Private Screening, Discussion of *Concussion*

Come join your AMWA colleagues on Wednesday, June 15, for a night at the movies. We’ll be meeting in a private screening room at the historic Capitol Theatre in Arlington, Mass. You’ll have some time for networking—with free popcorn and soft drinks!—before we sit down to watch the award-winning film *Concussion*, a dramatic narrative on an important medical topic that has been much in the news in recent years. Then we’ll discuss the film while we enjoy ice cream with sprinkles.

Based on a true story, the 2015 movie stars Will Smith as Dr. Bennnet Omalu, the forensic neuropathologist who discovered chronic traumatic encephalopathy (CTE) in professional football players and fought an uphill battle in bringing the information to the public. A *Rolling Stone* review concluded, provocatively, that *Concussion* “[is] hardly mandatory... viewing for football junkies. But wait. Maybe it should be.”

For a preview of the movie, you can go to https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Io6hPdC41RM.

As always, guests and prospective members are welcome.

**Date & Time:** Wednesday, June 15, 6:00-9:30 p.m.

**Schedule:** Social hour starts at 6:00, with complimentary popcorn and soda. (Beer and wine are available for purchase at the concession stand.) The film will run from 6:45 to 8:45. The discussion—with ice cream—will be from 8:45 to 9:30.

**Place:** Capitol Theatre, 204 Massachusetts Avenue, East Arlington, Massachusetts

**How to Register:** You don’t have to pay in advance, but the screening room has limited space, so you must make a reservation. To reserve your seat, send an email to Judy Linn at judyhlinn@aol.com no later than Saturday, June 11. Put “AMWA Movie” in the subject line, and be sure to include your name, your full postal address, and your email address.

**Registration Fee:** Cost is $10 for members and $15 for guests and prospective members, payable only by check or in cash (no credit cards) at the time of the meeting. (Do not buy a ticket at the box office. From the theater entrance, follow the signs to the AMWA meeting in Auditorium #6, where you can pay at the AMWA registration desk.)

**Driving Directions:** If you are unfamiliar with the area, you can get directions at http://feitheatres.com/capitol-theatre/directions/. There is on-street parking up and down Mass Ave. (Please observe “no parking” signs on some neighboring streets.)

**Public Transportation:** Several bus routes (including Bus #77) stop directly in front of the theater. For information, go to www.mbta.com/.

**Need a ride?** Ask Judy Linn (judyhlinn@aol.com) whether there is someone from your area who might be able to give you a lift.

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CHAPTER CALENDAR
The New England Chapter’s year begins in mid-June, when a new slate of officers takes over. The chapter’s Executive Council meets during the summer, but there are no general activities during July and August.

The chapter holds six regular meetings from September through June. Four of these meetings are in the Greater Boston area, and two are in Connecticut. Typically, these meetings start with a social hour, followed by dinner (except for a Sunday brunch in midwinter), then a program with a speaker, a panel presentation, or roundtable discussions.

In addition to the regular meetings, the chapter occasionally schedules other events, ranging from informal networking lunches or evening meetups to workshop programs.

Every fall, at the national AMWA meeting, attendees from New England get together for an informal dinner at a restaurant near the conference site.

Executive Council Summer Meeting
The Executive Council, which comprises the chapter’s officers, committee directors, and members-at-large, will meet in July to begin planning the next chapter year. If there is something you would like to add to the agenda—a possible topic for a program, a meeting venue, a suggestion for new or improved services, or anything else that may be on your mind—please feel free to share your thoughts with incoming president Olivier Morteau (olivier.morteau@gmail.com).

Other Events in New England
If you are involved with or know about an upcoming professional meeting, educational program, or other local event that might be of interest to New England AMWA members, please send the information to Judy Linn at judylinn@aol.com. We are happy to publicize such events in the chapter newsletter and/or via the AMWA New England E-News.

AMWA Conference
October 5-8 in Denver, Colorado
The 2016 AMWA Medical Writing & Communication Conference—a veritable cornucopia of educational programs and networking opportunities—will be held in Denver, Wednesday to Saturday, October 5-8. For all the details, go to http://www.amwa.org/conference.

If you are attending the conference, you won’t want to miss the New England Chapter dinner on Friday, October 7, starting at 6:30 p.m.—a chance for chapter members to spend some time together. (Note that no other conference events are scheduled for that evening.) Watch the AMWA New England E-News for further information.

And be sure to sign up for the Sablack Awards Luncheon on Saturday, October 8, where our esteemed New England Chapter colleague Jill Shuman will be presented with AMWA’s prestigious Golden Apple Award for excellence in teaching. (Lunch is free with conference registration.)

LinkedIn for Local Networking
Do you know that you can connect online with other New England medical writers and editors via LinkedIn? It’s easy to do. Just sign up for the regional chapter subgroup at www.linkedin.com, and once you’re there you can ask questions, share tips, register complaints, or exchange pleasantries . . . anything with a local focus. Everyone is welcome—prospective members as well as members.

