General Notice

UCL Excellence in Health Research Prize - now open

The UCL Populations & Lifelong Health Domain, with support from the Domain’s Early Careers Network, the SLMS Research Coordination Office and the UCL Faculty of Population Health Sciences, are running a competition of peer-reviewed, published, original research papers authored by UCL early career researchers in the broad theme of populations and lifelong health. Prize winners will receive a substantial award that they can use as appropriate to support their research or career development, and will be invited to present their winning paper at the Populations & Lifelong Health Symposium in January 2017.

1st prize: £5000
2nd prize: £2000

Applicants are invited to submit an original research paper which has been published in a peer reviewed journal since August 2014. Papers must be relevant to the broad area of population health.

- Applicant must be the main contributor. See full eligibility criteria
- Authors will be required to submit a statement on the importance of their paper (500 word limit). See full application process
- Papers must be submitted in a PDF file and accompanied by completed application form to Lalita John from a UCL email address.

Deadline: Thursday 27 October by 5pm

More information, full eligibility criteria and application process can be found here
Subscribe to the mailing list, to hear about events, workshops, job and funding opportunities.

Subscribe here: [https://www.mailinglists.ucl.ac.uk/mailman/listinfo/earlycareerneuro](https://www.mailinglists.ucl.ac.uk/mailman/listinfo/earlycareerneuro)

Grant Writing Workshop

**Wednesday 7th December 2016 10am - 1pm**

Applications to be submitted by 21st November 2016

The aim of this half-day session is to help workshop participants improve their applications for funding, whether they are project grants or fellowships. It will be led by two senior UCL researchers, Prof. Patrick Haggard (Institute of Cognitive Neuroscience) and Prof. Andrew Forge (The Ear Institute), who have extensive experience in applying for funding as well as being part of grant review committees. This is a rare opportunity to polish your 'grantsmanship' skills, gain insight into how funding committees work, and receive constructive feedback on your applications.

To participate in this workshop, each participant must provide an abstract, lay summary and scientific proposal (it may be a preliminary application) for either a grant or fellowship application by 21 November 2016. Participants are NOT required to submit grant costings.

Contact: Jasper Poort ([j.poort@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:j.poort@ucl.ac.uk)), Sandrine Geranton ([sandrine.geranton@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:sandrine.geranton@ucl.ac.uk)) or Julie Lee ([julie.lee.15@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:julie.lee.15@ucl.ac.uk))

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**Special Seminars and Events**

**New journal launched - Neuronal Signaling**

Publishing high-quality molecular and cellular neuroscience research, this fully open access, online-only journal, will span a variety of neuroscientific disciplines, from signaling pathways involved in nervous system development, through to neurodegeneration, synaptopathies, psychiatric disorders and other pathologies. It will support and further a number of areas of neuroscience, including topics such as: pain and analgesia, neuro-oncology, stroke and cerebrovascular disease and neuropharmacology and therapeutics, among others. The first complete issue of the journal will be published in February 2017, but content will be available on the website from October 2016.

In addition to Professor Sullivan, we are proud to have assembled an excellent Editorial Board including:

- **Professor Eero Castrén** (University of Helsinki)
- **Dr Eilís Dowd** (National University of Ireland Galway)
- **Professor Meng Li** (Cardiff University)
- **Professor Clare Stanford** (University College London)
- **Professor Vidita Vaidya** (Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Mumbai)

[See the Journal website for more information](#)
BNA2017 Festival of Neuroscience
10 – 13 April 2017, ICC Birmingham

The FESTIVAL OF NEUROSCIENCE is the BNA’s flagship biennial meeting. BNA Festivals have now gained traction as the most important neuroscience meetings in the UK, and BNA2017 is one of the largest international meetings throughout Europe in 2017.

BNA2017 ABSTRACT SUBMISSION AND REGISTRATION OPEN!

We invite you to register for BNA2017 and encourage you to showcase your research at the largest neuroscience meeting in the UK by submitting a poster abstract.

