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News Release

USU Center for Study of Traumatic Stress Holds Annual Conference

BETHESDA, Md. — The Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences' (USU) Center for the Study of Traumatic Stress in conjunction with USU's Graduate Program in Neuroscience will hold its annual Amygdala, Stress, and Post Traumatic Stress Disorder conference April 29.

Each year, the ASPTSD conference has brought together scientists and clinicians working towards solving the biological basis of PTSD. The conference focuses on the neurobiology of the amygdala, stress and PTSD, and will include speakers at the forefront of their fields. This year's speakers will include: Dr. Robert Adamec of Memorial University; Dr. Michael Davis of Emory University; Dr. Ron Duman of Yale University; Dr. Anthony Grace of the University of Pittsburgh; Dr. Arie Shalev of Hadassah University Medical Center; and Dr. Regina Sullivan of the University of Oklahoma. Drs. Dave Benedek and Chuck Engel, international experts on PTSD and USU faculty members, will moderate the sessions.

The CSTS conducts research, education, consultation and training on preparing for and responding to the psychological effects and health consequences of traumatic events, including natural events such as hurricanes, floods and tsunamis, as well as human disasters, such as motor vehicle and plane crashes, war, terrorism and bioterrorism. The Center's work spans studies of genetic vulnerability to stress, individual and community responses to terrorism, and policy recommendations to help our nation and its military and civilian populations.

The university's Graduate Program in Neuroscience is an interdisciplinary Ph.D. and M.D/Ph.D. program. Areas of research emphasis among the faculty are relatively diverse and approached from an interdisciplinary perspective. Post-traumatic stress disorder and traumatic brain injury, including subsequent posttraumatic epilepsy, are a specific focus relative to the military population and traumatic events in the civilian sector.

USU educates health care professionals dedicated to career service in the Department of Defense and the United States Public Health Service. The university provides military and public health-relevant education, research, service, and consultation to the nation and the world, pursuing excellence and innovation during times of peace and war. The university's nationally ranked military and civilian faculty conduct cutting edge research in the biomedical sciences and in areas specific to the DoD health care mission such as combat casualty, infectious diseases, and radiation biology.