New England Chapter Offers Free Membership in AMWA
If you’re a novice medical writer or editor living in New England, you may be eligible to join AMWA at absolutely no cost to you. The New England Chapter’s Linn Membership Awards cover AMWA dues for one year, and during that time awardees can attend the regular chapter meetings at no charge.

Are you qualified for this award? Or do you know someone who might be? For the details, including an online application form, please go to http://www.amwa-ne.org/awards.html.
Chapter Officers
The New England Chapter’s officers for the 2016-17 year will be introduced at the last meeting of the 2015-16 year on June 15. Their one-year term begins at that time.

Officers (Automatic)
In accordance with our chapter bylaws, the President is elected a year ahead of time to ensure continuity. During the year as President-Elect, he or she serves as Program Director. Then, after a year as President, he or she serves the chapter for still another year as Immediate Past President. In the coming year, Marisa Greenfield will be President and Theresa Singleton will be Immediate Past President.

PRESIDENT: Olivier Morteau
Olivier has a PhD in pharmacology from the University of Toulouse, France. He was a research scientist for over 10 years, working at different institutions, including Children’s Hospital in Boston and Oxford University and MediGene Ltd in the UK, before entering the medical communications field in 2011. He has worked as a medical writer at Vertex Pharmaceuticals and Lumleian and as a medical publication manager at EMD Serono, and in 2015 he joined TESARO as a senior manager, medical communications. Olivier has been an AMWA member since 2011. He has served on the New England Chapter’s Executive Council since 2012-13. He has led chapter roundtables on nonregulatory writing in industry.

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT: Marisa Greenfield
Marisa is a graduate of the College of the Holy Cross, with a master’s in chemistry from Northeastern University. After six years as a chemist, she transitioned to medical writing, eventually becoming an associate director, medical writing at Genzyme. In 2010 she established her own freelance business, providing research, writing, and editing services to pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies, authors of books and articles, and nonprofit organizations. She has been an AMWA member since 1999. In 2013-14 she served as chapter secretary. She continued for a second term in that position until midway through the 2014-15 year, when she was named president-elect to replace Nicola Parry who was moving to another part of the country.

Nominees for Office
The Nominating Committee was chaired by President-Elect Olivier Morteau and included President Marisa Greenfield, Laurie MacDougall, Agnella Matic, and Theresa Singleton. The committee has presented the following slate of officers to serve along with Olivier and Marisa in the coming year.

PRESIDENT-ELECT: Shawn Watson
Shawn is a licensed pharmacist and holds a PhD in pharmaceutical sciences from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and a PharmD from St. Louis College of Pharmacy. He is an associate director of medical writing at Alexion Pharmaceuticals, where he authors and oversees the development of study- and submission-level regulatory documents across four clinical development programs. Prior to Alexion, he was a medical writer at PRA International and before that, an associate principal regulatory writer at Synchrogenix Information Strategies. He has been an AMWA member since 2012 and a member-at-large of the chapter's Executive Council since 2014-15.

VICE PRESIDENT/CONNECTICUT: Margaret Burke
Margaret received a BS in pharmacy and a PharmD from the State University of New York at Buffalo followed by a pediatric specialty residency and a pediatric pharmacotherapy fellowship at the University of Illinois at Chicago. She is a board certified pediatric pharmacotherapy specialist. She holds a certificate in core public health competency from the University of Connecticut and an essential skills certificate from AMWA. She was a pediatric clinical pharmacy specialist at Hartford Hospital and Connecticut Children's Medical Center for a combined total of 19 years and continues to serve as a member of CT Children's IRB. In 2013, she started Precision Medical Writing LLC, which provides freelance medical writing services to a variety of clients. She has been a member of AMWA since 2012.

SECRETARY: Debbie Ferguson
Debbie has a PhD in experimental medicine from McGill University. Following postdoctoral studies at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, she joined a start-up company, Reata Pharmaceuticals, as a scientist. Her responsibilities grew along with the company and she eventually held the position of associate vice president, discovery biology. In 2013, she began working as an independent scientific consultant and medical writer. Debbie joined AMWA in 2004 and has been a member of the New England Chapter since 2009. She hosted the chapter's dinner meeting at the AMWA national meeting in 2014 and 2015, and this year she served on the New England Chapter's Executive Council as a member-at-large.

TREASURER: Ana Bozas
After graduating from the University of Utah with a PhD in biochemistry, Ana conducted research in gene targeting at the Boston Biomedical Research Institute and in genetic and molecular toxicology at Toxicon Corporation in Bedford, Mass. Moving away from the bench, she spent 2 years as a social media manager at MASS Avis in Cambridge, Mass. Three years ago, she joined Analysis Group in Boston, where she works as a medical writer focusing on HEOR publications. She has been an AMWA member since 2014, when she received a Linn Membership Award from the New England Chapter.
New Members
The New England Chapter cordially welcomes those from our six-state region who have recently joined AMWA, reestablished their affiliation with the association, or moved here from another chapter area.

