MEETING OF RESEARCH AND CLINICAL LEADERS, ADVOCATES AND PATIENTS TO HIGHLIGHT THE NEED TO REINSTATE SPINAL CORD INJURY RESEARCH FUNDING IN NYS

NYS has a Unique Spinal Cord Injury Program (SCIRP) funded through a small surcharge on traffic ticket moving violations. Since 1998 SCIRP has provided 70 million dollars towards treatments for spinal cord injury. After 2010, this money raised for paralysis research has been diverted to other purposes. We come together to urge NYS to reinstate this essential funding stream.

Location: Empire State Convention Center, Meeting Rooms 2 &3, S. Mall Arterial, Albany NY 12242

Time: 9am-5.30pm, INCLUDING PRESS CONFERENCE AT 1PM

Registration Required: Email Event Coordinator Cindy Butler cindybutler@nynsci.org or call 518 694 8188 by February 11th

Register Early, space limited. Wheelchair accessible.
Lunch provided, donation for meeting, $40 suggested

Directions and Parking: visit http://ogs.ny.gov/ESP/CCE
PROGRAM

9.00-9.10am Welcome and Introduction- Raj Ratan, Burke Medical Research Institute

9.10-10.00am
**NYS Support of Spinal Cord Injury Research** – Raj Ratan, Chair
9.10- Terry O’Neill, Constantine Institute – How SCIRP came to be
9.25- Lorne Mendell, Stony Brook University - Intro to SCI and The Success of SCIRP Investment
9.40- Raj Ratan, Burke Medical Research Institute - On the SCI Network
9.55-Questions – 5 mins

10.00-10.50am
**Neuroplasticity and Robotics for Functional Recovery**– Jon Wolpaw, Chair –
10.00-Jon Wolpaw, Wadsworth Institute -H-Reflex Plasticity
10.15-Aiko Thompson, Helen Hayes Hospital- Using H-Reflex plasticity to improve walking
10.30- Mar Cortes, Burke Medical Research Institute, “Electrical stimulation and robotics promote functional recovery after SCI In humans: Examples of SCIRP successes”
10.45-Questions – 5 mins

15 min Break

11.05-12.10pm
**Stem and Progenitor cells, Part of the Solution**- Sally Temple, Neural Stem Cell Institute, Chair
11.05- Chris Proschel, University of Rochester– Unique Astrocytes for SCI repair
11.20- Hynek Wichterle, Columbia University- Using stem cells to make Spinal neurons
11.35- Mark Noble, University of Rochester- Contribution of stem cells to SCI treatment
11.50- Questions – 10 mins

Noon-1.00pm LUNCH(Bagged lunch available in adjoining room)

1.00pm - **Introduction to Afternoon Session**, Mark Noble, University of Rochester

1.05-1.45pm **Press conference** including members of the NYS Legislature and SCI Research advocates Wise Young, David Carmel, Jon Wolpaw and Captain Boyd Melson
1.45-2.20pm
**Bringing SCI treatments to the Clinic**, Tony Caggiano, Acorda Therapeutics, Chair
1.45- Wise Young, Rutgers University- The China Network
2.00- Tony Caggiano/Andy Blight, Acorda Therapeutics Inc.- How to get into the Clinic And The Benefits of SCI research to other fields
2.15- Questions – 5 mins

2.20-3.10pm
**Stimulation to Promote Repair** Jon Wolpaw, Chair
2.20- Joseph Francis, SUNY Downstate - DARPA project “New frontiers of brain machine and machine brain interfacing toward repairing and replacing neural systems”
2.35- Deanna Thompson, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute – Aligning Cells to create Tracts
2.50- Jason Carmel, Burke Medical Research Institute- Electrical Stimulation to promote Repair
3.05- Questions – 5 mins

3.10-4.00pm
**Novel Drug treatments** –Maiken Nedergaard, Chair
3.10- Maiken Nedergaard, University of Rochester - Benefits of the Brilliant Blue Dye
3.25- Ryan Gilbert, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute- Developing Nanomaterials for SCI
3.40- Marie Filbin, Hunter College, NY – Small Molecule contributions
3.55- Questions – 5 mins

