



A publication of the American Congress of Rehabilitation Medicine Brain Injury Interdisciplinary Special Interest Group

## Message from the Chair

J. Preston Harley, PhD, FACRM

It is my pleasure to report to you on the status and plans of the BI-ISIG, beginning with an array of BI-ISIG sponsored activities that took place during the 86th annual ACRM meeting – held in conjunction with the 16th Annual meeting of the American Society of Neurorehabilitation – in Denver, Colorado in October 8-11, 2009 at the Marriott Denver Tech Center Hotel. Among the stimulating and productive BI-ISIG events at the conference were not only the annual business meeting, but also the Sheldon Berrol Memorial Chautauqua, the convening of nearly all of our nine task forces, the naming of the 2009 recipient of the David Strauss Memorial Award, and a joint reception with the Brain Injury Association of Colorado. As usual, BI-ISIG members were also well-represented during the ACRM portion of the awards dinner on Friday night, October 9th.

The activities and accomplishments of the BI-ISIG, as well as upcoming plans and events, are presented in this newsletter via the continuing efforts of Donna Langenbahn, Editor of *Moving Ahead*, in close collaboration with Judy Reuter, Deputy Director of ACRM in Indianapolis. Please make sure to read carefully through this issue to keep current and to inform your plans for participation at our mid-year meeting in April in Chicago and the annual fall meeting in October in Montreal.

Jon Lindberg, the new Executive Director of ACRM, was introduced at the BI-ISIG annual business meeting in Denver. Jon spoke briefly about his plans to see that ACRM and the BI-ISIG



*Preston Harley and Doug Katz*

continue to grow and thrive. BI-ISIG members are encouraged to seek him out with their comments, questions, and thoughts.

Dr. Ron Seel organized the BI-ISIG sponsored Sheldon Berrol Memorial Chautauqua at the 2009 annual conference. Our thanks to Ron for a thought-provoking presentation and discussion in “Assessing Safety Risk after Brain Injury—Ethical and Practical Dilemmas.”

Membership of the BI-ISIG Task Forces remains dedicated and highly productive. The current Task Forces include: Assistive Technology (Marcia Scherer and Tamara Bushnik, Co-Chairs), Cognitive Rehabilitation (Keith Cicerone, Chair), Community-Based Treatment (Nina Geier and Ann Marie

*continued on page 2*

## BI-ISIG Mid-Year Meeting Chicago • Illinois

**Friday, April 23**

1:00 PM – 5:00 PM

**Saturday, April 24**

7:30 AM – 3:00 PM

Please make your hotel reservation today! A block of rooms has been secured at the Westin Chicago River North Hotel at \$165/night.

**Deadline for reservations is April 8th** or until room block is full, don't delay, call now.

Online hotel reservations:  
[www.starwoodmeeting.com/Book/ACRM2010](http://www.starwoodmeeting.com/Book/ACRM2010) or call  
312-329-7000 and ask for the  
“ACRM Mid-Year” room block.

Prior to the BI-ISIG Mid-Year the new SCI-SIG and the Stroke Networking Group will meet.

*See page 9 for fax-in registration form.*

### Table of Contents

Message from the Chair .....	1
Letter from the Editor.....	2
BI-ISIG Annual Business Meeting Minutes.....	3
Awards and Recognition at the 2009 Annual ACRM-ASNR Joint Conference.....	7
2009 Sheldon Berrol Memorial Chautauqua .....	8
2010 Mid-Year Registration Form.....	9
New BI-ISIG Members in 2009.....	10
BI-ISIG News Briefs .....	11

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Brain Injury Interdisciplinary  
Special Interest Group**

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continued from page 1

Message from the Chair

McLaughlin, Co-Chairs), Disorders of Consciousness (Ron Seel, Chair), Long-Term Issues (Tina Trudel and Austin Errico, Co-Chairs), Mild TBI (Irene Parisi and Andrea Laborde, Co-Chairs), Pediatric/Adolescent (Linda Laatsch, Chair), Prognosis after TBI (Rose Biesler, Chair), and Treatment Theory (Tessa Hart and Janet Powell, Co-Chairs). Greater details on the various TF activities are described herein.

The next mid-year BI-ISIG meeting, April 23-24, 2010, will be held in Chicago at the Westin River North Hotel. Specific hotel arrangements are included in this issue, courtesy of Gigi Gernand at ACRM headquarters. Our thanks go also to Dr. Jeri Morris, who has been assisting with local arrangements. The BI-ISIG mid-year meeting schedule will follow the format of the prior meetings, starting at 1:00 PM on Friday and continuing on Saturday, 7:30 AM until 3:00 PM. Registration information is available on the ACRM website and a registration form is included on page 9 of this newsletter.

