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WORD FROM THE DIRECTOR AND ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR

Dear Colleagues:

Here is the first issue of *RQRV-INFO* for 2013.

To follow up on the day-long brainstorming session held on November 5, 2012, Network management will be holding two meetings with the co-ordinators of the Thematic Groups and Research Platforms and with the members of the Steering Committee and the Student Committee between now and the end of March, for the purpose of refining the Network's scientific program and strategic plan. We will report to you on the planned enhancements in the next issue of *RQRV-INFO*.

We also want to remind you that *Médecine Sciences Amérique*, an electronic journal of biological and medical research (<http://www.msamerique.ca/numeros>), has accepted the RQRV's proposal for a special issue on aging, to be published in Fall 2013, for which Network members are invited to submit articles. Articles must be written in French and must be submitted by May 1. Three types of articles may be submitted: 1) original articles presenting previously unpublished scientific results; 2) scholarly reviews of scientific results previously published elsewhere, including results obtained in cutting-edge areas by the author of the review or the author's laboratory; 3) news articles reporting on scientific breakthroughs or events in the scientific community. We have already received a few proposals for articles, but several of the Network's research themes have still not been covered. This special issue represents a unique opportunity for the RQRV to raise awareness about our work, because it will also contain an exclusive interview with Dr. Réjean Hébert, Quebec's Minister of Health and Social Services and Minister Responsible for Seniors (<http://www.premiere-ministre.gouv.qc.ca/equipe/conseil-ministres/hebert-rejean-en.asp>).

Here are a few final items. First, please mark your calendars to attend the 11th edition of the Network's **Annual Science Days** (the web site for this event will be up and running in June). Second, we want to congratulate all of you on your accomplishments and urge you to continue your efforts so that the RQRV can maintain its leading position in the field of research on aging in Canada and internationally. And lastly, we also encourage you to contribute to *RQRV-INFO* (info@rqrv.com) to let us know about the successes and recognition that you have achieved as a researcher in the field of aging. The remaining issues for 2013 will appear in June, September, and December.

Pierrette Gaudreau, Ph.D., Director

José A. Morais, M.D., Associate Director

WORD FROM THE CHAIR OF THE STUDENT COMMITTEE

I want to ask all student members of the Network to please complete the very brief survey questionnaire that the Student Committee e-mailed to you recently and return it to us as soon as possible. It is important for you to respond to this survey so that we can determine your needs for specialized interdisciplinary training and give Network management proposals for innovative training activities that will meet these needs.

Link to survey: http://www.rqrv.com/fr/sondage_rqrv.php

Margaux Blamoutier, Doctoral Student, Student Committee Chair

NEWS

RQRV Launches New Student Award for Research Excellence

The Network has launched a new Award for Research Excellence for its student members to encourage them to publish their results in the best possible journals in their research fields. The award comes with a cash prize of \$1000.

To be eligible for this award, you must be a M.Sc. student, a Ph.D. student, or a postdoctoral fellow, and a student member in good standing of the RQRV. You must have published, as first author or co-first author, an original article in a journal whose impact factor is among the highest in its field, and that article must have been indexed in PubMed.

The Network plans to grant four of these awards each year. To be eligible for the 2012-2013 awards, your article must have been published between April 1, 2012 and March 31, 2013.

To apply for this award, please submit an electronic copy of your published article in PDF format, along with a cover letter describing your contribution, the importance of the article, the impact factor of the journal in which it was published, and its ranking in relation to other journals in its field. This letter must be signed both by you and by your supervisor. You must submit your article and cover letter to Joanne Auclair, (joanne.auclair.chum@ssss.gouv.qc.ca) no later than May 31, 2013.

Appointments

1. New Steering Committee Member and New Thematic Group Co-ordinator

We want to thank René Verreault and Philippe Voyer, both of Université Laval, for the major contributions that they have made as a member of the Steering Committee and as co-ordinator of the Thematic Group on Long-Term Care, respectively. And we want to thank and welcome.

Normand Teasdale and Edeltraut Kroger, who have enthusiastically agreed to replace them.