15 min Break

4.15-5.15pm
**Future Directions Panel** – chaired by Wise Young, each panelist will give a 3 minute introduction to their topic, then open for questions
Keith Gurgui – Amendment to SCIRP
Nancy Lieberman- SCIRP Law
Paul Richter –SCIRP funding
Darryl Dirisio – A neurosurgeons view on the need for research
Mike Discipio- Advocating for research
David Carmel – Importance of NYS program
4.45- Questions

5.15pm Thank you and closing remarks – Raj Ratan
Participants and Speakers

Rajiv Ratan, MD, PhD, Executive Director, Burke Medical Research Institute and Associate Dean and Professor of Neurology and Neuroscience, Weill Cornell Medical College, NY

Terry O’Neill, Esq, Worked with Mr. Paul Richter to establish the NYS Statute for SCIRP

Lorne Mendell, PhD, Distinguished Professor, Department of Neurobiology and Behavior, Stony Brook University, NY

Jonathan Wolpaw, MD, Research Physician in Neural Injury and Repair, Wadsworth Center and Professor, School of Public Health, Albany, NY

Aiko Thompson, PhD, Translational Neurological Research Laboratory, Helen Hayes Hospital, West Haverstraw, NY

Mar Cortes, MD, Clinical Research Fellow, Burke Medical Research Institute, White Plains, NY

Sally Temple, PhD, Scientific Director, Neural Stem Cell Institute, Rensselaer, NY

Chris Proschel, PhD, Assistant Professor, Department of Biomedical Genetics, University of Rochester, NY

Caitlin Hill, PhD, Director, Spinal Cord Injury Preclinical Studies, Burke Medical Research Institute, White Plains, NY

Hynek Wichterle, PhD, Associate Professor, Neuroscience, Neurology, Columbia University, NY

Mark Noble, PhD, Director, University of Rochester Stem Cell and Regenerative Medicine Institute, Rochester, NY

Wise Young, MD, PhD, Director of the W.M. Keck Center for Collaborative Neuroscience, Rutgers University, NJ

David Carmel, Co-founder of Carmel Asset Management, worked on the California and Cure Initiative that established the California Institute of Regenerative Medicine. Former member of the SCIRB

Captain Boyd Melson, much-decorated Light middleweight boxer, West point Graduate, Advocate and Supporter of SCI research
Tony Caggiano, PhD, Senior Director, Preclinical Development, Acorda Therapeutics Inc, Hawthorne, NY

Andy Blight, PhD, Chief Scientific Officer, Acorda Therapeutics Inc, Hawthorne, NY

Joseph Francis, PhD, Assistant Professor of Physiology and Pharmacology, SUNY Downstate, Brooklyn, NY

Deanna Thompson, PhD, Associate Professor, Biomedical Engineering, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Troy, NY

Jason Carmel, MD, PhD, Director, Motor Recovery Laboratory and Brain Injury Recovery, Burke Medical Research Institute, and Assistant Professor, Division Pediatric Neurology, Weill Cornell Medical College, NY

Maiken Nedergaard, MD DMSc, Co-Director for Translational Neuromedicine, Professor, Dept of Neurosurgery, University of Rochester Medical, Rochester, NY

Ryan Gilbert, PhD, Assistant Professor, Biomedical Engineering, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Troy, NY

Marie Filbin, PhD, Distinguished Professor of Biology, Hunter College, NY

Keith Gurgui, Kingston, NY, Spinal Cord Injured in 2009, Keith advocates for SCI research, most recently for an amendment to the statute underlying SCIRP that would ensure a minimum of approximately 8 million dollars per year funding.

Nancy Lieberman, JD, Partner at Skadden, Arps, Slate Meagher and Flom LLP, NY, Nancy has benefited from robotics through the Burke Rehabilitation Center and is a strong advocate for SCIRP reinstatement

Mike Discipio, Albany, NY, an impressive advocate for SCI research, Mike who was spinal cord injured in 1999, speaks to promote stem cell research and has made a video showing the reality of living with this injury

Darryl Dirisio, MD, Neurosurgeon at Albany Medical Center and Kingston, NY, Dr. Dirisio specializes in adult and pediatric spine surgery

Paul Richter, initiated the effort that established SCIRP, served on the board that guided the program, and is fighting tirelessly for the reinstatement of SCIRP funding