Other related ACRM activities of interest planned to coincide with our mid-year meeting include meetings of the Spinal Cord-SIG (Sue Ann Sisto, PhD) and the Stroke Networking Group (Phil Morse, PhD) on Friday morning, April 23rd. The Board of Governors of ACRM will meet on Sunday and Monday, April 25-26, 2010.

The focus of the mid-year meeting will be ongoing refinement and development of the various individual task force projects. Several BI-ISIG 'branded' materials are being considered for distribution to professionals, organizations, and the public by ACRM.

I would like to acknowledge here Dr. Wayne Gordon, who provided exceptional leadership of ACRM as 2008-2009 President, backed by his 30 years of organization membership and extensive contributions to the field of reha-



*Treatment Theory Task Force*

bilitation. His support, guidance, and wisdom are recognized and sincerely appreciated by the BI-ISIG. Dr. Joseph Giacino, former Chair of the BI-ISIG, is warmly welcomed as our current ACRM President. Please congratulate Joe as our new President, as well as in his new position in Boston.

Finally, I acknowledge Jeanne Fryer, a spirited and innovative figure in the formative years of brain-injury rehabilitation and the BI-ISIG. Sadly, she lost her battle with cancer in December, 2009.

I am personally looking forward to seeing you, meeting new members, and networking at the mid-year meeting in my wonderful, sweet home Chicago.

*Letter from the Editor*

Our 2009 ACRM-ASNR Annual Conference in Denver was the site of the annual BI-ISIG business meeting, with 53 members attending. The task force meetings throughout the conference witnessed the ongoing work on projects that will bear fruit in terms of BI-ISIG products offered to professionals, organizations, and consumers.

For the third year, we welcome new BI-ISIG members in this newsletter. Please join us in seeking out these individuals and welcoming them to our meetings, our task force activities, and our social events.

My thanks, as always, go to Judy Reuter for her diligence and competence in bringing this newsletter to print. Its formatting, style, and professional appearance are Judy's impressive work, and I recognize and appreciate her talent and skills.

Please stay in touch with us with your comments, concerns, and ideas.

*Donna Langenbahn, PhD, Editor*

# BI-ISIG Annual Business Meeting Minutes - October 8, 2009

## Denver Marriott Tech Center Hotel • Denver, CO

### 2008-2010 BI-ISIG Executive Committee

J. Preston Harley, PhD, Chair  
Ronald Seel, PhD, Chair Elect

Philip A. Morse, PhD, Immediate Past Chair

Jon Lindberg, ACRM Executive Director (*ex officio*)

Michael Mozzoni, PhD, BCBA, Treasurer

Vanessa LoPresti, PhD, Secretary

Donna Langenbahn, PhD, Chair, Publications Committee (*ex officio*)

### Welcome and Announcements

– J. Preston Harley, BI-ISIG Chair

The annual meeting of the Brain Injury Special Interest Group (BI-ISIG) of the American Congress of Rehabilitation Medicine (ACRM) was convened in Denver, Colorado, October 8, 2009 at the Denver Marriott Tech Center Hotel, Denver, Colorado. BI-ISIG Chair, J. Preston Harley, opened with welcoming remarks and an overview of the meeting schedule. The meeting was attended by 53 members and 7 non-members.

### Executive Reports:

#### Secretary's Report

– Kathleen Kalmar (for Vanessa LoPresti, BI-ISIG Secretary)

Minutes of the 2009 mid-year meeting had been distributed in previously mailed copies of *Moving Ahead*, and copies of *Moving Ahead* were distributed at the meeting for review by membership. A motion to accept the minutes was made by Marcel Dijkers, seconded, and approved by the membership.



Stacy Belkonen and Kristen Dams-O'Connor



Tessa Hart, John Whyte, and Cindy Dahlberg

#### Treasurer's Report

– Michael Mozzoni, BI-ISIG Treasurer

The budget proposal for 2010 was presented and discussed. A request was made to the executive committee for a discretionary fund line in the amount of \$500.00 to cover requests from members throughout the year that were not otherwise in the budget. An additional line for \$58.00 to cover supplies (seals for mailing) was also included, increasing the 2010 budget to \$5,813.00 from last year's budget of \$5,255.00. In terms of income, the BI-ISIG year-to-date balance as of 8/31/09 was \$7,688.18. Anticipated revenue for 2010, based on dues from 275 members is \$5,912.50. The budget was approved by the executive committee. A motion was made to accept the budget as proposed, seconded, and voted upon by the membership.

#### ACRM Report:

– Jon Lindberg, ACRM Executive Director

J. Preston Harley introduced Jon Lindberg, the new Executive Director of ACRM. Jon spoke briefly about his plans to see ACRM con-

tinue to grow and thrive as an organization and welcomed members to seek him out with their comments, questions, and thoughts.

