

News from the NENS Office

NENS events within the 7th FENS Forum 2010 in Amsterdam

The NENS Symposium and the Annual General Meeting will take place on Sunday, 4th July, 2010 at FENS Forum Amsterdam.

The NENS Symposium is designed to offer you an overview on progress made by the NENS Committee in meeting the network's objectives. Also, you will be able to find out more about ways to organise and finance your transnational activities. Detailed information about the speakers at the Symposium will follow in the next issue.

NENS Stipends for Training Stays for gaining international experience

The NENS Stipends are intended for Master and early PhD students registered within NENS member schools. Applicants are expected to spend a period of one to three months at a NENS member school of their choice

in a different European country. Successful candidates have the great opportunity to conduct an individually arranged internship to gain further training relevant to their research projects. The stipend will cover accommodation and travel costs of up to 1000 Euro and has to be accomplished at least six months after the award.

The deadline for the new round of applications is

February 26th, 2010.

Again, 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 are available on the NENS website!

To inform the NENS community about the training stays and the experiments the awardees have made, our web administration is still working on a reconstruction of the NENS stipend

homepage. Besides the reports we also want to offer a column: „How to write a good application!“ with informations about frequently asked questions from the students. We hope to present the new site for stipends in early spring.

The NENS Office needs your help to be always up-to-date

Therefore, we ask all those of you who have not updated their NENS profiles for 1 year or longer to check whether contact details are still correct and to adopt the keyword list. If your password is missing, then please contact the NENS Office for support.

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“Across Europe”- NENS Member Countries: Ireland

Neuroscience research and training have a well-established tradition in Ireland, north and south.

This can be traced back to the establishment of the Neuroscience Discussion Group in 1984, which met twice-yearly and had strong representations from Trinity College, Dublin (TCD), University College Dublin (UCD), Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland (RCSI), National University of Ireland, Galway (NUI, Galway), University College Cork (UCC) and Queens University Belfast (QUB).

In 2006, Neuroscience Ireland was founded. The society's inaugural

meeting was held in 2006 in UCC and a further major event took place in association with the BNA in 2007. The organisation will be staging its second meeting in Galway in August of this year (<http://www.conference.ie>).

These initiatives will ensure that Neuroscience in Ireland can continue to develop and receive a share of the Irish Government's funding initiatives, which is committed to a substantial investment in research in third level institutions.

Recent important research-based initiatives in Neuroscience research include the establishment of Trinity College Institute of Neuroscience, the Applied Neurotherapeutics Research Group in UCD, the Neuroscience Research Cluster in NUI, Galway, Cork NeuroScience group, and the Neuroscience and Mental Health Recognised Research Group in QUB. A fur-

ther important feature of the Neuroscience Ireland organisation is to foster closer links between the constituent institutions, most particularly in developing an integrated PhD training programme through the formation of a graduate school.

Postgraduate educational initiatives include the introduction of a taught M.Sc. in Neuropharmacology in NUI, Galway in 1998 whilst, in TCD, there has been a recently established PhD training programme, and M.Sc. in Neuroscience. The recent dramatic increase in the number of academic appointments in the Neurosciences in all third level institutions in Ireland has created a critical mass which it is anticipated will be able to seize the opportunities that the future will offer.

Further information

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Facts and Figures

Area: 84,412 km²
Population: 4,172,013
Capital: Dublin
EU-member: 1. Jan 1973
NENS schools: 4