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SBN

Society for Behavioral Neuroendocrinology

July 2012

SBN E-News

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SBN Announcements

Save the Date for SBN 2013

We had a great SBN 2012 in Madison, Wisconsin. Thanks again to Frances Champagne and the rest of the Program Committee for putting together an outstanding program, to all the speakers and presenters, and of course our local hosts, Tony and Cathy Auger and Lauren Ritters and their many student helpers. Now it's time to plan for SBN 2013 in Atlanta (June 23-26). Anne Murphy is the

local host, and Jim Goodson will chair the Program Committee. More information will be coming.

Call for Nominations for the Frank A. Beach Young Investigator Award in Behavioral Neuroendocrinology

Nominations are now being accepted for the 23rd annual Frank A. Beach Award in Behavioral Neuroendocrinology. The award will be made to a new investigator, normally within 8 years post-PhD (or MD) who shows exceptional promise for making significant contributions to the field of Behavioral Neuroendocrinology. Investigators conducting original, independent research in any area of Behavioral Neuroendocrinology may be nominated. The nominator(s) should submit ONE letter of nomination. This letter can be jointly signed by any number of individuals of any rank, but the Committee will consider only one letter. A current copy of the nominee's curriculum vitae should be included with the nomination. Re-nomination of individuals nominated previously, who still meet the nomination criteria, but were not chosen, is encouraged.

The Awardee will be recognized and receive the award and an honorarium at the Behavioral Neuroendocrinology Social at the Society for Neuroscience (in New Orleans on October 15). The Awardee will also give a short presentation at the Annual Meeting of the Society for Behavioral Neuroendocrinology in Atlanta (June 23-26, 2013). A paper based on the text of the lecture will also be published in *Hormones and Behavior*.

This year's Beach awardee will be selected by the SBN Awards Committee, which members include: Emilie Rissman (Chair), Barbara Woodside, Shaila Mani, Barney Schlinger, Leonida Fusani, Jeff French, and Lance Kriegsfeld. The deadline for nominations is **August 15, 2012**. Nominations or questions about the nomination procedures should be sent to:

Dr. Emilie Rissman, University of Virginia, Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Genetics, PO Box 800733, Charlottesville, VA 22908-0733. Submission of nomination materials as PDF files via email is encouraged: Rissman@virginia.edu.

Call for Nominations for SBN Executive Positions

The terms of SBN's Past-President Greg Ball, Secretary Greg Demas, and Treasurer Terry Horton all end in June 2013. A Nominating Committee chaired by Jacques Balthazart (members: Ellen Ketterson and Russ Romeo) has been appointed by the Executive Committee. We encourage you to suggest qualified SBN members for president-elect, treasurer and secretary (president-elect: 2 year term, then 2 years as president, then 2 years as past-president, secretary: 2 year term, treasurer: 3 year term). Nominations of colleagues and self-nominations are both encouraged. Please send your suggestions to Jacques Balthazart at: jbalthazart@ulg.ac.be.

From the Professional Development Committee (Jennifer Swann and Erin Keen-Rhinehart, co-chairs)

This year, the Professional Development Committee (formally the Education Committee) debuted a number of new programs at the annual meeting. First, the committee welcomed new members in a session before the pre-meeting workshop. The session began with lunch and a brief talk introducing the society and the meeting. Those present got an exclusive preview of our field from our travel award winners who presented their cutting edge research in a brief poster session. Session participants then returned to the room and we prepared for the upcoming, pre-meeting workshop, tackling terms and concepts that were problems for the new and old alike. Armed with new knowledge, the workshop was even more enjoyable. After the workshop we discussed the presentations and then went to the rooftop to meet with the Executive Committee and other SBN members. The Executive Committee did a marvelous job of explaining their roles and extending their welcome to the new students.

The orientation was attended by over 40 people, including a group of undergraduates participating in a summer REU Program on the UW Madison campus. The feedback from our survey was positive with most describing the event as interesting and helpful. We plan to offer it again at the next meeting, so spread the word!

The Professional Development Committee also hosted a "speed mentoring" session. Each participant was given a colored dot to place on their name tag identifying him/her as faculty, post-doc, graduate or undergraduate student. The meeting was an open conversation with only one rule: to talk to someone with a different dot. The inclusion of all four groups brought home the concept that we are all mentors, aiding those that come after us. Groups met at tall tables, talking for 5-10 minutes before moving on to the next. The room was full of discussion and people were so engaged that they were reluctant to change positions! Feedback was overwhelmingly positive, the comments indicated that many met a wide variety of people and wished that they had more time to meet all that were there. Several suggested ways to improve the experience including making the dots on the badges available to the meeting at large.

Speaking of badges - this year we also provided ribbons for members that indicated if they were a mentor, mentee, award winner or first timer. Surprisingly, the "first timer" ribbons became a much sought after commodity! And no wonder. Our president, Jeff Blaustein, opened calling for a show of hands from this group. It represented nearly a third of those at the session - over 100! Next year we will be prepared with enough ribbons for all!

This year's educational workshop covered networking and was quite well attended. We are looking for topics for the workshop at SBN 2013, so please send them in.

