General Notice

UCL rated top UK university by research strength in the REF2014

UCL is the top-rated university in the UK for research strength in the new Research Excellence Framework 2014 published today, by a measure of average research score multiplied by staff numbers submitted.

UCL researchers received a ‘grade point average’ of 3.22 (out of 4) and submitted over 2,500 staff to be assessed in REF2014, giving UCL an overall research power greater than both the University of Oxford and the University of Cambridge.

Find out more

UCL launches dedicated animal research information website

UCL today launched a new public information website on animal research, describing how and why animals are used across the university.

The website explains how animal research is conducted at UCL, including descriptions of the processes governing research and the ‘3Rs’: replacing animal research with alternatives, reducing the number of animals used and refining experiments to minimise harm and discomfort to the animals. The site also lists up-to-date figures of how many animals of each species were used in UCL research last year.

Find out more
Next Psychodynamic Neuroscience Research meeting: Thursday 29 January 2015

6pm
Institute of Cognitive Neuroscience (ICN), Alexandra House, 17 Queen Square, London WC1

As you may know by now, a Neuropsychoanalysis Group has been formed in London with special emphasis on psychodynamic neuroscience and neuropsychology research.

Now in its seventh year, this interdisciplinary group is modelled on the many other successful NPSA groups that exist internationally. The aim is to provide a venue for clinicians and researchers with an interest in Neuropsychoanalysis and Psychodynamic Neuroscience. The Group also functions as a base for exchanging professional news, enhancing interdisciplinary careers and forming clinical and research collaborations. Each meeting consists of a presentation of neuroscientific research or a psychoanalytically-informed clinical work with neurological patients, followed by extensive discussion by the group.

Speaker: David Rudrauf, Research Associate at the Grenoble Institute of Neuroscience, France. David’s current work focuses on cognitive resilience (self-awareness); he has published widely.

‘Causal approaches to understanding and controlling cognitive resilience to neurological disorders: challenges for functional neuroanatomy’

Abstract: Dr Rudrauf will begin by introducing a general model about central aspects of human psychology and its neural underpinning that he has come to embrace over the years through the study of the causal role of brain systems in large-scale cognitive networks based on the human lesion method, of structure-function relationships in brain networks combining computational neuroscience, neuroimaging and electrophysiology, and through theoretical rationale. After presenting some of this work, he will discuss how the phenomenon of cognitive resilience to severe and irreversible brain damage, which is rather prevalent in neurology, forces us to think beyond such a general anatomo-functional framework, challenges our ways of thinking about structure-function relationships in the brain, but also offers a paradigm to further study how the mind and the brain are related. Dr Rudrauf will illustrate how higher-order cognition, notably self-awareness, can be resilient to massive bilateral brain damage to regions that appear to normally participate to their operation. He will discuss how functional resilience can exploit redundancies in resources in the brain and how it implies mechanisms capable of solving complex problems of re-routing of information streams following irreversible brain damage and disconnection. He will highlight the importance of top-down mechanisms in resilience and functional recovery, and propose a general hypothesis about the nature and function of consciousness. Finally, he will evoke projects currently in development aimed at overcoming limitations of the lesion method in the study of the causal role of cognitive networks.

Contact: Paula Barkay

Royal Society funding visit to UCL
Monday 23rd February 2015, 9:30 – 11:30am
Pavilion (UCL Quad)

The Royal Society (RS) will be visiting UCL to present and discuss their funding schemes. The RS provides a range of grant schemes funding the natural and applied sciences including medicine and engineering.

As part of this event Professor Sarah-Jayne Blakemore (Deputy Director of the Institute of Cognitive Neuroscience, UCL and current RS University Research Fellow) will give an account of her own RS funding and her research highlights. The morning will finish with an interactive panel discussion and Q&A session followed by an informal networking session over tea & coffee.

More details and how to register to follow.

Call for Neuroscience academic research posters

UCL recently announced that it has entered into a strategic partnership with Newham Collegiate Sixth Form Centre (NCS) in East Ham, a specialist centre for Science and Mathematics.

Olga Markoulides, Head of Biology, is keen for NCS science students to be exposed to cutting edge research right from the start of their A-level studies, and is eager for them to become aware of the sort of exciting and inspiring research that is going on at UCL.

Digital or print copies of any recent research posters are invited to be sent in for display at NCS.

To submit your poster for display at NCS, please email Olga Markoulides.

