

Dear EBPS Members,

Welcome to our first newsletter of 2022. Although it is not clear what this year has in store for us all – it is clear that the pandemic is not yet over, and the war in Ukraine is a major concern – the first part of 2022 does seem to have some promise of being a more ‘normal’ year than the past two. At least in the UK, Zoom meetings are still there but no longer ubiquitous; students are mostly being taught face-to-face; academic departments are slowly starting to fill with people again.

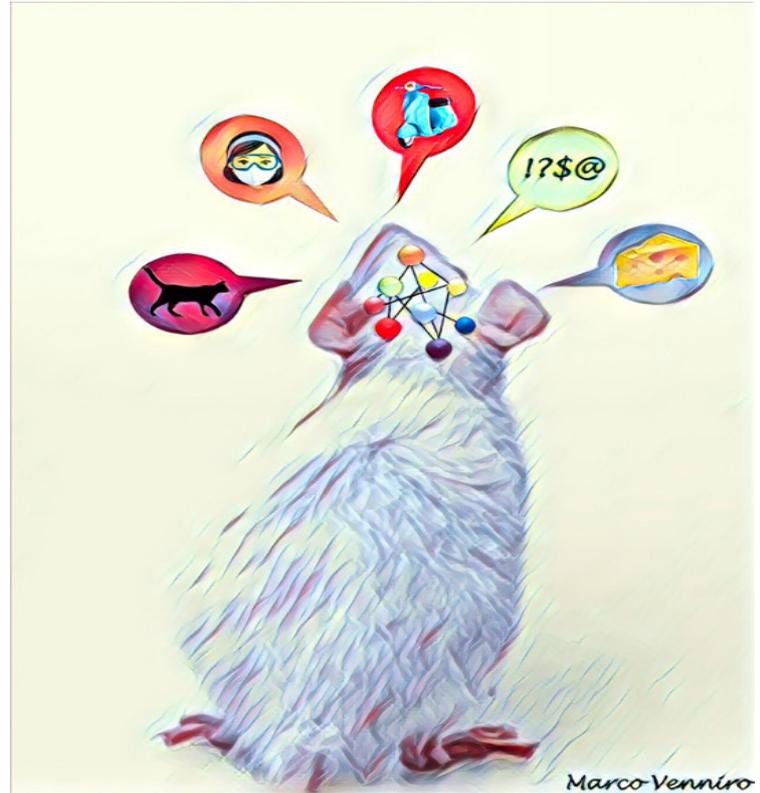
In Cambridge, we are not yet back to the usual academic ‘buzz’ that we’d feel at this time of year, but it certainly feels closer now than it has been in a long time. I’ve always loved those chance interactions - conversations with colleagues while waiting for the kettle to boil, the student calling by with a question while your office door is open – where a brief chat seeds an idea, which can go on to influence your thinking. Science thrives on collaboration, and I’m sure that I’m not the only one looking forward to getting to meet with colleagues in person again.

We hope that this year will bring more opportunities for these valuable interactions. In this issue, you will find details of Biennial Workshop, organised by Marco Venniro, Sam Golden, Daniele Caprioli, Valeria Carola, Valentina Ferretti and Carlo Cifani. Taking place between June 24th-26th in the beautiful Acquario Romano in Rome, this workshop on “Spanning the spectrum of social behavior: towards more translationally relevant animal models” promises stimulating science in a magnificent location – a perfect return to in-person meetings after the social isolation we’ve all endured over the past two years. Registration, abstract submission and travel award applications are now open [here](#).

In July, we also have the biennial FENS meeting in Paris to look forward to. As in 2020, EBPS is partnering with EBBS, EMCCS and IBANGS this year to organise a mini-conference on “Understanding behaviour: molecular, cellular and systems approaches” on the 9th of July, just prior to the launch of the FENS meeting. Anand Gururajan and Christelle Baunez have put together a fantastic programme on the ‘Neural circuits of behaviour’, with talks from Nuno Sousa, Puja Parekh and Sophia Levis. To facilitate discussion and networking, registrations are limited, so do book your place [here](#) before they run out! Check out the amazing artwork Marco Venniro has created for this event on the right!

