History of the Harvey A. Friedman Center for Aging

The Center for Aging at Washington University was established in 1998 under the direction of Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton. This cross-disciplinary “center without walls” was created to focus on productive aging by catalyzing new innovations in education, research, practice, and community outreach. Leonard Berg, MD, provided the initial leadership for this effort.

In 2001, John C. Morris, MD, became the Center’s director, and in 2007 the Center was renamed the Harvey A. Friedman Center for Aging in recognition of the long-time vision, commitment, and generosity of Harvey A. and Dorismae Hacker Friedman.

Under Morris’s leadership, the Friedman Center for Aging began hosting the annual Friedman Lecture, fostered pilot grant funding for junior investigators, and developed the Summer Aging Research Program, which attracted undergraduate students from across the country. The Center also established the Naturally Occurring Retirement Community project with the Jewish Federation of St. Louis.

In 2012, Nancy Morrow-Howell, PhD, was appointed as the Center’s new director, and it became part of the Institute for Public Health. Dr. Morrow-Howell is committed to building upon the Center’s strong foundation and promoting interdisciplinary collaborations with a major impact.
Harvey A. Friedman Center for Aging
12th Annual Friedman Lecture
Monday, April 30, 2012
Graham Chapel

2 pm Registration begins

3 pm Welcome
Edward F. Lawlor, PhD
Director, Institute for Public Health
Dean and the William E. Gordon Distinguished Professor,
George Warren Brown School of Social Work

Nancy Morrow-Howell, PhD
Director, Harvey A. Friedman Center for Aging
Ralph and Muriel Pumphrey Professor of Social Work,
George Warren Brown School of Social Work

3:25 pm Kopolow and Friedman Award Presentations
Nancy Morrow-Howell, PhD
David Sandler
Director of Development, Foundation for Barnes-Jewish Hospital

3:35 pm Introductory Remarks
Mark S. Wrighton, PhD
Chancellor, Washington University

3:40 pm The Aging Mind: Realities and Myths
John C. Morris, MD
Director, Knight Alzheimer’s Disease Research Center and
Harvey A. and Dorismae Hacker Friedman Distinguished
Professor of Neurology, Washington University School of Medicine

4:25 pm Question & Answer Period

4:45 pm Lecture Adjourned

5:00 pm Reception
Tisch Commons in the Danforth University Center
About John C. Morris, MD

John C. Morris, MD, is the Harvey A. and Dorismae Hacker Friedman Distinguished Professor of Neurology; Professor of Pathology and Immunology; Professor of Physical Therapy; Professor of Occupational Therapy; and Director of the Charles F. and Joanne Knight Alzheimer’s Disease Research Center, Memory and Aging Project at Washington University School of Medicine.

He earned his medical degree from the University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry in Rochester, New York. He completed residencies in internal medicine at Akron General Medical Center and in neurology at the Cleveland Metropolitan General Hospital, both in Ohio, and a postdoctoral fellowship in neuropharmacology at Washington University School of Medicine.

Dr. Morris’s research interests include healthy aging and Alzheimer dementia, antecedent biomarkers for Alzheimer’s disease in nondemented elderly to evaluate risk for Alzheimer dementia, and trials of investigational drugs for the treatment of Alzheimer dementia.

Dr. Morris has authored or coauthored four books and over 380 published articles, is a member of several professional societies, and serves on a number of scientific and community advisory boards.

He is ranked in the top 1% of investigators in the field of Neuroscience and Behavior by Essential Science Indicators database. His numerous honors and awards include: the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Alzheimer’s Association (2004); the MetLife Award for Medical Research in Alzheimer’s Disease (2004); the Potamkin Prize for Research in Pick’s, Alzheimer’s, and Related Dementias from the American Academy of Neurology (2005); the Physician-Scientist Lifetime Achievement Award, Barnes-Jewish Hospital Foundation, St. Louis, MO (2005); Neville Grant Award for Clinical Excellence from Barnes-Jewish Hospital, St. Louis, MO (2006); Washington University Academic Women’s Network Mentor Award (2008); the American Neurological Association 2009 Soriano Lectureship; and the Carl and Gerty Cori Faculty Achievement Award, Washington University (2010).
Alene and Meyer Kopolow Award

The Kopolow award recognizes stellar contributions to the care of older adults by a resident, post-residency fellow, or non-tenured junior faculty member in neurology, psychiatry, medicine, or related disciplines.

