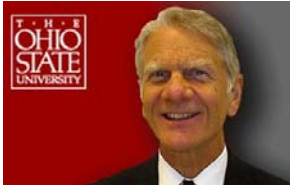


NISONGER NEWS

OSU Nisonger Center

Volume 2, Issue 1



L. Eugene Arnold, MEd, MD, will serve as Interim Director of The Nisonger Center starting Sept. 1.

Search committee seeks new Director, Arnold named Interim

A review committee has been formed to search for a new Director to replace Dr. Steven Reiss, who steps down at the end of August 2007. Chairing the committee is William Pease, MD, Chair of the Dept. of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation and Medical Director of the Dodd Hall Rehabilitation Program. Other members of the committee are listed in the article below.

Dr. Fred Sanfilippo, Senior VP and Executive Dean for Health Sciences and CEO of the OSU Medical Center, met with the committee and announced that L. Eugene Arnold, MD, Professor Emeritus of Psychiatry, has been named Interim Director of The Nisonger Center.

Dr. Sanfilippo told the committee that they should begin looking for a candidate who can connect and build alignment

between the Nisonger Center and the Medical Center. The candidate should have leadership qualities and be able to build bridges with other departments and signature programs. And the candidate should be able to help the Center maintain current funding and grants.

A magna cum laude graduate of The Ohio State University College of Medicine, Dr. Arnold is a nationally eminent child psychiatrist with more than 37 years of academic and clinical experience. He was formerly director of the division of child and adolescent psychiatry and vice chair of psychiatry. He has authored 9 books, more than 55 chapters and 150 articles. He is grandfather of a child with autism.

Dr. Arnold is currently studying psychotropic medications for ADHD and Autism and alterna-

tive treatments for ADHD and is co-investigator with Dr. Aman on the RUPP project.

Dr. Arnold said his goals as Interim Director are "To maintain the momentum of the center, nurture esprit and teamwork, continue community collaboration, and above all, facilitate speedy recruitment of a permanent director."

Dr. Reiss will remain a senior faculty member at Nisonger Center with full professor status. He plans to study chronic health issues in MR/DD, including organ transplantation. In a message sent on August 23 to all faculty and staff, he said, "I would like to wish Dr. Arnold success. He has taken on a substantial task. Although we are small, our activities affect many people...."

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Nisonger Center search committee members

The following are members of the Nisonger Center Search Committee:

William Pease, MD – Chair, Dept of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation; Medical Dir, Dodd Hall Rehabilitation Prog
 Dave Beversdorf, MD – Assoc Dir, Residency Training Prog; Asst Prof of Neurology
 Caroline Whitacre, PhD – Assoc VP for Health Sciences Research; Vice Dean for

Research; Dir, School of Biomedical Science

Robert Bornstein, PhD – Sr Assoc Dean of Academic Affairs, College of Medicine
 Dan Sedmak, MD – Exec Vice Dean and Sr Assoc VP for Health Sciences; Exec Dir, Center for Personalized Health Care

Radu Saveanu, MD – Chair, Dept of Psychiatry; Exec Dir, OSU and Harding Behavioral

Health and Medicine

John Campo, MD – Chief, Div of Child and Adolescent Psych; Prof of Psychiatry

Tony Brown, PhD – Assoc Prof, Dept of Neuroscience and Center for Molecular Neurobiology

Gwendolyn Cartledge, PhD – Professor, Special Education PAES

Jed Morison – Superintendent, Franklin County Board of MRDD **NN**



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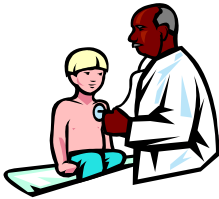
The Ohio State University **Nisonger Center**

A University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities

The mission statement of The Nisonger Center is currently in revision.