It's a cliché to say that spring is a time of new beginnings, but let's hope that we can start to put the past two years behind us, and look forward to seeing each other and discussing science in the summer.

Best wishes,
Amy L Milton
General Secretary



Marco Venniro

EBPS 2022 Biennial Workshop
Acquario Romano, Italy



Spanning the spectrum of social behavior:
towards more translationally relevant animal models



Venue: Acquario Romano – Gala dinner: Palazzo delle Esposizioni

For registration and information visit: ebps2022.azuleon.org

Program

Welcome from EBPS
EBPS Power Hour
Symposia
Poster session
Students' data blitz

Keynote Speakers

Nora Volkow
Louk Vanderschuren
Alon Chen
Lique Coolen
Carmen Sandi

Discussion Leaders

Yavin Shaham
Viviana Trezza
Camilla Bellone
Klaus Miczek
Ofer Yizhar

Scientific committee:

Marco Venniro – Sam Golden – Daniele Caprioli
Valeria Carola – Valentina Ferretti – Carlo Cifani

Social media:

@MarcoVenniro – @GoldenNeuron – @dan_caprioli
@EurBehavPharm – @PsychopharmEBPS



FENS Mini-Conference, 9th July, 2022, Paris

**Understanding Behaviour:
Molecular, Cellular & Systems Approaches**

In 2022, EBPS is taking a leading role in organising the FENS Forum Mini-conference in Paris to be held on the 9th of July. The program for the day is outlined below. Registrations are limited so book your tickets here.

Session 1, 09h00-10h00 - EBPS: Neural Circuits of Behaviour (Moderator: Anand Gururajan)

“The Neuromatrix of the Stressed Brain” - Nuno Sousa (Portugal)

“Prefrontal Circuit Mechanisms Underlying Stress Effects on Effort-based Decision Making.” - Puja Parekh (USA)

“Sex-specific circuit mechanisms of disordered reward seeking caused by early life adversity.” - Sophia Levis (USA)

Session 2, 10h00-11h00 - IBANGs: Inheritance of Behaviour (Moderator: Wim Crusio)

“The Evolution of Family Life in a Fish.” - Alison Bell (USA)

“Genes in the Environment Influence Behaviour.” - Amelia Baud (Spain)

“Genetics of Human Brain Asymmetry.” - Clyde Francks (The Netherlands)

11h00-11h20 - Break & Networking

Session 3, 11h20-12h20 - EBBS: How Behaviour Defines Brain Activity (Moderator: Igor Branchi)

“How Individualising Behaviours Shape the Brain.” - Gerd Kempermann (Germany)

“Linking Spontaneous Brain Activity and Spontaneous Behaviour.” - Francesco Battaglia (The Netherlands)

“Three & Half Ways to Study Behaviour in Neuroscience.” - Alex Gomez-Martin (Spain)

Session 4, 12h20-13h20 - EMCCS: Molecular Mechanisms of Memory Function in Health & Diseases

(Moderator: Andre Fischer)

“Enhancing Cognition through Modulation of the ERK Pathway.” - Ricardo Brambilla (UK)

“Novel inhibitors for the Memory Constraining QR2 Pathway Relieve AD Cognitive and Pathological Phenotypes in 5XFAD mice” - Nathaniel Gould (Israel)

“Metabolic Homeostasis and Behaviour” - Claudia Bagni (Switzerland)

Job Alert

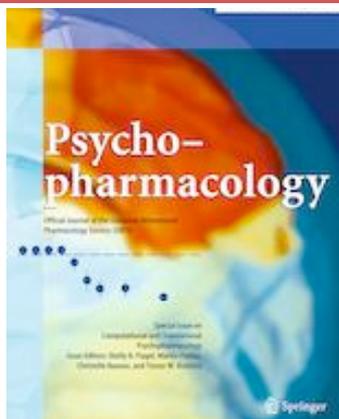
Molecular Neuroscientist - Girgenti Lab (Yale, USA)

