Training programme for Early Career Researchers

The Schools Health & Wellbeing Research Network has worked with UCL’s Institute of Child Health and other UCL faculties, as well as a leading teaching school in Camden, to develop a new, free training programme for Early Career Researchers (ECRs). Through a series of hands-on workshops and school visitation sessions, the programme will equip ECRs with the confidence and skills to develop long-lasting collaborations with schools, leading to better quality research. It will culminate with an opportunity to conduct joint-enquiry work with a school in London.

The sessions are open to Early Career Researchers at UCL (Research Assistants, PhD students and Postdoctoral Researchers) with at least two years of research experience who want to build their existing skills in conducting child health and wellbeing research with schools and with school-age children and young people. The programme will run from October 2015 – June 2016.

Find out more

UCL Grand Challenges – French Embassy partnership activity Fourth Annual Call for Proposals: Academic Year 2015-16

UCL and the French Embassy have collaborated since 2012 in support of an annual series of workshops with a Science and/or Technology focus. The workshop series is one of two joint initiatives between UCL Grand Challenges and the French Embassy Science & Technology department, the other being an annual series of Conference-Débat lectures, established 2010, on big cross-disciplinary topics, with speakers from UCL and research institutions in France.

Once during each year of the UCL-French Embassy Agreement, UCL through its website will announce a Call for Science & Technology Collaborative Workshop Proposals, inviting researchers based at UCL to apply for funds to organise
collaborative workshops involving participants from UCL and from research institutions in France. For its part the French Embassy will also announce the Call on its website. The French Embassy’s Department of Science & Technology has kindly committed to provide €22,500 annually for support of between three and five workshops (depending on the quality and value for money of applications received) in each year that the Agreement is in force.

Find out more

BNA Awards for Advancing Neuroscience Research - call for nominations

Every year at the Christmas Symposium, the BNA presents the "Public Understanding of Neuroscience Award" to an individual who has brought the importance of neuroscience research to the notice of the general public and the "Outstanding Contribution to British Neuroscience Award" to an individual who has made a significant scientific impact in neuroscience.

All members of the BNA are entitled and encouraged to submit nominations for either of the awards. Please forward ONE nomination for each category to the BNA office (office@bna.org.uk) together with a brief justification for their nomination(s). The deadline for receiving nominations is 23rd October 2015.

Click here to see past award winners and for more information.

Neuroscience Careers Network

Grant writing workshop
Thursday 17 September 1.00-4.00pm
Applications to be submitted by 27 August

The aim of this half-day session is to help investigators improve their applications for funding, whether they are project grants or fellowships. It will be led by two senior UCL researchers, Prof. Neil Burgess and Prof. Simon Mead, who have extensive experience of applying for funding and of sitting on the committees that decide which science gets funded. This is a rare opportunity to improve your 'grantsmanship' skills, gain insight into how funding committees work and to receive constructive feedback on your applications.

To participate in this workshop, each participant must provide an abstract, lay summary and full scientific proposal (it may be a preliminary application) for either a grant or fellowship application by 27 August 2015. Costings are NOT required.

Contact: Lorenzo Fabrizi (l.fabrizi@ucl.ac.uk), Madeleine Verriotis (madeleine.verriotis@ucl.ac.uk), or Tammaryn Lashley (t.lashley@ucl.ac.uk)
Workshop on Fellowship and Grant Interviews
Monday 5 October 2.00-5.00pm

Interactive workshop chaired by:

Prof Nick Wood
Prof John Rothwell

Are you in the process of applying to or have just submitted your application for a Neuroscience fellowship or grant which involves an interview? As grants and fellowships are one of the most important requirements for a successful career in Neuroscience, we are organising a workshop for the final phase of that process: the interview itself.

The workshop consists of 5 participants (postdocs and/or PIs) who are in the process of applying for grants or fellowships and therefore will have written a proposal beforehand (short proposals have to be sent to the panel ten days before the workshop for question preparation). Each participant will start with a 5 minute presentation to the panel members, consisting of the other participants and Prof Wood and Prof Rothwell, followed by 10-15 minutes questioning. In the remaining 10-15 minutes the panel will give feedback. Video recordings will be provided for feedback on aspects of the presentation.

To register for this event, please email: Sandrine ucgasmg@ucl.ac.uk, Marion m.oberhuber.11@ucl.ac.uk or Tobi t.nolte@ucl.ac.uk

Places will be filled on a first come first serve basis.

Special Seminars and Events

European Research Council Starting Grants - UCL SLMS Information Event

Friday 11 September

The SLMS Research Coordination Office, in collaboration with the UCL European Research and Innovation Office, is holding this event for SLMS research staff who are interested in applying for European Research Council (ERC) Starting Grants.

