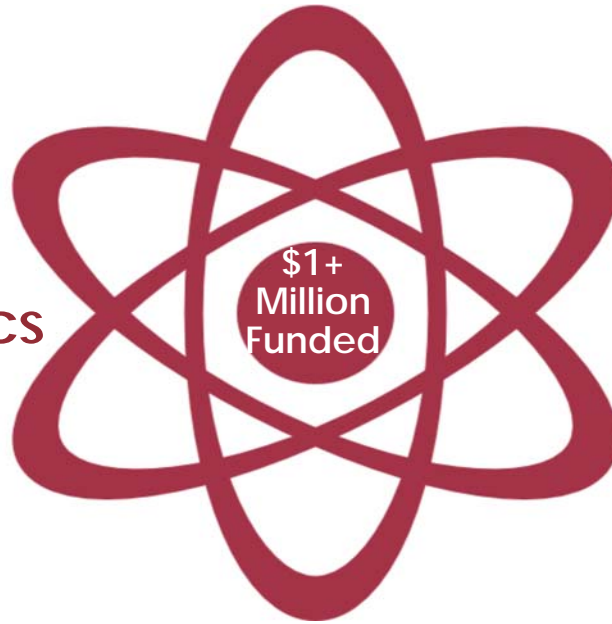
April 30 2017—May 1 2018

Recruitment

Stroke

Neural Dynamics

Neuromuscular  
Disease



Concussion

Parkinson's  
Disease

Epilepsy

Memory &  
Cognition

## Projects:

*This list highlights select projects funded from April 30, 2017 to May 1, 2018, in alphabetical order.*

- Behavior Core Facilities | uOttawa | \$50,000
- Bilingualism, Working Memory, and Event-Related Potentials | \$10,000
- Brain Imaging Analyst | \$60,000
- Centre for Neuromuscular Disease Clinic support | \$75,000
- Centre for Neuromuscular Disease Scholarship Program STaR Awards | \$50,000
- Early Interventional Rehabilitation Care for Stroke | \$70,000
- Emerging-Network for Epilepsy Understanding and Transition Research (e-NEUTRinO) | \$20,000
- Exploring Perceptions of Cognitive Impairment in Older Drivers: Towards a Clinical Tool for Patient-Caregiver Feedback | \$10,000
- Investigation of Altered Synaptic Plasticity in a Laboratory Model of Alzheimer's Disease | \$25,000
- IPCN: The Integrated Parkinson's Care Network | \$60,000
- Neuromuscular Recruitment | \$175,000
- Parkinson Research Consortium Fellowships Awardees, Summer Studentship and Research Projects | \$225,500
- Post Concussion Research Consortium (PCRC) | \$15,000
- Summer School for the Centre of Neural Dynamics (SSCND8) | \$10,000
- The Effects of Early Onset Oral Contraceptives on Emotional Reactivity and Working Memory | \$25,000
- Treating Chronic Stroke with Stem Cell Therapy | \$130,000

# WITH OUR COMMUNITY

# FOR OUR COMMUNITY

**1** Keynote Speaker  
**2** Trainee Speakers  
**8** Internal Speakers  
**85+** Posters Presented  
**228** Academics Attended



# Brain Health Research Day 2017

## Brain Health Awareness Week

Oct. 16-20, 2017



**1** st Rowan's Legacy Symposium

**925+** Community Participants

**6** Areas of Research Presented:

Multiple Sclerosis

Alzheimer's Disease

Concussion Injury

Stroke

Spinal Cord Injury

Parkinson's Disease

# Highlighting uOBMRI Signature Events



**Doors Open Ottawa**  
June 3, 2017

- Over 250 visitors toured uOBMRI labs
- Over 25 tours given over the day

**Lap the Gats**  
June 25, 2017



- Over 300 cyclists, volunteers and supporters participated
- \$85,000 + raised for Parkinson's research



**Strokes for Stroke**  
September 16, 2017

- Over 100 golfers attended the inaugural event at the Marshes
- \$60,000 + raised for Stroke research and awareness

**March for Concussion**  
March 24, 2018



- 200 people marched in support of concussion education and awareness
- \$15,000 + was raised for Concussion research



