

SIU MEDICINE

DALE & DEBORAH SMITH CENTER
FOR ALZHEIMER'S RESEARCH
& TREATMENT

Associate Professor of Clinical Neurology

2022

APPLY FOR POSITION

SMITH ALZHEIMER’S CENTER AT SIU MEDICINE

The Dale and Deborah Smith Center for Alzheimer’s Research and Treatment at SIU Medicine has been one of three state-designated Illinois Alzheimer’s Disease Assistance Centers since 1986.

Our mission is to integrate patient care, education, and research to better understand the biological aspects of aging, cognition, and neurodegenerative disorders allowing us to design innovative personalized care that addresses both the underlying symptoms and the disease leading to improved patient, family, and community outcomes. This is accomplished through careful integration of clinical health, analytical neuroscience and community engagement.

The Smith Alzheimer’s Center is the only Center serving central and southern Illinois, making our position in the dementia community unique. State and federal funding, combined with strong local philanthropy support the three pillars of the Center – clinical care, research, and community outreach.

Each pillar is designed to improve the quality of life for the more than 600,000 Illinois patients and caregivers affected by dementia, helping provide critical information and a network of support for those searching for guidance in their journey with Alzheimer’s and dementia.



CLINICAL CARE

The Smith Alzheimer’s Center and its Memory & Aging Network of providers serves 93 counties in central and southern Illinois, providing a high level of clinical care and expertise to patients and caregivers. In the past year, Center clinical staff provided nearly 2,500 patient visits (in-person and telehealth).

Center staff not only provide consultation with healthcare providers during appointments in the clinic, but also training opportunities for

patients and caregivers to “bridge” the gap between clinical visits. Consultation with a clinical gerontology specialist (as well as the Beyond the Medical Center programs) offer opportunities for patients and their families to receive frequent information and support.

The Smith Alzheimer’s Center also manages a wide range of investigational interventions through clinical trials. In FY21, our staff administered 14 industry-sponsored clinical trials.