The ERC Starting Grants support excellent researchers with between two and seven years’ postdoctoral research to establish their own independent research team or programme. This event will therefore be a great opportunity for interested researchers to ask questions about the grants and register for a follow-up one-to-one session with a Research Facilitator, where they will be able to discuss their application in more detail.
The deadline for the next round of ERC Starting Grants is 17 November 2015.

More information

From molecules to circuits in olfaction: Brains & Roses 2015

17 – 18 September, UCL
4th International Symposium on Olfaction. Speakers include:

Adi Mizrahi, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel
Alexander Fleischmann Collège de France, France
Andreas Schaefer The Francis Crick Institute / UCL
Benjamin Shykind Weill Cornell Medical College, Qatar
Bob Datta Harvard Medical School, USA
Gilad Barnea Brown University, USA
Gregory Jefferis MRC LMB Cambridge
Ian Davison Boston University, USA
Kevin Franks Duke University, USA
Mark Albers Harvard Medical School / MINDS, USA
Matt Grub MRC Centre for Developmental Neurobiology / KCL
Michael Schmuker University of Sussex
Peter Latham Gatsby Comptuational Neuroscience Unit / UCL
Stavros Lomvardas Columbia University, USA
Stephen Shea CSHL, USA
Thomas Nowotny University of Sussex
Troy Margrie Sainsbury Wellcome Centre / UCL
Yoram Ben-Shaul The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel

Register here

Standing up for Science: Media Workshop

Sense About Science will be holding a Standing up for Science media workshops in September 2015:

- **NIMR London, Friday 25th September** (Application deadline: Friday 11th September.)

The full day workshops are free and for early career scientists and researchers in all sciences, engineering and medicine (PhD students, post-docs or equivalent in first job).

During the workshops we combine discussion about science-related controversies in media reporting with practical guidance and tips for how to deal with the media.

Please find further information at [http://www.senseaboutscience.org/pages/upcoming-standing-up-for-science-media-workshops-.html](http://www.senseaboutscience.org/pages/upcoming-standing-up-for-science-media-workshops-.html)

These workshops are very popular and places are limited. To apply, send a CV and cover letter explaining your reasons for applying to Joanne Thomas jthomas@senseaboutscience.org.

If you are a member of or are funded by any of our partner organisations (listed
on the flyer), please state in your application – our partners hold five priority places for this workshop.

Royal Society: Writing and Media Skills courses

Scientists communicating their work is key to expanding the frontiers of knowledge, and the Royal Society’s courses will help you to do this effectively and memorably. Our ‘Writing about your research’ and ‘Media skills’ courses are designed exclusively for scientists, and are tutored by leading communication specialists.

Science is in today’s headlines more and more, meaning effective communication is crucial. Can you afford not to attend?

Available courses in 2015

- Media skills training - 7 October
- Residential course (combined 'Media skills' and 'Writing about your research') - 2-3 November

Registration and course prices

For further course dates, availability and funding information please visit our website. Each one-day course costs £450, the two-day residential course costs £900. Payment is required in full at the time of registration.

To register for a course or for further information please email us at courses@royalsociety.org or visit our website.

International Experimental Neurology Conference

13 October

The NIHR UCLH BRC and NIHR Queen Square BRU are holding a joint international experimental neurology conference on the 13th October in Queen Square. The event will showcase the latest findings of basic and clinical diagnostic and therapeutic research in neurology.

Register here: http://www.eventbrite.com/e/international-experimental-neurology-conference-tickets-18285959798
Memory Matters: The Art and Science of the Brain

Friday 30 October
British Library, London

How do we form memories and how are they recalled? How does our brain use memories to navigate our world, predict the future and remember the past? Professor Nicky Clayton FRS (University of Cambridge) and Dr Hugo Spiers (UCL) are joined by scientists, artists and performers for an evening exploration of the strange science of memory.

In this interactive event we will explore how the brain constructs representations of our world allowing us to travel mentally through time and space. Discover how Chris Rawlins developed his superhuman memory and take away some top tips to help you remember things. Find out how the British Library are preserving the memory of the nation and discover how reliving our memories is the key to creativity and problem solving in this collaborative event hosted by the British Library and UCL Neuroscience.

More information and book tickets

Public Engagement

Are you interested in taking part in a public engagement event called ‘Rewired: The Brain, Art and Innovation’?

This is an open call for neurosciences researchers and artists at a UCL and Movement for Hope mainstream public engagement event taking place at the Bloomsbury Theatre on Saturday November 14th 2015, featuring connections in disease, arts and health!

‘Rewired: The Brain, Art and Innovation’ will build on the success of the 2014 ‘Rewired’ event and the previous year’s ‘Neurology and Me: Disease, Art, Health and Hope’. All ticket sales from both events raised awareness and charitable funds for neurological conditions, to support research, adaptive equipment purchases, and further awareness-education.

This year we want to create an even more dynamic event that will feature UCL researchers, artists and an innovative sharing of research (which will again be supported by Movement for Hope, a UCL post-grad student-lead organisation).