*** POSTER ABSTRACT SUBMISSION DEADLINE: FRIDAY 16th DECEMBER 2016 ***

We strongly encourage students and early-career scientists to present their work as a poster presentation. We expect around 750 posters to be presented at the BNA2017 Festival of Neuroscience, and bursaries will be available for qualifying poster presenters. Submission deadline FRIDAY DECEMBER 16th, 2016 = just 11 weeks to go!

See here for full information and guidelines.

UCL Ageing Event - cultivating research connections across the University
Thursday 3 November 2016

Registration is now open for the UCL Ageing Event - Cultivating research connections across the University on Thursday 3 November 2016 at the UCL Main Quad Pavilion.

This is a half-day event aimed primarily at UCL staff from postdoctoral research associates to senior lecturers who work on ageing research in a wide variety of disciplines, including epidemiology, bioscience, neuroscience, engineering, economics and infection and immunity.

In February 2016 an initial event was held for senior Principal Investigators, which took the first step towards consolidating ageing research and expertise across UCL, encouraging new collaborations, and preparing possible responses for future funding opportunities.

The purpose of this second meeting is therefore to enable more junior UCL researchers working on all aspects of ageing to network and to encourage new collaborations.

Please click on the following link to view the programme and to register to attend:
https://uclageingevent.eventbrite.co.uk

Time: 13.30-18.00

Venue: UCL Main Quad Pavilion, Gower Street, London, WC1E 6BT

We very much hope to see you on Thursday 3 November 2016 for what is sure to be a fascinating afternoon.
Volunteer to help with a research project with the Institute of Cognitive Neuroscience

Are you interested in a volunteer position in an exciting new project with the Institute of Cognitive Neuroscience Pocket Smile team? The project will be running from November 14th to December 18th 2016 at the Science Museum, London, as part of their Live Science programme. A team of 10 UCL volunteers will engage visitors in an experiment exploring if playing a video game with smiling faces or landscapes will have a greater boost to their mood depending on the image type.

The one-month positions are limited to 10 places and are open to anyone from first year undergraduates to PhD students. We need volunteers who can commit to a minimum of one day per week to the project. Candidates should have an interest in science and innovative healthcare interventions, be comfortable approaching people, be positive, proactive and responsible. No prior experience is required and you will receive an induction at the Science Museum.

For more information and to apply email Javier Elkin: javier.elkin.10@ucl.ac.uk

Beacon Bursaries for public engagement
Deadline: 7th November 2016

Do you have an innovative idea that will help you connect your research or teaching with people outside UCL? If you do, and you need funding and ongoing guidance, you could apply for a Beacon Bursary. Up to £2000 per project is available to UCL staff and postgraduate research students. We particularly encourage applications for projects in East London as UCL is aiming to develop relationships with local people in advance of the building of UCL East.

UCL Beacon Bursaries have funded outstanding engagement projects and project teams since 2009. To find out more, and to download the guidance and application forms, visit the Public Engagement Unit’s website: http://www.ucl.ac.uk/public-engagement/funding/beaconbursaries

If you have any questions, contact the Public Engagement Unit, UCL Culture, who will be happy to advise and help you strengthen your application: publicengagement@ucl.ac.uk

Come to the Public Engagement Network on Thursday 20th October 11am-1pm to hear directly from UCL staff and researchers who have been previously funded by the Beacon Bursaries: http://www.ucl.ac.uk/event-ticketing/booking?ev=16049

Scientists discover how we sense 'stiffness'

Every day, people use their hands effortlessly to assess an object's stiffness, like the ripeness of a piece of fruit. For the first time an international team of scientists led by UCL, have discovered the area in the brain where stiffness perception is formed. The findings, published in the Journal of Neuroscience, could aid rehabilitation in patients with sensory impairments. Dr Marco Devero demonstrating the technique
Hands do not have sensors to directly inform the brain about an object's stiffness. To uncover the link between our brain and our hands, researchers focused their attention on how motion and sensory inputs are combined and processed. The team looked to the posterior parietal cortex (PPC); a key part of the brain which plays an important role in planning movements, spatial reasoning and attention. Could the PPC also be involved in stiffness perception?

