

Collaborative Program in Neuroscience (CPIN)

University of Toronto

Newsletter – Vol. 36, No. 2 – October 2019



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Featured In This Issue

News – CPIN Faculty Congratulations to CPIN Faculty members **Dr. Fang Liu, Dr. Stephen Matthews, and Dr. Antonio Strafella** on being inducted into the **Canadian Academy of Health Sciences (CAHS)**. Please see page 2 for details.

Welcome New CPIN Faculty Members We would like to welcome **Dr. Gabor Kovacs** as a new faculty member to the CPIN community. Please see page 2 for details.

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Congratulations to CPIN Graduating Students Please see pages 4 for details.

2019-20 CPIN Distinguished Lectureship Series

<http://www.neuroscience.utoronto.ca/events/lectureship.htm>

Coming up in November:



CPIN Distinguished Lecture/ Krembil Seminar

Speaker | **Michele Migliore**, PhD, Senior Research Scientist, National Research Council, Institute of Biophysics, Palermo, Italy

Title | Cognitive architectures using large-scale realistic computational models

Date | **Friday, November 8, 2019, 1:00 PM**

Location | Main Auditorium, West Wing, 2nd floor, Rm 401, Toronto Western Hospital

Host | Dr. Frances Skinner, Senior Scientist, Krembil Research Institute, University Health Network (UHN), Toronto Western Hospital; Professor, Departments of Medicine (Neurology) and Physiology, U of T



Tator-Turnbull Symposium Keynote Address/ CPIN Distinguished Lecture

Speaker | **Brian Kwon**, MD, PhD, Professor, Department of Orthopaedics, University of British Columbia

Title | Bench to Bedside and Back: Translational Research in Acute Spinal Cord Injury

Date | **Friday, November 8, 2019, 4:00 PM**

Location | BMO Conference & Education Centre, TWH, 60 Leonard Ave

Host | Dr. Michael Fehlings, Co-Director UofT Spinal Program & Vice Chair Research, Department of Surgery, U of T

Co-Sponsors | (i) UHN; (ii) Krembil Neuroscience Centre; (iii) U of T Spine Program; (iv) Ontario Neurotrauma Foundation; (v) Spinal Cord Injury Ontario; (vi) Barbara Turnbull Foundation

Note: The Tator-Turnbull Spinal Cord Injury Symposium will be held on Fri. Nov 8, between 11-5pm. CPIN students are welcome to attend all/ part of the Symposium. See links for [Event Poster](#) and [Agenda](#).

<http://www.neuroscience.utoronto.ca/communications/newsletter.htm>

CPIN Newsletter

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Lead Faculty
Faculty of Medicine

CPIN Participating Units

Applied Psychology &
Human Development
Biochemistry
Biomaterials & Biomedical
Engineering
Cell & Systems Biology
Computer Science
Dentistry
Laboratory Medicine &
Pathobiology
Medical Biophysics
Medical Science
Music
Pharmaceutical Sciences
Pharmacology & Toxicology
Physiology
Psychology
Public Health
Rehabilitation Science

Contributors:

Heart & Stroke/ Richard
Lewar Centre of Excellence in
Cardiovascular Research

Human Biology Program
Krembil Research Institute
St. Michael's Neuroscience
Research Program

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News – CPIN Faculty Members

http://www.neuroscience.utoronto.ca/communications/news_cpिन_faculty_members.htm

Congratulations to CPIN Faculty members **Dr. Fang Liu**, **Dr. Stephen Matthews**, and **Dr. Antonio Strafella** on being inducted into the **Canadian Academy of Health Sciences (CAHS)** last month in Ottawa. They joined 49 new Fellows welcomed into the Academy. Please click on the link for the full list of inductees: [Congratulations & Welcome to our 2019 Fellows!](#)



Dr. Fang Liu is a Professor in the Departments of Psychiatry, Physiology and the Institute of Medical Science, at the University of Toronto. She is an internationally-known neuropharmacologist who has significantly advanced the understanding of molecular mechanisms underlying psychiatric disorders. She has published in *Nature*, *Cell* and *Nature Medicine*, many important discoveries that are being translated into a completely new approach to treating brain disorders. She is also co-director of the Division of Brain and Therapeutics, the largest division in Department of Psychiatry, with over 250 basic and clinical faculties doing translational research in neuroscience and mental illness.