Target Audience
The event is aimed at the general public, neurological conditions charities, shared interest groups and UCL communities. Guest speakers and artists will also be invited.

We are looking for:
- Researchers keen to deliver a 5-7 minute talk about their work, to help raise awareness for neurological conditions. Talks should be tailored toward a lay public audience.
- Researchers who have involved artists in their work
- Researchers that have previously used artist/artwork to disseminate
their research or raise awareness for their work
• Case studies involving art and science
• Artists who have raised awareness for brain and spinal cord
diseases/disorders in their work, or generally want to be involved
• Volunteers who want to be involved behind the scenes

Please contact Amber Hill or Candice Lewis if interested in participating,
volunteering or recommending participants for the event!

Back to the top

In the News

Antipsychotics inappropriately prescribed to people with intellectual disabilities

Large numbers of people with intellectual disabilities are being inappropriately prescribed antipsychotic drugs, finds a new UCL study. Intellectual disability is a lifelong condition that begins before the age of 18 and is characterised by limitations in intellectual functioning (generally indicated by an IQ under 70) and difficulties with one or more life skills. Around 1% of the population has an intellectual disability. The new study, published in The BMJ, looked at anonymised GP records of 33,016 UK adults with intellectual disabilities between 1999 and 2013. It found that over one-quarter had been prescribed antipsychotic drugs, of whom 71% had no record of severe mental illness.

Read full article

Piepenbrock Group and German Center for Neurodegenerative Diseases honour Professor Hardy

Professor John Hardy, UCL Institute of Neurology, will be awarded this year’s “Hartwig Piepenbrock-DZNE Prize” honouring his seminal contributions to the study of Alzheimer’s disease.

The award ceremony will take place on World Alzheimer’s Day, September 21, 2015, in Bonn, Germany. Professor Hardy has made ground-breaking findings on the molecular causes of this brain disorder. His discoveries provide the basis for therapeutic approaches and potential medicines.

Read full article

Compensation in Huntington’s disease

A new measure has been developed which can explicitly characterise compensation in Huntington’s disease (HD) gene-carriers prior to clinical diagnosis. Publishing in EBioMedicine, the research team working on the study hope that identifying patterns of compensation in preclinical HD will not only improve understanding of neural mechanisms underlying HD pathology, but also provide potential targets that can be used in the testing of HD therapeutics.

HD is a neurodegenerative disease and despite considerable neuronal loss,
preclinical HD gene-carriers are able to maintain normal behavior during many motor and cognitive tasks. This suggests that some form of compensation is taking place which enables those in the early stages of the disease to function normally. However, until now, there has been no experimentally-testable model of compensation to investigate this.

**Read full article**

**David Attwell awarded the Fondation Ipsen Prize**

David Attwell has been awarded the Fondation Ipsen Prize for 2016 in the field of Neuroenergetics (with Marcus Raichle and Pierre Magistretti). His best known work in this field is on the brain’s energy budget, the energetic design of the brain, and the regulation of brain energy supply in health and disease by capillary pericytes. The prize of 60,000 euros will be presented at the FENS meeting in Copenhagen in July 2016.

**GABA neurotransmitter may be progressive MS marker**

A neurotransmitter widely distributed in the brain may be a marker of a progressive multiple sclerosis, according to research led by Professor Olga Ciccarelli, UCL Institute of Neurology, published in *Brain*.

In this most recent study researchers used magnetic resonance spectroscopy to study brain changes in 30 patients compared to 17 healthy to see if they could identify GABA as a new biomarker of neurodegeneration in patients with secondary progressive MS.

The researchers found that patients with secondary progressive multiple sclerosis showed reduced GABA levels in the hippocampus and sensorimotor cortex when compared to healthy subjects. The team also found that patients showing lower GABA concentration in the sensorimotor cortex were more clinically impaired in their motor function than those who had a higher concentration of GABA in this area.

**Read full article**

**Current Funding Opportunities**

**European Research Council Starting Grants**

**Deadline:** expected to be 17 November 2015

ERC Starting Grants aim to support up-and-coming research leaders who are about to establish a proper research team and to start conducting independent research in Europe. The scheme targets promising researchers who have the proven potential of becoming independent research leaders. It will support the creation of excellent new research teams.

We are anticipating that the ERC will release the 2016 call for Starting Grant applications on 23 July, with a deadline of 17 November 2015.

Applications invited for Sir Jules Thorn (SJT) Award for Biomedical Research

**Deadline:** Thursday 10th September

SLMS is inviting applications for the *Sir Jules Thorn (SJT) Award for Biomedical Research*. UCL can submit only one application to this call and therefore we are undertaking an internal selection process. The award is for £1.5M over 5 years for a programme of translational biomedical research. The Principal Investigator should be on an upward career trajectory, and whilst in the early years of an established career, should have a track record of internationally recognised translational research.

