



GEBIN

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German-Endocrine-Brain-Immune-Network NEWSLETTER

Number 6, May 2011

Dear Members, Friends and Supporters of GEBIN,

The sixth edition of the newsletter provides you with the latest information about GEBIN and its activities. We especially would like to draw your attention to the upcoming GEBIN Meeting in October in Dresden which is organized together with the International Society for NeuroImmunoModulation (ISNIM). We can certainly expect a series of excellent speakers and many stimulating contributions from GEBIN participants.

Many thanks for your ongoing support and hope to see you all in Dresden!

Harald Engler & Volker Stefanski

For the GEBIN Steering Committee

ISNIM/GEBIN Congress 2011



The 8th Congress of the International Society for NeuroImmunoModulation (ISNIM) is jointly organized by GEBIN and will be held from October 20-22, 2011 in Dresden at The Westin Bellevue Hotel. The local organizers of the meeting are Clemens Kirschbaum (Department of Psychology, Technical University of Dresden) and Stefan Bornstein (Carl Gustav Carus University Hospital Dresden). The theme of the Congress is "NeuroImmunoModulation in Health and Disease: An Integrative Biomedical Approach".

The Congress will focus on the interactions among the immune, endocrine, and nervous systems. These interactions occur at multiple levels: from the common use of intracellular pathways by immune and neuro-endocrine mediators to the long-loop exchange of information among the three systems that can result in physiologic and adaptive effects. However, such interactions may be unbalanced or even disrupted, contributing to pathology, as it occurs during many autoimmune, inflammatory, metabolic, and infectious diseases. Thus, the aim of the meeting will be to discuss and stimulate research that translates basic to clinical aspects of immune-neuro-endocrine interactions.

Registration for the meeting is now open and the deadline for abstract submission is July 1, 2011. Accepted abstracts will be published in "NeuroImmunoModulation". Reduced conference rates are offered until August 31, 2011. To obtain the discounted GEBIN registration rate, please choose the option "local branch member" during the registration process.

For more information and registration visit ► www.psychologie.tu-dresden.de/isnim2011

ISNIM/GEBIN Educational Short Course

The ISNIM/GEBIN Congress 2011 will be preceded by a one-day Educational Short Course on Wednesday, October 19th. Lectures given by senior researchers will introduce trainees from diverse backgrounds into the multidisciplinary field of neuro-endocrine-immune communication. The course is organized by Adriana del Rey (Department of Immunophysiology, Philipps University Marburg) and Angelika Buske-Kirschbaum (Department of Psychology, Technical University of Dresden), and will be open to a limited number of graduate and PhD students. More information will be soon available on the congress website.

► www.psychologie.tu-dresden.de/isnim2011

"Immunität und Seele" Young Researchers Award – Dotation 3.000 Euro

The Foundation "Immunität und Seele" calls for applications for the "Immunität und Seele Young Researchers Award" for excellent research on the immune system, inflammatory mechanisms and related therapeutic approaches in the field of behavioral sciences and psychiatric disorders. The award is provided for innovative scientific clinical and behavioral research. Applicants should work in a German scientific institution and not exceed the age of 35 years. Applications should be sent until September 15, 2011 (deadline) and must include a curriculum vitae, accepted or published manuscripts not older than two years, and a recommendation letter of a senior researcher (Professor). The award ceremony will take place at the ISNIM/GEBIN Congress in Dresden, October 20-22, 2011.

Please send applications to the chair of the "Immunität und Seele" Award Committee:



Stiftung "Immunität und Seele"
Prof. Dr. Norbert Müller
Nußbaumstraße 7
80336 München
e-mail: norbert.mueller@med.uni-muenchen.de

Jan Born – Winner of the Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz Prize 2010



Prof. Dr. Jan Born, Member of the GEBIN Steering Committee, was awarded with the Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz Prize 2010 from the German Research Foundation. This prize is one of the most distinguished scientific awards in Germany. The program aims to improve the working conditions of outstanding scientists and academics, expand their research opportunities, relieve them of administrative tasks, and help them employ particularly qualified young researchers.