The Nisonger Center was founded in 1966 as an interdisciplinary program of the Ohio State University. The United States Administration on Developmental Disabilities has designated Nisonger Center a "University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (UCEDD)." Steven Reiss, PhD, Professor of Psychology and Psychiatry, who has served as Director since 1991, will step down August 31. L. Eugene Arnold, MEd, MD, Professor Emeritus of Psychiatry, has been named Interim Director. For more information about The Nisonger Center, contact Maureen Meck at meck.1@osu.edu.

nisonger.osu.edu



The RUPP group is currently accepting participants with autism spectrum disorders for four different clinical trials. The following clinical investigations are under way: (a) fluoxetine (Prozac) for repetitive behaviors, (b) mecamylamine (Inversine) for core symptoms of autism, (c) melatonin for sleep disturbance, and (d) aripiprazole (Abilify) for irritable behavior (mood swings, tantrums, yelling/screaming, aggression). Please visit <http://psychmed.osu.edu> for more information.

Clinic addresses mental health needs of children and adults

About one-third of the people with a developmental disability also have a significant behavior or psychiatric condition. The Nisonger Dual Diagnosis Clinic provides outpatient psychiatry services to children and adults with developmental disabilities and mental health needs. It was established in 1996 with support from the Franklin County Board of MR/DD and the Franklin County ADAMH board. The clinic also receives funding from the Family and Children First Council.

The clinic provides diagnostic consultation services to community physicians and ongoing psychiatric services and medication management to about 150 individuals annually. Dr. Yaser Ramadan directs a staff of three psychiatrists, including Dr. Gene

Arnold and Dr. John Johnson. Referrals to the clinic come from MR/DD service coordinators or from Netcare and Franklin County mental health centers through their program directors.

Physicians meet with the referred individual and members of the person's team to perform a thorough evaluation. Many patients have complex medical as well as psychiatric issues. Accurate diagnosis may require referrals to other medical specialists and orders for laboratory tests. The evaluation process results in a detailed report containing diagnostic and treatment recommendations.

Diana Boggs, Clinic Coordinator, helps ensure coordination of care by maintaining communication with other physicians, community phar-

macies and clinical laboratories. Nisonger's behavior specialists also coordinate services with the psychiatrists for patients with behavior support plans.

An important part of the mission of the Dual Diagnosis clinic is to train future professionals to provide mental health services. Child Psychiatry fellows from OSU complete an 18-month rotation at the clinic. In addition, Pediatric residents from Children's Hospital and OSU medical students also receive training there.

For more information about the Dual Diagnosis Clinic, contact Diana Boggs, 614-292-9780, boggs.59@osu.edu
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Pediatric Medical Unit (PMU) is Nisonger's newest program

In January 2007 The Nisonger Center was selected by the Association of University Centers on Disabilities (AUCD) to develop a Pediatric Medical Unit (PMU). The Nisonger PMU provides specialized clinical expertise to Ohio Disability Determination Service (DDS) adjudicators who determine eligibility for childhood Supplemental Security Income (SSI).

The PMU initiative helps adjudicators make disability decisions as efficiently and as early as possible in the process. A PMU brings together a team of interdisciplinary clinicians to perform record reviews, respond to questions about case-specific

or generic pediatric or disability issues, or to conduct requested developmental and functional assessments when face-to-face evaluations will help determine potential eligibility. The actual disability determination remains the legal responsibility of state adjudicators.

The core interdisciplinary clinical team at the Nisonger PMU consists of the following, with additional specialty consultants from The Nisonger Center and Columbus Children's Hospital as needed:

Developmental Behavioral Pediatrics: Dr. Daniel Coury & Dr. Karen Ratliff-Schaub

Psychology: Dr. Tim Rheinscheld

Social Work: Dr. Tom Fish

Speech-Language Pathology: Dr. Paula Rabidoux

The Social Security Administration (SSA) awarded a contract to AUCD to develop the PMUs. The contract is a 5-year effort, pending the availability of federal funding, that will support PMUs at up to 16 selected member University Centers.

