



University of Toronto Neuroscience Program Newsletter
Summer 2011 | Volume 27 | Number 11

UPCOMING DISTINGUISHED LECTURESHIP SERIES 2011-2012

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 12TH, 2011



Speaker | Dr. Gail Mandel, Senior Scientist at the Vollum Institute and Professor in the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology in the School of Medicine at Oregon Health Sciences University.
Topic | **The rise and fall of REST: Creating a nervous system**

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 26TH, 2011



Speaker | Dr. Nicholas P. Franks, Professor of Biophysics and Anaesthetics, Head of Division of Cell and Molecular Biology, Head of Biophysics Section, Blackett Laboratory, Imperial College London
UTNP Host | Dr. Richard L. Horner, PhD
Topic | TBA

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 3RD, 2011



Speaker | Dr. Richard Morris, Centre for Cognitive and Neural Systems, University of Edinburgh, UK
Topic | TBA

MONDAY, DECEMBER 12TH, 2011



Speaker | Dr. Michael E. Goldberg
David Mahoney Professor of Brain and Behavior, Director of The Mahoney Center at Columbia University (New York)
Topic | TBA

TUESDAY, APRIL 24TH, 2012



Speaker | Dr. Keith Cicerone
Director of Neuropsychology, JFK Johnson Rehabilitation Institute & New Jersey Neuroscience Institute, JFK Medical Center, New Jersey
UTNP Host | Dr. Deirdre Dawson
Topic | Process and outcome of holistic neuropsychological rehabilitation

CPIN Students must attend 75% of the Lectureship Series each year according to their program (Masters or PhD) requirement.

UTNP Administration



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PhD STUDENTS – IMPORTANT REMINDER

For PhD students who registered for the Collaborative Program in Neuroscience Fall 2010 or later, you must complete one (1) full **core** course in order to fulfill the program requirements. The list to select your core course can be found on the website at:

<http://neuroscience.utoronto.ca/students/requirements/phase-required-courses.htm>

NEW CPIN GRADUATES

Congratulations to the recent graduates of the Collaborative Program in Neuroscience. We wish you all the very best in your future endeavours and thank you for being a part of the neuroscience community at UofT.

Yuwen Hung, PhD., Psychology (Supervisor: Margot Taylor)

Krista Rudy, MSc., Speech-Language pathology (Supervisor: Yana Yunusova)

Sarah Marie Wheeler, PhD., Psychology (Supervisor: Joanne Rovet)

Karen Ann Willoughby, PhD., Psychology (Supervisor: Joanne Rovet)



RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO BORROW

The CPIN Program Office now has DVDs with neuroscience educational material available for our students to loan out on a short-term basis. Currently available are: "The Human Body: How we fail, How we heal," "Philosophy of the mind," and "Understanding the brain."

For more information contact the Program Office at p.neuroscience@utoronto.ca or 416.978.8761

OTHER NEWS:

2011 BRAIN BEE COMPETITION



International Brain Bee 2011
Soohyun Park, a local Toronto high school student from University of Toronto Schools represented Canada in the International Brain Bee

Competition in Florence, Italy, July 16, 2011. One of 12 other students from around the world, Soohyun performed courageously. And the winner was Thanh-Liem Huynh-Tran of United States.

The 13th Annual Toronto Brain Bee competition took place at the Medical Sciences Building, on March 25, 2011. There were a record 62 students from 16 high schools in the Toronto area who participated in the competition.

Following three rounds of questions, the top three winners were:

First place: Soohyun Park from University of Toronto Schools
Second place: Jessica Zung from University of Toronto Schools
Third place: David Kim from Sinclair Secondary School

Soohyun represented Toronto at the 4th Annual CIHR Canadian National Brain Bee competition (www.brainbee.ca), at McMaster University in Hamilton on May 28, 2011.

The 2011 Brain Bee competition was sponsored by the University of Toronto Neuroscience Program, the Department of Physiology and the Firefly Foundation. The students were welcomed by Professor Jonathan Dostrovsky (on behalf of UTNP), Professor Stephen Matthews (Chair, Department of Physiology) and Ms Sharon Zillmer (Program Manager, Firefly Foundation).

