

# NEUROSCIENCE NEWSLETTER

## PROGRAM NEWS

### NEW PIN STUDENTS:

We would like to welcome the following students to the Neuroscience Program:

Student's Name	Degree	Supervisor	Department
Soghra Jougehhdoust	MSc	Linda Mills	Physiology
Jordan Poppenk	PhD	Moscovitch/McIntosh	Psychology
Ian Prescott	MSc	William Hutchison	Physiology
Lily Riggs	PhD	Adam Anderson	Psychology
Vishanthan Sivagnanam	MSc	Lyanne Schlichter	Physiology
Zarko Todorovski	PhD	Zhengping Jia	Physiology
Katrina Vandamme	MSc	James Eubank	Physiology

### GRADUATING STUDENTS:

We would like to congratulate the following PIN graduates:

Student's Name	Degree	Supervisor	Department
Guillaume Ducharme	MSc	Lyanne Schlichter	Physiology
<u>Thesis title:</u> "The Small Conductance Swelling-Activated Chloride Channel in Primary Rat Microglia: Biophysical Characterization and Its Contribution to Volume Regulation and Phagocytosis"			
Natalia Fedianina	MSc	Michael Salter	IMS
<u>Thesis title:</u> "Effect of Src activation on NMDA receptors containing different NR2 subunits"			
Jordan Poppenk	MA	Moscovitch/ McIntosh	Psychology
<u>Thesis title:</u> "What kinds of novel information are remembered well? The novelty effect and its neural mechanisms"			

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### Program Committee Members

J.O. Dostrovsky / PHYSIOLOGY (Dir.)	J. Peever / CELL AND SYSTEMS BIOLOGY.
W.M. Burnham / PHARMACOLOGY	S. Nag / LAB. MED. PATHOBIOL.
P. Carlen / INST. MED. SCIENCE	J. Roder / MOL. MED. GENETICS
L.F.De Nil / SPEECH LANG. PATHOL.	B.J. Sessle / DENTISTRY
Z. Jia / PHYSIOLOGY	M. Shoichet / INST. BIOMAT. & BIOMED. ENG.
N. Kabani / MEDICAL BIOPHYSICS	W. Trimble / BIOCHEMISTRY
M. Lewis / HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND APPLIED PSYCHOLOGY	J.W. Wells / PHARMACY
W. McIlroy / REHAB. SCI.	J.S. Yeomans / PSYCHOLOGY

**PIN Office:** Room 102, Tanz Neuroscience Building, M5S 3H2.  
 Telephone: 416-978-4894 Fax: 416-978-1878  
 e-mail: p.neuroscience@utoronto.ca.  
<http://www.utoronto.ca/neurosci>  
 Office Hours: Wednesdays - 1:15pm-5:00pm;  
 Thursdays - 8:45am-5:00pm; Fridays - 8:45am-5:00pm

### UPCOMING PIN DISTINGUISHED LECTURES

**CANCELLED** - Friday, March 2, 2007 3pm - **CANCELLED**  
**GYORGY BUZSAKI**, Center for Molecular and Behavioral Neuroscience, Rutgers University  
 "Oscillatory organization of internally generated cell assembly sequences"  
 Pharmacy Building, 144 College St., Rm B250

Wednesday, April 4, 2007 4pm  
**MICHAEL YOUNG**, Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA  
 Title: TBA  
 Medical Sciences Building, Rm 3153

### PIN POSTER DAY

**CALL FOR ABSTRACTS**  
**DEADLINE: WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21st, 2007**

The PIN Poster Day will be held on **Friday, April 20, 2007** in the Stone Lobby (Rm 2171) of the Medical Sciences Building. The Distinguished Lecture Speaker will be announced shortly. Deadline

for poster abstracts is March 21st (submissions earlier than this date are welcome). It is acceptable to submit an abstract from a previous meeting. Please e-mail the abstract in the body of the e-mail message, and if possible, also as an attachment to p.neuroscience@utoronto.ca by March 21st. Poster boards are 6ft. wide x 3ft. high and velcro attachments will be provided.

Please note that PIN students are required to present a poster at the Annual PIN Poster Day at least once during their degree and are required to attend Poster Day each year.

#### Directions for Abstracts:

Please do not include extra formatting (bold, italics, etc.) other than the requested underlining of the presenter's name and title of poster in capitals. Please use Times New Roman Font, 11 point, single line spacing. Your adherence to these guidelines is required.

Abstract: (not to exceed 1 page in length)

Authors (last name first followed by first name), Underline presenter, if PIN student, place \* after name

Departmental Affiliations

TITLE OF POSTER (in capitals)

(space)

Body of Abstract

Please contact the PIN office if you are interested in volunteering at Poster Day.

## 2007 U of T BRAIN BEE

The Collaborative Program in Neuroscience (PIN) hosted the 9th annual neuroscience competition for High School students on Tuesday afternoon, February 13, 2007. Twenty-four students from 9 different Toronto schools took part in this oral competition modeled after a "spelling bee". The first place winner was **Carol Cui** from the University of Toronto Schools. Second place went to **Jeremy Zung**, also from the University of Toronto Schools, and in third place was **Ling Sang** from Earl Haig Secondary School.

