



## Swiss Society for Neuroscience (SSN)

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[www.swissneuroscience.ch](http://www.swissneuroscience.ch)

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## **Editorial**

In a few days, the FENS Forum 2006 will take place in Vienna, representing an exceptional event for the European Neurosciences. Most likely, the attendance will demonstrate that European Neuroscientists are attached to this event taking place every 2 years. This year particularly a very high attendance of Swiss Neuroscientists is expected, for several reasons. First of all, Vienna is a very attractive city and well located in the center of Europe. A second reason, more important in the eyes of the SSN council is to demonstrate how active Neurosciences in Switzerland are in the context of the next FENS Forum in 2008 that will take place in Geneva.

The local organizing committee of the FENS Forum 2008, under the direction of our former SSN President Prof. Ann Kato, will present the first orientations of the Geneva project to our colleagues from all over Europe, and also to those of the rest of the world who will be present in Vienna. The massive presence of Swiss Neuroscientists will be crucial to establish friendly relationships with our colleagues, motivating them to attend the 2008 Geneva meeting as well. In addition, it will be essential that we carefully evaluate the meeting of Vienna in all aspects in order to pursue the highly successful activities, both scientific and social. Along this line, the SSN council is expecting a strong and very constructive feedback from our young colleagues (Ph.D. students and post-doc fellows) in order to establish a program for the Geneva meeting in 2008, as much as possible in line with their expectations. Please, tell us what you have liked in Vienna and what else should be considered for Geneva in order to make the meeting as fruitful and enjoyable as possible. The hard work for the organization of the 2008 Geneva meeting will start immediately after returning from Vienna and the SSN council is counting on all of you to help in this enormous, but highly motivating challenge. Beyond the honor and pleasure in welcoming our colleague-neuroscientists from all over Europe (and possibly from other continents as well), remember that such an event represents a unique opportunity to sensitize the public and the authorities on the importance of the research in Neuroscience for society and for the patients suffering from nervous diseases.

Eric M. Rouiller

## **FENS Forums 2006 and 2008**

The SSN council will be represented by most of its members in Vienna on the occasion of the FENS Forum. We look forward to seeing you in the lecture halls and in front of the many posters presented by our members. In view of the organization of the FENS Forum 2008 in Geneva, a very important step was taken a few days ago by selecting the Professional Congress Organizer (PCO), based on a common evaluation by the SSN council and the local organizing committee (Prof. Ann Kato and colleagues in Geneva). The selected PCO, who will be in charge of the logistical aspects of the meeting in 2008 will be present in Vienna, in order to evaluate the 2006 FENS Forum. The SSN, the selected PCO and the Geneva Tourism Office will be present at a booth in Vienna. Do not forget to visit it as a sign of support and encourage your colleagues from outside Switzerland to do so, too.

## **SSN meeting 2007 in Bern**

As announced earlier, the SSN annual meeting in 2007 will take place in Bern, initially planned on March 10<sup>th</sup>, in collaboration with the “Swiss Society of Multiple Sclerosis”. The SSN council has the pleasure to announce that this meeting will be significantly extended. Indeed, partnership will not only include the “Swiss Society of Multiple Sclerosis” but also the “National Center for Competence in Research” (NCCR) “Neural plasticity and Repair” (leading house at University of Zürich). The leaders of the NCCR project made the proposition to replace their traditional meeting at “Kartause Ittingen” by a joint meeting with the SSN. The SSN council found this idea very attractive, an opinion shared by the council of the “Swiss Society of Multiple Sclerosis”. Consequently, the 3 partners will join their enthusiasm and competences to offer a highly exciting 2007 annual meeting. In view of the organization of the FENS Forum 2008 in Geneva, the joint meeting in 2007 with the NCCR will represent a unique opportunity to bring together all neuroscientists of Switzerland. The local organizing committee (members of the SSN council from Bern) and representatives of the “Swiss Society of Multiple Sclerosis” and NCCR in Zürich are already working very hard to set up an extraordinary event in a newly designed environment in Bern for congresses, which will be ideal for the activities of the 3 partner Societies. The joint meeting will last 2 and a half days, starting on

Thursday afternoon March 8th, until Saturday March 10th. Special events will also take place in the evening (mainly on Friday night) to favor interactions in a less formal atmosphere.

## **Best Publication award 2006**

Similarly to previous years, the SSN council is expecting applications to this more and more prestigious award, aiming at distinguishing an outstanding publication of a young neuroscientist member of the SSN (Ph.D. student, young post-doc) published between July 1st 2005 and June 30th, 2006. This award amounts to Frs 2'000 and the work will be presented by the author in a short talk (10-15 minutes) on the occasion of the award ceremony included in the program of the next annual SSN meeting 2007 in Bern. Guidelines for application are available on the website of the SSN, with a deadline of **September 30th, 2006**.

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## **Meeting announcements**

**International Symposium**

### **Chronobiology in Psychiatry**

**Monday 11 September 2006**

Psychiatric University Clinic Basel

Fore more information: [www.chronobiology.ch](http://www.chronobiology.ch)

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### **Symposium**

#### **“Hirnforschung und Menschenbild”**

#### **“Neurosciences et Conceptions de l’homme”**

**Fribourg, October 12-14<sup>th</sup>, 2006**

Fore more information:  
[www.hirnforschung-symposium.ch](http://www.hirnforschung-symposium.ch)

**Detailed program also available on the SSN website (News, download pdf file)**



## Symposium on Animal Experimentation

### “Molecular Imaging in Animal Models”

6 October, 2006

University of Zürich, Irchel Campus Lecture Room 85  
Winterthurerstrasse 190, 8057 Zürich

*Organized by the Swiss Society for Neuroscience  
Approved by the Cantonal Veterinary Office*

**Registration:** [www.swissneuroscience.ch](http://www.swissneuroscience.ch)

- 9h30-10h30 “In vivo imaging of glial cell activity”  
**Fritjof Helmchen**, Brain Research Institute, University of Zürich/ETHZ
- 10h30-11h30 “Imaging functional and structural plasticity in the visual system of the mouse”  
**Mark Hübener**, EMBL, Heidelberg
- 11h30-11h45 Coffee break
- 11h45-12h45 “Measuring protein concentrations in dendritic spines”  
**Thomas Oertner**, FMI, Basel
- 12h45-13h45 Lunch
- 13h45-14h45 “Functional MRI in small animals: towards non-invasive molecular readouts”  
**Thomas Mueggler**, Imaging Center, University of Zürich/ETHZ
- 14h45-15h45 “What the eye sees but not the brain”  
**Botond Roska**, FMI, Basel
- 15h45-16h00 Coffee break
- 16h00-17h00 “In vivo imaging of taste modalities representation in the gustatory cortex”  
**Alan Carleton**, EPFL, Lausanne

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