The event was organized by the following 6 faculty members and 22 graduate students.



The UTNP thanks the following faculty members: Drs. Zhong-Ping Feng (Physiology,

Toronto Brain Bee coordinator), Jonathan Dostrovsky (Physiology, past-Toronto Brain Bee coordinator), Isabelle Aubert (Laboratory Medicine and Pathology), Morgan Barense (Psychology), Michelle Arnot (Pharmacology), and Hong-Shuo Sun (Anatomy, Surgery/Physiology).

The UTNP also thanks the following graduate students: Mila Aleksic (Prep Course coordinator), Sakina.Rizvi (Prep Course coordinator), Tom Lu, Jason Lam, Christine Bae, Yi Quan, Amanda Gao, Shira Rosenzweig, Nasrin Nejatbakhsh, Jessica Jordao, Ewelina Maliszewska-Cyna, Paul Nagy, Emmanuel Thevenot, Meghan Sauve, Meredith Kuipers, Massimo Tarulli, Brooke Acton, Aimee Caron, Emma Duerden, Joanna Soczynska, Kathy Li, and Andrew Barszczyk.



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U OF T NEUROSCIENCE EVENTS AND SEMINARS

FRIDAY, JULY 22, 2011

Time | 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Topic | Lysosome-related organelle biogenesis: What do pigment cells, platelets and dendritic cells have in common?
Location | Rm. 1527, Hill Wing, The Hospital for Sick Children
Speaker | Dr. Michael S. Marks, Depts. Of Pathology & lab Medicine & Physiology
Host | Dr. Sergio Grinstein

FRIDAY, JULY 29, 2011

Time | 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Topic | TOR Signalling and autophagy in Drosophila
Location | Rm. 1527, Hill Wing, The Hospital for Sick Children
Speaker | Dr. Thomas Neufeld, Dept of Genetics, Cell Biology & Development, University of Minnesota
Host | Dr. John Brumell

UPCOMING NEUROSCIENCE MEETINGS

6TH CANADIAN CONFERENCE ON DEMENTIA

Date | October 27-29, 2011

Time | Thursday October 27 Opening remarks at 5:00 pm;
Friday October 28 Opening remarks at 8:00 am.

Description |

The 6th CCD organizing committee has put together an exciting program that has attracted a world renowned faculty of national and international speakers, featuring plenary presentations, parallel session updates, and interactive workshops.

Some of the highlights include:

Dr. Carol Brayne (University of Cambridge, United Kingdom) will speak on Dementia and our Ageing Populations

A symposium on the newly proposed research diagnostic criteria for Mild Cognitive Impairment by Dr. William Jagust (UC Berkeley's Helen Wills Neuroscience Institute and at the School of Public Health)

Pre-clinical Alzheimer's disease by Dr. Reisa Sperling (Harvard Medical School)

Alzheimer's disease by Dr. Howard Chertkow (McGill University)

Alzheimer Disease Therapy in the Future – What are the Best Bets and Dark Horses presented by Dr. Howard Feldman (Yale University)

Location: Hyatt Regency Hotel, Montreal, Quebec

Call for Abstracts is now open! The deadline for submission is August 22, 2011.

<http://www.canadianconferenceondementia.com>

ACQUIRED BRAIN INJURY 2011 PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE

Date | November 2-4, 2011

Location | Sheraton on the Falls Hotel, Niagara Falls, Ontario
Website | www.obia.on.ca

NEUROSCIENCE SCHOOL OF ADVANCED STUDIES (SAN QUIRICO D'ORCIA, ITALY) WWW.NSAS.IT

The Neuroscience School of Advanced Studies is home of residential, intensive Courses, where leading investigators from around the world spend two full weeks discussing upcoming research challenges with a small, highly selected number of participants in the unique atmosphere of the fortified medieval village of San Quirico d'Orcia, all within the most idyllic Tuscan countryside.

The Courses of the Neuroscience School of Advanced Studies are unique. Faculties are undisputed leaders in their own field and intense scientific interaction takes place in a manner that cannot be experienced in a typical conference venue. The walled town lends itself nicely as a self-contained campus to a relaxed yet intense learning experience. This atmosphere spontaneously combines with the Tuscan countryside, with its people and tradition and with the natural thermal spas of Bagno Vignoni, part of the village. The associated art, cultural and wine & gourmet programs are the natural completion of each Course learning experience.