Robert S. Dinsmore
South Hamilton, Massachusetts

Jill Gray
Westford, Massachusetts
Shire Pharmaceuticals

Catherine Solange Hubbard, PhD
Waltham, Massachusetts
Boston Children’s Hospital

Josh Jarman, MA
Boston Children’s Hospital
Boston, Massachusetts

David Kuhrt, PhD
Scarborough, Maine

Yvette Martas, MD
Columbia, Connecticut

Mark Q. Mazzuca, PhD
Jamaica Plain, Massachusetts
Shire Pharmaceuticals

Israel Molina
East Boston, Massachusetts

Kofo Onaleye, BSc, MD
Lawrence, Massachusetts

Kelly Smith, PhD
Lancaster, Massachusetts

Laura Withers, MD
Portland, Maine

Victoria L. Wilcox, PhD
Franklin, Massachusetts

Personal Notes
Sejal Faldu, PharmD, RPh, formerly at Sanofi Genzyme, has joined Alkermes as a medical information specialist.

Set your DVR! On Tuesday, June 21, Laurie MacDougall, MS, CTR, is going to be a contestant on Jeopardy! In the Boston area, you can catch this long-running highbrow quiz program on WBZ-TV Channel 4 at 7:30 p.m. For showing times in other areas, please check your local listings. Laurie is a freelance medical editor in Allston, Mass., as well as a certified tumor registrar at Steward St. Elizabeth’s Medical Center. She was president of the New England Chapter in 2010-11.

At the 2016 AMWA Conference in Denver in October (see page 2), eight of our New England colleagues will be leading workshops and roundtables.

Thomas Gegeny, MS, ELS, MWC, Envision Pharma Group, Southport, Conn., is leading the workshop on “Effectively Searching Online Databases.” Jill Shuman, MS, ELS, Writers Group, Woburn, Mass., is leading the workshop on “Essential Ethics for Medical Communicators.” Andrea Gwosdow, PhD, Gwosdow Associates Science Consultants LLC, Arlington, Mass., is co-leading the workshop on “Ethical Standards in Medical Publication” as well as leading a roundtable on “Blogging for Profit.”

Also leading roundtables are: Cynthia Barber, PhD, Vertex Pharmaceuticals, Boston (“The ABC’s of Regulatory Medical Writing”); Margaret Burke, PharmD, BCPPS, Precision Medical Writing LLC, Manchester, Conn. (“Introduction to Pediatrics for the Medical Communicator”); Nancy Knoblock Hunton, MS, NKH Communications, Acton, Mass. (“Writing for Consumers and Patients”); Suzanne Sobel, PhD, PAREXEL Inc., Billerica, Mass. (“Lean Authoring in Clinical Study Reports: Balancing Brevity with Clarity”); and Jessica Tesell, PhD, Veristat LLC, Southborough, Mass. (“From Lab to Laptop: Discussing the Transition from Laboratory Scientist to Clinical/Regulatory Medical Writer”).

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL 2015-16

OFFICERS
PRESIDENT: Marisa Greenfield
IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT: Theresa Singleton
PRESIDENT-ELECT: Olivier Morteau
VICE PRESIDENT/CONNECTICUT: Jill Max
SECRETARY: Debbie von Rechenberg
TREASURER: Jill Shuman

DIRECTORS / COMMITTEE MEMBERS
■ PROGRAMS: Olivier Morteau
■ CONNECTICUT PROGRAMS: Jill Max
  Margi Goldstein, Anita Kuan, Agnella Matic, Suzanne Sobel
■ MEMBERSHIP: Judy Linn
■ MEMBERSHIP AWARDS: Nancy Knoblock Hunton
  Francesca Coltrera, David Olle, Jill Shuman, Debbie von Rechenberg
■ E-NEWS: Marisa Greenfield
■ NEWSLETTER: Judy Linn
■ LINKEDIN SUBGROUP: Laurie MacDougall
■ NOMINATING COMMITTEE: Olivier Morteau
  Agnella Matic, Laurie MacDougall, Marisa Greenfield, Theresa Singleton
■ WEB SITE: Aaron Federman
  Judy Linn, Jill Shuman

MEMBERS-AT-LARGE
Susan Chow, Francesca Coltrera, Deborah Ferguson, Andrea Gwosdow, Laurie LaRusso, Karishma Manzur, Shanna McClennen, Joann Merriman, Roshawn Watson

DELEGATES TO AMWA
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Marisa Greenfield, Olivier Morteau
ALTERNATES: Theresa Singleton, Jill Max

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