#### David Strauss Award

– Tom Felicetti and Donna Langenbahn

Tom Felicetti provided an overview to the audience about the history, purpose and significance of the David Strauss Award, and Donna Langenbahn made the award which went to BI-ISIG member Angelle Sander. Angelle's poster, "Perceptions of Community Integration in an Ethnically Diverse Sample," was co-authored with Monique Pappadis, Allison Clark, and Margaret Struchen. The poster was selected based not only on its focus on community integration, but also because of the value-laden nature of the study. The project explores

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Summer Ibarra and Samantha Backhaus

continued from page 3

### Mid-Year Business Meeting



Tom Felicetti

community integration after brain injury as being more than just what the individual is able to go back to doing in the community. It is also about what the individual values in the community and how well the individual is able to reintegrate those aspects of community back into his or her life to gain back a sense of personal value.

community integration after brain injury as being more than just what the individual is able to go back to doing in the community. It is also about what the individual values in the community and how well the individual is able to reintegrate those aspects of community back into his or her life to gain back a sense of personal value.

### Stroke Networking Group

– Phil Morse, Chair

The focus of this networking group is to develop a survey of needs assessment for individuals working in the field of stroke rehabilitation. They have generated a list of ten areas of interest: 1) needs assessment for rehabilitation providers, 2) measurement and research methodology, 3) long-term follow up and rehabilitation, 4) visual perceptual issues, 5) mild stroke, 6) quality of life (including fatigue and depression), 7)



Fofi Constantinidou and Mike Mozzoni

cognition, 8) fall prevention, 9) barriers to community functioning, 10) education for non-specialty providers and family members. The group is planning a half-day meeting prior to the start of the BI-ISIG mid-year meeting in Chicago in April 2010.

### Task Force Reports:

#### Assistive Technology

– Anne Marie McLaughlin (for Marcia Scherer, Chair)

This group was scheduled to meet during the course of the conference and they maintain contact via phone conferencing every six months. They are working on a fact sheet on assistive technology and BIA has expressed interest in this potential product. They are also looking to create a list of resources in assistive technology.

#### Cognitive Rehabilitation

– Tom Bergquist (for Keith Cicerone, Chair)

A write-up on the third review of effectiveness of cognitive rehabilitation for individuals with TBI and stroke is being finalized. Fact sheets that summarize previously published recommendations in three areas of cognitive rehabilitation are in the final stages of development prior to distribution, and a more detailed version of practice standards is being developed by a subgroup within the task force. An evidence-based review is in progress on the efficacy of cognitive rehabilitation in treating cognitive impairment from conditions other than TBI and stroke. The group is scheduled to meet during the conference.

#### Community Based Treatment

– Nina Geier, Chair

This group was scheduled to meet during the course of the conference. Their interest is in researching and collecting information on community-based treatment from national and international sources, with the goal of becoming a clearing house for information and creating linkages with other organizations.



Carolyn Lemsky, Deirdre Dawson, and Angela Colantonio

#### Disorders of Consciousness

– Ron Seel, Chair

All reviews are completed and all discrepancies have been resolved. The first draft of the evidence-based review of scales that measure disorders of consciousness is complete, and the knowledge-translation aspect of the paper is now the current focus point. Results of this project were presented at the pre-conference symposium, and will be presented again at IBIA in March. The target publication journal is *Archives of Physical Medical and Rehabilitation*.

#### Long Term Issues

– Austin Errico, Co-Chair

This group has been working on an edited volume on “Aging with TBI” and has the opportunity to add in 1-2 more chapters. They are seeking help in writing these chapters. They are planning to add a chapter on the topic of falls and risk-prevention guidelines in this volume as well, and are seeking a coordinator for this effort. They hope to have a draft on this topic completed for the mid-year meeting. Other book chapters being worked on include one on psychosocial factors, having already undergone revisions and ready to be sent out for edit, and another on women’s

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Christine MacDonell

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Teresa Ashman, Joshua Cantor, Stephen Macciocchi, Angela Yi

issues, with a draft well under way. Additional products in progress include a TBI health and wellness fact sheet being coordinated by Austin Errico and Mike Mozzoni, with a draft anticipated by the mid-year meeting, and a dementia fact sheet, also with a draft anticipated by the mid-year meeting.

**Mild TBI**

– Marita de Leon (for Irene Parisi/ Andrea Laborde, Co-Chairs)

This task force goal has been revised, and they have identified a strategy to be



Joe Giacino and Charlotte Trott

used for operating within the revisions. Their current focus will be to investigate the usefulness of the four points currently used to define mild traumatic brain injury. A recommendation from the floor that the task force should include multiple professional organizations on an international level was made. The group was scheduled to meet during the course of the conference.