Neuroscience Careers Network

Neuroscience Careers Network Forum: Getting Published

18 February 2015, 4pm-5pm (followed by a drinks reception)
Lecture Theatre (106), Roberts Building, Malet Place, London WC1E 7JE

There is more to preparing a manuscript for publication than collecting all the data. Presentation of the hypothesis and the experimental procedures in a coherent manner, as well as thoroughly addressing questions the reader might have, are of paramount importance for successful and painless (as much as possible) submission! Take this opportunity to get some invaluable tips from leading researchers on how to prepare a manuscript and how to answer reviewers’ comments as well as guidance from a leading journal’s editor on successful manuscript preparation. Talks will be followed by a drinks reception for networking where you will be able to talk to the speakers.

Confirmed speakers:
Preparation Full-Length ("Single-Stage" Or "Stage 2") Collaborative Horizon 2020 Proposals

Thursday 5th February, from 09:00 to 12:00
Medawar Building, Room G01

UCL European Research and Innovation Office (ERIO) is holding a series of workshops to provide UCL’s research community with information on the EU’s new Horizon 2020 research & innovation funding programme, along with advice on how to prepare successful proposals.

The next workshop will be directed at UCL staff who have either confirmation of successful Stage 1 collaborative proposals and have therefore been invited by the EU to submit to Stage 2, or who plan to submit a single-stage proposal in the next 4 months. This workshop is not suitable to PIs applying to either the European Research Council or the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Action schemes.

We are very happy to welcome Dr Peter Sheard (CEO of Trend 2000 Ltd) as a keynote speaker at this workshop. Dr Sheard is an ex-EU grant evaluator and has significant experience in the preparation of proposals with strong dissemination & exploitation plans, which are crucial components of Horizon 2020 grants.

We plan to hold further workshops in the near future, which will cover other topics. Stay tuned for more information on this website.

Contact: Dr Juliet Ellis

Register now
You can now register for the National Institute for Health Research University College London Hospitals Biomedical Research Centre (BRC) annual meeting.

This meeting will be an opportunity to hear more about the work of the BRC in supporting experimental medicine and to input into future plans. The meeting is particularly significant because it will mark the launch of the re-bid for funding for the centre. There will be an opportunity to discuss development in the BRC’s research strategy and the chance to directly influence the strategy as it takes shape.

Register now

Neuroscience and Scientists – The Hungarian Experience

Wednesday 11 February, 18:00 – 20:00 followed by a drinks reception
A.V. Hill Lecture Theatre, Neuroscience, Physiology and Pharmacology, Medical Sciences Building, UCL, Gower Street, London WC1E 6BT

Presented by the Hungarian Cultural Centre London and UCL’s Neuroscience, Physiology and Pharmacology Department, this symposium is part of the Hungarian Cultural Centre’s initiative called Hungarian Student College, which the Hungarian Cultural Centre organises in partnership with the Association of Hungarian Students Abroad (KÜMA) and the Hungarian Societies of UCLU, LSE, King’s College, SOAS and Imperial College. The Hungarian Student College aims to invite internationally recognised experts of various fields – diplomacy, politics, science, business, etc. – who can engage and inspire the younger generation. The events of the Hungarian Student College always involve a Q&A with the speakers and they also serve as invaluable professional networking opportunities when the events conclude with a wine reception.

Speakers:
- Professor Tamás Freund, Director, Institute of Experimental Medicine, Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Chairman of the Neuroscience Department of Péter Pázmány Catholic University in Budapest – The National Brain Research Program
- Professor Angus Silver, Professor of Neuroscience & Wellcome Trust Principal Research Fellow working at UCL’s Neuroscience, Physiology and Pharmacology Department – Neuroscience and the Magyars: Links between Hungarian and British neuroscience
- Professor Péter Somogyi, Director, Medical Research Council, Anatomical Neuro-pharmacology Unit, Professor of Neurobiology, Department of Pharmacology, University of Oxford – Scientific mentoring in the past and in the information age

Contact: Hungarian Cultural Centre London
Tel: 020 7240 8448

UK Neuromuscular Translational Research Conference 2015
Thursday 19 - Friday 20 March 2015  
Newcastle upon Tyne

Hosted jointly by the MRC Centre for Neuromuscular Diseases and the Muscular Dystrophy Campaign, this is the 8th Annual UK Neuromuscular Translational Research Conference. Designed to engage neuromuscular clinicians and scientists, this conference showcases the best and latest developments in neuromuscular science, and highlights their translation into patient benefit.

