

# Speaker Biographies



## **Justin M. Brown, M.D.**

Co-Director, Center for Neurophysiology and Restorative Neurology, University of California, San Diego.

Dr. Brown is a neurosurgeon who trained at Baylor College of Medicine and subsequently pursued a fellowship in peripheral nerve reconstructive surgery in the Division of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery at Washington University in St. Louis. He then joined the Department of Neurosurgery there where he served as the Associate Director of the *Center for Nerve Injury and Paralysis*. He is now the Director of the Peripheral Nerve Surgery Program and Co-Director of the Center for Neurophysiology and Restorative Neurology at UCSD. His clinical practice focuses upon function-enhancing reconstructive procedures for both peripheral nerve and central nervous system injuries.



## **Milan R. Dimitrijevic, M.D., Ph.D.**

Professor Emeritus, Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, Texas

Dr. Dimitrijevic is a certified neurologist and holds a doctorate in Human Neurosciences. He is a corresponding Member of Slovenian academy of Sciences and Art, Ljubljana, Slovenia. He is an investigator for the Foundation for Movement Recovery, Oslo, Norway since 2007. The author of 175 publications in peer reviewed journals, his clinical and research interests center in Restorative Neurology and the human neuroscience of motor control. He is the editor and co-author on five books in the field of Restorative Neurology.



## **Mary Galea, P.T., Ph.D.**

Foundation Professor of Clinical Physiotherapy, University of Melbourne.

Dr. Galea is a physiotherapist and neuroscientist who commenced her academic career after a substantial period in clinical practice, and has considerable experience in the management of adults and children with nervous system disorders. Her research program includes both laboratory-based and clinical projects with the overall theme of elucidating how voluntary movement is controlled by the brain and factors promoting recovery following nervous system damage.



## **Byron A. Kakulas, M.D.**

Professor Emeritus, University of Western Australia, Perth

After graduation from the University of Adelaide, Dr. Kakulas specialised in clinical neurology followed by training in pathology and at Harvard Medical School. In Perth, he established academic neurology and neuropathology and in 1967 founded the Muscular Dystrophy Association of WA and soon after the Australian Neuromuscular Research Institute becoming the Medical Director of both-. In 1971 he was appointed Professor of Neuropathology in the University of Western Australia. Kakulas has received many honours and has produced ten monographs and over 400 scientific publications



## **John Martin, Ph.D.**

Medical Professor, Physiology Pharmacology and Neuroscience, The City College of New York.

Dr. Martin studies movement from the dual perspectives of development and recovery of motor function after brain or spinal injury, using animal models. His developmental studies focus on the corticospinal tract (CST), examining development of CST connections and skilled motor behavior. Applying knowledge of activity-dependent competition shaping development of the corticospinal system, he examines ways to promote new connections between the damaged CST and spinal motor circuits in adult animals



### **W. Barry McKay, B.S.**

Research Scientist, The Shepherd Center, Atlanta, Georgia

Beginning at Baylor College of Medicine, Mr. McKay has spent the past four decades to develop, implement and validate a variety of neurophysiological methods for the assessment of motor and sensory function in people who have experienced a variety of neurological disorders. From data acquired using these neurophysiological methods, he has authored or coauthored 11 book chapters and 29 peer-reviewed journal articles. He is currently working with numerous laboratories in the United States and abroad in the study of human neurophysiology.



### **Karen Minassian, Ph.D.**

Research Associate, Center of Medical Physics & BME Vienna Medical Univ., Austria.

Karen Minassian studied technical physics and received the PhD degree from the Vienna University of Technology, Austria (2004). He has described motor effects evoked by epidural and transcutaneous spinal cord stimulation by computer modeling and human electrophysiological studies. His main research interest is the neural signal processing and generating capability of the human spinal cord and the role of lumbar spinal circuits in the neural control of human locomotion. Dr. Minassian received the TUBioMed Award for the best thesis in biomedical technology, Vienna University of Technology (2004).