Deadline for internal applications: **5pm Thursday 10th September 2015.**

Further information including the internal selection process can be found on the [Research Coordination Office website](#). This process is being coordinated by Clarissa.

Wellcome Trust Centres

**Deadline:** Monday 21st September

The Wellcome Trust will be announcing a call for new centres. *The call will be formally announced on 3rd August with a closing date at noon on 21st September.* The Trust proposes to invest in four (or possibly more) new centres across the country, which needs to be driven by a theme with focused research and addressing a large question (this may be a technical/scientific question). Each centre will be for £4-13 million and can be across the Trust’s remit, in that they can also address both ‘culture and society’ and also ‘innovation’. Centres may well include input from several schools across UCL. They must be UK based but can extend beyond the UK if a good case can be made.

As this will be a highly-competitive process, we need to ensure that first-rate applications are submitted. In discussion with OVPR and the three schools, it has been decided that the SLMS will lead a selection process to identify the strongest applications. It is unlikely that we will be in a position to put in more than two new applications (in addition to the renewal of the Centre for Neuroimaging). We are aware that new applications will be considered at the same time as renewal of the eight existing centres, and we will need to avoid overlap and internal competition.

Those seeking to apply need to send a 600 word proposal on the proposed centre and a two-page CV of the lead applicant to Ruth Jamieson (r.jamieson@ucl.ac.uk) by **Thursday 3rd September.**

The timetable for the internal application process is as follows:

- Call announced on WT website **3rd August**
- Preliminary applicants submitted **Thursday 3rd September**
- Meeting of the internal review panel **w/c 7th September**
- Feedback to applicants **by 11th September**
- Selected applications submitted to the WT **21st September**

Guidance and details about the call should be available on the Wellcome Trust’s website on 3rd August.
NIHR Research Professorships: internal expressions of interest invited for Round 6 (2015/16)

**Deadline:** 30th September

The UCL internal selection process for Round 6 of the NIHR Research Professorships is now open, to select two outstanding applications to go forward to NIHR in December. This is an extremely prestigious 5-year personal award open to researchers who have an outstanding record of clinical and applied health research, and its effective translation for improved health. The deadline for internal applications is **Wednesday 30th September 2015** and more information can be found on the [SLMS Research Coordination Office](http://www.ucl.ac.uk/researchcoordinationoffice) website.

Call for papers in neural plasticity

**Deadline:** Friday 13th November

The Journal “Neural Plasticity” is calling for papers for a special issue titled: Neural Plasticity in the Neonatal Brain in Health and Disease. The purpose of this special issue is to publish high-quality clinical, basic and translational original research and review articles that seek to address the mechanisms and significance of neural plasticity in the neonatal brain in health and disease. The lead guest editor is Mariya Hristova from the UCL Institute of Women’s Health.

The call is aimed at original and review articles including, but not limited to Fragile X syndrome, hypoxia-ischaemia, Coffin-Lowry syndrome, etc.

Find out more

ECMED Research Projects

A 3-year EU-funded position is available at the UCL Institute of Neurology, under the supervision of Prof. Matthew Walker, as part of the ECMED European Training Network (ETN), a consortium of 9 leading European research institutions and 2 industrial companies that will involve 12 Early Stage Researchers working collaboratively to determine the role of brain extracellular matrix in the development of epilepsy and to develop novel approaches to treat and to prevent epilepsy. Another 11 similar positions to the one offered by UCL are available at the project partners’ institutions.

**Background - The Project**

Over 50 million people worldwide have epilepsy and 30% are resistant to our present therapies. Epilepsy, therefore, comprises a major burden to society and so there is a pressing need for new approaches to treatment. The brain extracellular matrix (ECM) plays a critical role in governing brain excitability and function. Although research into the role of the ECM in neuronal signalling and network function has advanced considerably in recent years, its full translational potential has yet to be realised. There is growing evidence for a major role of the ECM in epilepsy including the association between ECM protein mutations and epilepsy, changes in the ECM and associated proteins during the development of epilepsy and the strong association between the ECM and brain diseases associated with epilepsy including stroke, traumatic brain injury, neurodegeneration and autism.

For more information on the ECMED Research Projects and how to apply, please visit [http://ecmed15.wix.com/epilepsy](http://ecmed15.wix.com/epilepsy)
Bio-Techne announces travel grants to attend Neuroscience 2015

Bio-Techne is proud to support neuroscience researchers with travel grants to attend Neuroscience 2015 held in Chicago, IL, October 17-21, 2015. We will award ten recipients $1,000 each for travel to the meeting.

Read more.