Key Disease Themes for 2015:
• Mitochondrial Disease
• Genomic Data
• New Targets in Neuromuscular Disease
• MRI in Neuromuscular Diseases

Guest Speakers to include:
Prof. Massimo Zeviani, Prof. Stephan Zuchner, Prof. Alan Beggs, Prof. Rob Taylor, Prof. Hanns Lochmuller, Prof. Carsten Bonnemann, Prof. Lawrence Wraatetz, Prof. Rita Horvath, Dr. Cristina Csimma, Dr Giorgio Tasca, Prof. Bruce Damon, Prof. Michio Hirano

Abstracts are invited for posters and platform presentations on the themes listed in the attached document, or on any other aspect of neuromuscular disease research. Abstracts deadline 5pm on 16th Jan 2015. Abstract submission instructions and categories

Registration is now open. Fee £250 includes Gala Dinner.

Additional general venue information including accommodation booking info can be found here.

Contact: Christine Oldfield, MRC Centre Senior Administrator

The International Association for the Study of Affective Touch: Inaugural Congress

Friday 20 - Sunday 22 March 2015 (Friday 1pm to Sunday 2pm)  
UCL, 33 Queen Square, London WC1

Several influential studies have recently drawn attention to an affective dimension of touch, its social and cognitive role, as well as its neurophysiological and genetic basis. The main aim of this congress is to provide a platform for fruitful scientific exchanges in this nascent field. The congress will bring together for the first time researchers from around the world exploring the nature and role of affective touch in the human brain and mind.

We particularly hope the congress will foster interdisciplinary dialogue between the different fields interested in affective touch such as psychology, physiology, genetics, neurobiology and affective neuroscience. During the meeting, we also aim to hold the first, founding meeting of the International Association for the Study of Affective Touch, in which the mission and governance of the Society can be decided.

Speakers include: Emmanuel Bourinet (France), Carissa Cascio (USA), Chris Dijkerman (Netherlands), Robin Dunbar (UK), Katerina Fotopoulou (UK), Donna Lloyd (UK), Sarah Lloyd-Fox (UK), Francis McGlone (UK), Michael Meaney (Canada), India Morrison (Sweden), Håkan
Call For Papers
You are invited to submit abstracts for empirical research presentations and posters. The conference aims to focus on studies on affective touch, but presentations on closely related topics, such as for example pain, are also welcome. All Abstracts should contain the following information:
1. Title
2. Names of all authors, with institutional affiliations and credentials (e.g., M.A., Ph.D., M.D.)
3. Introduction, Methods [clear information on methods and sample size is required], Results, and Conclusions (500 words maximum, not including title and author information)
4. Oral or poster presentation preference (we cannot guarantee all but will do our best)
5. Short Bio: max 150 words

Abstracts are due by 21 December 2014. Please submit your abstracts by clicking here; you will receive a receipt and a reference number, and notification of acceptance status and presentation type (oral vs poster) will be made by end of January. If you do not receive an acknowledgement of receipt, please follow up by email.

Find out more

Implications of Research on the Neuroscience of Affect, Attachment and Social Cognition

Saturday 25 - Sunday 26 April 2015
The Cruciform Building, Gower Street, UCL

For the third time, leading neuroscientists from Europe and the USA will once again host this unique forum exploring the latest neuroscience research with reference to treatments of mental disorders including autism, depression, personality disorders and attachment disorders. Implications on clinical and developmental perspectives of these psychopathologies will be discussed.

Hosted by UCL Research Department of Clinical, Educational and Health Psychology in association with the Anna Freud Centre.


Topics will include:
“Epistemic trust, resilience and reconsidering the role of mentalization in psychotherapy”
“The Bayesian Infant and Emerging Interpersonal Generative Models in Personality Disorders ”
“How Stress Influences Parental Brain and Behavioral Sensitivity toward Infants”
“Imitation in autism spectrum condition”

Find out more
“Second-person neuroscience: New perspectives in social neuroscience and implications for the study of the neural mechanisms of psychiatric disorders”

Call for Poster Presentations
There will be an opportunity to present posters designed to explore the conference topic or connected issues. Please email abstract submissions by 1 February 2015.

Standard Rate £200 / Student Rate £50

Contact: Events

Find out more

Update in neuromuscular disorders 2015

5-8 May 2015
Clinical Neuroscience Lecture Theatre, National Hospital for Neurology and Neurosurgery, 33 Queen Square (lower ground), London WC1N 3BG

The MRC Centre for Neuromuscular Diseases and the Institute of Child Health are pleased to invite you to this annual paediatric and adult course, which is now in its eighth year for specialists with an interest in neuromuscular disease.