### **Karen Pape, M.D.**

Medical Director, TASC Network Inc, Toronto, Canada

Dr. Pape is a clinical researcher with a special interest in brain development and the response of the immature nervous system to injury. She has developed innovative treatment protocols for children with cerebral palsy, brachial plexus and spinal cord injury and been instrumental in the development of Neonatal Brain Ultrasound Scanning, Threshold Electrical Stimulation (TES) and sEMG Triggered Stimulation (ETS). She is currently completing a book about neuroplasticity with important insights into differences in the pattern and extent of possible recovery after an early neurological injury.



### **John Rothwell, M.D., Ph.D.**

Professor of Human Neurophysiology, London, England

After receiving a PhD and a post-doctoral position at the Institute of Psychiatry, University of London, Dr. Rothwell moved to the Medical Research Council Human Movement and Balance Unit at the Institute of Neurology in 1988. He subsequently was appointed to be Head of the Sobell Department of Motor Neuroscience and Movement Disorders at the UCL Institute of Neurology in London. He is Fellow of the Academy of Medical Sciences. Current research projects include study of neural plasticity, and using this knowledge to devise new therapeutic interventions for rehabilitation after stroke.



### **Patrick W. Stroman, Ph.D.**

Associate Professor, Queens University, Kingston, Ontario, and Canada Research Chair in Imaging Physics

Dr. Stroman completed his PhD with a focus on MRI at the University of Alberta in Edmonton in 1993. In 1997, after a Post-Doctoral Fellowship, he took a position as a Research Officer at the Institute for Biodiagnostics (IBD), National Research Council of Canada, Winnipeg, Manitoba. There he began developing fMRI of the spinal cord. In 2004 he moved to Kingston, Ontario, to join the Centre for Neuroscience Studies, with appointments in the Departments of Physics and Diagnostic Radiology, at Queen's University, and as Director of the Queen's MRI Facility. He leads research focused on the development of spinal fMRI as a tool for clinical assessments and spinal cord research.



### **Simon F.T. Tang, M.D..**

Program Director, Rehabilitation, Chang Gung Memorial Hospital, and Professor of Rehabilitation Medicine, Chang Gung University, Taipei, Taiwan

Professor Dr. Simon FT Tang was graduated from the National Taiwan University. He also visited Division of Restorative Neurology and Human Neurobiology Baylor College of Medicine in USA as a research fellow. Dr. Tang has authored 130 published papers. His research interests are orthosis, gait analysis , motor control and musculoskeletal ultrasound. He is the Honorary President of Taiwan Academy of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, President of Asia-Oceanian Society of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine and Regional Vice President of International Society of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine.



### **Keith Tansey, M.D., Ph.D.**

Director, Spinal Cord Injury Research and Restorative Neurology Programs, Shepherd Center, Atlanta, Georgia

Dr. Tansey also has appointments in the Departments of Neurology and Physiology at Emory University School of Medicine where he has his basic science laboratory. Dr. Tansey is board certified in Neurology and Spinal Cord Injury Medicine and cares for patients in the Spinal Cord Injury Clinic of the Atlanta Veteran's Administration Medical Center. He currently serves as the Vice President for the ISRN, as the Treasurer Elect for the American Spinal Injury Association, and on the board of the American Society for Neurorehabilitation. He has been awarded several research and teaching awards



### **Janez Zidar, M.D., Ph.D.**

Professor of Neurology, Institute of Clinical Neurophysiology, Ljubljana School of Medicine, Slovenia

Dr. Zidar received his M.D. and his Ph. D. degree in neurophysiology from the University of Ljubljana Medical Faculty. In addition he received neurology training at the National Hospital for Nervous Diseases and Institute of Neurology, Queen Square, London, U.K., Clinical Neurophysiology at University Hospital in Uppsala, Sweden and in Linköping, Sweden, and the Department of Restorative Neurology and Human Neurobiology, Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, Texas. His major fields of interest are neuromuscular disorders and neurophysiology of the motor system in man. From 1996 till 2011 he was the head of the Ljubljana Institute of Clinical Neurophysiology