The 17th Annual meeting of the LARC-Neuroscience network

The 17th Annual meeting of the LARC-Neuroscience Network will take place on Friday October 25th, 2013, in Rouen, at the h2o auditorium, a building dedicated to the promotion of science, located along the Seine river. The program will feature three plenary lectures from Pr. Denis BURDAKOV (MRC National Institute for Medical Research, London, United Kingdom) with a presentation entitled « Peptidergic neurons and brain state control », Pr. Henry MARKRAM (Brain Mind Institute, Lausanne, Switzerland) with a presentation entitled « The Human Brain Project » and Pr. Stuart ALLAN (University of Manchester, Manchester, United Kingdom) with a presentation entitled « Inflammation and stroke: it's not all in the brain ». The meeting will also include oral presentations by young researchers from the LARC member institutions, a poster session and a lunchtime networking opportunity. Thanks to the support from the Interreg IVA 2 Seas TC2N project, registration is free, but mandatory. For more information and registration, visit: http://larc-neurosciences.org/registration

ESRP: a new IBISA platform dedicated to stroke research

The Experimental Stroke Research Platform (ESRP) develops new animal models, offers training and service provision for the study of innovative therapeutic strategies in the field of stroke research. This platform at the University of Caen brings together clinicians, researchers, technicians/engineers and husbandry staff. ESRP is co-directed by Dr. Cyrille ORSET (Scientific Director) and Dr. Benoit HAELEWYN (Administrative Director), supported by Inserm Unit 919 (Pr. Denis VIVIEN) and is hosted at the Biological Ressource Center (CURB) of the University of Caen. ESRP is recognized both nationally and internationally for its expertise in the field of stroke research and understanding. It was recently identified as an IBISA platform and has integrated the European consortium MultiPART (Multi Preclinical Animal Research Team, 14 partners) which was recently approved for funding (FP7 Innovation 1). ESRP users include academic laboratories located in Europe and private companies from the pharmaceutical or biotechnological fields. Since 2007 with the publication of a new reference model of stroke, created by Dr. Cyrille ORSET (Orset et al., Stroke. 2007; 38(10): 2771-2778), around thirty people have been trained, and there have been several collaborative publications (research papers and a book chapter). ESRP benefits from a high quality technological environment, partnership with the imaging platform Cyceron, and both the central animal facility of the University of Caen and the behavioral study platform, part of the GMPc. From its experience and collaborations, ESRP aims at becoming the new European experimentation Platform dedicated to stroke research. For more information, please visit: http://www.ersp.fr/

SNE Travel Grants

The scientific council of the Société de Neuroendocrinologie (SNE) provided four awards of €400 to €600 as travel grants for PhD students and post-doctoral fellows wishing to participate at a science meeting or to enable them to visit a foreign laboratory. For more information and to download an application form, please visit the SNE website: http://www.societe-neuroendocrinologie.fr

Final conference of the AlcoBinge project

The final conference of the Interreg AlcoBinge project took place at ‘Le logis du Roy’, at the University of Picardy Jules Verne, on Monday May 17th, 2013. This meeting provided the opportunity to disseminate results from the project to the lay public and to provide scientific data to professionnals working on alcoholism prevention and health care. More than 80 participants attended the conferences and round tables. For more information, please contact Pr. Mickaël NAASSILA (mickael.naassila@u-picardie.fr) or visit the website of the project : www.alcobinge.org
Awards

Ms Catherine LLORENS-CORTES (CIRB-CNRS UMR 7241/INSERM U1050) was awarded the insignia of Chevalier de la Légion d’Honneur on Friday, May 31st, 2013, at the Collège de France.

Catherine LLORENS-CORTES accompanied by Pierre CORVOL (on the left), Bernard ROQUES and Jacques GLOWINSKY (on the right).

Dr. LLORENS-CORTES leads a high level research team at the Collège de France in the field of Neuroendocrinology, with a major contribution to the development of neuropeptide-based drugs as reminded Bernard ROQUES, before giving her the medal.