Full story

Sainsbury Wellcome Centre appoints new Director

Professor Thomas Mrsic-Flogel has today been announced as the new Director of the Sainsbury Wellcome Centre for Neural Circuits and Behaviour at UCL.

Professor Thomas Mrsic-Flogel

The Centre, funded by the Gatsby Charitable Foundation and Wellcome, brings together world-leading scientists to investigate how the brain's circuits generate perception and guide behaviour.

Professor Mrsic-Flogel's appointment follows three years as Professor of Neuroscience at the University of Basel. Before moving to Switzerland he was a Wellcome Research Fellow and Lecturer at UCL (2007-2013).

Professor Mrsic-Flogel's research aims to understand how the complex organisation of neural circuits gives rise to computations that support sensory perception and behaviour. In recognition of his work, he was awarded the 2015 Larry Katz Prize for Innovative Research in Neuroscience.

Full story

Sainsbury Wellcome Centre wins building award

The Sainsbury Wellcome Centre for Neural Circuits and Behaviour at UCL (SWC) has been named Major Building Project of the Year (over £50m) at the British Construction Industry Awards (BCIA) 2016.

SWC

The BCIA recognise and reward excellence in the design, construction and delivery of buildings and civil engineering works. The Centre competed for the title against a shortlist including the Birmingham New Street station, Grand Central redevelopment, Here East in Stratford and Alder Hey Children's Health Park.

Full story

Dr Cesar Lima scans Billy Bragg's brain to explore the effect of music

On a flight to Bolivia, singer-songwriter, Billy Bragg, stumbled across a unique cure for his nervousness about flying by listening to a track by Little Feat. He met up with Dr Cesar Lima, Institute of Cognitive Neuroscience, and Dr Saloni Krishnan, University of Oxford to explore the science behind it.

Drs Lima and Krishnan designed an experiment using fMRI to examine Billy Bragg's brain activity while he was passively listening to music. The researchers played Billy excerpts of his favourite song, randomly interleaved with excerpts of a second song he also knew but did not like.

Full story

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Current Funding Opportunities

Tools and resources development fund: Bioimaging
Closing date: 23 November 2016

The Tools and Resources Development Fund (TRDF) aims to pump prime the next generation of tools, technologies and resources that will be required by bioscience researchers.

The 2016 TRDF call has a specific focus on bioimaging. It is anticipated that successful grants will not exceed £150k (£187k FEC) and a fast-track, light touch peer review process will operate to enable researchers to respond rapidly to emerging challenges and opportunities.

To apply for this call, visit the BBSRC website.

NIHR fellowships: deadlines brought forward and webinar
Closing date: December 2016

The NIHR have announced that the deadlines for the next round (round 10) of their Fellowship Programme will be brought forward. Deadlines are normally in January each year, but for the next round the postdoctoral, career development and senior fellowship schemes will have deadlines in December 2016. The calls will be officially launched in October.

The NIHR recently held a webinar on their Fellowships schemes. This is available for all to view online (registration required) and the link can be found on the SLMS Research Facilitation webpages here. http://www.ucl.ac.uk/slms-intranet/research/facilitation/looking-for-funding/presentations-from-funders.


Child and young adult mental health – the underpinning aetiology of self-harm and eating disorders
Closing date: 31 January 2017

The Medical Research Foundation (MRF) and Medical Research Council (MRC) will make available up to £2 million for new high-quality, internationally competitive research partnerships to investigate the underlying bio-psycho-social mechanistic and environmental drivers i.e. the aetiology and underpinning mechanisms of self-harm or of eating disorders in children, adolescents and young adults (up to 25 years).

