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THE VANDERBILT MEDICAL SCIENTIST TRAINING PROGRAM

KERRY J. RESSLER, M.D., PH.D.

FEAR FROM MICE TO MEN:
IMPLICATIONS FOR PTSD AND OTHER DISORDERS
OF FEAR AND ANXIETY

SEPTEMBER 27, 2012

4:00 P.M.

208 LIGHT HALL



Upcoming Discovery Lecture:

JOE PALCA, PH.D.
Science Correspondent for NPR

October 25, 2012
208 Light Hall / 4:00 P.M.

VANDERBILT  UNIVERSITY
MEDICAL CENTER

FEAR FROM MICE TO MEN:
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Dr. Ressler will discuss recent advances in our understanding of the molecular neurobiological mechanisms underlying fear processing in rodent models. He will explore how this translates to fear-related disorders in humans. Through specific manipulations of fear circuits, it is hoped that novel treatments and interventions can be identified. Dr. Ressler will discuss new findings from human genetics research pointing to molecular genetic pathways that may further our understanding of Posttraumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and fear processing in traumatized human populations.



KERRY J. RESSLER, M.D., PH.D.

**ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF PSYCHIATRY AND
BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES EMORY UNIVERSITY**

**INVESTIGATOR, HOWARD HUGHES
MEDICAL INSTITUTE**

Dr. Kerry J. Ressler received his Bachelor of Science degree in molecular biology from M.I.T., and his M.D./Ph.D. from Harvard Medical School. In 1992 at Harvard, he was the first student of Dr. Linda Buck (Nobel Prize, 2004), helping to identify the molecular organization of the olfactory receptor system. Dr. Ressler is an investigator of the Howard Hughes Medical Institute and an Associate Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at Emory University.

His work focuses on translational research bridging molecular neurobiology in animal models with human genetic research on fear and anxiety disorders. His clinical research examines genetic and behavioral processes that underlie Posttraumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) with the goal of understanding the molecular mechanisms that contribute to fear-related disorders. He is on the Scientific Councils of the Brain and Behavior Foundation, Anxiety and Depression Association of America, and the Dana Alliance for Brain Research, among others. He has won numerous national and international awards, including from the American College of Neuropsychopharmacology and the International Society for Trauma Studies. He was recently named a Kraepelin Professor at the Max Planck Institute for Psychiatry, Munich.

He is involved nationally in research decision making, including roles as the Chairman of the Scientific Advisory Board for the NIH/Army STARRS Project (Study To Assess Risk/ Resilience in Servicemembers), as well as on the advisory board for the Marine Resiliency Study. He also participates in VA and NIH grant review to identify the best research programs in anxiety, fear, and emotion modulation.