UCL Neuroscience Events and Seminars

7 September, 2015 - How to Develop Therapies for NM Disease
Time: 17:30 -
MRC Centre for Neuromuscular Diseases Seminar Series. Speaker information: Thomas Voit
Location: Basement Lecture Theatre, 33 Queen Square, London, WC1N 3BG
Contact: Christine Oldfield
Email: christine.oldfield@ucl.ac.uk
Phone: Please email

4 September, 2015 - Modeling Cortical Dynamics with Wilson-Cowan equations
Time: 15:15 - 15:15
Speaker: Jack Cowan, University of Chicago Please note *revised time* for Brain Meetings 2015-16
Location: 4th Floor Seminar Room, Wellcome Trust Centre for Neuroimaging, 12 Queen Square, London, WC1N 3BG
Contact: Laurence Hunt
Email: laurence.hunt@ucl.ac.uk
Phone: Please email

8 September, 2015 - 'What Works For Us' - Share and Learn on Understanding Patient Experience
Time: 15:00 - 17:00
Making sense of patient experience feedback data and making improvements based on the insights continues to be a challenge for our partners and experience leads. This workshop will be a chance to get together with other UCLPartners experience leads to discuss how they learn and improve. This will be an 'all share, all teach, all learn' opportunity with some greate leads sharing their practice.
Location: UCL, Gower Street, London, WC1E 6BT
Contact: UCLPartners
Email: Contact via Eventbrite registration page
Phone: 020 7679 6633

8 September, 2015 - The Novel Neurotechnologies: simultaneous 3D all-optical imaging and activation of neurons in living brains
Time: 12:30 -
Speaker: Rafael Yuste, MD. PhD, Neurotechnology Center, Columbia University Host: UCL Centre for Neuroimaging Techniques
Location: J Z Young Lecture Theatre, Anatomy Building, Gower Street, London, WC1E 6BT
Contact: Louis Lemieux
Email: louis.lemieux@ucl.ac.uk
Phone:

10 September, 2015 - Cognitive Assessment in Multiple Sclerosis
Time: 17:15 -
Part of the CNR@UCLP Seminar Series 2015. POSTPONED FROM THURSDAY 9th JULY Speaker information:
Professor Dawn Langdon, Professor of Neuropsychology, Royal Holloway, University of London. Open to all, free of charge and there is no need to register.
Location: Gilliat Lecture Theatre, Queen Square House, Queen Square, London, WC1N 3BG
10 September, 2015 - **Functional imaging of hippocampal microcircuits for spatial navigation and learning**

Time: 17:00 - 
Speaker: Attila Losonczy, Columbia University 
Host: Arnd Roth 
Location: Cruciform Lecture Theatre 2, Basement, Cruciform Building, Gower Street, London, WC1E 6BT 

Contact: Arnd Roth 
Email: arnd.roth@ucl.ac.uk 
Phone: Please email

11 September, 2015 - **European Research Council Starting Grants - UCL SLMS Information Event**

Time: 13:45 - 16:00 
The SLMS Research Coordination Office, in collaboration with the UCL European Research and Innovation Office, is holding this event for SLMS research staff who are interested in applying for European Research Council (ERC) Starting Grants. The ERC Starting Grants support excellent researchers with between two and seven years' postdoctoral research to establish their own independent research team or programme. This event will therefore be a great opportunity for interested researchers to ask questions about the grants and register for a follow-up one-to-one session with a Research Facilitator, where they will be able to discuss their application in more detail. The deadline for the next round of ERC Starting Grants is 17 November 2015. 

Location: Boardroom, UCLPartners, 170 Tottenham Court Road, London, W1T 7HA 

Contact: Cassie Harley-Boyce 
Email: c.harley-boyce@ucl.ac.uk 
Phone: 020 7679 6168

15 September, 2015 - **The Generation of Diverse Motor Neuronal and Glial Subtypes From Patient-Specific iPSCs: Quo Vadis ALS?**

Time: 12:00 - 
Location: 2nd Floor Seminar Room, Institute of Neurology, Queen Square House, Queen Square, WC1N 3BG 
Contact: Debbie Hadley 
Email: d.hadley@ucl.ac.uk 
Phone: Please email

15 September, 2015 - **The EU Health Programme 2014-2020**

Time: - 
The new EU Health Programme aims to build on the achievements of the previous EU Health Programme and better enable health to contribute to economic growth and the Europe 2020 objectives. Calls for proposals: The EU Health Programme launched its work plan for 2015 on 2 June. The calls for proposals for projects were published on 5 June on the 'participants portal', with a deadline of 15 September 2015. For further information please visit the NHS Confederation website or contact Sarah Godman. 

Contact: Sarah Godman 
Email: sarah.godman@nhsconfed.org 
Phone: Please email

16 September, 2015 - **SLMS Introduction to Information Governance**

Time: 14:00 - 15:30 
IT for SLMS is holding another SLMS Introduction to Information Governance training and awareness event. This event will provide clear guidance on information governance responsibilities and control, how these affect research activities and how the SLMS Information Governance Framework can help researchers meet their legal obligations. UCL staff and students who handle sensitive personal data are eligible to attend. Attendance at this event, together with successful completion of a follow-on online assessment, will count towards your information governance training needs 'Introduction to Information Governance' under the SLMS Information Governance Framework. On passing the assessment, a certificate will be issued and your training recorded on the SLMS information governance training register. Please note: This training does not cover NHS Trust information governance obligations. 