Dr. Stephen Matthews is Professor at the University of Toronto and Director of Research at the Alliance for Human Development at Mt Sinai Hospital, Toronto. He is recognized internationally for his research into the factors, particularly cortisol-like hormones, which influence development of the brain of the fetus during pregnancy and in early childhood. He is co-founder of the Canadian Society for the study of the Developmental Origins of Health and Disease (DOHaD) and co-Director of the Ontario Birth Study. His work with UNICEF and other international organizations, will help determine the impact of preconception interventions on infant and childhood brain development.



Professor Antonio Strafella is an internationally renowned neurologist and Canada Research Chair whose work has led to significant advances for understanding the neurobiology of symptoms associated with a devastating neurological disease, such as Parkinson's disease. His ground-breaking research has led to great scientific discoveries, helping to define important motor and non-motor features that impact significantly on the health and quality-of-life of these patients. Dr. Strafella's commitment for excellence and knowledge advancement is greatly contributing to promoting (nationally/ internationally) Canadian research. Because of his recognition, he serves on the prestigious Advisory Board of the Institute of Neuroscience, Mental Health and Addiction at CIHR, and he is a Director of the Parkinson Canada Board.

Welcome New CPIN Faculty Members

http://www.neuroscience.utoronto.ca/communications/news_cpिन_faculty_members.htm



We would like to welcome **Dr. Gabor Kovacs** (Professor, Department of Laboratory Medicine and Pathobiology, University of Toronto; Consultant Neuropathologist, Laboratory Medicine Program (LMP), University Health Network (UHN); Principal Investigator, Tanz Centre for Research in Neurodegenerative Disease; Senior Scientist, Krembil Brain Institute; Faculty member, Edmond J. Safra Program in Parkinson's Disease; Co-Director, Rossy Program for Progressive Supranuclear Palsy Research, UHN) as a new faculty member to the CPIN community.

Dr. Kovacs completed his medical training at the Semmelweis University (Budapest, Hungary) where he specialized in Neurology (1998) and Neuropathology (2003) and obtained a PhD in Neuroscience (2002). From 2004 to 2007, Dr. Kovacs was the Head of the Department of Neuropathology at the National Institute of Psychiatry and Neurology in Budapest, Hungary. From 2007 to 2019, he was an Associate Professor at the Institute of Neurology at the Medical University of Vienna, Austria. He was the leader of the Hungarian (2004-2019) and Austrian (2011-2019) Reference Center for Human Prion Diseases. Dr. Kovacs has also trained at Indiana University (2007) and University of Pennsylvania (2016 and 2017) as a visiting professor/ scholar.

His major research interest is the neuropathology of neurodegenerative diseases. He has published more than 275 peer-reviewed papers, earning him an H-index of 48, and edited two books on Neuropathology. Dr. Kovacs's aim is to probe the molecular mechanisms underlying neurodegenerative proteinopathies using state-of-the-art methodologies and to facilitate collaborative research on neurodegenerative disorders.

<http://www.neuroscience.utoronto.ca/communications/newsletter.htm>

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Welcome New CPIN Students

<http://www.neuroscience.utoronto.ca/students/currentstudents.htm>

We would like to extend a warm welcome to the following new CPIN Trainees:

Last Name	First Name	Home Unit	Degree	Supervisor
Chatterjee	Dipashree	PCL	PhD	Dr. Martin Beaulieu
DuPlessis	Danielle	REHSC	MSc	Dr. Shannon Scratch & Dr. Elaine Biddiss
Eid	Shehab	LMP	MSc	Dr. Gerold Schmitt-Ulms
Horner	Christine	IBBME	MHSc	Dr. Tom Chau
Johnston	Phillip	PSY	PhD	Dr. Randy McIntosh
Kalinowski	Leanna	PSY	PhD	Dr. Melissa Holmes
Lam	Emily	IBBME	MASc	Dr. Elaine Biddiss
Leung	Jason	IBBME	MASc	Dr. Tom Chau
Leung	Kai Ian	REHSC	MSc	Dr. Monika Molnar
Mazza	Frank	PSL	MSc	Dr. Etay Hay
McIntyre	William	IMS	MSc	Dr. Michael Fehlings
Mori-Fegan	Daniel	PCL	PhD	Dr. Ruth Ross
Ping	Susan	LMP	MSc	Dr. Suneil Kalia
Premachandran	Hanista	PSY	PhD	Dr. Maithe Arruda-Carvalho
Silk	Esther	IMS	MSc	Dr. Clement Hamani
Smith	Corinna	IBBME	MASc	Dr. Tom Chau
Vaccarino	Sophie	IMS	MSc	Dr. Sidney Kennedy
Wang	RuoDing	PCL	MSc	Dr. Krista Lanctôt
Wu	Rebecca	IMS	MSc	Dr. Andrew Lim
Yan	Yuanye	PCL	PhD	Dr. Amy Ramsey