May 16-28: Endocannabinoids. Coordinator: D. Piomelli (USA)

June 13-25: Neurodegeneration and molecular neuropathology. Coordinator: P.L. Nicotera (D)

July 18-30: Protein misfolding disorders. Coordinator: A. Aguzzi (CH)

September 12-24: Pathophysiology of basal ganglia disorders. Coordinator: A.A. Grace (USA)

October 3-15: Translational research for CNS diseases. Coordinator: G.C. Terstappen (D)

October 24 - November 5: Addictive disorders. Coordinator: G.F. Koob (USA)



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**SOCIETY FOR NEUROSCIENCE 41ST ANNUAL MEETING,
Washington, DC November 12 – 16,
2011**

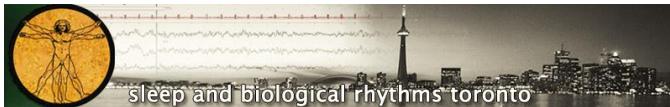


This year's *Society for Neuroscience (SfN) Annual Meeting* is filled with valuable lectures, workshops and events. From new research in the field such as "The Link between Epigenetics and Neuronal Plasticity," "New therapies to deal with Neurodegenerative diseases" and "Neurobiology of mood" to inspiring professional development workshops such as "Balancing Family and Neuroscience," "Mentoring and networking to develop your career," and "Negotiating a Senior Position."

See the Preliminary Program at
<http://www.sfn.org/am2011/index.aspx?pagename=prelim>

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

OPPORTUNITY FOR FUNDING - GRAD STUDENTS AND POST-DOCS IN NEUROSCIENCE



The Second deadline for funding from the CIHR Team Research and Training Program in Sleep and Biological Rhythms is October 15th 2011. There are funds for at least **5 post-doc awards per year, and 6 graduate awards per year**, each accompanied by an additional **\$3,000 research allowance** and a **\$1,000 travel allowance**.

For FULL application and review details please see the new website at <http://www.utoronto.ca/sleepandrhythms>

Please note:

Any research **teams** engaging in true new collaborative projects incorporating sleep-wake states, sedation and/or biological timing systems into their projects (**in whatever discipline**) are eligible to apply. No boundaries, just new science of high impact.

The vision of the program is that in 5 years time there will be more faculty and trainees incorporating some component of

their research in these important areas, addressing fundamental questions in biology, physiology, medicine and health care. If the big picture questions are addressed, this will lead to effective new collaborations, funded projects, major publications and new capacity for research, education and knowledge transfer.

Details: The application procedure is straightforward and short, but requires planning. In the first instance it is estimated that three post-doctoral awards will be available in the February competition, and two in the October competition (i.e., a total of 5 post-doc awards per year). Three graduate student awards will be available in each competition (i.e., a total of 6 graduate awards per year). Each stipend will also be accompanied by an additional \$3,000 research allowance to foster new research in the collaborating laboratories, and a \$1,000 travel allowance from the Program. Trainees have access to world-class infrastructure for molecular, cellular and behavioural analyses in animal models and humans. Supervisor top-up of salary to set levels is expected (all details are on the website). (5) The website is designed to be fully transparent, with all the details of the objectives of the program, eligibility to apply, application forms, how the applications will be reviewed, the reviewer forms, and how the funds will be distributed. (6) There are also funds available to support a total of **ten visits** from prominent researchers per year (**\$1,000 per visit**). Please see website for details ('funds' page).

