

NENS - Network of European Neuroscience Schools

NENS Newsletter

January
2009

News from the NENS Office

Please note the change of date for the NENS AGM 2009.

The NENS AGM 2009 originally to be held in April 2009 has now been moved to **21 to 22 March 2009**.

However, the announced agenda will remain unchanged. On the Saturday, the event will be kicked-off on 14:00 and will comprise five parallel workshops on upcoming NENS activities and on developments of the NENS website as well as on the allocation of funding within the EU's FP7. On day two the morning session will comprise workshops on further funding opportunities for NENS schools and on novel strategies in graduate training and career options.

The AGM will not only present speakers from the NENS community, but will also feature key speakers from major European institutions. As usual one night's accommodation will be funded by NENS for all attending programme coordinators and all will be

invited to attend our traditional AGM dinner. For a detailed agenda and to register for the event until 28 February 2009 go to the NENS website.

New call for applications for NENS Stipends open now!

Stipends cover travel and accommodation costs of up to 1000 EUR. Closing date for applications is 15 February 2009.

The NENS Stipends permit Master and early PhD students registered within a NENS programme to spend a period of one to three months at a NENS lab of their choice in a different European country.

This time, courtesy of the Portuguese Society for Neuroscience, an additional special stipend will be made available for a Portuguese student who wishes to train at an international NENS lab. Full details and application form on the NENS website <http://fens.mdc-berlin.de/nens/stipends>!

The first FENS Featured Regional Meeting will be held in Warsaw, Poland from 9 - 12 September 2009.

The purpose of this initiative is to increase the visibility of one national meeting and to support neuroscience in this region. Besides an exciting scientific programme the local organisers offer several possibilities for young scientists to gain insight into the neuroscience community of Warsaw.

FENS will provide 60 stipends of 500 EUR for under 35s to participate in the meeting. Please consider attending! All details on <http://fens.mdc-berlin.de>.

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“Across Europe”- NENS Member Countries: Romania

Neuroscience in Romania has a long history, with outstanding developments in both clinical and fundamental research.

Gheorghe Marinescu, founder of the Romanian School of Neurology, published several remarkable textbooks and monographs. In 1919 Thoma Ionescu introduced the method of cervical spinal anesthesia.

In 1935 Dimitrie Bagdasar founded the Romanian School of Neurosurgery. Equally important research was performed in neuroendocrinology, by Gr. T. Popa, who described in 1930 at Cambridge, together with Australian scientist Unna Fielding, the hypothalamic-pituitary vascular system.

Ștefan Odobleja was a pioneer of psychocyanetics, publishing a “Psychologie consonantiste” in two volumes (Paris 1938, 1939). Neuroelectrophysiology developed steadily during the second half of the last century, as illustrated by achievements using stereotactically implanted microelectrodes by Mircea Steriade (former editor-in-chief of “Thalamus and related systems”) at Université Laval, or by V. Neșțianu and co-workers in EEG mapping, evoked potentials, and EMG analysis.

Nowadays there are several fundamental and applied neuroscience groups in universities, research institutes, and clinics spread all over the country. The Romanian Society of Neuroscience (www.snn.ro), founded in 2000 and affiliated since the beginning to FENS and IBRO, headed by Prof. L. Zăgrean (UMF “Carol Davila” București), tries to gather neuroscien-

tists from home and abroad, to invite keynote speakers to its annual meetings, and to facilitate access of junior fellows to research and attendance of international meetings organized by FENS, SfN, IBRO, and others.

In the Centre for Neurobiology and Molecular Physiology at the University of Bucharest research is focused on the molecular mechanisms of sensory transduction, in particular in peripheral thermoreceptors and nociceptors. We also investigate the modulation of ion channels and receptors involved in sensory transduction. The University of Bucharest also offers a Master Programme in Neurobiology since 1995.

Further information

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Facts and Figures

Area: 238, 391 km²
Population: 22,247,000
Capital: Bucharest
EU-member: accession state
NENS schools: 1