Location: Leolin Price Lecture Theatre, UCL Institute of Child Health , 30 Guilford Street, London, WC1N 1EH 
Contact: SLMS IG services 
Email: slms.pid@ucl.ac.uk 
Phone: Please email
17 September, 2015 - **External Seminar: Multimodal inputs alter neural circuitry in a hidden hearing loss model of tinnitus**

**Time:** 13:00 - 14:00  
Organised by UCL Ear Institute  
Over the past decade, my lab has been studying the contributions of multisensory systems to auditory processing. In particular, we discovered that ‘touch-sensitive’ neurons in the brain, that receive input from the face and head, send neural projections to the auditory system. These projections terminate in the first brain station of auditory system, the cochlear nucleus, which receives input directly from the cochlea. Our work has shown that neurons from somatosensory systems can alter the cochlear nucleus firing patterns. Most remarkably, after deafness, there is a strong enhancement in somatosensory influences on the cochlear nucleus, which reflect homeostatic plasticity. Our recent work demonstrates that in animals with behaviorally-confirmed tinnitus, a major change observed in the principal output neurons of the cochlear nucleus was a long-term increase excitation from the somatosensory system, which was stimulus-timing-dependent. (Abbreviated abstract)  
**Location:** Main Seminar Room, UCL Ear Institute, 332 Grays Inn Road, London, WC1X 8EE  
**Contact:** Kate Faxen  
**Email:** kate.faxen@ucl.ac.uk  
**Phone:**

17 September, 2015 - **Neuroscience Career Network: Grant Writing Workshop**

**Time:** 13:00 - 16:00  
The aim of the half-day session is to help Investigators improve their applications for funding, whether they are project grants or fellowships. It will be led by two senior UCL researchers, Professor Neil Burgess and Professor Simon Mead, who have extensive experience of applying for funding and of sitting on the committees that decide which science gets funded. This is a rare opportunity to improve your ‘grantsmanship’ skills, gain insight into how funding committees work and to receive constructive feedback on your applications. To participate in this workshop, each participant must provide an abstract, lay summary and full scientific proposal (it may be a preliminary application) for either a grant or fellowship application by 27th August 2015. Costings are NOT required.  
**Location:** TBC, UCL, London,  
**Contact:** Lorenzo Fabrizi or Madeleine Verriotis or Tammaryn Lashley  
**Email:** l.fabrizi@ucl.ac.uk; madeleine.verriotis@ucl.ac.uk; t.lashley@ucl.ac.uk  
**Phone:** Please email

18 September, 2015 - **Computational Modelling of Protein-RNA Interactions**

**Time:** 10:00 - 12:00  
Speakers: Dr Rolf Backhofen, Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg, Germany and Dr. Tomaz Curk, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia. Host: Jernej Ule.  
**Location:** Gilliatt Lecture Theatre, Institute of Neurology, Queen Square House, Queen Square, WC1N 3BG  
**Contact:** Jernej Ule  
**Email:** j.ule@ucl.ac.uk  
**Phone:** Please email

18 September, 2015 - **Somatosensory processing in the mouse forepaw system**

**Time:** 16:00 - 17:00  
Speaker: James Poulet, Max Delbrück Center and NeuroCure Cluster of Excellence Charité - Universitätsmedizin Berlin  
Host: Michael Hausser  
**Location:** JZ Young Lecture Theatre, Anatomy Building, Gower Street, London, WC1E 6BT  
**Contact:** Michael Hausser  
**Email:** m.hausser@ucl.ac.uk

