June 2013 MSKTC Headlines

The MSKTC recently held a webinar titled *Engaging with Audiences: A Learning Collaborative* on Tuesday, May 28, 2013, at 1-2:30 pm (ET). This webinar included several presentations from model system researchers from the SCI, TBI, and Burn injury areas. They shared examples of their engagement activities, including their goals, processes, challenges, and successes to engage audiences in their research, including individuals with an injury, caregivers, clinicians, and policymakers. Available on the website is a PowerPoint version as well as an edited transcribed version of the webinar.

=====Spinal Cord Injury (SCI)=====

SCI Model System Releases SCI Forum Presentations on Streaming Video

The Northwest Regional Spinal Cord Injury System Center recently added *To Walk or Roll: The Controversy Over Walking and Research* and *SCI Research and the Hope for Cure: Where Are We Today?* to their SCI Forum Video archive. The presentation titled *To Walk or Roll: The Controversy Over Walking and Research* was given by Michael Boninger, MD, director of the University of Pittsburgh Model Center on Spinal Cord Injury. In the presentation Dr. Boninger addresses SCI researchers’ focus on walking and the lack of emphasis on other issues that impact daily living. The presentation titled *SCI Research and the Hope for Cure: Where Are We Today?* given by Daniel Lammertse, MD, co-project director of the Rocky Mountain Regional Spinal Cord Injury System explains the complex issues involved in SCI recovery research, discusses the most promising avenues of investigation, summarizes the current state of SCI cure research worldwide today, and reviews the risks of participating in expensive experimental treatments outside the U.S.. These presentations are also available on YouTube.

SCI Model System Researcher Appointed Endowed Chair of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation

Michael Boninger, MD; director of the University of Pittsburgh Model Center on Spinal Cord Injury (UPMC-SCI) was appointed Endowed Chair of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation at the University of Pittsburgh. This honor, one of the highest in academia, recognizes Boninger’s distinction in the field of medicine, particularly his research and outstanding contributions in the area of spinal cord injury.

Model Systems Researcher Receives the Prestigious Marian Williams Award for Research in Physical Therapy

The MSKTC congratulates Sara Mulroy, PT, Ph.D., co-director of the Southern California Spinal Cord Injury Model System for receiving the Marian Williams Award for Research in Physical Therapy. This award was established to recognize individuals who have performed sustained and outstanding basic, clinical, and/or educational research pertaining to physical therapy.

Model Systems Researcher Becomes Co-Project Director
Keith Tansey, M.D., Ph.D., recently became co-project director of the Southeastern Regional Spinal Cord Injury Model System. Read more about Dr. Tansey here.

Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI)

MSKTC Releases a New Audio Described Video for the Hot Topics Module

The MSKTC has recently released an audio described video for the Hot Topic Module: Relationships after Traumatic Brain Injury. This video is part of the hot topics module which consists of a suite of resources to help individuals with traumatic brain injury and their partners enjoy meaningful and fulfilling relationships. Access the video with audio description here.

Burn Model System hosting a Panel Discussion

The Boston-Harvard Burn Injury Model System hosted a panel discussion about facing trauma and the road to recovery and renewal. Entitled, Reintegration after Burn Injury and Severe Trauma: Experiences and Strategies for Personal and Family Recovery, this presentation featured survivors and was located at Shriners Hospital for Children-Boston. The presentation welcomed back Carrie Holmstrom, a young woman who at 16 survived a horrible auto accident; Brian Meyer, a Marine Gunnery Sergeant who survived a bomb blast during his third deployment in Afghanistan; Muji Karim, a young man who also survived an auto crash with his brother; and Diana Tenney and Jerry LaPerriere, who sustained serious injuries while burning yard waste at their home. A video of the presentation will be available on the BH-BIMS website.

Upcoming Events

July 24–27    RE:GENERATION 2013 Annual Conference on Independent Living
Aug 27–29    Paralyzed Veterans of America's Summit 2013
Sept 2–4    Academy of Spinal Cord Injury Professionals Annual Meeting
Oct 9–12    Phoenix Society's Annual World Burn Congress Meeting
Nov 12–16    90th Annual ACRM Conference