Welcome to the latest newsletter, the 3rd edition this year, all of which we hope have helped to keep you updated on the latest news, events and research information.

CONGRATULATIONS!
Knight (2017)

Dr. Serge Gauthier, C.M, C.Q., M.D., F.R.C.P.C.

Dr. Serge Gauthier is an internationally known neurologist. This clinical researcher is at the forefront of the comprehension of Alzheimer’s disease and its prevention. We owe him the structuring of clinical research across the country with the development of the CSR (Consortium of Canadian Centres for Clinical Cognitive Research). This network of clinical trials on experimental drugs, at the beginning under the chairmanship of Dr. Gauthier, was quickly duplicated abroad. Dr. Gauthier was born in Montreal in 1950. After obtaining his Bachelor’s degree in Biochemistry at “Université de Montréal”, he decided to pursue his studies in Medicine in 1969. He carried out a regular internship in Montreal and then a residency in neurology, immediately followed by research training under the supervision of the renowned neurochemist, Theodore L. Sourkes. In 1978, he permanently joined the teaching staff of the McGill University. For more than thirty years he was a teacher in three different departments where he worked concurrently. Starting in the 1980’s he became interested in dementia. In 1986, he took the lead of the new McGill University Research Center for Studies in Aging. He was the Director of the Centre for more than ten years, after which, he became in charge of the laboratory specialized in Alzheimer’s and related diseases.

Dr. Gauthier has provided a large contribution to the development of new diagnostic and therapeutic methods for persons afflicted with Alzheimer’s disease or dementia. For the wellness of these people, he elaborated consensus guidelines for the provision of medical care and he established special training programs intended for physicians in Quebec, Europe and Asia. With his great skills in knowledge transfer, he was a member, during most of his career, of the Editorial councils of many medical journals. Being generous in sharing his knowledge, he was invited to act as consultant in neurology on a regular basis for many hospitals in the Montreal region from 1976 to 2016. « Citation from National Order of Quebec. »

« Prédire la maladie d’Alzheimer » interview with Dr. Serge Gauthier - Radio-Canada. 24/60 on October 5, 2017, hosted by Anne Marie-Dussault.

McGill University has developed a calculation method which can predict the development of Alzheimer’s. Interview with Dr. Serge Gauthier, neurologist and Director of the Alzheimer’s Disease Research Unit of the McGill University Research Center for Studies in Aging.

New 2017 – “Dr. Serge Gauthier Fellowship Award” was established for research interchange and exchange between the McGill University Research Centre for Studies in Aging, McGill Department of Pharmacology and Therapeutics and Enigma Biomedical Group. The recipient of this 36 month scholarship was Ms. Ashley Knight, Project title: “Tau Imaging in Living Human Brain.”

ALZHEIMER’S DISEASE RESEARCH UNIT

Alzheimer Disease Research Unit Director Dr. Serge Gauthier and Dr. P. Rosa-Neto, Director of the McGill University Research Centre for Studies in Aging, utilize the best clinical practices and cutting-edge technologies for diagnosis of medical conditions associated with memory problems. The Memory Clinic is actively involved in cognitive research and is recognized internationally as a Clinical Trial Site. Clinical trials (Phase II-IV) that test the efficacy and safety of experimental drugs for AD and other cognitive disorders are ongoing. Presently MCSA is recruiting participants for 4 different studies. To participate/or for information please call or contact Tamar Tatigian at 514-761-6131 x6314 or email: tamar.tatigian@mcgill.ca

ADVANCES IN RESEARCH

Sulantha Mathotaarachchi, Scientific Software Engineer of MCSA, develops artificial intelligence models to predict the progression of dementia using various biomarker measurements, such as MRI, PET, CSF and neuropsychological assessments. Article: “Identifying incipient dementia individuals using machine learning and amyloid imaging,” by S. Mathotaarachchi supervised by Dr. Pedro Rosa-Neto and Dr. Serge Gauthier.

NEW TECHNOLOGY COULD IMPROVE PATIENT CARE, ACCELERATE SEARCH FOR ALZHEIMER’S TREATMENTS:

“Scientists from the Douglas Mental Health University Institute’s Translational Neuroimaging Laboratory, McGill University Research Centre for Studies in Aging, used artificial intelligence techniques and big data to develop an algorithm capable of recognizing the signatures of dementia two years before its onset, using a single amyloid PET scan of the brain of patients at risk of developing Alzheimer’s disease. Their findings appear in a new study published in the journal of Neurobiology of Aging.

https://doi.org/10.1016/j.neurobiolaging.2017.06.027
Link to the software: http://predictalz.tnlmcgill.ca/PredictAlz_Amy This research was funded by the Canadian Consortium on Neurodegeneration in Aging (CCNA) and the Canadian Institutes of Health Research. The above research findings were announced in high impact international press such as: Newsweek (USA), McGill Reporter, and le Devoir

MCSA ACTIVITIES

“Journée Santé - Health Day”

“Journée Portes Ouvertes - Open House”
On September 15, 2017, the Centre held a one day event Open House for the public. Participants were invited to register and attend various stations to evaluate their health, such as “Memory”, “Oral Health”, and “Vital Signs”. They also attended all of the Knowledge Transfer (KT) conferences: “Nutrition”, “Diabetes”, “Genetic Family History”, “Language Assessment” “Healthy Eyes”, “Sleep Apnea”, “Osteoporosis”, and “Current Research on Brain Aging and Disease”. This knowledge transfer (KT) event was innovative in many aspects, and certainly achieved all of its goals. We had over 50 participants that attended this “Open House” and were delighted and impressed by the quality of the whole event. In fact, the testimonials and feedback provided by all of the participants during the event were enthusiastic and incredibly positive.