This clinical course concentrates on childhood and adult neuromuscular disorders with an emphasis on clinical cases, natural history and management. This 4 day course is designed for specialists with an interest in neuromuscular disease; the first two days concentrating on paediatric neuromuscular disorders and the latter two days on adult neuromuscular disorder.

Find out more

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Public Engagement

New Public and Cultural Engagement newsletter

The Public and Cultural Engagement department (PACE) is home to the Bloomsbury Theatre, UCL Museums and Collections, and the Public Engagement Unit.

The newsletter will be sent out every other month, and will include departmental news, announcements, and opportunities for UCL staff members, such as public engagement funding, and call outs for exhibition and event submissions in the Bloomsbury Theatre Studio, Octagon Gallery and other PACE spaces.
Call for volunteers – Are you and your baby interested in taking part in our exciting study?

The Optimum VI Project are looking for healthy infants with typical sight aged 9 to 16 months and 23 to 28 months as part of a study investigating the effect of visual impairment and intervention on development. In order to understand the effect that no or low vision has on development, the researcher also needs to examine the development of children without vision loss (typically developing children).

The studies will involve playing with toys and involves your baby listening to sounds while having his/her brain activity and heart rate monitored. These are non-invasive procedures.

The study takes approximately three hours to complete. It will take place at Great Ormond Street Hospital/UCL Institute of Child Health. You will be reimbursed for travel expenses. After the initial visit, researchers may contact you again a year later, to ask if you would be willing to participate in similar assessments at a later age.

Contact: Dr Michelle O'Reilly / 020 7599 4121

Find out more
Tooth loss linked to slowing mind and body

The memory and walking speeds of adults who have lost all of their teeth decline more rapidly than in those who still have some of their own teeth, finds new UCL research.

The study, published in the Journal of the American Geriatrics Society, looked at 3,166 adults aged 60 or over from the English Longitudinal Study of Ageing (ELSA) and compared their performance in tests of memory and walking speed. The results showed that the people with none of their own teeth performed approximately 10% worse in both memory and walking speed tests than the people with teeth.

Read full article

Scientists locate ‘homing signal’ in the brain, explaining why some people are better navigators

The part of the brain that tells us the direction to travel when we navigate has been identified by UCL scientists, and the strength of its signal predicts how well people can navigate.

It has long been known that some people are better at navigating than others, but until now it has been unclear why. The latest study, funded by the Wellcome Trust and published in Current Biology, shows that the strength and reliability of ‘homing signals’ in the human brain vary among people and can predict navigational ability.

Read full article

$5.9 million boost for SUDEP research

A research team at UCL Institute of Neurology is one of nine projects who will receive funding totalling $5.9 million, over five years, from US government to speed up the pace of research into Sudden Unexpected Death in Epilepsy (SUDEP).

The announcement comes at the same time as two of the UK’s epilepsy charities have invested major funds in essential infrastructure to support this research.

Read full article

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Current Funding Opportunities

NIHR Rare Diseases Translational Research Collaboration funding

Deadline: the NIHR RD-TRC is now inviting Expressions of Interest (EoIs), which can be submitted at any time until further notice.

The NIHR Rare Diseases Translational Research Collaboration is inviting applications to establish industry–collaborative early translational (experimental medicine) research projects in rare diseases. These projects will create and support collaborative research between investigators working within NIHR-funded research infrastructure and industry partners. Specifically, the invitation aims to fund projects that generate in-depth phenotypic information to develop new treatments and speed up diagnosis.

NIHR RD-TRC funding is available to academic investigators specifically to support in-depth phenotyping. Where a proposal involves other research methodology (for example, a clinical trial or acquisition of genomic data) only the phenotyping aspects of a study are eligible for funding by the NIHR RD-TRC. Other research costs must be met by the industry partner or another appropriate funding source. Lead applicants must be based within an NIHR Biomedical Research Centre, Biomedical Research Unit or Clinical Research Facility. Applications require a named industry collaborator and need to state the contribution of the industry partner to the project.

Maximum RD-TRC funding for in-depth phenotyping of £200,000 is available over two years. Projects must be completed by 31 March 2017. The RD-TRC will support in-depth phenotyping research in the following therapeutic themes:

- Cancer
- Cardiovascular
- Dementia and Neuro-degenerative Diseases
- Eye Disease
- Gastrointestinal
- Immunological Disorders
- Endocrine & Metabolic Diseases
- Musculoskeletal Disorders
- Neuromuscular Disorders
- Non-Malignant Haematology
- Paediatric (Cross-Cutting)
- Renal Disease
- Respiratory Disease
- Skin

The RD-TRC will apply an accelerated review process, and applicants will be notified within two weeks from submission of the outcome of their EoI. Successful EoIs will be invited to submit a full research proposal providing a detailed breakdown of the study costs, the industry contribution including resources to be provided ‘in kind’, and any other sources of funding support for the collaborative research project. Full applications are expected to be submitted within four months of an invitation for a full application being issued, and will be reviewed within one month.

