

NEUROSCIENCE NEWSLETTER

PROGRAM NEWS

NEW PIN STUDENT:

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

Student's Name	Degree	Supervisor	Department
Christie Burton	PhD	Paul Fletcher	Psychology

GRADUATING STUDENTS:

We would like to congratulate the following PIN graduates:

Student's Name	Degree	Supervisor	Department
Nicole Carmichael <u>Thesis title:</u> "The timecourse of neurogenic inflammation and the effect of modulatory agents"	PhD	Charlton/Dostrovsky	Physiology
Michael Kong <u>Thesis title:</u> "Novel Regulatory Mechanisms of D1 Dopamine Receptor Maturation and Internalization"	PhD	George / O'Dowd	Pharmacology
Cornelia Lamm <u>Thesis title:</u> "Neurophysiological Mechanisms of Emotion Regulation for Subtypes of Aggressive Children"	PhD	Marc Lewis	HDAP

UPCOMING PIN DISTINGUISHED LECTURES

Please check <http://www.utoronto.ca/neurosci> for updates.

Wednesday, December 5, 2007 3:30pm
MATT WILSON, Department of Brain and Cognitive Sciences, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
 "Memory Reactivation in the Hippocampus during Awake and Sleep states"
 McLennan Physical Labs, 255 Huron Street, Room 102

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Program Committee Members

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

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-4:30pm;
 Thursdays - 8:45am-5:00pm; Fridays - 8:45am-5:00pm

Please contact Eve De Rosa (Psychology, e-mail: derosa@psych.utoronto.ca) or Martin Wojtowicz (Physiology, e-mail: martin.wojtowicz@utoronto.ca) if you wish to meet with Dr. Wilson.

Thursday, December 6, 2007 4pm
HERTA FLOR, Central Institute of Mental Health, Clinical and Cognitive Neuroscience, Mannheim, Germany
 "Phantom Limbs and Phantom Limb Pain"
 Medical Sciences Building, Rm 3153

Friday, January 18, 2008 1 pm
BARBARA JONES, McGill University
 Title: TBA
 Leslie Dan Pharmacy Building, 144 College St., Rm B150

Wednesday, February 6, 2008 4pm
UWE HEINEMANN, Johannes Muller Center of Physiology, Berlin, Germany
 Title: TBA
 Medical Sciences Building, Rm 3153

The Seventh Sackler Distinguished Visiting Neuroscientist

Tuesday, February 26, 2008 3pm

PATRICIA GASPAR, Institut du Fer a Moulin, Paris

"How serotonin shapes neural circuits during critical periods in development"

Medical Sciences Building, Rm 3154

Thursday, March 6, 2008 Time: TBA

FRED GAGE, Salk Institute, California

Title: TBA

Location: TBA

Friday, April 4, 2008 Time: TBA

ROBERT WENTHOLD, National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Maryland

Title: TBA

Location: TBA

PIN POSTER DAY - Medical Sciences Building, Stone Lobby

Wednesday, April 30, 2008 Time: TBA

ISABELLE MANSUY, University of Zurich

Title: TBA

Medical Sciences Building, Rm 2172

FACULTY NEWS

This month's issue of Chatelaine Magazine (Dec 2007, "Eureka Moments", by Amy Hick, pp. 91-94) has a captivating article on Dr. Freda Miller (Physiology cross-appointee) on how the world-renowned stem-cell researcher balances her career with a busy family life. The article illustrates Dr. Miller's "eureka moments" in science and explains how she balances her scientific discoveries with a "serious piano habit and near-black belt in tae kwon do". Pick up the magazine to read more.

from Physiolink, November 23, 2007

Congratulations to Dr. Elise Stanley, TWRI Senior Scientist, who has received a renewal of her Tier I Canada Research Chair in Brain and Behaviour, with additional support from the Canada Foundation for Innovation Leaders Opportunity Fund.

Please access the following link for the official announcement:

http://www.chairs.gc.ca/web/media/releases/2007/november_e.asp

The 109 CRC awards, including Dr Stanley's renewal, are listed at:

http://www.chairs.gc.ca/web/media/lists/2007/recipients_nov_e.pdf

CFI innovation awards:

<http://www.innovation.ca/media/index.cfm?websiteid=519>

Please join us in congratulating Dr. Stanley on this great achievement.

HUMAN BIOLOGY STUDENTS' UNION LIFE SCIENCES GRADUATE FAIR

Thanks to the following PIN students who volunteered at the PIN booth at the Human Biology Students' Union Life Sciences Graduate Fair on November 14: Kevin Da Silva, Daniela Fenili and Beverly Francis.