The objective of this call is to provide funding to initiate new scientific partnerships across disciplines and new research activities, focused on basic science.

Full information

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27 October, 2016 - Lunch Hour Lectures - Navigating the brain: software programming for surgical planning

Time: 13:15:00 - 13:55:00

Epilepsy affects around 500,000 people in the UK, and one-third of individuals with focal epilepsy continue to have seizures despite optimal medical management. Professor Sebastien Ourselin will discuss his work developing the surgical navigation platform, EpiNavTM, which aims to increase the number of patients suitable for curative treatments. Watching the live stream or in the audience? Ask questions using audience interaction website slido by using the link below and event code #9891. All questions will be moderated by a UCL staff member.

Location: Darwin Lecture Theatre, Darwin Building, access via Malet Place, London, WC1E 6BT

Contact: UCL Event Ticketing
Email: ticketing@ucl.ac.uk
Phone: 020 3108 1000 (internal: 51000, Mon-Fri, 12 noon-6pm)

2 November, 2016 - Institute of Neurology Postdoc Seminar - Phenotypic screen of motor neurons carrying different ALS mutations - are there common pathways between different ALS mutations?

Time: 16:00:00 -

Speaker: Zhi Yao, UK Parkinson's Disease Consortium, Institute of Neurology
Host: IoN Postdoc Seminar Committee
Location: Basement Lecture Theatre, National Hospital for Neurology and Neurosurgery, Queen Square, London, WC1N 3BG

Contact: ionpostdocsrequest@gmail.com
Email: ionpostdocsrequest@gmail.com
Phone:

3 November, 2016 - UCL Ageing Event – cultivating research connections across the University

Time: 13:30:00 - 18:00:00

This is a half-day event aimed primarily at UCL staff from postdoctoral research associates to senior lecturers who work on ageing research in a wide variety of disciplines, including epidemiology, bioscience, neuroscience, engineering, economics and infection and immunity. UCL has significant strength in ageing research, however, key researchers at UCL that work on ageing are unfamiliar with other scientists who work in different age-related disciplines. This is a missed opportunity, especially given the increased focus on lifelong health and wellbeing in the Government’s current priorities for research funding. The purpose of this meeting is therefore to enable more junior UCL researchers working on all aspects of ageing to network and to encourage new collaborations.

Location: UCL Main Quad Pavilion, Gower Street, London, WC1E 6BT

Contact: Jessica Grant
Email: jessica.grant@ucl.ac.uk
Phone: Please email

4 November, 2016 - Otto Wolff Neuroscience Symposium

Time: 09:00:00 - 17:00:00

Registration from 9 am Free to attend – registration via Eventbrite required
Chair: Professor Dimitri Kullman
Location: Kennedy Lecture Theatre, Wellcome Trust Building, Institute of Child Health, 30 Guilford Street, London, WC1N 1EH

Contact: ICH.DN.Programme@ucl.ac.uk
Email: ICH.DN.Programme@ucl.ac.uk
Phone:

4 November, 2016 - Treating cognitive deficits in depression

Time: 13:00:00 -
8 November, 2016 - **ALS Seminar: ALS and the corticospinal system**

Time: 12:30:00 - 13:30:00

Speaker: Roger Lemon, Sobell Department, Institute of Neurology, UCL Host: Elizabeth Fisher

This seminar is part of the ALS Seminar Series

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

10 November, 2016 - **New perspectives on post-stroke fatigue**

Time: 17:15:00 - 18:30:00

Speaker: Dr Anna Kuppuswamy, Stroke Association UCL Partners Centre for Rehabilitation seminar

Location: Gilliatt Lecture Theatre, Institute of Neurology, Queen Square House, Queen Square, WC1N 3BG

Contact: Centre for Neurorehabilitation

Email: cnr@ucl.ac.uk

Phone:

14 November, 2016 - **Simvastatin: an unexpected treatment for Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy?**

Time: 17:30:00 - 18:30:00

Speaker: Professor Stan Froehner, Raymond and Beverly Sackler Professor and Chair, Department of Physiology & Biophysics, University of Washington School of Medicine

