Brain science takes a significant leap forward with the new University of Texas at Dallas BrainHealth Imaging Center, which celebrated its opening on November 21 as one of the milestones marking the first 50 years of UT Dallas.

Speakers included Dr. Richard Benson, president of UT Dallas; Dr. Joseph Pancrazio, vice president for research; Dr. Steven Small, dean of the School of Behavioral and Brain Sciences; Dr. Bart Rypma, director of the UT Dallas BrainHealth Imaging Center; Dr. Vince Calhoun, founding director of the Center for Translational Research in Neuroimaging and Data Science (TReNDS) at Georgia State, Georgia Tech and Emory University and one of the world’s foremost experts in brain imaging and analysis; and Mr. Tom Leppert, former Mayor of Dallas and co-leader of The BrainHealth Project™.

The UT Dallas BrainHealth Imaging Center establishes an international hub for research scientists, partners—and even the medical community—to collaborate in the advancement of brain health. “I’m tremendously proud that we’re leveraging these amazing facilities to train the next generation of scientists,” shared Dr. Rypma. “These are the folks who will be developing new analytics, new technology, and new approaches to create completely new visualization capabilities.”

The Imaging Center features two state-of-the-art MRI scanners considered the gold standard for brain research; this is the first set of scanners for UT Dallas and among the few in North Texas dedicated exclusively to research related to human brain function.

Advancing Brain Science with Leading-Edge Technology

The innovations found in our Imaging Center are remarkable because they help us better understand the workings of the human brain. I want to commend you – our faculty, researchers, staff, students and friends of the Center for BrainHealth – for being a part of this vital area of science.

Dr. Richard Benson
President, The University of Texas at Dallas

The BrainHealth Imaging Center includes other innovative elements such as a biomarker collection room and a brain reset room that features the Moving Art™ display by award-winning nature documentarian Louie Schwartzberg.

The work conducted here will play an important role in our mission of updating and expanding the way people think about the brain’s ability to adapt and grow stronger.

“...”

GIVE THE GIFT OF BRAINHEALTH THIS HOLIDAY SEASON!

THE BRAIN: AN OWNER’S GUIDE
FEBRUARY LECTURE SERIES
tickets on sale now, with early bird pricing through December 31, using code: 2020LSEARLY

BRAINHEALTH PHYSICALS
now scheduling for Spring/Summer 2020
Embracing Our Fullest Potential

Over the past several months, BrainHealth Leadership has established a bold path to ensure that the great work our teams are doing is aligned with a single, overarching and strategic direction to make the grandest goals a reality.

The Center for BrainHealth is focused on discovering and translating scientific breakthroughs into practical strategies that increase brain health and performance in meaningful ways. Under this umbrella:

- BrainHealth Research ramps up to tackle the most important issues to advance how we measure and increase brain health and performance.
- The UT Dallas BrainHealth Imaging Center explores the innovative potential of imaging technology to measure positive and negative changes in brain health and function.
- The Brain Performance Institute translates scientific discovery to provide scalable training services and assessments to improve how corporations, communities, agencies, schools, colleges and individuals thrive.
- The BrainHealth Project – soon to begin pilot testing – is our signature initiative that will scale our work to promote brain health and performance nationally and internationally.

BrainHealth leaders and staff alike are fueled and energized to bring this forward-thinking alignment to life through our individual, day-to-day activities – the academic and translational research we pursue, the events we hold, the speaking engagements we agree to, the approaching launch of The BrainHealth Project, and the way we steward our talents and funds.

This is an unparalleled time of rapid growth at the Center for BrainHealth. Our teams and collaborators are inspired by the far-reaching vision to achieve our organization’s vision of unlocking human potential through improved brain health and performance. What more noble purpose is there to make work matter?

We are beyond grateful for the steadfast support, mentorship, interest and enthusiasm of each of you – our Board, friends, university colleagues, collaborators, clients and donors. You are integral to all of our efforts. We stand on tiptoes in highest anticipation of the amazing leaps we will achieve, working with together, in 2020. And what a year for BrainHealth’s reach it will be!

Inside The BrainHealth Project™

A remarkable group of thought leaders came together on October 21 to share a sneak peek inside the BrainHealth Project. The event was co-hosted by Sandi Chapman, Mark D’Esposito (UC Berkeley) and Adam Gazzaley (UCSF), along with BrainHealth Project co-leaders Ian Robertson, Tom Leppert, Geoff Ling, and spokespersons Georgieann and Adm. Bill McRaven. Below are some insights from the day.