EoIs from investigators should be provided using the Expression of Interest form provided via the NIHR RD-TRC website. Industry researchers seeking academic collaborators for in-depth phenotyping of specific rare diseases are encouraged to contact NOCRI who will assist with building academic partnerships.
NIHR Post-doctoral Fellowships / Career Development Fellowships

Deadline: 21 January 2015

Three years full-time funding (or 4 or 5 years part-time) to individuals who are able to demonstrate their potential as researchers but do not, as yet, have sufficient experience to be fully independent. Applicants are expected to show evidence of a clear commitment to a research career and success in the form of outputs from doctoral and post-doctoral research, where applicable. Applicants will have obtained their research doctorate or submitted their PhD or MD thesis for examination and have no more than 3 years post-doctoral experience at the time of applying. Applications are invited from individuals working in any sector or scientific discipline who propose to undertake people or patient-based clinical and applied health research at an institution based in England.

Alzheimer’s Research UK (ARUK) Research Fellowship

Deadline: 23 January 2015

ARUK Research Fellowships are intended for junior (non-clinically qualified) researchers, either just emerging from PhD training or within a short period of obtaining a PhD (up to five years). All applications must fall within ARUK’s remit: research into causes, cures, preventions, diagnoses and treatments for Alzheimer’s disease and related dementias. These include vascular dementia, dementia with Lewy bodies, and frontotemporal dementias.

Robert Feulgen prize

Deadline: 31 January 2015

The Society for Histochemistry invites applications for the Robert Feulgen prize. This is awarded for an outstanding achievement in the field of microscopical histochemistry. The contributions may be either towards the development of new histochemical and cytochemical techniques or in the application of existing technology towards solving important problems in biology or medicine.

Scientists working in microscopical sciences, in the widest sense, as well as in biochemistry, cell biology, endocrinology, in situ molecular techniques and neurosciences, are eligible. Mid-career scientists are encouraged to apply. The prize is worth €3,000.

European Research Council – latest call for Starting Grant applications
Deadline: 3 February 2015, 4pm

The European Research Council has released the latest call for applications for Starting Grants. These are open to individuals who are more than two but less than seven years since their PhD award date (additional criteria apply). A Starting Grant provides long-term funding for up to five years to support excellent investigators and their research teams to pursue ground-breaking, high-gain/high-risk research. Applications can be made in any field of research, including population health.

Research funded by the ERC is expected to lead to advances at the frontiers of knowledge and to set a clear and inspirational target for frontier research across Europe. You must spend 50% of your time on the project as a minimum and you can request your own salary costs. Grants are for up to €1.5 million (in some circumstances up to €2 million). The budget for the call is €430M, which will fund around 330 Starting Grants (this is slightly less than the 2014 budget of €485M).

University College London ranks 3rd in Europe for the number of European Research Council grants awarded to any one university, receiving over £118 million worth of grants from the ERC between 2007 and 2013.

For assistance with an application please contact the European Research and Innovation Office, or the Research Coordination Office.

Find out more

New investigator research grants – neurosciences and mental health

Deadline: 4 February 2015

The Medical Research Council invites applications for its new investigator research grants in neurosciences and mental health. These provide support for clinical and non-clinical researchers while they are establishing themselves as independent principal investigators. The grants are aimed at senior postdocs or individuals near the start of their first lectureship. For those who already have an institutional post it provides funding and protected time with which to establish an independent research career. The grant is also a potential source of research funding for fellows whose awards only cover a personal salary or limited research funds.

Applicants must hold a PhD, DPhil or an MD, have between three and 10 years postdoctoral research experience and should be in their first lecturer appointment, hold a junior fellowship or be in a senior postdoctoral position. Applicants may request funding for research that they will carry out at the UK institution where they are already based, or at any eligible UK research organisation. Applicants may not hold or have previously held substantive research funding as principal investigator for three or more years.

Applicants may request support for the following: up to 80 per cent of the salary for the applicant; salary for the hours attributable to the project of any co-investigators; support for additional research or technical posts; consumables and equipment; travel costs; data preservation, data sharing and dissemination costs.