Ms Hélène LACAILLE (Inserm U982), second-year PhD student (Thesis supervisors: Dr. David VAUDRY and Dr. Dominique DUTERTE-BOUCHER) won the prize for best oral communication at the 21st IREB Scientific Symposium for her presentation entitled “Characterization of oxidative stress induced by alcohol consumption under Binge drinking conditions”.

Theses

Ms Yosra HAMDI-DAMAK (UR/11ES09), University of Tunis, who has completed her PhD project in close collaboration with researchers from Inserm Unit 982, defended her Thesis in Science entitled « Contribution to the study of molecular mechanisms of Alzheimer’s disease: involvement of endozepines in the modulation of neuroastrocyte interactions » (Thesis supervisor: Pr. Mohamed AMRI), on June 18th, 2013.

Ms Hadhemi KADDOUR (UR/11ES09), University of Tunis, who has completed her PhD project in close collaboration with researchers from Inserm Unit 982, defended a Thesis in Science entitled « Searching for a new therapeutic strategies to treat Parkinson’s disease: neuroprotection induced by endozepines » (Thesis supervisor: Pr. Mohamed AMRI), on June 21st, 2013.

Scientific meetings

The 2013 BioDynamics meeting will take place in Bristol, from September 11th to 13th. The meeting will address topics including very slow rhythms, circadian rhythms, ultradian rhythms, and very fast rhythms in the areas of neurosciences, endocrinology and biology. This multidisciplinary conference will bring together biologists, mathematicians, clinicians, physicists and computer scientists interested in dynamical systems in biology and clinical fields. For more information and registration, visit: http://www.bio-dynamics2013.org/

Publications

P. Leroux and S Marret. PAI-1/t-PA ratio in cord blood: a potential index of brain hemorrhage risk in extreme preterms. In this article published in Arch Dis Child Fetal Neonatal (Ed 2013; 98:3: F281-F282), researchers from ERI-28 Neovasc re-examined the data of their previous study (Sentilhes et al, J Pediatrics 2011; 158:377-382), in the light of a new hypothesis which emerged in the literature, suggesting that plasminogen activator (t-PA) has an adverse effect on the vascular endothelium when complexed to its inhibitor (PAI-1). The complex activates the LRPI receptor, inducing a cascade of proteases. Measurements made in blood from the umbilical cord of children born before 30 weeks of gestation, show significantly higher concentrations of PAI-1 and t-P than in children born at later terms, suggesting that these rates could be a risk factor of hemorrhage in these children. This hypothesis is the subject of a prospective research project submitted to the ANR and the DGOS.

Langlet, F., Levin, B.E., Luquet, S., Mazzone, M., Messina, A., Dunn-Meynell, A.A., Ballard, E., Lacombe, A., Mazur, D., Carmeliet, P., Bouret, S.G., Prevot, V., Dehouch B.. Tanyctic VEGF-A boosts blood-hypothalamus barrier plasticity and access of metabolic signals to the arcuate nucleus in response to fasting. In this article published in Cell Metabolism (2013; 17: 607-617), researchers from Inserm Unit 837 show that the blood-brain barrier formed by tanyocytes in the median eminence of the hypothalamus regulates the direct access of metabolic signals into the hypothalamic arcuate nucleus (a key brain center involved in the control of food consumption and energy balance), according to the nutritional status of the individual. This study demonstrates a new physiological concept in the regulation of energy homeostasis.

Seminars

During the 11th World Congress of Biological Psychiatry, which took place in Kyoto, Japan, from June 23rd to 27th, 2013, Pr. Sergei PETISSOV (INSERM U1073) gave a lecture and organized a symposium entitled « Neuropeptide autoantibodies in psychiatric diseases ».

As part of the scientific events of the TC2N project, Dr. Anne-Line LETOURNEUR (CNRS UMR 6301) has given in Rouen, on June 27th, 2013, a seminar entitled « Postnatal remodeling of the brain vasculature: a longitudinal study in the neonatal mouse using two-photon microscopy ».