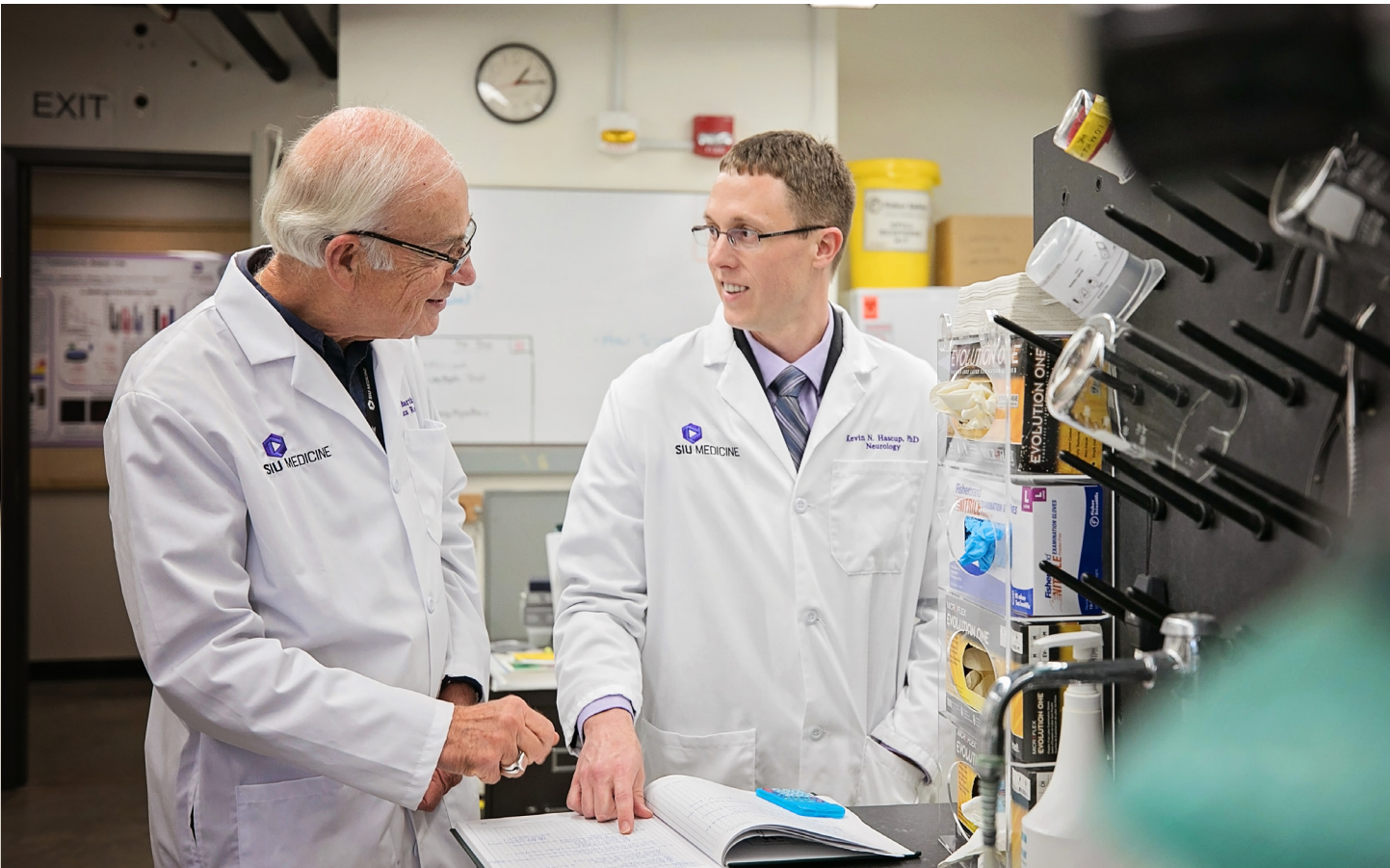
RESEARCH

The research staff continues progress on finding effective preventions and treatments for Alzheimer’s disease and dementia.

The neuroscience research labs’ long-term goal is to determine a functional biomarker to track Alzheimer’s disease status during pre-clinical stages, with a focus on early treatment and the development of new therapeutic strategies and interventions. With a dedicated full-time team and more than \$7 million in federal funding in

the last five years, our research labs are able to continuously study, coordinate projects, and develop new grants for specific research opportunities.

The team pushes the conversation surrounding Alzheimer’s research with regularly published manuscripts in respected international outlets, including 15 peer-reviewed publications, 13 national/international presentations, and 31 active studies in the past year.



COMMUNITY OUTREACH

The Smith Alzheimer’s Center offers community-based, free programs that provide education, art and music therapy, movement, and more to help those who suffer from dementia and their caregivers improve their quality of life.

In addition to the primary benefits of increased expression, communication, socialization, balance, and fall prevention, these programs provide an invaluable benefit of social interactions and emotional support for caregivers, who can often become isolated considering the full-time nature

of helping loved ones with Alzheimer’s and other related memory disorders. Throughout the pandemic, these programs adopted COVID-19 health and safety measures and were made available virtually throughout the region.

The Beyond the Medical Center programs served more than 1,000 people in FY2021. The programs utilize highly trained and skilled leaders and trusted community partners to ensure quality of life benefits for people with memory loss and caregivers.

FACULTY & LEADERSHIP



Erin R. Hascup, PhD
Director, Smith Alzheimer's Center

Dr. Hascup oversees all three pillars of the Center, clinical care, programs, and research, including leading a team of researchers in an active, federally funded neuroscience research laboratory focusing on Alzheimer's disease and successful aging.

She completed postdoctoral training at the Karolinska Institute in Stockholm, Sweden and McGill University in Montréal, Canada.



Tom Ala, MD
Professor

Dr. Ala has been evaluating and treating patients with neurological conditions like memory loss and Alzheimer's disease for more than 30 years.

He has been a principal site investigator for many industry-sponsored clinical trials designed to treat memory loss and Alzheimer's disease.



Kevin Hascup, PhD
Assistant Professor

Dr. Hascup is an experienced neuroscientist with expertise in neurodegenerative disorders, geroscience, neurotransmission, and cognition.

He currently leads a team of scientists whose research focuses on modifiable life-style factors that increase an individual's risk for developing Alzheimer's disease and may be targeted to delay the progression of the disease.



