



*Established by
Evelyn F. McKnight
to Alleviate Memory Loss
in the Aging.*

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February 26, 2018

Ralph L Sacco, MD, MS, Executive Director
The Evelyn F. McKnight Brain Institute
Professor and Chair, Department of Neurology
University of Miami Miller School of Medicine
P.O Box 016960 (C-215)
Miami, Florida 33101

Tatjana Rundek, M.D, Ph.D., Scientific Director
Evelyn F. McKnight Brain Institute
University of Miami Miller School of Medicine
P.O Box 016960 (C-215)
Miami, Florida 33101

Dear Dr. Sacco and Dr. Rundek,

The trustees of the McKnight Brain Research Foundation (MBRF) reviewed the 2017 annual report from the Evelyn F. McKnight Brain Institute (EMBI) at the University of Miami (UM) at their February 2018, board meeting. The trustees were pleased to note the development and progress in implementation of a transition plan to new leadership of the EMBI over the past year has been successful. Dr. Rundek has distinguished herself as the interim scientific director and the trustees are pleased with her appointment as the designated scientific director of the EMBI at the UM and the occupant of the chair for learning and memory in the aging.

The trustees are also pleased to note the enhancements in the education program described in the 2016 annual report with the establishment of Miami EMBI small pilot collaborative Research Award Program and the Miami EMBI Cognitive Fellowship have been implemented.

The trustees wish to emphasize the importance of the support from the MBRF for clinical translational research in leading to the understanding and alleviation of age related memory loss. It is noted the Northern Manhattan Study (NOMAS)-Stroke Incidence and Risk Factors in a Tri-Ethnic Region is still active with its useful collateral research initiatives. The trustees are also pleased to learn there are the two patient-oriented grants submitted to the National Institutes of Health (NIH), but remain disappointed the clinical translational research programs remain underdeveloped in reaching their full potential.

It is understood that the grant awards by the MBRF to establish an MBI inter-institutional Brain Aging Registry and a Neuroimaging Cognitive Aging Assessment Research Core are now in full progress with the recognition of the importance of the participation of the Miami EMBI as a collaborating partner. It is hoped these grant awards, in addition to the existing support by the MBRF, will facilitate the development of more robust clinical translational research programs in cognitive aging and age-related memory loss at the EMBI at UM.

The trustees appreciate receiving the comprehensive information regarding the reorganization and mission of the Scientific Advisory Board with the anticipation the changes will be very beneficial in developing expanded collaborative research initiatives throughout the university.

The trustees convey appreciation to you and the team of research scientists at the Miami EMBI for the collective and the inter-institutional collaborative efforts to advance the knowledge leading to the understanding and alleviation of age related memory loss

Sincerely,

Melanie A. Cianciotto
Corporate Trustee, MBRF

CC. MBRF Trustee
Henry H. Raattama, Jr., Esquire

Please address all correspondence to