

Baycrest Matters

A bi-weekly update for Baycrest staff, families and clients

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Email submissions to:
Joan Mortimer, Editor,
mortimerj@baycrest.org
or call 416-785-2500,
ext. 2952

www.baycrest.org

Baycrest is fully
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University of Toronto.

Baycrest team building virtual brain

Still in its infant stages, Baycrest's Rotman Research Institute is leading a team of international scientists in the creation of a virtual brain which could revolutionize how clinicians assess and treat various brain disorders, including cognitive impairment caused by stroke and Alzheimer's disease.

"We are developing the first electronic atlas of human functional networks in the brain," says **Dr. Randy McIntosh**, project leader and director/senior scientist at Baycrest's Rotman Research Institute (RRI).

The RRI has partnered with scientists from the United States, Australia, Spain, France and the Netherlands to construct a virtual brain that will replicate typical patterns of brain activity that occur when people are engaged in a thinking task, such as remembering a phone

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Dr. Randy McIntosh, director/senior scientist, Rotman Research Institute, is leading a group of international scientists building the first virtual brain.

Baycrest

Enriching Care
Enhancing Knowledge
Enlightening Minds

Baycrest leads team building...continued from page 1

number, reading a book, or problem-solving.

As mental processes unfold, the brain can combine the actions of several networks. Mapping complex integrative brain dynamics has been described as writing the ultimate symphony score for the working brain and it requires experts in sophisticated mathematical modeling techniques. It is also a huge informatics challenge that requires uploading thousands of brain pattern configurations from lab data into several super computers. Still under construction, the virtual brain is made up of computers, linked in a grid, and racks of servers.

Once all of the data of a normal, healthy functioning brain from

childhood to old age is uploaded to build the foundation of the virtual brain, dynamics will be added to map the interplay between different brain areas during a mental task. The virtual brain will have the same functional architecture of a real, working brain. It will not only become a powerful tool for researchers, but provide clinicians (who are involved in the assessment, maintenance and rehabilitation of brain function in patients) with a cutting edge "predictive modeling" tool.

So far, Dr. McIntosh and his team have been able to recreate a real brain at rest, which is not as easy as it sounds. It involves replicating a stereotypical pattern across the brain, documented by scans and

equipment like functional magnetic resonance imaging. "You can reproduce these patterns," says Dr. McIntosh, who explains that the virtual brain is similar to a fetal brain. "Babies have less specialized brains than adults, but as they grow, different parts of their brains perform more specific functions, such as processing visual or audio information. The next step is to replicate the brain as it matures."

The virtual brain project is funded by a five-year grant from the James S. McDonnell Foundation. [BM](#)

Pandemic Information Sessions for Staff

Pandemic Influenza H1N1 and Baycrest Plans

Presenters:

- Chingiz Amirov**, director, Infection Prevention and Control
- Progress of H1N1 around the world and in the GTA
 - Baycrest Infection Prevention and Control Plans and how it will affect you

- Margaret Cernigoj**, director, Occupational Health and Safety.
- Baycrest Occupational Health and Safety Plans and how it will affect you

Join us:

Thursday, September 3
10:00 to 11:00 a.m.
Wortsman Hall

Or

Wednesday, Sept 16
1:00 to 2:00 p.m.
Wortsman Hall

The content will be the same on both dates and videotaped presentations will be posted on the intranet.

Tamiflu Consent Forms

Staff please fill out and submit your Tamiflu consent forms between August 17 and September 11, 2009.

Consent forms and detailed information about Tamiflu are on baycrest@work (intranet) or from your supervisor/director/manager. You can drop off your completed forms in the drop box outside the Occupational Health and Safety office on the 2nd Floor, Baycrest Hospital.

Student's journey honours Apotex resident

When Mitchell Perlmutter, a student at the Anne & Max Tanenbaum Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto (CHAT), decided to participate in the March of the Living, an annual Holocaust education program in Poland and Israel, he wanted his trip to honour the memory of a Holocaust victim. Since all the older relatives in his family were born in North America, he did not have a family connection to the Holocaust. However, he remembered Marguerite Markowski, a special Apotex resident he had met months earlier at a Baycrest event. Marguerite was the only member of her immediate family to survive the Holocaust.

Before heading off for the March of the Living, Mitchell met with Marguerite to learn more about her life. The eldest of seven children, Marguerite grew up in Czechoslovakia and was sent to stay with cousins in Belgium for a year or two in 1937. While there, she received a photographed family portrait of her parents and six siblings. When the war started, her father wrote that she was not to return home; he was happy that one member of the family was safe. Marguerite would never see her family again. The photograph (Mitchell took a copy with him on the march) remains her only memento of her family.

As the Nazis continued to invade Europe, Marguerite began a race



Tanenbaum CHAT student Mitchell Perlmutter (Left) shows Apotex resident Marguerite Markowski photos from March of the Living on his laptop while her children Elaine Markowski McKee and Sid Markowski look on.

to outrun them that would last for years.

