



Dear Members,

After more than 5 years, I'm stepping down from my role as Communications Officer for EBPS and Connor Haggarty will take over at the biennial. I took on the role in 2017 at the biennial meeting in Crete; this was also when John Cryan took over from Terry Robinson as President of the society. From that point onwards, I worked really closely with John, Anne Jackson, Christian Chiamulera and Shelly Flagel to improve how we can keep our members up-to-date on everything that is happening in the society. This began with the newsletter which is now in its 19th issue! These can take quite some time to prepare but they are a welcome distraction from my day-to-day work. I want to thank everyone who contributed towards these and also for the kind comments I've received from some of you. Twitter has obviously changed a bit since 2017 and some might say not for the better. But nevertheless, I oversaw a tripling in the number of followers the society account has in the past 5 years which is great! We haven't really ventured into using any other social media platforms yet but perhaps this is something that Connor Haggarty might consider. I think my biggest project was the website which I worked very hard on with Louk Vanderschuren. It wasn't an easy task and there were many technical issues we had to tackle. But we got there in the end and I'm proud of the final product! As Communications Officer, I had the unique privilege of attending Executive Committee meetings which are held every month. As you can imagine, with me being in Australia and the zoom meetings held in the morning in Europe/US, the timings have been tricky to manage; I'm usually in my pajamas when I log on. But I've always felt a strong sense of duty to attend these meetings and to advocate for any activities or initiatives which progress the society forwards, especially those which improve diversity, equity and increase opportunities for our younger members. I have one more newsletter left to produce which will be released in June, so I'm not gone just yet. I'll also be there in person in Mannheim for the biennial and look forward to seeing all of you!

[Anand Gururajan](#)

EBPS Communications Officer

EBPS Biennial 2023 - Update



We are excited to announce that registrations and the portal to submit abstracts have opened up for our biennial meeting in Mannheim, Germany. We are also delighted to announce that for this meeting, we are offering travel awards (€500) to 20 graduate student trainees and postdocs. Information on how to apply can be found on the meeting [website](#). And for the first time, EBPS has setup a Mentor-Mentee program which will be launched at this meeting. The goal is to pair junior investigators and trainees with more experienced colleagues to expand networks and gain insights relevant to their career progression. If you are interested in this program, either as a mentor or as a mentee, you have the opportunity to sign up during the meeting registration process. A few deadlines for everyone to take note of:

Registrations open - 15th March 2023

Workshop application deadline - 15th April 2023

Travel award deadline - 30th April 2023

Early bird registration deadline - 30th April 2023

Abstract submission deadline - 15th June 2023

Late registration deadline - 14th July 2023

Biennial dates - 22-25th August 2023

If you have any queries about the meeting, please email either [Yavin Shaham](#) or [Shelly Flagel](#).

Day 1 - 22/8/23

14h00 - 14h15
Welcome remarks

14h15 - 15h00
Plenary 1 - Pier Vincenzo Piazza

Specific inhibitors of the CB1 receptor (CB1-SSI), a new pharmacological class to treat pathological states related to a hyperactivity of the cannabinoid system

15h15 - 16h45
Travel Awardee Data Blitz

16h45 - 17h15
Coffee break

17h15 - 18h15
Equality Diversity & Inclusion Session

18h15 - 18h45
Mentor-Mentee Meetup

Day 2 - 23/8/23

8h30 - 9h15
Plenary 2 - Patricia Janak
Evaluating & learning from rewards

9h15 - 11h00 - Parallel Symposia
Symposium 1
The German ReCoDe consortium on losing and regaining control over drug intake: from trajectories to mechanisms. (C: Rainer Spanagel)

Symposium 2
Translational insights on social support and substance use disorders. (C: Marco Venniro)

Symposium 3
Divergent claustrum projection networks support different cognitive and behavioural roles. (C: Ami Citri)

11h00 - 11h30
Coffee break

11h30 - 13h00 - Parallel Symposia
Symposium 4
A translational perspective on opioid modulation of fear learning. (C: Isabell Meier)

Day 2 - Cont'd

Symposium 5
The impacts of early life adversity on adult stress and reward behaviours: leveraging animal and human studies to inform novel treatments. (C: Molly Carlyle)

Symposium 6
Preclinical and clinical insights into psychedelics and how to study them. (C: Charles Bradberry)

13h00 - 15h00
Lunch & Posters

15h00 - 16h30 - Parallel Symposia
Symposium 7
Social transfer of negative emotion: from circuits to behaviour. (C: Rachel Moloney)

Symposium 8
Substance use disorder and sleep: complex pharmacological effects on an underappreciated behavior. (C: Lais Berro & Robert Gould)

Symposium 9
Towards neural markers of drug addiction: computational approaches in animals and humans. (C: Miguel Luján & Hedy Kober)

16h45 - 18h15 - Parallel Symposia
Symposium 10
Placebo effects: from basic mechanisms to clinical applications. (C: Titiola Akintola & Luana Colloca)

Symposium 11
Lateral habenula roles in approach-avoidance conflict and neuropsychiatric disorders. (C: Jocelyn Richard)

Symposium 12
Pharmacokinetic and pharmacodynamic determinants of opioid use disorder and their clinical implications. (C: Daniele Caprioli)

18h30 - 19h30
FENS Committee on Animals in Research Panel Discussion

Day 3 - 24/8/23

8h30 - 9h15
Plenary 3 - Gavan McNally
Punishment: how risk and aversion shape our actions and choices

9h30 - 11h00 - Parallel Symposia
Symposium 13
Stress adaptation vs. maladaptation: Implications for diseases susceptibility and resilience. (C: Jason Radley)