**Audrey Grant**  
**Better Bridge Event**  
April 10, 2018

- Over 200 participants learned Bridge tips & tricks from expert Audrey Grant
- A record \$22,000 was raised for Parkinson's research

**100% OF OUR DONATIONS GOES TOWARDS RESEARCH**



Institut de recherche  
sur le cerveau

Brain and Mind  
Research Institute



RESEARCH INSTITUTE  
INSTITUT DE RECHERCHE



The Ottawa  
Hospital | L'Hôpital  
d'Ottawa



The Royal's  
Institute of Mental Health Research  
affiliated with the University of Ottawa



uOttawa

# OUR PARTNERS

The success of the University of Ottawa Brain and Mind Research Institute depends on its institutional members: **The Ottawa Hospital and the Ottawa Hospital Research Institute, The Royal Ottawa Health Care Group and The Royal's Institute of Mental Health Research, affiliated with the University of Ottawa, Bruyère Continuing Care and the Bruyère Research Institute, the Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario (CHEO) and the CHEO Research Institute, as well as, Hôpital Montfort and Institut de recherche de l'Hôpital Montfort. Our University of Ottawa faculties include; the faculties of Medicine, Science, Social Sciences, Health Sciences, Arts, Education, Engineering, and Law**

We are also building on our unique strengths in neurology, epidemiology, basic neuroscience and systems biology, fields that are crucial to mapping the complicated pathways that lead to disease.

Our affiliated hospitals and research institutes help to create productive relationships with medical research communities across Ottawa and around the world, to stimulate engagement with relevant scientists and clinicians and to support education and research across a wide range of neuroscience specialties.

# OUR INTEGRATED NETWORKS

Our integrated networks result from our efforts to help bridge the gap between the needs of the community and the research going on at the uOBMRI. These networks are primarily comprised of our members, patients, caregivers, community leaders and ambassadors of the uOBMRI. We come together to share ideas, build awareness and ultimately thrive to advance community outreach and engagement.

**Parkinson Research Consortium:** The PRC was established with the goal to be an incubator for innovative ideas in Parkinson's disease research. Comprised of a select group of scientists from the Ottawa Hospital Research Institute (OHRI) and the uOBMRI with diverse scientific talents and expertise in genetics, molecular biology, neuroscience and patient care. The PRC continues to grow in productivity, personnel and resources to help find a cure for Parkinson's disease.

**Canadian Partnership for Stroke Recovery:** The HSF Canadian Partnership for Stroke Recovery is a joint initiative of the Heart and Stroke Foundation and Canada's leading stroke recovery research centres. Headquartered at the University of Ottawa, the Partnership is restoring lives through research.

**Centre for Neural Dynamics:** The Center brings together researchers from the Faculties of Medicine, Science and Health Sciences. They have a common interest in molecular, cellular and systems neuroscience, mathematical modeling and imaging.

**Centre for Neuromuscular Disease:** The CNMD represents a multidisciplinary research and training initiative that unites world-class basic and clinical researchers working towards the common goal of diagnosing, characterizing and developing transformative therapies for patients with neuromuscular disease

**Multiple Sclerosis (MS) Group:** The uOBMRI MS Group was founded in order to systematically research the underlying mechanisms of MS, unravel regeneration processes, develop new approaches for treatment and implement innovative rehabilitation processes at our partnering hospitals in Ottawa. With the belief that a collaborative approach is key, the group features members with a wide range of interests and expertise.

**The Academy of Mindfulness and Contemplative Studies:** The Academy is an interdisciplinary group of faculty and students who share a common interest in the study and application of mindfulness and contemplation.

**CARE for RARE:** CARE for RARE is a nation-wide research program focusing on the improvement of both the diagnosis and treatment of rare diseases. Led out of the Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario (CHEO) Research Institute in Ottawa, Canada, CARE for RARE includes 21 academic sites across the country, and is recognized internationally as a pioneer in the field of genomics and personalized medicine.

**Stroke Research Consortium:** In 2015, the leading stroke researchers in Ottawa established the SRC in order to systematically research the underlying mechanisms of injury, unravel regeneration processes, develop new approaches to optimize recovery and implement innovative rehabilitation processes at our partnering hospitals in Ottawa.

