

NEUROSCIENCE NEWSLETTER

Volume 25 Number 6

February 2009

PROGRAM NEWS

NEWS FROM THE PIN OFFICE:

Dear PIN members:

Due to the creation of UTNP and the resulting reorganization here, I will be leaving my position in the Program as of February 12, 2009.

Over the past 10 years, I have enjoyed working with everyone very much and I send my best wishes for your future successes. As of February 12th, please send all of your correspondence to p.neuroscience@utoronto.ca and not to pat.reed@utoronto.ca.

Thank you,
Pat Reed

NEW PIN STUDENTS:

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

Student's Name	Degree	Supervisor	Department
Matthew Dubins	PhD	Laura-Ann Petitto	Psychology
Daniel Lee	MA	Adam Anderson	Psychology
Esther Lee	MSc	John Yeomans	CSB
Iska Moxon-Emre	MSc	Lyanne Schlichter	Physiology
Ryan Salewski	PhD	Michael Fehlings	IMS
Natalya Shulyakova	PhD	Linda Mills	Physiology

GRADUATING STUDENTS:

We would like to congratulate the following PIN graduates:

Student's Name	Degree	Supervisor	Department
Limor Avivi-Arber	PhD	Barry Sessle	Dentistry

Thesis title: "Face Motor Cortex Neuroplasticity Associated with Alterations in the Oral Environment of the Adult Rat"

Program Committee Members

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

UTNP/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>

Kevin Da Silva PhD JoAnne McLaurin Lab. Med. Path.

Thesis title: "Novel adjuvants for Alzheimer's Immunotherapy"

Jean Hum MSc Pascal van Lieshout Sp-Lang Path
Thesis title: "The relationship between diet and the severity of stuttering in people who stutter"

Vladyslav Kushnir MSc Usoa Busto Pharmacology
Thesis title: "Investigating Smoking Cue Salience in Individuals with Comorbid Nicotine Dependence and Major Depressive Disorder: An fMRI Study"

SPECIAL LECTURE

Special lecture jointly hosted by UTNP and the Krembil Neuroscience Centre:

Monday, March 2, 2009 5pm

BRANKO KOPJAR, University of Washington

"Application of Adaptive Statistical Design in Randomized Controlled Trials of Spine Surgery: Theoretical Background and Example from Practice"

Toronto Western Hospital, 399 Bathurst Street, Auditorium (West Wing, 2nd Floor, Rm 2W-401)

UPCOMING PIN DISTINGUISHED LECTURES

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

RESCHEDULED - Wednesday, February 25, 2009 1pm
MAIKEN NEDERGAARD, University of Rochester, Rochester, NY
"Astrocytes Alive!"
Medical Sciences Building, Rm 3153

Wednesday, March 25, 2009 Time: TBA
ERIC NESTLER, Mt. Sinai School of Medicine, New York, NY
Title: TBA
Location: TBA

The Eighth Sackler Distinguished Visiting Neuroscientist
Thursday, April 2, 2009 Time: TBA
ERWIN NEHER, Max Planck Institute, Göttingen Germany, 1991
Nobel Prize Winner In Physiology and Medicine
Title: TBA
Location: TBA

Thursday, April 16, 2009 Time: TBA
CHRIS McBAIN, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, MD
Title: TBA
Location: TBA

Thursday, May 7, 2009 Time: TBA
MAY-BRITT MOSER, Norwegian University of Science and
Technology, Trondheim, Norway
Title: TBA
Location: TBA

Wednesday, June 24, 2009 Time: TBA
BITA MOGHADDAM, University of Pittsburgh
Title: TBA
Location: TBA

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

Neurosciences & Mental Health (NMH) Research Program at The Hospital for Sick Children presents:

Nurturing the Developing Brain

Friday, February 6th, 2009
Hollywood Theatre (SickKids Auditorium)
Rm 1246 – Elm Wing, 555 University Ave

8:30 am – 8:55 am

Registration & Coffee in the Rotunda

8:55 am – 9:00 am

Welcome by Michael Salter, MD, PhD & Elizabeth Pang, PhD

9:00 am – 9:50 am

"Beyond early attachment: Issues in the design and dissemination of relationship building programs for parents of children and adolescents with mental health problems."

Charles E. Cunningham, PhD Psychologist, McMaster Children's Hospital, Offord Centre for Child Studies, Jack Laidlaw Chair & Professor, Department of Psychiatry & Behavioural Neurosciences, McMaster University, Hamilton

9:50 am – 10:20 am

"Maternal early adversity and the parenting of siblings: shared and non-shared risks in development"

Jennifer Jenkins, PhD, CPsych Human Development & Applied Psychology, OISE, University of Toronto

10:20 am – 10:40 am

Coffee Break in the Rotunda

10:40 am – 11:10 am

"Infant-caregiver attachment and later behaviour problems: A review and meta-analysis."