**Pediatrics/Adolescents**

– J. Preston Harley (for Linda Laatsch, Chair)

This task force is looking at community-based outpatient facilities for pediatric/adolescent rehabilitation worldwide and identifying salient characteristics that make them effective. No representative was present, and no meeting was scheduled.

**Prognosis after TBI**

– David Krych, Co-Chair

The patient prognosis survey the group has developed to investigate information about prognosis that patients did not receive but which they wish they had was presented to a focus group of TBI survivors. The biggest concern was that it was far too long, so they will try to simplify the form if possible. They are experiencing difficulty getting forms returned by mail when they must leave them to be completed. They hope to adapt the survey for a family/caregiver version as well. The task force group holds monthly conference calls in order to maintain momentum.

**Treatment Theory**

– Tessa Hart, Chair

This group is gathering articles and ideas for a journal article to be published in *Archives of Physical Medicine and*



Kristine Kinglsey

*Rehabilitation* intended for clinicians across disciplines, to discuss three aspects of learning theories related to brain injury that they wish to address in a translation of theory into practice. They are trying to narrow the focus of their project via monthly conference calls. They will be meeting during the course of the conference.

**Other Business**

The 2010 Joint ACRM-ASNR Annual Meeting will be held in Montreal, Canada from October 20-23. J. Preston Harley encouraged attendees to consider submissions for symposia for the conference and to mark the date on their calendars.

The 2010 BI-ISIG Mid-Year Meeting will be held in Chicago, Illinois from April 23-24.

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Mid-Year Business Meeting



*Teresa Ashman and Theodore Tsaousides*

Joseph Giacino, ACRM President-Elect, again reminded members of the BI-ISIG that the emphasis under his upcoming term as ACRM president will be on products, many of which are well under way in various task forces. He stated that he will be requesting work plans from each task force chair. One potential benefit of getting ACRM/BI-ISIG products out to the public is to increase membership in both organizations. He stated that there may be assistance from Elsevier in the form of press releases for dissemination of such products. He additionally discussed the possibility of adding DSIGs (Discipline-Specific Interest Groups) back into the organization so that individuals with an interest specific to their specialty areas can have a place to develop those ideas.

Nathan Zasler encouraged the audience to attend the upcoming IBIA meeting and to consider submitting proposals for papers, posters, and symposiums.

**BI-ISIG Membership.** A request was made from the floor for the number of members currently on the BI-ISIG roster. J. Preston Harley reported that an exact number cannot be supplied at this time because those data are in the process of being reanalyzed at the ACRM Central Office. Jon Lindberg stated that a best-estimate of 288 members as of 10/1/09 could be provided.

## Adjournment And Wrap-Up

J. Preston Harley, BI-ISIG Chair, thanked the audience for attending and encouraged them to join future meetings and project work. He underscored the importance of getting products submitted as soon as possible to facilitate ACRM's focus on dissemination of the organization's products to the public and to allow the public to benefit from the high caliber of work being done within the BI-ISIG.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kathleen Kalmar, PhD  
For Vanessa LoPresti, PhD  
BI-ISIG Secretary



*Ron Seel and Jim Malec*



*Richard Francis, Tamara Bushnik, Angela Colantonio and Cindy Dahlberg.*



*Tom Felicetti, Mike Mozzoni, Austin Errico, and David Krych*

## BI-ISIG Members Receive Awards and Recognition at the 2009 Annual ACRM-ASNR Joint Conference

Among those recognized and receiving awards during the 2009 Annual Joint Conference of ACRM and ASNR were several BI-ISIG members. We are proud to highlight them below.

**Gale Whiteneck, PhD, FACRM** was the recipient of the Gold Key Award. This award was established in 1932 to recognize individuals who have rendered extraordinary service to the cause of rehabilitation, and is the highest honor given by ACRM. Dr. Whiteneck has been Director of Research at Craig Hospital in Englewood, Colorado since 1986. He has been principal investigator for numerous federally-supported projects in spinal cord injury and traumatic brain injury, and has authored three books and nearly 200 articles in the field of rehabilitation. His investigations focus on functional assessment, handicap/participation measurement, environmental impact assessment, and long-term outcomes. He is widely recognized for the Craig Handicap Assessment and Reporting Technique (CHART) and the Craig Hospital Inventory of Environmental Factors (CHIEF). These measures, based in concepts from ICIDH ICF, and are used in the National SCI and TBI Databases and other disability research. Dr. Whiteneck has given major presentations to local, state, national, and international audiences, and has served as a consultant to the World Health Organization for ICIDH revision and the ICF development.

