

Collaborative Program in Neuroscience (CPIN)

University of Toronto

Newsletter – Vol. 36, No. 1 – September 2019

Featured In This Issue

Upcoming CPIN Distinguished Lectures Please see page 2 for details.

Welcome New CPIN Students Please see pages 3 & 4 for details.

Welcome New CPIN Faculty Members We would like to welcome **Drs. Gaspard Montandon, Yuliya Nikolova, and Benjamin Steinberg** as a new faculty members to the CPIN community. Please see page 2 for details.

Congratulations to CPIN Graduating Students Please see pages 4 & 5 for details.

News – CPIN Trainees Congratulations to CPIN student member **Sanjana Shellikeri** on recently completing the CPIN requirements and graduating from her PhD program. Please see page 5 for details.

Neuroscience Opportunities Please see page 6 for details.

2019-20 CPIN Distinguished Lectureship Series

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

Lectures that took place this month:



CPIN Special Lecture/CRANIA Conference Keynote

Speaker | **Lone Frank, PhD**, Journalist and Author, Neurobiology and Research; Staff Writer, Weekendavisen, Denmark; lonefrank.dk/en

Title | From Outrage to Optimism: The history of deep brain stimulation and the lessons to be learned

Date | **Monday, September 16, 2019, 9:30 AM**

Location | Main Auditorium, MaRS Discovery District, 101 College St.

Host | Dr. Taufik Valiante and Dr. Milos Popovic, Directors, CRANIA

Sponsors | CRANIA; CorTec GmbH; Helius Medical; Medtronic; MetaCell; Novela Neurotech; Panaxium



CPIN Distinguished Lecture/CRANIA Conference Keynote

Speaker | **Dominique Durand, PhD**, Elmer Lincoln Lindseth Professor in Biomedical Engineering; Director, Neural Engineering Center; Editor in Chief, Journal of Neural Engineering; Professor, Biomedical Engineering, Neuroscience, Physiology and Biophysics, Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, Case Western Reserve University

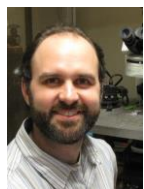
Title | *Self-propagating neural waves by electric fields*

Date | **Monday, September 16, 2019, 4:30 PM**

Location | Main Auditorium, MaRS Discovery District, 101 College St.

Host | Dr. Taufik Valiante and Dr. Milos Popovic, Directors, CRANIA

Sponsors | CRANIA; CorTec GmbH; Helius Medical; Medtronic; MetaCell; Novela Neurotech; Panaxium



CPIN Distinguished Lecture

Speaker | **Tom Kash, PhD**, John R. Andrews Distinguished Professor, Vice Chair for Faculty Development, UNC School Of Medicine, Pharmacology

Title | *Neuromodulatory signaling in the extended amygdala*

Date | **Thursday, September 19, 2019, 3:30 PM**

Location | Event Room 1, SickKids PGCR tower, 686 Bay St.

Host | Dr. Paul Frankland & Dr. Sheena Josselyn, Senior Scientists, Neurosciences & Mental Health, SickKids; Associate Professors, Department of Physiology, U of T

Reminder: CPIN Trainees: Please fill in the online Lecture Report & Evaluation Form as a record of your attendance to the Distinguished Lectureship Series within one week of attending the talk.

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

CPIN Newsletter

Zhong-Ping Feng
Director
CPIN
Graduate Studies

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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

Collaborative Program in Neuroscience (CPIN)

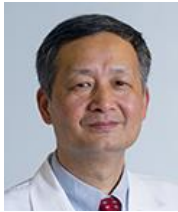
University of Toronto

Newsletter – Vol. 36, No. 1 – September 2019

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Coming up in October:



CPIN Distinguished Lecture

Speaker | **Jianren Mao**, MD, PhD, Vice Chair for Research, Chief, Division of Pain Medicine, Director, Mass General Center for Translational Pain Research, Massachusetts General Hospital; Richard J. Kitz Professor of Anesthesia Research, Harvard Medical School, Harvard University

Title | *Current Challenges in Translational Pain Research*

Date | **Monday, October 21, 2019, 4:00 PM**

Location | MSB 2172, Medical Sciences Building, 1 King's College Circle

Host | Dr. Hong-Shuo Sun, Associate Professor, Departments of Surgery, Physiology, and Pharmacology, IMS, and Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy, U of T