Media Interview

1. Guylaine Ferland of Université de Montréal

was recently interviewed on the program *Les Années Lumières* on the CBC French Radio network *La Première Chaîne*.

http://www.radio-canada.ca/audio-video/pop.shtml?urlMedia=http://www.radio-canada.ca/Medianet/2012/CBF/LesAnneeslumiere20121111306_3.asx.

Award and Grant Recipients

1. **Frontenac Mobility Scholarship for doctoral candidates being co-supervised in France and Quebec**
http://www.frqnt.gouv.qc.ca/bourses/Fiches_programmes/index_Frontenac.htm.
Benjamin Allès, Université Laval, Nutrition TG – Supervisors: Danielle Laurin and Pascale Barberger-Gateau of Université de Bordeaux Segalen
2. **2012-2013 RQRV Doctoral Training Award**
Anne-Sophie Langlois – Université de Montréal, Cognition TG – Supervisor: Sylvie Belleville

Books Published

1. **Guylaine Ferland, Université de Montréal**
has published the third edition of a book on diet and aging, entitled *Alimentation et vieillissement* (Presses de l'Université de Montréal, <http://www.pum.umontreal.ca/catalogue/alimentation-et-vieillessement/couverture>).
2. **Fadi Massoud, Université de Montréal**
has published *La Maladie d'Alzheimer*, a book for people with Alzheimer's and their caregivers (Annika Parance Éditeur, <http://www.apediteur.com/sante/livre/la-maladie-d-alzheimer>).
3. **Yves Couturier, Université de Sherbrooke**
has published a book on co-ordination of gerontological care, entitled *La coordination en gérontologie* (Presses de l'Université de Montréal, <http://www.pum.umontreal.ca/catalogue/la-coordination-en-gerontologie>).

EVENTS

1. **1st Montreal International Symposium of GRAPA (research group on adapted physical activity)**
Doctors José Morais and Mylène Aubertin-Leheudre are holding this first international symposium on loss of muscle function, entitled “Muscle: From Humans to Cells”, in Montreal on May 3 and 4, 2013.
<http://www.grapa.uqam.ca/mhcsymposium2013/>
2. **IAGG 2013 – 20th IAGG World Congress of Gerontology and Geriatrics, “Digital @geing: A New Horizon for Health Care and Active Ageing”, June 23 to 27, 2013, Seoul, Korea.** <http://www.iagg2013.org/Eng/index.php>
The Network will have a booth at this conference, in partnership with the CIHR Institute of Aging.

Symposiums to be presented at the Congress by RQRV members

Louis Bherer, Sylvie Belleville et al., Université du Québec à Montréal and Université de Montréal, Cognition TG

Title: Cognitive training in aging: from near to far transfer effects, from single to multi-domain training, from normal aging to Alzheimer's disease

François Béland et al., Université de Montréal, Health Care and Services TG

Title : Integrated biological, clinical and population components of frailty

Louise Demers et al., Université de Montréal, Geriatric Rehabilitation TG
Title: The impact of assistive technology outcomes on informal caregivers

Tamas Fulop et al., Université de Sherbrooke, Nutrition TG
Title : Inflammatory biomarkers and frailty: the state of the art

José Morais et al., McGill University, Nutrition TG
Title: Relating muscle mass with functional capacity and insulin resistance: what is apparent is not always real

Éléonor Riesco et al., Université de Sherbrooke, Nutrition TG
Title: Body weight management in older adults: is it relevant and safe?

3. 11th Edition of Network Science Days, October 1 and 2, 2013

4. **Canadian Association on Gerontology– 42nd Annual Scientific and Educational Meeting, “Aging...from Cells to Society”, October 17 to 19, 2013, Halifax, Nova Scotia**
<http://www.cagacg.ca/page.aspx?page=1320&app=345&cat1=873&tp=2&lk=no&menu=86>
The Network will have a booth at this meeting.

SUMMER ADVANCED-TRAINING PROGRAMS

In 2013, the Network will again partner with the CIHR Institute of Aging’s annual Summer Program in Aging (SPA) and with the NutriBrain Summer School in Bordeaux, France.

