

# NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 22 - JANUARY 2024

## President's Message



### Dear EBPS Community,

The months since EBPS 2023 in Mannheim have been busy and chaotic for me, filled with a lot of work-related travel, among other things. Thus, I took full advantage of the opportunity to pause and reflect over the holiday season, recognizing the many things I have to be grateful for. Being President of EBPS is on the list, as it is one of the top honors of my career thus far. I “grew up” in this Society, attending my first workshop in 2003

(*Neurobehavioral Plasticity*, Rome, organized by Aldo Badiani). Since then, I have attended 7 of the past 10 biennial meetings, co-organized the 2018 workshop (Computational Approaches to Bridge Animal and Human Behaviour, Cambridge), and served as the General Secretary from 2019-2021. I know what makes this Society so special, and, as President, I will work to maintain that while also meeting needs of our current community and staying in tune with the changing landscape of behavioral neuroscience and neuropsychopharmacology.

I am especially grateful for the EBPS leadership team that will help shape the future of EBPS. I am thrilled to work with President-Elect, Gavan McNally, and the other members of the [Executive Committee](#) in the coming years. I am very proud of our Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee, led by Marco Venniro, and the initiatives they have begun to launch (which you can read about below and on our [revised webpage](#)). I am looking forward to our upcoming 2024 EBPS Workshop and 2025 EBPS Biennial Meeting.

Leah Mayo is organizing the Workshop: [Novel Pharmacotherapies to Treat Substance Use Disorders: From Basic Science to Societal Implications](#), which will be held in Banff, Canada, September 25-27, 2024.

Our next Biennial Meeting is being organized by Margarita Moreno Montoya and will be held at the University of Almeria, Spain, September 17-20, 2025. You can stay up to date on these meetings and other EBPS news and events by following us on Twitter/X @EurBehavPharm and visiting our [webpage](#). Finally, a big thank you to Connor Haggarty, who has been doing a tremendous job as our new Communications Officer!

While there is much to be grateful for, I also recognize the pain and sorrow that plagues much of the world and hope that 2024 is a bit brighter and more peaceful for all of us.

*Shelly B. Flagel*

**Prof. Shelly Flagel**  
**EBPS President - 2023-2025**

## Diversity, Equity and Inclusion



In my email last month, I discussed the new webpage and our plan to improve DEI presence and accessibility at our meetings. If you have not already done so, please complete [this survey](#) and visit our new webpage for up to date information on the Committee and the future projects we will be engaging in. Please use the form on our [webpage](#) to submit any ideas or questions about DEI in the EBPS

## DEI Committee

*Marco Venniro (US) - Chair*

*Leslie Ramsey, (US)*

*Leah Mayo, (CAN)*

*Karen Szumlinski, (US)*

*Margarita Montoya Moreno, (ES)*

*Connor Haggarty, (US)*

*Felippe Espinelli Amorim, (UK)*

## Workshop 2024 - Banff Canada

As announced in the last newsletter, the EBPS 2024 workshop will be held in Banff, Canada, Sept 25-27. The workshop titled **“Novel Pharmacotherapies to Treat Substance Use Disorders: From Basic Science to Societal Implications”** is being worked on by a stellar team of organizers headed by Leah Mayo. We are pleased to announce the keynote speakers for this important workshop:



**Prof. David Nutt** is the Edmond J. Safra Professor of Neuropsychopharmacology at Imperial College London, UK. His research explores the causes of addiction and other mental health conditions to search for new treatments. Prof Nutt also co-founded GABA labs which has developed an alcohol substitute utilizing GABA.



**Prof. Meg Haney** is a professor of neurobiology and director of the cannabis research laboratory at Columbia University. Her research focuses on human laboratory models of cannabis and cocaine use disorders and the assessment of novel pharmacologic and immunologic approaches to treat these disorders



**Dr. Lorenzo Leggio** is the director of the Clinical Psychoneuroendocrinology and Neuropsychopharmacology (CPN) a collaboration between NIDA and NIAAA laboratory. His research is focused on understanding the mechanisms underlying addiction and identifying new therapeutic targets



**Dr. Alex Kwan** is an associate professor in the Meinig School of Biomedical Engineering at Cornell University. His research interests include the effects of psychoactive drugs and decision making as well as novel imaging techniques.

