



Rehabilitation Hospital

Medical Research Institute

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### **“Burke Medical Research Institute Hosts Summer Science Scholars Program Poster Session”**

#### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**White Plains, NY – August 11, 2015** – Training the next generation of scientists is a high priority at the Burke Medical Research Institute—and Burke’s Summer Science Scholars Program offers college students from around the country the chance to participate in basic, translational and clinical neuroscience research programs.

The 10-week program culminated in a poster session on Friday, August 8 at Burke’s White Plains campus, where students showcased their summer-long projects. The program, now in its third year, pairs students with researchers from the Burke Medical Research Institute, who serve as mentors and guide them through their hands-on laboratory research project.

At the poster session, each student’s project was judged on three categories: research design, creativity and comprehension and visual presentation. Nine post-doctoral fellows and instructors from BMRI acted as judges and asked the students questions on their projects, such as how data was collected.

The winner of the poster session was Natcha Rummaneethorn, from Bangkok, Thailand, who is a rising senior at Manhattanville College in Purchase, NY. Her research project was titled, “Modulation of adult neural stem cell proliferation and differentiation by TMPyP4” and her mentor was John Cave, Ph.D., the Director of the Laboratory for Neuronal Specification at BMRI and Co-Director of the summer program.

“The Summer Science Scholars Program provides students with the unique opportunity to experience and participate in cutting-edge research in a way in which they generally wouldn’t be able to during their undergraduate education,” says Dianna Willis, Ph.D., co-director of the



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summer program and director of pain research at BMRI. “It also offers the students a first-hand look at what a career in the field of research and neuroscience entails.”

This year, there were 70 applications for 10 positions in the summer program. Students hailed from colleges and universities throughout the U.S., including Johns Hopkins University, Cornell University, Fordham University and SUNY Purchase.

In addition to the research projects, a seminar series is held for students each week, which features lectures given by BMRI faculty. The seminars are designed to engage students in discussions about specific topics in neurobiology and neurorehabilitation as well as career development in biomedical research.

For more information on the program, visit [www.burke.org/research](http://www.burke.org/research).

### **About Burke Medical Research Institute**

Burke Medical Research Institute is part of the Burke Rehabilitation Center, which also comprises the Burke Rehabilitation Hospital. The hospital is a private, not-for-profit, acute rehabilitation hospital that is the only hospital in Westchester County dedicated solely to rehabilitation medicine. Founded in 1915, Burke offers both inpatient and outpatient programs for those who have experienced a disabling illness, traumatic injury or joint replacement surgery. Along with the hospital’s world-renowned doctors and therapists providing state-of-the-art-treatment, Burke Medical Research Institute scientists explore the frontiers of rehabilitation medicine. All share the Burke mission to ensure that every patient makes the fullest possible recovery from illness or injury regardless of their ability to pay. For additional information on Burke Rehabilitation Center, please visit [burke.org](http://burke.org).



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