



SBN

Society for Behavioral Neuroendocrinology

E-Newsletter

September 2008

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SBN Announcements

Society for Behavioral Neuroendocrinology 13th Annual Meeting Call for Proposals

The thirteenth annual meeting of the Society for Behavioral Neuroendocrinology will be held at Michigan State University in East Lansing, Michigan, on June 25 – 27, 2009, with a pre-meeting workshop on June 24th. Meeting details will soon be posted on the SBN website (<http://www.sbn.org/>).

We now seek proposals for symposia, keynote speakers, and the pre-meeting workshop. We welcome input from SBN members at all career stages – student through professor emeritus. Please email your proposals or questions to the SBN Program Committee chair, Sheri Berenbaum (sberenbaum@psu.edu). Proposals must be received by October 12, 2008 to receive full consideration from the Committee.

Symposia

The meeting will include six symposia: the Young Investigators Symposium, and five general symposia. We seek proposals for the five general symposia, each of which is expected to feature three or four speakers. A suggested format is a brief introduction or overview by one person (perhaps the symposium organizer), followed by three full-length talks. Please provide a title and a brief rationale for why the topic is timely and likely to be of great interest to the SBN membership. Include the names of four or five suggested speakers and their areas of expertise. *Please do not invite proposed speakers until the symposium is accepted.* Priority will be given to symposia with broad representation from the international community and to speakers and topics that have not been represented at recent meetings; programs from past SBN meetings are available on the society website (<http://www.sbn.org/>). The Program Committee may recommend combining two proposals and/or substituting speakers.

Keynote Speakers

The meeting will feature two keynote addresses. Please propose outstanding scientists who are also excellent speakers; please include a short description supporting your nominee(s). There is particular interest in having a speaker on evolution in light of the bicentenary of Darwin's birth and the 150th anniversary of the publication of his seminal work, *On the Origin of Species*.

Pre-Meeting Workshop

The workshop is a half-day event on a single topic, held prior to the regular meeting. The format is generally more didactic in style than symposia and may include an introduction to the field, a historical perspective, a focus on unresolved problems within a field, emerging issues, etc. Translational topics are especially encouraged. The format is flexible (please be creative) and may include small breakout discussion groups. This is a great opportunity to introduce students to a field and/or to bring together researchers in a single area for extended discussion. In your proposal, please include a title, a rationale, and five or six suggested participants. *Please do not invite proposed speakers at this time.*

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SBN Program Committee:

Sheri Berenbaum, Chair

Julie Bakker

Andy Bass

Jeff Blaustein

Alexander Kauffman

Randy Nelson

Inga Neumann

Lauren Ritters

GianCarlo Panzica

Tracy Shors

Stuart Tobet

Gert ter Horst

Poster Award Winners at 2008 SBN Meeting

For those unable to attend this year's meeting, we wanted to acknowledge and congratulate this year's winners. They are:

Undergraduate:

Loretta Y. M. Lau

Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, University of British Columbia

"Metabolism of DHEA in zebra finch brain: Subcellular localization of 3 β -HSD"

Graduate:

Elaine Murray

Center for Neuroendocrine Studies, University of Massachusetts, Amherst

"Epigenetic control of sexual differentiation of the bed nucleus of the stria terminalis of mice"

1st Runner-up:

Casey Henley

Department of Zoology, Michigan State University

"Neonatal estrogen treatment masculinizes the partner preference of female laboratory rats"

Postdoctoral:

Siddarth Ramakrishnan

Department of Physiology, UCLA School of Medicine

"Effect of male exposure on the electrophysiology of terminal nerve (TN)-GnRH neurons of female medaka fish (Oryzias latipes)"

Runners-up:

Stefan Leitner

Department of Behavioral Neurobiology, Max Planck Institute for Ornithology, Seewiesen, Germany

"Endocrine disruption increases song complexity and the volume of the brain area HVC in a songbird"

Amnon Katz

Department of Physiological Science and Lab of Neuroendocrinology, UCLA

"Sex differences in cell proliferation, glucocorticoid responsiveness and metabolism in the adult zebra finch brain"

SBN Scientific Advocacy Award

A new award has been created by the Society for Behavioral Neuroendocrinology to recognize an individual who has made outstanding contributions to the field of behavioral neuroendocrinology through advocacy of the field on the interface between research and the public. Nominated individuals may serve in a variety of capacities including, but not limited to, employees of government or non-profit agencies, individuals that directly or indirectly educate the public on scientific matters, writers/journalists, etc. We would like to give this award for the first time at the SFN meeting this November in Washington DC. If you would like to nominate an individual, please send a copy of the candidate's CV and a letter describing how the individual's career exemplifies scientific advocacy. Nominations should be received by September 30, 2008. Send the nomination materials to Dr. Elaine Hull (hull@fsu.edu) the chair of the Awards Committee.

General Announcements

The following website contains answers by the US Presidential candidates to "top science questions facing America":

<http://www.sciencedebate2008.com/www/index.php?id=42>

SBN endorses no particular candidate, but SBN members may be interested in their answers as several questions bear on the research we conduct.

Job Postings/Training Opportunities

THE DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY, UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS - AMHERST invites applications for a tenure track faculty position at the rank of assistant or associate professor in behavioral neuroscience, beginning fall 2009. We will consider outstanding applicants in any area of behavioral neuroscience, although researchers in stress and in synaptic plasticity (including neural mechanisms of learning and memory) are especially encouraged to apply. Applicants must have an excellent record of research, clear potential to obtain support for an active research program, and strong teaching skills. The successful applicant will interact with a highly visible group of neuroendocrinologists working on rodent and primate models, as well as with other strong groups in the Psychology Department (<http://euryle.sbs.umass.edu/PsychWeb/index.html>), Neuroscience and Behavior Graduate Program (<http://www.umass.edu/neuro>) and the Center for Neuroendocrine Studies (<http://www.umass.edu/cns>). Rank and salary are dependent on experience and qualifications. Applicants should send a vita, a statement of research and teaching interests, reprints of recent publications, and at least three letters of recommendation to:

Behavioral Neuroscience Search Committee
Department of Psychology, University of Massachusetts
Amherst, MA 01003

The search committee will begin reviewing applications on November 14, 2008, and will continue until the position is filled. Hiring is contingent upon the availability of funds. The University of Massachusetts is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer. Women and members of minority groups are strongly encouraged to apply.