Sheri Madigan, PhD Neurosciences & Mental Health

11:10 am – 11:40 am

"Current parenting stress moderates maternal maltreatment history to influence cortisol reactivity in the infant."

Leslie Atkinson, PhD Department of Psychology, Ryerson University, Toronto

11:40 am – 12:30 pm

"Maternal programming of neuroendocrine systems through epigenetic mechanisms."

Michael J. Meaney, PhD, CQ, FRSC Associate Director, Douglas Institute Research Centre, James McGill Professor, Depts of

Psychiatry & Neurology/Neurosurgery, Director, Program for Study of Behaviour, Genes & Environment, McGill University, Montreal

12:30 pm – 1:30 pm

Lunch in the Garden Terrace, Atrium, The Hospital for Sick Children

Please contact Sharon Quilop to RSVP by February 3rd, 2009
Phone: (416) 813-5756 Email: nmh.events@sickkids.ca

The Ottawa Institute of Systems Biology, University of Ottawa And The National Research Council of Canada Present:

**Progress in Systems Biology Symposium
"The Brain and Mind"**

April 23-24, 2009

Location: National Research Council of Canada, 100 Sussex Drive, Ottawa, Canada

Keynote Speakers:

Dr. Seth Grant
Wellcome Trust Sanger Institute, Cambridge, England

Dr. Hanfa Zou
National Chromatographic R&A Center, Dalian, China

Dr. Arturas Petronis
University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada

Dr. Alexandra Golby
Harvard Medical School, Boston, USA

Dr. Frank Sharp
University of California, Davis, USA

Dr. Freda Miller
University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada

Early Bird Registration Deadline and Poster Submission: March 1, 2009

For more information and to register, please visit: www.oisb.ca

Contact information: sysbio@uottawa.ca or phone (613) 562-5800 ext. 8073

Announcing the 2009 Wisconsin Symposium on Emotion

"Adolescence, Brain Plasticity and Psychopathology"

April 23-24, 2009

Monona Terrace, Madison WI

Please see www.healthemotions.org/symposium for more information and to register.

XXXIst International Symposium of the GRSNC

"Breathe, Walk and Chew – The neural challenge"

May 4-5, 2009

Université de Montréal

We are pleased to announce that the XXXIst International Symposium of the Groupe de recherche sur le système nerveux central, entitled "Breathe, Walk and Chew – The neural challenge" will be held on May 4-5, 2009 at Pavillon 3200 Jean-Brillant, Room B-2245 at the Université de Montréal.

The symposium is organized by Dr Arlette Kolta, Dr Réjean Dubuc and Dr Jean-Pierre Gossard. This will be a symposium on the neuronal mechanisms, circuits and networks underlying genesis of three rhythmic movements in vertebrates: mastication, respiration and locomotion. The symposium will focus on recent developments made at three levels of investigation:

- 1) The molecular and genetic factors determining the functional organization of the circuits controlling these three movements;
- 2) The ionic and neuronal mechanisms responsible for rhythmogenesis in these circuits;
- 3) The control and modulation of the circuits by descending inputs and sensory information.

The last session will present retrospective and future perspectives of the work of Serge Rossignol, James P. Lund, and Jack Feldman all three pioneers in their own field, locomotion, mastication and respiration respectively.

Registration is now open. Please visit <http://www.grsnc.umontreal.ca/31s/> for information.

The poster is available at http://www.grsnc.umontreal.ca/31s/31s_poster.pdf

Submissions are invited for a limited number of poster presentations. A selection will be made from the submitted abstracts. Deadline for poster submissions: Tuesday, March 31, 2009.

POSITIONS AVAILABLE

**UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO AND
AFFILIATED INSTITUTIONS**

**RESEARCH TECHNICIAN OR
RESEARCH ASSOCIATE POSITION**

**Position open - February 2009
University of Toronto**

Molecular biologist or biochemist research technician (M.Sc. degree), or Research Associate (Ph.D. degree) wanted for a position in a neurobiology/molecular pharmacology research laboratory at

the University of Toronto. This position requires someone with expertise in molecular biology and biochemical (protein) techniques with at least 1 year experience (post degree). Expertise in DNA cloning and manipulation including PCR is required. Experience with cell culture, protein purification, radioligand binding techniques, and/or working with mutant mice is also desirable. Previous experience in organizing and running a research laboratory is a plus. Salary range = \$45-60K depending on qualifications. Please refer to JOB #9 and send CV to: sam.dalfonso@utoronto.ca.

POSTDOCTORAL POSITION

Postdoctoral Fellow Spinal Cord Injury Rehabilitation (Canada)
Rehabilitation Engineering Laboratory, Toronto
Rehabilitation Institute and Restorative Motor Control Laboratory, Department of Physical Therapy, University of Toronto, Toronto Canada

Prof. Molly Verrier is an Associate Professor in the Department of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science at the University of Toronto www.physicaltherapy.utoronto.ca and Senior Scientist at the Spinal Cord Injury Lyndhurst Centre of the Toronto Rehabilitation Institute (Toronto Rehab) www.torontorehab.on.ca. Dr Milos Popovic is a Professor in the Institute of Biomaterials and Biomedical Engineering at the University of Toronto and the Toronto Rehab Chair in Spinal Cord Injury Research www.toronto-fes.ca.

Description: One postdoctoral position for two to three years is available in the Rehabilitation Engineering Laboratory, Lyndhurst Centre and the Restorative Motor Control Laboratory, Rehabilitative Sciences, University of Toronto. The position will involve examining components of restorative motor control including recovery and response to new interventions in spinal cord injury (SCI), in clinical studies. The applicant will be required to have a PhD as well as experience in Neurorehabilitation and/or Rehabilitation Engineering.

Requirements: A PhD is required along with excellent research training. An understanding of rehabilitation and SCI will be considered a definite advantage. The candidate must also be committed to developing funded research projects that involve graduate students and apply for post doctoral funding during the course of the award. As well candidates should consider current funding opportunities available from the Ontario Neurotrauma Foundation SCI - 2009 Graduate and Post-doctoral Fellowship Awards www.onf.org.

Environment: Important clinical resources include; inpatient and outpatient SCI population, a specialized SCI neurorehabilitation program, a clinical SCI data base as well as neurophysiology laboratories for electrophysiological, kinematic, kinetic, upper limb, locomotion and postural control testing. Physical therapy, physiatry, rehabilitation engineering and occupational therapy are all strong services, each linked to the University of Toronto an exemplary designated teaching-training location. The spinal cord rehabilitation research program has a group of distinguished SCI scientists funded from Canadian Institute of Health Research, Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada, the Ontario Neurotrauma

Foundation, Heart and Stroke Foundation, Christopher and Dana Reeve Foundation, The Physicians' Services Incorporated Foundation and the SCI-Solutions Network. The environment is one of enquiry in association with other investigators, Clinical Fellows, postdoctoral fellows, Master's and PhD students from Canada and abroad. Presently the team has 14 principal investigators and more than 70 team members. More information about the present activities of the group can be found at www.toronto-fes.ca and www.torontorehab.on.ca/research/index.htm

Application: Send (email preferred) CV and brief statements about your research interests to:

Molly Verrier, Associate Professor, Department of Physical Therapy
160-500 University Avenue Toronto, Ontario M5G 1V7 Tel: (416) 978-5935 Fax (416)946-8643 m.verrier@utoronto.ca

OVERSEAS

POSTDOCTORAL POSITIONS

Sydney, Australia

3 Post doctoral Positions Available

- Mathematical Modeling
- Cell Biology
- **Cellular Electrophysiology**

Applications are invited for three Post-doctoral Research Scientists to join the Mark Cowley Lidwill Research Program in Cardiac Electrophysiology at the VCCRI and to work on the biology of hERG K⁺ channels and genotype-phenotype relationships in Long QT syndrome type 2.

Please refer to our website www.victorchang.edu.au for further details on the institute and the positions available.

Applicants should send a curriculum vitae and the names of three referees to:

Ms Carla Northam, HR Manager,
Victor Chang Cardiac Research Institute,
405 Liverpool Street, Darlinghurst, Sydney, NSW 2010, Australia.
Or Email: c.northam@victorchang.edu.au

SUMMER POSITION WANTED

My name is **Graham Mazereeuw** and I am a 3rd year Integrated Science student at Carleton University. I am really keen to continue with research over the summer and, more specifically, I would like to continue my research in neuroscience. Currently, I am working on my Honours Thesis at the Department of Neuroscience with Dr. Holahan where I study levels of hippocampal BDNF gene expression in rats after acute noise stress. I hope to further my research experience with a volunteer position at the Institute of Mental Health Research at the Royal Ottawa Hospital in the coming

weeks, and eventually apply to medical school. I am open to any type of research position and I am certainly willing to experience any new area of study. If I seem like a good fit for your lab, please contact me anytime at: gmazeree@connect.carleton.ca or 613-697-8036.