



COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

Emeritus Professors in Columbia

EPIC News and Events

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From the President's Desk

I am looking forward to tomorrow's Tuesday Talk on prevention of cognitive loss after surgery by Eric Heyer (Emeritus Professor of Anesthesiology and Neurology and Special Research Scientist and still actively engaged in research) for several reasons. First, in discussing the presentation, I reminded him that our participants were likely to include many non-physicians, to which Eric responded by shooting me a little smile and pulling out a rubber model of a carotid artery, which he just happened to have in his pocket. I took that as a good sign of his ability to explain technical issues! Second, I will be hosting the meeting online from Florida, where I have some family business to attend to, while our stalwart Administrator, Kay Achar, will be running the computer and camera from Faculty House. I think that's neat. [If you want to try out Adobe Connect, click here.](#) You need to learn how to use the few buttons involved prior to the meeting. Isn't technology amazing?

I picked up a free hotel copy of *USA Today* yesterday and read [a short article on the euthanizing of a 46-year old chimp, Debbie, in the Knoxville, Tennessee zoo.](#) The story has stuck with me for many reasons, including its demonstration of how much we know and don't know about animal behavior, and also about the inevitabilities of aging and death, and humane ways of dealing with them. Debbie's interesting life started out by wearing a dress as a family pet, until she was returned to a more "wild" life in the zoo ape colony. She eventually became a dominant and important colony member, whom the caretakers relied on for assistance in dealing with younger, sometimes unruly animals. Gave me a lot to think about how humans interact with each other and the other species on our planet. Would be great if more humans had access to the same dignified existence as the late Debbie, the chimpanzee.

Have a good day!

Jeanne Mager Stellman, President, EPIC
Professor Emerita & Special Lecturer
Mailman School of Public Health

Tuesday, Feb. 21 **"Can Statins Protect Against Cognitive Loss After Surgery?"**

Dr. Eric Heyer, Professor Emeritus of Anesthesiology and Neuroscience, will share findings of his research leading to identification of factors leading to a poor cognitive outcome after surgery.

During his 25 years as a neuroanesthesiologist at Columbia, Dr. Heyer worked especially closely with [Dr. E. Sander Connolly](#) in Dr. Connolly's [Cerebrovascular Research Laboratory](#).

The pair worked together for 15 years on a project to identify factors leading to a poor cognitive (brain



Alternate Tuesday Talks address topics across the academic spectrum as well as issues of particular importance to the retired academic community.

Attendees can continue their discussions in the Faculty Club, at a special EPIC reduced rate.

11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
Faculty House, Seminar Room 2

function) outcome after carotid endarterectomy, a surgical procedure in which obstructing plaque buildup is removed from the carotid artery.

Dr. Heyer and Dr. Connolly created a database of patients having carotid endarterectomy surgery at Columbia, including the results of cognitive testing before and after the surgery. They were able to use this information to identify factors that led to poor outcomes, paving the way for treatments to improve outcomes.

Guests welcome!

[Please click here for map.](#)

RSVP

Thursday, March 2 **"Early Environmental Experience** **and Neurocognitive Development"**

The March First Thursday speaker is Natalie Brito, Post-Doctoral Fellow at the Sackler Institute Parent-Infant Project at Columbia University Medical Center.

Dr. Brito received the Ph.D. in Psychology with a concentration in Human Development and Public Policy from Georgetown University. She has published work on learning from media, parent-child interactions within juvenile justice facilities, and how early experience with multiple languages influences memory during infancy. Broadly, she is interested in how early environmental variations shape the trajectory of cognitive development, and currently she is connecting her previous work in memory and bilingualism with research into socioeconomic disparities.



12:15 - 2:00 p.m.
Ward H. Dennis Room
602 Lewisohn Hall
Guests welcome!

[Please click here for map](#)

Complimentary lunch provided

RSVP

Join EPIC Yoga Fridays at 10:00 a.m.



Start the year calmer, more balanced,
more flexible....

Join us Friday mornings, 10 AM
At the Faculty House for

Yoga

Mixed level, beginners especially welcome. If you have never experienced the benefits of Yoga, this may be just what is needed for relaxation and rejuvenation of mind and body to face the coming year with equanimity.

Taught by Ginny Papaioannou, registered teacher with the Yoga Alliance Registry, Professor of Genetics & Development, CUMC



Sponsored by EPIC

Virginia Papaioannou, Professor of Genetics and Development and a registered yoga instructor, is offering yoga training to EPIC members **in Faculty House** (see signs in lobby for exact room location). The first class will be complimentary. After the first class, the fee will be \$40 for four classes, one per week, through May 26, 2017. [Please click here for more information about the classes, what to wear, and what to bring.](#)

Save the Date!



Annual Reception May 9, 2017

Save the date for the annual reception for retired faculty hosted by Provost John Coatsworth and EPIC. The reception will be held in Faculty House from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m.

On EPIC's Horizon

Tuesday Talks

11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m., Faculty House

March 7: Richard N. Pierson, M.D., Professor Emeritus of Clinical Medicine, and guest panel: "Staying Connected: Opportunities to Participate in the Life of the University in the Retirement Years"

March 21: Eli Noam, Paul Garrett Professor of Public Policy and Business Responsibility and Director, Columbia Institute for Tele-Information, Columbia Business School

April 25: Julia Doe, Assistant Professor of Historical Musicology: "The Pastoral Patronage of Marie Antoinette."

First Thursday Graduate Student Talks
12:15 - 2:00 p.m., 602 Lewisohn Hall

April 6: Maeve Sterbenz, Ph.D. candidate, Department of Music: "The Effect of Music-Movement Interactions on the Perception of Ballet—The Case of the "Rose Adagio" in Tchaikovsky's Sleeping Beauty."

Follow Columbia Events & Video

It's easy to participate in Columbia events, whether in person or online. Learn about events from the university's [online calendar](#). Search for events by type, discipline, location, sponsor, and so on. [The Columbia University You Tube channel](#) gives faculty, students, and the public access to Columbia-produced videos of lectures and events.



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