General Announcements

Fifth Parental Brain Conference

The 5th Parental Brain Conference will be held in the UNESCO World Heritage City of Regensburg, Germany, from July 11th to 14th, 2013. The deadline for symposium proposal is end of September 2012. More detailed information and regular updates can be obtained on the conference website www.uni-r.de/ParentalBrain2013 or by contacting Dr. Oliver Bosch (oliver.bosch@ur.de).

NSF Program Director Position, Behavioral Systems Cluster

The National Science Foundation's Division of Integrative Organismal Systems (IOS) is seeking qualified candidates for a permanent Program Director in its Behavioral Systems Cluster. The Behavioral Systems Cluster supports research on the development, function, mechanisms, and evolutionary history of behavior, with an emphasis on a vertically integrated understanding of the behavioral phenotype in nature. To foster this integrative goal, the Cluster specifically encourages projects that seek to understand how combinations of neural, hormonal, physiological, and developmental mechanisms act synergistically as a system from which behavior emerges. Laboratory work or the study of animals in captivity is encouraged to the extent that it contributes to the understanding of behavior in natural settings. More information about IOS can be found at http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=504676&org=IOS&from=home.

NSF Program Directors bear the primary responsibility for carrying out the agency's overall mission to support innovative and merit-reviewed activities in basic research and education that contribute to the nation's technical strength, security, and welfare. To fulfill this responsibility requires not only knowledge in the appropriate disciplines, but also a commitment to high standards, a considerable breadth of interest and receptivity to new ideas, a strong sense of fairness, good judgment, and a high degree of personal integrity. Applicants must have a Ph.D. or equivalent experience in biology or related field with an emphasis in one of the areas administered by IOS. Candidates must also have at least six years of successful research, research administration, or scientific or academic managerial experience beyond the Ph.D. Familiarity with NSF policies and practices, administrative experience, and recognized stature among peers are desirable.

Individuals interested in applying for this vacancy should submit their materials to job announcement number-**IOS-2012-0008**. The position requirements and application procedures are located on the NSF Home Page at www.nsf.gov/about/career_opps/. If you have questions about the application process contact Johane Pace at 703-292-7493, or adsearch@nsf.gov or technical information, contact Dr. Jane Silverthorne, IOS Division Director, 703-292-8420, jsilvert@nsf.gov (Hearing impaired individuals may call TDD 703-292-8044). Applications must be received by

Monday July 23, 2012. Please feel free to share this announcement with other appropriate individuals. NSF is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

NIH Toolbox for the Assessment of Neurological and Behavioral Function

Unveiling the NIH Toolbox, Sept. 10-11, 2012, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, MD

-Free scientific conference

-Overview of the development, testing, and use of the NIH Toolbox in biomedical research

Lecture, Interactive demonstrations, Panel discussions

AND

Administering the NIH Toolbox, Sept. 12-14, 2012, MicroTek, Washington, DC.

-Comprehensive training workshop following the conference

More details at www.nihtoolbox.org

From the Federation of Associations in Behavioral and Brain Sciences (FABBS) of which SBN is a member:

A Communications Toolkit was prepared by the FABBS Foundation's new science writer to help scientists engage with the media. If any of your scientists have questions, we invite them to contact Robin Tricoles (RTricoles@fabbsfoundation.org). Robin intends to update the toolkit on a regular basis (probably several times a year), so visit the FABBS website at www.fabbsfoundation.org/science-communications to check for the latest version.

Subscribe to the FABBS Newsletter

Remember that members of SBN can subscribe to the FABBS newsletter at:

<http://www.fabbs.org/news/sign-up/>.

2012 FASEB Summer Research Conference

Integration of Genomic & Non-Genomic Steroid Receptor Actions (July 29-August 3, 2012)

Joyce M. Slingerland, University of Miami, Chair

Martin J. Kelly, Oregon Health and Science University, Co-Chair

Stephen R. Hammes, University of Rochester, Co-Chair

Keynote Speaker: Dr. Bert O'Malley, Baylor College of Medicine

Sponsored by the National Science Foundation and the National Institute of Diabetes & Digestive & Kidney Disease. For additional information contact: FASEB Summer Research Conferences, 9650 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, MD 20814 jlyons@faseb.org www.faseb.org/src.

13th Annual Symposium of the Center for Neuroendocrine Studies University of Massachusetts, Amherst

The Center for Neuroendocrine Studies at UMass, Amherst would like to announce our 13th Annual Symposium entitled, "The Motivated Brain: Hormones, Learning and Reward" which will take place on Friday, October 26, 2012. This year we are excited to have five experts in the field speak on the neurobiology of motivated behavior, each with his/her unique behavioral perspective:

Dr. Larry Young, Emory University

Dr. Jim Goodson, Indiana University

Dr. Ruth Wood, University of Southern California

Dr. Robert Bridges, TUFTS School of Veterinary Medicine

Dr. Susan Fahrback, Wake Forest University

Registration opens soon! For more program and registration information, visit our web site at <http://www.umass.edu/cns/symposium.htm>.