The winner of our local contest, Carol Cui, will take part in the 9th International Brain Bee (IBB) competition organized by the University of Maryland in Baltimore on March 16 and 17 where the winners from other local University-sponsored competitions will be participating. The IBB Champion receives \$3000, an all expense-paid trip for two to San Diego to attend the 2007 Society for Neuroscience Convention, an individual trophy, a traveling trophy for his/her high school, and an opportunity to work in the lab of a famous neuroscientist during the summer. There will also be prizes for the second and third place winners. In the 8 year history of the IBB, three U of T brain bee winners also won first place in the IBB.

The U of T competition is organized by Professor Jonathan Dostrovsky, Director of PIN with the help of PIN faculty members Drs. Karen Davis, Mary Pat McAndrews and Evelyn Lambe. Many thanks go to PIN graduate students Maha Adamo (Psychology), Josh Bell (IMS), Javeria Hashmi (IMS), Dina Lafoyiannis (IMS), Keri Taylor (IMS), Chris Tsang (Biochemistry) and Adelaide Yiu (IMS) for assisting with the Bee. Special thanks to Maha Adamo, Josh Bell

and Javeria Hashmi for giving presentations on their research. These student presentations organized by Dr. McAndrews were the highlight of the day. The presentations provided the high school students with an excellent overview of the many types of research being done by PIN graduate students. Also, thanks to Dee Ballyk for giving the students a tour of the Anatomy Museum. Special thanks go to Pat Reed, PIN program administrator, for her administration of the Brain Bee. We are also grateful to the Institute of Neurosciences, Mental Health and Addiction (INMHA/CIHR) for their financial support.

## NOTICE TO GRADUATING STUDENTS

Please notify the PIN office upon your graduation to ensure that you will receive the notation "completed Collaborative Program in Neuroscience" on your degree transcript as well as a separate certificate suitable for framing from the PIN office to indicate that you have completed the program's requirements. Please let the office know the address you wish your certificate sent to and please also send us your thesis title. If you have transferred from a Master's degree to a Ph.D., please notify the PIN office.

## OTHER NEUROSCIENCE NEWS

**Inaugural Meeting of the Canadian Association for Neuroscience: May 23-25, 2007, University Of Toronto, Chestnut Conference Centre**

#### Deadlines:

**Abstracts: MARCH 15TH**

**Early bird registration: MARCH 22ND**

**Abstract submission and registration via the CAN website: [www.can-acn.org](http://www.can-acn.org)**

**CIHR'S Institute of Neurosciences, Mental Health and Addiction  
5th Annual Meeting**

A Feast of Science and Partnership

May 22-23, 2007

University of Toronto, 89 Chestnut Conference Center, Toronto, ON

Join us for the Institute of Neurosciences, Mental Health and Addiction (INMHA) 5th Annual Meeting in collaboration with the Canadian Association for Neuroscience, May 22-23, 2005 at the University of Toronto, 89 Chestnut Conference Center, Toronto, ON, which will also comprise the First Canadian IBRO Neuroscience School on Fundamentals of Epilepsy (see details in INMHA Brain Brief, <http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/33071.html>).

Anyone with an interest in INMHA and its mandate is welcome to attend. This meeting is an excellent opportunity for scientists, trainees, representatives from non-governmental and voluntary organizations, and interested individuals from different disciplines and geographic regions, to engage in dialogue on the 2 major

research topics of this year: Hearing and Anxiety. In addition it will be as important for stakeholders and scientists to exchange their vision for the future of collaboration in health research with an emphasis on partnerships (national and international) during an afternoon session.

Dr. Sheena Josselyn  
Sheena.josselyn@sickkids.ca

For further inquiries, please visit the CIHR-INMHA Website at [www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca](http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca) for updates on the program or do not hesitate to contact Asimina Saikaley by phone 613-941-0874 or by e-mail: [asaikaley@cihr-irsc.gc.ca](mailto:asaikaley@cihr-irsc.gc.ca).

### **York University Centre for Vision Research Conference**

First announcement and call for posters for the York University Centre for Vision Research Conference to be held June 19-23, 2007. To view abstracts and access registration and poster submission forms, please visit the web site:

<http://cvr.yorku.ca/conferences/cvr2007/aboutus/index.html>

### **IBRO-2007 Satellite symposium**

“Function of myelinated axons and glial-axonal signalling in the CNS: Basic aspects and clinical implications”: Melbourne, Australia, July 10-11, 2007 (immediately before the IBRO Congress). The deadline for abstract submission is March 31. For more details, please visit:

<http://www.ibro2007s4.com/index.html>

The meeting website can also be accessed through IBRO Congress website:

<http://www.ibro2007.org/satellite.html>

## **POSITION AVAILABLE**

### **UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO AND AFFILIATED INSTITUTIONS**

#### **POSTDOCTORAL POSITION**

##### **Postdoctoral Fellow in Neurosciences and Mental Health Hospital for Sick Children**

A postdoctoral position is available immediately in the field of behavioral and molecular neuroscience. Research in my laboratory uses genetically-engineered mice, in vivo gene transfer and immunohistochemical approaches to study the molecular mechanisms of cognition and memory. The candidate should have a psychology, neuroscience, physiology or molecular biology PhD, with a strong background in molecular biology, fluorescent in situ hybridization and/or immunohistochemical techniques. Good communications skills are a must. Preferences will be given to candidates who have obtained their PhD within the last two years. Please send your 1) curriculum vitae, 2) a brief statement of research experience and interests (1 page each), and 3) the names of three references to: