

NEUROSCIENCE NEWSLETTER

Volume 25

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April 2009

PROGRAM NEWS

NEWS FROM THE UTNP OFFICE:

The new address for the UTNP office is Rm 904, Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy, 144 College St. Toronto ON M5S 3M2. The new contact phone number is 416 978 8761 and fax number is 416 978 8511.

We will also be transitioning to a new UTNP website: www.neuroscience.utoronto.ca. The previous site will redirect to the new site automatically. We welcome your comments and feedback on the new website.

NEW PIN STUDENTS:

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

Student Name	Degree	Supervisor	Department
Tom Lu	MSc	Zhong-Ping Feng	Physiology
Marq-André Dubord	MSc	Richard Horner	IMS
Liis Lindvere	MSc	Bojana Stefanovic	Med. Biophysics

GRADUATING STUDENTS:

We would like to congratulate the following PIN graduates:

Student's Name	Degree	Supervisor	Department
Caroline Ko	PhD	Martin Ralph	Psychology
<u>Thesis title:</u> "Functional organization of central and peripheral circadian oscillators in mammals"			
Luka Srejc	MSc	William Hutchison	Physiology
<u>Thesis title:</u> "An in vivo neurophysiological model of cortical ischemia in the rat"			
Sabiha Gardezi	MSc	Elise Stanley	Physiology
<u>Thesis title:</u> "Analysis of the Cav2.2-PDLIM5-PKCε Protein Complex and the Role of PDLIM5 Protein at the Presynaptic Nerve Terminal"			

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.

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e-mail: p.neuroscience@utoronto.ca.
www.neuroscience.utoronto.ca

UTNP CAN-2009 TRAVEL AWARDS

The UTNP will be able to support six students presenting at the 3rd Annual Canadian Neuroscience Meeting in Vancouver on May 24-27, 2009 with an amount of \$500 CDN each.

To apply, download the [entry form](#) here, complete and email to p.neuroscience@utoronto.ca with subject line UTNP CAN-2009 student travel award.

Deadline for submission:

April 10, or 10 days after notification from CAN (expected by the end of March) indicating whether or not your abstract has been accepted for presentation.

Winners will be announced by May 1st.

PIN Poster Day

PIN Poster Day 2009 will be **April 16, 2009** in the Stone Lobby, Medical Sciences Building. **Abstract submission deadline is April 1st 2009.** Directions for abstracts and further details can be found on the [UNTP website](#).

BRAIN BEE 2009

The UTNP hosted the 11th annual neuroscience competition for high school students during the afternoon of Friday, March 27, 2009. Twenty-six students from 10 different Toronto secondary schools took part in this oral competition modeled after a "spelling bee". The first place winner was Sean Amodeo from the York Memorial Collegiate Institute. Second place went to Jason Kwok, and third place to Josh Budman, both from University of Toronto Schools.



UofT Brain Bee 2009 Winners (l to r) Josh Budman (3rd), Sean Amodeo (1st), Jason Kwok (2nd) with organizers (back row) Drs. Eve DeRosa, Jonathan Dostrovsky

The winner of our local contest, Sean Amodeo, will take part in the Second Annual CIHR Canadian National Brain Bee competition (www.brainbee.ca) which will take place at McMaster University in Hamilton on May 29-30, 2009 where the winners from other local University-sponsored competitions in Canada will be participating. The winner of the Canadian Brain Bee will then compete at the International Brain Bee Competition (www.internationalbrainbee.com) which will be held in association with the American Psychological Association's Convention in Toronto, Canada August 7th-9th, 2009. In the 10 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, past-Director of PIN with the help of PIN faculty member Dr. Eve DeRosa. Many thanks go to PIN graduate students Massieh Moayed (IMS), Javeria Hashmi (IMS), Danielle Desouza (Rehabilitation Science), Beverly Francis (Physiology), Kuang Da Zhu (Psychology), Eric Tsang (IMS), Andree Cyr (Psychology), Kathleen Mak-Fan (Psychology), Vishanthan Sivagnanam (Physiology) and Leigh Botly (Psychology) for assisting with the Bee. Special thanks to Massieh Moayed, Eric Tsang and Danielle DeSouza for giving presentations on their research. Finally, a very special thanks goes to Dr. Michael Fehlings, Director of UTNP, for his welcoming remarks for the Brain Bee.

UPCOMING UTNP DISTINGUISHED LECTURES

Please check www.neuroscience.utoronto.ca for updates.

The Eighth Sackler Distinguished Visiting Neuroscientist

Thursday, April 2, 2009 2pm

ERWIN NEHER, Max Planck Institute, Göttingen Germany, 1991 Nobel Prize Winner In Physiology and Medicine
"Ca⁺⁺ signals and short-term synaptic plasticity in the central nervous system"

Medical Sciences Building, Rm 3153

Host: Lu-Yang Wang

PIN POSTER DAY - Medical Sciences Building, Stone Lobby

Thursday, April 16, 2009 Time: 2pm

CHRIS McBAIN, National Institutes of Health

Eunice Kennedy Shriver

National Institute of Child Health and Human Development

Program in Developmental Neuroscience

Bethesda, Maryland USA

Title: "mGluR7, a bidirectional switch controlling plasticity in a hippocampal feedforward inhibitory circuit"

Location: MSB 3154

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.

FACULTY NEWS

Congratulations to Sheena Josselyn and Paul Frankland. Their paper "[The precision of remote context memories does not require the hippocampus](#)" was recently published in Nature Neuroscience.

Readmore:

<http://www.cbc.ca/health/story/2009/03/13/fear.html>

<http://www.thestar.com/sciencetech/article/601208>

Congratulations also go to Drs. Josselyn and Frankland on the arrival of their new baby girl (Charlotte) on March 10th.

OTHER U of T NEUROSCIENCE NEWS

Wednesday, April 1, 2009 12:10pm

EBBINGHAUS EMPIRE MEETING

Dept. of Psychology

NASEEMAL-AIDROOS (UofT- St. George) PART I

STEPHEN EMRICH (UofT – St. George) PART II

"Interactions between working memory and visual attention"

Room 3130, third floor,

Sidney Smith Bldg., 100 St. George Street

Wednesday, April 1, 2009 4pm

UTERP talk at the Hospital for Sick Children

AMEER TAHA, Ph.D. candidate. Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology, University of Toronto

"Anticonvulsant properties of N-3 polyunsaturated fatty acids (PUFAS)"

Room 6711, Atrium

Thursday, April 2, 2009 12pm

CAMH Neuroscience Research Seminar

YAVIN SHAHAM, PhD Section Chief, Neurobiology of Relapse Behavioural Neuroscience Research Branch, Intramural Research Program (IRP), National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA)

"Incubation of drug craving and fear conditioning: behavioural and neuronal mechanisms"

250 College Street, Auditorium (Room G58)

Friday, April 3, 2009 12pm

ERWIN NEHER, Max Planck Institute, Göttingen Germany, 1991 Nobel Prize Winner in Physiology and Medicine

"Spectral FRET-analysis and the separation of multiple fluorescence labels"

SickKids Auditorium (Hollywood Theatre)

Host: Lu-Yang Wang

Friday, April 3, 2009 2pm

PETER SHIROMANI, Medical School, Harvard University

"Orexin Gene Therapy for the Sleep Disorder Narcolepsy"

Ramsay Wright Building, Room 432

Host: Prof. John Peever

Monday, April 6, 2009 3:30pm

Rotman Rounds

LILY RIGGS, Graduate Student, Rotman Research Institute

"This is an AMAZING talk: Assessment of emotion-modulated viewing and memory of neutral information"

Classroom 842, 8th floor, Brain Health Complex

MS Journal Club

DR. SHANNON DUNN will be presenting an overview of the different mouse models of multiple sclerosis and discuss their limitations and advantages. A recent paper that appeared in "Immunity" describes how one of these models is being used to understand the initiation of MS will be discussed.

When: Wed April 8th, 5-6pm

Where: Sick Kids, 6th floor (Atrium) Room 6711**

Who: All graduate students, scientists, & clinicians with an MS research interest.

**From Elizabeth St. entrance, take main elevators to 6th floor. Follow signs towards 6D. Room 6711 will be on your right as you head toward the Neurology Desk.

THE 2009 JULIUSZ, DOROTA AND ZOFIA (ZOSIA) FRIST MEMORIAL PRIZE IN NEUROPSYCHO-PHARMACOLOGY

Three FRIST PRIZES will be given on April 22nd, 2009. These prizes will be awarded this year to young scientists under the age of 35 years. Each individual must be an author or major

co-author of an outstanding published paper in neuropsychopharmacology (including neurotransmitter or receptor research) while a student or Postdoctoral Fellow at the U of T. Each prize of \$1,500 was endowed by Dr. Karolina Jus in memory of her parents, Dr. Juliusz and Dorota Frist, and her only sister, Zosia Frist, victims of the Holocaust. This family history is described in the book "Our Journey in The Valley of Tears" by Andrzej & Karolina Jus (U of T Press, 1991). The prize (or prizes) and a copy of the book are awarded annually on April 22nd. (Additional funds for travel are not provided.) The selection of the awardee is made by a three-person committee chaired by a Professor specializing in neurotransmitter and neuroreceptor research who has an appointment in the University Department of Psychiatry.

Previous awardees were: R. Sunahara, G. Ng, S. Kapur, Z. Jia, J. Elmhurst, S. Lee, A. Wong, C. Dockstader, P. Park, A.-C. Bedard, D. Kuang, S.J. Clapcote, and A.J. Rashid.

Please send nomination before 5 PM, April 3, 2009, by e-mail attaching curriculum vitae (as pdf) and one copy (as pdf) of the published paper to:

Dr. Philip Seeman, (Philip.Seeman@utoronto.ca),

Frist Memorial Prize Committee Chair, University of Toronto.

OTHER NEUROSCIENCE NEWS

WATERLOO BRAIN DAY

The Waterloo Centre for Theoretical Neuroscience is proud to announce our third annual Waterloo Brain Day. It will be held in PAS 2083 on **Mon. April 6th** at U of Waterloo.

For further information, see

<http://ctn.uwaterloo.ca/brainday.html>

SONA ANNUAL MEETING

Mark your calendars - the annual meeting of Southern Ontario Neuroscience Association (SONA) will be held on **Friday, May 8, 2009** at McMaster University.

Abstract Receipt Deadline – April 15, 2009

Call for abstracts:

<http://www.utoronto.ca/neurosci/sona/2009/abstracts.pdf>

Registration form:

<http://www.utoronto.ca/neurosci/sona/2009/regform.pdf>

Preliminary Program:

<http://www.utoronto.ca/neurosci/sona/2009/prelimprogram.pdf>

Contact: sona@mcmaster.ca

TWRI RESEARCH DAY

TWRI Research Day will be held **Wednesday, May 13, 2009** at 89 Chestnut.

This annual event showcases both basic and clinical research. Our keynote speaker will be Dr. David Linden, Professor of Neuroscience, Johns Hopkins University.

TWRI investigators, trainees and staff and TWH clinical researchers may attend. There is no fee but you must register in advance.

Contact:

Crystal Leverman

TWRI Business Administrator

Project Manager
University Health Network
tel: 416-603-5873
e-mail: crystal.leverman@uhnresearch.ca

3RD ANNUAL CANADIAN NEUROSCIENCE MEETING
May 24-27, 2009

Vancouver, British Columbia
Westin Bayshore Hotel
Meeting Program is available at
www.can-acn2009.org/program.htm

The Canadian Association for Neuroscience (CAN) invites submission of abstracts for Poster presentation.

All abstract submissions must be made through the online system available on the meeting website at <http://www.can-acn2009.org>.

No late submissions will be accepted.

Trainees who are members of CAN may apply for support to attend the Meeting by completing the forms at www.can-acn.net and sending the completed forms to Dr. Peter Smith at peter.a.smith@ualberta.ca. Deadline May 1, 2009

Hotel registration must be completed by April 11, 2009 to obtain the discounted hotel rate.

<http://www.starwoodmeeting.com/StarGroupsWeb/res?id=0812223627&key=18130>

INTERNATIONAL MIND, BRAIN, AND EDUCATION SOCIETY (IMBES)

The second biennial International Mind, Brain, and Education Society (IMBES) conference held in Philadelphia, PA brings researchers and educators together to offer insights into behavior and the brain for educational practice and new scientific investigations. Conference dates: **May 28-30**.

Further information: <http://www.imbes.org/>

FRONTIERS IN NEUROPHOTONICS

An international summer school on advanced cell live imaging techniques

June 1-10, 2009

Quebec City

Frontiers in Neurophotonics will combine tutorials given by experts in photonics and neuroscience and hands-on experiments involving advanced optical approaches to measure, manipulate and follow molecular events in living neuronal cells. See attached flyer and visit

www.neurophotonics.ca for more information and to apply (deadline April 10).

IBNS June 2009

The International Behavioral Neuroscience Society (IBNS) meeting will be held **June 9-14, 2009** at the Wyndham Grand Bay, Isla Navidad Resort Manzanillo, Mexico.

Please visit www.ibnshomepage.org or contact the IBNS Central Office at ibns@ibnshomepage.org for further information

BRAIN'09 & BRAINPET'09

Early Registration Extended until April 1, 2009

Brain'09 & BrainPET'09, set for Chicago, **June 29 -July 3, 2009**, is a crucial meeting for brain professionals and leading experts devoted to expanding their knowledge and advancing education, research, and treatments in fields such as cerebrovascular regulation, brain imaging, ischemia/stroke, neurotrauma, and brain protection.

Tel: +41 22 908 0488

Fax: +41 22 732 2850

Email: brain@kenes.com

Website: <http://www.kenes.com/brain/>

INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM - BRAIN INJURY IN CHILDREN

The Hospital for Sick Children continues to play a leadership role in enhancing the assessment and management of brain injury in children not only at the hospital, but in the international community as well. In order to continue to heighten awareness and educate health care professionals worldwide on issues in paediatric brain injury, the SickKids Centre for Brain & Behaviour is planning a three day International Symposium July 8-10, 2009 at the Four Seasons Hotel, Toronto called Brain Injury in Children. The [conference agenda and registration](#) are available online.

THE 40TH ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF PSYCHONEUROENDOCRINOLOGY (ISPNE) CONFERENCE

Modern Psychoneuroendocrinology: Interactions with Genes, Health, and Longevity

July 23-26, 2009

San Francisco, CA

We are currently accepting abstract submissions for symposia and free communications on all topics relevant to psychoneuroendocrinology. In keeping with the special theme of the meeting, emphasis will be placed on hormonal interactions with genetics, epigenetics and the effects of stress on health and longevity. Submissions can be made at www.ispne.org/conference and the deadline to submit is April 30th.

This program, jointly sponsored by ISPNE and the University of California, San Francisco School of Medicine, provides an opportunity to learn and discuss the latest scientific developments relevant to genetic and developmental/environmental contributions to hormonal physiology and mental and physical health.

Please feel free to contact the Conference Organizer, Ms. Lovdy Hamm (meetings@ispne.org or 512-215-4831), should you need additional information, flyers or brochures, in either print or electronic formats, and she will provide you with the materials as soon as possible.

SOCIETY FOR NEUROSCIENCE MEETING 2009

Mark your calendar for Neuroscience 2009, **October 17-21**. View the exciting learning opportunities, professional development, and special events that made Neuroscience 2008 a great success! Don't miss all that Neuroscience 2009 in Chicago, IL has to offer.

Abstract submission opens April 23

Further information can be found on the Neuroscience 2009 website: <http://www.sfn.org/am2009/>

WFN 2009 - PARKINSON'S DISEASE CONGRESS

WFN XVIII World Congress on Parkinson's Disease and Related Disorders will be held in Miami Beach, Florida, **December 13-16, 2009**.

Keynote lectures will be delivered by distinguished international faculty, while a large number of selected free communications will report new data from clinical centers and basic research laboratories around the globe.

The deadline for the submission of abstracts to the Congress is May 18, 2009.

Further information can be found on the Congress website: <http://www.kenes.com/parkinson>

POSITIONS AVAILABLE CANADA

POST-DOC OPPORTUNITY - ALBERTA HERITAGE FOUNDATION FOR MEDICAL RESEARCH (AHFMR)

Applications are invited for a post-doctoral fellowship opportunity in the field of adult brain stem cells.

The Alberta Heritage Foundation for Medical Research (AHFMR) is proud to present the 2008 AHFMR Sam Weiss Fellowship Award.

This award provides an opportunity for a highly qualified post-doctoral trainee to work under the supervision of 2008 Gairdner Award recipient, Dr. Samuel Weiss.

This is a one year award with potential for renewal of up to 3 years. The successful candidate will receive a stipend of \$50,000 per annum plus a \$3,000 research allowance. The fellowship will be held at the Hotchkiss Brain Institute (HBI), University of Calgary. The successful applicant will participate in multi-disciplinary research in the Weiss lab, in either: (1) The function of new neurons in the formation of social memories in the adult mouse brain, or (2) The cellular and molecular biology of human brain tumour stem cells and the development of novel, experimental therapeutics for glioblastoma.

Interested candidates should submit a cover letter indicating their research interests, a copy of their Curriculum Vitae, representative publications, and the names of three references. This package should be sent to:

Hotchkiss Brain Institute
Dr. Samuel Weiss
HRIC 1A10
3330 Hospital Dr. NW.
Calgary, AB. T2N 4N1

The deadline for application is April 15, 2009

FULL-TIME TENURE/TENURE TRACK POSITIONS – UBC DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHIATRY

The UBC Department of Psychiatry is recruiting for up to two (2) full-time faculty positions at the rank of Assistant or Associate Professor. These clinician or basic scientist positions will be aligned with the Department's strategic priorities to increase our commitment to clinical and basic research; enhance clinical care through translation of science into practice; enhance our educational programs and build capacity to develop exceptional

teachers; build and grow our commitment to our community and our partners. We expect that one position will be appointed in the Basic Neuroscience Division and one position will be appointed in the Clinical and Behavioural Neuroscience Division in one of the clinical programs.

The successful candidates must have the appropriate qualifications (PhD and/or MD). Clinician scientist applicants must be certified by the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada as a Psychiatrist or be eligible for RCPSC Academic Certification in Psychiatry upon appointment

Candidates will be appointed to a tenure or tenure track position with an application deadline of May 31, 2009. Salary and rank will be commensurate with qualifications and experience and are subject to final University and budgetary approval.

Opportunities within the Provincial Health Services Authority or Vancouver Coastal Health Authority to participate in clinical care activities are possible and encouraged.

UBC hires on the basis of merit and is committed to employment equity. We encourage all qualified persons to apply. However, Canadians and permanent residents of Canada will be given priority.

Applications should include curriculum vitae, a letter identifying the position of interest that includes a description of research interests and plans, evidence of teaching effectiveness and three letters of reference.

Application materials should be sent to:

Dr. L. Trevor Young, Professor and Head
c/o Janie McCallum
Department of Psychiatry
Detwiller Pavilion, Room 2C1
2255 Wesbrook Mall
Vancouver, B.C. V6T 2A1
Phone: 604-822-7310
E-mail: janie.mccallum@ubc.ca

INTERNATIONAL

TWO ENDOWED PROFESSORSHIPS IN CELLULAR/MOLECULAR NEUROSCIENCE

Indiana University – Bloomington and The Linda and Jack Gill Center for Biomolecular Science seek two outstanding senior-level molecular or cellular neuroscientists to join the Gill Center (www.indiana.edu/~gillctr/) as two of five endowed chairs. One position is for the director of the Gill Center. These positions offer attractive salary and start-up packages, a generous annual endowment, and access to significant core facilities. The Gill Center will be moving to a newly completed laboratory building in the fall of 2009. We specifically seek individuals with records of outstanding research contributions, proven ability to secure sustained extramural funding, expertise in state-of-the art molecular and cellular neuroscience techniques, and demonstrated leadership in their chosen field. A PhD and/or MD in a relevant discipline is required. The Gill Center was established by a generous gift from Linda and Jack Gill with a mission to address important neuroscience questions using

cutting edge technology. Questions about the position can be directed to the interim director of the Gill Center, Ken Mackie (kmackie@indiana.edu). Applicants should electronically submit dossiers, including a curriculum vita, a statement of research accomplishments and future plans, representative publications, and the names of six references to Misty Theodore (gillctr@indiana.edu). Postal address: Ken Mackie, c/o Misty Theodore, Gill Center, Indiana University, 1101 East 10th Street, Bloomington, IN, 47405-7007. Applications will be reviewed until the positions are filled. Indiana University is an Affirmative Action Employer. Applications from women and minority candidates are especially encouraged.

FUNDING ANNOUNCEMENTS

AMERICAN EPILEPSY SOCIETY (AES) : RESEARCH INITIATIVE AWARDS.

The AES has established a novel grant opportunity for its membership that will provide seed support to encourage innovative, collaborative basic or clinical research associated with the epilepsy field. The objective of these awards is to encourage established investigators to think "outside the box" and involve other established investigators who may not now be working in the field of epilepsy. The AES has also announced their [Research Infrastructure Awards](#) to provide an opportunity for scientists to obtain support for nationwide or international networks of clinical or basic science researchers focused on understanding the causes, consequences and treatment of epilepsy.

Deadline for Letters of Intent: August 24, 2009.



SUBMISSION & CONTACT INFORMATION

Email: p.neuroscience@utoronto.ca

Fax: 416-978-8511 Attn: Frazer Howard

Submissions to the newsletter must be made by the 25th of the preceding month.

Previous issues of the newsletter are posted on our website at: <http://neuroscience.utoronto.ca/news/newsletter.htm>

If you no longer would like to receive this newsletter, please contact p.neuroscience@utoronto.ca with subject line "unsubscribe from UTNP Newsletter"