Sherry Feinstein is the site coordinator and Amy Hess is the program coordinator. Please contact Amy at 688-5957 or amy.hess@osumc.edu. **NN**



New Williams Syndrome Clinic starts on Oct. 9 as a joint effort of The Nisonger Center and the Columbus Children's Hospital. This multidisciplinary clinic will offer specialized evaluation and treatment. Contact sherry.feinstein@osumc.edu or 247-7190.

Williams Syndrome Medical Conference for health professionals is Sept. 28, 12:00-4:00 PM, at the Columbus Children's Hospital.

Williams Syndrome Great Lakes Regional Conference is on Sept. 29 at the Holiday Inn Ft. Rapids Waterpark Resort in Columbus. Contact Dr. Marilee Martens at 688-3112 or martens.22@osu.edu.

Nisonger dental programs meet needs for treatment and training

Nisonger Center Dental Programs provide dental health services for infants, children and adults with developmental disabilities. They offer diagnostic services for people throughout Ohio and ongoing services for those who reside in Franklin Co. People from outside Franklin Co. are referred to local resources for ongoing services. Patients are served at The Nisonger Center and in the ECE

Center on Johnstown Road. Between the two locations, about 6,000 children and adults are being served.

Another purpose is to provide training for students enrolled in OSU's dental and dental hygiene programs. All dental and dental hygiene students, general practice dental residents, and second-year pediatric dental residents rotate through the Nisonger Dental Programs.

Dr. Edward Sterling, Director, leads a team of dentists – Drs. Anthony Lordo, Diego Solis and Edward Sullivan – and dental assistants Amanda Calanche, Stacey Grubb, Tina Lithiluxa, Jenna Schlauch, Judy Snider and Karen Xander. Tamera McIntyre is a dental hygienist and Faculty Coordinator. Contact Office Associate Diana Zuber at 292-3160 or zuber.19@osu.edu. **NN**



Mark your calendars for these upcoming events

Nisonger new hires since May 2005 take 2 mandated safety training programs:

- EOEP (Emergency Operations & Evacuation Plan)
- HAZCOM

Current Nisonger employees only need to take HAZCOM.

- Orientation for new LEND trainees, Sept. 18
- Network of Autism Training and Technical Assistance

Programs conference, Sept. 26-28, at the Greater Columbus Convention Center

- 3rd annual Angels With Autism Fundraising Benefit on Sept. 27, 5:00-9:30 PM, Annunciation Greek Cathedral, Columbus; RSVP by Sept. 10 to 614-893-7310
- Midwest Regional Disability Lifestyles Conference and Expo 2007, Sept. 29-30, OSU's RPAC, 337 W. 17th Ave.

- Down Syndrome Assn. Buddy Walk, Sept. 30, at Columbus Crew Stadium

- Students for a Sustainable Campus (SSC) Scarlet, Gray and Green Fair, noon to 6 PM on Oct. 5 at Mirror Lake and south Oval

- 7th Annual Ohio Adult Sibling Conference, Oct. 12-13, at Columbus Airport Marriott

See other news and events lists at OneSource; use your OSU Medical Center ID to log in. **NN**



Send notices of upcoming events to NISONGERNEWS editor Vicki Graff by email at graff.42@osu.edu. Each quarterly issue will appear approximately six weeks from the end of the calendar quarter (May, August, November and February).

NISONGERNEWS

Special Education and Transition Services team pilots curriculum

The **Way-to-Work E-mentoring** program is currently looking for school- or community-based sites for implementation and piloting of this comprehensive program. If you know someone who may be interested in learning more, please contact Jill McQuaid at mcquaid.4@osu.edu or Jennifer Earley at earley.37@osu.edu.