The Distinguished Member Award, honoring ACRM members who have significantly contributed to the development and functioning of ACRM, went to **Marcel P. J. M. Dijkers, PhD, FACRM**, Research Professor of Rehabilitation Medicine, Mount Sinai

School of Medicine, New York, NY. Dr. Dijkers' rehabilitation research interests have been very broad, as evidenced in his more than 70 published papers and chapters, and over 190 conference presentations. His areas of focus include both TBI and SCI, areas in which he has studied social and functional consequences, delivery of health services, and outcomes such as community integration and quality of life. His research methodology interests have also included measurement of functioning and quality of life, as well as treatment integrity in rehabilitation research and evidence-based practice. Currently, he is a senior investigator on the New York TBI Model System, as well as Coordinator of the National Database and Evaluation.

There were two 2009 awardees for Fellow of the American Congress of Rehabilitation Medicine (FACRM), both BI-ISIG members:

**Tamara Bushnik, PhD, FACRM**, is Director of Research, Rusk Institute of Rehabilitation, New York, NY. Dr. Bushnik has directed research in both TBI and Spinal Cord Injury Model Systems of Care, and has an extensive list of publications in both injury areas across topics of medical, physical, functional, and psychological interest. Possessing impressive professional leadership and organizational skills, she was ACRM Program Chair for the ACRM-ASNR Joint Educational Conference, October, 2006-September, 2009.

**Cynthia Dahlberg, MA, CCC, CPHQ, FACRM**, is Director of Quality Management, Craig Hospital, Englewood, CO. A 35-year veteran of Craig Hospital, she was Director of Speech and Language Pathology for 22 years before being appointed as Director of Quality Management, responsible for Accreditation and Quality of Care activities, in 2002. She is a Co-Project Director for RMRBIS, a Co-PI on the current RMRBIS clinical trial titled: "A Health and Wellness Intervention for Individuals with TBI," and the PI on the Colorado TBI Trust Fund Social Skills study.

## 6th Annual BI-ISIG David Strauss PhD Memorial Award



*Angelle Sander and Tom Felicetti*

This award was created in 2004 in honor of David Strauss, PhD, a long-term BI-ISIG member, and nationally recognized for his humanistic interests, vision, and teaching in post-acute TBI topics. The Strauss Award is given to the primary author of a poster presentation judged by the BI-ISIG Executive Committee as best reflecting Dr. Strauss's areas of interest.

The 2008 Strauss award went to first author and BI-ISIG member, **Angelle Sander, PhD**, for the poster: "Perception of Community Integration in an Ethnically Diverse Sample." Dr. Sander is Senior Research Scientist & Director, Brain Injury Research Center, Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, TX. She received a certificate recognizing her poster presentation, and will also receive a complimentary registration for the 2010 ACRM-ASNR Joint Conference. Her co-authors were Monique Pappadis, Allison Clark, and **Margaret Struchen**.

## 2009 Sheldon Berrol Memorial Chautauqua “Assessing Safety Risk after Brain Injury—Ethical and Practical Dilemmas”

The 2009 Sheldon Berrol Memorial Chautauqua was well-attended and fitting in the tradition of this annual BI-ISIG event, which explores values, ethics, and humanism in brain injury treatment. The session, “Assessing Safety Risk after TBI—Ethical and Practical Dilemmas,” was moderated by Ronald Seel, PhD, who assembled a panel of expert stakeholders to discuss clinical considerations and ethical dilemmas associated with safety risk assessment.

Chautauqua panel members David Sleet, PhD, Associate Director for Science, Division of Unintentional Injury Prevention, CDC National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, and Stephen Macciocchi, PhD, ABPP, Director of Neuropsychology and Rehabilitation Psychology, Shepherd Center, provided initial remarks. Dr. Sleet has researched and written extensively on injury and violence prevention, and Dr. Macciocchi has over 25 years of clinical experience in evaluating competency and supervision needs following TBI, along with several publications on the associated ethical dilemmas.

Dr. Sleet noted several biases that might influence rehabilitation professionals in assessing risk and possible harm: emotional interference, over-confidence, selective perception, hindsight bias, failure to use empirical data, and blind spots. Families are also vulnerable to biases, especially those stemming from emotional interference. Anger tends to reduce perceived risk and may increase the probability of aggressive behavior, whereas the ability to bring to mind potential harm can unduly increase



*Stephen Macciocchi, Franny Mazone, David Sleet, Steve Shapiro, and Ron Seel*

risk perception and reduce participation.

Dr. Macciocchi remarked on the dual, and sometimes conflicting, values in rehabilitation of beneficence and autonomy, noting that “rehabilitation is autonomy constrained.” Any harm assessment by its nature is autonomy constraining, and TBI, because it diminishes capacity, often further tips the decision balance toward greater beneficence and less autonomy.

