



SBN

Society for Behavioral Neuroendocrinology

E-Newsletter

March 2008

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SBN ANNOUNCEMENTS

1) OUR 2008 ANNUAL MEETING

Be sure to mark your calendars for the 2008 meeting in Groningen July 7-10th!

This is a reminder that deadlines are approaching for submission of abstracts and for reduced registration:

April 1: The deadline for abstract submission

May 1: The deadline for reduced registration

[Please Click Here for Details and Documents](#)

2) CALL FOR NOMINATIONS: Frank A. Beach Award in Behavioral Neuroendocrinology

Nominations are being accepted for the 18th Frank A. Beach Award in Behavioral Neuroendocrinology. The award will be made to a new investigator with an advanced degree who shows exceptional promise for making significant contributions to the field of behavioral neuroendocrinology. Investigators conducting original research in any area of behavioral neuroendocrinology may be nominated, provided they do not hold an academic rank higher than Assistant Professor or equivalent. There is no limit on the number of years post-degree.

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. In addition, it is suggested that the nominee submit a one-page, single-spaced statement of how his or her work has contributed to our field. Re-nomination of individuals nominated previously but not chosen is encouraged. The Awardee will present a short lecture (about 20 minutes) and receive the award and an honorarium at the Society for Behavioral Neuroendocrinology Social at the annual meeting of the Society for Neuroscience (Washington, DC; November 15-19, 2008). The text of the lecture will also be published in *Hormones and Behavior*.

****Deadline for submission of nominations is July 1, 2008**

This year's Beach Awardee will be selected by the SBN Awards Committee, whose members include Elaine Hull (Chair), Gabriela Gonzalez-Mariscal, Peg McCarthy, Matthew Grober, Brian Prendergast, and Christine Wagner. Nominations for this year's award should be sent to:

Elaine Hull
Department of Psychology, Eppes Hall, 145 Convocation Way, Florida
State University, Tallahassee, FL 32306-1270
hull@psy.fsu.edu

Previous awardees of the Frank A. Beach Award are:

Emilie F. Rissman, (Horm. Behav. 1991, 25, 125-127)
Jill E. Schneider, (Horm. Behav. 1992, 26, 1-6)
Ilona Vathy, (Horm. Behav. 1993, 27, 1-4)
Barney Schlinger, (Horm. Behav. 1994, 28, 191-198)
Margaret M. McCarthy, (Horm. Behav. 1995, 29, 127-130), Co-winner
Laura Smale, (Horm. Behav. 1995, 29, 131-140), Co-winner
James Pfaus, (Horm. Behav. 1996, 30, 187-200)
Ruth Wood, (Horm. Behav. 1997, 32, 40-45)
Miles Orchinik, (Horm. Behav. 1998, 34, 320-327)
Larry Young, (Horm. Behav. 1999, 36, 212-221)
Lique Coolen
Courtney DeVries, (Horm. Behav. 2002, 41, 405-413)
Joseph Lonstein, (Horm. Behav. 2002, 42, 258-262)
Tracy Bale, (Horm. Behav. 2005, 48, 1-10,)
Anthony Auger, (Horm. Behav. 2004, 45, 168-172), Co-winner
Greg Demas, (Horm. Behav. 2004, 45, 173-180), Co-winner
Brian Prendergast, (Horm. Behav. 2005, 48, 503-511), Co-winner
James L. Goodson, (Horm. Behav., 2005, 48, 11-22) , Co-winner
Lance Kriegsfeld, (Horm. Behav., 2006, 50, 655-666)
Kevin Kelliher, (Horm. Behav., 2007, 52, 561-570)
Leonida Fusani

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

1) GORDON CONFERENCE ON NEUROETHOLOGY

Magdalen College, Oxford, UK. August 10-15, 2008

Conference Chairs: Paul Katz pkatz@gsu.edu and Catherine Carr cecarr@umd.edu

[Click Here To Be Directed To The Conference Website For Registration Information](#)

This conference will focus on the evolution of neural circuits underlying species-specific behavior. In the spirit of the Gordon Conferences, the meeting is meant to foster intense discussion with the intent to push the frontiers of the field.

Students and postdoctoral fellows are especially invited to register also for the two-day Graduate Research Seminar "Neuroethology 2050." This unique venue, which will be held in Oxford on August 9-10, 2008, the weekend prior to the main Neuroethology Gordon Research Conference, provides an opportunity for the next generation of scientists to imagine what the field will look like in the year 2050. Students and post-docs who are accepted to "Neuroethology 2050" will be accepted into the main Gordon Conference provided that they apply to both.