Location: Basement Lecture Theatre, National Hospital for Neurology and Neurosurgery, Queen Square, London, WC1N 3BG

Contact: Christine Oldfield

Email: christine.oldfield@ucl.ac.uk

Phone:

21 November, 2016 - **New insights into rare muscle glycogen storage disorders**

Time: 17:30:00 - 18:30:00

MRC Centre for Neuromuscular Diseases Seminar Series. Speaker: Dr Edoardo Malfatti, Myology Institute, Paris

Location: Basement Lecture Theatre, 33 Queen Square, London, WC1N 3BG

Contact: Christine Oldfield

Email: cnmd.contact@ucl.ac.uk

Phone: Please email

22 November, 2016 - **Sports cognition: Exploring the cognition of elite sporting performance and the cognitive consequences of sports-related brain injury**

Time: -

Topics will include - Expert human performance – motor & attentional factors; Concussion, what is it and how to diagnose it?; Epidemiology of sports related concussion; Treatment of symptomatic mild traumatic brain injury and the long-term effects on cognition

UCL Partners Centre for Neurorehabilitation seminar

Location: Gilliatt Lecture Theatre, Institute of Neurology, Queen Square House, Queen Square, WC1N 3BG
BNS Autumn meeting in memory of Professor Glyn Humphreys
26 - 27 October, 33 Queen’s Square, London

This Autumn BNS meeting is dedicated to the memory of Prof. Glyn Humphreys (1954-2016). Glyn was an inspirational scientist who had a major influence on neuropsychology in the UK and beyond. He was a tireless supporter of the BNS and was our President from 2012-2014. This meeting offers us the opportunity to celebrate Glyn’s contribution to science and the many careers he influenced through his enthusiasm and support for young scientists.

More information

Human Brain Anatomy Course
26 - 28 October, SOAS, London

Highly popular 3-day introduction to human brain anatomy with optional half-day practical session.

Course director:
Dr Paul Johns, BSc BM MSc FAcadMEd FRCPath

- Highly popular course with five star ratings
- Comprehensive introduction to human brain anatomy
- Assumes minimal prior knowledge
- Emphasises functional, clinical and radiological (MRI) neuroanatomy
Three-day course: £395

**More information**

**Dizziness and Balance Workshop**  
*Tuesday 15 November, 1 Wimpole Street, London*  
*Cost: £250 - £360*  
*8 CPD Points*

Dizziness is a common symptom in patients presenting to the emergency department, stroke unit, and general practice. The diagnosis and management of such patients can be challenging, but can also be achieved with appropriate clinical skills.

This 1 day interactive workshop will support healthcare professionals to effectively diagnose and manage dizziness across a range of clinical settings.

The workshop is aimed at emergency department physicians, general medical doctors, GPs and neurologists. It includes short, focused talks, and hands-on practical workshops delivered by international experts in the field from the neuro-otology department at the National Hospital for Neurology and Neurosurgery, London. This course will be led by Professor Adolfo M Bronstein, Professor Luxon, and Dr Diego Kaski, International renowned experts in Dizziness and Balance.

**More information**

**1st Annual Cyprus International Conference on Autism Treatment and Research**  
*18 – 22 November 2016, Paphos, Cyprus*

1st Annual Cyprus International Conference on Autism Treatment and Research entitled *Magic Always Happens through our interdisciplinary approach to autism!*

Our conference takes a true “360 degrees” approach and it aims to bring together experts and luminaries from transdisciplinary scientific research, as well as from applied fields including academicians, psychologists, physicians, geneticists, speech therapists, civil engineers, architects, economists, law, technology, and many other subject matter experts. Together, we shall all discuss best practices and suggest ideal ways of working with, treating, educating, building for, and sustaining quality centers for autism excellence, among other.

