

## Cleveland Area Chapter

### **Cleveland Researcher Awarded at International Alzheimer's Conference in Paris *French President Sarkozy Speaks on National Alzheimer's Plan***

**PARIS, July 20, 2011** – This week, more than 5,000 scientists from around the world gathered in Paris to report the latest advances in Alzheimer's research at the Alzheimer's Association® International Conference 2011 (AAIC 2011). Scientists presented and discussed early detection, medical intervention and global standardization for the health epidemic of the 21<sup>st</sup> century – Alzheimer's disease and other dementias.

Among these scientists was Bruce Lamb, Ph.D., Department of Neurosciences, Lerner Research Institute of the Cleveland Clinic; Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine; and the Departments of Neurosciences and Genetics at Case Western Reserve University. At the conference, Dr. Lamb received the 2011 Zaven Khachaturian Award. This award recognizes an individual whose compelling vision, selfless dedication and extraordinary achievement has significantly advanced the field of Alzheimer's science.

"The award is a significant and well deserved award," said Nancy Udelson, Executive Director of the Alzheimer's Association Cleveland Area Chapter. "We consider ourselves lucky to count Dr. Lamb among the members of our Professional Advisory Board," she said.

"Alzheimer's is growing at an alarming rate in the United States and around the world," said William Thies, PhD, Alzheimer's Association Chief Medical and Scientific Officer. "The good news out of the Alzheimer's Association International Conference this year is that we are making advances toward earlier detection of Alzheimer's, often as a result innovative global scientific collaborations."

"These advances are critical to helping people live longer, healthy lives free of the disability and death caused by Alzheimer's. Identifying the disease early in its process – even before symptoms start to become evident – and treating it early is how we will accomplish that. Therefore, what's really important is for everyone to join the fight against Alzheimer's disease. In the U.S., the Alzheimer's Association is leading the public effort to inform and implement the recently passed National Alzheimer's Project Act. A series of public input sessions are upcoming in August around the county. To learn more and get involved, go to [www.alz.org](http://www.alz.org)," Thies said.

#### **French President Sarkozy Addresses Alzheimer's Scientists From Around the World**

French President Nicolas Sarkozy addressed AAIC 2011 attendees about development and implementation of the French National Alzheimer's Plan. Launched in 2008, the French plan has three pillars: (1) improving the quality of life for people with dementia and their families; (2) mobilizing French society in the fight against Alzheimer's; and (3) advancing Alzheimer's research.

The French National Alzheimer's Plan can be a model for the creation of similar plans in other nations around the world. It is an example of national leadership deciding that Alzheimer's is a critical issue that must be addressed because of the health and financial impact it will have on the nation as the populations ages – leadership that says we must plan for the future, invest in critical research and provide resources to all affected people.