Find out more

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14 January, 2015 - Beta- and gamma-secretases: intriguing proteolytic machines involved in Alzheimer disease
Time: 13:00 - 14:00
MRC Prion Unit Events and Seminars, hosted by the MRC Prion Unit, UCL and the Institute of Neurology.
Speaker information: Prof. Bart De Strooper, Department of Chemistry, VIB, Netherlands.
Hosted by: Professor John Collinge.
Location: 2nd floor Seminar Room, Institute of Neurology, Queen Square House, Queen Square, WC1N 3BG
Contact: Prion Unit
Email: michelle.gorham@uclh.nhs.uk

14 January, 2015 - Centre for Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience speaker programme: Neuroanatomy of high order cognitive processing following very preterm birth
Time: 16:30 - 17:30
Speaker information: Dr Chiara Nosarti
Location: Leolin Price Lecture theatre (Lower Ground Floor), Institute of Child Health, 30 Guildford Street, London, WC1N 1EH
Contact: Rebecca Sage
Email: R.Sage@ucl.ac.uk

14 January, 2015 - Venture research and other adventures: are we getting the most out of UK research?
Time: 18:00 - 20:30
A panel discussion hosted by UCL Public Policy and chaired by Professor Graeme Reid, Professor of Science and Research Policy, UCL This event will explore how creativity and innovation in research can best be supported, with perspectives from academics, venture researchers, and research funders. It will consider the current research landscape and the role of different actors within it, as well as possibilities for new ways of promoting research creativity.
Location: Ambrose Fleming Lecture Theatre, Roberts Building, Malet Place, London, WC1E 7JE
Contact: Sarah Chaytor
Email: s.chaytor@ucl.ac.uk
Phone: +44 (0)20 8679 8584

15 January, 2015 - Vision@UCL Seminar Series: Visual cognition in bees - behavioural capacities and neuronal models
Time: 17:00 -
Speaker information: Lars Chittka, QMUL
Location: Roberts 508, Roberts Building, Malet Place, London, WC1E 7JE
Contact: Lewis Griffin
Email: L.Griffin@cs.ucl.ac.uk

Time: 16:15 - 17:15
Speaker information: Patrick Freund, University of Zurich, Switzerland. Host: Brain Meeting Seminar Series
Location: 4th Floor Seminar Room, FIL, 12 Queen Square, London
Contact: Samira Kazan
Email: samira.kazan@ucl.ac.uk

16 January, 2015 - UCL School of Pharmacy seminar programme: Central 5HT – Heart and blood pressure but not minds
Time: 12:30 - 13:30
Speaker information: Prof Andy Ramage, UCL Neuroscience, Physiology & Pharmacology. Host: UCL School of Pharmacy.
Location: Room M1, UCL School of Pharmacy, 29-39 Brunswick Square, London, WC1N 1AX
Contact: Audrey Mercer
Email: a.mercer@ucl.ac.uk

19 January, 2015 - Institute of Cognitive Neuroscience Seminar: Individual differences in multisensory
integration and timing
Time: 16:00 - 17:00
Speaker information: Elliot Freeman, Dept of Psychology, City University London. Host: Bahador Bahrami
Location: Leolin Price Lecture Theatre, UCL Institute of Child Health, 30 Guilford Street, London, WC1N 1EH
Contact: Rosalyn Lawrence
Email: rosalyn.lawrence@ucl.ac.uk
Phone: 020 7679 1164

19 January, 2015 - MRC Centre for Neuromuscular Diseases Seminar Series: Role of Mitochondria in Parkinson’s Disease
Time: 17:30 -
Speaker information: Professor Nick Wood
Location: Basement Lecture Theatre, 33 Queen Square, London, WC1N 3BG
Contact: Christine Oldfield
Email: christine.oldfield@ucl.ac.uk

23 January, 2015 - Brain Meeting Seminar Series: Towards Computational Neuropsychiatry via Neuroimaging, Pharmacology and Computational Modeling
Time: 16:15 - 17:15
Speaker information: Alan Anticevic, Yale School of Medicine, US. Host: Brain Meeting Seminar Series
Location: 4th Floor Seminar Room, FIL, 12 Queen Square, London
Contact: Ryszard Aukstulewicz
Email: r.auksztulewicz@ucl.ac.uk

23 January, 2015 - Ear Institute Seminar Series: Learning retrieval after spatial experience-dependent plasticity relies on non-excitatory cortical networks
Time: 13:00 - 14:00
Location: Seminar Room, UCL Ear Institute, 332 Gray’s Inn Road, London, WC1X 8EE
Contact: Dr Roland Schaette
Email: r.schaette@ucl.ac.uk