She remembers how when she was seeing a friend off at the train station in Antwerp, her cousin showed up with her three young children.

“My cousin told me that she was leaving Belgium, and asked me to come with her. She said that if I wanted to go home to pack, I could leave the following day with her sister. I just took a look at her there with her little ones, and decided to join her so I could be of help. I left with just my purse, papers and the clothes on my back,” recounts Marguerite.

As it happened this was the last train out of Antwerp. Marguerite’s other cousin was trapped and did not survive. The spontaneous decision to get on the train that day had saved Marguerite’s life.

Marguerite and her cousin traveled to France and moved from place to place. She lived in fear that she would be found out. “At one point, I thought that if I were caught, I would not care anymore what happened to me. I would have a sense of relief,” she sighs. When it became unsafe to continue hiding with her cousin, she got fake identification papers. Posing as a gentile

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Student's journey ...continued from page 3

French girl, she went to Grenoble on her own, where she met a familiar woman in the street. "I kept trying to talk to her, asking her questions to see if I really knew her. I finally had the courage to ask her in Yiddish if she was Jewish, which put both our lives in danger," Marguerite explains. "When she said yes, I asked her where I could meet other Jews." The woman riskily gave her information which led to a job in the kitchen of a *foyer étudiante*, a student residence where her Jewish identity would remain hidden.

Marguerite remained in safety at the student residence until the end of the war and stayed on until she was able to locate her cousin who had also survived. She moved to Paris, where she married and had a daughter, Elaine. With no other family, she and her husband wanted to leave Europe. "We had sponsors from

Australia, Canada and the United States, and we decided whichever papers came first, that is where we would go," Marguerite explains. The Markowskis arrived in Canada in 1951. Their son Sid was born in Toronto a few years later. To this day, Marguerite looks at people, and wonders if she knows them from decades ago.

When Elaine and Sid heard of Mitchell's plan to honour their mother's family on this pilgrimage, they were deeply touched. "We felt grateful that Mitchell wanted to make my mother's experience part of his own," says Sid. Since both their parents' families had been wiped out (their father was from Poland and survived a Siberian work camp), they grew up without close family. "When we were very young, we did not understand the meaning of 'grandparents' or 'aunt and uncle,'" adds Elaine.

The March of the Living took place in April and joined together students from around the world. Mitchell comments that before heading to Israel for a euphoric celebration of Yom Ha'atzmaut, the country's birthday, the Poland part of the trip was a serious, somber atmosphere. Part of the journey included a march from Auschwitz to Berkenau concentration camps. "The march was only a few kilometers, but it was completely silent during this time," says Mitchell. In the silence, he thought of Marguerite and her family and his own freedom as a Canadian Jew. "I tried to envision the hardships of the Jews who walked this same path and of Marguerite's journey, on the run from one town to the next and how she lived through it all." **BM**



Fun in the sun

Genia Schiff, Eva Smugler and Katherine Sildon, as well as recreation therapist **Rachel Gavendo** and volunteer Carrie Xie, enjoy beautiful sunshine and great company during a Garden Party for 4th floor Apotex residents. This program was organized by Therapeutic Recreation and Nursing staff to provide residents with some fresh air and fun.

Baycrest presents the 2009 / 2010 season of **A**ging, **I**nnovation and the **M**ind

The 2009 / 2010 Speaker Series will build on last year's success and explore different aspects of how the brain ages, how to sustain brain health, the realities of caring for aging parents, and to provide helpful information on how to look after yourself and more.

New this year, due to "standing room only" turn-outs, a seat confirmation number is required for all those who attend the talks. A confirmation number will automatically be sent to you when you register on-line at www.baycrest.org. It is important to keep your receipt e-mail (with the confirmation number on it) as we will ask for the seat confirmation number when you register on the night of the event. Those who do not have access to a computer can call our hotline at 416.785.2500 ext. 6218 and leave their name, address, and contact number. We will get back to

you with a confirmation number. Also new this year, the talks will be webcast. We invite you to watch on-line at www.baycrest.org/speakerseris - and click on the link the evening of the event.

Please note the following dates:

Wednesday, September 30, 2009.

Tuesday, November 17, 2009.

Wednesday, February 10, 2010

Thursday, May 27, 2010.

Details for each talk will be advertised closer to the dates.

We thank you for your continued support of our speaker series.

FEATURED SPEAKER
 Dr. Michael Gordon
 One of Canada's best known geriatric medical specialists

Register ON-LINE by September 18
www.baycrest.org to obtain your seat confirmation number

Baycrest proudly presents the 2009 / 2010 season of

Baycrest

Aging, **I**nnovation & the **M**ind THE SPEAKER SERIES

Caring For Aging Parents: Wish there was a GPS for this journey!

Of the more than nine million Canadians who are between the ages of 40 and 59, the majority have parents who are beginning to need help and support. This talk will help you figure out how to navigate some of the bumps in the road and steer through unanticipated, sudden turns.