Joining the panel were Franny Mazone, RN, CCM, CLCP, Case Manager & Life Care Planner, Medical and Rehabilitative Consulting, Golden, CO, and Steven Shapiro, (Fleishman & Shapiro PC, Denver, CO,) a trial attorney specializing in TBI and spinal cord injury, and former President of the Colorado Brain Injury Association.

Panel members presented, discussed, and fielded significant audience participation on several cases highlighting familiar themes to rehabilitationists working with individuals with TBI.

Representative vignettes included the male survivor in his mid-30’s who wants to return to work and driving despite significant cognitive impairments, the 26-year-old female survivor who worries her parents with her determination to marry a significantly older and more world-wise man, and the man in his 60’s who fights with his son about what his level of independence should be and if he should drive.

Stimulating and thought provoking, the 2009 Chautauqua left participants staying long after the official end of the session to discuss points and issues. Our many thanks to Ron for coordinating this fine and worthy event.

## Registration Form • 2010 ACRM Mid-Year Meeting • Chicago

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ (cell) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Please fax or mail this form by  
April 8, 2010 to:

**ACRM**  
**9531 Valparaiso Court, Suite A**  
**Indianapolis, IN 46268**  
**Fax: 317-471-8762 (new!)**  
**Email: [midyear2010@acrm.org](mailto:midyear2010@acrm.org)**

### SCI-SIG

Thursday, April 22:  
**12:00 PM – 6:00 PM**  
Friday, April 23:  
**9:00 AM – 12:00 PM**

- I plan to attend both days.
- I plan to attend only on Thursday.
- I plan to attend only on Friday.

*I am interested in attending the following committees:*

- Assistive Technology
- Caregiving & Social Support
- Classification
- Cognitive
- Disordered Muscle Activity  
(including spasticity)
- FES
- Locomotor
- Medical, Wellness, & Lifelong Learning
- Motor Data Set
- Musculoskeletal
- Neuroplasticity
- Secondary Complications
- Upper Extremity

### Stroke

**Networking Group**  
Friday, April 23:  
**9:00 AM – 12:00 PM**

- I plan to attend.

*I am interested in attending the following topics:*

- Needs assessment
- Measurement & research methodology
- Long-term follow-up
- Long-term rehab
- Mild stroke
- Quality of life (including fatigue & depression)
- Cognition as both a symptom of stroke and a facilitator of other symptoms (e.g., falls)
- Fall prevention
- barriers to community functioning
- Education non-specialty providers and family members

### BI-ISIG

Friday, April 23:  
**1:00 PM – 5:00 PM**  
Saturday, April 24:  
**7:30 AM – 3:00 PM**

- I plan to attend both days.
- I plan to attend only on Friday.
- I plan to attend only on Saturday.
- I'm interested in finding a roommate to share hotel expenses.

*I am interested in attending the following task force meetings:*

- Assistive Technology
- Children/Adolescents
- Cognitive Rehabilitation
- Community-Based Treatment
- Disorders of Consciousness
- Long-Term Issues
- Mild TBI
- Prognosis After TBI
- Treatment Theory

### Hotel Information

#### Westin Chicago River North Hotel

Westin Chicago River North Hotel is located at 320 North Dearborn Street, Chicago, Illinois. A block of rooms have been reserved starting Thursday night, April 22. When calling for reservations (1-312-329-7000), ask for the "ACRM Mid-Year." For online hotel registration, go to: <http://www.starwoodmeeting.com/Book/ACRM2010>. The negotiated room rate is \$165/night.

We encourage you to make your reservation as soon as possible, **deadline for reservations is April 8** or until room block is full.



## • • • • • New BI-ISIG Members in 2009 • • • • •

The following individuals joined the BI-ISIG during 2009. Please invite and welcome them to our meetings, task forces, project work, and fun!

