

[General Notice](#)
[Neuroscience Careers Network](#)
[Special Seminars and Events](#)
[Public Engagement](#)
[In the News](#)
[Current Funding Opportunities](#)
[UCL Neuroscience Seminars and Events](#)
[External Events of Interest](#)

Keep in touch with UCL Neuroscience

Website: <http://www.ucl.ac.uk/research/domains/neuroscience>

Twitter: [@ucl_slms](#)

Email: candice.lewis@ucl.ac.uk

[Subscribe to newsletter](#)

Issue 20: 7 November, 2016

General Notice

SUSTAIN programme applications now open

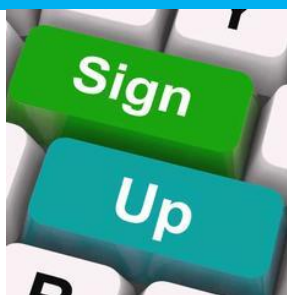


Applications are now invited for the [SUSTAIN programme](#) of mentoring, networking and support for women researchers, with a deadline of 2 December. The programme aims to develop the careers and leadership potential of women research to enable them to secure senior positions. It includes single and multi-day workshops, a peer support network and one-to-one mentoring.

Applications will be accepted from holders of selected fellowships and awards from the Academy of Medical Sciences, Medical Research Council, Royal Society and Wellcome Trust. Full eligibility and details of how to apply are available on the [SUSTAIN webpages](#).

[Back to the top](#)

Neuroscience Careers Network



Neuroscience Careers Network mailing list

The UCL Neuroscience Careers Network (NCN) provides opportunities for neuroscientists to meet their peers, to share ideas, experience and initiate collaborations. It also provides a platform for careers advice and the dissemination of information regarding jobs, training and funding opportunities.

The NCN is organised by a committee made up of representatives from a variety of departments under the UCL Neuroscience Domain and includes both post-doctoral researchers and PIs.

Subscribe to the mailing list, to hear about events, workshops, job and funding opportunities.

Subscribe here:

<https://www.mailingslists.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), Sandrine Geranton (sandrine.geranton@ucl.ac.uk) or Julie Lee (julie.lee.15@ucl.ac.uk)

Alternative Neuroscience Careers Seminar

Wednesday 7th December 2016 3.30pm - 4.30pm



One of the most difficult decisions for a PhD student or PostDoc is whether or not to pursue a career in academia. To support you in making informed choices about what to do next, we have invited three speakers who will share their experiences in transitioning from academic science to other industries:

Dr Jessica O'Neill - Consultant in the Healthcare and Life Sciences Strategy Team at KPMG

Dr Georgina MacKenzie - Science Portfolio Adviser at Wellcome Trust

Dr Greg Ball - Part-Qualified Patent Attorney at Carpmaels & Ransford

Register for this free event at <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/alternative-neuroscience-careers-seminar-part-1-tickets-28921968386>

[Back to the top](#)

Special Seminars and Events

UCL SLMS early and mid-career researchers Question and Answer meeting with the Provost

16th November, UCL Main Quad Pavilion



The latest Institute of Child Health Athena Swan staff satisfaction survey has shown that career progression for post-doctoral research staff in academia is limited. This is possibly due to the enormous cultural shift that University finances and competition has brought to traditional academic career paths. As part of our initiative for an Athena SWAN Gold application, the GOS ICH Athena Swan Steering committee has therefore arranged an open meeting for early and mid-career researchers in SLMS with a panel consisting of the Provost and other key senior UCL staff.

Panel members include:

- Prof. Michael Arthur, UCL President and Provost
- Charlotte Croffie, Director of Organisational Development, UCL Human Resources
- Dr. Calum Leckie, Deputy Head of UCL Careers
- Prof. Gudrun Moore, UCL Vice Provost (International)
- Prof. Ros Smyth, Director, UCL Great Ormond Street Institute of Child Health
- Prof. Graham Hart, Dean, Faculty of Population Health Sciences, UCL School of Life and Medical Sciences

Participants will be offered the opportunity to submit questions in advance of the meeting. Submission of questions for consideration will be anonymous to the panel.

Selected questions will be discussed by the panel followed by a 10 minute open question and answer session.

Register for this unique event now via Eventbrite

<http://uclprovostquestiontime.eventbrite.co.uk>

Animal Research: Critical, Challenging and Creative Thinking

1 - 2 December, UCL Conference Suite, London



Are you involved in research using animals or animal derived material?

