

Spaulding Research, 2013–2023

10 Fun Facts

- **1.** Groundbreaking research led by Spaulding's **Dr. Joseph Giacino** and **Dr. Ross Zafonte** has shown that amantadine, a drug commonly used to treat Parkinson's disease, improves function in people with severe brain injuries.
- **2.** Spaulding received \$10 million lead gift—the largest in the organization's history—from former Chair of the Board of Trustees **Scott A. Schoen** and his wife, **Nancy W. Adams**. (pictured right) to support these establishment of the Spaulding Research Institute, which was recently renamed the Schoen Adams Research Institute in their honor.
- **3.** An expert on brain injury rehabilitation, **Dr. Ross Zafonte** is a lead investigator on The Football Players Health Study at Harvard University, an interdisciplinary research program dedicated to addressing the health and well-being of former NFL players. Seeking to explore the physical, cognitive, and behavioral issues related to a life in football, the study is examining persistent gaps in health outcomes.



4. Dr. Julie Silver heads a campaign that calls on healthcare leadership to focus on gender equity in academic medicine. She published #Her Time Is Now, a campaign report that focuses on the intersecting factors that influence career advancement in medicine and highlights how structural and institutional gender bias—often combined with racial/ethnic or other types of discrimination—keep qualified women in the medical field from achieving fair pay and promotions.



- **5.** Director of Spaulding's Motion Analysis Laboratory, **Dr. Paolo Bonato** (pictured left) led a study that found that mobile health technologies are viable options for monitoring COVID-19, can be used to predict symptom escalation for early intervention, and would likely be relevant in future pandemics.
- **6.** Spaulding published a landmark study examining the rehabilitation outcomes of patients with severe COVID-19, which found that patients admitted to inpatient rehabilitation

after hospitalization with the virus demonstrated deficits in mobility, cognition, speech and swallowing at admission and improved significantly in all of these domains by discharge.

- **7. Dr. Leon Morales-Quezada** has been a leader in examining the use of open-label placebos to manage chronic pain and reduce opioid use. He has found that a pharmaco-behavioral approach to pain that combines open-label placebos with classical conditioning can reduce the use of opioids by up to 60 percent with the equivalent amount of pain reduction.
- **8. Dr. Felipe Fregni** (pictured right), is director of the Spaulding Neuromodulation Center, which investigates diverse techniques in non-invasive brain stimulation to better understand how they manifest their effects and how they might be applied to treatment and rehabilitation. His team has shown the positive effects of this treatment on the motor function of patients with Parkinson's disease and stroke survivors.



- **9. Dr. Vitaly Napadow** was appointed Director of the Scott
 Schoen and Nancy Adams Discovery Center for Recovery from Chronic Pain. Dr. Napadow's laboratory has pioneered the application of non-invasive neuroimaging techniques to identify the brain circuitry underlying chronic pain, and to better understand how non-pharmacological therapies can improve the lives of patients suffering from chronic pain.
- **10. Dr. Fabrisia Ambrosio** was appointed the inaugural Atlantic Charter Director of Spaulding's Discovery Center for Musculoskeletal Injury Recovery. A pioneer in the field of "regenerative rehabilitation," Dr. Ambrosio has focused her research on developing innovative approaches to enhance skeletal muscle function with increasing age and in the setting of disease.

Did you know...



...that SameYou, a foundation launched by Games of Thrones actress **Emilia Clarke** (pictured left), raised more than \$1 million to support the IRISE study at Spaulding, which is focused on understanding the biology of resilience, or the capacity to recover, to help brain injury survivors?

...that **Dr. Randy Trumbower**, director of Spaulding's INSPIRE laboratory, has conducted research that has found intermittent doses of low-dose oxygen—similar to what you might experience climbing Mt. Denali—can help to improve motor function in patients with incomplete spinal cord injury?

...that **Dr. Clas Linnman** has conducted award-winning research exploring a creative therapy for tinnitus, or ringing in the ears, which was based on mirror box therapy, a successful strategy used to treat phantom limb pain in amputees?