Department of Cell Systems & Anatomy

Edward G. Rennels Distinguished Lecture Series

Tau Prions: Insights into initiation and diversity of neurodegenerative diseases

Tuesday, April 25, 2017
11:00 am, medical school 209L

Featuring

Marc Diamond, M.D.

Director, Center for Alzheimer's and Neurodegenerative Diseases, UT Southwestern Medical Center

Seminal work from Dr. Diamond's laboratory revealed that tau, a key pathological player in many neurodegenerative diseases, adopts prion-like characteristics that help explain its pathological spread through the human brain. The primary focus of Dr. Diamond's work is to understand how amyloid-forming proteins propagate a misfolded state between cells. Recent breakthroughs include the invention of a cell-based platform for detecting minute levels of amyloid seeds in biospecimens, and an immunotherapy-based approach that improves cognition *in vivo*. Dr. Diamond earned his MD from the University of California San Francisco and was the David Clayson Professor of Neurology at Washington University in St. Louis prior to his recruitment to UTSW.

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