Symposium 14
Incubation of drug craving: a multi-level translational approach. (C: Muhammed Parvaz)

Symposium 15
The impact of fat and sugar-rich diet on adolescent mental health: exploring the association between gut microbiota and brain in animal models. (C: Małgorzata Filip)

11h00 - 11h30
Coffee break

11h30 - 13h00 - Parallel Symposia
Symposium 16
New insights into hindbrain regulation of feeding. (C: Zhi Yi Ong)

Symposium 17
The skin as a stress buffer: mechanisms underpinning the relationship between stress and touch processing. (C: Leah Mayo)

Symposium 18
Novel tools and recent advances in the role of brain mu opioid receptors in rewarding and aversive effects of drugs. (C: Jennifer Bossert)

13h00 - 15h00
Lunch & Posters

15h00 - 16h30 - Parallel Symposia
Symposium 19
Neurocircuits of sensory and emotional pain and their impact in the development of co-morbid symptomatology. (C: Nicolas Massaly)

Symposium 20
Stress, trauma and cannabinoids. (C: Connor Haggarty)

Symposium 21
Neuronal ensemble mechanisms promoting and suppressing motivated actions. (C: Eisuke Koya)

Day 3 - Cont'd

16h45 - 17h15
Young Investigator Award Lecture - Leslie Ramsey
In search of neuronal ensembles that encode volitional social interaction

17h15 - 18h15
EBPS General Assembly Meeting

19h00 - 24h00
Social event concert an party

Day 4 - 25/8/23

8h30 - 9h15
Plenary 4 - Rohini Kuner
Cortico-limbic-striatal circuitry in chronic pain

9h30 - 11h00 - Parallel Symposia
Symposium 22
New learning upon the backdrop of prior knowledge schemas. (C: Dorothy Tse)

Symposium 23
Neurocognitive and immune outcomes of co-occurring HIV infection and substance use. (C: Jacqueline Barker)

Symposium 24
Ketones as a potential treatment for Alcohol Use Disorder – insights from preclinical and clinical studies. (C: Corinde Wiers & Leandro Vendruscolo)

11h00 - 11h30
Coffee break

11h30 - 13h00 - Parallel Symposia
Symposium 25
Novel optogenetic tools and their application in behavioral neuroscience. (C: Joost Wiskerke & Johan Sköld)

Symposium 26
Development and clinical translation of novel pharmacotherapies for substance use disorders. (C: Nicholas Everett)

Symposium 27
Neural representations of tasks and the world supporting learning and decision-making. (C: Thorsten Kahnt & Avinash Vaidya)

13h15 - 13h30
Closing remarks

Nominations for President-Elect

We are seeking nominations for President-Elect of EBPS, to follow current President-Elect Shelly Flagel, who will be serving as President from 2023 - 2025. The individual will serve as President-Elect from 2023 - 2025, President from 2025 - 2027, and Past-President from 2027 - 2029. A list of previous Presidents can be found [here](#). To increase the participation of the EBPS membership in the appointment of the President-Elect, the Executive Committee would like to ask members for nominations. Individuals who are nominated will be reviewed by the Executive Committee, to determine a slate of candidates willing to be considered, and there will then be an advisory election held via an online voting system. Based on the outcome of this election, the Full Committee will present their recommendation for President-Elect to the General Assembly at the EBPS Biennial Meeting, which will be held in Mannheim between 22nd-25th August, 2023. Please send your nominations, including a nomination letter and CV of the nominee, to the EBPS General Secretary, [Amy Milton](#) by **April 15, 2023**, with “**EBPS President-Elect nomination**” in the subject line. Note that both the member who nominates and the nominee should be paid-up members of EBPS.

Nominations to Full Committee

We will have three vacant positions opening up on the EBPS Full Committee and are seeking nominations. The Full Committee serves in an advisory role to the Executive Committee and assigned delegates may serve on a specific task force, such as the Travel Award Selection Committee or Poster Prize Committee. The term of each Full Committee member is 6 years (i.e. three Biennial Meetings). For Full Committee nominations, please send a nomination letter and CV of the nominee, to the EBPS General Secretary, [Amy Milton](#) by **April 15, 2023** with “**EBPS FC nomination**” in the subject line. The nominee must be a fully paid-up member of EBPS, as should be the nominator. The nominator may also be a fully paid-up student member of EBPS. Self-nominations are accepted. We'd like to take this opportunity to thank our outgoing Full Committee members, Daniele Caprioli, Veronique Deroche-Gamonet and Michela Marinelli, for their service.

FENS Calendar

International Festival of Neuroscience
23-26/4/2023, In person, Brighton, UK [Link](#)

EMBO/EMBL Symposium Brain Genome
25-28/4/2023, Hybrid [Link](#)

FENS Regional Meeting
3-5/5/2023, In person, Algarve, Portugal [Link](#)

EMBO Workshop
08-11/5/2023, In person, Heraklion, Greece [Link](#)

Genes, Brain & Behaviour
22-25/5/2023, In person, Galway, Ireland [Link](#)

International Conference on Neurology and Brain Disorders
25-26/5/2023, Hybrid, Tokyo, Japan [Link](#)

7th Annual Brain Stimulation & Imaging Meeting
2-3/6/2023, In person, Helsinki, Finland [Link](#)

46th Annual Meeting of the Japan Neuroscience Society
1-4/8/2023, Hybrid, Sendai, Japan [Link](#)

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 Shoaib (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 (ITA)
Veronique Deroche (FRA)
Michela Marinelli (USA)
Markus Heilig (SWE)
Marco Venniro (USA)
Karen Szumlinksi (USA)
Anand Gururajan (AU)