YES - then this course is for you (the content is appropriate for both personal licence holders and non-licence holders).

Are you funded by MRC, Wellcome Trust, BBSRC, DEFRA, NERC, NC3Rs, EPSRC or a medical research charity?

YES - then this course will help you understand how to meet their expectations regarding the responsible use of animals in Bioscience research.

This course is offered as part of the Doctoral Skills Development Programme and delivered over 2 full days (10am-5pm), comprising 4 half-day workshops covering the following topics:

- An introduction to animal use for scientific purposes (what this means in practice at UCL, including current 3Rs research/activities)
- Animal research integrity (what RI is & means in practice, public engagement, good research practices & the culture of research in the UK)
- Critical thinking & experimental design (including how to identify and avoid common pitfalls, intro to systematic reviews, data management & the ARRIVE guidelines)
- Animal welfare and refinement in practice (common good practices & useful resources both within UCL & more broadly)

To register your interest, please visit http://courses.grad.ucl.ac.uk/course-details.pht?course_ID=2619.

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.](#)

[Back to the top](#)

Public Engagement

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

[Back to the top](#)

In the News



Top ten universities conduct a third of all UK animal research

The ten UK universities who do the most world-leading biomedical research have announced their animal research statistics, revealing that they collectively conducted a third of all UK animal research in 2015. UCL animal research facility

The top ten institutions conduct more than two thirds of all UK university animal research between them, completing a combined total of 1.37 million procedures. Over 99% of these procedures were carried out on rodents or fish, and in line with national data they were roughly evenly split between experiments and the breeding of genetically modified animals.

The ten universities are listed below alongside the total number of procedures that they carried out in 2015. Each institution's name links to a breakdown of their individual animal research statistics.

[Full story](#)



How lying takes our brains down a 'slippery slope'

Telling small lies desensitises our brains to the associated negative emotions and may encourage us to tell bigger lies in future, reveals new UCL research funded by Wellcome and the Center for Advanced Hindsight. Pinocchio puppets

The research, published in Nature Neuroscience, provides the first empirical evidence that self-serving lies gradually escalate and reveals how this happens in our brains.

The team scanned volunteers' brains while they took part in tasks where they could lie for personal gain. They found that the amygdala, a part of the brain associated with emotion, was most active when people first lied for personal gain. The amygdala's response to lying declined with every lie while the magnitude of the lies escalated. Crucially, the researchers found that larger drops in amygdala activity predicted bigger lies in future.

[Full story](#)

Arousal exerts an unconscious influence on what we see



A new study from UCL researchers finds that subtle, unconscious increases in arousal – indicated by a faster heartbeat and dilated pupils – shape our confidence for visual experiences.

Dilated pupil

The study, published in eLife, investigated the effect of unconscious arousal on how confident participants felt about what they were seeing when completing a simple task.

“Typically when we see something, we have insight not only into what it is that we've seen, but also how clearly we've seen it,” explains lead author Micah Allen (UCL Institute of Neurology). “If the picture is clouded or obscured, our feeling of confidence in what we've seen is lessened. This ability to accurately appraise our own experiences is an important part of our everyday lives. To explain this ability, research has previously suggested that the brain acts a bit like a scientist or statistician, evaluating the quality of our experiences to inform how confident we feel. Our study challenges this view, instead finding that confidence is closely related to unconscious states of physiological arousal.”

[Full story](#)

Middle England' faces lowest psychosis risk



The risk of developing a psychotic disorder such as schizophrenia is highest for young people, men, ethnic minorities and people living in urban areas and poorer neighbourhoods, finds a new study by UCL and the University of Cambridge. East Anglia

The research, funded by Wellcome and published in the American Journal of Psychiatry, suggests that a reduced risk of developing psychosis can be added to the list of social, economic and health advantages enjoyed by more affluent, older white British people living in rural England; a group typically known as 'Middle England'.

The most common disorder associated with psychosis is schizophrenia but the term encompasses several conditions that leads to a detachment from reality, often manifesting in delusions and/or hallucinations.

[Full story](#)



Otto Wolff Neuroscience Symposium

The Otto Wolff Neuroscience Symposium, organised by the Developmental Neurosciences Programme, took place at the UCL Great Ormond Street Institute of Child Health on 4th November. The topic for 2016 was CNS demyelination and inflammation, and immune mediated neuronal dysfunction, and 200 delegates attended. The programme for the day included two flagship Otto Wolff Lectures, given by Professor Yanick Crow (University of Manchester) and Professor Marjo van der Knaap (University of Amsterdam). Jo Ng was selected as winner of the poster competition.