Info: <http://www.utoronto.ca/sleepandrhythms/>

E-mail all queries to **Rhiannon Davies, Program Coordinator** at sleep.rhythms@utoronto.ca

POSITIONS AVAILABLE CANADA

Computational Neuroanatomy Scientist The Rotman Research Institute, Baycrest Centre, University of Toronto

The Rotman Research Institute (RRI) of Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care invites applications for a Computational Neuroanatomy Scientist who will be a core member of the Toronto Trans-generational Brain & Body Centre and the Heart and Stroke Centre for Stroke Recovery – Baycrest site. The successful candidate will engage in a research program on the development and application of computational



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methods and models that serve to derive quantitative phenotypes from structural MR images. An example of research that a successful candidate would conduct includes, but is not limited to, the development and application of novel methods to generate morphometrics, such as regional volumes and cortical thickness, from MR images of the human brain. While pursuing an independent research program, he/she will be expected to collaborate on diverse studies that involve MRI research at Baycrest. The candidate must possess a PhD or equivalent with demonstrated experience in neuroimaging and informatics. The RRI is part of a large collaborative cognitive neuroscience community with research foci ranging from brain mechanisms of memory, attention and executive function, to their changes across the lifespan and resulting from brain damage or disease, to the development of cognitive rehabilitation strategies. Neuroimaging is a key methodology across all of these programs. The RRI has state-of-the-art in-house neuroimaging infrastructure including a research-dedicated Siemens 3 Tesla MRI system, as well as electroencephalography and magnetoencephalography laboratories. The successful candidate will play a central role in the coordination and operation of neuroimage analyses and databasing at Baycrest.

The successful candidate will benefit from the large collaborative neuroimaging community at The University of Toronto, and will be eligible for an academic position at the assistant to associate professor level. Applications are encouraged from qualified women and men, members of visible minorities, aboriginal peoples and persons with disabilities. In accordance with Canadian immigration requirements, this advertisement is directed initially to Canadian citizens and permanent residents. Applicants should submit a covering letter describing current research interests and future research goals, a complete C.V., relevant reprints and the names of three potential references to:

Dr. Claude Alain,
Computational Neuroanatomy Scientist Search Committee
The Rotman Research Institute
Baycrest Centre
3560 Bathurst St, Toronto, Ontario, M6A 2E1
Fax (416) 785-2474
E-mail: calain@rotman-baycrest.on.ca

Review of applications will begin in June 30, 2011, and will continue until the position is filled.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

NATIONAL MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS SOCIETY (NMSS) – Research Grants

The society supports fundamental as well as applied studies, non-clinical or clinical in nature, including projects in patient management, care and rehabilitation.

Deadline for Applications: August 3, 2011.

<https://www.mssocietyapplyonline.org/index.do>

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 basic or clinical research associated with the epilepsy field. The proposed project requires the participation of one or more investigators outside the candidate's area of expertise, preferably in a different department or a different institution.

Deadline for Letters of Intent: August 22, 2011

<http://www.aesnet.org/go/research/aes-sponsored-grant/research-initiative-awards>

CIHR FUNDING – The following updates to the CIHR Delegates webpage have been posted on the Faculty of Medicine Research Office web site at <http://www.medresearch.utoronto.ca/chir.html>

1) Funding Opportunity News

- a) CIHR and its partners announce the July 2011 Funding Opportunities and Priority Announcements
- b) 2011-2012 Clinician Scientist Training Award Competition
- c) Notice regarding CIHR's Meetings, Planning and Dissemination (MPD) Grant Program
- d) Notice regarding the Open Operating Grants Program

2) Application and Funding Policy News

- a) Tri-agencies harmonizing policies on stipends paid from grants
- b) Upcoming consultation on the Tri-Agency Framework: Responsible Conduct of Research
- c) Earlier cut-off time of 8:00 p.m. ET for CIHR funding opportunities (effective January 3, 2011) – (Reminder)



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FOX FOUNDATION FOR PARKINSON'S RESEARCH, MICHAEL J.

– Call for Submissions:

Biomarker Development

LRRK2 Challenge

Dyskinesia Challenge - Identification and Testing of Novel
Targets

Deadline for Submissions: Continuous

http://www.michaeljfox.org/research_openFundingPrograms_program.cfm?ID=7

NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH (NIH) – Requests for
Applications and Program Announcements:

NIDCD Research On Hearing Health Care (R21/R33):

Deadline: October 31, 2011

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/>Therapeutics for
Neurotropic Biodefense Toxins and Pathogens (R21/R33):

Deadline: October 24, 2011

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/>Technology Development
for High-Throughput Functional Genomics (R01). Also
available in a (R21 mechanism):

Deadline: August 2, 2011

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/>

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