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**SBN**

Society for Behavioral Neuroendocrinology

## March 2013 - SBN E-News

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### Hormones and Behavior

**The March 2013 issue of *Hormones and Behavior* is now available**

The table of contents for this issue (volume 63, issue 3) can be found at:

<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/0018506X>.

### SBN Announcements

#### **Dr. Bridget Nugent receives the inaugural W.C. Young Recent Graduate Award**

We are pleased to announce the first recipient of the SBN's WC Young Recent Graduate Award for the most outstanding graduate dissertation: Dr. Bridget Nugent. Dr. Nugent is currently a post-doctoral fellow at Yale University. She did her graduate work in Dr. Peg McCarthy's laboratory at the University of Maryland School of Medicine and received her PhD in Neuroscience last year. The title of her award-winning thesis work is "Brain feminization requires active repression of masculinization via DNA methylation." Using molecular and behavioral techniques, her thesis research challenges the notion that brain feminization is a passive process by showing that disruption of DNA methylation in the developing female brain produces a masculine behavioral phenotype. Congratulations go to Dr. Nugent for her important work and for being the first recipient of this award which is in memory of the late Dr. WC Young. As a historic note, one of Dr. Young's students, Dr. Harvey Feder, was Dr. McCarthy's dissertation advisor, and thus Dr. Nugent is a direct descendant of William Young!



## **Congratulations to the Young Investigator Award Recipients**

The Awards and Professional Development Committees are pleased to congratulate three outstanding young scientists:

**Christopher Thompson, PhD**  
"DIRECT ADMINISTRATION OF THYROID HORMONE INCREASES RATES OF NEUROGENESIS AND APOPTOSIS IN THE TADPOLE OPTIC TECTUM"

Dr. Thompson is a post-doctoral fellow at the Scripps Research Institute. He will speak about his current work using an in vivo preparation to study neuronal development in tadpoles.

**Jessica Raper, PhD**  
"NEONATAL AMYGDALECTOMY ALTERS NORMAL FUNCTIONING OF CRF SYSTEMS, HPA-AXIS, AND EMOTIONAL BEHAVIOR IN RHESUS MONKEYS"

Dr. Raper, from Emory University, will present her recently completed thesis work on the effects of amygdalaectomy on behavior in group rhesus monkeys.

**Brent Horton, PhD**  
"NEUROENDOCRINE AND GENETIC BASES OF ALTERNATIVE REPRODUCTIVE STRATEGIES IN A UNIQUE NATURAL MODEL"  
Dr. Horton will present his post-doctoral research on alternative reproductive strategies in two genetic morphs in white-throated sparrows.

### **SBN Travel Awards**

SBN Travel Awards will be announced by March 18th. Students who submitted an application for this award should make sure to register for the meeting by the early deadline of May 19th, 2013.

### **Don't forget to register to attend SBN 2013 in Atlanta**

The 17th Annual Meeting of the Society for Behavioral Neuroendocrinology will be held from June 23 - 26, 2013 in Atlanta, Georgia. The meeting will take place at the Loews Atlanta Hotel located in the heart of vibrant Midtown Atlanta.

While the abstract deadline has passed, early registration remains open until May 19th, 2013.

Registration information can be found at: <http://sbn.org/meetings/2013/> and preliminary program information can be found at <http://www.sbn.org/meetings/2013/SBN%202013%20Program.pdf>.

## **General Announcements**

### **Announcements for the Federation of Associations in Behavioral & Brain Sciences (FABBS)**

#### **Sequestration Will Deal A Devastating Blow To Medical Research - State-by-State Impact**

The Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology (FASEB) released an updated analysis projecting the state-by-state impact of the sequestration cuts to the National Institutes of Health (NIH). The FASEB analysis shows what the NIH cuts could mean for each state if research grant and contract award budgets were cut by 5.1 percent. These are conservative estimates of the impact.

FASEB	State-by-State	Impact
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**What You Need To Know About The Sequester.** The White House is collecting personal stories about the impact of budget cuts due to sequester. If individuals have high-impact stories to share about having to lay off junior scientists or other staff, please share them. Also, remember to mention the relevance of the research and why losing the next generation will harm science. Send a copy to the FABBS Executive Director at: [pskedsvold@fabbs.org](mailto:pskedsvold@fabbs.org) so that we can tell these stories during our Hill visits. Here's the site: Share Your Stories on the Sequester

**Accelerating Integrative Research in Neuroscience and Cognitive Science (AIR-NCS).**

The National Science Foundation seeks proposals with the potential to transform neuroscience and cognitive science. We invite proposals that accelerate new integrative research across disciplines and across spatial and temporal scales of analysis in cognitive science and neuroscience. Such approaches will enhance our understanding of how the brain regulates the individual's biology, processes complex social and physical cues, and allows organisms to behave in and adapt to changing environments. [View](#) [Letter](#)

**Short-term Mentored Career Enhancement Awards in the Basic Behavioral and Social Sciences: Cross-Training at the Intersection of Animal Models and Human Investigation (K18).**

This funding opportunity announcement (FOA), issued by the NIH Basic Behavioral & Social Science Opportunity Network (OppNet), invites applications for short-term mentored career enhancement (K18) awards in basic behavioral and social sciences research (b-BSSR). Basic research using any non-human species or with human subjects in laboratory or field settings is appropriate for this FOA [More Information](#)

**Request for Information (RFI): NIDA Dissemination and Implementation Priority Areas.**

The National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA), part of the National Institutes of Health (NIH), seeks comments from a broad range of stakeholders on the research and information needed to support the widespread use of evidence-based drug abuse treatment interventions and practices. Input is sought from practitioners and administrators serving individuals with substance use disorders, including those working in general medical and primary care; infectious disease (e.g., HIV and HCV); criminal justice; and specialty care substance abuse and mental health settings. [More Information](#)

