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Editorial

Dear SSN members,

It is my pleasure to share with you some news and data on upcoming events regarding our Society.

First, the Swiss Academy of Medical Science (SAMW) will provide financial support for the Brain Awareness Week (BAW) for the next 3 years! Together with the financial contributions from the SSN the subsidy of the academy assures the organization of the BAW in the future. We are very happy that this important public event will be maintained, and we thank at this occasion the SAMW for their generous support.

On September 24, a Symposium for Animal Experimentation took place in Zürich, which provided the opportunity of a certificate for 1-day Education in Animal Experimentation approved by the Cantonal Veterinary office. 135 people participated at that meeting, and in almost all cases the registration and online payment went very well. I want to thank Isabelle Mansuy for the organization of the meeting and Egbert Welker for his contribution "behind the curtain" of our new Website. Equipped with the new administrative tools more of such events can be easily organized.

Please note approaching deadlines for the **SSN Best Publication Award**, the **IBRO Fellowship** and travel Fellowships. The **preliminary program** for the Annual SSN Meeting in Basel is now available. Details are described in this Newsletter.

Nicole Schaeren-Wiemers

President SSN

Best Publication Award 2010

Every year The SSN awards a prize for the best publication by a **young SSN Member**, published in a peer-reviewed international journal.

PhD students or first-year postdocs are considered young SSN members. Manuscripts that qualify need to be published **between December 1 2009 and November 30, 2010**. The award amounts to **CHF 4'000.-** and will be presented on the occasion of the Annual SSN Meeting on March 26 2011 in Basel. Guidelines for application are available on the website of the SSN. Deadline for submission is **December 5 2010**.

Please go to our website for more information, guidelines and application:

http://www.swissneuroscience.ch/Awards_fellowships/Best_publication_award

SSN-IBRO Fellowship 2011

The SSN council is pleased to announce that the Swiss National Science Foundation (SNF) once more accepted to finance the SSN IBRO fellowship, which provides a **one year salary for a foreign post-doctoral fellow** to conduct a research project in a Swiss laboratory (basic or clinical research). The amount of the grant is **CHF 55'000.-**. This stipend is tax free. Details of the regulations are found on the SNF website “forms, regulations and directives” for stipends: www.snf.ch.

Detailed information (guidelines for the application) is available on the SSN website. The deadline for submitting an application is **January 15th 2011**.

Please go to our website for more information, guidelines and application:

http://www.swissneuroscience.ch/Awards_fellowships/SSN-IBRO_fellowship

SSN Annual Meeting in 2011:

March 26 in Basel



The 15th Annual Meeting of the SSN will take place in Basel, Saturday March 26. It will take place in the Zentrum für Lehre und Forschung (ZLF), University Hospital Basel, Hebelstrasse 20, 4031 Basel. Details are on the SSN website. Registration and abstract submission will open mid December.

We would like to take this occasion to celebrate **15 Years SSN** in the framework of a small Ceremony/Symposium in the afternoon of the meeting.

Preliminary program:

9:30 Opening

9:40 Plenary lecture I

Pier Vincenzo Piazza (Rome)

10:30 Parallel Symposia

Symposium 1 (Cognition):

Chair: D. de Quervain

Olaf Blanke (EPFL)

Patrik Vuilleumier (Univ. Geneva)

Dominique de Quervain (Univ. Basel)

Symposium 2 (From Circuits to Behavior):

Chair: P. Caroni

German Sumbre (ENS-INSERM, Paris)

Botond Roska (FMI, Basel)

Hanns Ulrich Zeilhofer (Univ. Zürich)

11:45 Poster Session and Lunch break

13:00-13:30 SSN Business Meeting

14:00 Parallel Symposia

Symposium 3 (Neurodevelopmental Disorders):

Chair: P. Scheiffele

Thomas Bourgeron (Paris)

Dominique Muller (Geneva)

Claudia Bagni (Leuven/ Rome)

Symposium 4 (Learning and Memory):

Chair: A. Lüthi

Ad Aertsen (Freiburg, Germany)

Richard Hahnloser (Univ. Zürich)

Christian Lüscher (Univ. Geneva)

15:30 Plenary lecture II

Silvia Arber (Basel)

16:15 Award ceremony

Best publication award,
Volker Henn best poster prize,
Honorary member

16:30 Coffee break

16:45 15th Anniversary Symposium

“Opportunities and Challenges for Swiss Neurosciences”

18:15 End of the meeting

LOC: Pico Caroni (Chair), Andreas Papassotiropoulos, Peter Scheiffele, Andreas Lüthi, Dominique De Quervain, Daria Knoch, Simone Grumbacher and Catherine Alioth

Business meeting: Esther Stoeckli will take over presidency. In addition, the SSN members will vote for the President-elect and 3 new council members.

SSN Travel Fellowships 2011: New evaluation procedure

As already announced, the SSN will implement a new evaluation procedure.

In the last two years we were facing an increasing number of travel fellowship applications. Despite the fact that the SSN increased the number of fellowships over the last years, a substantial number of applications could not be approved. In addition applications for scientific meetings other than FENS and SfN, could often not be evaluated before the meeting took place. For this reason the SSN council decided to modify the evaluation procedure for a better, fair and coherent process.

The following rules will be introduced (starting 2011):

- **Four deadlines per year** for all meetings (1st March*, 1st June**, 1st September, 1st December)
- All international meetings are considered but priority is given to **FENS, SfN and IBRO**.
- Only **one** person per group per meeting.
- One person receives only **one** fellowship during his/her PhD thesis **or** postdoc.

* optimal deadline for applications for the FENS Forum

** optimal deadline for applications for the SfN meeting

The fellowships are **CHF 750.-** for meetings in Europe and **CHF 1500.-** for meetings outside Europe. Detailed information (guidelines) is available on the SSN website.



Annual Meeting & 15th Anniversary Symposium
University of Basel,
March 26, 2011