26 January, 2015 - Institute of Cognitive Neuroscience Seminar: The cerebellum as an adaptable predictor, for movement and cognition
Time: 16:00 - 17:00
Speaker information: Chris Miall, School of Psychology, University of Birmingham. Host: Joern Diedrichsen
Location: Lower Ground Floor Lecture Theatre, Clinical Neuroscience Building, 33 Queen Square, London
Contact: Rosalyn Lawrence
Email: rosalyn.lawrence@ucl.ac.uk
Phone: 020 7679 1164

28 January, 2015 - Single molecule studies of protein aggregates and how they damage neuronal cells
Time: 13:00 - 14:00
MRC Prion Unit Events and Seminars, hosted by the MRC Prion Unit, UCL and the Institute of Neurology.
Speaker information: Prof. David Klenerman FRS, Department of Chemistry, University of Cambridge. Hosted by: Dr. Andy Nicoll.
Location: 2nd floor Seminar Room, Institute of Neurology, Queen Square House, Queen Square, WC1N 3BG
Contact: Prion Unit
Email: michelle.gorham@uclh.nhs.uk

29 January, 2015 - Vision@UCL Seminar Series: Mid-level ‘detectors’ for visual compounds
Time: 17:00 -
Speaker information: Jonathan Peirce, Nottingham
Location: Roberts 508, Roberts Building, Malet Place, London, WC1E 7JE
Contact: Lewis Griffin
Email: L.Griffin@cs.ucl.ac.uk

30 January, 2015 - Brain Meeting Seminar Series: Deconstructing fear
Time: 16:15 - 17:15
Speaker information: Andreas Lüthi, Friedrich Miescher Institute for Biomedical Research, Switzerland. Host: Brain Meeting Seminar Series
Location: 4th Floor Seminar Room, FIL, 12 Queen Square, London
Release of chemical transmitters from cell bodies and dendrites of nerve cells

Monday 19 January 2015 - Tuesday 20 January 2015 (Monday 9am to Tuesday 5pm)
The Royal Society, 6-9 Carlton House Terrace, London SW1Y 5AG

Scientific discussion meeting organised by Professor John Nicholls FRS and Professor Francisco F De-Miguel.

Event Details
Recent experiments have shown that cell bodies and dendrites of neurons can liberate transmitter molecules. In this discussion the mechanism of such release will be compared with that occurring in presynaptic terminals, glial cells and endocrine cells. A major focus will concern the way in which release from cell bodies influences essential functions of the central nervous system.

Attending this event
This event is intended for researchers in relevant fields and is free to attend. There are a limited number of places and registration is essential. An optional lunch is offered and should be booked during registration (all major credit cards accepted).

This meeting is immediately followed by a related, two-day satellite meeting, Present and future of the study of extrasynaptic neurotransmission at the Royal Society at Chicheley Hall, home of the Kavli Royal Society International Centre.

Contact: Events team

Find out more

Present and future of the study of extrasynaptic neurotransmission
Wednesday 21 January 2015 - Thursday 22 January 2015
(Wednesday 9am to Thursday 5pm)
The Royal Society, Chicheley Hall, Chicheley Hall, Chicheley, Newport Pagnell, Buckinghamshire MK16 9JJ

Satellite meeting organised by Professor John Nicholls FRS and Professor Francisco F De-Miguel

Event Details
Since this will be the first meeting in this field in the UK, discussion sessions will focus on general and comparative mechanisms of release, experimental and analytical tools, and the search for effects and timing of extrasynaptic neurotransmission on the nervous system. Since the terminology in the field is confusing, the definition of general terms will be discussed. This meeting will also foster collaborations between individuals and groups.

Attending this event
This is a residential conference, which allows for increased discussion and networking. It is free to attend, however participants need to cover their accommodation costs if required.

Contact: Events team
Find out more

Epilepsy Masterclass

19-20 February
Young Epilepsy, St. Piers Lane, Lingfield, Surrey, RH7 6PW

An Epilepsy Masterclass hosted by Professor Helen Cross for Paediatricians, Neurologists, Psychiatrists, Psychologists, Epilepsy Nurse Specialists and Registrars.

The theme for this Masterclass is Acquired Brain Injury: Consequences and Management.

Contact: Angela Mensah on 01342 831274 or email Young Epilepsy for further information.