**Rachel Sayko Adams**  
Arlington, MA

**William Amonette**  
Galveston, TX

**Kier Bison**  
Dallas, TX

**Elisabeth Bond**  
Paoli, PA

**Jane Boutte**  
Dallas, TX

**Bonnie Butterfield**  
Portland, ME

**Nancy (Helen) Carmine**  
Paoli, PA

**Edward Dabrowski**  
Grosse Pointe, MI

**David Demarest**  
Ankeny, IA

**Rebecca Eberle**  
Bloomington, IN

**Andrew Egan**  
Effingham, NH

**Austin Errico**  
Effingham, NH

**Ann Gillespie**  
Marshfield, MA

**Elizabeth Glidden**  
Portland, ME

**Fergus Gracey**  
Ely-Cambs, United Kingdom

**Robynne Gravenhorst**  
Chicago, IL

**Juliet Haarbauer-Krupa**  
Marietta, GA

**Sharon Hartl**  
Scarborough, ME

**Lauren Hayes**  
Quincy, MA

**Sheldon Herring**  
Greenville, SC

**Judith Hilt**  
Ankeny, IA

**Daniel Klyce**  
West Lafayette, IN

**Mary Jo Larson**  
Waltham, MA

**Alexander Libin**  
Chevy Chase, MD

**Sharon McDowell**  
Columbus, OH

**Tom McOsker**  
Portland, ME

**W. Jerry Mysiw**  
Columbus, OH

**Drew Nagele**  
Somerset, NJ

**Monique Pappadis**  
Houston, TX

**Seunghuhm Park**  
Gwangju, Korea

**Patrick Plenger**  
Dallas, TX

**James Roper**  
Denver, CO

**Joel Scholten**  
Washington, DC

**Laura Trexler**  
Indianapolis, IN

**Janet Williams**  
Kansas City, MO

**Jerry Wright**  
San Jose, CA

**Maria Zakula**  
Mt. Laurel, NJ



### In Memoriam

**L. Jeanne Fryer**

**April 22, 1941 - December 29, 2009**

Jeanne Fryer, a leader in the early years of the BI-ISIG and past BI-ISIG Chair (1989-91), passed away at the end of December, 2009. The following is excerpted from an announcement published by Claremont College, her professional base for the last decade.

*It is with deep regret that we write to report the news that Dr. L. Jeanne Fryer passed away on December 29, 2009.*

*A valuable member of our Teacher Education team for a number of years, since 2002 Jeanne was the graduate department's Special Education Coordinator.*

*Jeanne was a fabulous friend and colleague. We were lucky to have benefited from her passion, intellect, creativity, eclectic experiences, kindness and humor. She will be missed dearly.*

*Jeanne's last few weeks were spent in the Santa Cruz area in the joyous company of her daughter (Shannon), son-in-law (Jamie), and two grandsons (Pete and Willy). Letters to Jeanne's family can be sent to: Shannon Holmes, 4535 Soquel Wharf Road, Soquel, CA 95073.*

## ...BI-ISIG News Briefs...

News Briefs items are solicited by email from BI-ISIG members and consist of publications, projects, and professional acknowledgments in brain-injury related areas. Responses represent only a sample of our full membership's many professional accomplishments.

Publications and projects are summarized herein, organized alphabetically by submitter, with full citations listed in the BI-ISIG members-only section of the ACRM website ([www.acrm.org](http://www.acrm.org)). Individual acknowledgments/awards submitted by members are published only herein.

We acknowledge those responding for their hard work, energy, and commitment to our field. Since this section is intended to inform BI-ISIG members about ongoing research/projects and to promote communication/collaboration, please go to the website when you finish reading for further details.

### *Publications and Projects:*

**Mark Ashley, ScD, CCC-SLP, President/CEO, Centre for Neuro Skills, Bakersfield, CA**, was guest editor of CSHA Magazine, Fall, 2009 issue, "Traumatic Brain Injury: Treatment and Access," and first author of an article on cognitive rehabilitation following TBI in CSHA Magazine. Mark co-authored, with Gregory O'Shanick and BI-ISIG member and colleague **Lisa Kreber, PhD, CBIS, Senior Neuroscientist/Research Coordinator, Centre for Neuro Skills, Bakersfield, CA**, a 2009 position paper, "Early vs. Late Treatment of Traumatic Brain Injury," adopted by the Brain Injury Association of America. Mark is editor of *Traumatic Brain Injury* (3<sup>rd</sup> ed.), in press, and has authored (or co-authored) several chapters therein on a broad range of diagnostic, prognostic, treatment, and functional topics related to TBI. Former BI-ISIG member, the late **Doug Harrington**, is a chapter co-author.

Among several projects at the Centre for Neuro Skills, are work on correlat-

ing structural MRI findings with patient outcome measures, and identifying the incidence of neuroendocrine dysfunction following TBI. Mark has remained active in advocacy via work with BIAA, is participating in the Insurance Rehabilitation Study Group Liaison Committee, and has participated in international rehabilitation and research efforts in Cyprus.

**Joseph T. Giacino, PhD, Associate Director of Neuropsychology, JFK Johnson Rehabilitation Institute, New Jersey Neuroscience Institute, Edison, NJ**, reports articles in *Progress in Brain Research* and *BMC Neurology* on various aspects of assessment in disorders of consciousness, including issues of language impairment, predictors of short term outcome, and diagnostic accuracy in the vegetative and minimally conscious state. Among Joe's co-authors are BI-ISIG members **Kathy Kalmar, John Whyte, and Doug Katz**.