## Call for Papers

### Psychopharmacology

#### *“Stress, Trauma and Cannabinoids”*

**Submission deadline: September 1st 2024**

We are pleased to announce a special edition of *Psychopharmacology* related to the EBPS 2023 symposia of the same name. We welcome all types of papers exploring the role of cannabinoids on the processing of stress and trauma. Guest edited by [Connor Haggarty](#), [Leah Mayo](#), [Christelle Baunez](#) and [Christine Rabinak](#). Please submit queries to: [chaggarty@wayne.edu](mailto:chaggarty@wayne.edu)

**Any other proposals for special editions related to EBPS 2023, please contact:** [christelle.baunez@cnrs.fr](mailto:christelle.baunez@cnrs.fr)

### European Journal of Neuroscience

#### *“Steven A. Brown Special Issue: Dynamic interactions of biological clocks, sleep and metabolism”*

**Submission deadline: February 15th 2024**

In memory of Steven A. Brown this edition will focus on the areas of Chronobiology and Sleep, celebrating the field that Steven worked in for 25+ years. Guest edited by [Hans-Peter Landolt](#), [Konstantinos Kompotis](#), [Antoine Adamantidis](#) and [Martha Merrow](#).

#### *“The relevance of a philosophical toolkit to advance neuroscience”*

**Submission deadline: February 29th 2024**

For this special issue, we seek contributions from neuroscientists engaged in interdisciplinary exchange with philosophers or exploiting philosophical methods, and ask them to report, reflect on, and discuss their approaches and to illustrate the benefits or drawbacks.

## FENS Events

### FENS Forum 2024

**25-29th June 2024, Vienna, Austria**

The FENS Forum will bring together experts in all fields of neuroscience to take us to the forefront of our current understanding of modern brain science. For inquiries, please contact: [forum2024@fens.org](mailto:forum2024@fens.org). EBPS members are members of FENS and so receive reduced registration fees.

### EBBS/EBPS Joint mini conference

**25th June 2024, Vienna, Austria**

Prior to the FENS Forum, the EBBS and EPBS will host a joint mini-conference. The theme of the conference will be “Understanding Neuronal Mechanisms Driving Behaviour”. Under this theme, each society will host their own session featuring junior and established researchers (4 per session) within its membership. Information on the mini conference can be found on the EBBS & EBPS websites (coming this week under EVENTS).

## EBPS Committee

### **Executive Committee:**

Shelly Flagel, (US) - *President*  
Gavan McNally, (AU) - *President-elect*  
Yavin Shaham, (US) - *Past-president*  
Amy Milton, (UK) - *General Secretary*  
Mohammed Shoaib, (UK) - *Treasurer*  
Connor Haggarty, (US) - *Communications Officer*  
Christelle Baunez, (FR) - *Psychopharmacology Rep*  
Marco Venniro, (US) - *DEI Committee Chair*  
Leah Mayo, (CA) - *Workshop LOC Chair*  
Margarita Moreno, (ES) - *Meeting LOC Chair*  
Rainer Spanagel, (DE) - *Past-meeting Chair*

### **Full Committee:**

Karen Szumlinski, (US)      Markus Heilig, (SE)  
Anand Gururajan, (AU)      Eisuke Koya, (UK)  
Heidi Lesscher, (NL)



ebps

EUROPEAN BEHAVIOURAL  
PHARMACOLOGY SOCIETY

Save The Date:

**Biennial Meeting**  
**UNIVERSIDAD DE ALMERÍA, ALMERÍA, SPAIN**  
**SEPTEMBER 17-20TH, 2025**



**Organizing Committee Chair:**  
**Margarita Montoya Moreno**