Prof. Born is Director of the Department of Neuroendocrinology at the University Lübeck and has recently accepted an appointment for a Chair at the Institute of Medical Psychology and Behavioral Neurobiology at the University Tübingen. He received the Leibniz Prize for his pioneering work in the area of sleep research. The primary focus of his research is how memory is formed during sleep. He was able to demonstrate not only the stabilisation of memory during sleep, but also the occurrence of cognitive processes such as problem solving strategies. He was thereby the first researcher to conclusively demonstrate a causal connection between sleep and learning. Jan Born also examined memory formation through sleep in other organic systems, such as the metabolic system and the immune system. He is speaker of the collaborative research center "Plasticity and Sleep", founded in 2005 by the German Science Foundation at the Universities of Lübeck and Kiel. He has co-authored more than 300 publications and is also a member of the German Academy of Science – Leopoldina.

Manfred Schedlowski – New President-Elect of the PNIRS



This GEBIN Newsletter comes with additional exciting news: Prof. Dr. Manfred Schedlowski, Director of the Institute of Medical Psychology and Behavioral Immunobiology, University Hospital Essen, and long-time member of the GEBIN Steering Committee has been elected President of The Psychoneuroimmunology Research Society (PNIRS) for the term 2012/2013. Manfred Schedlowski is the second member of the GEBIN Steering Committee that becomes President of the PNIRS. Rainer Straub, former spokesperson of the GEBIN, already held this position in 2009/2010. This is a special appreciation of the work of Manfred and Rainer, but also reflects the international recognition of the activities of GEBIN and its members. Together with Hugo Besedovsky, President of the International Society for NeuroImmunoModulation (ISNIM), the presidents of the two most prestigious societies in our field are belonging to the Steering Committee of the GEBIN.

New Members in the GEBIN Steering Committee

The GEBIN Steering Committee has two new members: PD Dr. Ulrike Gimsa (Leibniz Institute for Farm Animal Biology, Dummerstorf) and PD Dr. Eva Peters (Clinic for Psychosomatics and Psychotherapy, University Hospital Giessen) are the new representatives of the Study Group 'Neuroendocrinoimmunology' (AKNEI) of the German Society for Immunology (DGfI). Welcome aboard!

Retrospective of the GEBIN Meeting 2010



The 8th Meeting of the German-Endocrine-Brain-Immune Network took place from April 28-30, 2010 at the World Heritage Site Zeche Zollverein in Essen. The scientific program included more than 40 selected oral presentations covering the four major research areas of GEBIN and was framed by three excellent plenary talks. The invited speakers outlined important parts of their research with particular relevance for the field of psychoneuroimmunology. Fabrizio Benedetti (University of Turin, Italy) highlighted the

important role of the placebo effect as a major factor influencing physiological outcome in both human and animal studies. Bente K. Pedersen (University of Copenhagen, Denmark) summarized the effects on physical activity and exercise on the immune system and the specific role of cytokines. Éadaoin Griffin (Trinity College Dublin, Ireland) illustrated that noradrenaline elicits anti-inflammatory actions in the central nervous system and has neuroprotective potential in conditions where inflammatory events contribute to CNS pathology. The Steering Committee of the GEBIN greatly acknowledges the excellent scientific organization of the meeting by Sigrid Elsenbruch and Harald Engler and the supporting team from the Institute of Medical Psychology and Behavioral Immunobiology, University Hospital Essen.

For a detailed retrospective of the meeting visit ► www.gebin.org

Call for Papers

The Journal of Medical Psychology (Zeitschrift für Medizinische Psychologie) publishes original articles, short reports and review articles in the broad and interdisciplinary field of biological and medical psychology. Subjects of interest also include clinical or basic human research studies or reviews from the fields of psychoneuroimmunology and psychoneuroendocrinology, behavioral medicine and the neurosciences.

For specific information, please go to the website or contact the editor.