**More information**

**School of Brain Cells and Circuits "Camillo Golgi"**  
*The cerebellum inside out: cells, circuits and function*  
*1 - 5 December 2016, Erice (Italy)*  
*Cost: €400*

The 2016 Course of the School of Brain Cells and Circuits will be dedicated to the cerebellum. The cerebellum is a complex brain structure that subserves sensori-motor control functions but also probably plays a key role in cognition. The interest of this course will be to reconnect different levels of current knowledge and promote cross-fertilization among research fields. On the one hand, the cerebellar microcircuit is amongst the most investigated ever and has inspired fundamental neurophysiological theories. On the other hand cerebellar dysfunction is at the base of a complex set of motor and non-motor pathologies that are only recently coming to light. In this course, we will move from cellular and molecular biophysics of the cerebellar neurons and circuits up to integrative aspects of cerebellar functioning.
Deadline for financial support: 30 September 2016
Deadline for meeting registration: 30 November 2016

The 15th Annual King's College Neuromuscular Disease Symposium
Friday 27 January 09:30am - 5.00pm
King's College Hospital campus at Denmark Hill

This annual educational meeting, organised by Dr Robert Hadden, is aimed primarily at clinicians who treat patients with diseases of the peripheral nervous system and muscle. This year's symposium aims to provide more practical general clinical review talks. It will be of interest to general adult neurologists, clinical neurophysiologists, paediatric neurologists, clinical neuroscientists, allied health professionals and trainees. It aims to provide a clinical update as well as an introduction to the science underlying neuromuscular diseases.

Spring Meeting for Clinician Scientists in Training
Thursday 23rd February 2017
Royal College of Physicians, London

Are you looking for a chance to present your research and network with your peers across all specialties? The annual Spring Meeting for Clinician Scientists in Training is a unique cross specialty event, coordinated by the Academy of Medical Sciences, that enables budding clinical academics to develop the skills and networks to become independent researchers.

View films about the Spring Meeting at bit.ly/SpringMeeting2016
To register to attend and/or participate in one of the competitions please visit www.acmedsci.ac.uk/springmeeting

The Spring Meeting offers:

- A range of competitions (both oral and poster) for all career stages (pre-PhD, PhD and post-doc). All accepted abstracts are published in a special edition of The Lancet.
- Cash prizes, including a top prize of £2,500.
- Opportunities to be filmed or recorded about your research.
- A communications/networking masterclass the day before to learn skills to help you get the most out of the meeting.

Opportunity to network with your peers and Academy Fellows.

The Challenge of Chronic Pain
1 - 3 March 2017, Wellcome Genome Campus, Hinxton, UK

The second Challenge of Chronic Pain conference will discuss recent discoveries and current challenges in pain research, with a focus on translating basic research insights into new therapies. Advances in our understanding of peripheral and central pain mechanisms, pathways and processes will be highlighted. We will explore the clinical landscape of chronic pain and pain syndromes, the innovative approaches in target validation in animal and human studies, and their translation into novel therapeutic interventions.

This meeting is aimed at scientists, clinicians, and those working in industry or on
translational research, interested in understanding chronic pain and improving the process from mechanism to therapy.

Channels and Transporters
14 - 20 May 2017, Erice, Italy

The International School of Biophysics in Erice, Sicily has hosted a course on “Channels and Transporters” four times since 2002. This will be the sixth time it is held.

This FEBS/EMBO lecture course entitled “Biophysics and Medicine of Channels and Transporters: Electrifying New Insights” will provide a broad coverage of modern aspects of ion channel and transporter science. Topics covered will range from structural biology and advanced pharmacological approaches to the role of ion channels and transporters in human health and disease. Lectures will include didactic presentations on the fundamentals of ion channels and transporters, as well as state-of-the-art presentations on the latest findings, and practical information on patch-clamp, biochemical assays, protein purification, X-ray crystallography, microscopy, molecular dynamics, drug interactions and optogenetics.

Further details

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