**Christine MacDonell, Managing Director, Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities, Washington, DC**, was co-editor of volume 6, issue 2 of the *Brain Injury Professional*. The issue was on international perspectives in brain injury rehabilitation. Chris also will be presenting at the IBIA conference in March 2010 in Washington DC, along with national and international colleagues.

**James Malec, PhD, Research Director, Rehabilitation Hospital of Indiana, Indianapolis, IN**, published, with colleagues, in *Disability and Rehabilitation*, a paper on two new measures for assessing advocacy activities and perceived control after ABI. Jim also edited a Special Issue of *Neuropsychological Rehabilitation* reviewing new methodologies for intervention and outcome measurement. Included in the issue were both an article by Jim on ethical and evidence-based practice in brain injury rehabilitation and an article by BI-ISIG Member **Tessa Hart** on treatment definition in complex rehabili-

tation interventions.

Jim has recently acquired grant funding to study transcranial electrical stimulation (TES) in relation to mood, cognitive, sleep, and pain disorders after TBI.

**Gerard Ribbers, MD, PhD, Rehabilitation Physician, Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, Rijndam, Rotterdam, The Netherlands**, has several publications with colleagues in the following areas: measuring daily-life communication in persons with severe aphasia, community integration following moderate to severe TBI, and recovery of the sit-to-stand movement after stroke.

In 2010, Gerard and his group will start an RCT on cost-effectiveness of an intervention aimed at improving coping in the sub-acute stage after stroke. They also have three current RCT projects: effectiveness (and cortical effects) of both Melodic Intonation Therapy in aphasic patients and mirror therapy on hemiparetic arm function after stroke, and the effectiveness of a treatment of metamemory in patients with stroke. They have two long-term follow-up studies—one on outcome after SAH, and one on outcome after moderate and severe TBI.

**Mark Sherer, PhD, Director of Research and Director of Neuropsychology, TIRR Memorial Hermann, Houston, TX**, reports several articles, published with colleagues in *Archives of PM & R, JHTR, JNNP, and Neurology*. Topics include web-based video-conferencing in training caregivers to compensate for TBI-related problems, professional collaboration between clinical neuropsychologists and speech and language pathologists, recovery patterns in and evaluation of post-traumatic confusional states, and the utility of PTA in predicting outcome following moderate-severe TBI. In press are articles on societal participation following TBI, outcome assessment in TBI clinical

## Moving Ahead

Brain Injury ISIG Newsletter  
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### **BI-ISIG News Briefs continued...**

trials, and return to driving post moderate-severe TBI. Mark's co-authors and colleagues include BI-ISIG members **Kathleen Bell, Allison Clark, Flora Hammond, Tessa Hart, Allen Heinemann, Jay Meythaler, Risa Nakase-Richardson, Janet Powell, David Ripley, Angelle Sander, and Ron Seel.**

**Nathan Zasler, MD, PhD, Director, Concussion Care Centre of Virginia, Glen Allen, VA,** reports published articles in *JNNR* on use of the international classification system for developing core sets and in categorization of TBI, and in *Progress in Brain Research*, on the clinical and forensic aspects of long-term survival after severe TBI. His BI-ISIG co-authors are **John Whyte** and **Robin Tate**. He also has a chapter on neurobehavioral disorders in press, and two chapters, also in press, one on sexuality and one on chronic pain, in the J. M. Silver et al. 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition of the *Textbook of Traumatic Brain Injury*.

Nathan reports that he and his staff are currently involved in program expansion of assisted living facilities and a TBI-focused day neurorehabilitation program.

As Chairperson and President of the IBIA Eighth World Congress on Brain Injury (March 10 - 14, 2010, Washington,

DC), Nathan encourages fellow BI-ISIG members to attend a much-anticipated international professional event.

### **Acknowledgements/Awards:**

**Samantha Backhaus, PhD, Rehabilitation Hospital of Indiana, Indianapolis, IN,** received the 2009 McDowell Award for Best Clinical Science in Early Career from the American Society for Neurorehabilitation.

**Joseph T. Giacino, PhD, JFK Johnson Rehabilitation Institute, New Jersey Neuroscience Institute, Edison, NJ,** received the **Robert Wood Johnson Medical School Volunteer Faculty Award for 2009.**

**Christine MacDonell, Committee on the Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities, Washington, DC,** was awarded the Public Policy Award of the North American Brain Injury Society (NABIS) in October, 2009.

**James Malec, PhD, Rehabilitation Hospital of Indiana, Indianapolis, IN,** received the 2009 Research Award for applied research in brain injury from the North American Brain Injury Association.