Jayant Acharya, MD
Chair, Department of Neurology

Dr. Acharya's clinical and research interests include the management of patients with neurological disorders, and he specializes in the clinical assessment, diagnostic procedures and treatments for epilepsy.

At Penn State College of Medicine, Dr. Acharya received the Distinguished Educator Award, given for exceptional contributions to the education mission and a scholarly approach to teaching and leadership.



Jennifer Arnold, MD
Assistant Professor

Dr. Arnold conducted research on the effects of infection on sleep at SIU Medicine before completing her residency and fellowship at University of Michigan.

She returned to SIU in the summer of 2021 as an Assistant Professor and leads the clinical research team as the principal site investigator in addition to seeing patients in the clinic.



The Harbinger of Good Will — a statue in SIU Medicine's courtyard

SIU SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

We are SIU Medicine, a publicly assisted medical school and a clinical practice focused on the health care needs of central and southern Illinois. Located in Springfield, Illinois, the School of Medicine is part of Southern Illinois University in Carbondale.

For more than 50 years, SIU Medicine has been an innovative leader in medical education, rural health and a key player in the development of the regional academic medical center in Springfield. Set amid the city's growing Mid-Illinois Medical District, the school is a driving force in improving the population's health.

Our student experience focuses on empathetic values and a philosophy of treating patients as people, not diseases. Creative, interactive training makes our graduates among the most skilled and confident clinicians in the nation.

World-class scientific research and community outreach complement the SIU mission. Together, our faculty, learners and staff are meeting the Triple Aim + 1: health care that is more effective, efficient, equitable and enjoyable.

SIU School of Medicine was founded with a mandate to advance patient care for central and southern Illinois. It has fostered an environment of advocacy, where the school continues to help dozens of Illinois communities solve local health problems. Through various rural health initiatives, SIU partners with service agencies and health care organizations to help residents in towns and cities across the 66-county service region.

THE POSITION

POSITION PURPOSE

This position will have knowledge and practical skills in the diagnosis and care of patients with dementia. This faculty member will provide specialized care for patients with dementia and related disorders and will be responsible for teaching the discipline to medical students and residents. The faculty member will have knowledge and experience to be an expert content source and mentor for more junior providers. The faculty member will also be expected to maintain a clinical practice at the forefront of best practices and develop a research program in the areas of dementia and neurodegenerative disease.

FUNCTIONAL RELATIONSHIPS

This position will report to the Director of the Dale and Deborah Smith Center for Alzheimer’s Research and Treatment (Smith Alzheimer’s Center), who in turn reports to the Chair of the Department of Neurology, who in turn reports to the Dean of the School of Medicine.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The following information is intended to be representative of the work performed by the incumbent in this position and is not all-inclusive. The omission of a specific duty or responsibility will not preclude it from the position if the work is similar, related, or a logical extension of position responsibilities.

Demonstrates, by actions, commitment to the mission and the behavioral standards of SIU School of Medicine. Provides excellent service to both internal and external customers through collaboration and partnership; compassion and respect; integrity and accountability; diversity and inclusion; as well as continuous learning and improvement.

I. Teaching

5%

- A. Presentation of lectures, seminars, conferences and rounds for residents and students.
- B. Present lectures in local, regional, national and international meetings.
- C. Participate in Neurology grand rounds (attend weekly, present periodically).
- D. Participation in didactic curricula for neurology residents.
- E. Conduct clinical (bedside and otherwise) teaching of neurology and other houses staff, and medical students during outpatient care and teaching rounds on inpatient service.

II. Service (Patient Care)

45%

- A. Develop and maintain a professional practice in accordance with departmental policy and the University practice plan (SIU Healthcare)
- B. Develop and maintain a subspecialty practice in dementia and behavioral neurology.
- C. Provide inpatient care through consultations and, when appropriate, principal care as part of one to two week faculty rotations thru the year, Monday through Friday on the general neurology inpatient teaching service, maintaining at least two outpatient clinics per week when on service.
- D. Participate in neurology weekend call schedule covering department, St. John’s Hospital and Memorial Medical Center, and any related call duties and requirements.
- E. Conduct 4 half-days of outpatient clinics per week, except when staffing inpatient service.