18 September, 2015 - **UCLPartners Quality Forum**

**Time:** 14:00 - 17:00  
The UCLPartners Quality Forum, hosted by Barking, Havering and Redbridge University Hospitals NHS Trust (BHRUT), will focus on learning from patients, families and staff, and being open when things go wrong. Margaret Murphy, an inspirational patient advocate from the Republic of Ireland, is one of 70 International Society for Quality in Health Care patient safety experts, and one of two patient representatives appointed by the Irish Minister for Health on a national safety commission. Margaret will speak about her personal experience of the loss of her son as a result of a series of health care errors. From BHRUT there will be talks from patients and teams working to promote open dialogue and learning. The team will share how the trust is working with patients to improve services, including embedding the trust’s PRIDE values into induction and daily behaviours; their introduction of Schwartz rounds; and how they take learning from patients and families to the next level.  
**Location:** UCLPartners Boardroom, 3rd Floor 170 Tottenham Court Road, London, W1T 7HA  
**Contact:** UCLPartners  
**Email:** Online contact form - [http://www.uclpartners.com/contact-us](http://www.uclpartners.com/contact-us)  
**Phone:** 020 7679 6633
22 September, 2015 - Frailty Community of Practice: New Pathways for Facilitating Timely Discharge
Time: 14:00 - 17:00
As our population ages we are seeing an increase in the proportion of older people and those living with frailty, many of whom have complex and multiple needs. A group of people from across healthcare, social care and the voluntary sector, are keen to come together as a London-wide community of practice to share ideas, the challenges they have encountered in managing this complex population, and similarly learn from the experiences of others. This community of practice is open to anyone with an interest in planning or delivering care and support to older people. We would be delighted if you or your colleagues would like to join - all that is required is enthusiasm to share and learn! Each event will include presentations on innovative practice from keynote speakers (which will be confirmed nearer the time) and include time for group discussion and networking.
Location: UCLPartners, 170 Tottenham Court Road, London, W1T 7HA
Contact: Laura Stuart, Frailty Programme Manager
Email: laura.stuart@uclpartners.com
Phone: Please email

22 September, 2015 - NIHR CLAHRC North Thames Academy Research in Practice Course
Time: -
Incorporating a mixture of plenary teaching and hands on practical exercises, the course will take participants through formulating a search question, finding and accessing research literature, and appraising both its quality and relevance to their workplace. Who should attend: those who work in NHS Trusts, Clinical Commissioning Groups and Local Authorities. After attending this workshop, you will have the skills and knowledge to formulate a focused literature search question, locate relevant research literature, critically appraise the quality of published research, and assess the applicability of research to their workplace. The workshop is free for staff working in NIHR CLAHRC North Thames partner organisations, and £250 for other attendees. For more information and to register please go to the application form, or email Kate Collins.
Location: Central London (details are confirmed at registration),
Contact: Kate Collins
Email: kate.collins@ucl.ac.uk
Phone: Please email

24 September, 2015 - AF and Stroke: We Can Do Better
Time: 09:30 - 16:30
This conference is aimed at primary care providers, health service commissioners, strategic clinical and academic health sciences networks who are seeking to prioritise or who are currently working to improve the detection and management of AF in their population. Conference objectives: Illustrate the health and social care impact of AF-related stroke; Draw on the evidence to improve detection and management of AF for optimal health outcomes; Discuss and overcome the key challenges in implementing guidance; Improve understanding and use of data, toolkits and resources; Share good practice models that have illustrated impact; Create a platform for learning and networking across the system; Improve management of AF patients’ stroke risk.
Location: Kings Fund, 11-13 Cavendish Square, London, W1G 0AN
Contact: The King's Fund events team
Email: events@kingsfund.org.uk
Phone: 020 7307 2596

25 September, 2015 - High Field MRI for Study of Adaptive Brain Plasticity
Time: 15:15 -
Speaker: Heidi-Johansen Berg, University of Oxford. Please note *revised time* for Brain Meetings 2015-16
Location: 4th Floor Seminar Room, Wellcome Trust Centre for Neuroimaging, 12 Queen Square, London, WC1N 3BG
Contact: Laurence Hunt
Email: laurence.hunt@ucl.ac.uk
Phone: Please email

25 September, 2015 - The European Society for Low Vision Research and Rehabilitation Conference
Time: -
ESLRR 2015 will feature a keynote speech from Dr Jonathan Horton, UCSF on Visual fuction in cortical blindness. Dr Horton will also be leading a mini symposium on adaptation, learning and brain plasticity. The two-day conference will run from Friday afternoon until Sunday afternoon and will be preceded by an optional half day course. Overnight accommodation will be provided in College Rooms (en-suite) and meals, including a Gala Dinner will take place in the stunning College dining hall. Platform and poster presentations are invited in all aspects of low vision research. Dr Michael Crossland, Specialist Optometrist at Moorfields Eye Hospital, will be attending on behalf of UCLPartners.
Location: Keble College, Parks Road, Oxford, OX1 3PG
Contact: Susie Sandford Smith
Email: susan.smith@ucl.ac.uk
Phone: Please email

25 September, 2015 - VIP members of the hippocampus
Time: 12:30 -
Speaker: Dr Lisa Topolnik, Laval University, Canada
Location: Room JHLT, 29-39 Brunswick Square, , London, WC1N 1AX
Contact: Audrey Mercer
Email: a.mercer@ucl.ac.uk
Phone:

26 September, 2015 - Synaptopathies One-Day Symposium
Time: -
Programme to follow.
Location: Basement lecture theatre, , 33 Queen Square, London, WC1N 3BG
Contact: Juliet Solomon
Email: Juliet.solomon@ucl.ac.uk
Phone: Please email