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 U of T NEUROSCIENCE NEWS

University of Toronto Centre for the Study of Pain Annual Meeting

Thursday, December 6, 2007

8:15 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

89 Chestnut Street

Terrace Room, 3rd Floor

Attendance is free of charge and all are welcome. If you wish to attend, please RSVP to Nancy Mitchell at: nancy.mitchell@utoronto.ca

8:15 a.m. to 8:40 a.m. - Coffee/Light Snack

8:40 a.m. to 8:45 a.m. - Welcome

8:45 a.m. to 9:05 a.m. - Simon Beggs (Salter lab) – "Lamina I output changes following nerve injury and microglial stimulation"

9:05 a.m. to 9:20 a.m. - Tricia Kavanagh (Stevens lab) – "Appreciative Inquiry: An Interactive Organizational Intervention to Translate Acute Pain Management Research into Pediatric Nursing Practice"

9:20 a.m. to 10:15 a.m. - Keynote Speaker – Herta Flor, Head of the Department of Clinical and Cognitive Neuroscience at the Ruprecht-Karls University of Heidelberg, Central Institute of Mental Health, Mannheim, Germany – "Fibromyalgia: learning, brain plasticity and treatment implications"

10:15 a.m. to 10:45 a.m. - Coffee Break

10:45 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. - Allan Gordon – "Management of Central Neuropathic Pain"

11:15 a.m. to 11:35 a.m. -Tina Elahipanah (Seltzer lab) – “Mapping a gene for neuropathic pain in the Pain1 QTL”

11:35 a.m. to 11:55 a.m. - Janet Yamada (Stevens lab) – Process Evaluation of Evidence Based Practice, Identification and Change (EPIC) Intervention to Improve Neonatal Pain Practices.

11:55 a.m. to 12:25 p.m. -Judy Watt-Watson – “Pain management after cardiac surgery”

**Neurosciences & Mental Health (NMH) Research Program at The Hospital for Sick Children presents:
Environmental Toxicity and the Brain**

Friday, December 7, 2007

Hollywood Theatre (SickKids Auditorium)
Rm 1246 – Elm Wing, 555 University Ave

8:30 am - 8:55 am - Coffee Break in the Rotunda

8:55 am – 9:00 am - Welcome by Joanne Rovet, PhD & Gideon Koren, MD

9:00 am – 9:50 am - "Linking Exposures to Environmental Toxicants with Child and Adolescent Psychopathology"
Bruce Lanphear, MD, MPH
Director, Cincinnati Children's Environmental Health Center
Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center & University of Cincinnati

9:50 am – 10:20 am - "Why is Multiple Sclerosis so Common in Canada - The Role of Environmental Triggers"
Brenda Banwell, MD Neurosciences & Mental Health

10:20 am – 10:40 am - Coffee Break in the Rotunda

10:40 am – 11:10 am - “Maternal Exposure to Organic Solvents during Pregnancy and Offspring Neurodevelopment”
Christine Till, PhD, CPsych Neurosciences & Mental Health

11:10 am – 11:40 am - “The Delicate Cochlea: A Canary in the Mine?”
Robert Harrison, PhD Neurosciences & Mental Health

11:40 am – 12:30 am - “PCBs, MeHg and Hearing Loss: Findings in Rodents and Implications for Humans”
Susan Schantz, PhD
Director, Friends Children's Environmental Health Center
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

12:30 pm – 1:30 pm - Lunch in the Garden Terrace, Atrium, The Hospital for Sick Children

Please contact Marie Bomba to RSVP by December 3, 2007
Phone: (416) 813-8945 Email: NMH_Events@sickkids.ca

Department of Physiology, University of Toronto 2007

**Brain Research and Integrated Neurophysiology (B.R.A.I.N.) Platform
Neuroscience Research Day**

Wednesday, December 12, 2007

Medical Sciences Building 12:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

12:30 p.m. - Registration in the Stone Lobby.

1:00 to 2:00 p.m. - Viewing and judging of posters.

All Talks in MSB 2173, adjacent to Stone Lobby.

2:00 p.m. - Visiting speaker: Dr. Sigrid Veasey, University of Pennsylvania.

Title: Mechanisms underlying neuronal injury and neuron loss following hypoxia in a murine model of sleep apnea.