Wednesday, September 30, 2009
7:00 - 8:30 p.m.

Winter Garden ~ Baycrest ~ 3560 Bathurst Street, Toronto
 Free admission and parking ~ Seating is limited.
 For information please call 416.785.2500 ext. 6218
 This talk will be webcast. To view the webcast go to www.baycrest.org/speakerseries

Baycrest is an academic health sciences centre fully affiliated with



Changes in Therapeutic Recreation

The Therapeutic Recreation Department is please to announce some changes:

As a result of a pilot project tested this past year which employed a full-time recreation therapist on each floor and a half-time recreationist on each floor of the Apotex, programming has been re-designed for residents to engage in meaningful activities in more neighbourhood programs and individual sessions as well as the cognitive, physical and social interactions in the larger centralized recreation programs.

Please welcome recreationist **Erin Corey** to Apotex 2 and Apotex 7, and recreation therapists **Fernanda Fabrizi**, Apotex 5, **Rachel Gavendo**, Apotex 4, and **Irina Iordanova**, Apotex 3.

Recreation therapist **Hayley Demone** replaces Fernanda Fabrizi on 5 East/5 West, Baycrest Hospital, and will conduct assessments, develop intervention plans and facilitate therapeutic recreation groups.

Upon completion of a therapeutic recreation internship here, **Kimberly Lopez** joins Baycrest as weekend and evening

recreationist, co-ordinating centralized recreation activities.

The therapeutic recreation programs at Baycrest will continue to be directed toward functional interventions, leisure education and participation opportunities. These processes support the goal of assisting Baycrest residents and patients to maximize their independence in leisure, optimal health and the highest possible quality of life.

BM



Many thanks to the Georgian College Recreation Therapy interns (left to right) Kristyn Bacon, Lynne Flegel, Kimberly Lopez, Erin Corey, Renuka Inthranathan, who together logged over 2,500 hours at Baycrest.

Baycrest showcases Computerized Physician Order Entry system

A team of health care practitioners from St. Michael's Hospital in Toronto recently visited Baycrest to learn how the Baycrest computerized physician order entry system (CPOE) helps reduce errors in prescribing medication and other procedures.

At Baycrest, all patients' health records are stored on Meditech, an electronic, integrated health care information system which provides health care providers (including physicians, nurses, pharmacists, radiologists, laboratory technicians), with accurate, up-to-the-minute client

information. Meditech is built in "modules" (different programs, including CPOE) and they all interface with each other. The CPOE technology allows the interprofessional health care team quick access to patients' health records.

Joanna Mills, clinical systems educator at Baycrest demonstrated how CPOE functions to members of St. Michael's Trauma and Neurosurgery program: **Amanda McFarlan**, team lead, Trauma Registry; **Jessica Nanni**, resource nurse, Trauma and Neurosurgery Intensive Care Unit; and **Tom Willis**, nurse practitioner.

"St. Michael's Hospital plans to roll out a CPOE system this year and we wanted to see how it works in principle from a clinical standpoint. We knew that Baycrest was the perfect place to see it and learn how it operates in real time," says Amanda. "Although the orders sets will be different from Baycrest, the building blocks of the system will be very similar."

BM



Amanda McFarlan, Jessica Nanni, and Tom Willis, practitioners from St. Michael's Trauma and Neurosurgery program, watch Baycrest's clinical systems educator **Joanna Mills** (far right) demonstrate the Computerized Physician Order Entry.

Announcements

Please welcome **Virginia Doan**, who has joined the Human Resources Department Team August 17 as strategic clinical recruiter. Virginia was most recently the Recruitment and Retention Specialist at Sunnybrook, where she worked since 1999. Her prior experience includes a variety of Human Resources and Recruitment positions in healthcare. Virginia can be reached at ext. 2849 or at vdoan@baycrest.org.

Baycrest presents
the 9th Annual Kunin-Lunenfeld
Applied Research Unit (KLARU)
Conference

Aging at Home: Connecting Research and Clinical Care

Friday, October 30, 2009

The Holiday Inn Yorkdale
- 3450 Dufferin Street, Toronto

For information, please visit
our website
www.klaru-baycrest.on.ca
and click on the conference link.

Baycrest Staff Fees:
on or before Oct. 1, \$125
and after Oct. 1, \$150.

Inquiries - Paula Ferreira at
ext. 2363 or e-mail
pferreira@baycrest.org

"One of a Kind" Terraces/Wagman Centre Creative Arts Sale

Thursday, September 10

10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Terraces/Wagman Centre, Main Lobby

All crafts are lovingly hand-made by our members
Special prices for the Holidays

Raffle

You can win one of three beautiful pieces, hand-made by our members:

"Jerusalem" ceramic plate
Crocheted afghan
Vintage stained-glass lamp

Raffle tickets are available at the Creative Arts Studio at the Terraces/Wagman Centre for the price of \$2.00 per ticket or three for \$5.00.