Rather than waiting until people get sick and figure out how to fix the neural networks, let’s figure out how to keep them healthy through the lifespan… I can make the business case, I can make the health case, and the quality and quantity of life case.

Rich Carmona
Catapulting Brain Performance to the Center of Health and Wellness

Primary care doctors should follow patients’ healthy brains…it’s perplexing that the brain is the only major organ left out of a general physical exam.

Mark D’Esposito
Impatient Neurologists

The brain is one network with multiple specializations, like a symphony – a unified whole in which all parts work together with unique properties.

Marc Raichle
Breaking Through Brain Complexities

Brain health issues are resolvable – what a concept! That is why I am here and why I’ll support this Project to the end.

Mike Merzenich
Breaking Through Brain Complexities

We’re redefining what it means to be smart. It’s less about memory and calculations, and more about insight and creativity.

Adam Green
Systemic Disruption

We’re trying to make brain performance the next fitness revolution, by strengthening the core cognitive functions, increasing work productivity, enhancing creativity, reducing stress, improving resilience, providing brain health for the remainder of a person’s life.

Adm. Bill McRaven
Our Charge: Launching the BrainHealth Revolution
The Friends of BrainHealth donor circle announced five Distinguished New Scientist awards for 2019 during the annual Friends of BrainHealth Scientist Selection Luncheon held at Dallas Country Club.

Under the leadership of co-chairs Brill Garrett and Roger Gault, the Friends of BrainHealth raised more than $318,000 this year. Since its inception in 2008, the Friends have funded nearly 40 studies and raised more than $2.89 million.

2020 CO-CHAIRS ANNOUNCED

HEATHER GILKER

“Over the last 10 years I have marveled at the work of Sandi and her team. It is truly a gift to the world. Serving as co-chair of the Friends of BrainHealth campaign is an honor and a way for me to contribute to these efforts.”

COLEY CLARK

“I learn so much from these amazing scientists and am excited about the future of brain research as a result. Our Scientist Selection Luncheon is one of the many ways that the Center for BrainHealth is leading the way in brain health research.”

These young researchers will advance our understanding of brain health and performance with their innovative studies. We thank the Friends for providing significant support during a critical time in their early careers.

Dr. Dan Krawczyk
Deputy Director, Center for BrainHealth

Friends of BrainHealth Support New Scientists

The Friends of BrainHealth donor circle announced five Distinguished New Scientist awards for 2019 during the annual Friends of BrainHealth Scientist Selection Luncheon held at Dallas Country Club.

Matthew Xmieck, BS and Michael Lundie, MA
Friends of BrainHealth Distinguished New Scientist Award
Structural and Functional Neural Correlates of Reasoning in Traumatic Brain Injury

Dinesh Sivakolundu, MD
Jennifer and Peter Roberts Distinguished New Scientist Award
Identifying Brain-Vessel Health Biomarkers and Targeted Treatments to Improve Brain Performance in Healthy Aging and Dementia Disorders

Kathryn West, PhD
Linda and Joel Robuck Distinguished New Scientist Award
Validating Early Biomarkers of Slowing in Multiple Sclerosis

Irene Zhao, MS
Lydas Hill Philanthropies Distinguished New Scientist Award
Take Action Early: Training to Improve Cognition and Brain Signatures of Middle-Aged Working Adults

The two runners-up were Ken Castro from the School for the Talented and Gifted and Gracie Fenner from Glen Rose High School. All the impressive artwork can be viewed online at centerforbrainhealth.org/programs/kindness-initiative/

Art contest finalists

“BUD” J. SMITH 1927-2019

Bud was a warm person with many interesting stories to tell, I always enjoyed chatting with him, and he was an amazing advocate for brain health.

Vince Calhoun
Jane and Bud Smith Distinguished Chair, Center for BrainHealth

Bud was a true blessing in every sense of the word to me, to BrainHealth, and to each person he encountered. He and Jane have impacted all that we do at BrainHealth, and their philanthropic spirit continues to drive our mission. I will forever remain inspired by Bud’s keen sense of humor, steadfast faith, and compassionate and humble spirit.

