FAU/MPFI Neuroscience Symposium

Symposium Organizers: Ivan Baines, Ph.D., Janet Blanks, Ph.D., Tanja Godenschwege, Ph.D., Rodney Murphey, Ph.D. and Samuel Young, Ph.D.

September 28-29, 2010,
Senate Chambers, FAU, Boca Raton Campus

AGENDA

Tuesday, September 28, 2010

9:30 a.m. Coffee and photo shoot

9:55 a.m. Opening of Symposium: Ivan Baines, Ph.D., Chief Scientific Facilities Officer, Max Planck Florida Institute

10:00 a.m. Opening Remarks:

Mary Jane Saunders, Ph.D., President, FAU

Gary Perry, Ph.D., Professor and Dean, Charles E. Schmidt College of Science

Herbert Jäckle, Ph.D., Vice President, Max Planck Society, Professor and Director, Max Planck Institute of Biophysical Chemistry: “Max-Planck Society: Mission and Vision”

Q&A

10:45 a.m. Session 1:

Session Chair: Sarah Milton, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Biological Sciences, FAU

MPFI…… Samuel Young, Ph.D., Research Group Leader, Molecular Neurobiology: “Synaptotagmin has an essential role in synaptic vesicle positioning for synchronous release”

FAU……. Robert Stackman, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Psychology and Center for Complex Systems and Brain Sciences: “Modulating memory encoding by hippocampal SK channels”
Ron Davis, Ph.D., Chairman, Department of Neuroscience: “Functional imaging of Drosophila memory formation”

12:00 p.m. Lunch – Sponsored by IBM Southeastern Employees’ Federal Credit Union

1:00 p.m. **Session 2:**

Session Chair: David Wolgin, Ph.D., Professor and Chair, Psychology, FAU

FAU………. Jenny Wei, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Charles E. Schmidt College of Medicine: “The role of BH3-only protein BimEL in the pathogenesis of Huntington’s disease”

MPFI………. Jason Christie, Ph.D., Research Group Leader, Synapse Physiology: “Ca\(^{2+}\)-dependent modulation of release by somatic depolarization”

TPIMS……. Madepalli Lakshmana, Ph.D., Research Associate, Torrey Pines Institute for Molecular Studies: “The role of RanBP9-LRP pathway on the pathogenesis of Alzheimer’s disease”

FAU………. Janet Blanks, Ph.D., Professor and Director, Center for Complex Systems and Brain Sciences: “Regulated Gene Therapy to Treat Eye Disease”

2:40 p.m. Break

3:00 p.m. **Session 3:**

Session Chair: Tanja Godenschwege, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Biological Sciences, FAU

FAU………. Ken Dawson-Scully, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Biological Sciences: “Controlling Stress: The Spineless Sheds Light on the Vertebrate”

Scripps……. Gavin Rumbaugh, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Department of Neuroscience: “Regulation of synaptic plasticity and memory formation by Myosin II-mediated actin dynamics”

MPFI………. James Schummers, Ph.D., Research Group Leader, Cortical Circuits: “Response specificity of neurons and astrocytes in visual cortex”

FAU………. Rodney Murphey, Ph.D., Professor and Chair, Biological Sciences: “Competing or Sharing – The Battle for Synaptic Space”

4:40 p.m. Break
5:00 p.m.     Plenary:

Speaker Introduction: **Axel Borst, Ph.D.**, Professor and Director, Max Planck Institute of Neurobiology:

**David Fitzpatrick, Ph.D.**, Director, Duke Institute for Brain Sciences, Professor of Neurobiology, Duke University: "Cortex under construction: Visual experience and the development of direction selectivity"

5:50 p.m.     Transition to evening event

6:15 p.m.     Reception and Dinner – Sponsored by **Zeiss**

**Wednesday, September 29, 2010**

8:30 a.m.     Coffee

9:00 a.m.     **Session 4:**

Session Chair: **Janet Blanks, Ph.D.**, Professor and Director, Center for Complex Systems and Brain Sciences, FAU

**Marcel Oberlaender, Ph.D.**, Research Associate, Digital Neuroanatomy (Bert Sakmann, M.D., Ph.D.): "Anatomical determinants of neuronal network dynamics"

**R. Clay Reid, Ph.D.**, Professor, Department of Neurobiology Harvard Medical School: “Functional and structural imaging of a cerebral cortical Circuit”

**Zeiss Graduate student prize for Excellence in research in Integrative Biology and Neuroscience**

Introductions: **Rodney Murphey, Ph.D.**, Professor and Chair, Biological Sciences, FAU

**Bernhard Goetze**, Ph.D., Carl Zeiss, MicroImaging GmbH

**Graduate Student Prize Talks**

**Monica Mejia, (Tanja Godenschwege lab)**, Biological Sciences, FAU: "Marine Pharmacy: Hunting for Novel Neuromodulatory Drugs from the Sea"

**Matthew Rowan (Wen Shen Lab)**, Charles E. Schmidt College of Medicine, FAU: “Dynamic Signal Modification via EAAT2 at the Cone Synapse”

10:20 a.m.     Break
10:35 a.m.  
**Session 5:**

Session Chair: **Robert Vertes, Ph.D.**, Professor, Psychology and Center for Complex Systems and Brain Sciences, FAU

FAU........**Edward Large, Ph.D.**, Associate Professor of Psychology and Center for Complex Systems and Brain Sciences:” *Neurodynamics of Auditory and Music Perception*

NU.........**Nelson Spruston, Ph.D.**, Professor, Department of Neurobiology and Physiology, Northwestern University: "*Four remarkable features of action potential firing in cortical interneurons*"

11:40 a.m.  
Plenary

Speaker Introduction: **Rodney Murphey, Ph.D.**, Professor and Chair, Biological Sciences, Charles E. Schmidt College of Science, FAU:

**Axel Borst, Ph.D.**, Professor and Director, Max Planck Institute of Neurobiology: “*In search of the Holy Grail of fly motion vision*”

12:45 p.m.  
Closing Remarks:

**Gary Perry, Ph.D.**, Professor and Dean, Charles E. Schmidt College of Science

**Ivan Baines, Ph.D.**, Chief Scientific Facilities Officer, Max Planck Florida Institute

1:00 p.m.  
Buffet Lunch – Sponsored by **Proskauer**

2:00 p.m.  
Event concludes