Awardees have demonstrated achievement in at least one of the following areas of geriatrics: direct patient care; didactic learning exercises or rounds, conferences, or national and international meetings; and patient-oriented or basic research that address aging issues.

Recipients receive formal announcement of the award, a plaque, and award money for aging-related educational endeavors.

This award is presented by the Harvey A. Friedman Center for Aging and supported by the Foundation for Barnes-Jewish Hospital from the Alene and Meyer Kopolow Fund for Geriatrics, Psychiatry, and Neurology.

Dorismae and Harvey A. Friedman Award

The Friedman award recognizes a non-physician who has made outstanding contributions to patient-oriented care of older adults. Individuals also may contribute to the advancement of geriatric care through educational activities or research.

Recipients receive a formal announcement of the award, a plaque, and award money for aging-related educational endeavors.

The award is presented by the Harvey A. Friedman Center for Aging and supported by Foundation for Barnes-Jewish Hospital from the Dorismae and Harvey A. Friedman Fund.
Dr. Wildes is Assistant Professor of Medicine in the Division of Medical Oncology. She graduated from Washington University School of Medicine in 2002. She completed residency in internal medicine and fellowships in hematology/oncology and geriatrics, all at Washington University.

Dr. Wildes’s interest in aging began during her hematology/oncology fellowship when she noted that risk of side effects of chemotherapy were clearly not related to age alone. She observed that paradigms for decision-making in oncology did not incorporate other aspects of an older adult’s health, including comorbidities or functional status. She then undertook fellowship training in geriatrics to learn more about the assessment and care of older adults, to bring those skills to her research and the oncology clinic.

As a scholar in the KM1 Comparative Effectiveness Research Career Development Program, her current research focuses on incorporating geriatric assessment into the evaluation of older adults with cancer to develop prognostic models of chemotherapy toxicity in older adults. Her long-term career goal is to care for senior adults with cancer and to perform patient-oriented research to improve their clinical care.
James Williams has dedicated twenty years of his career in social work supporting “at-risk” populations.

This dedication is exemplified through his work with the Memory and Aging Project Satellite (MAPS), sponsored by the Knight Alzheimer’s Disease Research Center at Washington University. MAPS works in collaboration with the St. Louis Area Agency on Aging.

Williams interacts predominantly with minority seniors and is responsible for identifying, recruiting, educating, and referring them to appropriate supportive services. He says, “research shows that Alzheimer’s affects the minority population at a higher rate. Our efforts in the community over the past twenty years have heightened minority trust and awareness. The ultimate goal is to encourage participants to complete an assessment in the Memory and Aging Project. A byproduct of this goal is that seniors will benefit from effective diagnosis, therapy, and the eventual cure for Alzheimer’s.” Williams’s passion for his work has greatly enhanced the lives of those he serves.

James Williams received a Bachelor of Arts in social sciences from Southern Illinois University, Edwardsville and a Masters of Arts in public administration from Webster University. His numerous awards include the ADRC African Americans Memory and Aging Research Award and a Resolution from the Missouri House of Representatives for Work with Alzheimer’s Disease.
centerforaging.wustl.edu

Please visit our website to learn more and support the mission and activities of the Harvey A. Friedman Center for Aging.

We'd like to thank and acknowledge the Friedman family for their ongoing involvement and support.

We also greatly appreciate the staff at the Institute for Public Health and the team of student volunteers who helped plan and execute today's event.