## "Concussion" Doctor Recent Lecturer at Florida Atlantic University



Bennet Omalu MD, MBA, MPH, CPE, DABP-AP, CP, FP, NP

Dr. Bennet Omalu, the first Doctor to discover and diagnose chronic brain damage in NFL Athletes was the recent guest lecturer at the Florida Atlantic University (FAU) Jupiter, Florida campus.

In 2002, Dr. Omalu identified chronic brain damage as a major factor in the deaths of professional athletes. He named the disease Chronic Traumatic Encephalopathy (CTE). This discovery and career breakthrough came about as the result of the autopsy he performed on Mike Webster, a Pittsburgh Steelers' Center who met an untimely death at age 50. While conducting the autopsy, Dr. Omalu realized that Mike Webster's brain revealed something never seen before. Within five years of reporting on Webster's case, Dr. Omalu went on to identify CTE in eight more deceased NFL players. He was also the first to discover CTE in military veterans diagnosed with PTSD. He told how his findings were dismissed and even ridiculed by his professional peers, the NFL and the sports industry.

Several IAHE staff and therapists who attended the lecture met with him after the lecture and updated him about our work with the NFL.

The increased awareness of CTE can certainly be credited to his work and the recent movie "Concussion"; an account of his work.

In line with our Intensive Therapy Programs for both Concussions and PTSD, we are developing a specialization track and recommended curriculum for professionals who are interested in helping clients with Concussions, Traumatic Brain Injury or Post Traumatic Syndrome.

For our upcoming Intensive Programs and more information on specialization in these areas, please watch for upcoming announcements.



Dr. Omalu, Anne Roth, Board Member, FAU; Jupiter Lifelong Learning Society and Jackie Halderman, Director of Marketing, IAHE



Dr. Omalu explains working from home to protect the brains and his studies.



Sally Fryer, tDPT, CST-D, SIPT Certified with Dr. Bennet Omalu and Melinda Roland, MA, PT, LAc, OMD, Dipl-Ac,CST-D at the 4<sup>th</sup> Santa Clara Valley Brain Injury Conference, Feb 2015.