**Concussion Advisory Group:** The Concussion Advisory Group (CAG) is a unique partnership between the uOBMRI researchers/clinicians, patients and community, working to address the urgent needs of those who have experienced concussions. . Guided by the goal to "Eliminate the Wait", the CAG is working towards making the healthcare system more accessible and clearer to navigate for others.

**Memory and Cognition Group:** In 2016, the leading cognition and memory researchers in Ottawa formed the MCG to systematically research the underlying mechanisms of the cognitive decline, unravel memory loss processes, discover innovative ways to stop and heal cognitive decline and improve delivery of care at our partnering hospitals.

# uOBMRI GOVERNANCE

The University of Ottawa Brain and Mind Research Institute (uOBMRI) is a partnership between the faculties of the University of Ottawa and its affiliated hospitals (TOH, CHEO, Bruyère, Montfort, The Royal) as well as associated research institutes.

The uOBMRI is a uOttawa initiative that maintains a broad and inclusive membership across the University of Ottawa/Ottawa research community in Brain and Mind related research. It is under the governance of the Vice President of Research Office at the University of Ottawa. However, its day to day operations reside at the uOttawa Faculty of Medicine to streamline operations and allow the uOBMRI to make a definitive impact within the larger research community it is embedded in.

Because the uOBMRI relies on partnerships amongst its stakeholders, transparency and guidance are critical for its success. The uOBMRI operates with four branches of oversight: The Governing Council (comprising of members of the partners' and internal senior leadership), The Advisory Board (members of the partners' and internal leadership), The Scientific Council (members of the uOBMRI scientific community) and The White Coat Cabinet (external members of the community). These boards serve as a formal mechanism to advise on priorities, establishment of new programs, and scientific directions for the future of the uOBMRI. And in doing so, they will contribute to strengthening the vision and mandate of the uOBMRI.

## Current Members include:

### Governing Council

Dr. Sylvain Charbonneau (**Chair**), Vice-President Research, University of Ottawa  
Mr. Guy Chartrand, President and CEO, Bruyère Continuing Care  
Dr. Marc Ekker, Vice-Dean Research, Faculty of Science, University of Ottawa  
Dr. Bernard Jasmin, Dean, Faculty of Medicine, University of Ottawa  
Dr. Kevin Kee, Dean, Faculty of Arts, University of Ottawa  
Dr. Bernard Leduc, President and CEO, Hôpital Montfort  
Dr. Zul Merali, President and CEO, The Royal's Institute of Mental Health Research  
Dr. Martin Osmond, CEO and Scientific Director, Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario Research Institute  
Dr. Michael Schlossmacher, Interim Director, University of Ottawa Brain and Mind Research Institute

### Advisory Board

Dr. Louis Barriault, Dean, Faculty of Science, University of Ottawa  
Dr. Richard Barwell, Dean, Faculty of Education, University of Ottawa  
Dr. Sylvain Charbonneau, Vice President, Research, University of Ottawa  
Mr. Guy Chartrand, President and CEO, Bruyère Continuing Care  
Dr. Daniel Figeys, Chair, Department of Biochemistry, Microbiology and Immunology, University of Ottawa  
Dr. Bernard Jasmin, Dean, Faculty of Medicine, University of Ottawa  
Dr. Kevin Kee, Dean, Faculty of Arts, University of Ottawa  
Dr. Jack Kitts, President and CEO, The Ottawa Hospital  
Dr. Bernard Leduc, President and CEO, Hôpital Montfort  
Dr. Maurice Levesque, Interim Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Ottawa  
Dr. David Lohnes, Chair, Department of Cellular and Molecular Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, University of Ottawa  
Dr. Zul Merali, President and CEO, The Royal's Institute of Mental Health Research  
Mr. Alex Munter, President and CEO, Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario  
Dr. Martin Osmond, CEO and Scientific Director, Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario Research Institute  
Dr. Kathleen Pajer, Chief of Psychiatry, Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario, Chair, Department of Psychiatry, University of Ottawa  
Dr. Denis Prud'homme, Associate Vice President Research and Scientific Director, Institut du Savoir Montfort  
Dr. Michael Schlossmacher (**Chair**), Interim Director, University of Ottawa Brain and Mind Research Institute  
Dr. Ruth Slack, Interim Vice Dean, Research, Faculty of Medicine, University of Ottawa  
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