Dr. Sandi Chapman
Founder and Chief Director, Center for BrainHealth

IN MEMORIAM | HENRY

Bud Smith was a long-time supporter of the Center for BrainHealth, along with his wife Jane. After retiring from a successful career in the insurance business, he served on BrainHealth’s Leadership Council for over a decade. He also established the Jane and Bud Smith Distinguished Chair endowment. Bud’s early support helped BrainHealth forge ahead into vast new territories of brain research that had not yet been explored, and he championed the creation of the Brain Performance Institute. Bud was a man of faith, enduring friendship, humor, quiet wit, service and generosity.

Bud lived, and led, by example. His daily life consisted of hard work, a positive attitude, a deep faith, and genuine love. He was a loyal friend and a generous donor to causes he championed. Fortunately for us, BrainHealth became one of his passions!

Debbie Francis
Former board chair

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Connecting Art and the Brain at DMA

Center for BrainHealth was proud to participate in The Dallas Museum of Art’s new exhibition, *speechless: different by design,* that presents unique participatory environments and unconventional multisensory experiences to foster understanding of the ways in which we experience the world through our senses.

These projects were informed by conversations with a scientific advisory panel of specialists, including BrainHealth representatives: Tandra Allen, MS, CCC/SLP, head of virtual training programs; Dan Krawczyk, PhD, deputy director of Center for BrainHealth; Bonnie Pitman, MA, Director of Art-Brain Innovations; and Audette Rackley, MS, CCC/SLP, assistant director of strengths-based programs.

"By highlighting how brain science research and translational training programs intersect, we helped inform the way the artists represented the strengths of all individuals in their art," said Allen. "The diverse representations in this exhibition help everyone connect, removing typical barriers so we walk away informed and appreciative of our differences." BrainHealth also helped create one of the projects, Scroll Space, presented by Steven and William Ladd. This vibrant and tactile room was created entirely of tens of thousands of hand-rolled textile "scrolls" made by community members. More than 100 BrainHealth clinicians and program participants – from Discovery Group, Charisma Adult Virtual Social Training and the Adolescent Reasoning Initiative – gathered one morning to hand roll their scrolls, conveying their own personal messages through art.

"The artists’ creative engagement with the scientific advisory team was a unique collaboration, demonstrating the power of the arts and sciences working together to create a new experience that involves looking, touching, hearing, moving and more," added Pitman.

*speechless: different by design,* curated by Sarah Schleuning, is on view at the DMA through March 22, 2020.

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**KEANA MEYER**

Keana is a leader in the Dallas philanthropic community. Passionate about issues affecting women and children, Keana has been actively involved with the leadership of New Friends New Life, Alliance Board President for Genesis Women's Shelter, CARE Dallas executive board member, The Ebby House, and with children’s ministries at HPUMC. A busy mom of three, she and her husband, State Representative Morgan Meyer, use their platform to promote mental healthcare, protect children and families, and invest in ideas that make our community strong.

"The Center for BrainHealth’s work is improving the way our children learn. It facilitates vital learning skills that will benefit those who need it most. This will be transformational in the way our future generations learn and grow. Serving on the board has taught me so much – our brains are the future and we have only begun to scratch the surface of our true capabilities."

**MITCH GERVIS**

Mitch is a native of the Northeast who moved to Dallas over twenty years ago for a business opportunity. He sold his first company in 2011 and now has a new startup, Complyify. This new business helps companies keep on top of their cybersecurity compliance requirements.

Mitch has been passionate about brain health for a long time, which led him to get involved with the Center for BrainHealth several years ago. He views the Center as a beacon of hope for all who fear the aging brain: "The research and work the Center does is unique and provides real resources for our most valuable but least understood asset, our brain."

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**FEBRUARY 4**

The Greystone Foundation Lecture
*Music and the Brain – A Window into Creativity*
Charles J. Limb, MD

**FEBRUARY 11**

The Linda and Joel Robuck Lecture
*When to Eat to Sleep Better*
Sachin Panda, PhD

**FEBRUARY 18**

The Caliber Home Loans Lecture
*Unlocking Human Potential: Inside The BrainHealth Project*
Sandi Chapman, PhD  Geoff Ling, MD, PhD
Ian Robertson, PhD  Tom Leopold, MBA

**FEBRUARY 25**

The Therapeutic Potential of Cannabis: Fact vs Fiction
Igor Grant, MD