If you know of any other international summer schools that would provide useful advanced training for the Network’s student members, please let us know by e-mail (info@rqrv.com) as soon as possible.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING RECIPIENTS OF CIHR GRANTS IN THE SUMMER AND FALL 2012 COMPETITIONS

CIHR Catalyst Grant: Health Services and Systems for an Aging Population

1. Mélanie Levasseur – Université de Sherbrooke, Long-Term Care TG
Title: Adaptation et validation d’une intervention d’Accompagnement Personnalisé d’Intégration Communautaire (APIC): vers une optimisation des services offerts pour répondre aux besoins de participation sociale des personnes âgées en perte d'autonomie, \$99 000

CIHR Operating Grants

1. Frédéric Calon and Denis Soulet – Université Laval, Nutrition TG
Title: Targeted delivery into brain capillary endothelial cells for the treatment of Alzheimer’s disease, \$699,329
2. Guylaine Ferland, Simon De Denus, Marie-Pierre Dubé, Anil Nigam, Sylvie Perreault and Jean-Claude Tardif - Institut Universitaire de gériatrie de Montréal, Nutrition TG
Title: Increasing vitamin K intake to improve long-term anticoagulation stability in patients treated with warfarin, \$385,751
3. Guylaine Ferland and Alan S Hazell - Institut Universitaire de gériatrie de Montréal, Nutrition TG
Title: Vitamin K in brain function: studies of mechanisms of action, \$446,424

4. Hélène Girouard, Université de Montréal, Nutrition TG
Title: Astrogliosis in Angiotensin II-induced neurovascular uncoupling, \$656,152
5. Edith Hamel, McGill University, Cognition TG
Title: Reversal of neuronal and cerebrovascular pathology in Alzheimer's disease, \$759,696
6. George Levesque, Université Laval, Cognition TG
Title: The amyloid and beyond: A molecular answer to forget me not, \$684,000
7. Oury Monchi, Sylvie N Belleville, Howard M Chertkow, D Louis Collins, and Anne-Louise Lafontaine - Institut Universitaire de gériatrie de Montréal, TG Cognition
Title: Comparing the nature and evolution of Mild Cognitive Impairment in individuals with and without Parkinson's disease, \$753,540
8. Ronald B Postuma and Anthony E Lang - The Research Institute of the McGill University Health Centre, Cognition TG
Title: Caffeine as a Therapeutic Agent in Parkinson's disease, \$585,750
9. Alexander Thiel, Joyce L Chen, Wolf-Dieter Heiss, George Mochizuki and Caroline Paquette - Jewish General Hospital, Cognition TG
Title: Noninvasive Repeated Therapeutic Stimulation for Aphasia Recovery (NORTHSTAR), \$500,157

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING RECIPIENTS OF GRANTS FROM OTHER FUNDING AGENCIES

1. Walter Wittich, Kenneth Southall, and their collaborators Jean-Pierre Gagné, Tony Leroux, Martine Lagacé, and Dawn Guthrie – McGill University, Rehabilitation TG
Title: Vieillir de façon autonome : comment les stéréotypes, les préjugés et la discrimination influencent le recours à la technologie chez les aînés québécois avec une double déficience sensorielle, \$285,194, Ministère de la Famille et des Aînés (Quebec ministry for family and seniors), through its QADA (Québec ami des aînés) program, support for Quebec-wide projects and experimentation component
2. Francine Ducharme and her team on the Desjardins Research Chair in Nursing Care for Seniors and Their Families and Guyline Martin, Director of Baluchon Alzheimer and her team – Université de Montréal, Interaction and Social Support TG
Title: Étude évaluative des effets du service de répit et d'accompagnement Baluchon Alzheimer sur les proches aidants et les personnes âgées atteintes de la maladie d'Alzheimer, \$236,988, Secrétariat aux aînés, Ministère de la santé et des services sociaux (secretariat for seniors, Quebec ministry of health and social services)
3. Yves Pouliot, principal investigator, Pierrette Gaudreau, co-investigator, and 16 other researchers from various Quebec research organizations, INAF (institute of nutrition and functional foods)/RQRV – Université de Montréal, Nutrition TG
Title: Réseau d'innovation sur les aliments et la santé, \$300,000, FRQNT