Physiology Trainees:

3:00 p.m. - Patti Brooks, PhD candidate, (Dr. Peever's lab)
Title: Impaired GABAergic and Glycinergic Neurotransmission Induces a REM Sleep Behaviour Disorder Phenotype in Transgenic Mice.

3:20 p.m. - Jeff Dason, PhD candidate (Dr. Atwood's lab)
Title: The Role of Frequentin in Synaptic Transmission and Presynaptic Calcium Dynamics.

3:40 p.m. - Jeff Biernaskie, postdoc (Dr. F. Miller's lab)
Title: Skin-derived precursors: a source of myelinating cells for spinal cord injury.

4:00 p.m. - Presentation of poster awards in 2173.

4:15 p.m. - Reception in Stone Lobby

TWRI Research Day

TWRI Research Day is confirmed for **Wednesday, May 21, 2008**. This annual event celebrates both basic and clinical research.

Dr Brenda Milner will be Keynote Speaker at this event. Dr Milner is an esteemed cognitive neuroscientist at the Montreal Neurological Institute. Her research focuses on cognitive function in the frontal and temporal lobes of humans.

Please mark your calendars for May 21, 2008. Registration and abstract submission details will be sent early in the New Year.

OTHER NEUROSCIENCE NEWS

**Marine Biological Laboratory Courses 2008
Woods Hole, MA**

Marine Biological Laboratory courses provide a unique intensive laboratory-lecture experience in areas of modern biology. Students

receive instruction from leaders in the field and also have the opportunity to conduct a series of laboratory exercises/investigations using state-of-the-art equipment. Substantial financial aid is available to defray the cost of tuition.

In 2008, the NeuroStereology Workshop will be a special topics course at the Marine Biological Laboratory (MBL), Woods Hole, Massachusetts, from April 5 to April 10, 2008. The goal of the workshop is to teach a small group of research scientists how to design, supervise, and critically evaluate stereological studies of the nervous system. For more information, visit our web-site: www.neurostereology.info or e-mail ignitemg@mail.dk

The 2008 summer courses (application deadline February 1, 2008) include:

1) Neural Systems and Behavior – June 14-August 10
Directors: Paul Katz, Georgia State University and James Knierim, University of Texas Medical School, Houston.
Neural basis of behaviour from the cellular and synaptic levels to the analysis of complex systems.

2) Neurobiology – June 7-August 3
Director – Hollis Cline, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory.
Cellular and molecular neurobiology.

Please go to <http://www.mbl.edu/education> or contact Carol Hamel, Admissions Coordinator at 508-289-7401 or admissions@mbl.edu.

4-year PhD Programme in Pain Research: from Molecules to Perception

The London Pain Consortium* runs a PhD Programme in Pain Research, supported by the Wellcome Trust. The next intake of students will be in September 2008. Students will spend the first year taking neurobiology and bioinformatics courses and learning a wide range of neuroscience techniques by doing three-month projects. At the end of the first year, students choose a full research project in pain and a supervisor for the subsequent three years from Consortium and associated laboratories based at Kings College London, University College London and Imperial College London. All PhD projects will involve collaborations between at least two internationally competitive and well-funded laboratories and the topics cover the whole range of neuroscience related to pain mechanisms and their control: molecular biology, cellular mechanisms, integrated systems neuroscience and human neurophysiology. The emphasis of the programme is to integrate these four approaches so that students are equipped to undertake cutting edge research that can be translated into a better understanding and treatment of acute and chronic pain. The programme has been running for 5 years and the applicants will join a vibrant community of over 20 postgraduate and postdoctoral scientists who share resources and expertise and benefit from the wide range of opportunities within the Consortium.

Three PhD studentships, with a stipend starting at £19,508 will be available. These also pay fees, research costs to the laboratory and provide funds for travel to conferences or courses. Applicants should have, or expect to get, at least an upper 2nd class degree (or equivalent) in any area of biological sciences. Physical science

degrees with some biology components will also be acceptable. Non-UK applicants may apply.

Further information is available at www.lpc.ac.uk. To apply send by email a CV and statement of why you are interested in this PhD programme to Ms Vivien Cheah at vivien.cheah@kcl.ac.uk In addition, you must arrange for two referees to send references to the same address. Closing date 1st February 2008.

