

# 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
Danielle DeSouza	MSc	Robin Green	Rehab. Science
Ameer Taha	PhD	W. M. Burnham	Pharmacology

### GRADUATING STUDENTS:

We would like to congratulate the following PIN graduates:

Student's Name	Degree	Supervisor	Department
Trevor Balena	MSc	Melanie Woodin	Zoology
<u>Thesis title:</u> "Coincident Pre- and Postsynaptic Activity Regulate NKCC1 to Hyperpolarize EGABA During Development"			
Jeanne Huo	MSc	O.Carter Snead	IMS
<u>Thesis title:</u> "The role of lipid rafts in the AY9944 model of atypical absence seizures"			

### PIN FACULTY NEWS

#### Nature Medicine Paper

PIN faculty member **Dr. Wei-Yang Lu** has recently had a research paper published in Nature Medicine. In addition, the Journal published a commentary article on his study. You can view these at : <http://www.nature.com.myaccess.library.utoronto.ca/nm/journal/v13/n7/full/nm1604.html>

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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](mailto:p.neuroscience@utoronto.ca).

<http://www.utoronto.ca/neurosci>

Office Hours: Wednesdays - 1:15pm-4:30pm;

Thursdays - 8:45am-4:30pm; Fridays - 8:45am-4:30pm

### 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

#### Baycrest presents the 7th Annual Kunin-Lunenfeld Applied Research Unit (KLARU) Conference

Enhancing Cognition in Older Adults:  
Connecting Research and Clinical Care

Friday, October 19, 2007

The Joseph E and Minnie Wagman Centre, Baycrest Campus, Toronto

Inquiries can be directed to Paula Ferreira, Conference Co-ordinator at (416) 785-2500, ext. 2363 or pferreira@baycrest.org

For additional information, please visit the website at <http://www.klaru-baycrest.on.ca>

## **MNI launches its first video podcast: Does Race Matter**

Dr. Sergio Pena, an MNI alumnus and a world-renowned geneticist, talks about human genetic diversity and how we need to change the way we think about humankind.

The MNI Podcasts showcase experts talking about their research, important issues and current events at the Montreal Neurological Institute and Hospital (MNI). You can access the MNI Podcasts website directly (<http://mnimedia.mcgill.ca/podcasts>) or view them in iTunes and on YouTube (<http://youtube.com/MNIPodcasts>).

If you any story suggestions, feedback or comments, please feel free to contact MNI at: [communications.mni@mcgill.ca](mailto:communications.mni@mcgill.ca).

## **POSITIONS AVAILABLE**

### **CANADA**

#### **RESEARCH ASSOCIATE**

##### **Montreal Neurological Institute McGill University**

The Montreal Neurological Institute (MNI) of McGill University invites applications from outstanding candidates for a Research Associate position. The successful candidate will hold an MD degree and at least one year experience in doing animal experiments using autoradiography. Any experience in doing experiments in animal models of depression will be of a great benefit. In particular the experience is expected in:

1. Catheterization of the femoral vein and artery in rats;
2. Inducing anesthesia in rats with gaseous anesthetics;
3. Brain sectioning in a cryotome;
4. Ability to extract brain for freezing in a short time period (e.g. less than five minutes);
5. Ability to perform the brain microsurgery under operating microscope;
6. Good knowledge of the rat neuroanatomy;
7. Good knowledge of a quantitative analyses of autoradiograms using neuroimaging;
8. Good familiarity with instruments required to carry out in vivo experiments (e.g. blood gas analyzer)
9. Ability to do amino acid analysis using high performance liquid chromatography

The salary will be commensurate with qualifications up to \$40,000 per year. Applicants should submit a letter of interest, curriculum vitae, and the names of three references to: Dr. Mirko Diksic, Cone Laboratory for Neurosurgical Research, Room MP 018, Montreal Neurological Institute, 3801 University St., Montreal, QC, Canada, H3A 2B4. All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply; however Canadian citizens and permanent residents of Canada will be given priority. McGill University is committed to equity in employment. Applications should be received by August 31, 2007.

