

BIO-696(1)

Neuromodulation of Neural Microcircuits (2018)

Markram Henry, Ramaswamy Srikanth

| Cursus | Sem. | Type |
|---------------|-------------|-------------|
| Neuroscience | | Obl. |

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|----------------------------|-----------|
| Language of teaching | English |
| Credits | 1 |
| Session | |
| Exam | Written |
| Workload | 30h |
| Hours | 20 |
| Courses | 20 |
| Number of positions | 30 |

Frequency

Only this year

Remark

From 18th to 20th Sept. 2017. Due to the fact that the 18th is a bank holiday, we could not list this date in the system. However, this course DOES start on the 18th of Sept. in the STCC at 9.00

Summary

This symposium aims to provide a unifying and mechanistic view by which an ever increasing number of neuromodulators, including monoamines, and peptides - the master switches - control genes, proteins, neurons and glia, dendrites, synapses, and emergent states in neural microcircuits.

Content

The "Neuromodulation of Neural Microcircuits – NM2" symposium will be held at the EPFL from the **18th to the 20th of September 2017**. The overarching goal of the NM2 symposium is to provide a unifying and mechanistic view by which an ever increasing number of neuromodulators, including monoamines, and peptides - the master switches - control genes, proteins, neurons and glia, dendrites, synapses, and emergent states in neural microcircuits across different brain regions in health and disease. Building a mechanistic view of neuromodulation encounters several fundamental challenges: a) How do sensory signals, internal brain states, and computations in microcircuits, trigger the release of specific neuromodulators? b) How do neuronal assemblies and larger brain circuits respond to neuromodulators? and c) How do neuromodulators shape synaptic plasticity and brain states?

To this end, the NM2 symposium will bring together researchers to bridge a variety of disciplines using state-of-the-art techniques in different brain regions towards the common goal of understanding the mechanisms and principles of neuromodulation. The symposium is designed to foster cross-disciplinary collaborations that will pave the way to enable the next breakthroughs in understanding the neuromodulatory control of brain states. Our objective is to organize a dynamic symposium that will highlight an up to date view of the neuromodulation of brain states, establish future directions, and attract new talent to drive forward this important field.

The symposium will consist of 5 sessions spread over 2.5 days. Each session would consist of about 6 talks lasting 20 minutes each, followed by a panel discussion lasting about 30 minutes.

Note

Learning Outcome - To understand the functional diversity of neurotransmitters/neuromodulators in the brain and how they regulate the emergence of behavioral states.

Keywords

Neuromodulation, acetylcholine, dopamine, serotonin, noradrenaline, histamine, neurons, synapses, dendrites, microcircuits, brain states

Expected student activities

PhD. students will have to choose five talks of their interest from the Conference and write a one-page report summarising what they learnt.