**Consortium members: A Dickenson, M Fitzgerald, S Hunt, M Koltzenburg, S McMahon, C Orengo, A Rice, J Wood
Equality of opportunity is College policy*

POSITIONS AVAILABLE

CANADA

FACULTY POSITION

**Cognitive Psychologist
The Rotman Research Institute at Baycrest Centre
(fully affiliated with the University of Toronto)**

The Rotman Research Institute of Baycrest Centre invites applications for a cognitive psychologist position. This is a full-time research position located at a geriatric centre in Toronto, with eligibility for cross-appointment at the Assistant or Associate Professor level at the University of Toronto. We are looking for a cognitive psychologist who has an interest in developing the theoretical bases underlying the study of memory, attention, perception and related processes, and who also has an interest in aging, neuropsychology, or cognitive neuroscience. The Rotman Research Institute focuses on behavioral and neuroimaging studies of memory, attention, and perception. Onsite ERP and neuroimaging facilities (MRI at 3T) are available. The candidate will develop and secure funding for an independent research program. The Rotman Research Institute welcomes applications from visible minority group members, women, Aboriginal persons, and persons with disabilities. All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply; however, Canadians and permanent residents will be given priority. Submit a covering letter describing current research interests and future research goals, a CV, up to 3 reprints and letters sent independently from 3 references to: Dr. Cheryl Grady, Chair Search Committee, The Rotman Research Institute at Baycrest Centre, 3560 Bathurst Street, Toronto, Ontario M6A 2E1. Email: cgrady@rotman-baycrest.on.ca

The search committee will begin reviewing applications in mid January and continue until the position is filled.

POSTDOCTORAL POSITIONS

**Postdoctoral Fellowships in Cognitive Neuroscience
Rotman Research Institute of Baycrest Center for Geriatric
Care**

The Rotman Research Institute of Baycrest Center for Geriatric Care is offering six two-year research fellowships in Cognitive Neuroscience. Fellows will have the opportunity to draw upon the expertise of faculty and staff from a multidisciplinary team in the areas of memory, cognitive aging, and neuropsychology. Techniques to be used include eyetracking, structural and functional neuroimaging (fMRI), evoked potentials, and magnetoencephalography. The projects will be carried out in the laboratories of Drs. Claude Alain, Fergus Craik and Lynn Hasher, Cheryl Grady, Simon Graham, Brian Levine or Jennifer Ryan. Starting dates are negotiable, but preferably by April, 2008. Fellowships are for two years, with the option of continuing for a third year. Dr. Levine's fellowship is a joint Rotman Research Institute/University of Toronto project, which will be co-supervised by Dr. Adam Anderson. Bursaries are in line with the fellowship scales of the Canadian Institutes of Health Research and include an allowance for travel and research expenses. Applicants should have a Ph.D., M.D. or equivalent degree.

The Rotman Research Institute encourages applications from qualified individuals, members of visible minorities, aboriginal peoples, and persons with disabilities. Applicants should submit a C.V. and relevant reprints, together with a cover letter describing current research interests and future research goals, and also arrange to have three letters of reference sent independently to: Dr. Jennifer Ryan, Rotman Research Institute, Baycrest Center for Geriatric Care, 3560 Bathurst Street, Toronto, Ontario, M6A 2E1, CANADA, Fax: (416) 785-2474. No electronic submissions please.

USA

POSTDOCTORAL POSITION

**Postdoctoral Position in Neuroimaging
University of California, San Diego**

Applications are invited for a position bridging the Department of Psychology and the MultiModal Imaging Laboratory, University of California, San Diego. The position is full-time for 2 years, working on a Grant entitled: "Longitudinal assessment of frontostriatal activation in patients with presymptomatic Huntington's disease", held by Dr Adam Aron, Dr Anders Dale, Dr Tom Liu and others at UCSD. The postholder will be responsible for scanning a series of subjects over two years, in conjunction with a research assistant, and for analyzing functional, structural, diffusion tensor and arterial spin labeling scans using state of the art tools.

Essential skills include a thorough knowledge of fMRI and/or structural MRI techniques, good organizational abilities, as well as the ability to work well in teams. While this position requires technical sophistication it is more suited for someone who is scientifically

interested in neurodegeneration and the relation to cognition, than someone with a strict methods orientation. The successful applicant will hold a PhD; however applications are also welcomed from current PhD students who will have submitted their dissertations by February 29th, 2008.

Salary will be in the range \$43,000 to \$47,000, depending on knowledge and experience, and will come with full health and other benefits at the University of California.

Please send applications (via e-mail) including covering letter, CV, the names and addresses of three referees, in one pdf file, to the Principal Investigator, Dr Adam Aron (adamaron[at]ucsd.edu). Also see www.aronlab.org for more information. The closing date for applications is December 31st 2007.