

CDRD Seminar Series 2011

CDRD is pleased to offer the following seminar as part of the CDRD Training Program:

Title:	Parkinson Disease, from Genetics to Novel Therapeutics
Presenter:	Matthew Farrer, Ph.D
Date:	Monday, January 24, 2011
Time:	12:30 – 1:30pm
Location:	Room 3, Life Sciences Building, UBC Campus, Vancouver, BC

Abstract:

Parkinson disease is a complex, multifactorial neurodegenerative disease. Although a heritable basis was originally thought unlikely, recent studies have implicated several genes in its pathogenesis, and molecular findings now allow accurate diagnosis and challenge past clinical and pathological criteria. Genetic insights provide novel opportunities for therapy and/or prevention, and have led to models in which these strategies can be tested. The pathway from genes to neuroprotection will be illustrated by recent progress in this field.

Speaker Biography:

Dr. Matthew Farrer is Canada Excellence Research Chair in Neurogenetics and Translational Neuroscience at UBC. An expert in the field of molecular genetics, Dr. Matthew Farrer has made several influential discoveries in neurogenetics and is critically acclaimed for his work on the genetics of Parkinson disease. Before accepting his position as the Canada Excellence Research Chair at UBC, Dr. Farrer was a professor of molecular neuroscience and director of the Neurogenetics Division at the Mayo Clinic in Jacksonville, Florida. At the Clinic, he worked on finding innovative new treatments for patients suffering from neurologic diseases by refining diagnoses and identifying biomarkers of early and progressive disease. In 2008, Dr. Farrer was named Mayo Clinic Distinguished Investigator, the institution's highest award for research excellence. He has studied patient populations and families world-wide and his molecular insights have led to model systems that are helping to define the biologic processes perturbed by genetic mutations, and have laid the foundation for new and effective therapies. Dr. Farrer's research has been funded by the U.S. National Institute of Aging, the Pacific Alzheimer's Research Foundation and the Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson Research. He is a member of the Michael J. Fox Foundation's Scientific Advisory Board.

Please RSVP:

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