Website ► www.zmedpsychol.de Editor ► sigrid.elsenbruch@uk-essen.de

Other Meetings and Conferences

- ★ 18th Annual Meeting of the Psychoneuroimmunology Research Society (PNIRS)
June 8-11, 2011, Chicago (USA) | www.pnirs.org
- ★ 37. Tagung "Psychologie und Gehirn"
June 23 - 25, 2011, Heidelberg (Germany) | www.pug2011-kongress.unitt.de
- ★ 41th Annual Conference of the International Society of Psychoneuroendocrinology (ISPNE)
August 4-6, 2011, Berlin (Germany) | www.ispne.org/conference
- ★ 104th Annual Meeting of the German Zoological Society (DZG)
September 9 - 12, 2011, Saarbrücken (Germany) | www.dzg2011.de
- ★ Meeting of the German Society for Medical Psychology (DGMP)
September 15 - 17, 2011, Rostock (Germany) | www.dgmp-online.de

- ★ Joint Annual Meeting of the German Society for Immunology (DGfI) and the Italian Society for Immunology, Clinical Immunology and Allergology (SIICA)
September 28 - October 1, 2011, Riccione (Italy) | www.immunology2011.it
 - ★ 84th Congress of the German Society for Neurology (DGN)
September 28 - October 1, 2011, Wiesbaden (Germany) | www.dgn2011.de
 - ★ NeuroVisionen7, Nachwuchstagung des Kompetenznetzwerks Neurowissenschaften
October 7, 2011, Essen (Germany) | www.uk-essen.de/neurovisionen7
 - ★ Annual Meeting of the Society for Neuroscience (SfN)
November 12-16, 2011, Washington D.C. (USA) | www.sfn.org/am2011
 - ★ 39th Annual Meeting of the Arbeitsgemeinschaft Dermatologische Forschung (ADF)
March 1 - 3, 2012, Marburg (Germany) | www.adf-online.de
 - ★ Meeting of the Study Group Neuroendocrinoimmunology (AKNEI) of the DGfI
March 2 - 3, 2012, Dummerstorf/Rostock (Germany) | www.immunologie.de
 - ★ 48th Congress of the German Society for Psychology (DGP)
September 22 - 27, 2012, Bielefeld (Germany) | www.dgpskongress.de
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Positions

PhD position in Behavioral Immunobiology

The Institute of Medical Psychology and Behavioral Immunobiology at the University Hospital Essen is offering a PhD position in the field of behavioral immunobiology. The research project is funded by the German Research Foundation (DFG) and focuses on extinction and renewal in behaviorally conditioned immunosuppression. The selected candidates will work in an interdisciplinary research environment with excellent infrastructure and access to state of the art equipment.

The successful applicant should hold a diploma/master degree in biology, neurosciences or psychology and should have a strong background in neuroanatomy and neurobiology. Experience with animal models is of advantage. High motivation, team spirit and dedication to interdisciplinary work are expected.

The position will be for 3 years. Salary will be according to DFG regulations (TV-L E13, 65 %)

Interested individuals are invited to submit an electronic application (English or German), including a letter of motivation, a detailed CV, a summary of training/research experience, and two references. Deadline for application is June 30, 2011.

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Member Societies and Affiliate Partners

Anatomische Gesellschaft | www.anatomische-gesellschaft.de
Arbeitsgemeinschaft Dermatologische Forschung (ADF) | www.adf-online.de
Deutsche Gesellschaft für Biologische Psychiatrie (DGBP) | www.dgbbp.eu
Deutsche Gesellschaft für Endokrinologie (DGE) | www.endokrinologie.net
Deutsche Gesellschaft für Immunologie (DGfI) | www.immunologie.de
Deutsche Gesellschaft für Medizinische Psychologie (DGMP) | www.dgmp-online.de
Deutsche Gesellschaft für Neurologie (DGN) | www.dgn.org
Deutsche Gesellschaft für Pharmakologie (DGP) | www.dg-pharmakologie.de
Deutsche Gesellschaft für Psychologie (DGPs) | www.dgps.de
Deutsche Zoologische Gesellschaft (DZG) | www.dzg-ev.de
Ethologische Gesellschaft | www.ethol-ges.org
International Society for Neuroimmunomodulation (ISNIM) | www.isnim.org

If you have information which might be of interest to the members of the GEBIN, please send an e-mail to Harald Engler.

Impressum

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