UF HHP Professor appointed chair of NIH MFSR Study Section

GAINESVILLE, FL — David Vaillancourt, Ph.D., was named chair of the National Institute of Health (NIH) Motor Function, Speech and Rehabilitation (MFSR) study section. This is a permanent appointment for 2015-17.

Dr. Vaillancourt is a professor in the Department of Applied Physiology and Kinesiology at the University of Florida’s College of Health and Human Performance, where he co-founded the Laboratory for Rehabilitation Neuroscience (lrnlab.org) in 2011. Prior to joining UF, he spent ten years at the University of Illinois at Chicago, first as a postdoctoral fellow and then as a tenured faculty member.

As chair of the MFSR study section, Dr. Vaillancourt will be responsible for overseeing the scientific discussion of the study section meeting, working with the grant reviewers from other institutions and summarizing reviews for each grant.

“I am honored to be named chair of the MFSR study section for NIH,” says Dr. Vaillancourt. “I have served as a member of the study section since 2013 and truly believe the work in motor function and speech rehabilitation will one day benefit health outcomes in our society.”

Within the Laboratory for Rehabilitation Neuroscience, Dr. Vaillancourt uses behavioral force and kinematic recordings, and multimodal imaging techniques that include fMRI, MRI, diffusion MRI, and high density EEG to study the basal ganglia, cerebellum and cortex in motor control of healthy individuals and people with movement disorders.

Dr. Vaillancourt’s work has been continuously funded by NIH since 1999 and he has published his work in journals that include Brain, JAMA Neurology, Neurology, Cerebral Cortex, and Neuroimage.

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