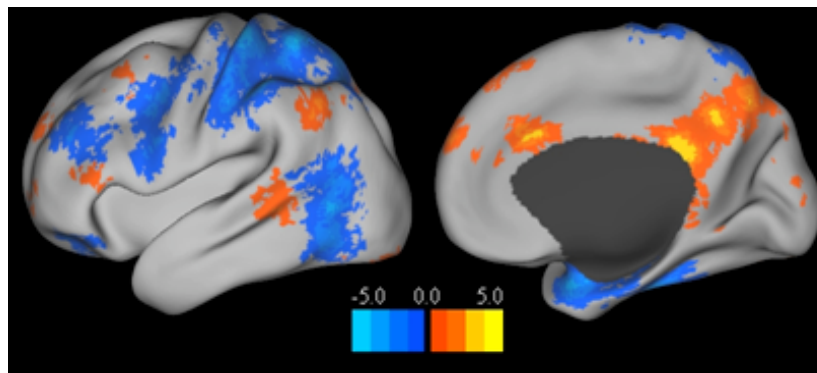# Biology Seminar

Dr. Linda Larson-Prior

Washington University Medical School

Assessing the Function of Human Sleep with Neuroimaging

Sleep is a fundamental process common to all living organisms, yet its function is only poorly understood. It is clear that sleep loss adversely affects cognitive function, and that sleep is a requirement for the consolidation of learned skills. Human brain imaging provides a method by which the brain networks involved in sleep-dependent learning can be monitored over time, and may thus provide a new tool for assessing the role of sleep in cognitive function and learning. Furthermore, multimodal neuroimaging may provide a tool for examining the dynamics of neural activity during sleep that are likely to be the basis for the role of sleep in learning and memory.

Friday Oct 16, 2009   **2:00 PM**   **ENV125 (EESAT)**