### **USA**

#### **Faculty Position in Physiology and Neurobiology, University of Connecticut, Storrs**

The Department of Physiology and Neurobiology at the University of Connecticut, Storrs, invites applications for a tenure track faculty position available in Fall, 2008, at the Assistant or Associate Professor level. The successful candidate will be expected to maintain an independent and vigorous research program and participate in the Department's graduate and undergraduate teaching. We encourage applications from individuals studying fundamental physiological or neural processes at the molecular, cellular or systems level. Special consideration will be given to those emphasizing membrane biology. Applicants must possess a Ph.D. and have completed at least two years of postdoctoral training. Candidates for Associate Professor are expected to have a currently funded and active research program. Review of candidates will begin on October 1, 2007, and the search will continue until the position is filled. Send curriculum vitae, a brief summary of current research with a statement of research directions, a statement of teaching interests, and the names of at least three references to: Chair, PNB Search Committee, University of Connecticut, Department of Physiology & Neurobiology, Box U-3156, 75 North Eagleville Road, Storrs, CT 06269-3156. <http://www.pnb.uconn.edu>

### **OVERSEAS**

#### **POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCH ASSOCIATE**

##### **University of Manchester Faculty of Life Sciences Postdoctoral Research Associate**

4- Year post: Molecular mechanisms of circadian timing in mammals  
Salary up to £30,012 depending on experience

Funded by the BBSRC, we seek a dynamic individual to develop transgenic mice in which clock proteins are tagged with fluorescent proteins to permit the study of dynamic interactions of circadian

clock elements in key brain and other structures involved in circadian timing. Our goal is to use FRET analysis to characterise the movement and interactions of clock proteins in real time, and examine the effect of clock mutations on mobility of these components. As a key starting position, we will make several lines of transgenic mice using in-frame knock-in to produce clock proteins fused to fluorescent markers. The successful applicant will be required to make the necessary targeting vectors, and will be supported by an Experimental Officer in the transgenic unit who will undertake ES cell selection and produce transgenic animals. The position is based at the University of Manchester, but will involve significant collaboration with Dr Michael Hastings' laboratory at the Medical Research Council Laboratory of Molecular Biology, Cambridge. You should have good general molecular biological skills, and ideally a background in use of transgenic models as applied to neuroscience or cell biology. You should be willing to learn behavioural techniques, and to make a significant input to the scientific direction of the project.

The circadian laboratories of Professors Loudon and Piggins are part of a large community of circadian biologists at Manchester, with well-equipped facilities for cell imaging, behavioural recording and cell biology. The other Manchester-based grant holder is Professor Ray Boot-Handford, who is also the Director of the Transgenic Facility.

Informal enquiries are encouraged and can be made to Andrew Loudon. Tel: +44 (0)161 275 3888; Fax +44 (0)161 275 3938; E-mail: Andrew.Loudon@manchester.ac.uk

Post is tenable from 1st September 2007 for 4 years. Application forms and further particulars can be obtained at <http://www.man.ac.uk/news/vacancies> or from The Directorate of Human Resources: Tel: ++44 (0) 161 275 8836  
Email: Lifesciences-hr@manchester.ac.uk

The University will actively foster a culture of inclusion and diversity and will seek to achieve true equality of opportunity for all members of its community.

## POSTDOCTORAL POSITIONS

### **KAROLINSKA INSTITUTE Division of Molecular Neurobiology Department of Neuroscience Center of Excellence in Developmental Biology**

Molecular Neurobiology Lab seeks Experienced Cell/Molecular Biologists

Postdoctoral positions are open at the Division of Molecular Neurobiology, Department of Neuroscience, Karolinska Institute, Stockholm, Sweden.

We are looking for experienced cell/molecular biologists to join an interdisciplinary team investigating novel signaling mechanisms in the nervous system combining structure-function studies and genetic approaches in mice. Experience in molecular biology, intracellular signalling, neuronal primary culture, nervous system development and mouse genetics will be important for consideration to these positions.

The laboratory is located amid other 10 high-profile groups of the Center of Excellence in Developmental Biology ([www.cedb.se](http://www.cedb.se)), one of the most vibrant and productive research environments in Scandinavia. Funding is available for an initial period of two years, starting anytime in the Fall of 2007. Application, including CV, list of publications and two letters of reference, should be sent to: Prof. Carlos Ibáñez, Division of Molecular Neurobiology, Department of Neuroscience, Karolinska Institute, Berzelius väg 35, 171 77 Stockholm, Sweden. Tel: 46-8-52487660; Fax: 46-8-339548 E-mail: [carlos.ibanez@ki.se](mailto:carlos.ibanez@ki.se) Additional information on publications and research projects can be found at <http://zephyr.neuro.ki.se>

## POSITION WANTED

My name is **Marie Claire Smula** and I am a recent biology graduate from Dalhousie University looking to gain experience in a research setting. The relevant experience I have pertains to laboratory and research projects I have done as a part of my course work such as a thesis-style research project in my first year as a component of the Dalhousie Integrated Science Program, and lab work associated with cell biology, genetics, and introductory microbiology and biochemistry courses. Consequently, I am looking for the opportunity to gain more formal experience as a research/lab assistant and to discover the ways in which I can apply what I have learned in the areas of biology that interest me most. My email is [vsmula@rogers.com](mailto:vsmula@rogers.com) and phone: 416-967-4214 (evenings)