**Dear Colleague Letter: FY 2013 Career-Life Balance (CLB)-Faculty Early Career Development Program (CAREER) Supplemental Funding Requests.**

Instituted in 2012, NSF's Career-Life Balance (CLB) Initiative is an ambitious, 10-year initiative that will build on the best of family-friendly practices among individual NSF programs to expand them to activities NSF-wide. This agency-level approach will help attract, retain, and advance graduate students, postdoctoral students, and early-career researchers in STEM fields. The purpose of this DCL is to announce the continuation of the supplemental funding opportunity initiated in FY 2012 for PIs supported in the CAREER program. CAREER Principal Investigators (PIs) are invited to submit supplemental funding requests to support additional personnel (e.g., research technicians or equivalent) to sustain research when the PI is on family leave. [More Information](#)

**The NIH Director's Biomedical Research Workforce Innovation**

**Award: Broadening Experiences in Scientific Training (BEST) (DP7).**

The purpose of this FOA is to seek, identify and support bold and innovative approaches to broaden graduate and postdoctoral training, such that training programs reflect the range of career options that trainees (regardless of funding source) ultimately may pursue and that are required for a robust biomedical, behavioral, social and clinical research enterprise. Collaborations with non-academic partners are encouraged to ensure that experts from a broad spectrum of research and research-related careers contribute to coursework, rotations, internships or other forms of exposure. More Information

**Job Postings/Training Opportunities**

**Faculty Positions:**

**FULL DESCRIPTIONS ARE AVAILABLE ONLINE AT  
THE SBN WEBSITE**

<http://www.sbn.org/opportunities/bno.aspx>

Assistant Professor, Animal Physiologist, Tenure-track. The Department of Zoology, Oklahoma State University

**Postdoctoral Positions:**

Postdoctoral position in behavioral neurobiology in the laboratory of Dr. Lauren Ritters, Department of Zoology, University of Wisconsin, Madison

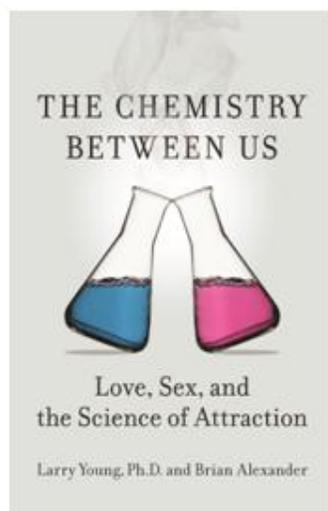
Postdoctoral Position in electrophysiology of social bonding in the laboratories of Dr. Robert Liu and Dr. Larry Young, Department of Biology and Yerkes National Primate Research Center, Emory University

Postdoctoral position in behavioural neuroscience at CNRS/Université F. Rabelais to investigate the neuronal bases of emotional behaviors in domestic chicks (*Gallus gallus domesticus*)

Postdoctoral Position in Reproductive Neuroendocrinology in Kaufman Lab, University of California, San Diego

**SBN Member Books**

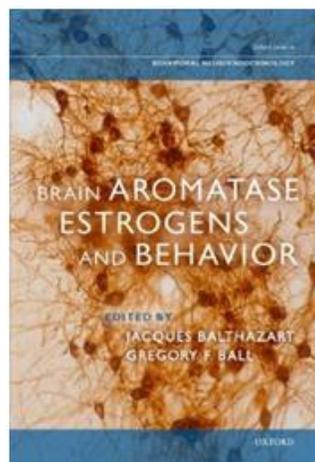
*The Chemistry Between Us: Love, Sex and the Science of Attraction*, Larry Young & Brian Alexander, Current Hardcover, 2012.



SBN member Larry Young and science writer Brian Alexander team up to publish *The Chemistry Between Us: Love, Sex and the Science of Attraction* (<http://thechemistrybetweenus.com>).

Written for the general public and scientists alike, this book provides a thorough, yet light hearted and entertaining account of the neuroendocrine mechanisms that drive sexual, parental and social behavior, as well as of the scientists who made those discoveries. Each chapter is grounded in animal experiments performed by many of our own SBN members, and then relates these mechanistic studies to parallel findings in our own species. Tackling topics ranging from the development of the sexual brain to monogamy, cheating and society, *The Chemistry Between Us* will both inform and entertain. An excellent holiday gift, and an excellent way to engage undergraduates in Hormones and Behavior courses.

*Brain Aromatase, Estrogens, and Behavior*, Jacques Balthazart & Gregory F. Ball (Eds), Oxford University Press, 2012.



Estrogens, such as estradiol, can occur in brain as the result of ovarian secretion of the hormone into the blood. In male vertebrates, the testes secrete androgens, such as testosterone, into the blood and this class of steroid hormones can be converted into estrogens in the brain via the action of the enzyme aromatase, which is expressed in the male brain in many species. Finally, estradiol can be synthesized de novo from cholesterol. This book collects chapters by experts in the field that considers how estradiol is synthesized in the brain and what its effects are on a variety of behaviors. Special attention is paid to the enzyme aromatase

that is distributed in discrete regions of the brain and is highly regulated in a sex-specific and seasonal specific manner. Recently it has become clear that estrogens can act in the brain at two very different time scales, one is rather long lasting (days to weeks) and involves the modulation of gene transcription by the hormone-receptor complex. A second mode of action is much quicker and involves the action of estrogens on cell membranes that can result in effects on second messenger systems and ultimately behavior within minutes. Thus this book highlights novel views of estrogen action that are still under-appreciated namely that estrogens have significant effects on the male brain and that they can act on two very different times scales. This volume will be of interest to basic researchers and clinicians interested in the action of estrogens.