Back to the top

External Events of Interest

Imaging the Nervous System - 5th Cambridge Neuroscience Biennial Symposium

9 – 10 September 2015
University of Cambridge

The theme for this symposium is 'Imaging the Nervous System' and will include sessions on imaging neuronal circuits, cognition and neural disease, super resolution imaging and dense reconstruction. The “Imaging the Nervous System” symposium is an international meeting, for which we hope people working in neuroscience at all stages of their careers can benefit from the scientific interactions, poster sessions and lectures given by 25 speakers - 7 from the University of Cambridge, 9 based in the UK or other parts of Europe, and 9 from elsewhere in the world. We are expecting around 500 attendees, the full capacity of the West Road Concert Hall. The Alan Hodgkin and Andrew Huxley Plenary Lectures will be awarded to Professors Winfried Denk and Xiaowei Zhuang respectively. There will be a reception and gala dinner at King's College on the evening of September 9th 2015 (additional charge, note venue change). The symposium will conclude with a public plenary lecture given by Professor Sarah-Jayne Blakemore (University College London) on September 10th, which will be followed by a reception and the Cambridge Neuroscience image competition exhibition (open to all delegates).

Please click here to register for this meeting.

8th UK-Korea Neuroscience Symposium

15-16 September 2015
Clare College, Cambridge

We are excited to announce that the next UK-Korea Neuroscience Symposium will be held at the beautiful Clare College in Cambridge, 14-16th September 2015. We are bringing together leading academics from UK and Korea, to present their latest findings within the field of neuroscience.
Registration is now open.

More information

Bernstein Conference 2015

15-17 September 2015
Heidelberg/Mannheim, Germany

The Bernstein Conference is The Bernstein Network’s Central Forum that has developed over time into the largest annual Computational Neuroscience conference in Europe, attracting an international audience from across the world. It is organized by members of the Bernstein Network at annually changing locations and offers a broad overview of the topics of Computational Neuroscience and Neurotechnology.

More information

Researcher Links Workshop: Understanding and Advancing Therapies for CNS Disorders

18 – 21 September 2015
Maria Do Mar Hotel, Florianopolis, Brazil

The British Council has grants available for early career researchers (see Eligibility section) to attend a workshop in Brazil on understanding and advancing CNS therapies. Costs of all travel, accommodation and meals for participants will be covered. Places are available for 16 researchers from Brazil and the UK (32 in total).

This workshop is part of the Newton Researcher Links programme, funded under the Newton Fund. The workshop is being organized by Dr. Angela Bithell (University of Reading, UK) and Dr. Helena Cimarosti (Federal University of Santa Catarina (UFSC), Brazil).

The workshop will take place in Florianópolis, Santa Catarina, Brazil, 18th-21st September 2015.

Find out more
In the nervous system, neurons form stereotyped patterns of synaptic connections. These patterns, the neuronal networks, are rapidly and selectively engaged during information processes. An increasing body of evidence highlights that changes in brain function, both normal and pathological, consistently correlate with dynamic changes in neuronal circuits. During development, neuronal circuits undergo a period of refinement to eliminate aberrant synaptic connections and to strengthen desired circuits. Learning and plasticity change circuit wiring and function throughout all life. Finally, in pathological states, inappropriate connections can form among surviving neurons during neuronal degeneration.

The availability of recently developed technologies that allow manipulating specific subsets of neurons in the mouse brain (e.g., gene targeting, optogenetics and pharmacogenetics) is providing us with an unprecedented opportunity to mechanistically investigate the role of specific neurons inside circuits. The course brings together top level scientists to provide a better comprehension on how experience, genetic background, and disease influence neuronal circuits and brain function.

Find out more
Neuropeptides 2015

28-30 September 2015
University of Aberdeen

A joint meeting of the Summer Neuropeptides Conference, the British Inflammation Research Association, the European Neuropeptides Club and Regulatory Peptides.

Keynote speaker – Professor Roger Pertwee

12 symposia – Drug development; genome editing; epigenetics; genomics; in-vivo models; pain; depression; obesity; addiction; galanin; cannabinoids; tachykinins; vanilloids, PACAP

Find out more

4th International Angelman Syndrome Scientific Conference

2-3 October 2015
Liverpool

2015 marks the fiftieth anniversary of Dr Harry Angelman’s first description of Angelman Syndrome, and it would also have been his 100th birthday. This year’s International Angelman Syndrome Alliance Scientific Conference is being hosted by UK charity ASSERT, at Alder Hey Children’s Hospital, Liverpool on Friday 2nd October 2015, followed by a Scientific Symposium for parents/carers and 50th Anniversary Gala on Saturday 3rd October 2015.

Founded four years ago by international support organisations, the AS Alliance seeks to further scientific research into Angelman Syndrome. This conference presents a unique opportunity to network, share ideas, advice, and form new collaborations.

Please email Liverpool2015@angelmanuk.org to register or for any other information.