The Girgenti Laboratory at Yale University is recruiting a molecular neuroscience research faculty or senior post-doctoral position, available immediately. Research in the Girgenti lab is directed at determining the molecular pathologies underlying stress disorders such as post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and major depressive disorder (MDD). The ideal candidate will take the lead in large VA-funded projects investigating the molecular pathology of neuropsychiatric disorders using advanced molecular technologies, interface with various brain banks and large consortia such as PGC and psychENCODE, troubleshoot molecular methods in the lab, and write manuscripts and grants. Individual projects are also encouraged, and there are ample opportunities for growth in the lab and at Yale. Email [Matthew Girgenti](mailto:Matthew.Girgenti@yale.edu) for enquiries. More info [here](#).

Behavioural Neuroscientist - Sharpe Lab (UCLA, USA)

The Sharpe Lab is recruiting 1-2 postdocs to work on NIH/NSF/BBRF-funded projects. These grants span the investigation of multiple neural circuits involved in reinforcement learning, including in both appetitive and aversive procedures. These projects use optogenetics, chemogenetics, and fiber photometry of genetically-encoded calcium and dopamine sensors, to study the role of neural circuits in various learning phenomena. If you are interested in applying to join the lab, contact [Melissa](mailto:Melissa.Sharpe@ucla.edu). More info [here](#).

Journal News



As EBPS members, we would like to remind you that you are entitled to free access to Psychopharmacology as well as the European Journal of Neuroscience via your personal pages on the EBPS website.

European Journal of Neuroscience call for contributions for a special issues on:

“Local circuits to large-scale networks in the sleeping brain.” Submission deadline, May 31, 2022. [More info](#).

“Functions and modalities of acetylcholine signaling in the mammalian brain.” Submission deadline, September 12, 2022. [More info](#).

“New trends in the empirical study of consciousness: measures and mechanisms.” Submission deadline, October 12, 2022.

FENS Calendar

14th Meeting of the Belgian Society of Neuroscience
1/4/2022, In-person, Belgium, [Link](#)

Parental Brain 2022,
16-18/5/2022, In-person, France [Link](#)

FENS Summer School on ‘Artificial and natural computations for sensory perception: what is the link?’
22-28/5/2022, In-person, Italy, [Link](#)

23rd IBANGS Annual Meeting
24-27/5/2022, In-person, USA, [Link](#)

Berlin Brain Summit
31/5/2022-2/6/2022, Hybrid, [Link](#)

6th World Parkinson Congress
7-10/6/2022, In person, Spain, [Link](#)

The Brain Conference: Genetics & Mechanisms of Complex Disorders - Highlighting Migraine
26-29/6/2022, In person, Denmark, [Link](#)

AREADNE 2022 Research in Encoding and Decoding of Neural Ensembles
28/6/2022-2/7/2022, In person, Greece, [Link](#)

Neuro 2022
30/6/2022-3/7/2022, Hybrid, Japan, [Link](#)

Is your membership current?

Just a reminder to check that your membership is current and if not, please renew [here](#). Full membership remains at €100 and the student fee at only €40. The benefits are numerous and include discounted registration at this year’s Braga conference!

EBPS Committee

Executive Committee:

President - Yavin Shaham (US)
President Elect - Shelly Flagel (US)
Past President - Louk Vanderschuren (NL)
General Secretary - Amy Milton (UK)
Treasurer - Mohammed Shoib (UK)
Meeting Secretary - Rainer Spanagel (DE)
Past Meeting Secretary - Rudy Schreiber (NL)

Ex-Officio:

Psychopharmacology Rep - Christelle Baunez (FR)

Full Committee:

Gavan McNally (AU)
Daniele Caprioli (IT)
Veronique Deroche (FR)
Michela Marinelli (US)
Markus Heilig (FI)
Marco Venniro (US)
Karen Szumlinksi (US)
Anand Gururajan (AU)