Barrow Neurological Institute associate professor receives 2022 Bernard Sanberg Memorial Award from ASNTR

Tampa, Fla. (June 10, 2022) – At its 29th Annual Conference, held April 28-30, 2022 in Clearwater Beach, Florida, the American Society of Neural Therapy and Repair (ASNTR) presented the *The 2022 Bernard Sanberg Memorial Award* to Fredric Manfredsson, PhD, an Associate Professor in the Department of Translational Neuroscience at Barrow Neurological Institute (BNI). The award, presented annually at the ASNTR meeting, recognizes Dr. Manfredsson's distinguished career in Gene Therapy and Parkinson's disease. Dr. Manfredsson is internationally renowned in the field of gene therapy and is involved in a number of technologies focusing on the application of viral vectors in the study of, and treatment of, Parkinson's disease.

"I am extremely proud of Fredric's accomplishments and he is greatly deserving of this award said Ron Mandel, Ph.D., University of Florida. He has been committed to developing a gene therapy for Parkinson's disease since he originally started graduate school. Fredric is a consummate scientist and as everyone who knows him agrees, he is an excellent collaborator and colleague".

Dr. Manfredsson, who conducts laboratory-based translational research at BNI, focuses on the application of viral vectors in the study of, and treatment of, Parkinson's disease. In addition, a significant portion of his research program focuses on the protein alpha-synuclein and its role in disease and normal brain function.

"Starting with his early work as a microbiologist up to his highly successful research program at the BNI studying neurodegenerative diseases, Dr. Manfredsson has never been afraid to tackle tough scientific problems. By establishing himself as one of the leading experts in gene therapy, he has not only transformed the study of disease processes, but identified novel ways to translate those findings to patients. One need only look at his productivity, vast network of collaborators and cutting-edge techniques to see Fredric will continue to lead the field in innovative and highly impactful work for years to come," said Christopher Bishop, PhD, Binghamton University.

Accordingly, he has contributed outstanding basic science and translational data in our understanding of neuroprotection and neurodegeneration in clinically relevant animal and cell culture models. "His

translational research has made significant contributions in the field of neural therapy and repair. Dr. Manfredsson's outstanding achievements are most deserving of the ASNTR Bernard Sanberg Memorial Award," said Dr. Paul R. Sanberg, University of South Florida.

The *Bernard Sanberg Memorial Award for Brain Repair* is named for Bernard Sanberg, father of ASNTR co-founder Dr. Paul Sanberg. After Bernard Sanberg died of a stroke in 1999, the award bearing his name was established and first introduced in 2000. This award is presented annually at the ASNTR conference to an individual who has made outstanding research contributions in the field of neural therapy and repair.

Recent past winners of the *Bernard Sanberg Memorial Award for Brain Repair* include: S. Thomas Carmichael, MD., PhD, University of California, Los Angeles; Walter Low, PhD, University of Minnesota, Li-Ru Zhao, MD, PhD, State University of New York (SUNY) Upstate Medical University; Marina E. Emborg, MD, PhD, University of Wisconsin-Madison; John D. Elsworth, PhD, Yale School of Medicine, Douglas Kondziolka, MD, NYU Langone Medical Center.

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ASNTR's 30th Annual Conference will be held April 27-30, 2023 in Clearwater Beach, Florida. For more information, email the ASNTR office at asntr.office@gmail.com or visit the ASNTR website www.ASNTR.org

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ASNTR is a society for basic and clinical neuroscientists using a variety of technologies to better understand how the nervous system functions and establish new procedures for its repair in response to trauma or neurodegenerative disease. Member scientists employ stem/neural cell transplantation, gene therapy, trophic factor and neuroprotective compound administration and other approaches.

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