III. Administration

20%

- A. Serve on university, departmental, Smith Alzheimer’s Center, and hospital committees as needed.
- B. Participate in scheduled meetings as a member of the hospital staff at St. John’s Hospital and Memorial Medical Center.
- C. Participate in Monthly Smith Alzheimer’s Center meetings.
- D. Assist in supervising clinical activities of the center as well as any advanced practice providers working within the center. This includes being a content source expert for providers.
- E. Assist in regularly assessing and optimizing clinic flow to benefit the patient, the practice, and research, be a resource for other providers, contribute to the development and direction of clinical research, and otherwise maintain the medical practice at the forefront of best practices.

IV. Research

30%

(Time devoted to research will be raised or lowered depending on a faculty member’s productivity, career goals, and ability to obtain external funding. Time in research can/will be moved to teaching or clinical service, accordingly).

- A. Participation in industry sponsored and/or investigator initiated clinical trials related to Alzheimer’s disease and dementia.
- B. Conduct investigator initiated research in dementia and behavioral neurology.
- C. Publish research in peer-reviewed journals and in other suitable media.
- D. Present research in local, regional, national and international meetings.

REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS:

- Sensitive to the needs of underrepresented minority populations.
- Board eligible or board certified in neurology and completion of at least one year of fellowship training or equivalent experience in dementia or behavioral neurology, including experience in translational research.
- Clinical and Academic accomplishments appropriate for appointment as Associate Professor.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:

The successful candidate will be a licensed physician and neurologist with special expertise in dementia and/or behavioral neurology, and a strong record of research productivity

ENVIRONMENTAL, HEALTH AND SAFETY RESPONSIBILITIES:

Participates in meetings, training and other environmental, health and safety activities as required by SIU School of Medicine.

COMMUNITY

Thanks to the low cost of living, endless events and activities for all ages, and opportunities for easy travel, Springfield and surrounding towns are popular for young and mid-life career professionals, families and children.

Job stability is high, and opportunities for career advancement are ample. Add in the area's low overall cost of living, and it's no wonder that Springfield and Sangamon County are often ranked as one of the best places to make a living or start a career. Your salary goes further in our community. Not only does that increase your quality of life now, but it also allows you to create a strong financial foundation for whatever your goals may be — retiring early, starting your own business, or enhancing the wealth of your family tree.

Music festivals, art fairs and other events circle the Old State Capitol throughout the spring, summer and fall, complementing the entertainment at the Hoogland Center for the Arts, Bank of Springfield Center (multi-purpose), Sangamon Auditorium at University of Illinois Springfield, the outdoor shows at The Muni, and more.

Access to nearby cities are convenient to get to and from — the convergence of I-72 and I-55 makes travel to other regions a snap. With bustling metropolitan cities like St. Louis, Chicago and Indianapolis all within a three-hour drive, you can just fill up the gas tank or hop on a train for an exciting day or weekend excursion.



With what is arguably the world's richest farmland here in Sangamon County, Illinois is the nation's second-leading exporter of corn, soybeans, feed grains, and related products, so you'll be surrounded by the booming agricultural industry. Experience farm-to-table in a number of ways, from fresh food at local restaurants to buying directly from those farmers at the bustling Old State Capital Farmer's Market every weekend.

And we're perhaps best known for — and very proud of — our famous history as the hometown of Abraham Lincoln, our nation's 16th president. You'll find evidence of that across the region at our many exciting Lincoln historic sites as well at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum. Springfield also lands right on Route 66, helping make historical tourism another anchor for the local economy.

SIU is a partner of the Mid-Illinois Medical District, a one-square mile designation in the heart of Springfield just to the north of downtown. Established in 2003, the medical district serves to promote the orderly development and expansion of health care facilities and medical-related industries.



Throughout the last decade, more than \$600 million of capital investment has been made in the medical district to support patient care, bio-medical research, new medical technologies and advanced medical-related activities.



PROCEDURE FOR CANDIDACY

Consideration of candidates will remain open until the position is filled. Candidates should submit, in confidence, a resume and CV through the link below. Additional questions concerning this search should be directed toward hr@siumed.edu or stop by Booth 223 at AAIC for more information.

Click the “Apply for Position” link below or scan the QR code to reach the job details page:

APPLY FOR POSITION



SEE ALL OPEN POSITIONS

