

What's On!-- In Brain Sciences

A Brain Science Research Consortium Unit Weekly Publication - Friday, March 2, 2018

The Brain Science Research Consortium Unit (BSRCU) is the first RCU created from the University of Maryland School of Medicine [Accel-MED Initiative](#), and seeks to align basic and clinical research endeavors in the brain sciences. This information-sharing newsletter will be published electronically every Friday. If you would like to contribute to an upcoming issue, please email BSRCUinfo@som.umaryland.edu with the subject line "Submission."

Featured Event

BSRCU Seminar Series

***"Opioid Use Disorders:
Perspectives from the Bench and Clinic"***



[Meaghan Creed, PhD](#)

Asst. Professor, Pharmacology

[Aaron
Greenblatt, MD](#)

Asst. Professor,
Family &
Community
Medicine and
Psychiatry



**March 5, 2018 12:00-1:00 PM
HSF-II, Room 600**

Featured Publication

[Endocannabinoid Actions on Cortical
Terminals Orchestrate Local
Modulation of Dopamine Release in
the Nucleus Accumbens](#)

Mateo Y, Johnson KA, Covey DP, Atwood BK, Wang HL, Zhang S, Gildish I, Cacheo R, Bellocchio L, Guzmán M, Morales M, Cheer JF, Lovinger DM (2017). *Neuron* 96(5)

Recent Press

[Tracy Bale](#), PhD (Professor of Pharmacology and Director, [CERCH](#)) presented new research at the annual AAAS meeting held this past February. The provocative findings demonstrate how lifetime paternal stress can alter microRNAs in germ cells—effects that are passed on to offspring, resulting in altered brain development and behavior. The implications are that a father's stress levels may ultimately determine his offspring's vulnerability to developing mental health disorders later in life, such as depression or PTSD.

Dr. Bale's research findings were picked up by several media and science news outlets, including [The Guardian](#), [ScienceDaily](#), and UK-based [The Times](#), among others.



Suggestions

Comments?
Click [Here](#)

Calendar

Upcoming Brain
Science Events
Across UMB
Click [Here](#)

New RFAs

See [Here](#) for an
updated list of
RFAs in the brain
sciences

Spotlight on BSRCU Executive:

Cynthia F. Bearer, MD, PhD

Professor of Pediatrics, Chief of the Division of Neonatology and Associate Chair for Research in Pediatrics



Cynthia F. Bearer, MD, PhD is the Mary Gray Cobey Professor of Neonatology with tenure, Chief of Neonatology and Associate Chair for Research, Department of Pediatrics, University of Maryland School of Medicine.

Dr. Bearer completed a BA with honors in mathematics from Smith College, a Ph.D. in biochemistry from Case Western Reserve University, and an M.D. from The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. She became an Assistant Professor of Pediatrics at Case Western Reserve University in 1994 where she was promoted to Professor of Pediatrics with tenure. In 2008 she moved to University of Maryland School of Medicine. In 2009, she became Chief, Division of Neonatology and in 2012 Associate Chair for Research. She was a leader in the design, construction and LEEDs certification of the new 52-bed Jiji neonatal intensive care unit in the University of Maryland Children's Hospital (see [HERE](#) for a tour of the new unit).

She has published extensively on fetal and pediatric environmental health, producing 8 book chapters and 70 peer-reviewed articles. Her research has received funding from NIH, CDC and U.S. EPA. She has established fatty acid ethyl esters as a biomarker for both *in utero* exposure to ethanol, and impact on neurocognitive outcomes, and a patent on this technology. Her laboratory is studying the impact of common solvents including ethanol on the development of the cerebellum using both cellular and animal models. She currently is funded by the NIH/NICHD with an R21 and an mP01 to study the impact of bilirubin and hypoxic ischemic injury on protein interaction with lipid rafts respectively. She is a frequently invited speaker nationally and internationally.

Dr. Bearer is Editor-in-Chief of the journal, *Pediatric Research*. She is a member of the American Pediatrics Society and the Society for Pediatric Research. She has served on the Committee to Evaluate Children's Health of the National Academy of Science. She is past President of the Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Study Group and is past Chair of the board for the Children's Environmental Health Network. She has served on the Scientific Advisory Board for the U.S. EPA, and is a Smith College Medalist.

She enjoys mentoring, and has had successful students ranging from high school students to neonatology fellows. Many of her students have become academic clinicians and scientists.

Dr. Bearer's outside interests include beekeeping, nature photography, hiking, jogging, ping-pong, horseback riding and teaching her French poodle puppy Jean-Luc new tricks. She has one son, a junior at Middlebury College, who helps her with the statistics on her studies! He is developing a career in environmental sciences.

More information on Dr. Bearer, as well as her full academic portfolio, can be found at <http://www.medschool.umaryland.edu/profiles/Bearer-Cynthia/>.

For more information go to www.medschool.umaryland.edu/BSRCU/
Please email BSRCUinfo@som.umaryland.edu to be included in future mailings