Welcome New CPIN Faculty Members

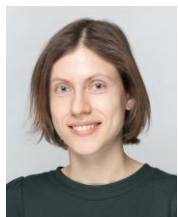
http://www.neuroscience.utoronto.ca/communications/news_cpिन_faculty_members.htm



We would like to welcome **Dr. Gaspard Montandon** (Scientist, Keenan Research Centre for Biomedical Science, St. Michael's Hospital; Assistant Professor, Division of Respiriology, Department of Medicine, University of Toronto) as a new faculty member to the CPIN community.

Dr. Montandon is one of the pioneers in Canada in the study of respiratory depression by opioids. His strategic research program aims to identify the mechanisms regulating opioid-induced respiratory depression and to find safe opioid pain therapies without the lethal side-effect of respiratory depression. His program combines biomedical research in rodents and drug discovery in zebrafish, and is supported by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research and the St. Michael's Hospital Foundation.

More information can be found at <http://www.gasplab.com>



We would like to welcome **Dr. Yuliya Nikolova** (Koerner New Scientist, Campbell Family Mental Health Research Institute, Centre for Addiction & Mental Health (CAMH); Independent Scientist; Assistant Professor, Brain and Therapeutics, Department of Psychiatry, IMS Associate Member, University of Toronto) as a new faculty member to the CPIN community.

Before being appointed to her current position she completed a PhD in Psychology & Neuroscience at Duke University in 2014 and a Postdoctoral Fellowship in translational neuroscience as a Banting Fellow at CAMH in 2017.

Dr. Nikolova's work combines tools from experimental psychology, cognitive science, neuroimaging and genetics to study mechanisms of risk for mental illness. She is particularly interested in how neural circuits for reward and threat processing contribute to transdiagnostic cognitive and affective dysfunction. She has a strong focus on translation and integration across multiple levels of investigation, and works closely with preclinical teams to bridge basic science approaches with clinical research.



We would like to welcome **Dr. Benjamin Steinberg** (Assistant Professor, Department of Anesthesia, University of Toronto; Anesthesiologist, Hospital for Sick Children) as a new faculty member to the CPIN community.

His research interests are neuroinflammation, neuromodulation, pain, and integrative physiology. His clinical interests are pediatric anesthesia, patient monitoring, pain, and neuroanesthesia.

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

Collaborative Program in Neuroscience (CPIN)

University of Toronto

Newsletter – Vol. 36, No. 1 – September 2019

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
Albanowski	Kimberly	MUS	MA	Dr. Michael Thaut
Bawa	Kritleen	PCL	MSc	Dr. Krista Lanctot
Benjamin	Rebecca	IMS	MSc	Dr. Karen Gordon
Bennett	Laura	PHM	MSc	Dr. Robert Bonin
Braga	Joeffre	PCL	PhD	Dr. Jeffrey Meyer
Cole	Lauren	MUS	MA	Dr. Michael Thaut
Dunbar	James	LMP	MSc	Dr. Michael Reber
El-Sayed	Rima	IMS	MSc	Dr. Karen Davis
Fan	Annabel Wing-Yan	PSY	PhD	Dr. Jonathan Cant
Fung	Samuel	PHM	MSc	Dr. Robert Bonin
Furdui	Andreea	IMS	MSc	Dr. Gaspard Montandon
Garani Ramesh	Ranjini	PCL	PhD	Dr. Romina Mizrahi
Hadjis	Georgia	DEN	MSc	Dr. Massieh Moayed
Han	Muchun	PSL	PhD	Dr. Graham Collingridge
Hui	Sarah	LMP	MSc	Dr. Suneil Kalia
Irvine	Taylor	PSY	PhD	Dr. Ashley Monks
Jacob	Nithin	REHSC	MSc	Dr. Robin Green
Koppel	Alex	PCL	MSc	Dr. Romina Mizrahi
Lavigne	Stéphanie	MUS	PhD	Dr. Michael Thaut
Lepra	Mariel	PCL	PhD	Dr. Jeffrey Meyer
Martino	Amanda	REHSC	PhD	Dr. Yana Yunusova
Moussaoui	Simar	PSY	MSc	Dr. Matthias Niemeier
Nisha Aji	Kankana	PCL	PhD	Dr. Romina Mizrahi
Nishat	Eman	PSL	MSc	Dr. Anne Wheeler
Ovcjak	Andrea	PSL	MSc	Dr. Zhong-Ping Feng
Owsia	Kimia	PCL	MSc	Dr. Bernard Le Foll
Patterson	Rachel	IMS	MSc	Dr. Tarek Rajji
Petroff	Gillian	PSL	PhD	Dr. Graham Collingridge
Pieczonka	Katarzyna	IMS	MSc	Dr. Michael Fehlings
Rafei	Dorsa	IMS	MSc	Dr. Nathan Kolla
Ralph	Liam	PSL	MSc	Dr. Graham Collingridge
Rodriguez Hernandez	Luis David	PHM	PhD	Dr. Robert Bonin