In addition to a poster session for contributed abstracts, we are also organizing five Career Development Workshops taking place during the Symposium. All postdoctoral, graduate and

undergraduate trainees are invited to sign up for one mid-day Workshop at the Registration table. The topics include: Finding a Graduate Program and Mentor, Navigating the Funding Mechanisms of the NIH and NSF, Work/Life Balance, Jobs Outside the Academy, and Disseminating Your Research.

Job Postings/Training Opportunities

FULL DESCRIPTIONS ARE AVAILABLE ONLINE AT THE SBN WEBSITE: <http://www.sbn.org/opportunities/bno.aspx>

Postdoctoral Positions:

Two Postdoctoral Positions, University of Liège, School of Medicine

A postdoctoral position is available in the laboratory of Jacques Balthazart and Charlotte A. Cornil in the GIGA Neurosciences at the University of Liège, School of Medicine, to study the role of neuroestrogens on the control of brain function and behavior. Our laboratory utilizes molecular, anatomical and behavioral approaches to elucidate the role of neuroestrogens in the control of sexual motivation using the Japanese quail as an animal model. In collaboration with the electrophysiology group of the GIGA Neurosciences, we are currently extending our initial electrophysiological studies to in vitro patch-clamp recordings as well as in vivo recordings in awake and behaving animals. We are seeking a highly motivated post-doc candidate with a strong background in electrophysiology and interested in behavioral neuroendocrinology. Experience in this field would be an asset. Applicants must have a PhD. The position is available immediately and applications will be considered until the position is filled. Funding is available for one year but may be extended according to progress and available funding. To apply, please send a motivation letter, CV and at least two letters of recommendation to charlotte.cornil@ulg.ac.be. For more, information see:

http://www.giga.ulg.ac.be/jcms/prod_182120/equipe-de-j-balthazart.

A postdoctoral position is available in the laboratory of Jacques Balthazart and Charlotte A. Cornil to study by a combination of in vivo imaging and molecular techniques the question of how brain plasticity is regulated at the cellular level in two songbird models (zebra finches and starlings) with different song learning and neuroplasticity characteristics. The successful candidate will be in charge of neuroanatomical and neurochemical studies by techniques such as immunohistochemistry, in situ hybridization and/or tract tracing that will be combined with in vivo imaging studies performed in Antwerpen. The candidate will also have the opportunity to participate in these imaging studies. We are seeking for a highly motivated post-doc candidate with a strong background in neuroendocrinology and (avian) neuroanatomy. Experience in the study of brain plasticity would be an asset. Applicants must have a PhD. The position is available on October 1st, 2012 and applications will be considered until the position is filled. Funding is available for five years but contracts will be issued annually with possible renewal by mutual agreement. To apply, please send a motivation letter, CV and at least two letters of recommendation to Jacques Balthazart (jbalthazart@ulg.ac.be) or Charlotte Cornil (charlotte.cornil@ulg.ac.be). For more information, see: http://www.giga.ulg.ac.be/jcms/prod_182120/equipe-de-j-balthazart and <http://webh01.ua.ac.be/biomag/index.htm>.

Postdoctoral Fellowship, University of Pennsylvania

A post-doctoral fellowship is available for recent or soon to become PhDs with a clear record of productivity and an interest in training in systems neuroscience of energy balance. Candidates with experience in techniques related to one or more of the following: behavioral pharmacology, cell signaling, gene expression, gastrointestinal physiology, biopsychology, reward/motivation, anatomical connectivity or neuroendocrinology are preferred. Grill's laboratory is examining the brain circuits including elements within medulla, midbrain, ventral and dorsal forebrain that contribute to [a] need-based and reward/environmental cue-based feeding, [b] appetitive and consummatory behavior, and [c] energy expenditure. NIH level funding is available initially;

candidates will be expected to generate funding for subsequent years. Contact: grill@psych.upenn.edu.

Postdoctoral Position, FAS Center for Systems Biology, Harvard University

Two postdoctoral positions will be available working with Dr. Lauren O'Connell at the FAS Center for Systems Biology at Harvard University to study proximate mechanisms of phenotypic evolution using poison dart frogs as a model clade. Poison dart frogs show remarkable diversity in mating systems, parental care, and color-morph patterns within and across species. Research in this integrative lab will focus on understanding how the genome contributes to variation in behavioral phenotypes between species and diversity in color morphs within a species. Applicants should send their CV, a 2-page statement of research experience and interests, and the names of three recommenders to Lauren O'Connell, by email at loconnell@utexas.edu.

Postdoctoral Position, Department of Psychology and Program in Neuroscience at the Florida State University

An NIH funded postdoctoral position is available in the Laboratory of Dr. Zuoxin Wang in the Department of Psychology and Program in Neuroscience at the Florida State University. We use socially monogamous prairie voles (*Microtus ochrogaster*) as a model. Our ongoing projects include the study of neurochemicals/neurocircuitry involved in the regulation of social behaviors such as male-female pair bonding, biparental care and aggression, as well as the examination of the effects of environmental and hormonal factors on cell birth and death in the adult brain (adult neurogenesis). To apply, please send a cover letter and CV directly tozwang@psy.fsu.edu. Florida State University is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer.



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