Research Assistants: Peter Kang, Haseeb Khan and Russell Clough, RN.

Laura Robb, Genetic Consultant presented “Understanding your genetic family history.”

Mina Mirtaheri, Dietician, MCSA Education Committee, presented lectures on “Nutrition” and “Diabetes”.

Dr. Loraine Mazzella-Maiolo, MCSA Education Committee Medical Adviser, presented lectures on “Sleep Apnea” and “Osteoporosis.”
Dr. Chris Serhan and Dr. Rita Ganni presented a lecture on “Healthy Eyes”.

Joseph Therriault, presented “Current Research on Brain Aging and Disease”.

**A WORD FROM OUR DIRECTOR, DR. P. ROSA-NETO:**
“Community outreach and KT is at the heart of our mission as a Centre and backbone for an active prevention and research program. We have accomplished an important step to better engage our patients, caregivers, and family members in our efforts for one world without dementia.”

**“TEAM MCSA” MARATHON OASIS**

On Sunday, September 24, 2017 the Centre participated for the 7th year in the Marathon Oasis as "Team MCSA" and walked/ran the 10KM and 21KM. The event is a fund raising team effort where staff, students, donors and public participants get involved and make a commitment toward their health and well-being. If you are interested and would like to join us next year on Saturday, September 22, 2018 - Sunday, September 23, 2018. Rock ‘n’ Roll Montreal please contact Silvana Aguzzi at 514-761-6131, #6308.

**7th MCGILL UNIVERSITY HEALTH FAIR for FACULTY and STAFF October 20, 2017**

MCISA Employees: Tamar Tatigian, Silvana Aguzzi and Maria Polcaro.

MCISA was invited by H.R., McGill University, to participate in their Annual Employee Health Fair. Participants visited our interactive booth where they obtained valuable information and resources on how to better manage their health at the work place for prevention and promoting healthy aging.

**ASSOCIAZIONE SPIGNESE DI MONTREAL FUNDRAISER EVENT, OCTOBER 7, 2017 RAISED $10,520.00**

MCSA Booth, Annual Employee Health Fair, McGill University - Margaret De Chazal, RN (Volunteer), and Research Assistants, Sarah Sbeiti and Karen Wan.

“Associazione Spignese di Montreal” held their 1st Annual Alzheimer’s Fundraiser on Saturday, October 7, 2017 at Chateau Classique Reception Hall, Montreal, donating all profits benefiting the McGill University Research Centre for Studies in Aging. Over 150 guests attended the fundraiser and Dr. Paolo Vitali, MD, FRCP, Ph.D, who is a certified neurologist and neuropsychologist was the guest speaker at the gala evening and gave a lecture on “Alzheimer’s Disease, Ongoing Research and Clinical Activities at MCSA”. MCSA, would like to thank the Committee Members and the President of the Association Spignese di Montreal for organizing this fantastic event!
To achieve all of our objectives and to continue to play an important role in aging research in Quebec and Canada, we always need your help! We are happy to accept donations that will support our research efforts. We will issue a receipt for tax purposes for all donations above $15.00. In addition, every donor whose gift exceeds $500.00 will be honored by receiving a permanent inscription on our Donor Wall. If you would like to make a donation by mail, phone or email, please contact Alexandra at T: 514-761-6131, #6311 or by email: alexandra.triantafillopoulos1@mcgill.ca OR silvana.aguzzi@mcgill.ca

To receive an official donation receipt for fiscal year end 2017, please send your donations to our Centre by December 15, 2017.

If you would like to volunteer please contact Silvana Aguzzi: T 514-761-6131 #6308.

www.aging.mcgill.ca
www.tnl-mcgill.ca
http://alzheimer.mcgill.ca

As the holidays approach, we would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continuous support and interest in our Centre. Your enduring confidence and encouragement in our work is very gratifying and contributes to the preservation of the highest levels of research, education and teaching in the field of aging.

Dr. Pedro Rosa-Neto, Director of the McGill University Research Centre for Studies in Aging, Dr. Serge Gauthier, Director of the Alzheimer Disease Research Unit/Memory Clinic and the MCSA Team would like to thank you for your generous contributions and support throughout 2017. We would like to wish you and your families a Happy Holiday Season and a Peaceful New Year!

In addition, we hope that you will be able to take part in one or more of our many exciting events planned for 2018; such as our Brainy Boomer Lecture Series, Marathon Oasis Montreal “Team MCSA”, and the Annual Donor BBQ for Donors & Friends. We look forward to your feedback and suggestions, email us at info.mcsa@mcgill.ca.