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University of Toronto

Newsletter – Vol. 36, No. 1 – September 2019

Welcome New CPIN Students

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Continued from previous page...

Last Name	First Name	Home Unit	Degree	Supervisor
Rokos	Leanne	IMS	MSc	Dr. Randy McIntosh
Sheldrake	Elena	REHSC	PhD	Dr. Shannon Scratch
Shore	Josh	REHSC	MSc	Dr. Nick Reed
Siracusa	Laura	IMS	PhD	Dr. Andrew Baker
Thompson	Alexandra	REHSC	PhD	Dr. Emily Nalder
Thulasiram	Matsya	LMP	PhD	Dr. Alain Dabdoub
Velayudhan	Prashanth	PSL	MSc	Dr. Anne Wheeler
Wang	Shijing	IMS	MSc	Dr. Sakina Rizvi
Yan	Bei Qi	LMP	MSc	Dr. Gerold Schmitt-Ulms
Yoon	Ji Myung	MUS	MA	Dr. Michael Thaut
Zaig	Shenhab	IMS	MSc	Dr. Gaspard Montandon
Zhang	An Qi	PSY	MA	Dr. Martin Ralph
Zhao	Wenda	LMP	PhD	Dr. Gerold Schmitt-Ulms
Zhao	Mudi	PSY	MA	Dr. Maithe Arruda-Carvalho
Zhou	Xinyang	PCL	PhD	Dr. Ana Andreazza

Congratulations CPIN Graduating Students

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

Congratulations to our CPIN graduating Trainees:

Last Name	First Name	Home Unit	Degree	Supervisor
Boulos	Mary	REHSC	MSc	Dr. Robin Green
Cao	Feng	PSL	PhD	Dr. Zhengping Jia
Darwish	Lina	PCL	MSc	Dr. Jane Mitchell
Henechowicz	Tara	MUS	MA	Dr. Michael Thaut
Ho	Louise	MUS	MA	Dr. Michael Thaut
Liu	Xiao Yu Eileen	IMS	MSc	Dr. Andrew Baker
Rogachov	Anton	IMS	MSc	Dr. Karen Davis
Talwar	Natasha	IMS	MSc	Dr. Tom Schweizer

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Collaborative Program in Neuroscience (CPIN)

University of Toronto

Newsletter – Vol. 36, No. 1 – September 2019

Congratulations CPIN Graduating Students (continued)

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



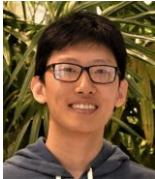
Name: Faraz Honarvar

Program: MSc

Department: Institute of Medical Science

Supervisor: Dr. Andrea Kassner

Thesis Title: Investigating a Photothrombotic Pediatric Rodent Stroke Model Using MRI & Histology



Name: Winston Li

Program: MSc

Department: Physiology

Supervisor: Dr. Beverley Orser

Thesis Title: Ketamine Prevents a Persistent Increase in $\alpha 5$ GABAA Receptor Activity Induced by General Anesthetic Drugs



Name: Miranda Mellerup

Program: MSc

Department: Physiology

Supervisor: Dr. Anne Wheeler

Thesis Title: The Effect of Remyelination on Behavioural Recovery Following Mild Traumatic Brain Injury in Mice



Name: James Saravanamuttu

Program: MSc

Department: Institute of Medical Science

Supervisor: Dr. Robert Chen

Thesis Title: Impaired Motor Cortical Facilitatory-Inhibitory Circuit Interactions in Parkinson's Disease

News – CPIN Trainees

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



Congratulations to CPIN student member **Sanjana Shellikeri** (Rehabilitation Science, Dr. Yana Yunusova) on recently completing the CPIN requirements and graduating from her PhD program.