<http://www.ucl.ac.uk/ich/research/developmental-neurosciences>

[Back to the top](#)

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/slms-intranet/research/facilitation/looking-for-funding/presentations-from-funders>.

Specific advice and support for NIHR applications is available from the Research Design Service. <http://www.rds-london.nihr.ac.uk/about-us/north-london-ucl.aspx>

Dunhill Medical Trust Research Training Fellowships

Closing date: 27th January 2017



The Dunhill Medical Trust has launched the fifth round of Dunhill Medical Trust Research Training Fellowships scheme, which aims to provide opportunities for talented clinicians and health or social care professionals who would like a future career in research that improves care for older people. Fellowships are intended to be flexible, and may be undertaken on either a 3 year full-time or up to a 6 year part-time basis. The awards may either be in the form of a PhD studentship or granted to experienced professionals who wish to branch into research. Financial support will include either a PhD stipend or an individual's salary at the appropriate grade (including on-costs), plus an additional amount, up to £10k annually, to cover research expenses, tuition and other fees.

Successful candidates will be expected to undertake a practical research project. However, the main focus of the fellowships will be on the completion of a robust training programme to equip them with a detailed understanding of applied research principles and practice.

Details of the scheme are available at:

<http://www.dunhillmedical.org.uk/page/?title=research+training+fellowships&pid=14>

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](#)

[Back to the top](#)

UCL Neuroscience Events and Seminars – November 2016

8 November, 2016 - [ALS Seminar: ALS and the corticospinal system](#)

Time: 12:30:00 -

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 -

Speaker: Dr Anna Kuppaswamy, 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 -

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

Contact: Centre for Neurorehabilitation

Email: cnr@ucl.ac.uk

Phone:

23 November, 2016 - [Software Entrepreneurship: Getting your research software out there!](#)

Time: -

Do you want your research software to create a bigger impact? Join us to find out how you can increase the impact of your research software by increasing its accessibility, usability and sustainability – while generating extra income and advancing your academic career! - Learn about the support available within UCL to help you to develop, licence, spinout your software - Find out about XIP - UCLB's new express licensing portal that gives industry and academia with easy access to the software and materials developed at UCL - Hear from researchers who have been on the journey - Find out how commercialisation of research software has contributed to REF case studies, promotions and research collaborations. - Network with likeminded researchers and relevant professional services teams from UCL.

Location: UCL Farr London, 222 Euston Road, London,

Contact: Louise Chisholm

Email: eresearch@ucl.ac.uk

Phone:

25 November, 2016 - [The physiological importance of brain-derived glucagon-like peptide-1: is GLP-1 indeed just a gut hormone acting in the CNS?](#)

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

Speaker: Dr Stefan Trapp, UCL Neuro, Physiology and Pharmacology

Location: Room M2, School of Pharmacy, 29-39 Brunswick Square, London, WC1N 1AX

Contact: Audrey Mercer

Email: a.mercer@ucl.ac.uk

Phone:

28 November, 2016 - [WIBR Cafe Seminar: Experimental gene therapy for focal epilepsy](#)

Time: 16:00:00 -

Speaker: Professor Dimitri Kullman, UCL Institute of Neurology Host: Dr Beverley Clark Refreshments will be provided.

Location: WIBR Cafe, 1st floor , Cruciform Building, Gower Street, London, WC1E 6BT

Contact: Alison Kelly

Email: alison.kelly@ucl.ac.uk

Phone: Please email

30 November, 2016 - [Tau propagation and neurodegeneration](#)

Time: 13:00:00 -

MRC Prion Unit Departmental Seminar Speaker: Dr Michel Goedert, MRC Laboratory of Molecular Biology, Cambridge Host: Professor John Collinge

Location: 2nd Floor Seminar Room, Institute of Neurology, Queen Square House, Queen Square, WC1N 3BG

Contact: Naho Ollason

Email: n.ollason@prion.ucl.ac.uk

Phone:

[Back to the top](#)

External Events of Interest

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

[More information](#)

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.

[More information](#)

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



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.

[Further details](#)

2017 UK Neuromuscular Translational Research Conference

22 - 23 March 2017, London



The 10th UK Neuromuscular Translational Research Conference will be held on Wednesday 22nd & Thursday 23rd March 2017 in London.

[Registration](#) is due to open in December.

Please contact [Christine Oldfield](#), MRC Centre Senior Administrator, with any queries

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](#)

[Back to the top](#)