The EnvisionIT online curriculum has been piloted in 22 classrooms with over 550 high school students with and without disabilities who are participating in a research study to measure the effects of the curriculum on Information Technology and Transition Planning Skills. Year 1 preliminary results suggest EnvisionIT indeed teaches the key information-technology and transition skills

needed to be successful in the 21st Century. As Year 2 of this three-year project begins, Dr. Margo Izzo, Kelly Dillon and their staff continue to collect and analyze experimental data in English/Language Arts and Technology classrooms across Ohio to help support research hypotheses. The team reported results of a single-subject study examining electronic supports in an electronic article (Izzo, et

al, 2007). Guided notes were found to significantly improve academic achievement and on-task behavior. Further examination of electronic supports such as assistive technology and the EnvisionIT curriculum will continue in Year 2 with a \$28,000 grant from the National Center for Supported Electronic Text (NCSeT). For more information, visit <http://nisonger.osu.edu/Transition/EnvisionIT.htm>. **NN**

Welcome new hires! (April, May, June)



Steve Rosensweig has successfully completed the requirements to be recognized as a Comp TIA A+ Certified Professional. This means he has been trained and passed two extensive exams on the latest skills needed by today's computer support professionals.

CompTIA A+ confirms a technician's ability to perform tasks such as installation, configuration, diagnosing, preventive maintenance and basic networking. The exams also cover domains such as security, safety and environmental issues, and communication and professionalism.

Melissa Brundage joined Adult BSS as a Behavior Support Specialist on April 9. Melissa was previously a Rehabilitation Specialist and Social Worker with Goodwill Columbus. She works part-time as a Support Service Provider with the Ohio Deaf Blind Outreach Program through the Columbus Speech and Hearing Center. Melissa received a Master of Social Work, LISW, from OSU and a BA in English and Psychology from Allegheny College in Pennsylvania. She also has specialized training in ASL.

Rachel Morris was hired June 4 as Information Associate for the Family Directed and Autism Clinics. She earned a certificate in Medical Billing and Coding from The Bryman Institute. Rachel has five Pomeranian dogs named Obi, Princess, Teddy, Devo and Panda. She spends every Wednesday night with her Grandma watching movies and loves working on her '72 LeMans. She met her boyfriend Timothy playing Xbox Live four years ago. (Rachel was ranked No. 1 female in 2005 on Rainbow Six 3.)

Amy Hess started May 29 as Program Coordinator for the new Pediatric Medical Unit. She earned a BS in Social and Behavioral Science from OSU and did graduate work in Rehabilitation Administration at DePaul University. Amy previously worked for Irene M. Ward & Associates, the Knox County Board of MR/DD and Goodwill Rehabilitation Center. Husband Tom also works at OSU in the Dept. of Safety. They met as OSU students and have a daughter Sophia, a son Henry and a Scottie dog Angus.

Craig McMillen was hired May 29 as the Building Coordinator and Office Associate. He was previously Manager with the BJ Alan Co., Investment Representative for Edward Jones, and Business Intern/Administrative Assistant at Braintree, all in Mansfield, Ohio. Craig holds a BS in Business Administration from OSU's Fisher College of Business and plans to enter the Masters of Health Administration (MHA) program at OSU. He enjoys football, loves to play golf, and lives with a miniature pinscher named Pennie.

...and other staff news...

Timothy Rheinscheld was hired May 14 as a Clinical Psychologist for the PMU program.

* * *

Congratulations to **Dr. Luc Lecavalier**, who has been promoted to Associate Professor (with tenure) in the Department of Psychology, College of Social and Behavioral Sciences, effective October 1.

Congrats also to **Kim Oyer**, who was promoted April 29 from Office Associate to Office Administrative Associate.

Shenae Russell-Lipsev and her husband Prentice have a second son. Landon was born on May 24, weighing 7 lbs. 2 oz. and 19-1/2 inches long.

Baby boy Charles was born on June 26 to **Stacey Grubb** and her husband Richard. Charlie weighed 5 lbs. 14 oz. and was 19-1/2 inches long.

Kristy Siefker married Chris Humphries on June 30. She is now Kristy Humphries.

