



NEUROSCIENCE *Ireland*

Introduction

Welcome to the second edition of the *Neuroscience Ireland Newsletter*. We encourage all Irish Neuroscientists to become members of Neuroscience Ireland which includes automatic membership of the Federation of European Neuroscience Societies (FENS).

Benefits of Neuroscience Ireland membership

- Discounted members registration fee for the 2012 annual meeting of Neuroscience Ireland
- Eligible to apply for Neuroscience Ireland travel bursaries (PhD students/Post docs)
- Eligible to apply for Neuroscience Ireland conference/workshop grants (PIs)
- Eligible to be nominated for Neuroscience Ireland Early Career Investigator award
- Free subscription to the Neuroscience Ireland newsletter/e-mail alerts
- Members of Neuroscience Ireland are automatically members of FENS. This entitles Neuroscience Ireland members to the following benefits:
 - A reduced registration rate for the FENS Forum
 - Access to the official FENS journal, EJN, online free of charge, and a subscription to the print edition at a reduced rate
 - Eligibility to apply for one of the free abstract slots for the SfN Meeting, linked to a reduced registration fee
 - Subscription at very attractive discount rates to several leading neuroscience journals
 - Eligibility to buy books at special FENS member rates
 - Receipt of the **FENS** e-mailings (Job Market, EJN table of contents etc.) regularly

For further details visit: <http://fens.mdc-berlin.de/services>

We are aiming to promote the use of **Neuroscience Ireland's** abbreviated name 'NSI'. We hope this will be easier for our members to use and will also help further in the national and international awareness of Neuroscience in Ireland.

The 2011 Annual Meeting

The 6th Annual meeting of NSI was held on 1st

& 2nd September in NUI, Maynooth. There was a strong programme of invited speakers of world-class standing, and also ample opportunity for early-stage researchers to present their work. The symposia addressed the themes of Schizophrenia, Stroke, Cognition, Synaptic Plasticity and Learning, Circadian Rhythms and Sleep, Neuroinflammation and Neurodegeneration, as well as others areas of neuroscience. Over 180 people attended and they had over 100 abstracts, which will soon be published in the *Irish Journal of Medical Science*.

NSI Distinguished Investigator Award

Prof. Brian Leonard, Emeritus Professor of Pharmacology, NUI, Galway was the first recipient of the NSI distinguished investigator award. Prof. Leonard has been a long standing contributor to Neuroscience research and Education both in Ireland and internationally. We are delighted that Prof. Leonard has accepted this award.

Winners of Travel Bursaries

NSI has recently awarded its second round of travel bursaries to post-grad and post-doc members whose work has been accepted for presentation at an international conference. Travel bursaries are worth up to €500 each. The three winners for this second round of travel awards were:

- **Weredeslam Olango** presented a poster at the Society for Neuroscience Annual Conference in Washington DC, USA on 12-16 November. The title of his poster was 'Evidence of a role for the endocannabinoid system in anxiety-related hyperalgesia in rats.'
- **Gary Brennan** presented a poster at the Society for Neuroscience Annual Conference in Washington DC, USA on 12-16 November. The title of his poster was 'Overexpression of 14-3-3zeta in tg mice prevents seizure-induced neuronal death'.
- **Aedin Minogue** who presented a poster at the 10th European Meeting on Glial Cells in Health and Disease in Prague, Czech Republic on 13-17 September. The title of her poster was 'LPS-induced release of IL-6 modulates production of TNF- α and IL-1 β in a JAK2-dependent manner.'

Congratulations to the winners and we wish the three winners enjoyable conference trips.



Speaker/poster awards at NSI meeting

During the 2011 NSI meeting, 2 speaker, 2 poster blitz and 6 poster prizes were awarded. Winners of these NSI awards were:

- Best Oral Presentations: Dr. Joshua Balsters (TCD) and Mairead Diviney (NUIM).
- Poster Blitz: Prizes: Caroline Browne (UCC) and Ruth Crowley (NUIG).
- Poster Prizes: Janelle Pakan (UCC), Dr. John Butler (Albert Einstein College Med, NY), Dr. John Kealy (NUIM), Audrey Wall (UCD), Conor Freeman (NUIG), and Jennifer Day (TCD).

Publication Awards

Just got a paper accepted?

Neuroscience Ireland is offering €200 quarterly prizes to young scientists (PhD students/post-doctoral fellows) who have just published an original research paper in an international journal. Applicants should be the first author, and should send a PDF of their paper to Neuroscience Ireland at neuroscience.ireland@gmail.com with a cover letter explaining the importance of their research findings.

A winner will be selected on the last Friday of January, April, July and October. However, should the number of papers submitted by any of these deadlines be below five they will be rolled over for assessment in the next quarter.

Winning papers will be highlighted in the *Neuroscience Ireland Newsletter*, and winners will also be invited to present an oral communication at the **Neuroscience Ireland annual meeting**.

Upcoming meetings and workshops

The 16th **International Parkinson's Disease and Other Movement Disorders Congress** is being hosted in Dublin June 17th -21st 2011 at the Dublin Convention Centre. This is the largest Parkinson's disease meeting worldwide and attracts over 4000 clinical and neuroscientific delegates. Abstract submission open from October 3rd, 2011 and neuroscience abstracts are especially welcome. As co-chair of the Scientific Organising Committee Dr. Tim Lynch encourages Irish neuroscientists to submit an abstract for the meeting. More information is available on the following website: www.mskcongress2012.org

DUBLIN
IRELAND
JUNE 17 - 21, 2012

A **British Pharmacology Society Sir James Black Meeting on Neurotherapeutics** is being hosted in University College Dublin on 19th -21st March 2012. The meeting is particularly focussing on the interface between basic and industry research and the challenges in translating new treatments for brain diseases into clinical use. Thematic areas include Neurodegeneration, Depression and Autism. The closing deadline for submissions is **15th January 2012**. More information is available on the following website: www.bps.ac.uk/view/0/futureProgrammes.html

Other Workshops and Meetings:

If you would like to send us details of any workshops or meetings you are holding please send to the email address below. We will make every effort to include details of your meeting in the next Newsletter. We also welcome any news on the success of workshops and meetings that have been recently held.

CONTACT
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Visit the Neuroscience Ireland
website at:
www.neuroscienceireland.org

We hope that all our members had a very Happy Christmas and wish you all a very prosperous 2012!