The Challenge of Chronic Pain

11-13 March 2015
Wellcome Trust Genome Campus, Hinxton, Cambridge, UK

Abstract and Student Bursary deadline: 30 January
Registration deadline: 16 February

Chronic pain is a major challenge in terms of human health and well-being. Approximately 20% of the population has an on-going pain problem and many are poorly treated with current medications. Because pain affects the elderly disproportionally, it becomes an increasingly important and expensive problem as our population continues to age. The growing use of neurotoxic drugs to treat cancer and infectious diseases, and the recognition of sexual dimorphism in both pain mechanisms and the clinical presentation of pain syndromes further emphasize the need to better understand the
This exciting new Wellcome Trust conference will discuss recent discoveries and current challenges in pain research, with a focus on translating basic research insights into new therapies. We will highlight key advances in our understanding of peripheral and central pain mechanisms, pathways and processes; explore the clinical landscape of chronic pain and pain syndromes; and address innovative approaches in target validation in animal and human studies, and their translation into novel therapeutic interventions.

**Speakers**
Ralf Baron; David Bennett; Isabelle Decosterd; Xinzhong Dong; Patrik Ernfors; Claire Gaveriaux-Ruff; Giandomenico Iannetti; Ru-Rong Ji; Qiufu Ma; Emeran Mayer; Jeffrey Mogil; Jes Olesen; Frank Porreca; Philippe Seguela; Lee Simon; Claudia Sommer; Fan Wang; John Williams and Hanns Ulrich Zeilhofer

This meeting is aimed at scientists, clinicians, and those working in industry or on translational research who are interested in understanding chronic pain and improving the process from mechanism to therapy. We welcome the submission of abstracts from all areas relevant to the main themes of the meeting. Several oral presentations will be chosen from the abstracts submitted.

To facilitate a highly interactive conference, the number of places available will be limited to 150 participants; therefore, early registration is recommended.

**Register Now** by 16 February

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**Inaugural International Convention of Psychological Science - Call for Submissions**

**12-14 March 2015**
**Amsterdam**

The inaugural International Convention of Psychological Science (ICPS) will be held in March 2015 in the Beurs van Berlage in the heart of Amsterdam. University College London colleagues Nilli Lavie and Chris Brewin are among the distinguished speakers participating in the featured integrative science symposia taking place at this inaugural event.

Convention attendees will hear the latest scientific findings across several broad themes, and through the unique pairing of symposia and methodological workshops, will learn valuable skills to further the body of knowledge in ways that are only possible through an integrative focus.

ICPS also offers opportunities to submit symposium and poster presentations and to network with colleagues from around the globe. We invite you to visit the ICPS website to learn more about the meeting, programs, and the featured speakers, whom you will recognize as being among the world's leading experts in their fields.

It is the organisers’ hope that you will be able to be part of this meeting as presenters and as participants in this historic meeting. The Call for Submissions and Registration are open. The submissions deadlines are
September 15th for symposia and September 30th for posters.

Contact: icps@psychologicalscience.org

Find out more

BNA2015: Festival of Neuroscience

12-15 April 2015
Edinburgh

The British Neuroscience Association's flagship biennial meeting, the Festival of Neuroscience is fast-approaching! This is a unique event which teams an outstanding scientific programme with links to public events by coinciding with the Edinburgh International Science Festival.

Key features of the event:
- 10 plenary and public lectures by world-class neuroscientists, including two Nobel Laureates (the BNA’s “50th Anniversary Lecture” will be given by Professor John O’Keefe, 2014 Nobel Laureate)
- 50 Symposia covering all aspects of neuroscience
- Over 240 speakers
- 8 Special Events including workshops on research methods, a debate on Open Access, Public and Special Lectures
- Poster sessions (the abstract submission system is now open).
- BNA2015 is supported by 20 partner societies
- 4 DAYS OF NEUROSCIENCE!
- Over 1,000 people have registered so far!

Find out more

Recent studies and the diagnosis of MND

Wednesday 6 May 2015
The Foresight Centre, University Of Liverpool, 1 Brownlow Street, Liverpool L69 3GL

This day meeting, organised by the Royal Society of Medicine and the Motor Neurone Disease Association, will bring together top neurologists and MND Specialists to explore recent studies looking into the diagnosis and early treatment of MND. Delegates will gain a better understanding of the key factors to recognise the early stages of MND vital to improving the quality of life and extending life expectancy in patients.

This meeting will explore recent methods helping diagnosis and will cover the initial stages at the GP Surgery, through to biomarkers and neuroimaging at the MND Clinic. This meeting would be valuable to neurologists, specialist nurses, geneticists, palliative care specialists, physiotherapists and GP’s.

Delegates will gain a better understanding of the key factors to recognise the early stages of MND vital to improving the quality of life and extending life expectancy in patients.

Contact: regions@rsm.ac.uk