

Julie A. Schneider, MD, MS

The Deborah R. and Edgar D. Jannotta
Presidential Chair

Advancement of Medicine

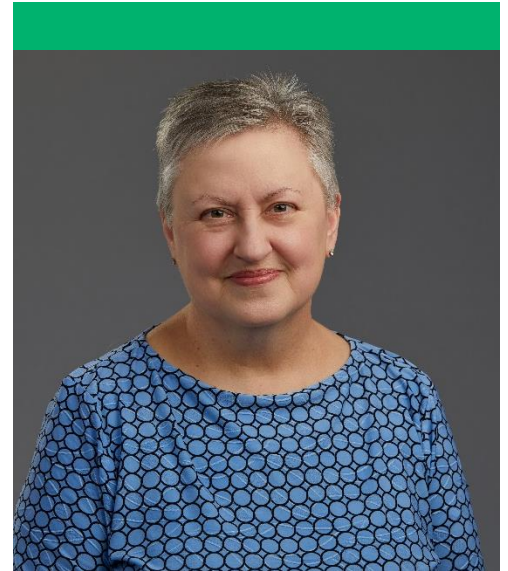
Funds from the Jannotta endowment help me conduct important research and protect my time for other activities, including collaborations with fellow scientists from around the world, education of the next generation of scientists, and dissemination of research results to scientists and other communities. In addition to my time, the chair supports expenses for preliminary data collection and teaching, which enables me to apply for grants.

The endowment has contributed to my work on vascular contributions to cognitive impairment and the role of limbic-predominant age-related TDP-43 encephalopathy, or LATE, to dementia. I was part of the working group and co-author of a study that coined the term in 2019. LATE is a close mimic for Alzheimer's disease that progresses much more slowly and tends to involve memory but not many other cognitive functions. See: [“Scientists Name New Type of Memory Loss Often Mistaken For Alzheimer's : ScienceAlert”](#)

Research, National Leadership and Education

I lead the Rush Alzheimer's Disease Center Neuropathology Laboratory, where my team works with colleagues on grants and collaborates with external investigators to advance Alzheimer's disease research. Our lab focuses on the human condition using human tissue and other biospecimens. Our long-standing work in the community has resulted in over 2,000 autopsies of older people. This has resulted in many scientific advances.

In addition to advances in LATE, our team has been focused on the hippocampus (memory center of the brain). We found Alzheimer's pathology and LATE pathology accumulate in the hippocampus with age. Moreover, we found that the hippocampus becomes “inflamed,” and a healthy diet can





lessen that inflammation. We are also exploring an MRI biomarker for LATE with colleagues in radiology.

In addition to LATE and Alzheimer's disease, our lab is very interested in the role of vascular pathology in aging. We were recently awarded two grants as part of a consortium of grants called Centers without Walls. Rush is part of two of the five centers contributing expertise and tissue.

Scholarly Activities and Speaking Engagements

In addition to serving as an invited judge for the Hotchkiss Brain Institute's MIND Prize at the University of Calgary, I participated in the following speaking engagements in 2024 and 2025:

- I was an invited speaker in 2024 at Northwestern University and the University of Chicago, where I gave talks on "Susceptibility and Resilience to Alzheimer's Dementia in Aging: A Neuropathologic Perspective."
- I was invited in 2024 to the Global Alzheimer's Leadership Series in Paris, where I spoke on "Biomarkers: What They Do and Do Not Tell Us."
- I gave a talk in 2024 at the International Cerebral Amyloid Angiopathy Conference in Munich.
- During the Alzheimer's Association International Conference in Philadelphia in 2024, I spoke about the newly published paper about clinical criteria for a dementia diagnosis related LATE.
- In 2025, I gave talks at the Markesbury Symposium on Aging and Dementia at the University of Kentucky, the Alzheimer's Association Research Roundtable and the Canadian Association of Neuropathologists 2025 annual meeting.

I recently ended my invited tenure as a council member at the National Institute of Aging at the National Institutes of Health. This esteemed five-year position was extended for an extra year and ended in September 2025. In this position, I served as a strong advocate for science that advances clinical translation, prevention and treatment and supports the next generation of scientists.

I also contributed to the inaugural Vascular Contributions to Cognitive Impairment and Dementia Workshop, which was held in 2025 at The Jackson Laboratory in Bar Harbor, Maine. The second workshop will be held this year at Washington University. This is an intensive, interdisciplinary program that brings together leading investigators across disciplines to explore current challenges



in understanding and treating Alzheimer's disease, vascular dementia and other dementias. It involves structural mentoring and career development. Travel awards are available to support trainees.

The Year Ahead: 2026 and Beyond

In the year ahead, I plan to continue prioritizing my work on LATE and vascular contributions to cognitive impairment and Alzheimer's disease by conducting further research, giving both scientific and community talks, and mentoring students. We are planning for early testing of a new biomarker for LATE. I have been invited to Finland in September 2026 to discuss advances stemming from our work and studies at Rush and to serve as a judge for postdoctoral theses in mixed pathologies in dementia.

Finally, as the P30 grant director at the Rush Alzheimer's Disease Center, I plan to further incorporate plasma and PET biomarkers into our clinical core and integrate research findings into the clinical space.

With Gratitude

Thank you for contributing to the advancement of medical science, specifically our work on Alzheimer's disease and related disorders. Our aging communities are in dire need of effective prevention, diagnosis and treatment for these diseases. Your generosity enables us to identify and implement meaningful solutions.