Sanjana Shellikeri's (PhD) research interests are in establishing clinical-pathologic for speech and language functions in neurodegenerative diseases. Her doctoral research combined Cochrane-based systematic review, structural neuroimaging, and post-mortem neuropathology to examine the neural underpinnings of bulbar subtype of Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS), a fatal and devastating neurodegenerative disease that affects speech and swallowing musculature. During her graduate studies, she published 5 first-author manuscripts and contributed to 4 other peer-reviewed publications. Her academic achievements include two consecutive years of the Ontario Graduate Scholarship, the Kappa Kappa Gamma Women's Graduate Scholarship and numerous travel awards. Sanjana was also a full-time caregiver for her mother, who was diagnosed with ALS in 2010 and passed away in March 2019. She supports the ALS community by fundraising annually for the Walk for ALS events and hosting annual Q&A forums on reddit.com to answer ALS-related questions. In September 2019, Sanjana began her postdoctoral fellowship at the Penn FTD Center at the University of Pennsylvania where she is investigating automatic speech assessment methods for identification of various neurodegenerative conditions. She hopes to follow the academic path and contribute her growing research to improve the lives of people with neurodegenerative diseases.

Recent Publications:

“Speech network regional involvement in bulbar ALS: a multimodal structural MRI study”

<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/21678421.2019.1612920>

“The neuropathological signature of bulbar-onset ALS: a systematic review”

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0149763416306947>

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

Collaborative Program in Neuroscience (CPIN)

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Newsletter – Vol. 36, No. 1 – September 2019

Neuroscience Opportunities

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

Neuroscience Laboratory Technician

**Woodin Lab, Department of Cell & Systems Biology
University of Toronto**

Description: The Woodin lab performs neuroscience research investigating inhibitory synaptic transmission and plasticity in health and disease, using mouse models. We are seeking a laboratory technician to perform cell and molecular biology experiments (e.g. Western blots, genotyping, immunofluorescence), animal behaviour testing, and general lab duties (chemical inventory, replacing supplies, equipment maintenance, etc). Ideally the candidate will have a degree in neuroscience (or a related discipline) and related research experience. If you are interested, please contact Simon Bedard (simon.bedard@utoronto.ca) for more information.

Postdoctoral Fellow Positions

Postdoctoral Position or RA in Developmental Psychopathology

McGill University, Montreal

The **Developmental Research in Environmental Adversity, Mental health, Biological susceptibility and Gender project** (<http://dreambigresearch.com/>) is looking for a postdoctoral, research associate or research assistant position **with Dr. J. Bruce Morton Western University's Brain and Mind Institute**. This is a full-time, one to two-year term position with the possibility of renewal. This project is funded by CIHR and McGill University's Healthy Brain Healthy Lives Initiative and directed by Dr. Ashley Wazana at McGill University and in partnership with Dr. Tim Oberlander at UBC.

[Click here for details](#)

Faculty Positions

Assistant Professor, University Tenure Line

Department of Neurobiology, Stanford University School of Medicine

Description: We are interested in candidates who have a doctoral degree in neuroscience, genetics, biochemistry, biophysics, bioengineering, cell biology or any related discipline and we encourage applications from physician-scientists. Individuals studying a broad range of problems in the nervous system at the molecular, cellular and circuit level are encouraged to apply. We expect the successful candidate to develop an outstanding neuroscience research program and contribute to the education and mentoring of the next generation of scientists.

[Click here for details](#)

Call for CPIN 2018-2019 Distinguished Lecturer Nominations CPIN trainee & faculty members are welcome to nominate potential speakers for the 2018-2019 Neuroscience Distinguished Lectureship Series. Please submit your nominations at the following link: http://www.neuroscience.utoronto.ca/events/lectureship/distinguished_lecturer_nominations.htm.

Nominations will be reviewed by the CPIN Committee for approval. We are looking for speakers of diverse background and in particular female speakers.

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

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>