Neuroscience Opportunities

http://www.neuroscience.utoronto.ca/communications/Positions_Available.htm

Postdoctoral Fellow Positions

Neurobiology of Depression and Aging Lab

Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH), Toronto

Description: The program is currently seeking an outstanding post-doctoral fellow to characterize cognitive deficits in an animal model of Alzheimer's disease (AD), perform quantitative analyses of AD and aging markers in mouse brain tissue, and work in close collaboration with the Drug Development Program to test new molecules for their potential effects and reversing cognitive decline in AD pathology. [Click here for details](#)

Department of Physiology and Cell Biology

Washington University School of Medicine, St. Louis

Description: Laboratory of Dr. Ghazal Ashrafi (www.ashrafilab.com) starting in the winter of 2020. The lab aims to investigate molecular mechanisms of metabolic regulation at nerve terminals. The postdoctoral project involves state-of-the-art single cell imaging using optical probes to study metabolic adaptation of synapses to neuronal activity. In addition, biochemical assays will be used to determine how changes in mitochondrial protein modification impact mitochondrial metabolism at the synapse. The position gives the applicant an opportunity to fully participate in setting up a new lab and train lab members. The lab also has access to several on-campus facilities and resources, such as the Center for Cellular Imaging equipped with cutting-edge technology. [Click here for details](#)

Upcoming Events

U of T Neuroscience Seminars

<http://neuroscience.utoronto.ca/events/seminar.htm>

Conferences and Meetings

http://neuroscience.utoronto.ca/events/Conf_M.htm

<http://www.neuroscience.utoronto.ca/communications/newsletter.htm>

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Congratulations CPIN Graduating Students

<http://www.neuroscience.utoronto.ca/students/currentstudents.htm>

Congratulations to our CPIN graduating Trainees:



Name: Daniel Derkach

Program: MSc

Department: Institute of Medical Science

Supervisor: Dr. Cindi Morshead

Thesis Title: Metformin Pretreatment Rescues Subependymal Zone Neurogenesis and Long-Term Olfactory Memory in a Juvenile Model of Cranial Irradiation



Name: Phillip Johnston

Program: MA

Department: Psychology

Supervisor: Dr. Randy McIntosh

Thesis Title: Investigating the Role of Crossmodal Phase Resetting in Audiovisual Binding



Name: Muhammad Saad Khan

Program: MSc

Department: Institute of Medical Science

Supervisor: Dr. Romina Mizrahi

Thesis Title: A Preliminary Study of the Nociceptin Receptor System in Individuals with Psychosis



Name: Rabiya Noori

Program: MASc

Department: Institute of Biomaterials and Biomedical Engineering

Supervisor: Dr. Jérémie Lefebvre

Thesis Title: Inferring Temporal Delays in Brain Interactions from Neural Population Activity

Last Name	First Name	Home Unit	Degree	Supervisor
Ahmed	Sarah	IMS	MSc	Dr. Romina Mizrahi
Antonyshyn	Kira	IMS	MSc	Dr. Gregory Borschel
Budani	Monique	LMP	PhD	Dr. Clifford Lingwood
Chatterjee	Dipashree	PCL	MSc	Dr. Etienne Sibille
D'Onofrio	Philippe	REHSC	PhD	Dr. Paulo Koeberle
Gill	Talwinder	IMS	MSc	Dr. Isabelle Boileau
Houston	David	RSI	MSc	Dr. Kristin Musselman
Lavigne	Stéphanie	MUS	MA	Dr. Michael Thaut
McMahon	Dallan	MBP	PhD	Dr. Kullervo Hynynen
Sharma	Vivek	MUS	PhD	Dr. Lee Bartel
Strauss	Maximilian	LMP	MSc	Dr. Janice Robertson

Reminder: CPIN Student Completion Form CPIN graduate students who have completed both their home department and CPIN trainee requirements must fill in the online completion form located at the link below:

http://www.neuroscience.utoronto.ca/students/cpin_student_completion_form.htm

<http://www.neuroscience.utoronto.ca/communications/newsletter.htm>