

## FORUM Mentors for Spring 2004



**Dr. Edward Green** is a neuroscientist who has been with the Department of Psychology since 1989. Dr. Green was born in Cleveland, OH, but he spent his childhood in Miami. He received his Bachelor's degree with a major in Neuroscience at the University of Florida and earned his Ph.D. in Neuroscience from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. In addition, he completed postdoctoral work at the University of Colorado. His current research is focused on the development of treatments designed to improve recovery of function following brain damage in general, and stroke/head trauma, more specifically. Dr. Green played a significant role in the creation of the recently developed Neuroscience program. He has been working closely

with the Biology Department to develop a new neuroscience laboratory in which to conduct PSY 403, which is now co-listed as BIL 403. He is also the Department liaison for undergraduate psychobiology and neuroscience research on the Medical Campus. Dr. Green plans "to bring a genuine enthusiasm for neuroscience as well as a wide background concerning various topics in Psychobiology." Dr. Green remarked recently that many of his former FORUM students are now working in his lab.



**Dr. Philip McCabe** is a Professor of Psychology and the Associate Chairman of the Department. He is also a prominent member of the University-wide Neuroscience Ph.D. program, including his most recent undertaking as Director of the Undergraduate Neuroscience Program. Dr. McCabe is originally from the Chicago area, and received his Ph.D. in Neuroscience from the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. He came to the University of Miami 20 years ago, and has been teaching and conducting research in the fields of Behavioral and Cognitive Neuroscience. Dr. McCabe's research deals with the neurobiology of emotion, and how emotional behavior can influence the progression of cardiovascular disease. For his FORUM section, Dr. McCabe will introduce students to modern neuroscience research, and hopes to stimulate interest in understanding the mechanisms of higher brain functions, such as emotion, learning, memory, attention, and language.



**Dr. David Wilson** is a Professor of Biology who has been with UM for over thirty years. He has taught students in the biological sciences at both the medical school and main campuses. He has done research on viruses, neurons, aging, and consciousness, and holds a range of positions in administration. Dr. Wilson holds a B.S. in Physics at the University of Maryland, and a Ph.D. in Biophysics at the University of Chicago. He completed a postdoctoral fellowship in Neuroscience at Cal Tech. Dr. Wilson is intrigued by the concepts of the mind and consciousness. He has also has a passion for cycling and raced competitively for twenty years, becoming a five-time State Champion. An accident halted his racing career but he still cycles about 100 miles a week! In his FORUM section, Dr. Wilson wants to help "educate the next generation of neuroscientists."

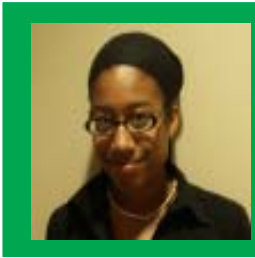
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## Neuroscience Journal Scan      October 2003

- Arana, F. S., Parkinson, J. A., Hinton, E., Holland, A. J., Owen, A. M., & Roberts, A. C. (2003). **Dissociable contributions of the human amygdala and orbitofrontal cortex to incentive motivation and goal selection.** *J Neurosci*, 23(29), 9632-9638.
- Jacquemot, C., Pallier, C., LeBihan, D., Dehaene, S., & Dupoux, E. (2003). **Phonological grammar shapes the auditory cortex: a functional magnetic resonance imaging study.** *J Neurosci*, 23(29), 9541-9546.
- Marcotte, T. D., Deutsch, R., McCutchan, J. A., Moore, D. J., Letendre, S., Ellis, R. J., et al. (2003). **Prediction of Incident Neurocognitive Impairment by Plasma HIV RNA and CD4 Levels Early After HIV Seroconversion.** *Arch Neurol*, 60(10), 1406-1412.
- McDermott, C. M., LaHoste, G. J., Chen, C., Musto, A., Bazan, N. G., & Magee, J. C. (2003). **Sleep deprivation causes behavioral, synaptic, and membrane excitability alterations in hippocampal neurons.** *J Neurosci*, 23(29), 9687-9695.

Want to recommend an article to fellow neuroscience students? Contact Graduate Assistant Blake Scanlon [blake@miami.edu](mailto:blake@miami.edu)

# Student Spotlight



Melissa Bent is a junior majoring in Neuroscience, Neurobiology track, with minors in Chemistry and Business Administration. Melissa was named as one of the Lois Pope Scholars for last summer, working with Christine K. Thomas, Ph.D. Dr. Thomas and Melissa are examining the effects of both embryonic cell transplants and the addition of neurotrophic factors on nerve-muscle reinnervation in rats. Melissa analyzed the fibers of nine different muscles to see if muscle area increased or decreased between factors. She continues to volunteer 12 hours a week in Dr. Thomas' lab and has applied for a supplementary grant for funding to work full-time this coming summer on a specific experiment examining the effects of transplantation of earlier embryonic cells. Melissa continues to work with Dr. Thomas and is preparing a poster for the Annual Meeting of

the Society for Neuroscience. But you don't need to go to that conference to check out her research. She will be displaying her work at:

**Undergraduate Conference for Research in Psychology (UCON)**  
scheduled for Sunday November 16, 2003 from 12:00 to 2:30  
on the fifth floor of the Flipse Building.

When Melissa is not busy working on her research, she serves as the Activities Director for the Minority Association of Pre-Health Students (MAPS), is a member of the Executive Board for Alternative Spring Break, and is attempting to start a new campus organization called "On the Lyrical Tip" that deals with music, music education, and reading improvement targeted at high school students. She also works as a security assistant in the residential colleges. Like many of us, Melissa is not exactly sure what she wants to do in the future. Ideally, she would like to pursue a M.D./Ph.D. or Ph.D. training in neuroscience. Melissa is also currently learning how to box and enjoys "attempting to kayak." Melissa Bent can be reached at [m.bent@umiami.edu](mailto:m.bent@umiami.edu).

## "Biology in the Courtroom"

is a workshop co-sponsored by the Law School's Center for Ethics and Public Service, the College of Arts & Sciences, and the Biology, Philosophy and Religious Studies Departments. A panel of distinguished people including former Attorney General Janet Reno will discuss how biology, ethics, and the law come together in the courtroom. Learn how scientific research and evidence, including DNA, are used to search out the truth, exonerate the innocent, and convict the guilty. Join the group on

Thursday, November 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm in Cox Auditorium.

## Presidential Update The Undergraduate Neuroscience Society (TUNS)

We have had a successful start to the re-establishment of The Undergraduate Neuroscience Society (TUNS). The members of TUNS have discussed articles, played neuroscience games, and most recently, visited Dr. Jon Lu's neurobiology lab. A big thanks to Dr. Lu and his graduate student, Seth Tomchik, who explained their aspects of research on fish auditory neurobiology and demonstrated their awesome equipment. Members were able to ask questions about their research and went away with an understanding of one example of neuroscience research at the University of Miami.

In the future, we hope to visit more professors of neuroscience and neurobiology, and visit the Miami Project to Cure Paralysis. We look forward to viewing member presentations of their own research and want you all to join us.

If you would like to join TUNS, please email [um\\_tuns@hotmail.com](mailto:um_tuns@hotmail.com).

President	Stephanie Halpin	Senior	Psychology major
Vice President	Denise Nunes	Junior	Psychology and Philosophy majors
Secretary	Vinod Suresh	Junior	Psychobiology major
Treasurer	Aarti Patel	Senior	Neuroscience (Psychobiology track)