****Please register soon as space at the conferences is limited!!**

[Click Here For More Information and Registration](#)

The Gordon conference will focus on the evolution of neural circuits underlying species-specific behavior. In the spirit of the Gordon Conferences, the meeting is meant to foster intense discussion with the intent to push the frontiers of the field. Each speaker is being asked to speak for 20 minutes, leaving 10 minutes for discussion. These will not be conventional data-driven talks; rather, the speakers have been asked to address the central questions of the session using their own work and the work of others in their field to illustrate their ideas.

The main Gordon Conference will start with dual keynote talks on aspects of decision-making by Joshua Gold and Michael Platt. The next day will have two sessions on the fundamentals - current views of the origin of nervous systems and structure function relationships of neural circuitry. There will be a sessions on homology, homoplasy, and divergence in neural circuits to discuss whether evolution always yields a common solution to similar problems of neural coding. Another session will discuss animal models of human characteristics and ask if we are anthropomorphizing or whether there are common substrates for human traits such as love, dreaming, and social climbing? We will also discuss the evolution and development of neural circuits in order to ask how much can we learn about the function of neural circuits from developmental rules. We will devote a session to discuss variability and homeostasis. Our final session is a round table discussion on uncovering general principles in neuroethology. In addition, two poster sessions will permit all participants to contribute. There will also be an ad hoc session in which speakers will be chosen from the poster presenters.

The meeting agenda is on the [website](#) and you will see many neuroethologists among the list as presenters, discussants and organizers. Check your calendars and see if you can find the time to join us in Oxford for this unique meeting!

2) FEEDBACK SOUGHT: NIH DRAFT PEER REVIEW REPORT

On February 28, 2008, the Final Draft of the NIH 2007-2008 Peer Review Self-Study was submitted to Dr. Elias Zerhouni, Director of NIH, marking the end of the diagnostic phase of the peer review enhancement effort.

To obtain the PDF file of Final Draft Report: Final Draft Report (PDF, 1.69MB)- please go to the Peer Review Website:
<http://enhancing-peer-review.nih.gov/>

**Persons with disabilities experiencing problems accessing portions of the above PDF file should contact Kerry Brink (301) 435-2641.

This Final Draft Report identifies the most significant challenges facing the NIH peer review system and proposes recommended actions. If you wish to comment on the Final Draft, please send your comments no later than Monday, March 17, 2008, via:

Electronically: PeerReviewRFI@mail.nih.gov

Or United States Mail:

Penny Wung Burgoon, Ph.D.
Senior Assistant to the Deputy Director
Office of the Director, NIH
One Center Drive,
Building 1, Room 114
Bethesda, MD
20892-0183

3) CALL FOR ABSTRACTS: OBESITY SOCIETY

Call for abstracts for the Obesity Society's 2008 Annual Scientific Meeting, October 3-7, Phoenix, AZ.
The abstract submission deadline is April 22.

[For Abstract Submission and More Information Click Here](#)

4) WORKSHOP: "Pre-receptor steroid metabolism as target for pharmacological treatment"

We draw your attention to the forthcoming Workshop on "Pre-receptor steroid metabolism as target for pharmacological treatment" to be held in Eibsee Hotel (close to Munich, Germany) on May 26-28, 2008.

During the Workshop state-of-the-art approaches in the molecular basis of endocrine-related human diseases like metabolic syndrome, diabetes, obesity, endometriosis or breast and prostate cancer will be presented and discussed. The focus will be pre-receptor metabolism of steroids modulating the action of cognate receptors. Recent data on the development of new diagnostic tools and enzyme specific inhibitors as drugs at the pre-clinical phase of development will be included. The Workshop addresses junior investigators (graduate students and postdoctoral fellows), basic and clinical researchers and companies interested in translational aspects of development of diagnostics and therapeutics.

[If You Are Interested In Participating Please Click Here For Further Details](#)

New Job Announcement (1)

1) RESEARCH TECHNICIAN, Boston College

Research Technician position is available in the area of Behavioral Neuroscience in the laboratory of Dr. Gorica Petrovich in the Psychology Department at Boston College. This position involves conducting behavioral and neurobiological experiments with rats in studies of learning, motivation and feeding.

The primary duties will include: behavioral testing and analysis of behavioral data, neuroanatomical and histological procedures, and other laboratory tasks.

Neuroanatomical and histological procedures include surgery, fixation, dissection, slicing, in situ hybridization, and staining brain material from laboratory animals.

Requirements: BA or BS degree, and laboratory experience. Skills/experience with some of the duties listed above required.

If you wish to be considered for the position please contact Gorica Petrovich: gorica.petrovich@bc.edu